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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 28, 2015

TO: COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION

FROM: STEVE UYENO, ^{SA} SENIOR ADVISOR TO COUNCILMEMBER ANN KOBAYASHI

SUBJECT: TRAVEL REPORT FOR THE 2015 HAWAII STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Please find attached the travel report for my trip to Maui to attend the 2015 Hawaii State Association of Counties (HSAC) Annual Conference from June 24-26, 2015 at the Makena Beach and Golf Resort in Kihei, Maui. The theme for this year's conference was "Why invest in our counties? Counties Move Hawaii Forward."

Experts and Hawaii state and county officials conducted several sessions focusing on how the counties of Hawaii are moving the state by sharing their experiences with successful projects and legislation. These sessions included informative panel discussions investing in the counties with specific topics on housing, legislation, and technology.

Attached is a summary and findings of the sessions and panel discussions which I attended.

Conference Welcome and Keynote Speaker

After welcome remarks from HSAC President Mel Rapozo, Maui County Council Chair Mike White, and National Association of Counties (NACO) President Riki Hokama, Emcee Tony Takatani introduced the Conference's Keynote Speaker, Emilia Istrate. Ms. Istrate is the NACO research director, responsible for developing the priorities to support NACO's strategic plan and mission, particularly in the area of economic development and transportation.

Her presentation on "Strong Economies, Resilient Counties," provided information on other county governments who are investing in the construction of public facilities and other forms of public infrastructure improvements to promote economic development. She noted that collaboration among government and the private sector is the key to success in addressing the workforce and economic challenges.

Investing in the Counties: Housing

In this session, State and County officials and private developers conducted a panel which explored the counties' option to facilitate affordable rental housing, providing incentives to developers and investors, and creating a sense of belonging for the residents. They also explored how the counties, through public/private partnerships, tax credits, and the State rental housing trust fund, can be leveraged to create affordable housing opportunities.

Of note was the increase in the state's population, mostly due to the natural growth of families, is creating a demand for housing, and that over 3,000 new housing units are needed each year on Oahu to house its residents. The discussions covered the need for affordable housing projects and the State's efforts to facilitate and preserve housing units. The panel also discussed how projects are being financed, such as USDA-financed self-help housing, and the construction of sustainable building projects on agricultural land, paying special attention to the host culture.

Hands-On Session: Test Drive an Electric Vehicle

The afternoon sessions consisted of a food tour and an agricultural tour. I took part in an opportunity to test drive an electric vehicle. The cars available were a Tesla all-wheel drive electric car and a Nissan Leaf. The Tesla had a range of 250-mile range at 65 mph on one charge. The Leaf demonstration is the result of a partnership between Japan and Hawaii to develop and test technologies to optimize renewable energy use.

Investing in the Counties: Legislation

The panel for this session consisted of County and State officials, including House Speaker Joe Souki and Lieutenant Governor Shan Tsutsui, who discussed legislative initiatives to promote economic development and diversification. These included transferring more power, such as

transportation and park responsibilities to the counties, working with the State to secure financing for capital projects, and the importance of home rule.

NACO President and Maui Councilmember Riki Hokama spoke about his experience in Washington, D.C., and updated the audience on the NACO priorities, such as transportation, housing, workforce development and community development block grants. He also expressed how the counties must be allowed to bundle capital projects for cost saving and the need for more land use authority, and emphasized the importance of military spending in Hawaii.

Investing in Counties: Biodiesel

State and county officials and energy experts comprised a panel to discuss the advantages and opportunities of biodiesel fuel and an alternative energy source for Hawaii. The panel covered the recent legislation by Hawaii to establish a goal of 100% renewable energy use by the year 2045. For instance, the State Department of Transportation Deputy Director Ed Sniffen stated the Governor David Ige's commitment to have its fleet of vehicles using biodiesel fuel. In addition, Clyde Omija of Honolulu County's automotive division stated that the City has been using the fuel since 2004.

Kelvin Kohatsu, fleet administrator for Hawaii Electric Light in Hawaii County, said that their fleet of cars previously performed at an average of 8.66 miles per gallon. After its conversion to biofuel, the average tripled to 24.62 miles per gallon.

Investing in Counties: Infrastructure

This panel, made up of policy and financial experts, discussed how inadequate, poorly maintained infrastructure is impacting housing affordability, quality of life, and economic viability in communities across the nation. The panel explored solutions to support and increase the state's infrastructure as the state's population continues to grow, as well as the critical need to improve the counties' infrastructure.

The panel covered the numerous challenges facing the counties, such as aging infrastructure, delayed investments, and lack of a long-term strategic planning, which may contribute to significant cost increases. They reviewed potential funding sources such as bonds, tax increment financing, impact fees, and revolving loan funds.

Also noted was that Hawaii's construction industry accounts for more than 28,000 jobs and is expected to increase by 25% in the next ten years. But they also noted challenges in the future, which would yield the greatest financial impact: waste water improvements, transportation needs, and rise in sea-level.

City Council
City and County of Honolulu

CLAIM FOR TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

Date: 8/4/15

Traveler: Steve Uyeno
 Event: 2015 HSAC Annual Conference
 Location: Makena Beach & Golf Resort *Maui, HI*
 Dates: From *6/24/15* To 6/26/15
95

Description	Amount	Notes
1. Registration Fee	\$200.00	Registered under government/early bird
2. Airfare	\$189.00	Includes RT airfare on Hawaiian Airlines-Oahu to Maui
3. Hotel	\$383.34	2 night stay at Makena Beach & Golf Resort
4. Meals		
5. Ground Transportation		
6. Tips		
7. Other		
Other		
Other		
8. Adjustment		
TOTAL REIMBURSEMENT	772.34	
	<i>389.00</i>	<i>P42015 SP 1503440 IN 16W1405</i>
	<i>383.34</i>	<i>P42016 6AX 16W1068</i>

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.

Steve Uyeno

 Signature of Traveler

8/4/15

 Date