



McCully - Mo'ili'ili No. 8 NEWSLETTER



Annual Issue

Spring 2009

c/o Neighborhood Commission Office • 530 South King Street, Room 400 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Layout: Bryan Mick (NCO)

Chair's Message:

By Ron Lockwood



Aloha,

The 2007 – 2009 term of office of all neighborhood boards will be pau on 30 June. It has been an honor to preside over our McCully – Mo'ili'ili Neighborhood Board these past two years.

Streamlined Boundaries. We started 2007 with a new look. Utilizing census data from 1990 and 2000, new sub-district boundary lines were drawn; re-drawn; reviewed; re-drawn again; taken to public hearing; taken to the Neighborhood Commission and finally approved. This was a 15+ year effort and I applaud the committee work of all who worked on this issue, especially from 2001 to 2007 when it was monthly meetings up until it was approved. We have three (3) sub-districts, five (5) board members for each, and a much easier way to review boundaries between sub-districts.

Streamlined Committees. Please read the reports by our Committee Chairs – *Affordable Housing/Homeless*, Betty Lou Larson; *Planning, Zoning & Transportation*, Marijane Carlos & Klement Kondratovich; *Public Safety & Legislative Affairs*, Judy DeVilbiss & Clifton Takamura and *Schools & Community Outreach*, Shaunna Tabor & Serena Kyi-Yim. They work hard staying atop issues relating to our community and we meet monthly, outside of the regular meeting to review national, state and local issues that may concern our neighborhoods "quality of life". Some of these issues concern more than one committee, so we share the responsibilities in writing resolutions, testifying at the city council or legislature and visiting other groups and

organizations within our community. To me, the best part is all of these folks are running for the 2009 – 2011 term, so we can utilize their talents and use them as mentors to train new leaders that come onto the board.

Outstanding Neighbors. We are celebrating two important anniversaries in 2009 for the McCully – Mo'ili'ili neighborhoods. On 30 May, *Prince Kuhio Elementary School* had a multi-cultural celebration for its 125th anniversary. In August, *the McCully – Mo'ili'ili Public Library* will celebrate its 40th anniversary of service to the community.

Washington Middle School offers a chess club, (two years old) that consistently is in the top at every public & private school competition. This year WMS has the state's 6th grade Champion and the Middle School Co-ed Team Champion. The WMS Math Team won the State Championship in 2007 and is consistently in the top two or three positions in every middle and high school competition. WMS Math Team has started a 5th grade math competition for all its feeder schools to help prepare students for middle school, look for future team members, and more importantly, to help students meet and excel on the yearly testing of students.

Our neighborhood high schools – *Iolani & Kaimuki High* offer quality programs and outstanding sports programs. Since 2000, to be the state basketball champion, every team in the state had to defeat these two schools. The High School Economic Team of *Iolani* has been National or Regional Champions for eight straight years. Kaimuki High held a very

successful Parent Forum in May, to hear where the parents believed the school should be in two or three years in terms of curriculum and activities. On the 27th of May the Kaimuki High, JROTC program was recognized, by the City Council for over five (5) years of dedicated service to the community.

T.A.G. – Totally Against Graffiti. Hearing numerous complaints at board meetings, a diverse group of neighbors banded together in 2007, and now hold two major neighborhood clean-ups yearly to remove graffiti, stickers, etc. The 18 April clean up saw over 200 volunteers participate. Next clean up will be 26 September. Join us!

Citizen Patrols. Our McCully patrol is lead by Lillian Novak and our Mo'ili'ili patrol by Jeb Brown. For twelve (12) years these people have lead neighbors on weekly sweeps to look for illegal activities, domestic disputes, missing signs, burned out lights, etc. I am pleased to report a THIRD patrol; lead by Greg Cuadra has begun patrolling in the Library area of our community. Patrol areas overlap, so at least three nights each week patrols are calling 911 when things, "don't look right". Please join.

I owe Judy DeVilbiss & Clifton Takamura an apology. As I read through the above, I realize I've reported all of their Public Safety & Legislative data. There is much to be proud about, and we appreciate the community's support.

Affordable Housing/Homeless Committee

By Betty Lou Larson



As UH-Manoa adds dormitory space, rentals will become more available in the community as demand lessens. Hopefully, with less demand, and a weakened economy, rents will decrease.

Other housing issues impacting our neighborhood – Rainbow Vista will be re-

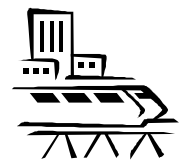
opening after extensive renovations by Fall '09 (located at S. Beretania & Isenberg) with "market rents" and three new places to dine / eat with parking.

The Date-Laaau area will see leases expire in 2012. Over 260 housing units are being removed from the market. An issue like this goes beyond a neighborhood board's advisory capacity, but it is a loss of over 400 - 500 of our neighbors. As to the owners' plans for the area, we have heard nothing to date.

