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Page 1: Candidate Information

Q1

Office You are Seeking

Honolulu District Council 1

Q2

Party

Democrat

Q3

First Name

Anthony Makana

Q4

Last Name

Paris

Q5

Email

parisforcouncil@gmail.com

Q6

Respondent skipped this question

Phone

Q7

Campaign Website

www.parisforcouncil.com

Page 2: COVID-19 Response and Recovery

Q8

What steps do you think our state and/or counties should take to aid this recovery? Some examples could include how you think federal funds should be spent, diversifying the state's economy, etc.

Aloha. My name is Anthony Makana Paris, and I'm running to restore health to our communities.

Hawai'i is known across the world for our aloha, and I believe our visitor industry will continue to be a part of our way of life and a substantial contributor to our economy for years to come. That said, tourism should not continue in the usual way -- it must evolve and adapt. Economic diversification is critical for the successful recovery and long-term sustainability of our island home. We must envision a visitor industry in which our visitors, kama'āina, and 'āina mutually benefit from our continued investment and act in ways to bring that to fruition.

In our reimagined visitor industry, aloha must continue to be the center. Hence, we must protect the safety of the workers that take care of our visitors and their families. We can do this through adequate testing, contact tracing, PPE, sanitation programs, and bolstering our in-state and on island testing capacity.

We should also explore investing in history's greatest economic drivers – home construction, agriculture, education, and firm and renewable energy. I would also work on food security and explore vertical farming to maximize growing crops in vertically stacked layers on our scarce landbase as a part of that solution and a potential export of specialty crops using the empty freight hulls of our airplanes. If we invest in our 'āina and our people first, everything else will follow.

Q9

Please share some of the efforts you have led or participated in response to COVID-19.

I played a supportive role with the Hawai'i Labor Coalition in increasing in-state testing capacity for COVID-19. Through my work with the Hawai'i Ironworkers Stabilization Fund and Ironworkers Local 625, I was able to collaborate with stakeholders and the University of Hawai'i, community health centers, the state, to establish the Tropical Medicine Clinical Laboratory at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa - John A. Burns School of Medicine (<https://tmclinicalab.jabsom.hawaii.edu/>). The lab provides surge capacity for the state and has quicker turnarounds for underserved, uninsured, and frontline workers who may require multiple tests for safety at their workplaces.

I have worked with the City and the T. George and Violet "Sunday" Paris Foundation alongside the Malama Meals program to provide over 600 hot meals a week to our Native Hawaiian, low-income, houseless, and shut-in community members out on the West-side of O'ahu until the recent reopening of the City. Through our family foundation, which has worked with the houseless community for over three decades, we were able to provide thousands of bottles of water, over 8,000 KN95 masks, hundreds of produce boxes, and thousands of gallons of milk to West O'ahu families. Lastly, I played a supportive role in facilitating conversations on how best to re-open the economy between leaders from the tourism industry, unions, and politicians.

Q10

Additional thoughts/comments:

