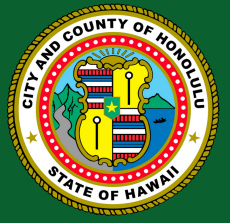




CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU



Mayor's Highlights

January 2023



THIS MONTH'S HIGHLIGHTS:

- Waikiki Vista
- \$30 million in Non-Profit Grants
- Continuing Commitment to Chinatown
- Key Personnel Updates
- Neighborhood Board Elections

WAIKĪKĪ VISTA

In October 2022, the City and County of Honolulu finalized the purchase of the Waikiki Vista building in Mō'ili'ili. Spearheaded by the Department of Land Management, this acquisition will add over 100 affordable housing units to the City's inventory and, potentially, also serve as a temporary home for City government during Honolulu Hale renovations.

In the coming year, the City will look to rehabilitate and renovate the residential portion of the building through a development agreement with an affordable housing developer, who would then rent and manage the building to eligible individuals earning at or below 60% of the area median income. More details will be available in early 2023.

The City has been in the planning and design phase for the renovation of Honolulu Hale since 2018. In anticipation of a full design by the end of calendar year 2025, the occupants of Honolulu Hale, including the offices of the Mayor and Managing Director, the City Clerk, the Honolulu City Council, Budget and Fiscal Services and Corporation Counsel, will need to find alternative office spaces. To the fullest extent possible, the Blangiardi administration hopes to consolidate seat of government operations in one co-located site so the residents and taxpayers of the City and County of Honolulu can fully and efficiently participate in City government.

Given the four floors of office space in Waikiki Vista, the City is considering relocating the government operations in Honolulu Hale to Waikiki Vista to consolidate operations and avoid costly rent in non-City buildings. A consolidated seat of government operation is an option that preserves and maximizes the public's easy access to City government operations. Before proceeding with a consolidation plan, the City administration intends to fully engage the local community, the City Clerk's office and Honolulu City Council.

Building Stats

19-FLOORS, 172,036-SQUARE-FEET

FLOOR PLAN

Nine housing floors, each with 12 housing units, plus six floors with classroom, auditorium, administrative, dining and office spaces. Four floors are dedicated for parking, with each floor accommodating 35 parking stalls.

WAIKĪKĪ VISTA WILL ADD MORE THAN 100 AFFORDABLE HOUSING RENTAL UNITS TO THE CITY'S INVENTORY.

City Offers \$30 Million in Grants to Non-profits

The City and County of Honolulu is now accepting applications for up to \$30 million in relief for non-profit organizations that have been adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible non-profits could receive up to \$100,000 to help them recover.

Funds awarded through this process may be used as working capital to cover day-to-day operating expenses such as rent/lease payments, mortgage payments, asset maintenance, utility expenses, payroll and benefits costs, Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) for internal organization use or other similar expenses that occur in the ordinary course of operations that have not been covered by other federally supported programs or an insurance claim.

To be eligible, 501(c)3 non-profit organizations must have existed prior to the onset of the pandemic, and must primarily provide direct assistance and services to O'ahu residents. The non-profit must also demonstrate the need for economic support resulting from financial hardship caused by declines in revenues, such as the loss of donations or fundraising revenue due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

If you think your non-profit may qualify for these relief funds, visit oneoahu.org/NonProfitReliefProgram to learn more. There, non-profits will find the link to the application portal, as well as useful information to help them determine eligibility and assemble the necessary documents to apply.

“Our non-profits have helped us through the toughest times of our lives, and it's only right that we step up to help them now when they need it the most. We owe them a debt of gratitude for the selfless work they have done for our community, both before and during the pandemic. We need to do what we can to ensure they can continue to help the most vulnerable in our communities.

- Mayor Rick Blangiardi

Director Spotlight: Department of Community Services Deputy Director Aedward Los Banos

Aedward Los Banos is a graduate of the Kamehameha Schools and the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. A former CPA, he holds a Bachelor's of Business Administration (BBA) in Accounting and Finance as well as a Master's of Accountancy (MAcc). Prior to joining Mayor Rick Blangiardi's administration in 2022, he held several executive level positions at the University of Hawai'i System, Hawai'i Community Development Authority, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and Catholic Charities of Hawai'i. Los Banos brings a diverse range of public service experience to his current role as Deputy Director of the Department of Community Services (DCS).



"DCS has a major role to play in Honolulu's recovery from the pandemic, our programs and services here help households – I definitely have some 'big shoes' to fill in DCS."

CITY PARTNERS WITH COMMUNITY TO RESTORE DR. SUN YAT-SEN MEMORIAL PARK

The City is activating and beautifying public spaces throughout Chinatown as part of our continuing commitment to restore safety and community in the Chinatown historic district. On November 21, 2022, Mayor Blangiardi, City leaders, and partners from the Chinatown community held a blessing and lei-draping ceremony to mark the completion of renovations to Dr. Sun Yat-sen Memorial Park.

Conditions in the park had declined over time and, eventually, led to the park's closure for renovations. Current improvements to the park began in 2015, when a partnership was established with the Hawai'i Theatre Center for upkeep of the park. \$1.115 million in improvements include: installation of a new fence, removal of a degraded water feature, and the refurbishment and relocation of the Dr. Sun Yat-sen statue, making it the focal point of the historic figure's namesake location.

