



# CITY COUNCIL

## CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **COUNCILMEMBER DJOU: COUNCIL DECISION TO KILL CURBSIDE RECYCLING STINKS**

This afternoon, the City Council Budget Committee voted to delete all funding for expanding curbside recycling island-wide.

“Eliminating curbside recycling is a terrible decision. Implementing a comprehensive island-wide curbside recycling isn’t just a good idea for our environment, it is absolutely essential for Hawaii where we are running out of landfill space. I have fought for curbside recycling every year I have been in City government and I continue to be disappointed that Honolulu will remain the largest city in the United States without a curbside recycling program,” stated Councilmember Djou. “In 2006, voters approved a curbside recycling amendment to the City Charter with 74% of the vote. I don’t know how the people can send any stronger signal to City Hall that they want recycling and I am baffled at how tone deaf Honolulu Hale is to the will of the people.”

Of all councilmembers, I’m all for saving money. Eliminating curbside recycling is penny-wise and pound foolish. Over the long term, this decision to stop curbside recycling will cost taxpayers far more in finding a new landfill.

The Budget Committee voted 3 to 2 to eliminate curbside recycling funding. Councilmembers Nestor Garcia, Gary Okino and Rod Tam voted in favor of eliminating curbside recycling funding, while Councilmembers Charles Djou and Duke Bainum voted against killing curbside recycling’s expansion.

The curbside recycling program have all been started and stopped in the Fasi, Harris and Hannemann administrations. Councilmember Djou hopes to restore at least partial funding for curbside recycling before the June 10<sup>th</sup> final vote on the budget.

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