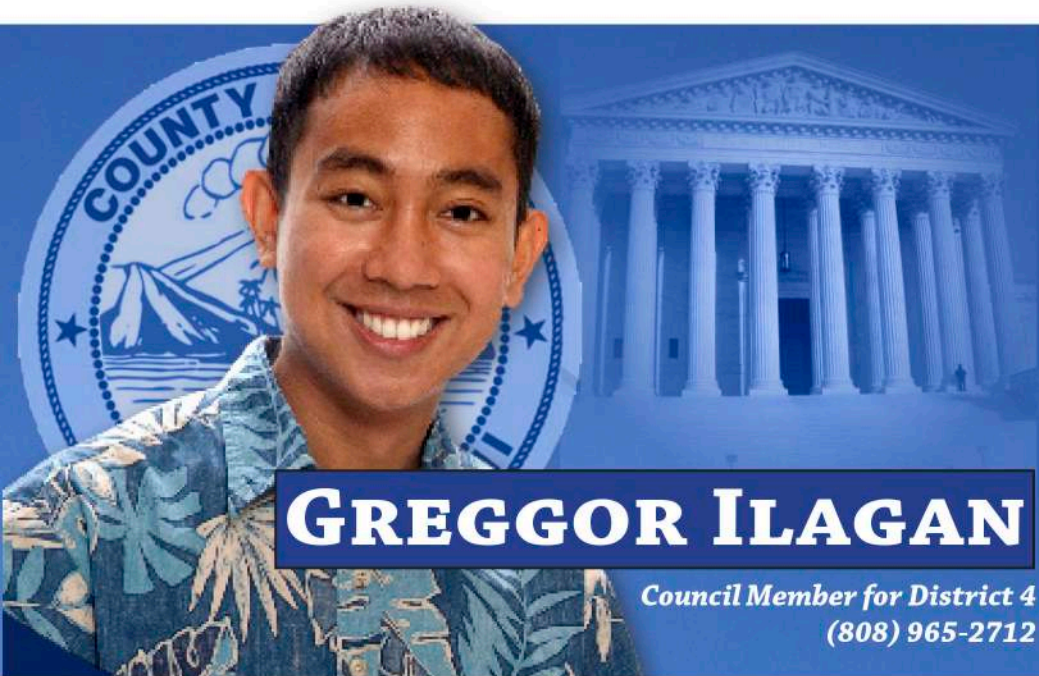


DISTRICT 4
Hawaiian Paradise Park, Hawaiian
Beaches, Makai of Pāhoa Town,
Nanawale Estates, Leilani Estates,
Pohoiki, Kapoho

greggor.ilagan@hawaiiicounty.gov
www.hawaiiicounty.gov/district4

“If you treat people right
they will treat you right...
ninety percent of the time.”

— Franklin D. Roosevelt



GREGGOR ILAGAN

Council Member for District 4
(808) 965-2712

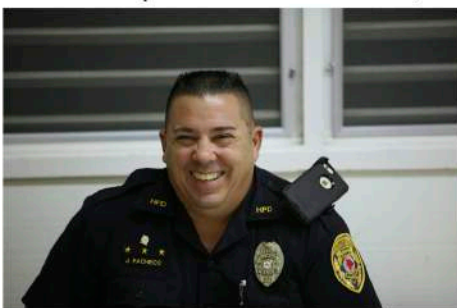
Neighborhood Watch Bill

Council Member Greggor Ilagan is working on a bill to encourage the formation of Neighborhood Watch programs.



A Puna Watch meeting with Neighborhood Watch members from all around Puna

Last May, \$15,000 in Council District 4 contingency funds were used to purchase supplies for Neighborhood Watch programs in Puna, including 100 signs. However, for various reasons the signs could not be installed. The current law, enacted in 1987, requires signs to be posted on public property, which is a problem in Puna. Also, no



Community Policing Officer James Pacheco attends a community meeting

signs may be posted unless 60 percent of homes within the boundaries of an area participate in the program.

The bill that is under development will attempt to solve these problems. It will allow signs to be purchased, constructed and installed on private roadways that are open to the public, including many private roads in Puna. It will give community policing officers a role in certifying that the neighborhood watch is active.



Detective Brandon Konanui informs watch members about drug use

Representatives of each of the Neighborhood Watches throughout Puna gather once a month in a “Puna Watch” meeting to share information and to coordinate their efforts. At the Feb. 4 meeting, attendees offered suggestions and unanimously supported the bill, which had been developed with input from the Police Department.

