

# DISTRICT 6 UPDATE

APRIL 2024

[honoluluycitycouncil.org](http://honoluluycitycouncil.org)

COUNCILMEMBER TYLER DOS SANTOS-TAM

[tdossantos-tam@honolulu.gov](mailto:tdossantos-tam@honolulu.gov) - 808-768-5006



## Aloha Neighbors!

I'm grateful for the opportunity to represent District 6 on the Honolulu City Council in 2024. Let's collaborate to improve our community. Your input is valuable and helps shape how my office and I serve our area. For regular updates, follow me on social media. If you have any issues that need attention, feel free to reach out to my office. We're here to assist you! *-Tyler*

## Mayor Blangiardi Gives 2024 State of the City Address



Above: Mayor Rick Blangiardi giving his State of the City Address to the public.

On **March 14**, Mayor Rick Blangiardi delivered the 2024 State of the City address at the Mission Memorial Building, announcing his top priorities for the year. This includes affordable housing, government efficiency, transportation, and public safety. He also made the announcement of plans to establish two new City departments: a standalone Department of Ocean Safety to enhance lifeguard services and the merger of two City entities to form the Department of Housing and Land Management to address housing priorities. The new department would have an important role of setting housing policy

and driving regulatory and process improvements. In addition to this, he recognized the long span of time it takes the Department of Planning & Permitting to process a building permit. The Mayor highlighted the need for transit-oriented development and housing built along the Skyline route. That will help connect residents with various services. He also announced that the city will provide a \$25,000 recruitment bonuses to police recruit who commit for at least three years. In all, Mayor Blangiardi is optimistic and energized for the year to come with the opportunity to further improve City systems and peoples lives on an everyday basis.



Above: CM Dos Santos-Tam with fellow Councilmembers Tulba, Weyer, Tupola, and Say.

## Gun Safety Advocates Gather at Honolulu Hale



Above: CM Dos Santos-Tam with Mayor Blangiardi and Everytown For Gun Safety members.

On **March 7**, CM Dos Santos-Tam attended an Everytown for Gun Safety Press Conference in front of the Honolulu Hale. Mayor Rick Blangiardi delivered his statements in front of the Honolulu Hale. The purpose of the gathering was to provide support for a measure currently being heard at the Hawai'i State Legislature. [SB3196](#) Relating to Firearms. The Senate Bill will specifically, amend the prohibition on certain assault weapons to include .50 caliber rifles and assault weapon attachments. The legislation prohibits all assault weapons and high-capacity magazines that fire over ten rounds. This new legislation improves Hawai'i's current law that has long prohibited one category of assault weapons: assault pistols.

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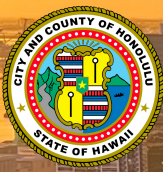
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# BILLS & LEGISLATION

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## Bill 3 (2024): Incentives for Construction of Affordable Rental Housing

The Honolulu City Council heard [Bill 3 \(24\)](#) in its first reading. This is a measure aimed at providing private developers of affordable rental projects with increased financial incentives. Introduced by CM Dos Santos-Tam, the bill taps into an *existing* \$10 million grant from the city's general fund to support the construction of over 1,100 new homes in areas zoned for denser development. The move is seen as a response to market challenges and supports small developers facing higher interest rates, supply chain shortages, and increased material costs. Bill 3 builds on [Bill 7 \(19\)](#), offering an alternative incentive to developers in the form of a grant of up to \$35,000 per unit *before* construction begins, with varying amounts based on area median income or AMI. The proposed measure hopes to address the slow pace of development under Bill 7 and adapt to current market realities, supporting workforce housing for essential workers.

## Bill 9 (2024): Repealing Obsolete Transportation-Related Laws

In February, Dos Santos-Tam introduced [Bill 9 \(24\)](#), which repeals long-obsolete provisions relating to “touring automobile services,” which was put into law in 1937 and hasn’t been utilized since the 1950s, and “U-Drive Rental Vehicles,” which are a classification of rental cars which have been fully regulated by the State since 1988. Before proposing the bill, CM Dos Santos-Tam’s office did extensive research into the history of these provisions and checked with the various stakeholders such as the rental car companies to ensure that repealing these provisions would not affect their operations. There are several other obsolete provisions of the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu which CM Dos Santos-Tam’s office will be proposing for repeal later this year.

