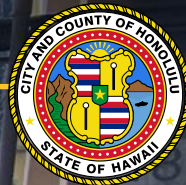




District 9 News Bulletin

October 2021 | 20



Waikēle, Village Park, Royal Kunia, Mililani Town, West Loch, Iroquois Point,
and portions of Ewa Villages and Ewa Beach



A message from your Councilmember

Augie Tulba

Aloha District 9!

The year is wrapping up quickly and the holiday season is right around the corner! I want to give you a few updates on some major issues moving forward at the City.

For the Ewa community, I'm excited to announce that the Task Force on North Road Management will be holding its first meeting on October 28th via videoconference. The City Department of Transportation Services is leading the task force and they have confirmed that representatives from the State, City, military, and community will be attending. As you may recall, State Representative McDermott and the State Legislature adopted House Concurrent Resolution 94 urging the City Administration to establish a Task Force on North Road. In June, I introduced Resolution 21-134 to continue the efforts from our community to address the unresolved issues related to management and maintenance of North Road. The goal of the task force is to recommend safety improvements and management of the road by December 15th. The first task force meeting will bring all parties to the table and I believe this is the next step to helping our community be cleaner and safer.

Next, the City Council is currently deliberating the establishment of a county transient accommodations tax (TAT). The TAT is a tax on lodging or vacation units rented for a short-term period, such as hotel rooms or Airbnb units. The State TAT rate is currently 10.25%, in the past, counties would receive their share of \$103 million from the State TAT.

The City and County of Honolulu would receive about \$45 million of the \$103 million. This year, however, the State Legislature passed House Bill 862 and removed the funds that are typically given to the counties. To make up for the loss in funds to the counties, the State is allowing each county to establish its own county TAT up to 3%. A 3% Honolulu TAT is projected to bring in \$48 million. Bill 40 is the current measure before the City Council that would establish a TAT for Honolulu. The current debate about the bill is in regards to whether a percentage of the tax will go towards the transit fund and the rail project. Bill 40 is headed to the Budget Committee, which is expected to discuss the bill on Wednesday, October 20th.

Finally, the City's Department of Environmental Services has been identifying potential sites for a new municipal landfill and formed a Landfill Advisory Committee (LAC) to evaluate if these sites will be suitable. The Landfill Advisory Committee had their first meeting on October 4th. For more information about the landfill and the advisory commission, please visit:

<https://www.honolulu.gov/opala/newlandfill.html>

Mahalo,

Augie Tulba
Your Honolulu City Councilmember



AUGIE TALKS TRASH

My staff and I recently participated in the City's Department of Environmental Services' Tour de Trash Program where we visited and learned about the City's recycling, composting, H-Power, and landfill sites. Unfortunately, public tours have been cancelled this year due to COVID-19 restrictions, but I still want to share with you what we learned through a series of videos and infographics.

First, we will bring you along as we get educated on the importance of recycling and what we are supposed to recycle in our Blue Bins. There are only a few kinds of items that can go in there.

We have to make sure we don't do what's called "WishCycling", which is trying to recycle what can't be recycled and contaminating the good recyclables.

Please feel free to share these resources with your friends and family. Stay tuned to learn more about the Gray and Green Bins next month!

For more information, visit:

www.honolulu.gov/opala

www.facebook.com/HNL.Opala



LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Councilmember Tulba is Chair of the Committee for Parks and Community Service, Vice Chair of Public Safety, and a voting member on the Committees on Housing and Economy; Executive Matters and Legal Affairs; and Transportation, Sustainability and Health. Here are some issues that he and his staff are tackling on the legislative side:

Resolution 21-156, CD1

Amends the City charter to specify certain backgrounds that must be present in individuals seeking appointment to the Planning Commission.

Resolution 21-234

Seeks a ballot question that would allow the residents of the City and County of Honolulu to vote on whether they would like the City Administration to establish a department for Ocean Safety and Lifeguard Services.

Bill 38 (2021)

Amends the city charter to restrict commercial activity at public parks in the Kailua-Waimanalo area.

Bill 40 (2021)

Establishes a transient accommodations tax for the City and County of Honolulu.

Resolution 21-210

Authorizing the assignment and extension of a leave of City property with DET Renton Partners LP for the DE Thompson Village Project.

