

**CITY COUNCIL**  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3065 / TELEPHONE 547-7000


**ROMY M. CACHOLA**  
COUNCILMEMBER  
(808) 547-7007  
(808) 523-4220 (fax)  
e-mail: rcachola@honolulu.gov

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CITY COUNCIL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII

June 23, 2008

**Memorandum**

TO: Councilmember Barbara Marshall, Chair

FROM: Councilmember Romy M. Cachola 

SUBJECT: Western Interstate Region Conference, National Association of Counties  
Washington County, St. George, Utah  
May 21-23, 2008

I attended the National Association of Counties (NACo) Western Interstate Region Conference, which was held in St. George, Utah from May 21-23, 2008. The conference provided county officials with the opportunity to hear speakers, discuss legislation, and network with other officials to exchange information on various issues.

The three-day conference, which included pre-conference events on May 20, 2008, also focused on public lands and other issues critical to the Western region of the United States. Among the issues discussed at this year's conference were energy resources for public lands, public lands policies and the impacts of global warming.

In addition to learning more about important issues facing our counties, I attended the Western Interstate Region (WIR) Conference to also invite sponsors, participants and guest speakers to Honolulu for the 2008 Hawaii State Association of Counties (HSAC) Conference, which was recently held at the Sheraton Waikiki from June 9-10, 2008. The HSAC Conference took place about a month after the WIR Conference.

I am pleased to report that members of the Honolulu City Council as well as HSAC members from other counties who attended the WIR Conference were very successful in inviting colleagues, peers and others to the HSAC Conference in Waikiki.

### **May 21, 2008**

May 21 was the first day of the conference, which included registration of attendees, Board of Directors meetings, steering committee sessions, and NACo Board of Directors events.

I attended the Western Interstate Region (WIR) Board of Director's Meeting from 8:30 am to 12 noon. I later attended the Public Lands Steering Committee Meeting from 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm. where panelists discussed the issue of off-highway vehicle management. While motorized recreation poses a grave threat to public lands, active and effective management can minimize impacts and protect the value of public lands for multiple uses.

### **May 22, 2008**

I attended the Opening General Session from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., which began with a welcome address by the Gary Herbert, Lt. Governor of Utah, and Daniel D. McArthur, Mayor of St. George, Utah. The session also included remarks from Leonard Blackham, Utah's Commission of Agriculture and Food, and Hyrum Smith, Chairman and founder of FranklinCovey, a Utah-based company that provides time management training and assessment services for organizations and individuals. FranklinCovey operates approximately 80 retail stores throughout the United States and has sales channels in more than 50 countries worldwide.

Blackham said told attendees that his department is doing all it can to encourage good range health, focusing in particular on the grazing improvement program for public lands. Grazing on public lands is critical to Utah's economy, Blackham said, since agriculture in Utah is tied to public lands with 75 percent of the state's agricultural industry in livestock and 70 percent of the land in federal hands.

Hyrum Smith was the next speaker. He delivered an upbeat analysis of today's workplace and of the principles driving our nation, which he believes are based on either a scarcity or an abundance model. He urged the audience to adopt the abundance model, which suggests there are enough resources in the world to go around. He also asked the audience to consider adopting as their own his personal definition of wealth: "The minute you can say 'I have a sufficient amount for my needs,' you are wealthy. Above that, do something that matters."

From 10:15 am – 11:45 am, I attended a session entitled "Overview of the Incident Command System for Elected and Appointed Officials." The presenters were Wade Carpenter, Public Safety Director from Ivins, Utah, and Dean Cox emergency services director, Washington County, Utah. Carpenter and Cox stated that elected officials shoulder a significant responsibility for the safety and well-being of their constituents in times of emergency or disaster. The session provided me with an overview of the Incident Command System (ICS) and the disaster declaration process. ICS is a standardized, on-scene, all-hazard incident management concept that was designed by the federal government for emergency management agencies. I also learned about the benefits of coordinating news and press releases with other agencies and jurisdictions in times of crisis.

In the afternoon from 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm, I attended a session entitled "Buying Green Without Going into the Red." This session explained strategic ways to implement a green

purchasing policy without costing the county more money. Many county officials have been asked by constituents to buy more environmentally-sensitive products. However, these constituents are typically unaware of the costs of a green purchasing policy. The presenters—Corey Imhoff from the U.S. Communities Government Purchasing Alliance, Leland Stafford from Office Depot, and Steve Swendiman from NACo—taught the audience how to find green products through Internet search engines. They also constructed a reasonable county policy that takes into consideration quality, cost and efficiency.

**May 23, 2008**

Due to prior commitments, I returned to Honolulu on the last day of the conference and was unable to attend any of the remaining sessions.

\* \* \*

City Council  
City and County of Honolulu

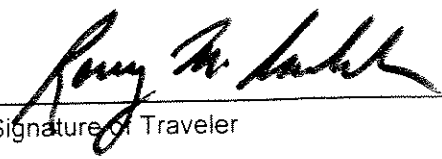
# CLAIM FOR TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

Date: 6-23-08

Traveler: **ROMEO CACHOLA**  
 Event: **2008 NACO WIR**  
 Location: **St. George, UT**  
 Dates: From **5/21/08** To **5/23/08**

Description	Amount	Notes
1. Registration Fee	470.00	
2. Airfare	1,793.94*	*pending HSAC approval for reimbursement
3. Hotel	325.34	Rate:                      No. of Billable Days:
4. Meals	77.43	receipts attached
5. Ground Transportation	17.00	receipts attached
6. Tips	34.06	receipts attached
7. Other		
Other		
Other		
8. Adjustment		
<b>TOTAL REIMBURSEMENT</b>	<b>\$2,717.77</b>	
		<b>TOTAL TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT: \$2,717.77</b>

This is to certify that the above data, based upon receipts submitted to Council Administrative Support Services via a CCLTRVL02 form, is accurate. Further, I am claiming reimbursement for expenses associated with a trip in which City business was conducted and personal funds were used to advance payment:

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Traveler

JUL 03 2008  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date