Mahalo to the Dr. Sun Yat-sen Foundation of Hawai'i, the Hawai'i Theatre Center, and the many Chinatown residents who honor Dr. Sun Yat-sen and help maintain this special place.



PROVIDING NO-COST MEDICAL CARE TO THE CHINATOWN COMMUNITY WITH NEW KAHUA CLINIC



Kahua clinic volunteers

The Honolulu Emergency Services Department's Crisis Outreach Response and Engagement teams, better known as C.O.R.E., focus on a rapid response to Oahu's homeless population in partnership with the University of Hawai'i John A. Burns School of Medicine's Homeless Outreach Medical Education (H.O.M.E.).

Just this month, the private-public partnership opened a joint medical clinic to offer free healthcare. The clinic is primarily staffed with medical students and volunteers under the supervision of physicians. The students can medically treat a variety of conditions including high blood pressure, diabetes, wounds and also administer vaccines. City C.O.R.E. personnel will also assist at the clinic and C.O.R.E. ambulances will be used to bring people to the clinic rather than transport those with minor ailments to emergency rooms.

While the H.O.M.E. project was founded in 2005, and the City and County of Honolulu founded C.O.R.E. in 2021, this will be the first integrated partnership between these two programs aimed at helping those most vulnerable in our community.

The clinic, named Kahua, means a foundation and new beginning---just what we hope to provide for our homeless brothers and sisters.

Key Personnel Updates for December

As 2022 came to a close, Mayor Blangiardi made appointments to fill critical positions in key City departments.



DAWN TAKEUCHI
APUNA



JIRO SUMADA



CRAIG HIRAI



HAKU MILLES

Department of Planning and Permitting

Dawn Takeuchi Apuna – Director

Dawn Takeuchi Apuna was named Director Designate in December, and has served as the acting director of DPP since early September. She has led the department through the launch of several high-profile initiatives, including the City's short-term vacation rental enforcement efforts and significant technological improvements to the department's permit processing capabilities.

She is committed to improving staffing levels, organizational structures and technological processes to help drastically reduce permitting approval times for both residential and commercial projects.

Jiro Sumada – Deputy Director

Jiro Sumada was appointed in December as Deputy Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP), a position he previously held from 2010 to 2013. Jiro has held leadership roles in government and in the private sector, with a focus in engineering and public outreach. At DPP, his primary focus will be working with the men and women in DPP to improve operations and provide better customer service.

Craig Hirai - Chief of Affordable Housing Policy and Strategy

Craig Hirai, the former director of the state's Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) and the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC), joined the City in December as DPP's new Chief of Affordable Housing Policy and Strategy. Hirai will oversee the City and County of Honolulu's Private Activity Bond (PAB), General Excise Tax (GET) exemption programs, as well as affordable housing projects in the City and County of Honolulu. Craig will also lead the City's affordable housing infrastructure working group, which aims to make sure City and State properties have the necessary infrastructure for affordable housing.

Department of Design and Construction

Haku Milles – Director

Haku Milles, a civil engineer with extensive project management experience, was named Director Designate of the City's Department of Design and Construction (DDC) and has served as the department's acting director since June 2022. DDC is responsible for a variety of construction-related projects, including the management of roadway lighting upgrades, road repaving initiatives, drainage infrastructure improvements and the development of new City facilities, including police and fire stations and parks.



Neighborhood Board Elections

WANT TO GET MORE INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY? JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD!

Who Can Vote?

- Anyone can vote, including military personnel, military family members, and legal resident aliens
- Must be at least 18 years of age by Friday, February 17, 2023
- Must have voted in the last general election or register with the NCO to vote specifically for the Neighborhood Board Elections

Important Dates:

- Friday, February 17, 2023 – Candidate Filing Deadline
- Friday, April 28, 2023 – Voting Begins
- Friday, May 19, 2023 – Voting Ends

Voting will be conducted online, however, those wanting a paper ballot or more information on the election should contact the Neighborhood Commission Office at: <https://www.honolulu.gov/nco/default.html> or call (808) 768-3710.

Report an Issue in Your Community

You can report anything from a pothole to graffiti to a parking violation using the City's 311 app or website. Visit your phone's app store or honoluluhi.citysourced.com to learn more!

Get Emergency Notifications and City Services Updates

HNL.info is a one stop site for City services from emergency alerts to registering for City activities. Visit the website or download the app today!

Get in touch

THE CITY WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

MAYOR'S OFFICE	HONOLULU.GOV/MAYOR	(808)768-4141
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	HONOLULU.GOV/ENV	(808)768-3486
PARKS DEPARTMENT	HONOLULU.GOV/PARKS	(808)768-3003
COVID-19 INFORMATION	ONEOAHU.ORG	(808)768-2489
SATELLITE CITY HALLS	HONOLULU.GOV/CSD	(808)768-4325
NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION	HONOLULU.GOV/NCO	(808)768-3710
GOLF COURSE & ZOO INFORMATION	HONOLULU.GOV/DES	(808)768-5400