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AND THE STATE OF HAWAII

SENATOR DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ

HAWAII STATE SENATE - DISTRICT 22

Milliani Mauka • Wahiawā • Whitmore Village • Waipio Acres • Wheeler • Poamoho



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Chair:

Committee on Ways and Means

Member:

Committee on Education



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Freshwater State Recreation Area Community

The Department of Land and Natural Resources State Parks Division and the University of Hawaii Community Design Center (UHCDC) held a Community Charrette to discuss new ideas for the Wahiawa Freshwater State Recreation Area better known as Wahiawa Freshwater Park.



Attendees participated in three different activities to give feedback and express their ideas on the future of Wahiawa

Freshwater Park. One of the activities was a "Talk Story Map" where each person was able to share their favorite memory at the park, their favorite thing about Wahiawa, and cultural/historical locations in Wahiawa. The other activities were a "Park Access & Town Connection Diagramming" and "Park Experience Visioning" where participants provided suggestions on potential alternate entrances, different uses and activities at the park, and share many other ideas the community has and would like to see incorporated into a new master plan.

The Town Master Plan from 1994 recommends that we upgrade and improve park facilities to meet current and future demands for a growing population that will maintain the beauty of the environment. To support this vision, my colleagues and I secured \$250,000 in the state budget so the Department of Land and Natural Resources – State Parks Division could partner with the University of Hawaii Community Design Center and work with the community to develop the proof of concept master plan. Once the proof of concept is complete DLNR will begin design and construction.

Taking components from the original Fresh Water Park Master Plan (1975), Wahiawa Town Master Plan (1994) and input from the community and park users, the new master plan may include walking paths, areas for picnicking, camping and/or lodging, and activities such as frisbee disc golf and park golf are also being considered. By increasing recreational activities, we can bring jobs and revenues into the community. At the end of the day we all would like to live, work, play in Wahiawa, and the future freshwater park provides the opportunity to do just that.

Mahalo to everyone who came out and participated in the Community Charrette! Can't wait to see what the future holds.

Leilehua Complex Hosts 1st GenCyber Jr. Camp



In preparation for this year's homecoming game against Campell High School, I participated in the Mililani High School's Annual Homecoming Parade. I am pleased to inform you that the Mililani Trojans came out on top 52-14.

Kipapa Stream Bridge Rehabilitation Project

In the recent weeks, my office has been receiving increased calls about the Kipapa Stream Bridge Rehabilitation Project on Kamehameha Highway. Starting in 2017, the \$14.9 million project was funded with 80 percent federal and 20 percent state highways funds. Repairs were anticipated to be completed by early 2018; and road closures are continuing to affect traffic for Mililani residents.

To provide more information to the community, my office sent a letter to the Department of Transportation requesting for updates on the project. If I receive any updates between now and the next Board Meeting, please refer to my e-newsletters and Facebook page for updates.

Mililani Middle School Project Clears Environmental Process

Last September, the Mililani Middle School project to add additional classrooms cleared the environmental review process. Pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes, Chapter 343, new state projects must under go an environmental assessment. Only upon determining a "Finding of No Significant Impact," can projects proceed. I am pleased to announce that no significant impacts are anticipated from construction and use of the new classroom building located within the grounds of the adjacent community park.

The Department of Education is working with the City & County of Honolulu to begin construction. The estimated cost for design and construction for the new Mililani Middle School building is \$16.5 million, according to the DOE. Construction is set to start in the spring. The building is expected to be ready for students in the fall of 2021.

<http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/story/39163884/the-multi-track-schedule-at-mililani-middle-is-one-its-way-out-eventually/>