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HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 3  
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JANUARY 2019 UPDATE**

**Honolulu City Council Inauguration Ceremony**

**Chair, Council Committee on Planning**

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**Vice Chair, Council Committee on Parks, Community & Customer Services**

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**Member, Council Committees on Public Health, Safety & Welfare; Transportation; and Executive Matters & Legal Affairs**



**HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE**

**Wednesday, Jan 30**

Full Council 9 am

**Tuesday, Jan 22**

Parks 9 am

Planning 10<sup>30</sup> am

Executive Matters 1pm

**Wednesday, Jan 23**

Budget 9am

Public Works 1pm

**Thursday, Jan 24**

Zoning and Housing 9 am

Public Safety 1 pm

The Honolulu City Council started the New Year by holding our Inauguration Ceremony on January 2, 2019 in the historic Honolulu Hale. It was truly an honor to have my family with by my side as we welcomed and swore in our newly elected Honolulu City Council Members.

In the Hawaiian Language “hale” means house or home, and in the same way a family gathers to start off a New Year so did the City Council gather in solidarity to serve the people of the City County of Honolulu.

As a family displays their family crest in their home so does the Council at Honolulu Hale in the form the Seal of the City and County of

Honolulu. The seal incorporates the Shield of the State of Hawaii and the colors of the Hawaiian Coat of Arms, that bears the stripes and colors of the Hawaiian Flag and the Star of Hawaii at its center, with a rising sun beaming from the top.

As we enter this New Year each of us must wear this seal on our hearts, united by the Hawaiian Flag, centered by the Star of Hawaii, and inspired by the rising sun beams, so that we can uplift our brothers and sisters toward a bright and prosperous future for all.

Malama Pono,

## 2019 Real Property Tax Information

Each year, it is extremely important that you review your property tax assessment especially with the creation of the "Residential A" classification. If you do find an error, please make sure to file for an appeal.

One of the first steps in preparing the City's annual budget is revenue forecasting. The City's main source of revenue remains property taxes, which are set by an annually-adjusted tax rate multiplied by the property value. The first step is determining the values of all taxable property within the City & County of Honolulu. Starting December 2018 the City mailed out the annual property assessment notices. These notices provide the property owner with information relating to what exemptions, if any, the property owner is entitled to and what the overall taxable value of the property is for the upcoming fiscal year.

Regarding the assessments, an owner's estimated tax obligation is shown but this notice is not a bill. The rate will not be set until mid-2018 when the City Council finalizes the budget. This is actually a notice of how the city will value your home for purposes of the 2018 property tax. If you disagree with the appraisal, you must take the following steps:

1. You have until January 15, 2019 to file an appeal.
2. For an appeal based on overvaluation, you need to get independent proof that your home is overvalued. You can go on the City's webpage ([www.honolulupropertytax.com](http://www.honolulupropertytax.com)) to view the values of neighboring properties that may have been used as comparison to set your assessment. You should provide factual information that those properties are not comparable.
3. You can appeal your assessment on one of four bases: 1) If you determine that your home is valued at at least 10% more than its real value, or 2) Lack of uniformity or inequality, brought about by illegality of the methods used or error in the application of the methods to the property involved, or 3) denial of an exemption to which the taxpayer is entitled and for which such person has qualified, or 4) illegality, on any ground arising under the Constitution or laws of the United States or the laws of the State or the ordinances of the City in addition to the ground of illegality of the methods used mentioned in clause 2.
4. To file an appeal to be reviewed by one of the City's board of reviews, you must submit an appeal form, which is usually enclosed with your property assessment notice. If your notice did not include one or you misplace it, you can obtain the form at [www.honolulu.gov/rpa](http://www.honolulu.gov/rpa) or by contacting the Real Property Assessment office at 527-5539. In submitting your appeal you must include the parcel ID and the reason for appeal. The cost of an appeal to the board of review is \$50, is non-refundable and must be included with your appeal. Lastly, the appeal must be signed by the owner. If someone is appealing on behalf of the owner, written authorization stating such must also be included. Additional information on appeals to the State Tax Appeals Court is available on the above website.
5. **YOU MUST STILL PAY YOUR TAXES EVEN IF YOU HAVE A PENDING APPEAL!** Even if you have submitted an appeal, you must still pay your taxes. Any adjustments made by the appeal board will be credited.
6. If you have a pending appeal and your property's value has not changed, the City will automatically file an appeal on your behalf. However, if your value has changed **YOU MUST FILE A NEW APPEAL!**

Your actual property tax bill will be based on your assessment minus your exemptions (currently \$80,000 for homeowners under age 65 and \$120,000 for those older than 65) times the property tax rate set by the Council in June.

For more information please visit: [www.realpropertyhonolulu.com](http://www.realpropertyhonolulu.com). Through this website you can register to receive your annual assessment notice electronically, access and download various forms and get important information on things like the appeal process.

## Secure Parks Initiative

In the continuing effort to secure park facilities island-wide, the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) is expanding its securing parks initiative to District IV, including Windward O'ahu and the North Shore (from Makapu'u to Mokulē'ia).