Resolution 21-229

Requesting the City Administration to work with the Council to establish a benchmarking program to increase the efficiency and resiliency of commercial and residential buildings on Oahu.

ISSUES ARISING IN DISTRICT 9

Aaron Ho
District 9 Community Liaison



Aaron Ho, our office's Community Liaison, is touring District 9 with Councilmember Tulba to learn about community concerns related to city operations, property and crime. Here are some of the issues in District 9 that he is working on:

Traffic Concerns Near Holomua Elementary

Residents are raising concerns about traffic and road safety problems near Holomua Elementary School. When school is in session, traffic congestion can add 20-30 minutes of travel time when traversing the area. In order to bypass school traffic, drivers are illegally entering the adjacent lane designated for cars traveling in the opposite direction, and in some cases, drivers are also passing at high speeds through crosswalks immediately fronting the school. This is creating an unsafe situation for oncoming drivers and pedestrians traveling in the school area.

Additionally, residents have also raised concerns regarding speed racing on Keaunui Drive from the stop light at Iroquois Road to the Ewa by Gentry Recreation Center. Racing activity has been taking place during the night and early morning. According to a constituent, this area has been used as a drag strip for over two decades and there have been multiple crashes over the years. While neighbors reported the activity to the Honolulu Police Department, police have been unable to catch speeders in action. A resident has requested that the city install speed bumps on this stretch to preempt racing and fatal accidents.

Our office reported these concerns to the City Administration. In response, the City Department of Transportation Services (DTS) informed our office that in 2006, a project was implemented on Keaunui Drive to reduce the number of travel lanes from two to one in each direction in the vicinity of Holomua Elementary School and at the Kolowaka Drive intersection to improve traffic operations and safety in the area. DTS recommended that the existing configuration of Keaunui Drive be retained at this time even though motorists are inconvenienced by the delays and congestion during morning and afternoon school drop-off and pick-up periods.

The Honolulu Police Department reported that their patrol officers made checks of Keaunui Drive by Holomua Elementary School before and after school hours from September 13-17. During their checks, they did not observe any speeding. Their increased presence may have helped to deter any traffic violations. Officers will continue to monitor and increase police presence and take enforcement action as warranted.

If you know of any issue in your community that is related to the city, feel free to call 3-1-1 or email atulba@honolulu.gov

Parking And Pedestrian Safety Issues At Fernandez Village In Ewa

Residents living near the historic Fernandez Village raised concerns about parked cars blocking sidewalks and also parked in residential garden areas. Due to the blocked sidewalk access, pedestrians are walking along the road creating a safety hazard for those traversing the area. A constituent requested that Honolulu Police Department increase enforcement, but he was told that HPD does not patrol Fernandez Village because it does not fall under the city's jurisdiction.

The City's Department of Land Management researched the property located on Karayan Street and found that it is private property. DLM further recommended that constituents call the Department of Transportation Services for further assistance regarding safety issues with people walking on the road to get to the bus stops as further investigation may be needed to determine what safety measures DTS would need to implement.

In response to enforcement, HPD reported that officers made checks of the Fernandez Village area and issued 51 citations between August 26 to September 10. HPD will continue to monitor the Ewa Villages area and take appropriate enforcement action when violations are observed.