With Date-Laaau neighbors being asked to go, this is a good transition into the homeless issue. May I remind everyone, "being homeless is not a crime." Depending upon park sweeps in other communities, McCully – Mo'ili'ili has between 250 - 350 homeless at various locations throughout the neighborhood. We talk with the health providers from Waikiki Health Center monthly and offer suggestions on people to check upon, that may need shelter or medical care. Until the State and the City put together a holistic program of services and housing for the homeless that we are willing to fund, don't expect a solution soon.

Planning, Zoning & Transportation

By Marijane Carlos
& Klement Kondratovich



Rail – light, medium, heavy; EIS drafts; responses to EIS. Just keeping current on this issue alone occupies one's time for months and years. The board, like the community, is split on the issue, although we realize that in the 2008 vote the community voted against rail.

Planning. What we want our community to look like in the next 15 – 25 years is another weighty topic we discuss. We have had assistance on this from UH-Manoa DURP – Department of Urban & Regional Planning;

from surveys at Discover Mo'ili'ili Day festivals and lots of talking with neighbors. Kamehameha Schools is part of the discussion as they have over 14 acres and need to figure out what the community can use and will fit the market for the next 40+ years. Hawaiian Home Land's Bowl-o-Drome is another site we talk about but no decision has been made by the department.

Zoning. How tall should buildings be in the neighborhood? Transit Oriented Development will occupy zoning up to ½ mile around each transit station; remember we are scheduled for three stations in the neighborhood. What these stations will look like (300 feet long), how high they will be, how they will affect the view plane, who will maintain the stations and how often, all need careful input before they are built. What types of business we wish near these stations also need our input. Coffee shops? Shoe repair? Grocers? Do we want shops for the community or for the commuters?

Legislation. We have discussed and taken positions on many bills going through the City. Bill 35 *prohibiting activities at bus stops* is something we support, but civil liberties must be maintained. Bill 40 *relating to bicycles passing pedestrians* has tacit support as it is unclear what type of notification is needed (can you yell, "Get out of the way"?). Bill 38 *relating to transit technology (rubber tires)* we support this concept

City Bicycle Master Plan – we have attended every meeting on this, participated, and await the City's draft plan for further review. The City Bicycle Master Plan is due out by the end of 2009. A bicycle/walking path along the stream bank behind UH – Manoa all the way to the Ala Wai Canal? Is it doable? Is it economically possible?



State Bicycle Master Plan - we have attended every meeting on this, participated, and await the state's draft plan.

Bulky Items. Pick up for our community is the 3rd week of the month, yet about one percent of our neighbors (up to 200) continue to ignore this pick up date monthly. Since November 2008, our Neighborhood Board has been sending these addresses to the City's Department of Environmental Services, for enforcement of the law.

If you put out your bulky items, after the pick up date, the fine is \$500. We will continue to push for fines as these neighbors make it hard to walk down the sidewalks for all of us.

Schools and Community Affairs

By Shaunna Tabor & Serena Kyi-Yim



Trying to keep up with School Community Councils from 3 elementary schools, one middle school, one public high school, one private K-12 school, and numerous preschools sees our committee members at different meetings nightly. In our Chair's message, he touched upon a few of the excellent programs to be very proud of at different schools.

KCAA- Mother Rice Preschool, nearly as long serving as Kuhio School, is looking at some exciting new buildings to enhance its service to the community. How this construction will affect our neighbors is yet to be seen; however it will remove the 4:30 a.m. daily delivery of foods. How the new building will conform to the "look" of the Mo'ili'ili business community is also to be reviewed. Talks have already begun to keep us all informed.

Kapiolani Medical Center will be undergoing a 30 year program of renovations. The impact of this project on traffic, noise, freeway entrance & exit are all questions to be discussed and opined upon as the years pass.

Noise. We were the first neighborhood board to take on the issue of disposal truck noise. Since then, five other neighborhood boards have followed us on this issue, a Noise Forum was held in May 2009 and many other phases of noise were looked at: leaf blowers, liquor establishments, airplanes, and modified exhaust systems in particular. When neighbors let us know what they want, we will continue to tackle these issues with our elected officials

Graffiti clean up. Our 'home-grown' T.A.G. – Totally Against Graffiti organization continues to work in partnership with numerous other

organizations, in addition to its twice yearly neighborhood clean ups. T.A.G. worked on a 'Day of Service' project with the Hawaii alumni from Yale University, by providing the necessary supplies while the alumni brought the people power. Kaimuki High's JROTC has used T.A.G. supplies to remove graffiti under bridges. Pearl City Elementary School has received answers to graffiti questions. Iolani 5th graders have participated, and used T.A.G. supplies. In addition, T.A.G. has at least six (6) 'rapid responders' who have taken certain areas of the neighborhood under watch and respond within 36 hours to remove graffiti on property where they have permission. Please continue to join us.



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