



**Trish LACHICA**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE • DISTRICT 37  
MILILANI • WAIPI'O GENTRY • KOA RIDGE



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SCAN ME



**Dear Neighbors,**

The 2025 legislative session has officially wrapped up, and I'm proud to share what we've accomplished together.

**Several of my bills and priorities**—many shaped directly by your input—passed both chambers and are now **awaiting Governor's signature**. These include efforts to expand preschool access, make school meals free for more families, and improve student transportation options across the state.

Looking ahead, we're holding dates for special session to **protect the critical services** our families and communities rely on, as we respond to ongoing federal cuts.

While we stay vigilant, it's also important to **celebrate our wins** — made possible thanks to your advocacy and engagement this year.

In this newsletter, you'll find highlights of our district's progress—including new investments in schools and facilities, roadway safety projects, and enforcement efforts with HPD. Mahalo for staying engaged—it's an honor to continue serving you.

**With warmest aloha,**

*Trish* ❤️

**Trish La Chica**

Representative, House District 37  
Assistant Majority Floor Leader  
Vice Chair, Committee on Education



## 🚨 CRACKING DOWN ON DANGEROUS DRIVING 🚨

From March-April, I worked closely with **Major James Slayter**, head of the Honolulu Police Department's Traffic Division, to conduct targeted operations on **Meheula Parkway** and **Kamehameha Highway**—in response to serious concerns about speeding, reckless driving, and illegal racing. Although Meheula Parkway isn't typically part of Traffic Division's patrol zone, Major Slayter deployed HPD's Solo Bike and Night Enforcement Units to support local patrols.



## ENFORCEMENT RESULTS

### MEHEULA PARKWAY:

**30** Speeding Citations  
**15** Cellphone Violations  
**28** Other Violations  
(red light, no insurance, no booster seat, etc.)

### KAM HIGHWAY:

**5** Arrests for illegal racing, intoxicated driving, and excessive speed  
**17** Citations for speeding and vehicle violations

## TO REPORT DANGEROUS DRIVING:

- ☎ 911 (emergency)
- 📱 311 App
- 🌐 [honolulu.hawaii.gov](http://honolulu.hawaii.gov)
- 📍 HPD Wahiawā District 2: (808) 723-8700 (covers Mililani)
- 📍 HPD Pearl City District 3: (808) 723-8800 (covers Koa Ridge, Waipio Gentry)
- 📍 Traffic Division: (808) 723-3449

Let's keep working together to  
**DRIVE WITH ALOHA**  
and protect our families.

## MAY / JUNE 2025 NEWSLETTER • WHAT'S INSIDE:



Updates from the State Capitol



What's Coming Next for District 37



Cracking Down on Dangerous Driving



Taking Action:  
Traffic Safety Upgrades



Updates from the State Capitol

Investments for Our District

Your voices helped shape this year’s budget. This session, we secured over **\$21 million** in funding for Central Oahu, including:

**\$18.6M** for Kamehameha Highway improvements between Mililani and Pearl City.

**\$1.85M** for barriers and signage near Kipapa Gulch to enhance safety and prevent unauthorized encampments.

**\$400K** to renovate the bathrooms at the **Hawai’i Okinawa Center**.

**\$800K**

**Wahiawā Center for Community Health’s** pediatric clinic renovations and operational support for primary care, mental health services, substance use treatment, and social services. Wahiawā CHC serves Waipahu, Mililani, Wahiawā, and Waialua.

**‘Ohana Arts** to support the production and travel of the *Peace On Your Wings* musical in Honolulu, Fukuoka, and Hiroshima

**\$100K**

REP. LA CHICA’S BILLS PASS FINAL READING:

HB862 – SCHOOL BUS OPTIONS

Addresses the school bus crisis by allowing motorcoaches, vans, & small buses be used for student transportation.

HB1231 – SAFER ROUTES TO SCHOOL

Establishes the largest dedicated funding source for the Safe Routes to School program to support roadway improvements in high-risk areas.

HB329 – PRESCHOOL ACCESS & HOUSING

Enables the School Facilities Authority to develop more preschool classrooms statewide - including workforce housing in Mililani.

SB1300 – FREE SCHOOL MEALS

While I didn’t author this bill, I played a key role in negotiating its passage. Starting next school year, students on reduced-price lunch will receive school meals for free. The next year, the program expands to families earning up to 300% of the federal poverty level.

House Education Committee

The House Education Committee heard over 111 bills and resolutions this session focused on student success, fair teacher pay, expanded access to meals and buses, school facility upgrades, and holding the DOE accountable.



Chair Woodson and Vice Chair La Chica with the House Education Committee members.

What’s Coming Next

I’ve been pushing for traffic safety upgrades over the past two years, and I’m proud to share that our district is moving forward on several long-overdue projects:

✓ **RAISED CROSSWALKS** with flashing beacons near **Meheula Parkway** and the **H-2 on and off ramps**

✓ **REPAVING** of **Kamehameha Highway** between **Waipahu** and **Ka Uka Boulevard**

✓ **NEW BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN PATHS** along **Kamehameha Highway** between **Kuahelani Avenue** and **Waipi’o Uka**



Proposed bike/ped pathway along Kam Highway.

✓ **MURAL BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT** on northbound walls on **Kamehameha Highway** between **Waipahu** and **Ka Uka Boulevard**

✓ **SHOULDER/PARKING LANES** on **Lanikuhana Avenue**, **Uke’e Street**, and **‘Āinamakua Drive**

✓ **NEW MARKED CROSSWALK** with flashing beacon at **Meheula Parkway** and **Hikikaulia Street**

✓ **DOUBLE LEFT-TURN LANE** at the intersection of **Kuahelani Avenue** and **Meheula Parkway**

Taking Action

COMMUNITY SAFETY TALK STORY



On May 1, I hosted a *Community Safety & Transportation Talk Story* at the Hawai’i Okinawa Center. I’m so grateful to the 80+ residents who joined us.



We heard from state and city leaders including Director Ed Sniffen from the **Hawai’i Department of Transportation**, Kelly Akasaki and Renee Espiau from the City’s **Department of Transportation Services**, Director Mike Lambert from the **Department of Law Enforcement**, **Honolulu Police Department** Lieutenant Blake Arita, and Dr. Amy Jenkins from **Wahiawā Community Health Center**, who provided a measles and vaccine safety update.

You can view this **Talk Story** and recaps of past events at [RepTrishLaChica.com](https://www.reptrishlachica.com) under the **District Updates** tab.



WE ARE HERE TO HELP!

Our office takes great pride in working on various issues important to our community. If you need assistance, please contact our office:

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