Update: Large Utility Vehicle Abandoned Outside Ewa Villages Golf Course

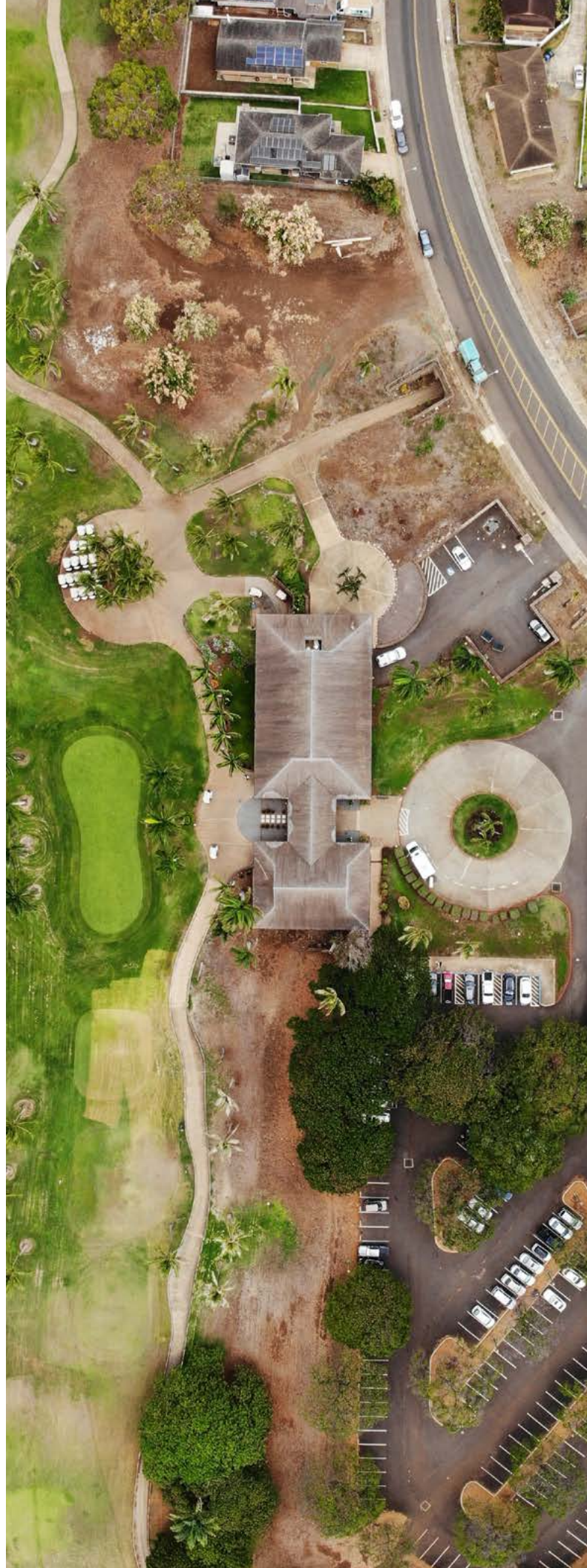
In our September bulletin, our office reported that an abandoned utility truck has been parked outside of Ewa Villages Golf Course. The Ewa Villages Golf Course staff informed us of a lack of action on the city's part despite numerous requests to remove the truck through City's 3-1-1 app.

Our office asked the City for help and the Customer Service Department (CSD) said that they are working on getting the vehicle removed. Due to the truck's large size, it does not fall under the department's current contract for removing/impounding abandoned vehicles. CSD is currently going through a bidding process to hire a contractor to remove this oversized vehicle. Our office will continue to monitor the situation.

Update: White Flat-Bed Truck Parked Precariously On Kolowaka And Waimomona

In September, our office reported on a flat-bed tow truck parked illegally in Ewa Beach on the corner of Kolowaka Drive and Waimomona Place. A constituent said the vehicle is a safety hazard as it blocks his view of oncoming traffic and had nearly caused him six head-on collisions.

From August 31 to September 1, 2021, HPD officers made checks of the area and spotted the white flatbed tow truck, which at the time was legally parked. Our office provided additional photos to HPD, which led HPD to determine the truck had in fact been parked illegally at some point. The department advised the constituent to call 911 and give the description and license plate of the vehicle indicating that the responding officer can cite the vehicle. HPD contacted the trucking company to inform them of the parking restriction.



HELPING OAHU'S BUSINESSES THRIVE

The Office of Economic Revitalization at the City and County of Honolulu and its partners have a number of resources, classes, and webinars as well as experts and mentors on hand to help Hawaii's businesses thrive.

The Business and Constituent Educator team works one-on-one with local businesses to connect them with government and private sector resources and help companies build a path of success.

Contact the team at 768-CITY (2489) or backonthewave@honolulu.gov to schedule a conversation.

You can also log on to www.oneoahu.org/business-educators and sign up for the weekly newsletter.

To help you support your employees, below are relief programs that they may qualify for to pay household bills:

Emergency Broadband Benefit can help eligible households with internet bills and in some cases, buy laptops, desktops, and tablet computers.

