

JUSTIN H. WOODSON

HAWAI'I STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 9

KAHULUI, PU'UNĒNĒ, OLD SAND HILLS, MAUI LANI



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The Hawai'i State Legislature reconvened on Monday, May 11, 2020 to focus on stabilizing the state budget along with other related legislation, in response to the anticipated \$1 billion shortfall in state revenues. By utilizing "rainy day" funds and other budgetary adjustments, the legislature was successful in mitigating the projected loss in revenue. Amongst other important items, budgetary funding includes an additional allocation for thermal scanners, which will be installed in all airports. This equipment will help protect our state by identifying travelers with spiked temperatures so we can take proper precautions before they disperse into our communities.

CIP UPDATE



ABOVE: The newly-completed band room at Maui High School.

EXPEDITING CIPS

HIGHLIGHTS:

To help boost economic recovery efforts, the state is expediting shovel-ready capital improvement projects (CIPs).

KAHULUI AIRPORT

\$ 38 Million for construction of facility and terminal improvements

KAHULUI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

\$ 6 Million to plan, design, and construct a new building on campus

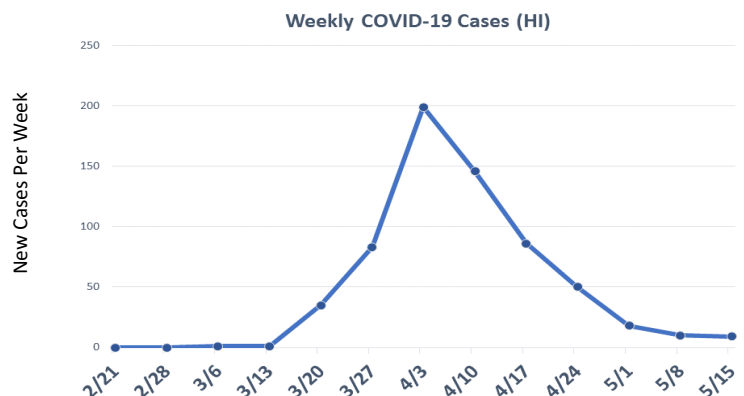
CENTRAL MAUI MIDDLE SCHOOL

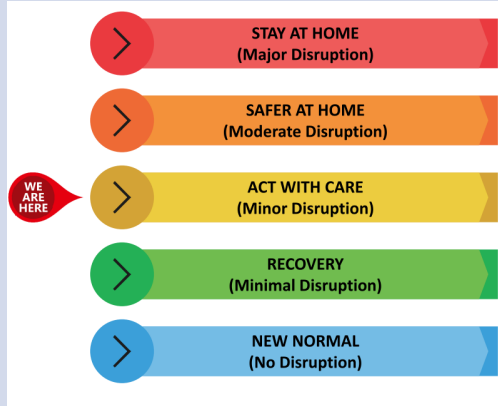
\$ 3 Million to plan and design a new middle school in central Maui (planning and design only)

FLATTENING THE CURVE

Mahalo for helping the state flatten the curve! Please continue to practice social distancing, wash your hands with soap and water for twenty seconds, stay at home when you are sick, and remain vigilant.

RIGHT: New COVID-19 cases in Hawai'i per week (every Friday). All data is preliminary, and some cases may not yet be included due to missing data. (HIDOH)





“ACT WITH CARE” PHASE

The “Act with Care” phase is part of Governor Ige’s eighth supplementary emergency proclamation. We are currently in the second phase of the state’s plan to reopen. The second phase celebrates Hawai’i’s Kama’āina Economy and gradually reopens medium-risk businesses and activities followed by high-risk businesses and activities (based on health indicators).

For more information on Governor Ige’s eighth supplementary emergency proclamation, please visit governor.hawaii.gov.

LEFT: State Estimated Timeline for Reopening from Governor Ige’s press conference on May 18, 2020

COVID-19 STATE RESPONSE EFFORTS

STATE AND FEDERAL RESOURCES

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (UI): The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) is backlogged with UI claims due to the high volume of applications. The state has increased staff capacity, updated technology, and increased processing capacity to better respond to the needs of the community. Efforts will continue until all claims are processed. For more information on unemployment insurance, please visit labor.hawaii.gov.

PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE (PUA): Through the congressional CARES Act, PUA provides unemployment assistance for non-traditional UI claimants, such as gig workers, freelancers, and independent contractors. For more information on PUA eligibility and benefits, please visit labor.hawaii.gov/pua/.

EMERGENCY SNAP SUPPLEMENT: The Department of Human Services (DHS) received approval to provide emergency Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) supplements to address temporary food needs for SNAP households. Beginning March 2020, Hawai’i residents receiving SNAP benefits may be able to receive the maximum benefit amount based on household size. For more information regarding SNAP, please visit humanservices.hawaii.gov.

LICENSE AND VEHICLE

MAUI DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLE AND LICENSING (DMVL): DMVL offices are now open for limited walk-in services. For more information and to see the available services, visit www.mauicounty.gov.

HAWAI’I DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION: There is a 90-day extension on all Hawai’i Driver’s licenses, instruction permits, and State IDs that expire during the period of March 16 to May 31.

