



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

MATT LOPRESTI, Ph.D

HOUSE DISTRICT 41: 'EWA, 'EWA BEACH, 'EWA GENTRY, 'EWA VILLAGES, HOKALEI, OCEAN POINTE

DISTRICT 41 NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2021

STAY CONNECTED WITH
REPRESENTATIVE MATT LOPRESTI

Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 333
415 S. Beretania St.
Honolulu, HI 96813

Phone: (808) 586-6080
Email: relopresti@capitol.hawaii.gov
<http://capitol.hawaii.gov>



Happy New Year,
Welcome to 2021!

Here's hoping to see fortunes
rise in this New Year.

2020 was a miserable year. Too many of us know someone who lost their job, lost their health, or even lost their life during the COVID-19 pandemic. While Hawai'i may have fared better than most states from a health perspective, our local economy was hit far worse.

A vaccine is on the way and it is my hope that 2021 sees us turn a corner and begin to heal from a year that took so much from us all. I want to take this opportunity to wish each of you a happy and healthy 2021. I am looking forward to working with my colleagues in the legislature and members of the 'Ewa community to tackle the issues that face us.

Please contact me or my office with questions, ideas, or if you ever need any assistance or have any questions.

With Aloha,
Matt LoPresti

Representative Matthew S. LoPresti, Ph.D.
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 333
415 S. Beretania St.
Honolulu, HI 96813





Capital Improvement Projects

Mahalo to Governor Ige for releasing these funds. And mahalo to Senators Fevella and Gabbard, Reps. McDermott, Cabanilla, and Cullen, our Neighborhood Board, and everyone who worked to receive funds for these important projects!

1

Campbell High School

\$6.29 million to finance design, construction to replace the existing track & field with a synthetic track & field

Estimated Completion: July 2022

2

E. Kapolei Middle School

\$1.01 million to finance design for a new East Kapolei Middle School

\$44.98 million to finance construction & equipment for a new East Kapolei Middle School

Estimated Completion: Nov. 2023

3

'Ewa Beach Elementary

\$260,000 to finance construction to renovate the upstairs restrooms in Building C

Estimated Completion: Unknown

4

'Ewa Beach Elementary

\$466,000 to finance construction for various repair and maintenance needs

Estimated Completion: Unknown



Share Your Bill Ideas For 'Ewa Beach

Don't Be Shy!

replopresti@capitol.hawaii.gov

OR (808) 586-6080

Some examples include:

- New traffic signals
- Locations for crosswalks
- Loud mufflers
- Traffic safety
- Guidance for HOAs

When you contact my office, please include the following information:

- First & Last Name
- Residential Address
- Phone #
- Email Address

Proud & Humbled to Serve

My Committee Assignments for 2021-2022

For the 2021 and 2022 legislative sessions, I have been assigned to serve on the following House committees:

- **Vice Chair on the Committee on Culture, Arts, & International Affairs**
- **Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness**
- **Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs**
- **House Majority Policy Committee**

I am also a member of the following legislative caucuses:

- Keiki Caucus
- Kupuna Caucus
- Environmental Caucus
- Filipino Caucus
- Chair, Progressive Caucus



Illegal Fireworks Continue to Plague Our Community



The #2 most received constituent contact has been about illegal fireworks in our community.



Useful Contacts

1

REPORT GOVERNMENT FRAUD, WASTE & ABUSE

ethics.hawaii.gov/fraud_complaint/

Confidential Call: 587-0000

Email: anti-fraud@hawaii.gov

2

Non-Emergency Police Assistance

Call: (808)529-3111

3

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance

<https://pua.hawaii.gov/>

Behind requests for assistance with Unemployment Insurance claims, my office has received more complaints and requests for intervention about the use of illegal fireworks in the district than anything else.

Weeks before the New Year was upon us, people were already geared up and shooting them off at all hours of the night. And our community isn't the only one impacted by this. As the above photo clearly shows, the State prohibition against the use of aerial fireworks has proved entirely ineffective in curbing their use.

Family pets are terrified by them, as often are small children. And for the rest, these menacing displays of celebration are a startling nuisance that disrupt the otherwise quiet of evenings in our neighborhoods.

Because it is clear that the current law prohibiting their use has proven so ineffective, my staff and I are looking at other means to

improve the situation.

I am working with my colleagues at the Legislature, law enforcement, and those familiar with import and harbor operations to find solutions that work.

Increasing fines won't work because the individuals using them have to be caught first. Not to mention the fact that our law enforcement is already stretched thin protecting our community. So, I am looking at the possibility of increasing inspections of crates at *before* they arrive Honolulu Harbor as one possible solution. I am also looking at potential options to make easier the reporting of violators to law enforcement as well.

