

SENATOR BRICKWOOD GALUTERIA

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APEC 2011 Hawaiian Cultural Initiatives

As Chairman of the Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, I held a meeting to discuss the inclusion of Hawaiian Culture that is to be implemented during the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation this November. I am pleased to report that the APEC Host Committee Hawaiian Culture sub-committee headed by Corbett Kalama has led a tremendous mission in putting Hawaiian Culture on the world's stage.

Due to the momentous occasion of APEC, the Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association was created so that staff and volunteers will be well-versed in Hawaiian culture as it applies to the visitor industry. Going forward, the association will serve as training modules that will be used for future educational efforts.

Another example of the inclusion of Hawaiian culture is the Asia-Pacific Business Symposium which will be held in conjunction with APEC 2011 Leader's Week. The Symposium will feature an indigenous cultural workshop that will center on Hawai'i's best practices in a communal setting focusing on sustainability in housing, food and economics and utilizing the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands as a case study.

The Hawaiian Culture sub-committee has overseen the integration of cultural education, cultural practices and protocol in Hawai'i Host Committee initiatives and events, such as the airport arrival and departure experience; receptions and events; signage in both English and Hawaiian; and many of the Host Committee marking initiatives.

Asia Pacific Clean Energy Summit and Expo

During September, the Honolulu Convention Center hosted the Asia Pacific Clean Energy Summit and Expo. World renowned speakers came to share insight on: international and domestic public policy affecting the renewable energy field; outlook of market demand for renewable energy technology domestically and in the Asia Pacific region; emerging industry development, economics, and competition of renewable projects in a global economy; latest renewable energy technologies and energy efficiency developments including market demand projections; and, financing and investment opportunities.

The Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative aims to transform Hawaii into a world model for energy interdependence and sustainability. The goal is to meet 70% of Hawaii's needs with clean energy by 2030.

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WHAT A DIVERSE COMMUNITY!

Hilo Visits

On Tuesday, September 27th, I accompanied the Tourism Committee Chair Donna Mercado Kim (Moanalua, Aiea, Fort Shafter, Kalihi Valley, Halawa Valley), fellow Senator Gil Kahele (Kau, Puna, Hilo), Representative Faye Hahohano (Puna, Pahoa, Hawaiian Acres, Kalapana) to Hilo to meet with Big Island business and tourism officials to start identifying underlying issues effecting the tourism industry in the area. The lack of high-end lodging on Banyan Drive and the need for more direct flights from Hilo to the mainland and across the Pacific Rim were among the issues discussed.



The following day, Senator Pohai Ryan (Hawaii Kai, Waimanalo, Keolu Hills, Lanikai, Kailua) joined us, along with OHA Trustee Robert Lindsey and DHHL Commissioner Kama Hopkins as the Hawaiian Affairs Committee visited Hawaiian Charter Schools, Native Hawaiian businesses, and the Imiloa Astronomy Center.

2010 Census Data Available

Also on Tuesday, September 27th, my staff attended a workshop on the U.S. Census Bureau's newly updated American Fact Finder online service which is a helpful tool for extracting 2010 census data. Visit www.factfinder2.census.gov to learn more about it.

Envision A "Cultural Corridor"

The adoption of Senate Concurrent Resolution 130 during the last legislative session established a working group to explore the feasibility of relocating the Department of Education's Office of School Facilities and Support Services from the Academy of Arts' Academy Art Center so that the space can be repurposed for use as an art resource center for teachers.

Since June of this year, there have been monthly stakeholder meetings, the latest of which was held on September 21st. Those in attendance were divided into three smaller groups for brainstorming on a vision for Thomas Square and for the Academy Art Center as a Department of Education art resource center. Part of the visioning process has included discussions on turning the area into a "cultural corridor" with Thomas Square, the Academy of Arts, and the Academy Art Center as anchors. I encourage those of you who share this vision to attend future stakeholder meetings. To get on the mailing list, please contact my office.

Honolulu Farmers Market

The Honolulu Farmers Market is held every Wednesday from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Blaisdell Center Concert Hall lawn. As one of several farmers markets run by the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFBF), this market requires that vendors sell only Hawaii-grown or Hawaii-produced products. Similar to the Kapiolani Community College (KCC) Farmers Market, also run by HFBF, the Honolulu Farmers Market features a wide array of local produce, proteins, potted plants, and prepared foods, as well as entertainment by local musicians, which adds to the festive ambiance commonly associated with the KCC Farmers Market.

However, unlike the KCC Farmers Market, the Honolulu Farmers Market, also referred to as the Blaisdell Market, is not overly crowded, and parking is easy to find. Just be sure to tell the parking gate attendant that you are going to the farmers market. For more information and the weekly tip sheet, visit <http://hfbf.org/markets/markets/honolulu/>.

