

SENATOR STANLEY CHANG

East Honolulu Community Newsletter

MARCH 2017

Ensuring Free Traffic Movement and Safety

From January 21-25, a water main break at Kalanianaʻole Highway and Ainakoa Avenue left drivers stranded for hours. Many residents contacted our office regarding the traffic to voice their frustration over the lack of communication and the congestion of the area.

Last month we hosted a town hall meeting regarding traffic mitigation and how to handle similar situations in the future. We would like to thank the Board of Water Supply, Honolulu Police Department, Honolulu City Department of Transportation Services, the City Department of Facility Maintenance, and members of the community for participating.

We all understand the inevitability of incidents that cause traffic congestion, whether it is fallen trees, light poles, VIP motorcades, or water main breaks. One of the main concerns that we addressed during the meeting was that there was not a specific agency responsible for studying traffic flow and working on ways to mitigate the inevitable incidents that cause extreme traffic congestion.

To prepare for future events, we introduced resolutions SR 22 and SCR 64 that would address the concerns of the community, and hopefully ease the traffic congestion. The resolutions call for the creation of a Traffic Crisis Planning and Mitigation Coordination Group, which would be collaboratively responsible for working on effective traffic mitigation. It is only by preparation, coordination and communication can we ensure the public that the State and City will effectively handle events like the next Kalanianaʻole Highway/H-1 water main break.

Very truly yours,



Senator Stanley Chang



▶ CALL US

586-8420

▶ CONTACT US

Stanley Chang

Senator, District 9 (D)
senchang@capitol.hawaii.gov

Adrian Tam

Office Manager
a.tam@capitol.hawaii.gov

Cameron Sato

Community Liaison
c.sato@capitol.hawaii.gov

Allen Awaya

Legislative Aide
chang1@capitol.hawaii.gov

Spencer Im

Legislative Aide
chang2@capitol.hawaii.gov

▶ HANDY PHONE NUMBERS

Pothole Hotline

768-7777

Abandoned Vehicles

733-2530

Building Permit

768-5555

Trash Collection

768-3200

Street Light Repair

768-5300

IN THE COMMUNITY



Members of the 29th Senate of Hawai'i

► On January 18 Senator Chang along with his fellow Senators started the 29th Legislative Session.



Sen. Chang and Staff with U.S. Senator Mazie Hirono.

► On Feb 22, 2017 Waialae resident Senator Mazie Hirono met with Sen. Chang and staff to discuss issues impacting the state at the federal level, and how youth can get involved.



Meeting with Ted Fukushima - Retired Kaiser High School Athletic Director

► On Jan. 20, 2017, Sen. Chang met with Mr. Ted Fukushima to discuss ways to continue to improve and expand the school's infrastructure and facilities.



Kalaniana'ole Athletic Club

► It's baseball season! Senator Chang along with Rep. Mark Hashem attended the opening day of the Kalaniana'ole Athletic Club season at Aina Haina Community Park

GET INVOLVED



Hawai'i now offers texting to 911!

- ▶ Requires a text enabled/capable cellular phone.
- ▶ It's necessary that Location Services settings are enabled.
- ▶ Text messages only. No group messages, photos, videos or emojis will be accepted.
- ▶ Text messages must be brief and easily understood.
- ▶ Use plain English. No abbreviations, short cuts or slangs.
- ▶ Text to 9-1-1 service may not be available everywhere at all times.
- ▶ No guarantee a text message will be sent or received.

For more information, visit

www.hawaiiextto911.com



Recently cleared East Niu Stream

Niu Stream Vegetation Cleared

A perennial issue affecting East Honolulu's streams and canals is inadequate maintenance. When streams and canals are not cleared regularly, vegetation and debris accumulate in the stream bed, raising the level of the stream bed and exacerbating flood conditions during heavy storms. Due to your complaints and requests, we worked with the City to have Niu Stream cleared of vegetation in February.

We are currently working on maintenance at Kamiloiki Stream, Kuliouou Stream, and Wailupe Stream. A special mahalo to the hard working crew at the City and County for taking care of East Honolulu.

Free Tax Clinic

Eligible taxpayers can have their federal and state tax return prepared for free by IRS-certified volunteers.

April 1, 2017, 9:00am - 2:30pm

Hawaii State Capitol (415 South Beretania Street) Room 329

For more information & to RSVP call **808-724-2436** (limited appointments available).

www.HawaiiTaxHelp.org

info@hawaiiataxhelp.org

Hosted by: Hawaii VITA Financial Empowerment Coalition & HI Alliance for Community Based Economic Development

LEGISLATIVE TRACKER



Left to right: Ian Ross, Kaniela Peters-Clark (Campbell High School Junior), Nathan Okubo, and Senator Stanley Chang.

Youth and Public Policy

This session, Senator Chang introduced SB 1220, which would establish a Youth Advisory Commission within the Office of Youth Services to advise the government and legislature on issues relating to youth. The Youth Advisory Commission is modeled on the very successful youth commission chartered by the city of San Francisco in 1995. Some of the accomplishments in San Francisco include establishing a free transit pass for low and moderate income youth and expanding summer job opportunities for youth 16-24. The Youth Advisory Commission will be the venue for giving young people a voice and a seat at the policy-making table.



Left to right: Vice Speaker John Mizuno, Sen. Josh Green, Mrs. & Mr. Pankaj Bhanot, Sen. Breene Harimoto, Sen. Stanley Chang, and Sen. Glenn Wakai.

Confirmation of Department of Human Services Director Pankaj Bhanot

On February 15, 2017, Pankaj Bhanot, Director nominee for the Department of Human Services, the largest state government department by budget, attended his confirmation hearing before the Senate Committee on Human Services. During the hearing, testifiers unanimously came out in support for Bhanot, including current and former colleagues and other state and local officials. Bhanot shared his moving story of surviving hardship growing up in India and how his grandmother inspired him to go into a life of public service. The committee voted unanimously to confirming Bhanot as Director.

Mahalo!
Sen. Stanley Chang



From the Office of
Sen. Stanley Chang

Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 223
415 S. Beretania St.
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813