[Learn more and apply here.](#)

[\(https://getemergencybroadband.org/\)](https://getemergencybroadband.org/)

Hale Kākou Utility Assistance Program

helps qualified households with their electric, water, sewer, and gas bills.

[Learn more and apply here](#)

[\(https://www.hcapweb.org/hale-kakou/\)](https://www.hcapweb.org/hale-kakou/)

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program's

emergency crisis intervention credit (ECI credit) can help families with kupuna, keiki, or people living with disabilities keep their electricity or gas on.

[Learn more and apply here.](#)

[\(https://www.hcapweb.org/low-income-home-energy-assistance-program-liheap/\)](https://www.hcapweb.org/low-income-home-energy-assistance-program-liheap/)

You and your employees can always find a complete list of recovery resources at the One Oahu resources page found here <https://www.oneoahu.org/resources>.

COMMUNITY HEROES

Just before Dr. Panos Prevedouros retired and moved to Reno, Nevada, Honolulu City Councilmember Augie Tulba thanked him for his many years of service in Hawaii by presenting him with an Honorary Certificate from the Honolulu City Council.

Dr. Prevedouros has taught more than 1,200 at the University of Hawaii Manoa, where he has been a Professor of Transportation for 31 years and Chaired the Department of Civil Engineering. Outside of the university, he's counseled many people in the state and city by partnering with them to develop plans for traffic safety and traffic flow.

He's also helped create traffic solutions for Honolulu, like traffic underpasses and reversible flow lanes. Every improvement to H-1 freeway done between 2000 and 2014 has been analyzed and justified by Dr. Prevedouros. He has also created a realistic plan for Hawaii's energy future. He's won many awards for his work, and also was named one of 10 People Who Made a Difference in Hawaii by the Honolulu Star-Bulletin.



These are just some of the reasons that the Honolulu City Council thanked Dr. Prevedouros for making Hawaii a better place in which to live. Aloha and good luck to him and his family in their new life in Reno.

INSIDE HONOLULU HALE



Hawaii's surfing champion, Carissa Kainani Moore, was honored and congratulated at the Honolulu City Council on October 6. Carissa won the women's surfing competition at the 2021 Summer Olympics in Tsurigasaki Beach, Chiba, Japan. On July 27, 2021, Carissa Moore won the gold medal when she defeated silver medalist Bianca Buitendag from South Africa and bronze medalist Tsuzuki Amuro in the gold medal final. She also was the 2011, 2013, 2015, 2019 and 2020 World Surf League WSL Women's World Tour Champion. She is also in the Surfers' Hall of Fame in 2014.

Carissa Moore was born and raised in Hawaii, and began surfing at the age of five. She considers the ocean her happy place as she stated, "The ocean has changed my life, and I can't imagine my life without it. I'll be surfing until I'm in the ground. Riding a wave makes you feel free. It makes you feel present. It makes you feel more in love with yourself, the ocean, the environment and I think it just connects people and brings us together and simplifies things." Congratulations to her!



Members of the Honolulu City Council celebrated Filipino American History Month on October 6 by wearing traditional Filipino outfits. Filipino American History Month is celebrated each October in Hawaii and throughout the country to commemorate the first Filipinos arriving in America. This month is special to Councilmember Tulba because his grandparents on his father's side came to Hawaii from the Philippines in 1916.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Meet in District

To meet with constituents in District 9, Councilmember Augie Tulba and his Community Liaison, Aaron Ho, will be at the Ewa Villages Golf Course, the location of our new district office, every Monday from 9:00am - 11:30am. Please make an appointment at this location by calling (808) 768-5009 or email atulba@honolulu.gov.

Track and Participate in Hearings

The City Council continues to meet year round, and you can stay engaged and participate in the process by visiting the City Council's interactive website at www.honolulu.gov. You can find links to submit testimony, the council calendar, and committee information. You also can contact our office with questions by calling (808) 768-5009 or email atulba@honolulu.gov.

Sign up for our Newsletter

Want to stay up to date with what's going on in our district? Sign up for our District 9 newsletter and be informed on upcoming events, recent news, and current issues going on in the district. Also, check out our bulletins in the current events section of our website.