The Nānākuli-Mā'ili-Lualualei communities were already facing a massive, ongoing public health crisis — and now COVID-19 is making it worse. Our community members in leeward O'ahu are suffering the negative effects of waste and disposal facilities being placed too close to communities. I have both educated and been educated by our island communities on the health hazards and negative effects of landfills. Particularly, how Native Hawaiians have faced environmental racism given the placement of the PVT Landfill in the Wai'anae coast of O'ahu. There, more than 18,000 people who live, work, and play daily within 2 miles of the currently operating landfill, and 13,000 of those people are Native Hawaiians. Moreover, two homestead communities, Princess Kahanu and Nānākuli, are located less than 0.5 miles from the currently operating landfill.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention/National Center for Health Statistics Neighborhood Life Expectancy Project, our members and their families within 2 miles of the current landfill in Nānākuli and Mā'ili live 10 years less than the state average of 82 years, being the 2nd and 3rd lowest life expectancies in the entire state. The global scientific community affirms what the communities of West O'ahu have been living through -- especially those that live, work, and play in Nānākuli -- that landfills are a health hazard. On August 20, 2019, I stood in solidarity on behalf of Prince Kūhiō Hawaiian Civic Club with Nānāikapono Hawaiian Civic Club and hundreds of community members in opposition to the relocation of the PVT Landfill to remain in Nānākuli and Mā'ili - a mere 750 feet from homes - at the Nānākuli-Mā'ili Neighborhood Board meeting. On September 4, 2019, we delivered a petition of more than 5,500 signatures in opposition of the referenced PVT Landfill relocation to a special session of the Nānākuli-Mā'ili Neighborhood Board and later to the City and County of Honolulu, Department of Planning and Permitting. On December 16, 2019, we presented with community leader Eddie Werner of the Nānākuli Homestead on the public health crisis in Nānākuli and Mā'ili to the Hawaiian Homes Commission. On February 14th, alongside Mr. Kamuela Werner, MPH, and on behalf of the Prince Kūhiō Hawaiian Civic Club, I presented at a Native Hawaiian speaker series hosted by Papa Ola Lōkahi and was invited back to elaborate at another session on April 24th. These are some of the actions that I have taken, along with hundreds of community members who labor to mālama 'āina and aloha 'ohana – trying to stop a landfill from being placed in a community's backyard.

The Public Health Crisis already occurring in Nānākuli and Mā'ili will likely be exacerbated due to the evolving SARS-CoV-2 virus (abbreviated as Covid-19 a.k.a. Coronavirus Disease 2019) pandemic.

Our communities in Nānākuli-Mā'ili-Lualualei, due to the public health crisis already occurring there, fit the criteria of being within the vulnerable populations of those that would have a higher likelihood of death due to contracting Covid-19. We must do better.

Through collective and collaborative work with many stakeholders, we are now poised to pass one of the greatest pieces of Environmental Justice legislation in the history of the state and arguably the entire United States. Senate Bill 2386 would protect conservation lands from future waste or disposal facilities except in emergency situations and establish a ½ mile buffer zone for waste or disposal facilities away from schools, homes, and hospitals. This legislation passed both chambers of the legislature and is before Governor Ige for signature. I want to note my mahalo and appreciation to all of our advocates including the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs; Hawai'i Building and Construction Trades Council; Hawai'i Labor Coalition; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Zero Waste O'ahu; Surf Rider Foundation; MA'O Organic Farms; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawai'i Iron Workers Stabilization Fund; Hawai'i Iron Workers Local 625; Ke One O Kākuihewa; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Labor Caucus; ILWU Local 142; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1186; Plumbers and Fitters UA, Local 675; Kalihi Pālama Hawaiian Civic Club; Prince Kūhiō Hawaiian Civic Club; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Young Progressives Demanding Action; United Food & Commercial Workers Union Local 480; United Public Workers; IATSE Local 665; Pride at Work-Hawai'i; LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Teamsters & Allied Workers Local 996; Waialua Hawaiian Civic Club; SAG-AFTRA; Reynolds Recycling, Inc.; Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs – Hawai'i Council; Ko'olauloa Hawaiian Civic Club; Moku o Manokalanipō; The Kaua'i Council of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs; Nā Hono A'o Pi'ilani, Maui Council of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs and community members.

In the spirit of lōkahi, we continue to advocate, not just for Nānākuli and Mā'ili, but for all communities in our beloved Hawai'i. Let us aloha each other and make sure that no community should suffer from the unmitigated ill effects of waste or disposal facilities, including landfills.

We have seen the critical impact and importance of the #BlackLivesMatter movement around the world, and we must raise our voices in

support and solidarity, because all of our struggles are intertwined. #HawaiianLivesMatter

Please find the 'A'ole PVT Compiled Community Petitions 5,500+ link: <https://tinyurl.com/rzx766e>

For more information checkout the Ka Wai Ola Article, Not in Anyone's Backyard link: <https://kawaiola.news/aina/not-in-anyones-backyard/>

Page 3: Tobacco and E-Cigarette Regulations

Q11

What policies do you think the state and/or counties should enact to reduce tobacco and e-cigarette use?

