



**REPORT TO THE
'AIEA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD
COUNCILMEMBER BRANDON ELEFANTE
MARCH 2020**



Honoring Bandmaster Michael Nakasone



Councilmember Elefante and the Honolulu City Council honored Bandmaster Michael Nakasone for his induction into The National Band Association Hall of Fame of Distinguished Conductors. He is the first Asian American and first bandmaster from Hawai'i to achieve this exceptional honor.

**Honoring 2020 Narcissus Fourth Princess
Vanessa Megan Wong**



Councilmember Elefante and the Honolulu City Council honored the 2020 Narcissus Fourth Princess Vanessa Megan Wong. He is pictured here with Fourth Princess Wong and her parents, 'Aiea residents Dr. Terry and Pastor Vicky Lee Wong.

Happy Spring!

Spring will soon be upon us, marking one of the days of the year where day and night are nearly equal. This year, the Spring Equinox falls on March 19, the earliest it has been since 1986. May your Spring be filled renewal and growth as you celebrate the longer days.

FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS

Abandoned Vehicles	733-2530
City Concerns	768-4831
HART Hotline	566-2209
Illegal Dumping	831-6714
Potholes	768-7777
Refuse Pickup	768-3200
Senior Citizen Info	768-7700
Street Light Repair	768-3500
Tree Trimming	671-7151
Zoning Info	768-8058

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Council District 8 serving the communities of Lower 'Aiea, Pearlridge, Waimalu, Newtown, Pearl City, Seaview, Crestview, Waipio Gentry, and portions of Waipahū

Real Property Tax Legislation

Councilmember Elefante recently introduced three bills that were recommended by the current and/or past Real Property Tax Commissions.

Bill 11 would repeal the real property tax (RPT) exemption for credit unions and have them pay market rate. They currently pay \$1,000 annually per parcel. Bill 11 was postponed in the Budget Committee.

Bill 12 would increase the minimum RPT for historic homes. These homes currently pay a minimum RPT of \$300 a year, and the bill would adjust their minimum RPT to \$1,000/year. The homeowners must provide visual access from the outside or allow an alternative visual visitation, such as a tour, twelve times a year. Bill 12 will be on the March 18 Full Council Agenda for second reading and public hearing.

Bill 16 would increase the minimum RPT for for-profit childcare facilities. There are less than a dozen of these facilities, and they currently pay a minimum RPT of \$300 a year. The bill would adjust their minimum RPT to \$1,000/year. Bill 16 will be on the March 18 Full Council Agenda for first reading.

New DMV NOW Self-service Kiosk at Waipi'o Foodland

Do you need to renew your Hawaii motor vehicle registration quickly? The Waipi'o Foodland just added a City DMV NOW kiosk. You just scan your registration renewal notice or enter your license plate and zip code; pay with a credit or debit card; then print your registration card and emblem. Councilmember Elefante recently performed this for his own car, and it took just a few minutes.

Waipi'o Foodland is open from 6AM to midnight. There are even several kiosks installed at 24-hour locations at select Safeway stores in Kapahulu, South Beretania Street, Kane'ohe Bay Shopping Center, Kapolei Shopping Center and the Waimalu Plaza Shopping Center.



Interest-free Home Down Payment Loans Now Available

The Department of Community Services wants you to know that qualified low-income and moderate-income families may be eligible for interest-free down payment loans to assist in their home purchases. There is \$900,000 available in Federal HOME funds for the loan program this fiscal year. The Department is accepting applications from applicants' mortgage lenders for loans up to \$40,000. Loans will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis to qualified households below 80% of median income.

Interested families are required to apply for a city loan through a mortgage lender after being approved for a first time homebuyer mortgage. There is no cost to apply. To qualify, applicants must provide five-percent of the purchase price as a down payment and complete an approved homeownership course. A home inspection is also required.

For more information, please call the Department of Community Services Loan Branch at 768-7076. The loan brochure is available at

<http://www.honolulu.gov/rep/site/dcs/April2019DownPayment.pdf>

Calendar Of Events & Activities

March 2020

18 Honolulu City Council Meeting

NOTE These are Monday-Wednesday Thursday Committees on Monday

- 23 Council Committee Meetings:
- Zoning, Planning & Housing
- Transportation
- Public Safety & Welfare
- 24 Council Committee Meetings:
- Parks, Community Services & Intergovernmental Affairs
- Business, Econ Development & Tourism
- Executive Matters & Legal Affairs
- 25 Council Committee Meetings:
- Budget
- Public Infrastructure, Technology & Sustainability

26 Prince Johah Kūhiō Kalaniana'ole Day

April 2020

- 10 Good Friday Holiday
- 15 Honolulu City Council Meeting
- 21 Council Committee Meetings:
- Parks, Community Services & Intergovernmental Affairs
- Business, Econ Development & Tourism
- Executive Matters & Legal Affairs
- 22 Council Committee Meetings:
- Budget
- Public Infrastructure, Technology & Sustainability
- 23 Council Committee Meetings:
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