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ESTHER CITY COUNCILMEMBER
DISTRICT 3

KIA 'ĀINA

ĀHUIMANU | HE'EIA | HA'IKŪ | KĀNE'OHE | MAUNAWILI
KAILUA | OLOMANA | ENCHANTED LAKE | WAIMĀNALO



September 30, 2021

**2021 City Reapportionment Commission
Narrows Redistricting Maps**



Natalia Hussey-Burdick, from Kāneʻohe, is Councilmember Kiaʻaina’s appointee to the Commission.

The 2021 City Reapportionment Commission, composed of nine members, including Natalia Hussey-Burdick, from Kāneʻohe, has been meeting the last few months to consider new City Council district boundaries. Redistricting occurs after each decennial Census to equalize and adjust the City Council district boundaries due to population changes and shifts within the City and County of Honolulu. To learn more about the role of the commission, please go to: <https://www.honolulu.gov/elections/reapportionment.html>.

On September 28, the Commission voted to approve three redistricting maps, which can be found at: <https://www.honolulu.gov/elections>. The three maps include 1) the Kaena-Makapuu Plan Member Draft 1, 2) the Kaena/Makapuu Plan Member Draft 2, and 3) the Modified Existing Districts Plan. The Kaena Point map, which made very dramatic and sweeping changes, was not approved. Under this plan, District 3 would have lost Waimānalo and gained the Koʻolauloa area all the

way up to the North Shore. District 5, which currently has Hawai'i Kai, would have lost Waikīkī and gained Waimānalo.

Public hearings on the proposed maps will be held on:

Thursday, October 7, at 6 p.m. and Monday, October 11, at 6 p.m.

The next Commission meeting will be held on:

Tuesday, October 26, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.

Click on the following link to sign up for updates regarding the 2021 Council Reapportionment Commission: <http://www.honolulu.gov/esub/email-subscribe-all>

**Commercial Activities at Waimānalo beach
parks and rights-of-ways**



Councilmember Kia'aina talking with Waimānalo Neighborhood Chair Kimeona Kane at Hūnānāniho.

Commercial activities at Waimānalo beach parks and rights-of-ways have been a concern of residents for years, and I am pleased to announce that on September 17, I introduced [Bill 38](#), which would ban commercial activities at City managed beach parks and right of ways in Waimānalo. The ban would apply at the following beach parks: Makapu'u, Kaupo, Kaiona, Waimānalo, Hūnānāniho and Bellows Field, as well as the City managed right of ways from Makapu'u point to Hūnānāniho. Similar to the ban on commercial activities at the Kailua and Kalama Beach parks, commercial filming activities would still be allowed via permit. I am anticipating that the bill will be heard for first reading at the full City Council hearing on October 6, at 10:00 a.m. Please click [here](#) to see when the agenda will be posted to present written or oral testimony. From there, the bill will likely be heard by the Parks and Community Services Committee and considered at their next meeting on October 21, 2021.

Many of the community concerns regarding commercial activities on Waimānalo beaches below the high water mark are within the purview of the state's Department of Land and Natural Resources. Any concerns with current permitting processes, should be addressed through your state lawmakers Senator Chris Lee (senlee@capitol.hawaii.gov) or Representative Lisa Marten (repmarten@capitol.hawaii.gov).

Site Selection for O'ahu's Next landfill



When all restriction layers are activated, the uncolored regions show all areas within which the next landfill could be sited.

On September 27, the City and County of Honolulu announced the city's Landfill Advisory Committee (LAC) will hold its first virtual meeting on October 4 from 2-4 p.m.

The LAC is a diverse nine-member group whose backgrounds include government, commercial, and non-governmental organizations that will evaluate and rank potential landfill sites. The ranking will be utilized by Mayor Rick Blangiardi and the Department of Environmental Services (ENV) to select the site of O'ahu's next landfill by Dec. 31, 2022, pursuant to a decision and order of the Hawai'i Land Use Commission.

The LAC is scheduled to meet seven times over the next eight months. All LAC meetings will be virtual, accessible to the public, and a recorded video of the meeting will be archived at <https://honolulu.gov/opala/newlandfill.html>. For details of the LAC or for information on how to participate in one of the meetings, please go to the website previously provided, which includes an interactive map on proposed locations shown above.

Planning Commission Advances DPP's Short-Term Rentals Proposal



Waimanalo AirBnB

Credit: AirBnB

The Honolulu Planning Commission voted on the City Department of Planning and Permitting's proposed bill to recommend major changes to the short-term rental (STR) ordinance on [September 29, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.](#) The Commission voted to recommend amendments to the Honolulu Revised Ordinances that prohibit new short term rentals in residential areas, improve enforcement, and address tax inequity for short term rentals. My team and I are looking forward to reviewing the Commission's measure and recommendation once it is available. The Commission's recommendations will be forwarded to the Council and the Council will hold additional hearings before acting on the measure.