## Bill 18 (2024): Repealing Poundmasters from City Ordinance

[Bill 18 \(24\)](#) introduced last month by CM Dos Santos-Tam, will repeal the longstanding ordinance that designates the role of a Poundmaster. This person was responsible for the care and removal of stray livestock from private property. However, this job has not been filled since 2000. The organization that has been filling that role for some years has been the Hawaiian Humane Society. It is not within the duties of the Humane Society to perform this task but in recent times it has rarely received requests for removals. It has since outsourced this function to the [Oahu Cattlemen Association](#) which has expertise in removing and relocating livestock from private property.

## Bill 19 (2024): Residential Housing Preference for City Residents

CM Dos Santos-Tam is exploring the idea of residential housing preference. [Bill 19 \(24\)](#) proposed by Councilmembers Radiant Cordero and Tyler Dos Santos-Tam, would specify that all City housing programs and initiatives must include a preference for City residents. The bill puts forth only a preference for city residents and does not exclude non-city residents from such programs. The measure comes as Hawai’i enters [nearly a decade](#) of population decline, with 67,257 people leaving the state between 2021 and 2022. We need to start ensuring people can remain in Hawai’i.

## Bill 20 (2024): Establishing a Department of Planning & Permitting Fund

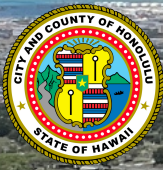


[Bill 20 \(24\)](#), is a new approach to address deficiencies in the Department of Planning & Permitting (DPP). CM Dos Santos-Tam introduced the bill, which proposes reinvesting permitting fees and fines into a self-sufficient DPP fund to enhance its operations. The aim is to incentivize the department to improve its performance, particularly in addressing outstanding fines and expediting permit processes. While concerns about the proposal's impact CM Dos Santos-Tam emphasizes the importance of initiating discussions to address the department’s challenges. The next hearing is scheduled for **April 2**, 2024, at 9 a.m.

## Bill 21 (2024): Removing Archaic Boards and Commissions from City Ordinance

[Bill 21 \(24\)](#) works to remove unnecessary boards and commissions from City laws. The boards and commissions in this proposed legislation are the Child Care Advisory Board and the Oahu Committee on Children and Youth. The two boards have not been operating for many years. The conception of this board and commission came at a time when there was an interest in assessing the needs of the youth on the island. However, the State Legislature currently regulates the majority of childcare laws. This measure will also be heard on **April 2**, at 9 a.m.





# IN THE COMMUNITY

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## City Lei Draping Ceremony Honoring King Kamehameha III



Above: The King Kamehameha III statue in Thomas Square.

On **March 18**, CM Dos Santos-Tam and staff were able to join the Mayor's Office of Culture and the Arts for a ceremony remembering King Kamehameha III. The longest-reigning monarch of Hawai'i. The special lei draping ceremony was held at Thomas Square Park to honor the King on his birthday. Mayor Rick Blangiardi, accompanied by members of his cabinet and other representatives from City departments, and Native Hawaiian organizations commemorate the occasion. King Kamehameha III, also known as Kauikeaouli, holds the record as the longest-reigning monarch in the history of the Hawaiian Kingdom, ruling for 29 years. His reign marked significant transformations in Hawaii's governance, including the transition from an absolute monarchy to a constitutional

monarchy. Additionally, he established the Royal Hawaii Band, known as the King's band at the time, and is also the oldest full-time working band in the United States. He also founded the Honolulu Fire Department in 1850. Both departments took key roles in the ceremony.

## DeCorte Park Meeting with the Department of Parks & Recreation



Above: CM Dos Santos-Tam with the Department of Parks & Recreation Director Laura Thielen and other members from the dept.

On **March 21**, CM Dos Santos-Tam conducted a site visit with the Director of Parks & Recreation, Laura Thielen, and her staff. The discussion centered around the progress that has been made to make the park to make it safer, pushing out the various negative elements that hinder residents and families from enjoying the park. After consistent meetings and communications, the department has made large strides in achieving this goal. First, the men's and women's bathroom are now

fortified at the top, with metal grates. Preventing people from entering the bathrooms in the later hours after park closure. Since then the restrooms have been a lot cleaner. Additionally, through a pilot program, the park lights are now on from dusk to dawn. District 5 Community Policing Team will monitor progress to evaluate if that made a substantial difference in crime.



