

State of Waikiki

"Continuing to be Clean and Safe"

Provided to you by:
 WAIKIKI BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT ASSOCIATION (WBIDA)

Reach out to us...
 If you have questions, please contact us at mail@waikikibid.org.

City and County of Honolulu Asset – Publication Racks

WBIDA staff is working with the City to address publication racks and the related complaints. Due to the pandemic and decreases in visitor arrivals, many publications have ceased, which has led to an increase in open rack spaces and perceived nuisances.

Brief History

The racks are owned by the City and the program for the racks' contents falls under the of Customer Services Department (CSD). The Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM) conducts major repairs on these units. These were installed in conjunction with the City Council, Waikiki Improvement Association, and several publishers to replace the assortment of free-standing racks that had been in various states of disrepair.



WBIDA service work

With coordination from the City, the WBIDA completed a refurbishment of the racks in 2019, which included replacing panels and lids, as well as repainting. The WBIDA crew cleans and disinfects every rack several times a day.



City Ordinance and Removals

Removal of racks is a very lengthy process, and set by City ordinance. The racks are governed by ROH Chapter 29, Article 11, as a protected First Amendment right of independent publishers to inform the public. A rack can only be removed if it has been over 50% vacant for two leasing cycles, with each leasing cycle being three years each. CSD is looking at interim options to temporarily remove racks that are under-utilized, and possible modification to the ordinance.

Other Future Options

WBIDA is also working with the Mayor's office and the Department of Information Technology (DIT) on digital kiosks, though this is a long-term project. Digital kiosks will minimize the need for hard-copy publications, however, some visitors may still desire the type of tangible materials provided in the racks.

Service Statistics, 2020 vs. 2021

	2020	2021
Infrastructure Cleaned	28,293	28,206
Trash Collected (# of bags)	791	1,755
Trash Collected (lbs)	11,865	26,325
Pressure Washing (sq ft)	117,594	334,715
Stickers, Graffiti Removed	118	590
Interactions Served	3,947	14,471
Bike Patrol (miles)	1,907	1,851
Sit-Lie Advisories	476	516
Private Property Assistance	326	384

The above statistics show the large differences between the impacts during the pandemic, as compared to the current recovery of tourism.

Sidewalk and Curb Repairs

A repair project is underway on Kalakaua Avenue and in front of the Luana Waikiki property. After multiple years of coordination between the WBIDA, DFM, Division of Urban Forestry, and adjacent property owners, the project began in May 2021.



Mature tree roots had lifted the surface and pooling water was blocked from reaching the storm drain. One tree was removed and will be replaced with two, less mature trees in larger tree wells.

Work is projected to be completed this summer, pending further coordination between the City and HECO to adjust the utility lines. Until the project is complete, the sidewalk will remain closed and pedestrians will be directed across the street for their safety.

In a future phase of the City's Kalakaua Avenue Sidewalk Improvements project, the surface will be upgraded to quartzite pavers and other enhancements may be made to the public space.