



- [Home](#)
- [Calendars»](#)
- [SeeClickFix](#)
- [Gas](#)
- [Weather](#)
- [Archives](#)
- [Store](#)
- [Be Prepared»](#)

Enter search keyword

Search 

Hawaii 24/7

[Hawaii 24/7](#) Hawaii247.com | Hawaii's

news now | news, weather, sports from the Big Island

Looking to hire?

Learn More

monster.com

- [News»](#)
 - [Sports»](#)
 - [Business»](#)
 - [Entertainment»](#)
 - [Education](#)
 - [Health»](#)
 - [Sci-Tech](#)
 - [Agriculture](#)
 - [Environment»](#)
 - [Volunteering](#)
 - [Gallery»](#)
 - [Videos](#)
 - [Opinions»](#)
 - [Obits](#)
 - [Featured](#)
-

Hoffmann: The demise of impact fees

Posted on 3:50 am, Wednesday, September 28, 2011. Tags: [impact fees](#), [pete hoffmann](#)



Like

0

Councilman Pete Hoffmann has issued the following statement:

On Sept. 21, in a surprising reversal of its Planning Committee recommendation two weeks previous, the County Council voted 5-4 to defeat the long-anticipated Impact Fee legislation.

Despite the obvious need (expressed by almost everyone even remotely involved on this issue) to revamp the current ineffective ‘fair-share’ system, despite the benefit of continuous support (free of charge by the way) from the experts originally contracted by the County to study an Impact Fee, despite a further three page listing of suggested recommendations from the County’s Planning Director received only Sept. 19, despite growing public approval for an Impact Fee proposal, and despite repeated explanations countering the numerous misunderstandings of some opponents, the Council terminated Bill 304 at First Reading.

Disappointment is the prevailing sentiment that characterizes this vote.

I’m disappointed that as a Council we are unable to address adequately the difficult issues that have plagued us repeatedly over the years. I’m not necessarily convinced that my proposal is the best, but I do know that impact fees work, they have been adopted by literally thousands of communities that faced the same infrastructure shortfalls as Hawaii County does now, and development has not stopped in any of those communities.

If Council members don’t like my idea, then what other alternatives do they suggest? State law has allowed us to adopt impact fees for the past 18 years. How long must residents wait? If not now, when will we be courageous enough to create an effective system to address these shortfalls??

Another irony of the situation is that the Council on many occasions has called for administration recommendations regarding impact fees, urging a partnership to resolve this issue.

I recognize that the detailed listing of recommendations received on two occasions recently from the Planning Department did not necessarily represent administration approval of this impact fee proposal, but it would seem to reflect a willingness to work with Council and to discuss a controversial topic. I would have anticipated that the Council would be willing to advance that discussion rather than cut it short.

Impact Fees, if adopted, would not suddenly make the County healthy. It would, however, permit the County to employ a funding mechanism which has proven successful in communities nationwide.

Failure to pass this legislation either dooms County residents to continued shortfalls in essential facilities or insures that higher taxes will be the only remedy available to correct those deficiencies.

Those taxes affect all residents; rich, poor, and everyone in-between, not just those that cause the increased impact.

Simply put, the defeat of the Impact Fee legislation translates into higher taxes for all or inadequate infrastructure. Disappointing to say the least. Our residents deserve better.

A final comment: In the aftermath of this vote, I fear the perception will linger that the Council remains more concerned about potential election results than resolving key issues.

Ask yourselves: when will the Council take the lead and make the tough decisions?? I believe we missed a great opportunity Sept. 21.

0 1

You might be interested in:

1. [Hoffmann: 'Urban legends' surrounding impact fees](#)
2. [Impact fees on agenda at Waimea meeting \(Feb. 3\)](#)
3. [School impact fees for West Hawaii postponed](#)

Leave a Reply

Comments with overly personal attacks, offensive language or unsubstantiated allegations may be edited or deleted. Please be patient with the comments - there may be a delay before they appear on the site.