This initiative involves the locking of parking areas and/or comfort stations within DPR park locations that have established park closure hours. The initial pilot project began in April 2018 with 25 urban Honolulu park locations in DPR District I and District II. In September, the program expanded to 16 parks in the western portion of the island in DPR District III. Now select parks around the entire island are included in this initiative.

There are 18 District IV parks covered under this contract, which goes into effect on Friday, Jan. 4. Those locations include:

- Kaupō Beach Park
- Kaiona Beach Park
- Waimānalo Beach Park
- Waimānalo Bay Beach Park
- Waimānalo District Park
- Kāne'ohe Beach Park
- Kāne'ohe Civic Center Neighborhood Park
- Kahalu'u Community Park
- Kahalu'u Regional Park
- Hau'ula Beach Park
- Banzai Skatepark
- Pūpūkea Beach Park
- Hale'iwa Beach Park
- Hale'iwa Ali'i Beach Park
- Kaiaka Bay Beach Park
- Waialua District Park
- 'Āweoweo Beach Park
- Mokulē'ia Beach Park

The contract for DPR District IV was awarded to American Guard Services, Inc. at a cost of approximately \$39,000.

## Windward Bus Routes Redesign

Thank you all for responding to the City and County of Honolulu Department of Transportation Services' (DTS) 2018 Windward TheBus Routes Redesign Public Review and Comment. The initial Phase 1, held in January -April 2018, requested public review and comments on a proposal to modify TheBus routes that serve Windward Oahu. Now in Phase 2, the requested changes have been implemented based on your feedback and the finalized redesign proposal is available for public review and comment again. It is important for those utilizing TheBus in Windward Oahu participate in the review and comments portion as DTS will be considering all comments and suggestions.

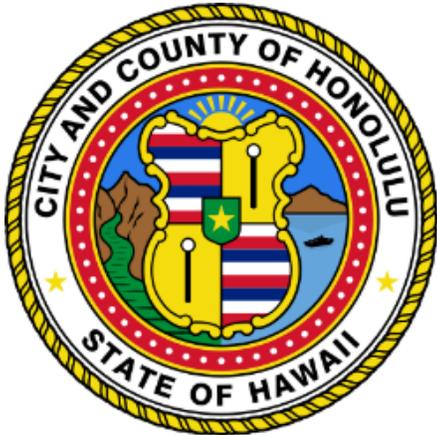
**Detailed maps and route descriptions are available at:** <http://www.thebus.org/WindwardTheBusRoutes/>

**Contact DTS:**  
Survey: [www.surveymonkey.com/r/WindwardTheBusRoutes2](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WindwardTheBusRoutes2)  
email: [thebusstop@honolulu.gov](mailto:thebusstop@honolulu.gov)  
voicemail: 808-768-8368

**Affected TheBusRoutes:**  
55, 56, 57, 57A, 65, 70, 77, 85, 87, PH4, PH5

**Affected Districts:**  
Kailua, Kaneohe, Waimanalo, Kahaluu, Koolauloa, North Shore

# HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL



**HOW TO REACH US:**  
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**DISTRICT 3**  
**WEBSITE:**  
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**FACE BOOK:**  
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## **DISTRICT 3 STAFF**

**Andrew Malahoff**  
**Senior Advisor**  
**Francisco Figueiredo**  
**Communications**  
**Brandon Mitsuda**  
**Legislative Aide**  
**Paulyne Anakalea**  
**Executive Secretary**

**Alan Kekoa Texeira**  
**Community Director**

## **Community Corner:**

### **2019 Annual Point-in-Time Count**

It's that time again! The annual Homeless Point-in-Time (PIT) count is officially set to kick off on January 22, 2019! For those who don't know what the PIT count is, it is a "count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons on a single night in January. The Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) annual grant application for Continuum of Care homeless assistance funding requires the State of Hawaii to produce an unduplicated count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless on a one-day point in time." The PIT Count provides the community and homeless assistance providers with data needed to understand the number and characteristics of persons who are homeless at one point in time. The PIT Count also provides policy makers with data needed to effectively allocate resources aimed at ending and preventing homelessness.

Partners In Care (PIC), whose mission is to eliminate homelessness through open and inclusive participation and the coordination of integrated responses, is the organizer of this project — and they are in need of volunteers! Volunteers across the island will be trained to administer a homelessness experience survey by regional trainers. Through conversations with individuals and families, important data will be collected and later tabulated to give a concrete picture of the experience of homelessness on Oahu. Training sessions will be taking place across the island within the different regions in advance of count night. Training sessions will also be hosted on count night itself.

For details on the PIT count, including the training schedule or to sign up to volunteer online please go to: <https://www.partnersincareoahu.org/point-time-count-oahu>. Shifts and coverage are varied and contingent on the area in which you will be volunteering. Please rest assured that this is a team effort — you will be working with others who have previously participated and first-timers.

We encourage you to share this information with anyone wishing to participate. The more volunteers we have from our community, the better the count!

With Alan Kekoa Texeira