## Join the Community for the 2024 Kalihi Ahupua'a Ride

On Saturday, **April 13**, the 2024 Kalihi Ahupua'a Ride will take place from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Hosted by the Kōkua Kalihi Valley, the ride offers a unique community biking experience, spanning from the mountain to the ocean through the Kalihi ahupua'a and neighborhood. Led by youth organizers, this eight-mile downhill journey features designated "story stops" where participants delve into the cultural and historical importance of each site, shedding light on Kalihi's evolution over the years. Beyond simply cycling, the event fosters community cohesion, provides access to health initiatives, celebrates the richness of the land, and fosters a deep sense of belonging among Kalihi residents. Excluding the start and end points there are five "story stops" that are the following: The ride starts at Ho'oulu 'Āina, 3659 Kalihi St, Honolulu, HI 96819, and makes stops at KVICE, 1638 Kamehameha IV Rd, Honolulu, HI 96819; Puea Cemetery, 1440 N School Street, Honolulu, HI 96817; Bishop Museum, 1525 Bernice St, Honolulu, HI 96817; Lo'i Kalo Mini Park, 1243 Loi Kalo Pl, Honolulu, HI 96817; Kalākaua District Park, 720 McNeill St, Honolulu, HI 96817, before concluding at Mauiola, 1040 Sand Island Parkway, Honolulu, HI 96819.

To register for the ride scan here!





# CONSTITUENT UPDATES

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## Recognizing O'ahu Transit Services Inc. and Handi-Van "Roadeo" Winners



Last December, the Oahu Transit Services (OTS) "Roadeo" took place at TheBus Pearl City facility, attracting twenty-four bus operators and six bus maintenance teams to compete in various challenges. Participants navigated through a full obstacle course, completed timed runs, and executed intricate maneuvers using a 40-foot bus. The winning bus operator and maintenance team will represent the organization at the international competition hosted by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) in Portland, Oregon, while TheHandi-Van winner will advance to the national competition organized by the Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA) in Palm Beach, Florida. The event featured TheBus Operator Roadeo and TheHandi-Van Operator

Roadeo, with notable performances from winners such as Derwin Yamaguchi and John Steffens. These competitions serve not only as platforms for showcasing driving skills and maintenance disciplines but also as valuable opportunities for learning, networking, and professional development within the transit industry.

## Marking Kaiulani Elementary School Retirements

CM Dos Santos-Tam honored three special educators at Kaiulani Elementary School who are retiring. Jill Teixeira's dedicated tenure at Kaiulani Elementary School began in 1992, accumulating 32 years of service within the Department of Education. Holding roles such as Principal and Vice Principal, she demonstrated visionary leadership and authenticity, enriching the educational experience. Colleagues praise her trustworthiness and commitment, noting her lasting impact on students, families, and colleagues. Nadine Okazawa, with over 33 years in education, primarily at Kaiulani Elementary, showcased versatility and dedication teaching various grade levels. Described as friendly and fostering meaningful relationships, Nadine's extensive experience warrants commendation. Cafeteria Manager Brian Sailola, who worked for four years as Cafeteria Manager at Kaiulani Elementary, showcased his commitment to quality service. Known for his culinary skills and dedication, Brian's involvement in school initiatives reflects his dedication to fostering a positive environment.



Above: CM Dos Santos-Tam with Jill Teixeira, Nadine Okazawa, and Brian Sailola.

## Learn More About Overdose Prevention with Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center

On **March 19**, City Council employees took place in Narcan training. The education was provided by the [Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center](#) (HHRC) the training was invaluable. Aspects of identifying and helping to reverse an opioid drug overdose were explained. Naloxone or Narcan now available for over-the-counter use is a nasal spray that is an opioid antagonist—meaning that it binds to opioid receptors and reverse and block the effects of opioids, such as heroin, morphine, and oxycodone. It is important to know how to use it in case of a medical emergency. Training can be found [here](#).

