



CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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COUNCILMEMBER DJOU: LEVEL ASSESSMENTS STILL EQUAL HIGH TAXES

Tomorrow, the City will issue the annual real property tax assessments for 2008 to all Oahu residents. Councilmember Charles K. Djou (Waikiki, East Honolulu) stated, "While the assessments may remain level for the first time in almost a decade, I remain skeptical and predict that the City will soon increase fees and real property tax rates to compensate funding the massive projects planned such as rail and the sewer repair project. Contrary to what our government thinks, Hawaii people are not made of money and our government must learn to limit its spending and stop launching massive, flashy projects we can't afford. We must understand that the City government has to live within its means and the people simply cannot handle these big tax and fee increases year after year."

Councilmember Djou is the only member of the City Council to have voted against any and all tax and fee increases. Over the past four years the City Council has raised real property tax rates, the vehicle tax (twice), parking meter rates, park fees, auditorium fees, building permit fees, garbage fees, and in 2005, the Council raised the General Excise Tax by 12.5%.

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