



COUNCILMEMBER IKAIKA ANDERSON DISTRICT 3 UPDATE SEPTEMBER 2016

530 S. King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, HI 96813
Ph: 768-5003 Fax: 768-1235
Email: ianderson@honolulu.gov
www.honolulu.gov/council/ccl.htm

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

Tuesday, Sep. 20

Public Safety	9 am
Parks	10 ³⁰ am
Executive Matters	1pm

Wednesday, Sep. 21

Budget	9am
Public Works	1pm

Thursday, Sep. 22

Zoning and Planning	9 am
Transportation	1 pm
BEDT	2:30p

District 3 Staff

Paulyne Anakalea

Executive Secretary

Gail Myers

Senior Advisor

Andrew Malahoff

Senior Legislative Aide

Francisco Figueiredo

Communications

Aloha,

This month is an important month for property owners as the deadline for filing for your homeowner's exemption, low income tax credit and other exemptions—with the exception of the agricultural exemption deadline, which was September 1—is fast approaching. Please make sure you file before the deadline of September 30!

Real Property Tax Deadlines, Payments, Exemptions and Credits

If you own your home and have been living in it for at least a year, then you are eligible for the standard Homeowner's exemption which exempts the first \$80,000 of your property's value from taxation— if you're over 65 then the exemption amount increases to \$120,000. You only need to file for this exemption once. Additional exemptions are also available for persons with qualifying disabilities including totally disabled veterans. These forms are available online at: www.realpropetyhonolulu.com

For those on fixed or limited incomes the City offers a real property tax credit program which, depending on your age, limits your tax liability to a fixed percentage of your income. To be eligible for this property tax credit all titleholders can own only one property, they must live on the property, have a current homeowner's exemption and the combined income cannot exceed \$60,000. Because these tax relief programs are income dependent, you need to file for them every year. The forms for the tax credit are available at: <http://www1.honolulu.gov/budget/propertytaxcredit.pdf>

Bill 8 (2014) Update

The City Council continues to discuss Bill 8 (2014), which would regulate and prohibit certain commercial activities at beach parks in Waimanalo. While I remain hopeful that the Council will eventually pass this bill, I do intend to introduce a companion bill should this bill not advance in the next month. The reason for this is that bills introduced by the City Council have a two year life. If a bill has not been passed within that two year timeframe it will automatically be "filed" (i.e. killed). If I am forced to introduce a "new" bill, due to Council deadlines, it will be identical to the version currently before the Zoning Committee but the legislative process will have to start all over again. Again, I remain hopeful that this legislation will be passed out by year's end but should unforeseen delays arise I will take the necessary action to ensure that the interests of our community are protected.

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

With hurricane season in full effect, I wanted to take this time to make sure your family is prepared in case a hurricane hits. Here are some tips:

Be prepared and make a 7 Day Disaster kit with the following supplies:

- Food-non-perishable food that does not require cooking such as spam, corned beef and Vienna sausages.
- Eating utensils-plates, mess kits, forks and chop sticks.
- Radio-battery powered or hand crank radio
- Flashlight
- Batteries
- First Aid Kit
- Sanitation and personal hygiene items
- Muti-purpose tool
- Sanitation
- Tools
- Maps
- Medications
- Baby supplies
- Pet food and extra water for your pets
- One gallon of water per person per day for seven days for drinking and sanitation

For more hurricane preparedness information and tips please visit the city's Department of Emergency Management website at <https://www.honolulu.gov/dem>.

Accessory Dwelling Unit Incentive Bill

Mayor Kirk Caldwell recently approved Bill 27, which allows homeowners to save up to \$9,000 to \$10,000 in application fees for when they build an accessory dwelling unit (ADU) on their property.

The bill was drafted by the Department of Planning and Permitting and passed by the City Council on July 6. The measure waives all building permit, grading, and inspection fees, and wastewater facility charges, for a two-year period. It also permanently waives park dedication requirements for ADUs.

Mayor Caldwell hopes that the temporary waiver of fees will encourage homeowners who are considering adding a second unit on their property, or converting part of an existing structure, to act now. Once the bill to allow ADUs was signed into law in September 2015, the city received complaints from homeowners who said the fees were an added expense that might keep them from adding an ADU.

“We have challenged the building industry to design and produce a range of ADUs that homeowners could easily add to their lots to help solve the rental housing crisis,” Caldwell said. “We heard from contractors that a temporary fee waiver would really help them to sell ADU packages and ramp up production – like it did with the solar panel industry.”