



## On the calendar

### Nov 5

The next HCDA Board meetings will be held. For more information about HCDA, the public hearings or board meetings visit <https://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hcda/>.

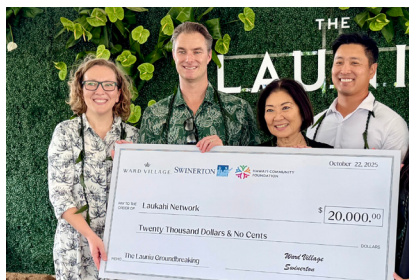
### State Holidays

The HCDA office will be closed:

Tuesday, Nov. 11 - Veterans' Day  
Thursday, Nov. 27 - Thanksgiving  
Thursday, Dec. 25 - Christmas  
Thursday, Jan 1 - New Year's Day



Launiu artist rendering.  
Courtesy of Ward Villages.



Event photos courtesy of Laura Mo.



## Community Impact of the Launiu Development Project

At a groundbreaking ceremony on October 22, Kumu Hula Hina Wong-Kalu joined the Howard Hughes team and guests in offering respects and mahalo to the ancestors of the area, followed by a blessing of the place, project, and people.

"In just a few years, this site of a former bank branch is on its way to becoming nearly 500 homes," said Doug Johnstone, president of the Hawai'i region of Howard Hughes.

Located at the gateway to Kaka'ako, Ala Moana Boulevard and Ward Avenue, the Launiu will feature one residential tower with condominium homes ranging from studios to three-bedroom residences and about 20,000 square feet of retail shops, restaurants, and outdoor dining, along Ward Avenue.

This project is steps from the Victoria Ward Makai Park, the pedestrian bridge and Ala Moana Beach Park, yet just minutes from downtown Honolulu, supporting the state's long-term vision for a walkable, mixed-use urban district that encourages connectivity, sustainability and public access to open space.

Just mauka of the project, a new public plaza will invite families to gather outdoors, whether to picnic, play, bike, or stroll, creating connections throughout Kaka'ako and contributing to a vibrant, active community space.

In the future, new jobs will be created to maintain and operate the Launiu and its retail spaces.

Behind the scenes, years of planning have been in the works with an extensive network

of contractors, engineers, suppliers and skilled professionals collaborating daily to turn plans into reality.

Currently, the economic impact from this development has created 565 jobs from 2022 through 2028, with approximately \$233 million in workers' earnings, \$42 million in state tax revenue and an estimated total of \$691 million in direct and indirect construction output.

In celebration of this milestone, Howard Hughes partnered with Swinerton Construction Company to make donations to two local organizations that contribute significantly to the community.

Among the honored recipients receiving a check for \$20,000 were Laukahi – the Hawai'i Plant Conservation Network, a voluntary alliance of agencies, organizations and individuals dedicated to protecting Hawai'i's rare plant species. Through conservation initiatives and the development of a statewide plant conservation strategy, Laukahi's work complements ongoing efforts to enhance streetscapes, parks and landscaping throughout the area.

Also honored was the Downtown Art Center, a dynamic community hub in downtown Honolulu. The center combines arts and cultural organizations with educational programs and activities for all ages, fostering opportunities for residents to engage with and appreciate the arts.

These small but mighty island organizations reflect a shared commitment to fostering vibrant, connected and enriched communities.

"We're really excited about what's going to come here in the future," said Johnstone. "And I just want to extend heartfelt appreciation for all the hard work and many hands that are making this happen."

## Fiddler's Closing

"After 70 incredible years, we're saying goodbye," said Liz Fiddler, who owns and operates Fiddlers Decorative Plumbing and Hardware together with her mother, Denise and brother Will, in Kaka'ako.

Hawai'i's first exclusive decorative hardware and plumbing showroom, Fiddler's was established in 1955. A family business built on craftsmanship, service, and island-smart design.

"With full hearts and deep gratitude, we announce the closing of our doors after 70 unforgettable years in business," said Liz. "From generation to generation, you've supported us and helped us grow a legacy we are immensely proud of. Whether you stopped by once or have been with

us since the beginning, thank you. We're honored to have served you.

"We are having a liquidation sale on all our remaining inventory with everything 50% off. Our last day of operation will be October 31st.

"Thank you for welcoming us into your homes, your projects, and your lives for 70 wonderful years."

The family has opted to step away from their business lease early to devote time to caring for a cherished family member.

Visit their showroom and explore the selection of cabinet hardware, fixtures and expert advice, all under one roof in Honolulu, at 610 Ward Ave, Suite B. Hours from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.



## TOD and the rail in Kaka'ako

Phase 2 of the Skyline opened on October 16, and the rail now travels nearly 16 miles from East Kapolei to the Middle Street Transit Center, with important stops at Daniel K. Inouye International Airport and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

In Kaka'ako, HART recently broke ground on phase 3, extending rail into central Honolulu, culminating in the future Civic Center (Ka'ākaukui) Station, near Halekauwila and South Streets.

Phase 3 includes three miles of elevated guideway, supporting infrastructure and six stations at Kalihi, Honolulu Community College-Kapālama, Iwilei, Chinatown, Downtown, and Civic Center in Kaka'ako.

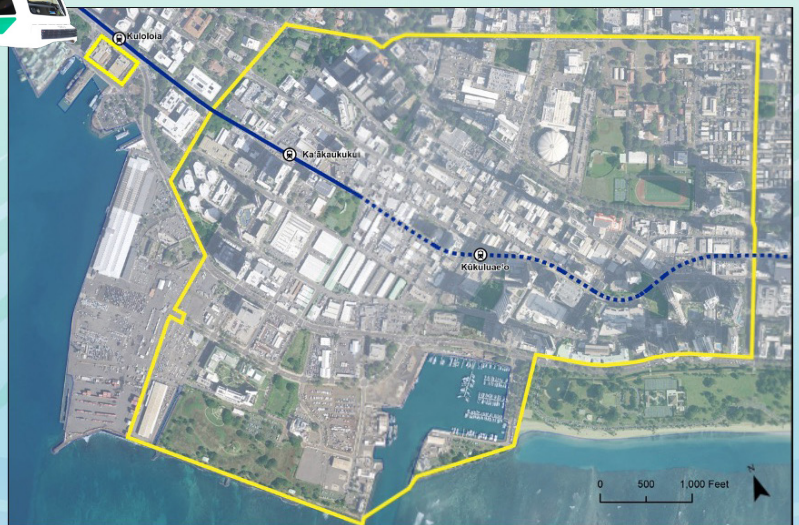
Meanwhile, to align Honolulu's growth with its investment in rail, HCDA's Mauka and Makai Area Plans and Rules serve as a guide and vision for Kaka'ako - establishing a framework for pedestrian-friendly, transit-oriented development and transit ridership growth through coordinated land use, design and transportation strategies.

The development of these plans and rules each began with community outreach to gather public input and ensure stakeholder engagement, including public meetings, collecting comments, and consulting with government agencies and community organizations.

Community feedback, relative to future rail, guides priorities such as more compact, walkable development that encourages transit ridership, which in turn supports denser,



### Kaka'ako



vibrant neighborhoods.

The goal is to increase mixed uses and density in certain developments and improve connectivity around future stations. However, full realization of TOD goals depends on completing the rail project, supportive infrastructure, affordability policies and community support.

As we continue to work toward building better communities, we welcome public input via surveys and outreach, the HCDA website - where comments and testimony can be submitted, by email or in person at board meetings.

For more information and the schedule of upcoming board meetings, visit <https://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hcda>.

