



Councilmember Todd K. Apo

email: tapo@honolulu.gov • web: www.toddapo.org

City & County of Honolulu • City Council District 1
Ewa • Kapolei • Wai'anae Coast



AUGUST 2009

Honolulu Hale: 530 S. King St., Rm 202, Honolulu, HI 96813 • Kapolei Hale: 1000 Uluohia St., Rm 201 • Tel: 768-5001 Fax: 768-5011

Aloha! On July 31, the City Planning Commission recommended approval of the City's Special Use Permit (SUP) amendment, which would expand the municipal landfill's current footprint and extend operation until it reaches capacity. Currently, the City is permitted to operate the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill (WGSL) until November 1, 2009. The Planning Commission expressed reservations, however still approved the amended permit under the condition that a new landfill site search would begin by November 2010. The recommendation now moves to the State Land Use Commission for action.

As I have stated before, our island can be sustainable *without* a daily-operated municipal landfill. I will continue to push hard for the City to employ alternate methods of handling our island's opala. With the expansion of H-Power's waste-to-energy facility, curbside recycling, and off-shore waste shippers at the ready, the City has a greener path waiting for them. I will continue to fight against any expansion of our landfill when realistic alternatives are available.

On a more positive note about land use, the City Council approved funding to aid four land conservation projects on O'ahu. The money for these projects comes from the Clean Water and Natural Lands Fund, which is apportioned from real property tax revenue, as established by voters through a City Charter Amendment in 2006. The Clean Water and Natural Lands Commission (CWNLC) submitted a list of recommended preservation projects for funding, and four were selected by the Council. This list includes:

- 1) Honouliuli Preserve - 3,600 acres of the Wai'anae Range
- 2) Kukaniloko - Sacred site in Wahiawa;
- 3) Kunia Agricultural Research Center
- 4) North Shore ranch lands

Overall each of these land projects are significant resources for our island that need to be preserved. CWNLC Fund applications for 2009-2010 are now available on the web at www.honolulu.gov/council/cbc/cwnl.htm. The application deadline is September 30, 2009.

As always, I welcome your questions and comments. You may email me at tapo@honolulu.gov or call my office at 768-5001. We also have monthly E-Updates. Please visit the District 1 website at www.toddapo.org to sign up. Mahalo!

COUNCIL CALENDAR

TUES, August 18

9 a.m.

Zoning Committee

2 p.m.

Public Infrastructure
Committee

WEDS, August 26

9 a.m.

FULL COUNCIL

TUES, September 1

9 a.m.

Zoning Committee

1 p.m.

Public Infrastructure
Committee

WEDS, September 2

9 a.m.

Budget Committee

1 p.m.

Executive Matters
Committee

THURS, September 3

9 a.m.

Transportation & Planning
Committee

1 p.m.

Public Safety & Services
Committee

WEDS, September 16

9 a.m.

Full Council

‘Ewa Mahiko District Park Contracts Awarded

The City and County of Honolulu recently awarded contracts for the construction of new facilities at the ‘Ewa Mahiko District Park, located on Renton Road. This much anticipated project will provide recreational and sporting amenities to accommodate the needs of the growing community.

The park will include a 10,440-square-foot gymnasium, multi-purpose building, two basketball courts, four tennis courts, two volleyball courts, lighting for all courts, accessible walkways, a 235-stall parking lot with lighting, and irrigation.

The estimated project cost is \$8.3 million. The design consultant is Yamasato Fujiwara Higa & Associates and the contract for construction was awarded to 57 Builders Ltd. Construction is slated to begin in early 2010 and be completed in late 2011.

Kalaeloa Bus Routes Added

At the July Makakilo/Kapolei/Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board meeting, the City & County of Honolulu’s Public Transit Division announced additional bus routes from Kapolei to Kalaeloa. Effective Monday, August 24, 2009, two morning and two evening routes will be added for Route 415.

Also effective Monday, August 3, 2009, slight time and route changes to the newly implemented Route 94 express, which runs between Kapolei, downtown Honolulu, and University of Hawai’i Manoa.

To get maps and more information on these schedules and route changes, please call 848-5555 or go online to <http://www.thebus.org>.