Aloha!

I hope you have had a productive February, because it blew by. However, the Puna community is resilient and the people continue to pull through during tough times. Even as the movement of the lava remains uncertain, stores are re-opening and the village of Pāhoa is returning to the way things used to be.

Toward the end of February, I attended the annual National Association of Counties Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. I participated in many workshops and met with dozens of elected officials. We discussed many issues regarding the federal government, the states and the counties. With the knowledge I gained from the conference, my team and I will be working in March on legislation that will help our County be better prepared for future disasters.

I appreciate you taking the time to hear from me. As your Council Member, I will continue to keep you informed about issues surrounding the community you elected me to serve.

Sincerely,

Greggor Ilagan

Greggor Ilagan
Council Member

Updates on Past Articles

Updates on topics covered in the January issue:



Invasive species - SB 591, an appropriation to cut Albizia trees along highways, is still advancing through the Legislature.

Highway 130 - Construction continues. In late February, the Department of Transportation opened a new permanent Hilo-bound lane to traffic and also opened a portion of the Pahoehoe-bound shoulder lane to traffic for the afternoon rush hour.

Puna ambulance - Two bills, SB 1016 and HB 851, are still advancing through the Legislature. The Council passed Greggor Ilagan's Resolution No. 70-15 in support of these bills at the Feb. 18 meeting.

Makalei ambulance - Two bills, SB 298 and HB 851, are still advancing through the Legislature. The Council passed Greggor Ilagan's Resolution No. 79-15 in support of these bills at the Feb. 18 meeting.



Geothermal drilling - Greggor Ilagan withdrew Res. No. 58-15, requesting that Puna Geothermal Venture comply with the County's nighttime drilling ban, during the Feb. 4 Council meeting. At the same meeting, the Council voted down Ilagan's Res. No. 59-15, requesting Corporation Counsel to take legal action to determine whether the nighttime drilling ban applies.

PLANNING

Pāhoehoe Village Design District

A community-led effort is working to establish the Pāhoehoe Village Design District to ensure that Pāhoehoe retains its rural charm.



Examples of old architecture in Pāhoehoe

Once established, the ordinances will guide the design of buildings located off Pāhoehoe Village Road and Post Office Road.

In line with the Puna Community Development Plan, Planning Department staff formed the Pāhoehoe Regional Town Center Plan Steering Committee in 2011 and have done extensive surveys throughout Puna to determine what people want to see in Pāhoehoe. Some 700 responses were recorded, and the one consistent message was: Preserve the village.

Many residents felt that some of the new developments that were coming in to Pahoehoe would forever change the character of the rural plantation village they once knew.

In 2014, the County Council passed a resolution (Res. No. 454-14) that adopted the design guidelines to give new developments the same look as

the historic section of the town. But because it is a resolution, the guidelines are voluntary. Approval of Bill 282 (establishment of the Pāhoehoe Village Design District and the Design Review Committee), Bill 283 (establishing a process for the review of development districts proposed within a special district) and Bill 291 (regulating signs in the Pāhoehoe Village Design District) will give those design guidelines the force of law.

Finally, after much behind-the-



The store fronts of Historic Pāhoehoe Village

scenes work and with favorable recommendations from the Windward and Leeward planning commissions, the bills were ready to be introduced to the Council's Planning Committee in late 2014. But an active lava flow was threatening to swallow the entire town, so the bills were shelved.

With the flow trending farther north and away from the center of Pāhoehoe, residents and merchants asked Council Member Greggor Ilagan, as Planning Committee Chair, to bring them forward. They sailed through the Feb. 17 Planning Committee meeting and will next be on the Council agendas on March 4 and March 18.



A drawing of a future commercial development in Pāhoehoe



In late February, the lava remains a mile or so from Highway 130

June 27th Lava Flow

Pāhoa lives – despite the certainty that the village was on the brink, against all odds, it exists.

With one wary eye on the eruption that continues to broaden the flow field and continues to threaten Highway 130, residents, businesses and visitors to Puna continue to count their small blessings. Among them:

- The imminent reopening of Apa'a Street and the Pāhoa Transfer Station
- The reopening of Malama Market and the Malama Gas N Go, targeted for March 18.
- The reopening of Lex Brodie's Tires, Long's Drugs, Ace Hardware, SuperCuts, and Subway
- All the businesses that have considered the risk and have decided to stay open for the people of Puna.

