



Creating Safer Communities

Prior to the current health crisis, O‘ahu was facing a public safety crisis. The rising number of robberies and other violent crimes were alarming and left many in our community feeling unsafe in their own home. A major component to solving these issues is to address the staffing shortages within the Honolulu Police Department (HPD) and implement effective strategies to deter criminal activities in our neighborhoods.

Jacob believes that in order to create safer communities, government needs to:

Address The Police Officer Shortage

The shortage of police officers across O‘ahu has cost the Honolulu Police Department about \$8 million in overtime pay. With over 200 vacant positions needing to be filled, the City needs to work with HPD to find innovative and permanent solutions to its staffing woes.

- **Fully Fund The Honolulu Police Department (HPD):** In many large districts across O‘ahu, HPD has been short-staffed and lacked an adequate amount of patrol officers. In response to these staffing shortages, the department has had to cut services such as investigation into certain felony crimes.

If elected to the City Council, Jacob will work with his colleagues to **ensure that HPD receives full funding to properly staff police beats** across the island.

- **Increase Salaries For Police Officers:** In recent years, many local police officers have been lured away to other law enforcement jobs on the continent. Cities like Seattle offer a significantly higher salary, with more frequent wages. To attract more recruits to HPD and keep police officers in Hawai‘i, the department needs to offer more competitive wages.

If elected to the City Council, Jacob will advocate for an **increase in salary for police officers** and work with his colleagues to **increase the amount allocated for salaries in the City budget**.

- **Expand Outreach Recruitment Efforts And Pipeline Into HPD:** To fill the shortage of police officers in uniform, HPD needs to continue their efforts of expanding their outreach recruitment efforts and partner with community organizations to develop programs that will help walk potential recruits through the application process. The department should also look to recruit recent college graduates who may have never considered a career in law enforcement.

If elected to the City Council, Jacob will work with his colleagues to **provide HPD with funding to expand outreach efforts** on O‘ahu and **collaborate with community partners to develop police officer pipeline programs**.

- **Easing The Lateral Transfer Policy For Out-Of-State Police Officers:** Efforts have already begun within HPD to ease the lateral transfer policy for out-of-state police officers. Hawai‘i is an attractive destination for potential officers due to our island culture and lack of major violence in the community.

If elected to the City Council, Jacob will work the department and SHOPO to **effectively implement a lateral transfer policy** while maintaining a thorough vetting process.

Combat Crime In Our Communities

The amount of robberies, violent crime and gun-related incidents on O‘ahu have increased in recent years. Many communities in Council District 7 have been plagued by these crimes for decades and something needs to be done.

- **Beef Up Visible Presence In High-Crime Areas:** In response to an uptick in the amount of crime in our community, HPD should consider a “surge strategy” and boost the visibility of officers and vehicles in places where assaults and other recent crimes have been on the rise.

The department should also continue deploying plainclothes and bike units in various parts of the district.

If elected to the City Council, Jacob will work the department to **identify high crime areas** in the community and work to **secure funding to implement a “surge strategy.”**

- **Increase Support For Community Policing Programs:** If implemented correctly, community policing is effective in reducing crime in our neighborhoods. By involving police officers in these community policing programs, residents will not only trust law enforcement more, but they are more likely to cooperate with police, keep a watchful eye over their neighbors, and report suspicious individuals or criminal activity.

If elected to the City Council, Jacob will work with HPD and district residents to continue **supporting existing community policing programs** and expand these types of programs into schools and other parts of our district.

- **Install And Monitor Surveillance Cameras In Major Crime Hot Spots:** The installation and monitoring of surveillance cameras in our community will be extremely useful in deterring illegal activities and catching those who commit crimes. Strategic placement of these cameras will also help with other long-standing community issues such as illegal dumping, abandoned vehicles and gambling rooms.

If elected to the City Council, Jacob will **work with government and private business partners to install surveillance cameras in strategic location** and work to step up security efforts in the district.

- **Expand The Use of Automatic License Plate Recognition (ALPR) Technology in Patrol Vehicles:** HPD’s limited implementation of ALPR has proved extremely useful in curbing incidents of theft and identifying stolen vehicles. In 2018, nearly 400 stolen vehicles were detected and 570 stolen license plates were also identified.

If elected to the City Council, Jacob will work with the department to **secure funding for expansion of ALPR implementation** and

collaborate with relevant agencies to mitigate concerns relating to data gathered from ALPR scanning.