



CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
530 SOUTH KING STREET, ROOM 202
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3065
TELEPHONE: (808) 768-5010 • FAX: (808) 768-5011

May 5, 2020

COUNCIL CHAIR CREATES SELECT COMMITTEE TO REVITALIZE ECONOMY

Honolulu City Council Chairman Ikaika Anderson today announced a new select committee to identify the best and vital ways to help thousands of O‘ahu residents, affected by the state’s economic downturn, who are in dire need of relief. The Select Committee on Economic Assistance and Revitalization will be chaired by Councilmember Tommy Waters and Vice Chair Ann Kobayashi will serve as the committee’s vice chair. Councilmembers Brandon Elefante, Carol Fukunaga, Joey Manahan, and Ron Menor will also be on the select committee.

The Select Committee on Economic Assistance and Revitalization will develop and make recommendations on how best to utilize approximately \$380 million received by the City via the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020. The CARES federal funds must be used for expenditures incurred due to the present COVID-19 global public health emergency.

“This is our pandemic reality and thousands are suffering. We must find ways to help the many O‘ahu residents now struggling to make ends meet due to loss of employment,” said Chairman Anderson. “The Council is committed and will do its best to relieve some of their burden by opening dialogue, finding resources and guiding those in need toward tangible solutions.”

Chairman Anderson established this select committee to also provide opportunities for small business owners and those in the gig economy or niche industry to discuss their needs with leaders in a public forum. The dialogue will result in identifying guidelines to certain City’s policies and practices toward ensuring those most adversely impacted by the statewide shutdown get the help they need.

The Council is committed to developing guiding policies for how the City operates in the current and post-COVID pandemic era. It is the intent of the select committee to find ways so the City can fully support and promote a sustainable local economy, diversification and revitalization, and work with the administration to look at broad changes in how the City operates and interacts with its citizens and businesses.

Attached to this news release is the Chairman’s memo to Councilmembers announcing the establishment of the Select Committee on Economic Assistance and Revitalization.

###

Media Contact:

Louise Kim McCoy
Communications Director
Honolulu City Council
(808) 768-5078