

## Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency

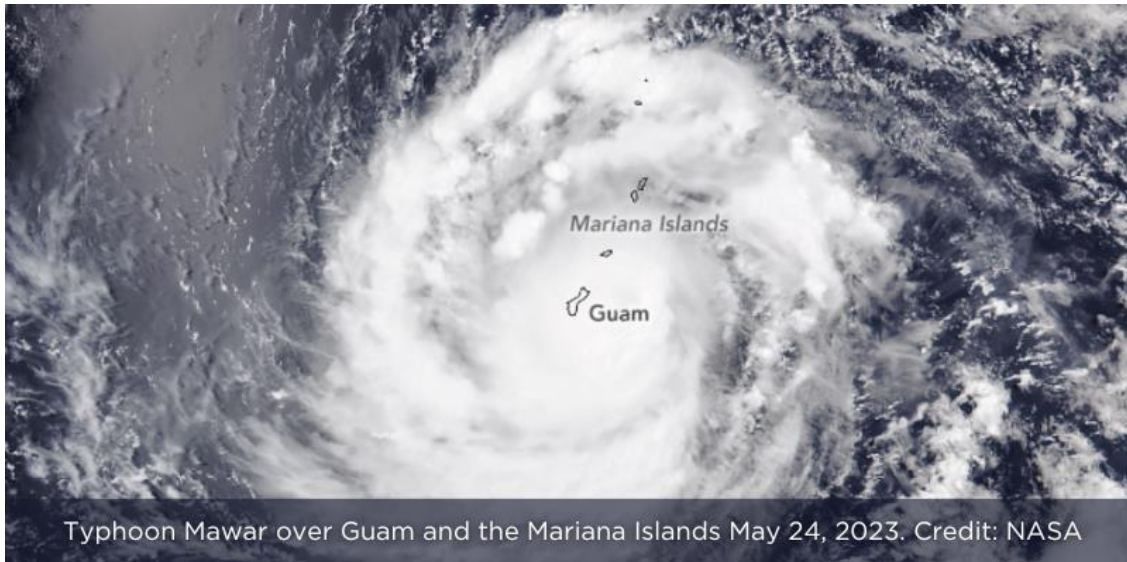


*He po'i na kai uli, kai ko'o, 'a'ohe hina pūko'a. Though the sea be deep and rough, the coral rock remains standing.*

*'Ōlelo No'eau 905*

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## **NOAA Predicts 50% Chance of Above-Normal Tropical Cyclone Activity**



June 1st marked the start of the hurricane season (June 1-November 30), a period of traditionally increased tropical storm and hurricane risk. Though the past two hurricane seasons experienced “below average” activity, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is suggesting El Niño conditions may develop as soon as this summer, which can increase tropical storm risk across the Pacific. To learn more about the climate science and preparedness, listen in to yesterday's [Bytemarks Café segment](#) featuring the Department of Emergency Management (DEM) and the Resilience Office. It only takes one event or even a glancing storm to cause significant impacts to households, businesses, and City infrastructure and services. It can take weeks, months and even years to fully recover, depending on the event. After Guam was struck by Typhoon Mawar late last month, some areas are still without power, drinking water, internet, and mobile phone service, with services not expected to be fully restored for weeks or more.

With an [elevated risk this season](#), now is the time to create a family plan, build a 14-day disaster supply kit, understand your risk, check insurance, and harden homes. For O’ahu-specific resources, follow the Honolulu Department of Emergency Management on [social media](#), bookmark their [hurricane page](#), and download the [HNL Info app](#) for alerts. Additional state and federal resources are available through the [Hawai’i Emergency Management Agency](#), [NOAA](#) and [Ready.gov](#). Being prepared before, during, and after a storm helps to keep your ‘ohana and property safe and improves our collective community resilience in bouncing forward afterwards.