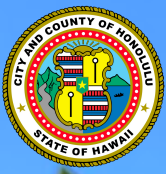
## Report a City Issue: Information on the 311 App

The official mobile app for the City & County of Honolulu is the Honolulu 311 app. This app offers a free, user-friendly platform for reporting various issues such as potholes, broken streetlights, cracked sidewalks, illegal dumping, and damaged signs directly from your smartphone. By submitting a request through the app, it gets reviewed by the relevant City Department, and the necessary work is assigned and scheduled. Please keep in mind that the estimated completion times may vary depending on the nature of the request. Additionally, signing up for an account allows users to receive updates on the progress of their requests. Access the Honolulu 311 app online or through the Apple Store.

To view the app scan [here!](#)







# DISTRICT PROJECTS

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## Moving Forward with Game Rooms Legislation



Above: CM Dos Santos-Tam in a previous game rooms meeting with Makiki Neighborhood Board Chair Ian Ross, HPD Sergeant Mike Lambert, and CM Say.

Our office and CM Tupola are proposing solutions that include empowering city agencies to take legal action against landlords [Bill 57 \(23\)](#), to collaborate in investigations, and to share evidence to combat illegal gambling rooms effectively, [Bill 58 \(23\)](#). This legislative package ensures law-abiding landowners are not negatively impacted, but landowners complicit in these illegal activities are targeted with swift corrective action such as imposed penalties. The bills will be heard in the Zoning Committee on **April 3, 2024**, at 9 a.m.

## Cub Scouts Pack 39 Comes to City Hall

The Cub Scouts were able to come down to the Honolulu Hale for an education lesson and tour on what the City Council does and how decisions made within the building affect the lives of residents all around the island. The Cub Scouts are a group of engaging smart young people who are encouraged to be kind, caring, and productive members of society. The program is throughout the year. Activities have included; a fishing derby, twilight tour of the Honolulu Zoo, CPR training for kids, and service projects in the Keawawa Wetlands. If someone is a member of the Cub Scouts they get to experience. If you or someone you know are interested in joining contact [AlohaCouncilBSA@Scouting.org](mailto:AlohaCouncilBSA@Scouting.org).



Above: CM Dos Santos-Tam with the Cub Scout Aloha Pack members and chaperones.

## Chigasaki and Kalihi Uka Elementary Students Tour the Honolulu Hale



CM Dos Santos-Tam and staff members provided a tour for students from Chigasaki, Japan, and 4th-grade students from Kalihi Uka Elementary (KUE). The sister city relationship between Honolulu and Chigasaki started on October 24, 2014. The agreement was between the Chigasaki City Tourism Association, the Chigasaki Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the Chigasaki Aloha Shirt Committee during the Kirk Caldwell administration. Both cities have an abundance of beauty through each city's culture and climate. The union promoted "Aloha Spirit" The goal was to deepen mutual regard, respect, and understanding between the two cities for future generations. Even now those ties are strong, after the tour of the Hale, the kids all stopped to visit 'Iolani Palace.

## Update on the Board of Water Supply Repair Work in Pauoa

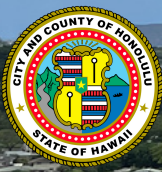
The end is in sight for the Board of Water Supply work in Pauoa! The Board of Water Supply contractor has finished the final paving on Kaneali'i Ave for Phases #H-1 and #H-2. There is still a section of pipe that needs to be cut and plug at the intersection of Kaneali'i Ave and Lusitana St., however due to a gas leak in the immediate area, discovered upon excavating, Hawaii Gas needs to complete their repairs before BWS is able to proceed, due to safety concerns. At Kapaloala Pl, "Water Line G" work is ongoing, approximately 250 feet of pipe left to install before chlorination.