ROUTE 415 KALAELOA

WESTBOUND:

EASTBOUND:

Kapolei Transit Center	Yorktown & Enterprise	Yorktown & Enterprise	Kapolei Transit Center
5:05 AM	5:15 AM	5:15 AM	5:25 AM
*5:35 AM	5:45 AM	5:45 AM	5:55 AM
*6:05 AM	6:15 AM	6:15 AM	6:25 AM
*5:15 PM	5:28 PM	5:28 PM	5:41 PM
*5:45 PM	5:58 PM	5:58 PM	6:11 PM
6:15 PM	6:28 PM	6:28 PM	6:41 PM

*** NEW TRIPS**

Ma‘ili‘ili Stream: Allegations of Illegal Dumping

The City continues its investigation of the permitting, resource management, and man-hour/overtime infractions that have been associated with the allegations of illegally dumped construction material in Ma‘ili‘ili Stream. Representatives from the Department of Facility Maintenance testified before the Council’s Public Safety and Services Committee in July to discuss these charges. This conversation confirmed that a series of investigations are being conducted by the City’s administration and separate entities, including: the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, State of Hawai’i Department of Health (DOH) and the State’s Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Some of the inquiries have yielded results. Among the findings that have been released is a Notice of Unauthorized Activity to the City that was issued by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on June 18. Additionally, the EPA has since determined that the placement of these materials was, at least, an infraction of the federal Clean Water Act. This Act prohibits the placement of dredge or fill material into waterways without a permit. The EPA has requested that the City submit a removal and restoration plan that includes the placement of erosion and sediment control measures.

While there are still questions that remain unanswered, the fact finding process is well underway. From the Council's jurisdiction and internal perspective, we can at least hope to gain an understanding as to how we may enhance or better enforce the current permitting and operational policies that are in place to ensure that a situation of this magnitude does not occur again.

The allegations of illegal dumping in Ma'ili'ili Stream presented an opportunity to reinforce the idea that environmental stewardship and accountability is everyone's business and equally shared from top to bottom. Unfortunately, dumping continues to be an ongoing problem islandwide. The duty to keep our island home pristine is a shared responsibility that requires everyone's attention and consideration. If you suspect or observe illegal dumping please report it to the City's illegal dumping hotline at 768-3300 or call 911 immediately.

Clean Water and Natural Lands Commission Seeks Applicants for Land Acquisition Funding

The Honolulu City Council announced that the 2nd application cycle for the Clean Water and Natural Lands Commission (CWNLC) has begun. Projects funded by the CWNLC fund support efforts to preserve and protect lands that have cultural significance, abundant natural resources and recreational value on O'ahu. Final selection of projects to be funded will be made by the City Council as part of the FY 2011 budget process. Applications are due September 30, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. Please visit their website for more information:

<http://www.honolulu.gov/council/cbc/cwnl.htm>.

"The City Council approved \$44 million for four outstanding land conservation projects in the first cycle of applications to this Fund," said City Council Chair Todd Apo. "This next fiscal year presents another exciting opportunity for our community to enhance conservation efforts by coming together to take a more active role in the preservation of land on O'ahu."

Draft of O'ahu Bike Master Plan Available for Public Comment until August 31

A new draft of the O'ahu Bike Plan is now available for public comment. Since April 2008, the City Department of Transportation Services worked with the community to create this document, which assesses O'ahu's current bike accessibility and recommends how to integrate bike-transit and bike-friendly communities into our island's existing and future transportation systems. To view the plan and provide comments, please go online and visit: <http://www.oahubikeplan.org>. Deadline for public comment is August 31, 2009.

City Celebrates 50th Anniversary of the Honolulu-Hiroshima Sister-City Relationship

On July 6, 2009 delegates of Hiroshima, Japan visited the City and County of Honolulu to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Honolulu – Hiroshima Sister-City Relationship. Established on June 15, 1959, the kinship between Hiroshima and Honolulu runs deep with economic, cultural, historical and municipal similarities. Council Chair Apo and Mayor Hanneman joined Hiroshima's Mayor Akiba and Council Chairman Fujita at Honolulu Hale for a commemorative signing ceremony renewing the Sister-City relationship and their commitment to the tenets of friendship and mutual respect.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Miss Hawai'i Honored at Council

At the Honolulu City Council meeting on July 15, 2009, Councilmember Apo had the pleasure of honoring the recently crowned Miss Hawai'i 2009, Raeceen Woolford. Entering the pageant as Miss Ko Olina, Raeceen competed against 29 other contestants to win the coveted title. She performed the hula and spoke about society and reality television for the question and answer portion.