At the end of February the flow remains active about a mile from Highway 130. Civil Defense continues its daily over-flights, and the public will be kept informed of any changes.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Kalani Honua market

When Tropical Storm Iselle struck Puna last August, Kalani Honua answered. The nonprofit retreat and wellness center off Highway 137 threw open its doors to the Hawai'i County Civil Defense Agency as a supply depot and relief center for ice, water and food.

At the same time, there have been calls over the years for a market in the underserved area. Kalani, now entering its 40th year, always had a long-term plan to establish a market on its 120-acre property, but the threat of lava crossing Highway 130

forced an acceleration of those plans.

As a result, the management team is planning to convert the building at its entrance into The Market at Kalani to serve the people of Puna makai. The market will also be able to serve as a disaster relief center. A fundraising drive is under way and Kalani is working with the Planning Director to amend the special use permit.



A drawing of The Kalani Honua Market

The market will sell prepared foods, hot and cold foods and the basic household staples. Kalani can use its bulk buying power to get people a good deal. LJ Bates III, the executive director, says the buying club will be a nominal membership fee that will be assessed upon every visit to The Market, or through an annual membership, "which saves you much more money." Customers

would pre-order from a distributor such as Costco or Suisan, and the items would be delivered to Kalani two weeks later. "As we supported our community so heavily during natural events, we want to be ready to do that every single time," Bates said. "And at our present situation we are not prepared. With a marketplace like this we will be."



Digital diagram of The Kalani Honua Market

Food Safety Modernization Act

In his meeting with Council Member Greggor Ilagan in Honolulu in January, Board of Agriculture Chairman Scott Enright shared the concerns that farmers will be facing as a result of the most comprehensive overhaul of food safety legislation in 70 years.

Signed into law by President Obama on Jan. 4, 2011, the Food Modernization Safety Act (FSMA) aims to ensure the safety of the U.S. food supply by shifting the focus from responding to contamination to preventing it.



A papaya tree from a small farm

The law grants the Food and Drug Administration new authority to ensure the safety of the food supply, including the ability to issue a mandatory recall for all food products if necessary, among many other things that will require some farmers on Hawai'i Island to restructure many aspects of how they operate and to provide additional documentation of their work.

“Farmers are affected by what the government does, and also they are affected by what the government does not do.”

—Councilman Ilagan

The FDA is currently developing new rules and regulations that govern the growing, packing and processing of food nationwide. The Hawai'i Department of Agriculture expects that the rules will result in significant impacts on Hawai'i agriculturalists, particularly those with small farms who are unable to make the investment to bring their facilities into compliance.



A tomato plant at a local farm



Sign-up

Hawai'i County Civil Defense Alerts and Notifications Self Enrollment.

Go to the following website:
www.hawaiicounty.gov/civil-defense/

808-935-0031
civil_defense@hawaiicounty.gov

Ilagan will shortly be proposing an ad hoc committee of council members to look into what the requirements of FSMA will mean for Hawai'i County's farmers and other stakeholders, and how they are preparing for its implementation.

“Farmers are affected by what the government does, and also they are affected by what the government does not do,” said Ilagan.

Adequate Disclosure for SuperPAC

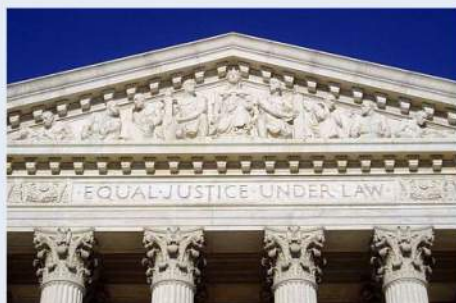
Council Member Greggor Ilagan is in support of two bills moving through the Legislature that will increase transparency in campaign spending.

In the coming weeks he will be introducing a resolution in support of Senate Bill 1344 and its companion legislation, House Bill 1491. Both bills were still alive at the end of February, and moving through their respective committees.

The legislation is needed because of the Supreme Court's decision in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission, which has led to the

explosive growth of Super Political Action Committees (“SuperPACs”) and millions of dollars of untraceable campaign contributions.

Current campaign finance laws do not



“Equal justice under law” is engraved on the facade of the Supreme Court building

allow adequate disclosure, as one SuperPAC will donate to another with no real names attached to the donation.

HB 1491, as amended by the House Judiciary Committee, will require additional reporting requirements by a SuperPAC if a contribution of more than \$10,000 is received. Among other things, the disclosure must state the name, address, occupation and employer of any funding source of \$100 or more since the last election.

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