[Prepare Now](#)

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## All Aboard! Rail Opening June 30



The first phase of the City's long-awaited rail transit system will officially begin interim passenger operations at 2 p.m. on Friday June 30, with a grand opening celebration at the Hālawā Station. This rail project is a major step forward in reaching the City's goals to expand choices and affordable transportation options, and provide opportunities to reduce single occupancy vehicle trips and save on household expenses. Providing affordable access to public transportation options can bring viable solutions to connecting communities and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. By decarbonizing the transportation sector, the City progresses on commitments in the City's [Climate Action Plan](#).

This first phase of rail covers a roughly 11-mile stretch between the Kualaka'i Station in East Kapolei and the Hālawā Station near Aloha Stadium. [Check out this exciting time-lapse](#) of a smooth trip from end to end of this first rail phase! As a passenger, this trip will only take [about 20 minutes](#). Passenger services to additional stations further east along the rail line are scheduled to commence in phases over the coming years. On opening day, June 30 from 2-6 p.m., rail fares will be waived and a [HOLO card](#) will not be required in order to ride. From July 1-4, both the rail and TheBus will be free after tapping a valid HOLO card (fares will not be deducted from cards when tapping). Adult HOLO cards can be purchased at [participating retailers](#), rail station kiosks, or TheBus Pass

Office. [Reduced fare programs](#) are available at select locations for seniors, youth, Handi-Van riders, and those with low income, disabilities or U.S. Medicare.

[Learn More](#)

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## Energy Code Advances at Council for More Efficient Buildings



[Bill 4](#), to update the island's Building Energy Conservation Code, passed its second reading at the City Council yesterday. Energy codes set the minimum efficiency requirements for new buildings. Since a building's performance is largely determined by upfront decisions, keeping our codes up-to-date means we can use the latest in efficient design and construction to support affordability in housing and living, and guarantee savings on energy use, utility costs, and carbon pollution over the life of the building. Regularly updating our Energy Code also means we can ensure buildings are better prepared to face the impacts of a changing climate, such as increasing temperatures, which make our homes and buildings hotter and more expensive to cool.



Bill 4 is next expected to be discussed at the Housing, Sustainability and Health Committee on June 21. If the Committee approves the bill then, it will head back to full Council for its final reading to be adopted.

[Learn More](#)

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## Community Connections



- The City's [Rental and Utility Relief Program](#) is temporarily accepting new applications for those who have experienced economic hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic. [Apply online](#) starting June 13 at 2 p.m., or attend an in-person enrollment event.
- The Hawai'i Department of Agriculture is accepting applications for the [Micro-Grant for Food Security Program](#) to support small-scale gardening, herding and livestock operations. Individuals and organizations can apply through 11:59 a.m. on June 15.

- Youth ages 14-24 — looking for a unique opportunity to serve and engage with your community? The [Honolulu Youth Commission](#) is accepting applications for two-year terms! [Apply here](#) by June 30 at 4:30 p.m.
  - [Kaukau 4 Keiki](#) provides weekly, locally sourced breakfast and lunch meal kits for keiki in rural communities during the summer (including zip codes starting with 967##). Additionally, the Department of Education announced that 86 public schools will serve free meals over the summer through its [Seamless Summer Option](#). Both programs serve keiki ages 18 and under.
  - The City is developing a [Vision Zero Action Plan](#) to eliminate all fatalities and severe injuries on our roadways while increasing safe, healthy, and equitable transportation choices for all. Submit your experience and thoughts on road safety through the Department of Transportation Services Complete Streets' [Community Survey](#).
  - The “[Aloha ‘Āina Art by Hawai‘i’s Keiki and ‘Ōpio](#)” exhibition now livens up the Kapolei Hale courtyard through June 23. This exhibition is hosted by Mele Murals, Sierra Club, Wisdom Circles Oceania, the Mayor’s Office of Culture and the Arts, and the Resilience Office, and centers the voices of keiki advocating for clean water.
  - Join the Department of Environmental Services' [Tour de Trash](#) on June 15 to discover what happens to your ‘ōpala and green waste after it's collected from your curb!
  - Mayor Blangiardi recently wrapped up a series of [11 town hall meetings](#) across the island to hear from residents in their own neighborhoods. To watch meeting recordings, visit [oneoahu.org/townhall](https://oneoahu.org/townhall).
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