In order to reduce tobacco and e-cigarette use, I would be open to exploring, updating, supporting or expanding clean indoor air and smoke-free policies, prevention of youth access, licensing schemes, taxation and other price policies, restrictions on marketing, and City supported educational initiatives.

Q12

Please indicate your position on the following policies:

Apply a tobacco tax to e-cigarettes, such as a percentage of the wholesale cost or taxing e-liquid by volume. **Support**

Prohibit the sale of all flavored tobacco products, including menthol cigarettes and flavored e-liquids. **Support**

Restrict online sales of e-cigarettes to tobacco retailers only, in order to curb illegal sales to minors. **Support**

Increase the tobacco tax on cigarettes to help smokers quit and prevent new users from starting. **Support**

Funds from the tobacco settlement and tobacco taxes should fund tobacco prevention and cessation efforts. **Support**

Q13

Additional thoughts/comments:

My mother is a life long smoker and I have been exposed to second hand smoke for a very long time. I can personally relate to and empathize with the ills of cigarette smoking to both the individual smoking and those around them.

Page 4: Healthy Eating + Active Living

Q14

What steps do you think the state and/or counties should take to ensure food security for all of Hawaii's people, and to significantly increase food self-sufficiency for our state?

The food security for our state and our island home can be improved by increasing our local food supply, preparing for disaster and crisis situations, and addressing those in poverty.

Our City through partnerships with the state and federal governments and the private sector ought to strengthen local food systems by improving our local capacity to provide healthy and culturally-appropriate food.

The City ought to partner with other stakeholders to support our local farms and livestock ranches and promote their growth and expansion to provide more local produce and foodstuffs. The City can explore ways to support small farmers and cooperatives with land leases and financial loans and low interest rates, train farmers with innovative technology, create more efficient food chains, and invest in agricultural and horticultural programs in K-12 school programs.

The City can also explore establishing an Agricultural Development and Food Security Program to complement the state program under the Department of Agriculture. The City could support the state's efforts to provide better pest prevention and control, research and extension services, and policy and organizational support for our farmers and livestock raisers. We can also support our local farmers and livestock producers through "Buy Local/Eat Local" marketing campaigns, improving and expanding branding and labeling programs, and encouraging large institutions to purchase locally grown foods.

The City ought to support policy solutions that allow for the optimization of local food supplies for consumption today, while also preparing for significant ramping up of production in cases of disaster and our islands are isolated from the global food supply. The City can also explore how to shore up our public parks along rivers and the ocean with estuaries and new vegetation to mitigate the effects of the climate crisis, by also designing habitats that grow edible foodstuffs.

Hawai'i, and O'ahu specifically, has one of the highest costs of living in the United States. The high cost of living is a partial reflection in the higher cost of food in the islands. During the COVID-19 pandemic, more households have now become "food insecure" because of the lack of financial resources.

According to Hawai'i Foodbank President and CEO Ron Mizutani, in an April 10, 2020 Pacific Business News article, the "[d]emand for food assistance is rising at an extraordinary rate. On O'ahu, where Hawaii Foodbank distributes nearly one million pounds of food every month under normal circumstances, we distributed more than 1.4 million pounds in March. We are projecting the numbers to increase to 1.75 million to 2 million pounds in April." This illustrates two areas of food insecurity. The first is that we already have numerous families that are food insecure and require approximately 1 million pounds of food a month. The second is that the "disaster" that is the COVID-19 pandemic has approximately doubled the amount of food insecure families on O'ahu. These are our families that have to decide between paying for medicines, gas or bus fare for transportation, utilities, and providing food on the table. We can -- and we must -- do better.

Q15

In 2019, Hawai'i made a commitment to adopt Vision Zero, an initiative to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all. What policies and infrastructure changes should the state and/or counties make to achieve this goal?

