



# Senator Sharon Moriwaki

## Caring for Each Other

DISTRICT 12

Ala Moana, Kakaako,  
McCully, Sheridan,  
Waikiki

### HCDA amending Kakaako Makai Area Plan and Rules: Submit testimony BEFORE November 1



The Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) held community meetings and has completed a draft of the Proposed Amendments to the Makai [Plan](#) and [Rules](#). They have not been amended since 2005. The amendments will incorporate: (1) the Makai Conceptual Master Plan developed by over 100 stakeholders and adopted by HCDA in 2011, (2) Act 317(2006) prohibiting residential development, and (3) Act 221(2023) requiring design and siting of buildings to consider climate change, sea level rise and climate-resilient development. These amendments are long overdue and are a major step forward to assure careful and updated planning for Kakaako Makai.

Everyone who cares about the proper development of our Kakaako coastline should weigh in to support the amendments that conform the Plan and Rules to the master plan and law.

Please submit testimony prior to the presentation hearing on **November 1** –the earlier the better-- so the HCDA board members can have time to read your testimony. You can upload your testimony [here](#) or email to: [dbedt.hcda.contact@hawaii.gov](mailto:dbedt.hcda.contact@hawaii.gov). They also accept live oral testimony if you can attend the hearing. The HCDA will present its decision on the final amendments at its decision-making hearing on December 6, 2023. See the notice for both hearings [here](#).

### Addressing excessive noise at The Park construction site



Residents living in the neighborhood around the construction site of The Park condo being built at 825 Keeaumoku St. complained to our office about impermissible levels of noise early in the morning. Residents at The Belvedere, Liona Apartments, The Sandalwood, and Rycroft Terrace say that as early as 5am loud music, loud talking including foul language, equipment and lights are disrupting their sleep. They mentioned that they complained to the project manager of Nan, Inc., to no avail. Senator Moriwaki called

a meeting earlier this month along with Rep. Scott Nishimoto, bringing together with Nan, Inc. executives, area residents, and the Department of Health (DOH) to discuss permissible levels of noise. DOH indicated that the project has a variance for permissible level at 50 dB --which is at the level of persons talking to each other; otherwise, the construction noise is limited to the max permissible noise (nothing over 78 dB) from 7am-6pm on weekdays; 9am-6pm on Saturdays; and not permissible on Sundays and federal or state holidays. Nan, Inc. agreed to follow these rules and assure their subcontractors and workers will conform to the permissible noise levels and will also redirect floodlights to be less intrusive. We have a follow up meeting scheduled for Friday, October 27 and will keep you informed of their progress.

### My staff and I are here to *serve YOU!*

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#### Committees:

Labor & Technology (Chair), Health & Human Services, Ways and Means

Visit our website for community updates, events in the district, and other helpful resources at [senatormoriwaki.com](http://senatormoriwaki.com)

#### Helpful Staff:

Charles Izumoto, Office Manager  
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Venus Delos Santos, Community Liaison  
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## UH Cancer Center to host early phase clinical trials



The University of Hawaii Cancer Center located next to the John A. Burns School of Medicine in Kakaako hosted a status update and tour of their campus where several legislators and staff attended earlier this month. The Center, with its 300 research faculty and staff, aspires to achieve a 50% cancer mortality rate reduction by 2040. Currently the annual reduction rate is 2.3% but needs to be at 2.7% to achieve this goal. That is why the Center is adding early phase clinical trials building and staffing. Construction has begun and should be completed in 2025. Clinical trials test cutting-edge medical, surgical, or behavioral intervention. These trials are the primary way that researchers determine if a new form of treatment or prevention, such as a new drug, diet, or medical device, is safe and more effective than current treatment. The clinical program is important to Hawaii for several reasons: it removes the need to travel to the mainland for innovative treatment requiring patients to move for indefinite periods, provides our residents with access to cutting-edge treatments, and develops a robust health care industry. Additionally, since Hawaii is such a unique place with diverse peoples unlike the rest of the United States, the Cancer Center is being sought to conduct research on population samples not found elsewhere on the mainland. The National Cancer Institute (NCI) issues designations for centers that meet very high standards and our district has proudly hosted the NCI-designated UH Cancer Center - the only one in the Pacific - since 2013.

## Kolowalu Park update

Two Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) projects are in the works that will enhance our community: 1) a permanent crosswalk, pedestrian refuge island, and rapid flashing beacons will soon replace the temporary crosswalk, signage, and pedestrian island located on Queen Street at Kolowalu Park; and 2) an off-leash dog park with separated sections for "large" and "small" dogs at Kolowalu Park Mauka with lighting, water, benches and fences. Contractors have recently been selected for both projects. According to HCDA, construction will commence in 2023 and both projects should be completed in early 2024. HCDA is aware that residents are anxiously awaiting completion of both projects, and is working to expedite them. Thank you for your patience throughout this process.

## Governor announces nominees for two Supreme Court vacancies



Governor Josh Green on Monday announced the nominations of two nominees as Associate Justices to the Hawai'i Supreme Court. Associate Justice nominee **Lisa M. Ginoza** has served as Chief Judge of the State of Hawai'i Intermediate Court of Appeals for five of her 13 years with the appeals court. Ginoza also served as First Deputy Attorney General from 2005 to 2010, assisting the Attorney General in leading a department of more than 700 employees including 170 attorneys. In private practice, Chief Judge Ginoza worked for some of the top law firms in Honolulu overseeing various types of litigation and handled cases at all court levels. She received her Juris Doctor from the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. She also graduated from Kailua High School. Associate Justice nominee **Vladimir P. Devens** is principal at the Law Offices of Vladimir P. Devens, LLC and had been a partner at Meheula, Devens & Winer. He has litigated constitutional privacy right cases, and handled litigation involving child sexual abuse issues and numerous wrongful death cases. He represents several labor unions. He earned his Juris Doctor from the University of California, Berkeley School of Law. Following a six-year career with the Honolulu Police Department attaining the rank of Corporal, Devens remains a volunteer reserve police officer. Devens graduated from Kalani High School. The nominations are subject to confirmation by the State Senate. A special session for confirmation is tentatively planned for November 20-21.