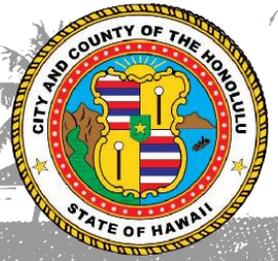


# City News



March 2015

## STATE OF THE CITY



### **Mayor Caldwell pushes parks, infrastructure in 2015 State of the City**

Mayor Caldwell delivered his third State of the City address on February 24, 2015 at Foster Botanical Garden. In his speech, Mayor Caldwell provided an update on his main priorities (available in the column on the right of this page) and introduced an initiative to push the needle when it comes to improving our parks.

Through its E Paka Kakou (our parks) initiative, the Caldwell Administration aims to refurbish 24 comfort stations and refurbish playground equipment at 16 community parks in partnership with local organizations through a revamped Adopt a Park program.

The address also underscored Mayor Caldwell's continued support for rail, highlighting the need for extending the .5% GET surcharge, starting in 2023, as the fairest way to finance the completion of the project and build spurs to UH Mānoa and downtown Kapolei. Mayor Caldwell also announced that longtime Assistant Honolulu Zoo Director Baird Fleming was named permanent Zoo Director, bringing stability in leadership at a critical time for the zoo.

Full video of the Address may be viewed on Mayor Caldwell's YouTube channel:  
[www.youtube.com/MayorKirkHNL](http://www.youtube.com/MayorKirkHNL)

### **Mayor Caldwell's Top Priorities**

#### ROADS

305 lane miles repaved in 2014 and 398 lane miles in 2013.

#### RAIL

More than 137 columns and 193 foundations constructed; more than 1,949 segments and 66 spans cast.

#### PARKS

Dedicated new 18.75-acre District Park in 'Ewa. Opened refurbished play apparatus at Paki Park.

#### HOMELESSNESS

Successfully placed 10 chronically homeless individuals in Housing First. Redeveloping Pauahi Hale into a homeless service center and housing facility.

#### SEWERS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Work continues to progress on the Kaneohe-Kailua gravity sewer tunnel. For updates, please visit [www.kktunnel.org](http://www.kktunnel.org).



### **City, State, HART team to offer Nixle traffic alerts**

The city and state are busy with road improvement projects and the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transit (HART) has construction of our rail project progressing from East Kapolei towards the Ala Moana Center. Commuters feel these growing pains often and all three agencies have teamed together with the Department of Emergency Management to help let motorists know when traffic is especially heavy.

Heavy traffic alerts are the most recent addition to Honolulu's Nixle system, which features advisories, alerts, and community messages relating to high surf and weather events, earthquakes and tsunamis, traffic accidents, and more.

To sign up for Nixle alerts, either text your zip code to 888777 or visit [nixle.com](http://nixle.com).



# Mayor Caldwell pledges to:

- End Veteran homelessness
- Make O'ahu streets safer

While attending the U.S. Conference of Mayors annual winter meeting in Washington, D.C. Mayor Caldwell met with Hawai'i's Congressional delegation and key leaders from the Obama Administration, including Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary Julian Castro.

During their meeting, Mayor Caldwell accepted HUD's national Mayors' Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness, pledging to get every one of O'ahu's unsheltered veterans off of the streets in 2015.

"Our veterans have made sacrifices that we as civilians cannot begin to fathom," said Mayor Caldwell. "We owe it to these brave men and women to provide the services and support necessary to become whole once more and enjoy the freedom they selflessly defended here in the most beautiful place on earth."

For more information on the Mayors' Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness, please visit [www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov)



The U.S. Department of Transportation has a challenge of its own for municipal leaders across the country: to improve safety for pedestrians and bicyclists of all ages. Last month, Mayor Caldwell accepted the Mayors' Challenge for Safer People, Safer Streets from U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx.

This challenge champions Mayor Caldwell's ambitious Complete Streets initiative to make city roads safer for people of all ages and abilities and all modes of transportation, including walking.

"I stand committed to making our streets safe for all, from keiki to kupuna, and pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists," said Mayor Caldwell. "This is a challenge whose time has come for Honolulu and my administration is incorporating Complete Streets components into everything we do in order to make our largest public space, city roads, safe and accessible for the entire community."  
 For more information on the Mayors' Challenge for Safer People, Safer Streets, please visit <http://www.dot.gov/mayors-challenge>.

## City employees overcome vandalism to serve Leeward residents

Satellite City Hall Chief Chase Masuda was sleeping at his Aina Haina home when he received a phone call in the early hours of Sunday, February 15, notifying him that the Wai'anae Satellite City Hall was broken into and vandalized. Chase immediately headed to Wai'anae and personally guarded the office until the next morning.



The following day, Wai'anae Satellite City Hall staff joined their chief to repair the significant damage to the facility and clean and reorganize the office to be able to continue to offer service to the Wai'anae community. The Satellite opened for business on time that Tuesday, the next business day after the Monday Presidents' Day holiday.

"The dedication Chase Masuda and his staff have to serving the Wai'anae community was on full display over Presidents' Day Weekend," said Mayor Caldwell. "A senseless act of vandalism, which cost thousands of scarce taxpayer dollars to repair, brought out the best in these committed city team members and I could not be more proud of their efforts. This was the essence of public service."

## Wait for driver's license road tests drastically reduced

Wait times of six months or more for driver's license road tests have been a part of life on O'ahu for far too long, adding an increased burden to a right of passage. Life is about to get better due to changes made by the Caldwell Administration at the five driver's license offices across the island.

The city has worked to review and improve existing procedures, studied operations in other states, hired additional road test examiners, and shifted resources to help expand the capacity to better process the demand for road test appointments. These changes have resulted in a wait of just days or weeks rather than months for a road test.

Applicants seeking to view available appointments and schedule a driver's license road test at one of the five driver's license office on Oahu may do so online by visiting [www.HonoluluRoadTest.org](http://www.HonoluluRoadTest.org).

State of the City complete video available at [youtube.com/MayorKirkHNL](http://youtube.com/MayorKirkHNL)

CITY POTHOLE REPAIR HOTLINE: 768-7777



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