Many may remember Raeceen as a former University of Hawai'i Rainbow Wahine volleyball player. Her other interests include surfing and yoga, as well as volunteer involvement with the Girl Scouts of America, New Hope Christian Fellowship, and coaching volleyball for youth programs. She plans to pursue her master's degree in Public Health, with the goal of becoming a doctor one day.

We'd like to extend our warmest aloha and congratulations to Raeceen and wish her the best of luck when she competes in the Miss America pageant in January.

Grant Awarded to Wai'anae Coast Comprehensive Health Center

Through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, the City was able to award over \$4 million to local organizations providing programs for homeless assistance and domestic violence survivors. The Wai'anae Coast Comprehensive Health Center was one of the awardees, receiving approximately \$220,000 for their programs. Congratulations to The Comp and mahalo for all of their hard work in our community.

Team One Participates in Charity Triathlon Race

Council District 1 staff will compete in the TAG the World Triathlon in Waikiki on August 23, 2009. This event will raise funds and awareness for It Takes An Ohana, a local non-profit agency.

This multi-stage sprint challenge will test the physical and mental stamina of three of our staff members as they compete against the clock and other racers, which includes Council Chair Apo's own separate relay team. For "Team One," Council staff member and Legislative Aide Chris Garth will start the race with a 700m open water swim. Chris is an avid waterman who often dives and surfs the unparalleled waters of our Leeward Coast. He eagerly anticipates a smooth passing of the baton to Council staff member and Legislative Analyst Cindy Ramirez who will breeze through a 12 mile bike ride. She is often the initiator of "Team One" physical challenges and fun run participation. Cindy is a triathlete and aspires to be a finisher at the 2012 Wisconsin Ironman. The anchor of "Team One" is Council staff member and Executive Secretary Gemma Espresion, who will bring us home with a 5K run to the finish. Gemma is an exercise enthusiast and professional fitness instructor.

"Team One" and Council Chair Apo have dedicated their time and services to benefit It Takes An Ohana, the charity beneficiary which provides resources and advocacy for foster children and families in Hawai'i.

For more information on this event and the non-profit, please visit:

<http://www.tagtheworldtriathlon.com/home>

<http://www.ittakesanohana.org>

MDA Telethon Executive Lock-Up

On Thursday August 20, 2009, Council Chair Apo has agreed to "serve time" behind bars. This great event is hosted by the Muscular Dystrophy Association to help children and adults with

neuromuscular diseases in Hawai'i. The event will be held at the Hawai'i Theatre at 12:00 noon. The Honorable "Judge Ray Mean " has set Chair Apo's bail at \$2,000. Fellow friends and neighbors, or relatives can offer to come to his rescue. This very exciting event is a great way to raise money and support MDA.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EVENT: Rediscover O'ahu/Sunset At the Park in 'Ewa, Sat. Sept. 5 & Sun. Sept. 6

Bring the family and join us for this community event at 'Ewa Community Park. Keiki Village, pony rides, food, and live music. For information, contact John Dudoit 778-7652.

VOLUNTEER: O'ahu SPCA

The O'ahu Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA), along with many other agencies, were recently involved in rescuing over 400 animals in Wai'anae. Although some of these animals have been adopted, or are in foster care, many are still waiting to find homes.

The District One staff has volunteered at the temporary shelter location in Kalaeloa. There were many aspects involved in caring for these animals and still lots of work to do. Besides the normal care of the animals, other tasks included cleaning kennels, processing paperwork, dispensing medication and caring for the sick animals.

O'ahu SPCA is just one of the many animal care groups that are looking for volunteers. The Kalaeloa shelter needs help with the daily feeding and cleaning of the animals for two shifts from 8:00am-10:00am and 4:00pm-6:00pm. If you are interested in volunteering, fostering, or adopting an animal, please go to the O'ahu SPCA website at www.oahuspca.org or call 551-7207.