As always, I welcome your input and ideas. Only by working together can we truly improve our community.

'Ewa Beach, Kapolei Food Assistance Locations with Days & Times

Wai'anae Coast Community Foundation
8am Second Saturday each month
Kapolei Theater & K-Mart Parking Lot
890 Kamokila Blvd. #107
Kapolei, HI 96707
(Produce Plus)

Immaculate Conception Church
1st & 3rd Friday 5pm-6pm
91-1298 Renton Rd.
'Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Phone: (808) 681-3701
(Food Pantry)

'Ewa Beach Baptist Church
Last Saturday each month 10am-11am
91-743 Pohakupuna Rd.
'Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Phone: (808) 689-8888
(Food Pantry)

'Ewa Beach United Methodist Church Loaves &
Fishes –
2nd & 4th Wednesday each month 8am-10am
91-660 Pohakupuna Rd.
'Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Phone: (808) 689-0153

Child & Family Services
Every Wednesday 2pm-4pm
91-1841 Ft. Weaver Rd.
'Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Phone: (808) 681.3500
(Food Pantry)

Message of Peace Ministry @ Ilima
Intermediate School
Every 3rd Saturday 9am
91-884 Fort Weaver Rd.
'Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Phone: (808) 225-5920
(Produce Plus)

Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Last Friday each month 8am
91-1004 North Rd.
'Ewa Beach, HI 96706
Phone: (808) 689-8681
(Food Pantry)

Saint Jude Catholic Church
Every Tuesday & Thursday 3:30pm - 4:30pm
92-455 Makakilo Dr.
Kapolei, HI 96707
Phone: (808) 672-8669

Hawai'i Food Bank Pop-Up Food Distribution: Food for 400 Households

'Ewa Pu'uloa District Park –Wednesday December 23 9am-11am
91-201 Kaimele Pl.
'Ewa Beach, HI 96706

*Produce Plus: "'Ohana Produce Plus is a mass, mobile food distribution program that enables Hawai'i Foodbank to bring food directly into the communities where it is needed most.

Back at Work for the People of ‘Ewa Beach

Happy to hit the ground running after the November Election.



Within just a couple of weeks of the 2020 Election, I was assigned an office, had staff lined up and was back at work for the people of this fine community.

In early December, I attended the Kapolei Chamber of Commerce “Year-End Update and Talk Story” as an opportunity to listen to the concerns of local businesses, particularly in the midst of the COVID pandemic that has crippled our local economy.

I also attended a legislative briefing from the National Caucus of Environmental Legislators (NCEL) to hear about efforts to reduce wasteful packaging in consumer products. Along with other members of the 2021 Freshmen, I met with our Congressional Delegation and Governor Ige to talk about how our legislature can continue to work collaboratively on important issues affecting our state.

In addition, I have been fortunate to have opportunities to share my mana’o at various events. At Campbell High School in partnership with TeenBuilding USA, I spoke to Freshmen on “How to Sell Yourself During an Interview.” As both a parent and a teacher, I am always excited for the opportunity to speak to young people.

I was also honored to be invited to participate in an international forum speaking on the subject of “Advancing Human Rights and Religious Freedom.”

Ever mindful of issues impacting our community, my staff and I have been communicating with local law enforcement about addressing speeding and reckless driving in our neighborhoods. And I had the opportunity to talk with the outgoing Councilmembers Ron Menor and Kym Pine to offer my assistance to

ensure any ongoing projects they had were carried on and to mahalo them for their years of service to our community.

This week I will be participating in a briefing by the United States Indo-Pacific Command (USINDOPACOM) on the state of our military in Hawaii and across the Pacific region.

In a similar vein, I have also reached out to our newly elected Councilmembers Andria Tupola and Augie Tulba, as well as Mayor Blangiardi, to offer my congratulations and to talk story with them about important issues in our communities.

When all our elected representatives work collaboratively, there is so much we can accomplish together. I look forward to doing just that in the year ahead.

Office Manager / Chief of Staff



Josh Frost, MPM

“I’m thrilled to be back in the building working for Representative LoPresti, whom I have known for nearly a decade.”

After six years working in the Governor’s Policy Office and a stint consulting for candidates and community organizations, Josh brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to my office. Josh is also the Chair of his Neighborhood Board in Palolo.

Legislative Assistant



Michael Greenough

“It’s always a privilege to serve the community and I look forward to a very productive legislative session.”

Michael has served in both the State House and State Senate going back to 2002, most recently as a Committee Clerk and Legislative Assistant in the Senate. I am excited to have him join my staff this session.