



A Report to the People of Hawai‘i from Governor David Y. Ige

Taking action in 2016 to move forward in 2017

A future-focused public school system. A strong, innovation-driven economy. Living wage jobs fueled by local talent. A chance for our children to live in a sustainable Hawai‘i — in housing they can afford. In the second year of our administration, we’ve accomplished much to move our shared vision forward. This report includes **10** of the ways we’re making progress— with actions, not just words — now and for future generations.

David Y. Ige
Governor David Y. Ige

1 BUILDING MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING

- More housing units for local residents** - Lack of affordable housing affects many families trying to make ends meet. That’s why increasing production in this area is a top priority for my administration, and our efforts are paying off. We’ve set aside \$180 million in private activity bonds to develop more than 2,600 affordable rental units. This is more than double what was invested in the past. We also worked with the Legislature to improve financing tools and obtain \$100 million to support development of affordable housing. The housing supply in Kaka‘ako increased by 2,260 units (44 percent of them affordable) with more units planned.



- Planning launched for a new future in Kalihi** - The Kalihi 21st Century Vision Team, a group of dedicated community leaders, is shaping a vision based on “smart growth,” the possible relocation of the O‘ahu Community Correctional Center (OCCC) and planned rail transit stations. A draft will be available for more community input in 2017.

- More homestead lots for Native Hawaiian families** – This year 444 lots were prepared for house construction by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL). In the fall, dozens of families chose lots in two Waimānalo subdivisions. DHHL also delivered nearly 100 affordable housing opportunities on Hawaiian Home Lands statewide through public-private partnerships with self-help housing organizations, private developers and others.



PROJECTS COMING ONLINE: (top) Gov. Ige and developers break ground at Keauhou Lane, an affordable rental project. (above) A happy family with DHHL director Jobie Masagatani (left) in Waimānalo.

2 REDUCING HOMELESSNESS WITH NEW APPROACHES

- Focused efforts produce results** - Focusing our efforts to make sure the right kinds of services get to the people who need it most has been a goal of my administration, and we’re seeing results. Statewide, over 5,000 people have transitioned off the streets or maintained their housing — a more than 50 percent increase over last year. \$12 million from the 2016 state Legislature is being deployed for health and human services, public safety, and data gathering — with half of the Housing First resources going to the neighbor islands.

- Kaka‘ako homeless population reduced** - More than 290 homeless people from the area were placed into shelters or housing. A new Family Assessment Center, focused on homeless families with children, opened in September 2016 and is connecting families to housing and other services in 90 days or less. The first family was placed into permanent housing in 21 days.

Ige team approach to homelessness saves families, vets



Patricia (right) and her family received one-time state aid to prevent them from becoming homeless. As a Salvation Army volunteer, she welcomes a donation from Gordon Choy.

• **Hundreds of at-risk families helped through A UW partnership** – I think we must find better ways to help homeless families, the elderly and veterans living on our streets. That’s why we launched this public-private partnership between the state Department of Human Services and Aloha United Way. So far, 3,410 people have received financial help — many of whom were just one paycheck away from homelessness.” This partnership is having a “huge, huge impact,” said Maj. Mark Gilden

Gilden of the Salvation Army. “It shows how just a little bit of help now can prevent a huge mess later.”

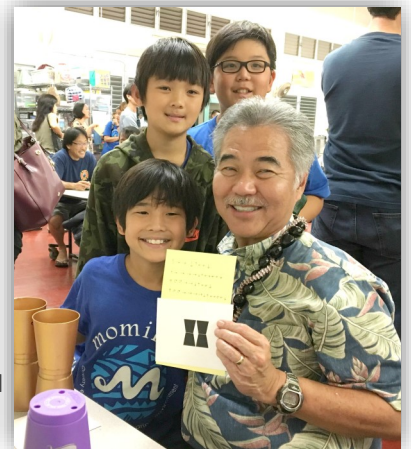
• **First Landlord Summits held** - A new partnership between the Hawai’i Association of Realtors and the governor’s office is encouraging apartment owners to rent to low-income families and those who are homeless.

• **More public housing units available** - A new “extreme makeover,” multi-skilled team approach is renovating public housing units faster.

3 TRANSFORMING EDUCATION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

• **New Blueprint for empowered schools and student success** – The most important way we move Hawai’i forward and secure a bright future is to reform our education system. I formed the Every Student Succeeds Act Team with the goal of creating one of the nation’s best school systems. This means going beyond test scores and a one-size-fits-all approach to creating future-focused, empowered school communities where decisions are made by those closest to the children. We have also committed more education dollars directly into the classroom than any previous administration.

