

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
COMMITTEE FOR ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION

Minutes of the Meeting

Date, Time, Place: March 5, 2008, 10:30 a.m.
Fasi Municipal Building, 3rd Floor Conference Room
650 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Voting Members Present:

Catholic Charities Hawaii: Tom Baty
Hawaii Disability Rights Center: Ann Collins
Kokua Program, U.H. at Manoa: Ann Ito
Ho'opono: Sam Fisk

Ex-Officio Members Present:

Department of Transportation Services: James Burke, Eileen
Mark, Scott Ishiyama, Tony Talat, Jackie Shen
Oahu Transit Services, Inc.: Patricia Nielsen
Disability and Communication Access Board: Judy Paik
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization: Marian Yasuda

At-Large Member Present:

Alicia Maluafiti

Voting Members Excused:

Easter Seals Hawaii: Linda Guess
Lanakila Rehabilitation Center: Florence Calderon

Voting Members Unexcused:

Hawaii Centers for Independent Living: Phillip Ana

Ex-Officio Members Unexcused:

Department of Health: Wilfred Young
Honolulu Committee on Aging (EAD): Doug Gilman

1. Call to Order

Chair Baty called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. The attendees introduced themselves.

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the June 6, 2007, September 5, 2007, and December 18, 2007 meetings were approved.

3. Old Business

Approval of Proposed Memorandum from CAT to the DTS Director:
“RECOMMENDATION TO INCLUDE PUBLIC RESTROOMS AT
TRANSIT STATIONS SERVING THE HONOLULU HIGH CAPACITY
TRANSIT CORRIDOR TRANSIT PROJECT”

T. Baty stated that public health laws require public facilities to have bathrooms, but do not require them to be opened to the public. He also shared two articles from the *Honolulu Star-Bulletin's* “Kokua Line” column regarding public restrooms, and presented a document from The American Restroom Association regarding the lack of public restrooms and applicable codes. The lack of public restrooms is a statewide problem that may also affect the public’s ability to use the new rapid transit system.

In response to a question from A. Collins, J. Burke stated that some older U.S. rapid transit systems have restrooms at major stations, but not at all stations. S. Fisk, A. Maluafiti, and T. Baty expressed their belief that baby boomers and mothers traveling with children will need public restrooms to allow them to use Honolulu’s rapid transit system.

The CAT expressed its support of a revised recommendation memo to the DTS Director recommending restrooms at all Honolulu rapid transit stations. T. Baty signed the memo and gave it to J. Burke. J. Burke will give the letter to the DTS Director and will provide a progress report at the next CAT meeting.

4. New Business

Informational Briefing on Chapter 13 Public Transit Ordinance
Amendment

E. Mark reported that Council Chair Barbara Marshall introduced Bill 80, which would allow the suspension of bus fares for up to one year to increase ridership. DTS is considering other options for increasing ridership including such as promoting fare-free Sundays.

Bill 79 is a house cleaning bill to clarify the fare structure. Its provisions include:

1. Allowing persons with a Medicare card to ride TheBus at a discount rate.
2. Creating a 2 year Person With A Disability Bus Pass for \$60, in addition to the current 1 year Person With A Disability Bus Pass for \$30.

5. Other Business

A. CAT Bylaws Revision:

The CAT bylaws designate members by agency rather than by individual's names, except for the At Large member. T. Baty recommended that the bylaws be amended to remove the At Large member's name. The CAT moved and seconded a motion to take up this issue in the next meeting and noted that changes to the bylaws require a quorum vote.

B. Letter of Appreciation:

J. Burke suggested that the CAT consider writing a letter of appreciation to Morris Nakamura to recognize his contributions to improving accessible transportation. The CAT moved and seconded a motion that PTD draft a letter of appreciation to M. Nakamura from the CAT, which T. Baty will sign.

The next CAT meeting was set for June 4, 2008 at 10:30am. The meeting was adjourned at 11:25am.