

Nu‘uanu/Punchbowl Neighborhood Board –October 18, 2022

Karl Rhoads

Last meeting: September 20, 2022

1. Last week the DOT submitted the cap park grant application. Thank you to the Board for your letter of support.
2. I encourage you to get the reformulated covid booster shots. The new boosters are “bivalent” shots which contain half of the original vaccine recipe and half protection against the omicron subvariants BA.4 and BA.5, which now make up about 80% of the virus circulating in the U.S. Just recently the FDA approved the bivalent boosters for children as young as 5 years old.
3. Last Wednesday, the Dept. of Health reported 1047 new covid cases with a 7-day average of 145 cases and 5 deaths. I encourage you to get your shots and boosters and continue to wear masks inside even where you don't have to.
4. Keep in mind that even with 75% of the population fully vaccinated, 93% of those who died last year from covid were unvaccinated. That means that your chances of avoiding illness and death are much higher if you vaccinate & boost.
5. I also encourage you to get your flu shots. They are available now and can be taken on the same day as the covid booster. While the flu is usually not nearly as deadly as covid, in the 2018-19 flu season it killed 27,000 Americans.
6. Don't hesitate to call my office, 586-6130, with questions or concerns or email me at senrhoads@capitol.hawaii.gov