• **Continuing efforts to cool classrooms** – No one is more frustrated than I am at the pace of our efforts to cool the schools, but we will keep moving forward. Thanks to \$100 million in funding from the Legislature and continued energy-efficient efforts, the DOE has reported that cooling projects covering 832 classrooms are currently out for bid with the rest to go out over the next few months.



Momilani Elementary School students and Governor Ige at the ‘Everyone Can Code’ event.

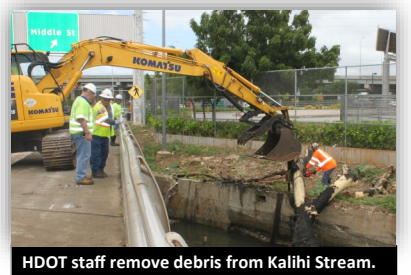
• **More UH students graduating on time** – A record number of students are earning undergraduate degrees within four years, according to recent University of Hawai’i at Mānoa reports. Officials credit a decade of initiatives to better support student success. Also, more Hawai’i high school students are getting a headstart on college courses offered on their campuses, thanks to a dual credit program with the UH system, the DOE and P-20 Partnerships. UH’s contributions to the innovation economy keep growing through systemwide efforts to advance cybersecurity education, research and community awareness for high-quality jobs.



A proud 2016 UH graduate at commencement.

4 MOVING FORWARD ON TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION

• **Listening to community input, then leading** - As governor, I want to listen to people’s concerns, then make decisions in the best interest of the community. For instance, when one Maui community had a better plan than the state for dealing with highway damage and ocean erosion, we listened to their concerns and implemented it. And when commuters in Central O’ahu asked that hours for travel in the shoulder lane be extended, the Hawai’i Department of Transportation (HDOT) implemented that, too.



HDOT staff remove debris from Kalihi Stream.

• **More improvements to improve traffic congestion** - HDOT made improvements to add a second lane for drivers from the H-1/H-2 merge to the Pearl Harbor area and created a Nanakuli contraflow to help drivers move through bottlenecks. It also adjusted High Occupancy Vehicle lane hours throughout O’ahu to match traffic patterns and boost efficiency.

• **Modernizing airports and harbors** - Major improvements by the HDOT harbors division have led to better handling of cargo and imported goods critical to Hawai’i residents. The Ige administration’s leadership in encouraging more public-private partnerships has resulted in major improvements at Honolulu International Airport for visitors, businesses and local residents.

5 Growing a strong economy — now and for the future

- **Building on record tourism and international business development** – The Ige administration and the U.S. Customs and Border Protection have reestablished a Federal Inspection Service facility at the **Kona International Airport** to bring more global travelers to the state. The result will be millions of dollars in tax revenue and visitor spending to boost our economy and create jobs. We'll also continue **Hawai'i's leadership role in the Asia-Pacific region** by expanding international trade, student exchange programs, clean energy agreements and military support.



Japanese tourists arrive on inaugural flight to Kona International Airport.



Local startup Hobnob raised \$2.25 million from investors.

- **Bigger investment in innovation for higher-wage jobs** – This includes everything from STEM education in the DOE and UH for tech-based careers to the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism's efforts to promote small business and entrepreneurship development, startup investments and the state's **HI Growth Initiative**. The Office of Enterprise Technology Services also organized the first **Hawai'i Annual Code Challenge**, in which teams of citizen coders devised computer solutions to improve government services and showcase our local talent.

6 PROTECTING HAWAI'I'S ENVIRONMENT AND CULTURAL RESOURCES



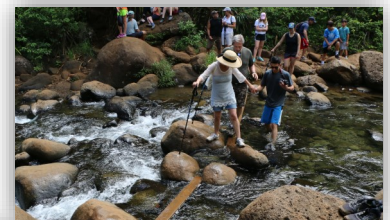
Gov. Ige at IUCN Congress.

- **Developed the Governor's Sustainable Hawai'i Initiative** – I believe it is our responsibility, our kuleana, to preserve our land for the next generation. That's why we've developed this initiative, which sets goals to protect our watersheds and ocean waters, double our local food production, control invasive species and develop a clean energy future. The Ige administration has protected over 40,000 acres of watershed forests on Kaua'i, O'ahu, Moloka'i and Hawai'i islands and helped preserve lands at Turtle Bay.

- **Stewarding Natural Resources Mauka to Makai** - The Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) and the Department of Agriculture worked closely with public and private partners to contain the spread of Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death on Hawai'i Island, protect forested watersheds and manage nearshore waters. DLNR also produced the first guide for a streamlined permitting process to restore and maintain Hawaiian fishponds.

