Working for you...

SENATOR DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ

State of Hawai'i Senate | District 22

Mililani Mauka ~ Wahiawā ~ Whitmore Village ~ Waipi'o Acres ~ Wheeler ~ Poamoho

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Chair: Committee on Ways and Means Member: Committee on Education

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FIRST RESPONDERS TECHNOLOGY CAMPUS

AND CYBERSECURITY DATA CENTER

The State continues to work on the First Responders Technology Campus and Cybersecurity Data Center as a proposed joint state and county facility for first responders. Currently, many of our first responders are training in outdated and dilapidated facilities, and the state's primary data center, which is more than forty years old, is also in need of a new home outside of the flood zone. The Hawaii Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) is waiting for the release of \$7.4 million so they can conduct due diligence. As a new state project, the agency must undertake an environmental assessment to minimize the impact on surrounding communities.

Also, HTDC secured \$15.4 million this past session to purchase Lot 17 in Phase I of Mililani Technology Park. This parcel has infrastructure, so first responders could actively use the land at a faster pace than Phase II. Senator Kidani and I are working together to ensure that the purchase can be concluded in a timely manner.

The Board's formal support for the project may help with the release of funds, so if the Board chooses, it may take a position via formal letter or resolution in support of the First Responders Technology Campus and Cybersecurity Data Center.

MILILANI MAUKA ELEMENTARY AC UPDATE

This past summer the DOE began a chiller replacement project for classrooms at Mililani Mauka Elementary because the department was made aware of leakage in the AC system. Unfortunately, they ran into a few unforeseen road blocks which have delayed completion and installation of the new chiller system.

The contractors have worked hard to secure portable AC units for each of the classrooms until the project is completed and the system can be put back online. There are also fans in each of the classrooms to help with heat abatement, however, this is a temporary fix.

The school hoped to have the project completed prior to the start of the school year, but they are currently waiting for a critical part to be shipped from the mainland. Currently, they are in a holding pattern till they receive the part.

I am working with the school principal and the department to see how our office can assist with getting the chillers up and running as soon as possible.

Wahiawa General Hospital Site Visit



Pictured Above: I was able to join the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health (CPH) and the House Committee on Health (HLT) to view the facilities and meet with staff from both the Department of Health (DOH) and Wahiawa General Hospital (WGH). DOH and WGH walked the Committee Chairs and District legislators through the facility and presented the proposed plans for a public/private partnership between the DOH and WGH.

Back in May, it was announced that the state Department of Health (DOH) would be partnering with Wahiawa General Hospital (WGH) to provide short-term mental health "stabilization" beds in a hospital setting. The partnership leverages resources from both organizations to meet a growing need in the community and to support efforts to develop a more comprehensive behavioral health care system statewide. Currently in the development phase, the project anticipates providing as many as 30 beds for this purpose by next year.

MILILANI COMPLEX LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP



Pictured Above: I had the opportunity to speak to our future leaders at this year's Mililani Complex Leadership Workshop. This annual event is facilitated by the Associated Students of Mililani High School (ASMHS), hosted at Uka Elementary, and attended by the student councils of all of our elementary schools. This year's theme was a lightbulb - to lead is to inspire, to be the light, to shine for other; I was able to share a few words with our student leaders on leadership, community service, student voice, and believing in oneself. We have a bright future ahead, I look forward to watching these students shine as future leaders.