I support Vision Zero where our City can achieve zero traffic fatalities and serious injuries. Growing up along Farrington Highway in Nānākuli, I have seen the safety of our roads decrease over the years with increased traffic load and minimum safety improvements. Many of my neighbors and 'ohana have passed away due to traffic fatalities, including Kaulana Werner, who was killed by a hit-and-run drunk driver in 2016. Public health and safety is the heartbeat of our campaign. One serious and overdue issue that the City ought to look at with the state and federal governments is a second access route into the Wai'anae coast. This would alleviate traffic congestion along the overburdened Farrington Highway and also encourage compliance with the current speed limits that are routinely disobeyed along the Highway corridor that runs through neighborhoods.

I would also support the City's implementation of Honolulu's Complete Streets ordinance (ROH 14-33) that requires streets to be planned, designed, operated, and maintained to enable safe, convenient and comfortable travel for all modes of transportation throughout Honolulu. One way to do this, is the use of government targets that can positively help and encourage our communities to creatively collaborate towards a common goal. If we have a common vision of an island home in which we rely on automobiles less and walking and biking is more common, it will be easier for us to take concrete steps towards that vision.

As an MIT-trained Environmental Engineer, I understand the many benefits of adding trees to a community, including reducing heat islands, improving air quality, fighting climate change, providing habitat for our native species, and enhancing a community's beauty and aesthetic. These trees also provide a needed safety buffer from vehicular traffic and pedestrians and cyclists. I support the reforestation of our City with native trees and vegetation in line with the City's current goals to create an urban forest by planting 100,000 trees by 2035. I would also be in favor of planting food trees and orchards as a step towards increasing our food sustainability and security.

As a councilmember, I would work collaboratively with our communities and stakeholders to craft and introduce policies that incentivize the best and most reasonable parts of the O'ahu Pedestrian and O'ahu Bike plans. I believe that both of these plans should be complementary and their goal should be to envision a way forward that we can act upon that will take us closer to Vision Zero.

Q16

Please indicate your position on the following policies:

- We must significantly increase public investment in food systems workforce development, including programs such as farm to school, agriculture and food systems education (PreK-12 and higher education), and farmer training programs. **Support**
- The state should continue to invest in a Double Up Food Bucks program, which doubles the value of SNAP benefits when buying fresh, locally grown produce at participating retailers. **Support**
- Enact a one-cent per-ounce fee on sugar-sweetened beverages. **Support**
- Use revenue from a sugar-sweetened beverage fee for obesity prevention programs. **Support**
- Make health and physical education (PE) courses a curriculum requirement, rather than an option, for middle school students. PE is currently a requirement for elementary and high school students. **Support**
- Implement a red light camera program to deter red-light running and help curb traffic fatalities and injuries. **Support**

Q17

Respondent skipped this question

Additional thoughts/comments:

Page 5: Oral Health

Q18

Please indicate your position on the following policies:

- Reinstate coverage of preventative dental benefits for Adult Medicaid participants. **Support**
- Fluoridation of community water supplies is an effective way to prevent tooth decay. **Support**

Q19

Additional thoughts/comments:

I have worked alongside the Hawai'i Primary Care Association and other community stakeholders to advocate for reinstatement of funding to support adult dental care provided our most vulnerable populations that was decreased under the Linda Lingle administration.

Page 6: Alcohol Regulations

Q20

Please indicate your position on the following policies:

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| Increase in alcohol taxes. | Support |
| Repeal of the alcohol takeout laws that allow people to buy and take home liquor-based mixed drinks from restaurants. | Support |
| Repeal of alcohol delivery laws that allow restaurants to deliver beer and liquor-based mixed drinks to people's homes. | Oppose |
| Increase in enforcement that helps ensure that youth do not access alcohol through existing laws allowing for alcohol takeout and delivery. | Support |
-

Q21

Additional thoughts/comments:

I am currently in favor of liquor delivery so that those that wish to consume alcohol can do so safely at home and decrease the risk of them drinking and driving, particularly in situations in which they already started drinking and want to continue to do so.