Name (required)

Mail (will not be published) (required)

Website

*I know Dad is safe when
I need time for myself.*

Fortunately, there's Ho'oNani. A home-like, adult day care setting that's private, comfortable and safe. We offer socialization, rest areas, therapeutic activities, exercise, games, meals and music. We treat your loved one like family—nurturing mind, body and spirit.

887-6440
65-1267B Lindsey Rd., Waimea
www.HooNaniPlace.com

Ho'oNani
PLACE

Tender, loving adult day care

Kindle with Special Offers
Only **\$114**













Learn more 

amazonkindle

Privacy

- [Latest](#)
- [Popular](#)
- [Comments](#)
- [Tags](#)
- [Subscribe](#)

-  [Mealani's Taste of the Hawaiian Range \(Sept. 30\)](#)
-  [Hoffmann: The demise of impact fees](#)
-  [Alex and Lisa get married – again](#)
-  [Statement by Abercrombie on HSTA ruling](#)

-  [GOP Hawaii statement on Kaauwai resignation](#)
-  [Waimea celebrates Walk to School Day \(Sept 28\)](#)
-  [A breadfruit kind of day](#)
-  [Small 3.2M quake shakes Pahala Tuesday morning \(Sept 27\)](#)
-  [Big Isle hosts 5th annual China-U.S. Tourism Leadership Summit](#)
-  [Police find 66 year-old Hilo woman who was reported missing](#)

H Hawaii 24/7
Hawaii247

H Hawaii247 Everything you need to know about Mealani's Taste of the Hawaiian Range (Sept. 30) <http://t.co/6wfGGqXZ>
4 hours ago · reply · retweet · favorite

H Hawaii247 Alex and Lisa get married – again <http://t.co/V3TntbH8>
5 hours ago · reply · retweet · favorite

H Hawaii247 Small 3.2M quake shakes Pahala Tuesday morning (Sept 27) <http://t.co/fmJ245BX>
22 hours ago · reply · retweet · favorite

H Hawaii247 Anyone feel that 3.2M quake in Pahala? 9:49 a.m. this morning. <http://t.co/Spm5bZmH>
22 hours ago · reply · retweet · favorite

H Hawaii247 2011-09-27 19:49:26 (Md 3.2) ISLAND OF HAWAII, HAWAII 19.2 -155.4 (3e1d7)
22 hours ago · reply · retweet · favorite



Join the conversation

Become a fan on facebook

H

Hawaii 24/7 on Facebook

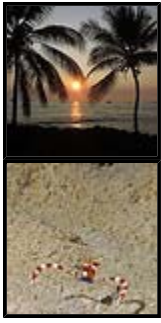
781 people like **Hawaii 24/7**.

				
Green	Alexis	Dennis	Mitchell	Nancy
				
Carolyn	Keith	Heather	Charles	Poppy

Facebook social plugin

flickr photos - Hawaii 24/7 group





Hawaii County

- [Big Island Alerts](#)
- [E-Waste](#)
- [Hawaii County](#)
- [Hawaii County Mayor](#)
- [Hawaii County Police](#)
- [Humane Society](#)
- [Regulated Fishing Areas](#)


Health

- [1.800.SUICIDE – National Hopeline Network](#)
- [CDC H1N1 Flu Info](#)
- [Domestic Abuse Info](#)
- [EPA's Radiation Monitoring](#)
- [Hawaii Dept of Health](#)
- [World Health Organization](#)

Links

- [Classic NY Times Crosswords](#)
- [Court Connect](#)
- [Google Crisis Response](#)
- [Hawaii Sex/Minor Offender Information](#)
- [Hawaiian Dictionary](#)
- [Hurricane Preparedness Guide by Red Cross](#)
- [Maile Amber Alert](#)
- [Product Recalls](#)
- [State Camping Permits](#)
- [Time Zone Converter](#)
- [TV Guide](#)





[Contigo AUTOSEAL West Loop Stainless...](#)
Contigo
Best Price \$19.31
or Buy New \$21.81

Buy [amazon.com](#) from

[Privacy Information](#)

© Copyright 2011 Hawaii 24/7 | [About Us](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Advertising](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)

⌵