COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

REPRESENTATIVE HENRY AQUINO

District 38 - Waipahu

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Chair: Transportation

Committee Member: Housing, Consumer Protection & Commerce



REPRESENTATIVE
HENRY AQUINO
HAWAII STATE CAPITOL
415 S. BERETANIA STREET
ROOM 419
HONOLULU, HI 96813
OFFICE: 586-6520
FAX: 586-6521

repaquino@capitol.hawaii.gov

Aloha Neighbors!

We are quickly approaching the first crossover period. During this time, we will start to receive and hear bills from the Senate chamber.

Road construction in Waipahu began in early February. More information regarding this construction project is on the second page.

This month's newsletter will contain information regarding an update on a few bills. If there is a certain measure that you would like to keep track on, please subscribe to our measure tracker on our capitol website: capitol.hawaii.gov. You can also submit testimony for any of the bills that are scheduled to be heard.

While our lawmakers are hard at work at the Capitol, it has been extra lively here with other events. The Hawaii Hotel and Tourism Lodging Association hosted "Tourism Day," which was an educational seminar to help educate the legislators about the tourism industry's top priorities in the legislature.

Lawmakers and supporters of local farms gathered at the state capitol for the Hawaii Farm Bureaus' annual "Ag Day." This event gave farmers an opportunity to educate lawmakers and the public about issues affecting agricultural producers on the islands.

I hope that you will find the information in this newsletter informative. Please feel free to contact me at 808-586-6520 or at repaquino@capitol.hawaii.gov.

With Warmest Aloha,

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Community Updates

Traffic Alert: Roadwork being done in Waikele, Waipahū, Waipi'o and Village Park

City roadwork began in early February in Village Park, followed by Waikele, Waipahū, and Waipi'o (map of Waipahu streets below). Due to weather delays, the project is expected to be completed this summer. The project will reconstruct more than 85 lane miles of city roads.

The Complete Streets improvements included in this project aims to ensure pedestrian, bike, and vehicle safety. Planning is still underway in the upgrades throughout areas of Waipahu.

Initial work will include the lowering of manholes, tree and root pruning, and curb and gutter reconstruction work. The contractor will then remove worn-out pavement and resurface or reconstruct the asphalt and concrete pavement; install pavement markers, striping and markings; and install vehicle detector loops. Speed bumps on private roads will be removed and will not be replaced.

Crews will work between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, with possible weekend construction. Drivers should anticipate delays and are reminded to observe the dates and times posted on the roadway signs.

Map of Waipahu area streets



Session Updates

Listed below are a few bills that are currently moving through the Legislature:

HB607- Requires the executive office on aging to establish the kupuna caregivers program to assist community members who are providing care for elders to stay in the workforce. Clarifies the kupuna service and support options provided by area agencies on aging within the kupuna care program. Appropriates funds for establishing and implementing the kupuna caregivers program.

HB615 HD1– Appropriates funds for the Healthy Aging Partnership Program to further the program's important role in improving the health and well-being of Hawaii's kupuna.

HB1305 HD1- Appropriates funds for the construction of a westbound shoulder lane on the H-1 Freeway between the Kunia/Waipahu/Ewa (Exit 5) off-ramp and the Kualakai Parkway onramp.

HB1507 HD1– Requires the Department of Transportation to establish a Community Crosswalks Pilot Program to design and implement specially painted crosswalk in neighborhoods. Appropriates funds for the pilot program. Creates a Community Crosswalks Pilot Program Special Fund. The pilot project is being proposed in Waipahu.

Updates on all measures introduced can be found on the Hawaii State Capitol website at www.capitol.hawaii.gov



Students from Waipahu High School's Academy of Hospitality and Tourism at the State Capitol for the Hotel and Lodging Day



On Saturday, February 25, the Waipahu High School Symphony Band held their annual Spring Concert. They also perform for their Winter Concert and their Senior Concert to bid farewell to their graduating seniors.

What's Happening at the Capitol?



A rally attendee holds up her sign as she listens to the speaker.



Model planes showcased for "Ag Day"

Kupuna and caregivers from the community have come to show their support for HB607 and SB304.



Drone with a heat-seeking camera on display for "Aviation Day" at the Capitol.



"Kihene," a company that specializes in Hawaiian Herbal Teas, passes out cups during "Ag Day."



Fresh produce on display for "Ag Day" at the Capitol



Ho Farms displays their products at their booth for "Ag Day."