



# Ewa Monthly Report for September 2017

## CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 9

Ewa, Ewa Beach, Mililani, Waikale, Village Park, and Royal Kunia



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## Message from Council Chair Ron Menor

### *Aloha Friends and Neighbors,*

Currently, the Honolulu Fire Department has identified 358 residential high-rise condominiums and hundreds of residential buildings over 75 feet tall that do not have sprinkler systems. The **Committee On Executive Matters and Legal Affairs**, which I chair, recently deferred **Bill 69 (2017)**, which would have required each of these existing high-rise buildings and residential structures to be retrofitted with automatic sprinkler systems over the next five years. While the final result of passing this legislation would have been increased fire safety measures, it also would have saddled condominium owners with the high costs of installing an automatic sprinkler system. Deferring this bill will allow for needed public discussion to take place. Moreover, it will give the **Residential Fire Safety Advisory Committee**, which has been convened by the Fire Chief, time to submit an updated set of fire safety recommendations.

I do believe that safety measures must be adopted to avoid another tragedy like the fire at the Marco Polo condominium. However, every property owner and every property is unique and the optimal fire prevention system and solutions must be found for each property.

In an effort to gather public input, the City Council is hosting a community meeting regarding fire safety in residential buildings. The meeting will be held on **Sept. 16 from 10 a.m. until noon at Mission Memorial Auditorium** next to Honolulu Hale. Following a formal presentation from fire safety professionals and industry experts, there will be an opportunity for public discussion.

I look forward to the public's input on this important issue. I am confident that, as a city, we will be able to find the safest and most reasonable path forward.

If you need further assistance, please contact me at 768-5009 or via email at: [rmenor@honolulu.gov](mailto:rmenor@honolulu.gov). Also, log on to: [facebook.com/CouncilmemberRonMenor](https://www.facebook.com/CouncilmemberRonMenor) for more details about my activities as your councilmember. Mahalo!

### EWA EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FAIR



Chair Menor attended the 7th Annual "Get Ready Ewa Beach" Emergency Preparedness Fair which was held at Ewa Makai Middle School on September 9. He is pictured above with former Ewa Neighborhood Board No. 23 member Rodney Boucher, far left. Rodney's efforts as a member of the Ewa Emergency Preparedness Committee have been invaluable.



The "Get Ready Ewa Beach" Emergency Preparedness Fair is an annual event that is organized by the Ewa Emergency Preparedness Committee. This is a free event that connects local residents with emergency preparedness officials and experts. Chair Menor, pictured above with representatives of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, attends this event every year,

## UPDATE ON COMMUNITY CONCERNS

The following is an update on several of the many community issues that Council Chair Menor has been addressing:

### Ewa Beach Skate Park

Department of Design and Construction Director Robert Kroning has notified Chair Menor that the final resurfacing phase of the rehabilitation project of the skate park at Ewa Beach Community Park is slated to begin at the end of this month and should be completed two weeks thereafter.

Chair Menor will continue to monitor this project to ensure its completion.

### Ewa Makai Middle School Bus Stop

Chair Menor's office was contacted by an Ewa Beach resident who voiced her concern regarding the lack of bus stops near Ewa Makai Middle School. An official from The Bus confirmed that the nearest bus stops to Ewa Makai Middle School are located two blocks away on Keone'ula Boulevard or near the Safeway at Laulani Shopping Center.

The resident who contacted Chair Menor also pointed out that having a bus stop closer to campus would eliminate the need for Ewa Makai Middle School students to go to Laulani Shopping Center where there have been reports of loitering, lewd conduct, and vandalism by students.

Chair Menor has submitted a Request for Investigation and Service Report

(RISR) requesting the City install a bus stop closer to Ewa Makai Middle School. Chair Menor will follow up on this RISR and will provide updates in the future.

### Varona Village Street Lighting

Varona Village community leader Agnes Malate contacted Chair Menor regarding the lack of street lights in Varona Village. Ms. Malate is concerned that this lack of lighting has attracted illegal dumping and abandoned vehicles.

The City has recently installed three solar-powered street lights. Ms. Malate has requested that the City look into installing more of these lights throughout Varona Village.

Chair Menor has submitted a RISR requesting the City consider the feasibility of installing these lights. He will provide an update as soon as possible.

### AARP Free Events

AARP Hawaii is hosting several free events through October to help arm the public against fraud, keep older drivers safe on the road, and plan for retirement. These events include Think of Your Future Workshop, Carfit Check Up For Older Drivers, and an Evening with Frank Abagnale which is being hosted by the AARP Fraud Watch Network. For dates, times, and more information on these events, please visit: [aarp.org/states/hi/](http://aarp.org/states/hi/)

You may also contact Chair Menor at 768-5009 at any time.

## Upcoming Meetings

### Committee Meetings

Council committee meetings will be held at Honolulu Hale, Room 205, as follows:

#### Tuesday, September 26, 2017

- Public Health, Safety & Welfare: 9 am
- Parks, Cmty & Customer Svcs: 10:30 am
- Executive Matters & Legal Affairs: 1 pm

#### Wednesday, September 27, 2017

- Budget: 9 am
- Public Works, Infrastructure, & Sustainability: 1pm

#### Thursday, September 28, 2017

- Zoning & Housing: 9 am
- Business, Econ Dev, & Tourism: 1 pm
- Transportation & Planning: 2:30 pm

### Council Meeting

#### Wednesday, October 11, 2017

Honolulu Hale, 530 South King Street

- Morning Session: 10 am
- Afternoon Session: 1:30 pm

## Useful City Contact Information

- For concerns regarding refuse collection and bulky items:
  - ⇒ Pearl City baseyard (Waipahu, Ewa, Waipio Gentry, Royal Kunia, Halawa to Makakilo, Kapolei): 455-9644
- To dispose of household trash and residential waste material: 226-2996 (Ewa Convenience Center)
- To report an abandoned vehicle: 733-2530
- To report a pothole: 768-7777 (City street) or 536-7852 (State road) or email: [www1.honolulu.gov/dfm/road/pothole.htm](http://www1.honolulu.gov/dfm/road/pothole.htm)
- To file a complaint with the City's complaint office: 768-4381 or email: [complaints@honolulu.gov](mailto:complaints@honolulu.gov)
- To report sidewalks that are cracked or uplifted: 768-8159
- For concerns regarding park maintenance: 675-6030
- For concerns regarding bus and handi-van operations: 768-8300
- For concerns regarding motor vehicle registration and drivers' licensing: 532-4324 or 532-4325
- Barking dogs: HPD (911) or the Hawaiian Humane Society (946-2187)
- Crowing roosters: 799-7791
- For complaints regarding public trees: 971-7151
- For complaints regarding satellite city halls: 532-7747
- For permits at City campgrounds: 768-3440
- For updates/ traffic advisories on Honolulu's rail transit project: 566-2299

## WEST LOCH FAIRWAYS



Chair Menor is pictured above with Complete Streets Program Administrator Michael Packard from the Department of Transportation Services at the West Loch Fairways board meeting. Chair Menor and Packard met with members of the West Loch Fairways Board of Directors to discuss a plan regarding the preservation of the monkeypod trees that are located along A'awa Drive during future road repaving work.