Page 7: Marijuana Regulations

Q22

Please indicate your position on the following policies:

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| Do you support legalizing recreational marijuana sales in Hawai'i? | Support |
| If recreational marijuana is formally proposed by the state, how strongly would you support that marijuana be regulated by the Department of Health? | Support |
| If recreational marijuana is formally proposed by the state, how strongly would you support that the price of marijuana be regulated? | Support |
| If recreational marijuana is formally proposed by the state, how strongly would you support that the promotion and advertisement of marijuana sales be regulated? | Support |
| If recreational marijuana is formally proposed by the state, how strongly would you support that marijuana potency be regulated? | Support |
| If recreational marijuana is formally proposed by the state, how strongly would you support that the number and placement of marijuana outlets be regulated? | Support |
-

Q23

Additional thoughts/comments:

I am supportive of appropriate regulations for marijuana usage, both recreational and medical, to help mitigate negative health outcomes and grow our economy. The Department of Health currently is understaffed and under-resourced, thus, we should explore funding and creating a new division for cannabis regulation and enforcement, either within or outside of the Department. If it's outside of the Department of Health, the Department should still have a critical role in ensuring appropriate regulation and enforcement towards public health. I am totally supportive of regulating placement of cannabis outlets like near schools or related institutions.

Page 8: Economic Justice

Q24

What are your immediate plans to help make Hawai'i more affordable for its residents?

I want to help make O'ahu better for our current and future generations. Our immediate plans should be to focus on safeguarding the health of our communities during the COVID-19 pandemic, adapting to and recovering from the pandemic. This means finishing the rail well and increasing our affordable and workforce housing in the urban core around transit zones, implementing a revisioned tourism industry that is sustainable, laying groundwork for diversifying our economy in areas like food security, and building a future where we can bring our local families home. Working with my fellow council members and the mayor, I will strive to rebuild trust in our local government. I believe we should prioritize investment in economic drivers that promote: (1) public health & safety, (2) jobs & business growth, (3) public infrastructure improvement, (4) affordable & workforce housing, (5) climate adaptation and resilience, and (6) a healthy environment.

I support the rail project as a social justice issue for our working families and as an investment in infrastructure that will bring our families home with the development of affordable and workforce housing through transit orientated development. The pandemic has created new possibilities for us to reimagine and envision a more sustainable island community.

As an MIT-trained environmental engineer and a policy analyst, I have had the privilege to work with the City, state, and community stakeholders to investigate our island's approach to climate change.

Despite decreases in greenhouse gas emissions during this pandemic, climate change continues undeterred. The seas are rising, storms are getting stronger, and we must coordinate on how best to adapt. We must explore zoning that encourages a mauka retreat, establish shoreline buffers through parks and estuaries, raise roads and bridges, and protect our critical services like our airport and harbors. Honolulu should seek federal resources to mitigate these inevitable effects on our island home and investigate public-private partnerships to give resorts and other stakeholders a direct way to participate in maintaining our coasts.

The reefs have had a nice rest during this break from visitors, but warming oceans, reef bleaching, and soil runoff will continue to occur even without our visitors. We must encourage appropriate watershed maintenance up mauka and use advancements in reef maintenance and coral spread to maintain, replant, and create new reefs using environmentally safe refuse.

We must fight this environmental crisis, together, and strive to not let our neighbors become climate change victims. The City ought to remain vigilant against the ongoing public health crisis and not put people's lives over profits or tax revenues, but invest in the infrastructure necessary for our community to recover well after the pandemic.

Q25

What is the role of government in addressing housing affordability issues and what would you do to encourage the production of more affordable homes for Hawai'i residents?

The government has a vested interest in ensuring adequate housing for its citizens. The struggles we face are substantial. We learned from the last recession that austerity – increasing taxes and drastically cutting spending – is the worst possible response. We must draw upon our local wisdom and expertise as well as best-practices from abroad to shore up our finances. We should support the retooling, diversification, and reopening of our economy and getting our people back to work, all while protecting us and providing essential services to our communities.