## International Connections: Meeting the Ilocos Norte Governor



Above: CM Dos Santos-Tam with Ilocos Norte Governor Matthew Marcos Manotoc and Ms. Jamie Herrell with Governor Green and First Lady Jaime Kanani Green

As the great-grandson of an immigrant from Ilocos Norte, CM Dos Santos-Tam was proud to have met Ilocos Norte Governor Matthew Marcos Manotoc and Ms. Jamie Herrell at a reception hosted by Governor Green and First Lady Jaime Kanani Green. CM Dos Santos-Tam spoke with Gov. Manotoc about trade and economic opportunities, especially the prospect of a new direct flight between Honolulu and Laoag, which will take advantage of the newly upgraded airport there and open up leisure tourism opportunities and allow our kababayan to be even closer to family back home. There are also many other opportunities in agribusiness, tourism, light manufacturing, and renewable energy. CM Dos Santos-Tam thanked Ms. Jamie Herrell for her vocal advocacy on climate change, which is an issue that both Hawaii and the Philippines are facing head-on.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## Come Enjoy the Cinco De Mayo Festival at Ala Moana Boulevard

On Sunday, **May 5, 2024**, join in the celebration of Cinco de Mayo, presented by the [Hispanic Chamber of Commerce](#) Hawaii and the Hawaii Tourism Authority. This immersive event provides the community with a rich a rich experience of Hispanic culture in Hawaii. Entertainment includes mariachis, music, hula, Oahu Intertribal American Indian dancers, and drummers showcasing the diverse cultural heritage of Hawaii. Enjoy authentic Latino regional cuisine including food trucks with a beer garden. This is a family-friendly event with festivities at the Keiki Zone. The festival will be at 1011 Ala Moana Boulevard.

To sign-up scan here!



## Fun In the Sun at the Beretania Community Park Cleanup



On **March 16**, CM Dos Santos-Tam, staff, and many volunteers gathered to clean up rubbish in the park, sweep the parking lot, and repaint the curbs. Volunteers from the Living Faith Baptist Church and the Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center all came to spend their Saturday morning volunteering for their community. Our office continues to appreciate all who decide to join in the fun in service of the community.

Above: CM Dos Santos-Tam with all of the park cleanup volunteers.

## Explore the Hawaii Foodie Con and Spring Expo of 2024

Mark your calendars for additional dates of the great foodie convention taking place on Saturday, **April 13, 2024**, from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm at the Blaisdell Center, located at 777 Ward Ave in Honolulu, HI. Admission prices range from \$4.00 to \$6.00, with general admission at \$6, Military & Seniors at \$4, and children 12 years and under free with an accompanying paid adult. Don't miss out on the chance to sample delicious food from various restaurants and food trucks, all priced at \$7 per hot food plate. The event will also feature a Spring Expo where you can shop for unique items not found in stores. For more information, contact 808-732-6037 or email [sales@pacificexpos.com](mailto:sales@pacificexpos.com).

For more information scan here!



## Sign up to Participate in the Upcoming Fern Community Park Cleanup

Attention all neighbors! On **May 18**, our office will be organizing a community cleanup at Fern Park. The gathering of volunteers and residents will take place because it will mark the anniversary of the park that was established in 1944. For eighty years the park has been serving the community. We will take a few hours of our morning to serve it. The event will take place from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. To sign up for the event please scan the QR code or email [robin.henski@honolulu.gov](mailto:robin.henski@honolulu.gov) for more information.

To sign up for the park cleanup scan here!



## Frequently Called Numbers

[Council Office 768-5006](tel:768-5006)

Abandoned Vehicles 768-2530

City Complaints Hotline 768-4381

Graffiti Hotline 723-3475

HART Hotline 566-2299

HPD - Non-Emergency 529-3111

HPD - Downtown Station 723-3310

HPD - Kalihi Station 723-8207

[HPD- Narcotics/Vice 723-3933](tel:723-3933)

Illegal Dumping 768-5220

Potholes 768-7777

Refuse Pickup 768-3200

Senior Citizen Info 768-7700

Street Light Repair 768-5300

Street Sign Repair 768-3644

Tree Trimming 971-7151

Zoning Info 768-8058

[Honolulu 311 App](#)

## Save the Date: Future Park Cleanups!

1. **Fern Community Park** (May 18, 2024)
2. **Kalihi Valley District Park** (July 27, 2024)
3. **Alewa Park** (September 21, 2024)
4. **Auwaiolimu Neighborhood Park** (November 16, 2024)
5. **Kamehameha Community Park** (December 14, 2024)