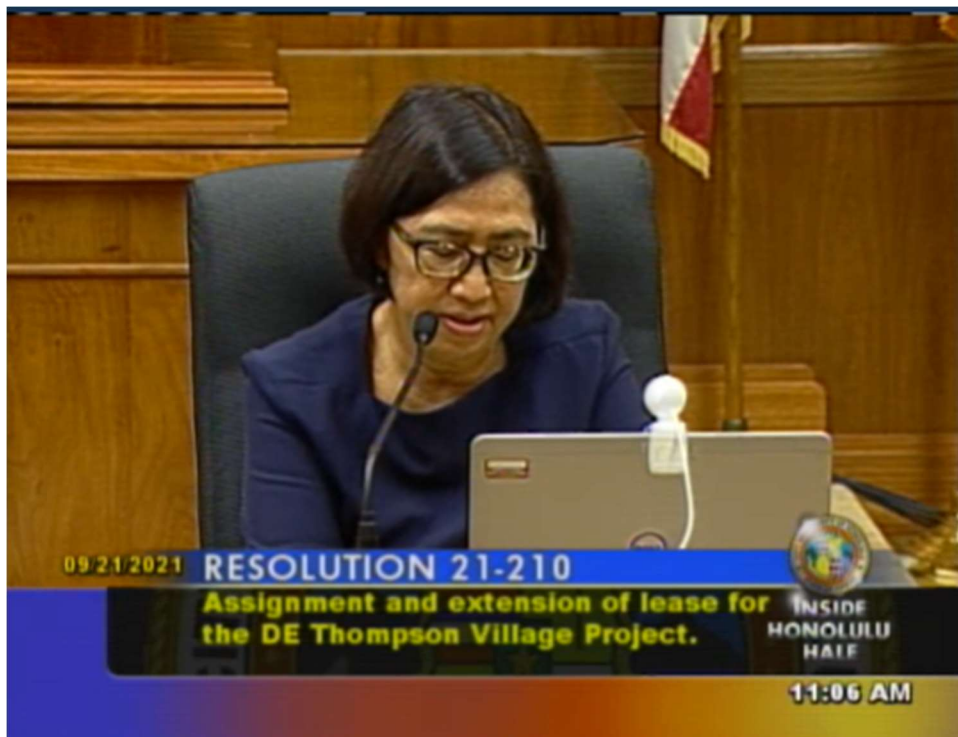
For further information on DPP's legislative proposal, please go to:

<https://www.honolulu.gov/dppstr.html>

While there are many provisions in the measure, I am particularly interested in your thoughts on improved enforcement, tax equity, elimination of the 30-day minimum

requirement for rentals, and limiting new short-term rentals to resort areas. Please email me at ekiaaina@honolulu.gov

Advancing Affordable Housing on City Properties



On September 21, the Committee on Housing and the Economy, which I chair, approved [Resolution 21-210](#), which extended and assigned a lease of City property for DE Thompson Village project, a senior, 84-unit affordable housing project in 'Ewa. Tenants do not currently pay and will not in the future pay more than 30 percent of their income in rent. The extension and assignment will ensure that renovations can be made and that the property can remain affordable for 75 years, the duration of the new lease. Mahalo to all the partners of this affordable housing project, which was spearheaded by Makani Maeva, an affordable housing

developer from Kailua.

I believe that more must be done by the City to advance affordable housing projects on City properties. With \$170 million in CIP funds and over \$37 million in Affordable Housing Fund funds secured in the FY 2022 budgets for affordable housing, it is my hope that these funds will also be used for land acquisitions and increased partnerships with state and private housing developers.

Free COVID-19 Vaccination & Testing Clinics Near You



Councilmember Kia'aina with Rep. Branco at vaccination/testing clinic at the Kailua Farmer's Market.

Whether you are interested in getting a vaccination shot or simply tested, there are many resources that can direct you to available sites, including: <https://www.oneoahu.org/find-vaccine> or <https://www.oneoahu.org/covid19-testing>.

Area legislators, including myself, have partnered with other entities to supplement these efforts with pop-up clinics to make it easier for the community, including our constituents in District 3, to access free COVID-19 vaccination and testing clinics.

