



# COUNCILMEMBER IKAIKA ANDERSON DISTRICT 3 UPDATE SEPTEMBER 2014

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## CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

### Tuesday, Sep. 16

Public Safety	9 am
Parks	10 <sup>30</sup> am
Executive Matters	1pm

### Wednesday, Sep. 17

Budget	9am
Public Works	1pm

### Thursday, Sep. 18

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

### District 3 Staff

**Paulyne Anakalea**

Executive Secretary

**Gail Myers** Senior Advisor

**Andrew Malahoff**

Senior Legislative Aide

**Francisco Figueiredo**

Communications

**Don Aweau**

Community Affairs

Aloha,

### COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES IN WAIMANALO BAY

In late July, a community meeting was held at Waimanalo Elementary School to discuss on-going concerns with the recent increase in commercial activity in and around Waimanalo Bay.

Myself, along with City Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) director Michele Nekota, and other representatives met with the community to hear their suggestions on ways to address this growing issue.

The general consensus was that for-profit activities should be prohibited within the beach parks and the beach right-of-ways with exceptions for certain community events and non-profit activities; similar to the bans enacted for the parks around Kailua Bay.

My office is presently drafting legislation, based on this initial meeting, and will be introducing it shortly. Once the legislation has been drafted and introduced it is my intent to bring it back to the community for further discussion as this is a proposal which should—and will—intimately involve the community as it moves through the legislative process.

### “Residential A” Property Tax Classification

Since the City began sending out its first round of 2015 Real Property Tax bills, my office has received a substantial number of phone calls and emails regarding the recently established “Residential A” property tax classification; a classification intended to separate high-value, non-owner-occupied homes from owner-occupied properties.

When the Caldwell administration originally proposed an investor classification I expressed concerns not with the underlying concept but, rather, with how it would be implemented and the potential for properties occupied by their owners to get inadvertently caught up in this classification. You may recall that several years back the Hannemann administration proposed and the Council created a similar classification – “non-homeowner”. But we experienced much of the same problems with that structure as we are experiencing now: homeowners being classified as “non-homeowner”. The solution, back then, was for the Council to create a compromise resolution which allowed for homeowners who had not filed for their homeowner’s exemption to file within a set timeframe and have their tax liability adjusted to the “homeowner” rate. Any overpayments made were then credited towards their next tax payment. The solution was relatively simple but, in my opinion, the whole situation was completely avoidable. *(continued)*

With this in mind I did oppose the creation of the new “Residential A” classification. Nonetheless, the classification was created and today we find ourselves in a situation very similar to that which occurred several years ago.

Last month, I spoke with Budget Committee Chairwoman Ann Kobayashi last month and she agreed that the best solution is to go the route of a compromise for those owner-occupants whose property is currently classified as “Residential A” solely due to the absence of a homeowner’s exemption. The basic concept of this compromise resolution is very simple: owner-occupants who missed filing their exemption will be given an opportunity to file their exemption and have their tax liability reduced to that of the “Residential” classification with any overpayments being applied forward to their next tax bill. Resolution 14-179, which was introduced by Council Chair Ernie Martin, is the vehicle for this compromise and was approved by the Council last month. Homeowners who have found themselves lumped into the Residential A classification can now apply for the compromise by going to [www.realpropertyhonolulu.com](http://www.realpropertyhonolulu.com) and filling out the necessary forms. The deadline for compromise applications is September 30, 2014.

### **CAREGIVER CONFERENCE**

The AARP and Wilson Care Group are sponsoring the Family Caregiver Conference on Saturday, October 4, 2014 from 8:00am to 12:30pm at the Japanese Cultural Center located at 2454 S. Beretania Street.

This is a free half day multi-track conference that will provide information on assisting your loved one with living at home or planning for your own aging needs. Other topics include: learn how to take better care of yourself while providing care.

The Conference will also feature: Russell Nanod and a Caregiver Panel.

Russell Nanod, Eugene Kaneshiro and Tracey Wiltgen are family caregivers who took care of their aging parents while working full time. Learn how these caregivers juggled work, family, and caring for themselves.

Most of us will give care or need care at some point in our lives. Find out about the care challenges facing Hawaii’s families in the face of growing needs and shrinking resources and some of the proposed policy solutions.

To see the full agenda and register for this event, please visit: <http://aarp.cvent.com/oahucare> or call 1-877-926-8300.

Malama Pono,

Ikaika

### **ROAD RE-PAVING UPDATES**

Very frequently, we receive calls from our constituents inquiring about the status of a road re-paving project. The City has established a website that provides a listing of both current and future road repaving projects.

Please visit [http://www.honolulu.gov/rep/site/ddc/ddc\\_docs/Street\\_List\\_Web\\_Layout\\_Report\\_20140909.pdf](http://www.honolulu.gov/rep/site/ddc/ddc_docs/Street_List_Web_Layout_Report_20140909.pdf)

It is also important to remember that when the City issues a contract for an area to be repaved, the contractor has the discretion to determine the order in which roads—within the scope of their contract—will be paved. If you should have any questions regarding road repaving projects please do not hesitate to contact my office!