The Federal Reserve is buying municipal bonds at rock-bottom interest rates and we should explore issuing bonds to fund our operations and investments in a diversified economy and reimagined visitor industry. We should also explore taxes and fees that ensure that everyone is paying their fair share, including our out-of-state investors and visitors. I support spending wisely and planning to reduce maintenance costs and liabilities. One way we can increase City revenue is by reclaiming the island's construction and demolition waste stream in a municipality-owned waste processing facility and landfill. This would result in an annual revenue stream of tens of millions of dollars in fees and sales of recycled material.

If budget cuts are necessary, they should start with council member salaries and expenses.

Our island home has already invested heavily in its infrastructure, and now is the time to hold true to our collective investment in a better tomorrow. We should investigate issuing bonds to fund an acceleration of the rail project, including completion through Ala Moana and appropriate connections to Waikīkī, the University of Hawai'i, and East Kapolei. The City should explore how best to capture wealth from the development around the rail stations to fund operation, maintenance, and future transit projects for the short-term.

For the long-term, we should invest in parks, bike-lanes, comfort stations, roadways, and sewage and water infrastructure. We can modernize and increase our City administrative capacity, including at the Department of Planning and Permitting. If we act swiftly, we could provide our City with an economic adrenaline shot! We will be able to improve our island's economic health through wise investment today for generations to come. Thus, creating desperately needed jobs and housing while preparing our island home to welcome our visitors back.

Houselessness is a social justice and public health crisis in Hawai'i, made worse by the pandemic and economic devastation. Houselessness is a symptom of Hawaii's significant lack of truly affordable housing. Affordable housing must be accessible to our most vulnerable that make below 60% AMI, yet most current "affordable" housing projects are constructed for those earning 80% to 140% AMI. Such projects are not accessible by most of our families. We must and can do better. We must explore partnerships with the state, charitable trusts, and the Department of Hawaiian Homelands to get our people into affordable homes. We ought to explore the creation of a City housing department and crafting policies to encourage affordable rentals.

Further, we should not be targeting our houseless community members with our law enforcement officers. We should target them through providing support services they need. I support a community-first approach where we address the root causes of houselessness. Houselessness is a personal issue to me, having lived pay-check to pay-check and having been houseless for a time, and having my sister (who suffers from mental illness and drug addiction) live in a chronically houseless state. I understand how helpless one can feel when we cannot help our loved ones directly or ourselves at times. Our government in concert with our civic society and business partners can help to address these considerations. We ought to fund shelter beds, rehabilitation and mental health services, transitional homes, and provide greater access to food, education, and job training. We will reach our affordable housing goals for all our communities by building upon the good work of those Councils and Mayoral administrations before us.

Q26

Please indicate your position on the following policies:

Increase the state's minimum wage in a series of annual steps to a living wage of \$17 per hour. **Support**

Create a statewide Paid Family Leave Program, which would allow up to 12 weeks for employees to provide care for a newborn, bond with a new child, or care for a family member with a serious health condition. **Support**

Q27

Additional thoughts/comments:

I grew up in district, fishing and farming in Lualualei valley and along the shores of Nānākuli, graduated from Nānākuli Elementary, and raised in the faith community of St. Rita's on Hawaiian Home Lands. I was houseless for a time and now I reside in Kapolei. I come from a working class family – my mother is a retired janitor and homemaker; my father is a retired ironworker. Through hard work and community support, I received an environmental engineering degree from MIT, a philosophy/theology degree from Santa Clara, and a law degree from Hawaii's own UH Richardson School of Law.

I have served as a teacher, campus minister, and environmental-scientist/lab specialist, as an advisor to the Hawai'i Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee, and as a member of the State Central Committee of the Democratic party. I am a small business owner and I help the working families and businesses of Hawai'i through my work as a research analyst for the Iron Workers Stabilization Fund. I also serve as President of the Prince Kūhiō Hawaiian Civic Club and am on the board of the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Hawai'i.

Together, we shall recover well from COVID-19, and build a better O'ahu for our keiki and kūpuna. My name is Anthony Makana Paris, and I am running for Honolulu City Council District 1.

E ho'oulu lāhui aloha -- join with us, to build a better O'ahu for all. Mahalo.
