

THOMAS L BROOKMAN

Council Dist. 1

1. How do you view the role of business in Hawaii?

The backbone of community
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HOUSING

2. Do State & County of Hawaii regulations encourage development of affordable housing?

Yes - How?

- yes
.....
- no
.....

No - What changes would you work to encourage/create more?

Better land use partnership w/ gov. & developers
.....
.....

3. If elected would you support locating affordable housing at a different geographical site than the market housing development (this is allowed by state law but not by county law).

Yes
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4. If elected would you support setting aside government-controlled lands to provide long-term leases for work force & affordable housing?

Yes, lease to own
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.....

What lands do you see being made available for this use?

Need to look at all land, location to business and jobs
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5. List 3 individuals, organizations and/or agencies you would contact to gain understanding of affordable and workforce housing for Hawaii County and/or the State.

AIA housing	US - HUD	State of Hawaii Dept of Housing
.....
.....

Comment

Need a partnership w/ Prof. - AIA, Gov. & private developers
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AGRICULTURE

6. Land – Are you in favor of providing incentives on Important Ag Lands (IAL)?

- a. Yes, 100% in favor
- b. Yes, w/reservations (Explain)
- c. No, 100% oppose

Comments:

Need a plan for the full Hamakua Coast land use
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7. Water – Are you in favor of the State Water Use Commission having oversight of Dept. of Water in regards to giving Agriculture special use rates for water?

- a. Yes, 100% in favor
- b. Yes, w/reservations (Explain)
- c. No, 100% oppose

Comments:

A full study of direction needs to give by the state then home rule on water use
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8. Water – Are you in favor of a special fund or loan program to assist agribusiness to borrow and develop its own wells or reservoirs to be more sustainable?

- a. Yes, 100% in favor
- b. Yes, w/reservations (Explain)
- c. No, 100% oppose

Comments:

water is the life blood of a community
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.....
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9. GMO/Biotechnology - Science & technology play an important role in keeping industry competitive in a global market. How do you feel about biotech on non-food related crops, e.g. foliage, flowers)?

- a. Yes, 100% in favor
- b. Yes, w/reservations (Explain)
- c. No, 100% oppose

Comment:

Case by case with full disclosure. First, even the a no!
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10. GMO/Biotechnology - might find solutions to taro and other food crop diseases. In a world of food shortages this might be very important. How do you feel about biotechnology on taro and other food crops?

- a. Yes, 100% in favor
- b. Yes, w/reservations (Explain)
- c. No, 100% oppose

Comment:

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11. List or name 3 individuals, organizations and/or agencies you would contact to gain an understanding of agriculture for Hawaii County and/or the State of Hawaii.

USDA..... University of Hawaii..... Other mainland.....

Comment

Land grant to school of agriculture i.e.
.....
.....

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LAND USE

13. Would you support the Land Use Commission changing our Island's less productive ag lands to rural zoning?

- yes This need to be part of home rule. - "Planning Our Future".....
- no

14. The County is allowed control over ag lands less than 15 acres. Is this enough home-rule control?

- yes
- no

Why Yes?

No? Then how large a tract do you think the county should control?

Home Rule on Land Use

15. What is your position on the County's policy to reserve a percentage of the annual budget to purchase lands it deems valuable to acquire?

Yes, keep the % as it is today until more/ or less is required

15a. Are criteria for selecting important lands for the County to acquire sufficient? If not what's needed?

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16. The County & State are unable to develop all lands they hold for parks. What would you do to change this?

A use fee or a park development fund on construction - some land need to be open

17. Do you support enlarging the land area of the National Parks in the County, e.g. Volcano National Park, Puuhonua City of Refuge, etc.?

yes

18. List 3 individuals, organizations and/or agencies you would contact to gain an understanding of land use in Hawaii County and/or the State of Hawaii.

county planning..... DLNR..... USDA.....

Comment

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EDUCATION

19. Do you support expanding Hawaii Community College (HCC) in East Hawaii?

Yes? What do you propose to do to get it going?

- yes Higher education is the key to our future
- no

No? Why not?

20. Do you support expanding Hawaii Community College (HCC) in West Hawaii?

Yes? What do you propose to do to get it going?

- yes Key to our future
- no

No? Why not?

21. Do you support breaking up DOE and having separate Boards of Education for each island?

Yes? What have you done or propose to do to make it happen?

- yes Home Rule
- no

No? Why not?