Safety inspection stations reopened May 15, 2020. Any safety inspections that expire in/before May 2020 will be valid through August 31, 2020. Safety inspections that expire after May 2020 will be granted a 3-month extension. Motor vehicle registration renewals can be conducted online or through mail even if your safety check has already expired during this emergency period. For more information, visit www.hidot.hawaii.gov.

EDUCATION

GRADUATING CLASS OF 2020: I want to commend all of our esteemed 2020 graduates for their hard work in reaching this momentous milestone. I wish our graduates the best in all of their future endeavors!

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION: The DOE is currently working on offering a scaled back in-class summer school program (locations tba) and summer school classes. The DOE will continue to provide Grab-and-Go meals along with other meal services throughout the summer. For more information, visit www.hawaiipublicschools.org.

The DOE is still monitoring the pandemic situation to determine if some form of in-class instruction will commence during the 2020-21 school year.

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI’I: The UH system has announced that in-class instruction will start again in the fall semester. The University of Hawai’i will continue to assess the situation to make adjustments as needed. For more information, visit www.hawaii.edu.

HOUSING ASSISTANCE

EVICTION MORATORIUM: On Friday, April 17th, Governor David Ige signed the fifth supplementary emergency proclamation that includes an eviction moratorium which forestalls any eviction from a residential dwelling for failure to pay rent, lease, or other related charges. Governor David Ige’s eighth supplementary emergency proclamation extends the eviction moratorium through June 30, 2020. For more information and to view all of the emergency proclamations, visit governor.hawaii.gov.



ALOHA UNITED WAY

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MAUI UPDATES & RESOURCES

Mahalo nui loa to all of the organizations who have extended their assistance to our community.

MAUI MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER



LEFT: Some of the Maui Delegation and myself during a site visit at MMMC

The Maui Delegation is collectively engaged with the Maui Memorial Medical Center (MMMC). The Maui Delegation is aware of the concerns from the community, and we are in direct communication with MMMC to ensure those concerns are vetted and addressed.

MAUI ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

H.E.L.P.: The Hawai'i Emergency Lauima Partnership (H.E.L.P.) program provides financial assistance to pay bills or buy food.

RENTAL ASSISTANCE: The Rental Assistance Program is designed to provide financial assistance for rent deposit, utility deposit, and rent subsidy. For more information and to see the qualifications, visit meoinc.org.

MAUI COUNTY: WAIVED FEES

The County of Maui is extending aid to families who are affected by COVID-19. The Departments of Finance and Water Supply is waiving all credit card convenience and transaction fees for online payments of Real Property Tax, Solid Waste, and Water bills until June 30, 2020. For more information, visit mauicounty.gov.

The County of Maui is waiving all Motor Vehicle Registration credit card convenience and transaction fees through June 30, 2020 for those renewing their registrations. To renew online, visit www.mauicounty.gov.

WE ARE HERE TO SERVE YOU



LEFT: Sen. Keith-Agaran, Rep. Hashimoto, Rep. Yamashita, and myself during our virtual town hall

On March 6 and March 20, Sen. Keith-Agaran, Rep. Hashimoto, Rep. Yamashita, and I hosted a virtual town hall where we provided updates and addressed concerns around the community. To view these recordings and to stay up-to-date, please visit my Facebook page (Rep. Justin Woodson).

SENIOR ASSISTANCE

HALE MAHAOLU:

Meal delivery service to those who are elderly or disabled

For more information, visit halemahaolu.org/program/meals/

KUPUNA KARE:

Non-emergency services, such as grocery shopping, simple errands, and take-out food delivery to those who are elderly or disabled

For more information, visit kupunakare.com

OUR KUPUNA:

Grocery and supply shopping for those over 60 years old

For more information, visit www.ourkupuna.com

ALU LIKE, INC:

Meal delivery and other lifestyle services for Native Hawaiian individuals 60 years and older

For more information, visit www.alulike.org

TRANSITIONING BACK

The House of Representatives, the Senate, the executive branch, non-profits, and businesses across the state are working together in several capacities to bring our communities back to some sense of normalcy. Health and safety is our first concern. However, along with working out new realities for everyday living, there are many concerted efforts focused on economic recovery. We are looking at how we can create new industries as well as reinvent old ones.

We are mindful that we need a robust plan in preparation for a potential viral outbreak, and we believe we are almost there.

We know this has been extremely difficult for everyone. Some of our loved ones are no longer with us. May I humbly recommend that we honor them by continuing to move forward. WE are all in this together, and together we will get through this. With steady progress, things will start to get better.

Thank you again for your relationship. Again, please contact me anytime. We want to be helpful to you. Aloha.

Aloha Friends and Neighbors,

I hope all is well with you and your loved ones. I am extremely honored to be able to serve you in these difficult and trying times. The presence of COVID-19 in Hawai'i has presented many challenges for our community. My staff and I are working with many departments and organizations across the state to better ensure your safety and well-being.

In this newsletter, you will find updates on legislation, capital improvement projects (CIP) specific to central Maui, state response efforts, community updates, and resources specific to Maui residents. As your representative, I am dedicated to combating this virus so that everyone, from our keiki to our kupuna, can once again return to a sense of normalcy. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out. We are here to help.

Mahalo Nui Loa,



JUSTIN H. WOODSON

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COMMITTEES:

CHAIR



LOWER & HIGHER
EDUCATION

MEMBER



HOUSING

MEMBER



TRANSPORTATION



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