#### OCTOBER 23, 2020

# DLNR AND HOMELESSNESS

## HOMELESSNESS IN HAWAII (2005-2020)



### **OVERVIEW OF DLNR EFFORTS STATEWIDE**

Proactively respond by providing land for shelters and housing in every county.



Hale Hanakahi – Hilo (Opened April 2020)



Kealaula at Pua Loke –Lihue (Opening October 2020)

#### **PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY DLNR LANDS**



Kukuiola (Village 9) – Kona (Opening early 2021) Hale Mauliola – Honolulu (Opened in 2015) Kahauiki Village– Honolulu (Opened in 2018)

HONU/POST – Honolulu (Opened in 2020)

#### **OVERVIEW OF DLNR EFFORTS STATEWIDE**

 At the beginning of the COVID crisis
DOBOR opened
its restrooms at
the request of the
Governor's
coordinator on
homelessness and
Hui Aloha.



### **OVERVIEW OF DLNR EFFORTS STATEWIDE**

 Following CDC guidance regarding encampments, and sharing information about COVID-19 testing information.



INFORMATION REGARDING COVID 19 TESTING 9/1/2020

There has been one person in the Diamond Head area who tested positive for COVID-19. If you would like to get tested you can:

- A. Call the 24 hour CARES hotline at 832-2100 for testing information and information about isolation or quarantine options.
- B. Call the 24 hour POST intake line at **768-4668** to go to the POST at Keehi Lagoon where you can get tested as part of their entrance screening process. The POST will be able to provide transportation to their site.
- C. HPD headquarters is offering walk in testing on their lawn. (nearest testing to DH)
- D. If you have access to a car, Testing in Harano Tunnel (H-3) is available today (9/1/2020) from 9-2 and on Thursday, Sept 3, from 9-2.

If you feel sick, go to the nearest Emergency room. CDC Guidance also encourages homeless persons to seek a shelter facility.

# OVERVIEW OF DLNR EFFORTS STATEWIDE

 Chair's office and other DLNR staff (e.g. Harbor Masters, DOCARE Officers, etc.) developed partnerships with other agencies and services for better outreach to homeless individuals on DLNR lands.



## LAND SEARCHES-LAND DIVISION

- At the request of legislators and the Lieutenant Governor Land Division has looked at multiple parcels of land, multiple times.
- Have provided ROE to Home Aid to do due diligence at:
  - Parcel on Nimitz, also removed DLNR storage containers to another site at own expense.
  - Parcel in Waimanalo
- Most homeless properties need:
  - Flat, non-flood prone land
  - Existing infrastructure and public Transportation
  - DLNR does not currently have unencumbered parcels that fulfill this need



### **DOCARE – TRAINING TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS**

To better prepare staff to address Homelessness staff are now trained:

- On Homeless 101, brief synopsis of laws and requirements in Hawaii
- 2) Recognizing people with Mental Health Issues and what to do
- 3) M-1 procedures when a person meets the criteria for involuntary psychiatric evaluation (DOCARE will have access to Mental Health Evaluation Worker through a DOH program)



#### MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES-LAND DIVISION

- Waimanalo example
  - Unauthorized encampment on unencumbered land
  - Numerous Issues to resolve
    - Flood zone impact on NFIP
    - DOH Wastewater NOV to DLNR
    - Use inconsistent with State/County zoning
    - No compliance with Chapter 343, HRS
    - No disposition from DLNR









#### MANAGEMENT ISSUES-DOCARE

- Has become number one issue at the cost of addressing other resource issues.
- Trespass citations are thrown out of the courts.
- Further taxes already depleted force.
- More Hard-core criminal activities such as drugrings, burglary.

#### MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES -DOFAW

- Problem Issues:
  - Potential for wildfires—example, Wa'ahila
  - Potential damages to watersheds or important forestry products
  - Potential damages to wildlife, such as endangered birds
  - Potential damages to important cultural resources
  - Problem Areas: Wa'ahila, Kanaha Pond (Maui), Kawainui Marsh



#### MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES -DOBOR

- All bathrooms were vandalized and subsequently closed until repairs could be made. The total cost for vandalism across all islands was approximately \$88,630.00.
- Potential pollution hazard due to numerous items being stored illegally in the facilities.
- Facilities require 24-hour monitoring due to the increases in drug use, theft, and illegal storage.
- People illegally entering and living on unoccupied boats in the facilities.
- Increased numbers of individuals living in vehicles parked in the facilities.



#### MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES-STATE PARKS

- Fires & smoke adjacent to residential areas: Wa'ahila SRA, Diamond Head SM.
- Rubbish and human waste adjacent to the shoreline: Sand Island
- Vandalism and burglary happen and impact recreation: DHSM, Sand Island SRA(canoe clubs impacts,/closure of a BMX course)
- Damage to a geological feature-Diamond Head

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Damage to historical sites—Kapena Falls State Park



# MANAGEMENT ISSUES-ALL

- Cleaning up the mess on our lands is costly, time consuming
- Legislature provides funding to DOT for a contract with HTM who cleans up all state lands.
- It would be much more difficult to manage our lands without this funding.
- Still need DOCARE to accompany crew.

## SOLUTIONS?

- Close some areas-Kapena
- Privatize some of the harbors
- Activation of underused areas through such things as urban forestry, more public involvement:
  - Diamond Head