Honolulu Board of REALTORS®
Housing Advocates. Community Builders. Good Neighbors.

More than guiding clients through real estate transactions with transparency, integrity, and professionalism, REALTORS® advocate for homeownership, serve their communities and help their neighbors. The Honolulu Board of REALTORS® (HBR) represents the collective membership of more than 6,800 licensed real estate agents and brokers. HBR strongly encourages the advancement of housing availability and real property rights while promoting a thriving community and economy.

WE RECOGNIZE THREE PILLARS AS THE FOUNDATION OF OUR LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES:

1
HOUSING

2
REAL PROPERTY TAXES

3
LAND USE AND ENVIRONMENT

HOUSING

HBR believes everyone deserves a place to call home. We advocate for core policies that support a diverse housing market across all price points and socioeconomic spectrums to ensure that housing policies are inclusive and equitable.

HOUSING ASSISTANCE – Support incentives for first-time kamaʻāina homeowners and owner-occupants to purchase based on household income.

ZONING REFORM – Promote zoning policies that allow for diverse housing options, including mixed-use developments and accessory dwelling units.

ADAPTIVE REUSE – Encourage repurposing of existing non-residential structures for residential use.

SHORT TERM RENTALS – Support and assist in the enforcement of illegal rentals (less than 30 days) to preserve our residential neighborhoods and maintain the minimum 30-day rental to meet the needs of kamaʻāina and communities; as we look towards ensuring local residents have access to housing as our first priority, and that business interests, such as whole-home vacation rentals owned by investors, is secondary.

PATHWAY TO HOMEOWNERSHIP

The housing ladder often begins with individuals progressing from renting to owning smaller homes to larger, more valuable ones over time, building equity and generational wealth while contributing to stronger communities.

INFRASTRUCTURE – Support the strengthening and expansion of infrastructure to accommodate increasing housing needs.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT – Support legislation that incentivizes and streamlines the creation of affordable housing through tax credits, grants, and public-private partnerships.

REAL PROPERTY TAXES

HBR supports a Real Property Tax structure rooted in sound economic principles, emphasizing fairness, equity, and diverse needs of property owners. This approach aims to balance the fiscal needs of the county with property owners' ability to contribute proportionally to those needs.

FAIRNESS – Implement a real property tax rate structure that treats property owners equitably.

AFFORDABILITY – Protect property owners from excessive property tax burdens, especially kama'āina and owner-occupants.

PROPERTY VALUATION – Promote accurate and fair property valuations to ensure equitable tax burdens.

EXEMPTIONS AND CREDITS – Support deliberate property tax exemptions and credits for specific property types or owners to alleviate financial hardship.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY – Ensure that real property tax system generates sufficient revenue to support essential city services.

LAND USE AND ENVIRONMENT

HBR is committed to protecting our natural environment and encouraging sustainable land use and business practices. Our commitment to working collaboratively with the City to implement policies that balance economic soundness with environmental stewardship will guide our approach to addressing key issues.

SHORELINE EROSION – Collaborate on strategic coastal management plans that balance property rights and economic soundness with the need to protect our shorelines including managed retreat.

AREAS OF FURTHER COLLABORATION include cesspool conversion, wastewater and storm water management, fire sprinkler regulations, flood zone management and mixed-use development.

AS THE VOICE OF O'AHU REAL ESTATE, HBR SEEKS TO FORGE COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS WITH THE CITY AND ITS AGENCIES, BRIDGING EFFORTS AND RESOURCES TO CONNECT HOMEOWNERS AND RENTERS WITH VITAL CITY INITIATIVES AND EFFORTS.