- **Emphasizing public access to state parks** - DLNR provided significant improvements and clean-up for Makapu'u Lighthouse and Kalalau Valley to ensure all people can enjoy these areas safely. At Kalalau, tons of rubbish is airlifted out of the area on a monthly basis and long-term illegal campsites are being dismantled.

- **Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument expanded** - Last fall, President Barack Obama created the world's largest marine sanctuary in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands — preserving fish, wildlife and cultural resources for generations to come. The Ige administration also initiated the request to make the **Office of Hawaiian Affairs** a co-trustee — a designation OHA had sought for years.



(top) DLNR works to provide safe access to state parks. (above) Lalakea Foundation dancers build cultural pride.

7 EXPANDING AGRICULTURE: Growing local, buying local



Maui farmer Heidi Watanabe talks story with the governor.

- **Agriculture expanded statewide** – Making Hawai'i more self-sufficient and food secure is one of my top concerns. That's why we have a plan in place to double local food production by 2020 with the state purchase of farmlands, programs that offer more support to farmers and incentives to grow organic and create business incubators to help encourage a new generation of farmers.

- **State's first Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan developed** – Combatting invasive species is a big part of expanding agriculture. That's why the Ige administration has created a comprehensive, 10-year biosecurity plan to protect the state from the impacts of invasive plants and animals. Government agencies and community partners will coordinate efforts, including new challenges due to climate change.

8 IMPROVING HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- **Protecting the public with an aggressive “Fight the Bite” campaign** – The Department of Health (DOH) worked closely with other state and federal agencies to effectively deploy strategies that controlled mosquito-borne diseases such as dengue fever and Zika.

- **Demolition makes way for new Hawai‘i State Hospital facility** – Mental illness can lead to challenges in the community. The Ige administration secured a \$160 million legislative appropriation to build an improved facility for patients, employees and community safety.



DOH director Dr. Virginia Pressler, Sen. Jill Tokuda and others mark progress.

- **New ‘Ohana Nui’ approach to create a healthier Hawai‘i** – The Ige administration has placed a high priority on making Hawai‘i healthier — from keiki to kupuna. The departments of Human Services and Health are taking a multi-generational approach by providing better nutrition options, expanded preschool opportunities, and substance abuse screening for pregnant women. Also, thanks to our efforts, Hawai‘i was the first state to raise the smoking age to 21 to reduce tobacco use among youth.

9 BUILDING A BETTER ENERGY and CONSUMER FUTURE



Solar power — one of several clean energy options.

- **Progress made on clean energy goals** – I have made the goal of generating 100 percent of electricity from clean energy sources by 2045 a key part of my administration’s policies. In 2016, Hawai‘i made tremendous strides in reducing its dependence on fossil fuels with the state getting 25 percent of its electricity from renewable sources. We also signed a historic agreement with the Navy to advance clean energy opportunities.

- **High marks earned by DCCA, Office of Consumer Protection** – Hawai‘i was among the top three states — along with New Hampshire and Oregon — awarded a “Gold Star” from Truth in Advertising, Inc. for having open, accessible information for consumers.

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs’ (DCCA) director’s office published a “Consumer Guide to Healthcare Providers” to help residents understand issues. Joint efforts by the state Attorney General and the Office of Consumer Protection resulted in thousands of dollars in settlements to the state by Volkswagen Group and Sprint and Verizon, among others.

10 MANAGING BETTER, SMARTER: Saving dollars, improving services

- **Improved state bond rating to save millions** – Responsible management of precious tax dollars is key to putting the state back on a sound financial footing. The Ige administration’s long-term strategy of managing resources wisely led to the highest overall credit rating and positive outlook in the state’s bond sale history. This strong financial credit helps save taxpayers millions of dollars in future debt service payments and lowers the costs to finance public construction and repair projects such as schools and hospitals. Also, restructuring our payments for the health and pension funds for public workers will save more than \$1 billion over the next 20 years.

- **Tax System Modernization (TSM) Project to improve efficiency** – The first two phases of the new TSM project, one of my priorities, have resulted in greater transparency and accessibility for taxpayers through E-Services on the department’s website and improved services by adding a taxpayer advocate and other staff.

- **State going “paperless” to improve services** – The Ige administration is moving state government into the 21st century by reducing paper, increasing efficiency and providing more public access. These efforts range from upgraded websites and e-Signing to modernizing the state’s paper-based payroll system and digitizing precious historical documents. Hawai‘i is leading the nation in modern electronic signature capability. In the State Archives, approximately 350,000 records are now accessible online, and departments such as DLNR’s State Bureau of Conveyances are digitizing 170 years of vital documents and land records.



Vital records being digitally preserved.

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