22. If elected, what would you see your role in supporting the University of Hawaii-Hilo?

Plan community development

23. List 3 individuals, organizations and/or agencies you would contact to gain an understanding of education for Hawaii County and/or the State of Hawaii.

U. of H. County planning community

Comment

ENERGY

Oil prices are expected to rise steadily as supply diminishes.

24. Do you support incentives to developers of renewable energy to encourage development?

- a. Yes. It stabilizes future energy costs. **Other Response**
- b. No. Free enterprise should solve. need a full program for the island
- c. Yes. No matter the consequence.

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25. Do you support expanding geothermal to its fullest potential?

- a..... Yes. It is stable & dependable power.
- b..... No, for cultural reasons.
- c..... No, it could adversely impact the utility.

Other Response

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26. Do you support the County's Energy Sustainability Plan?

- a..... No, it is not aggressive enough.
- b..... Yes, it's based on doable solutions.
- c..... No, it could adversely impact the utility.

Other Response

Yes & no! Need to include it in a island & state power plan, good start.
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27. Energy – Are you in favor of Small Business selling surplus energy (less than 100 KW electricity) back To Helco/Heco for a profit?

- a..... Yes, at the same rate as avoided cost of foreign oil.
- b..... Yes, at rate less than avoided cost of foreign oil.
- c..... No, 100% oppose.

Other Response

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28. List 3 individuals, organizations and/or agencies you would contact to gain an understanding of energy for Hawaii County and/or the State of Hawaii.

U. of Okla - Engineer School..... Island Refinery.....

Comment

HEALTH CARE

29. The whole Health Care system is complex and inter-related in nature. How would you describe your level of understanding of the Health Care System?

- High
- Average
- Low

Comment

30. List 3 individuals, organizations and/or agencies you would contact to gain an understanding of healthcare for Hawaii County and/or the State of Hawaii.

HMSA..... AMA..... Kaiser.....

Comment

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31. It has been suggested that there is a Health Care Crisis in Hawaii County and the State of Hawaii; if you believe this to be true, list 3 things you might do as an elected official to help alleviate this crisis.

- 1. Police Dept & Fire Dept to see if the lost of Services providers in an Emergency can be lowered
- 2. Land use to new or existing can be changed
- 3.

Comment

32. Which percentage is closer to the percentage of uninsured people in the State of Hawaii?

- 10% 40% 70%

What are the implications of that? the insured is paying for uninsured

The following section is for County Office Seekers

COUNTY GOVERNANCE

33. What method of disposing of our non-recyclable trash do you support?

- a. Waste-to-energy incineration (i.e. Wheelabrator)
- b. Shipping to off-island location
- c. Landfills
- Other** Both landfill & smaller wast to energy we need to have full engineers on staff

34. Divisions between east and west of the island seem to put increasing pressure on county government to split into two. Do you support splitting the east and west county planning into two separate commissions?

- yes Comment
- no One board w/ two sub board one on each side to make planning easier & faster

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35. If elected, during your term in office, what 2 issues do you feel are the highest priority and are also something you can have the most influence over?

- Traffic
- Affordable housing
- Trash disposal
- Energy
- Environment
- Health Care
- Coqui frogs

Other

I headed the coqui frog program as president of the Wainaku Kaiwiki Comm. Asso. 2006-08

36. In the event of a budget deficit in 2009, which 3 items would you consider as the best and most feasible options to balance the budget?

- Increase taxes
- Increase licensing & permit revenue
- Increase revenues from use of money & property
- Increase intergovernmental revenue
- Increase charges for services
- Reduce general government expense
- Reduce public safety expense
- Reduce highways expense
- Reduce health, education & welfare expense
- Reduce culture & recreation expense
- Reduce sanitation & waste removal expense
- Reduce debt service expense
- Reduce pension & retirement expense
- Reduce health fund expense

Other Allow attrition to reduce payroll. 3% across the board - decrease expenditures. Could change work schedules to 9/80 - 4/10 or reduce hours by up to 8 hours, the take home will not be as great as one would think.

37. In the event of a budget surplus in 2009, which 3 items would you consider as the best and most feasible options to balance the budget?

- Reduce taxes
- Reduce licensing & permit costs
- Reduce revenue from use of money & property
- Reduce intergovernmental revenue
- Reduce charges for services
- Increase general government expense
- Increase public safety services
- Increase highway work
- Increase health, education & welfare services
- Increase culture & recreation opportunities
- Increase sanitation & waste removal services
- Increase debt service
- Increase pension & retirement
- Increase health fund benefits

Other Do the project that were put on hold