KAILUA

KAILUA FARMERS MARKET (every Thursday thru the end of October)
609 Kailua Road Parking Lot – Ground level
Thursdays, 9/30, 10/7, 10/14, 10/21 & 10/28, from 4 pm to 7 pm

Sponsored by Rep. Patrick Branco & Councilmember Kia'āina with partners Project Vision, Hawai'i Farm Bureau, Alexander & Baldwin

KAILUA YMCA- 1200 Kailua Road
Tuesday, 10/5 from 1 pm – 4 pm

Sponsored by Senator Lee, Representative Marten, Councilmember Kia'āina Friends of Waimānalo, DHHL and community organizers, with partners Kaiser Permanente (Vaccines), Premier Medical Group (tests)

ENCHANTED LAKE SHOPPING CENTER - Legacy Christian Church
1020 Keolu Drive
Sunday, 10/13 from 9 am - 12 pm

Sponsored by Senator Lee, Representative Marten, Councilmember Kia'āina, Friends of Waimānalo, DHHL and community organizers, with partners Kaiser Permanente (Vaccines), Premier Medical Group (tests)

WAIMĀNALO

WAIMĀNALO TOWN CENTER - 41-1537 Kalanianaʻole Hwy.
Saturday, 10/9 from 9am – 1 pm

OLD QUARRY SITE (Corner of Nikini St. and Kalanianaʻole Hwy.)
Saturday, 10/16 from 9am – 1pm

Sponsored by Senator Lee, Representative Marten, Councilmember Kiaʻāina, Friends of Waimānalo, DHHL and community organizers, with partners Kaiser Permanente (Vaccines), Premier Medical Group (tests)

Mayor Blangiardi Supports Removal of Haʻikū Stairs



After a lengthy community input process and decades of disturbances, trespassing, threats, and assaults to nearby residents and the school community, [Resolution 21-154](#), which urges the City Administration to remove Haʻikū Stairs and its accessory structures, unanimously passed the full City

Council on September 8.

Although many have advocated for the City to provide managed access to the stairs, no feasible plan has ever been presented to overcome the herculean obstacles that have stood in the way of creating a program for the last two decades, and any program will continue to require substantial City resources. Proponents have had decades to facilitate legal access - the City started looking into securing legal access nearly two decades ago under the Harris administration and most recently under the Caldwell administration. Due to the complex legal nature of securing access to the stairs, the plethora of landowners--both public and private--that would need to enter into agreements, and the varied impacts of the various routes, after two decades there is still no clear path forward to secure legal access to facilitate a managed access option.

On September 14, Mayor Blangiardi supported the City Council's efforts by stating: *We have listened to the varying compelling arguments and appreciate all the feedback and information received from all sides of the Ha'ikū Stairs issue. We recognize the interest the stairs have to certain community groups, however issues such as trespassing, personal injuries, invasive species and overall safety of the public cannot be ignored. Fundamentally, it is inappropriate to have a high-use tourist attraction entering through this residential neighborhood, which lacks in the capacity to provide appropriate facilities or parking. In addition, there is no unrestricted access to the stairs and the primary landowner at the base made it clear it is not interested in providing access. Consequently, my administration is aligned with the City Council's resolution to remove the stairs and we intend to move forward with the necessary plans.*

I look forward to continuing to work with the Administration to bring closure to this important issue.

**Community Profile: Summer Sylva,
Executive Director of the
Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation & U.S.
Department of Interior appointee**



On September 1, the United States Department of the Interior announced the appointment of Waimānalo's own Summer Sylva to serve as the Senior Advisor for Native Hawaiian Affairs to the U.S. Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland.

Summer is a Native Hawaiian attorney and longtime resident of Waimānalo. She has been working with the Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation (NHLC) for the last seven years, most recently as its executive director. Summer will join the Department of the Interior with more than a decade of experience litigating before federal and state courts in Hawai'i, New York and New Jersey. During her tenure at NHLC, she led litigation efforts on Native Hawaiian rights issues, including water rights, state and federal government entitlement programs, public trust and historic native land claims.

As the Biden Administration works to strengthen its ties with indigenous communities across the country, I know that Summer's appointment will help them navigate the complexity of Native Hawaiian issues by working with our Hawaiian communities and federal officials to address quality of life issues and redress past wrongs related to land and self-governance.

Community Outreach



Councilmember Kia'aina with staff at Ho'okua'aina in Maunawili.

One of the most important jobs as your Councilmember is to make sure that you are able to reach me with your inquiries or to share your concerns. You can either email me at ekiaaina@honolulu.gov or call me at (808) 768-5003. You may also

want to follow me on my [Facebook page](#).

If you want to contact City agencies directly, you can also utilize the City's 311 mobile application, which provides a free, simple, and intuitive platform empowering people to report potholes, broken streetlights, cracked sidewalks, illegal dumping, vandalized/broken signs and more via your smartphone. Please note that this app serves as a tool for residents to request City services and report non-emergency issues, which will then be reviewed by the appropriate City department and assigned. You can also access this service through the City's website [here](#).

You can also call the City's information hotline at: (808) 768-CITY (2489).

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