Follow our Social Media Pages

 www.facebook.com/AugieTulba.HNL

 www.instagram.com/AugieTulba.HNL

 www.AugieTulbaHNL.com

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY

Major Clean Up Behind Waipahu Elementary School

Mahalo to our community for helping to clean up the illegal dumping behind Waipahu Elementary School on Saturday, September 25.

There were about 50 volunteers who helped with the clean up on Saturday morning including Sen. Fevella, Reps. Aquino and Cullen; Principal Aaron Tominaga, Waipahu Elementary School teachers; Mike Rompell and the Domino's Hawaii team; pageant girls from B.R.A.V.E. Hawaii; 808CleanUps; Hui O Ho'ohonua, Tony Chance; Nicky Winter and her team from AchieveZero.

The group, who worked outside in COVID safe pods, collected 90 bags of trash; 1 stripped vehicle; 2 shopping carts; plastic chairs; carpet remnants; 6 tires of varying sizes; wood paneling, in addition to many other bags of trash.

A big thanks to Domino's Pizza who helped haul away all the bulky items and bags of trash and also kept the volunteers well fed by sharing their delicious pizzas.



Listening to Community Concerns

Councilmember Augie Tulba joined Rep. Bob McDermott at a community meeting to hear from some three dozen West Loch Elderly Village residents who shared their concerns about problems on the property. Councilmember Tulba's parents formerly lived at the Village and he has great compassion for the residents there.

Our District 9 office has reached out to the City's Department of Land Management to see what can be done to address the concerns we heard at the meeting.



Honolulu City Councilmember Augie Tulba recognizes District 9 residents who go above and beyond the call to improve their community and the lives of others. Please nominate them by emailing atulba@honolulu.gov. There is no age limit.



PLACES TO GET VACCINATED IN EWA

Queen's Medical Center - West Oahu

**91-2141 Fort Weaver Rd
Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706**

(808) 691-2222

Walk-in appointments are available for Pfizer vaccinations.

Walgreens - Ewa Beach

**91-1081 Keaunui Dr
Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706**

(808) 683-1166

Same day appointments are available for the J&J and Pfizer vaccines.

Safeway - Ewa Beach

**91-1119 Keaunui Dr
Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706**

Phone: (808) 683-3205

By appointment only for the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines.

Longs Drugs - Ewa Beach

**91-919 Fort Weaver Rd
Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706**

Phone: (808) 689-5860

Same day appointment at select locations for the Pfizer vaccine only.

911



311

HOTLINE TO REPORT CITY CONCERNS

POISON CONTROL	1-800-222-1222
SUICIDE & CRISIS CENTER	832-3100
BUS & HANDI-VAN OPERATIONS	768-8300
TRASH, REFUSE, AND BULKY ITEMS	832-7840
WHERE TO DISPOSE OF HOUSEHOLD TRASH AND RESIDENTIAL WASTE	226-2996
REPORT A POTHOLE	768-7777
REPORT GRAFFITI	723-3475
REPORT ABANDONED VEHICLE	768-2530
REPORT CRACKED OR OBSTRUCTED SIDEWALKS	768-8159
DRIVERS LICENSING & VEHICLE REGISTRATION	768-9100
TRAFFIC ADVISORIES AND UPDATES ON RAIL	566-2299
PARK MAINTENANCE	675-6030
BARKING DOGS	946-2187
COMPLAINTS ABOUT PUBLIC TREES	971-7151
COMPLAINTS REGARDING SATELLITE CITY HALL	532-7747

✉ atulba@honolulu.gov

☎ (808) 768-5009

📷 AugieTulba.HNL



UPCOMING MEETINGS

Members of the public are invited to view a live broadcast of committee meetings. Honolulu City Council Committee meetings are held the first week of the month, and the full Council meets on the third Wednesday of the month.

- **City Council Calendar**
- **Neighborhood Board Meeting Dates**
- **Olelo on Demand**
- **Olelo TV Channel 54**

Tuesday – October 19

- Housing and the Economy – 10:30 a.m.
- Executive Matters and Legal Affairs – 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday – October 20

- Budget – 9:00 a.m.
- Public Infrastructure and Technology – 1:00 p.m.
- Public Safety – 2:30 p.m.

Thursday – October 21

- Zoning and Planning – 9:00 a.m.
- Parks and Community Services – 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday – November 10

- City Council Meeting – 10:00 a.m.