



## ALA MOANA/KAKA'AKO NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 11

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813  
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### **DRAFT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2010 MAKIKI CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Larry Hurst called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with a **quorum of seven (7) members present**. Note- This nine (9) member Board requires five (5) votes for a quorum and to take official Board action.

**Board Members Present:** Ralph Burr, David Hilea Jr., Larry Hurst, Wayne Ibara, Sean Newcamp, Steve Okumoto, Kevin Shiota (appointed this meeting), Anne Stevens, Michael Zehner (appointed this meeting).

**Board Members Absent:** None.

**Vacancies:** There was one vacancy in Sub-District 1, and one vacancy in Sub-District 3.

**Guests:** Michele Sansone and Torin Ching (Councilmember Ann Kobayashi's office), Roy Gritter, Shawn Hamamoto (Councilmember Rod Tam's office), Francis Choe (Senator Carol Fukunaga's office), Jim Schlosser, Captain Ketih Kondo (Honolulu Fire Department), Jack Hamada, Jeff Nakamura, Dexter Okada, Jim McCoy (Ho'Alea), Sergeant Aaron Agmata and Lieutenant Crouch (Honolulu Police Department), Sandy Nahoopii-Soong (Board of Water Supply), Virginia Low (Koolani), Pat Lee (Honolulu Rail Project), Bertrand Kobayashi (Representative Karl Rhoad's office), Robin Chun-Carmichael (Mayor's Representative), Pohai Ryan (Senator Brickwood Galuteria's office); Denise Hayashi, Jim Neirman and Leighton Lum (RM Towill), Leland S.M. Ribac (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

**FILLING OF VACANT SEATS:** Chair Hurst opened the floor for any nominations or volunteers to fill the two vacancies;

1. **Sub-District One:** Michael Zehner volunteered for the position, noting his willingness to work with the Board and his frequent visits to the Board meetings. **Stevens nominated Michael Zehner to fill the vacancy in sub-district one. Zehner was APPOINTED UNANIMOUSLY, 7-0-0 (Aye: Burr, Hilea Jr., Hurst, Ibara, Newcamp, Okumoto and Stevens.)**
2. **Sub-District Two:** Kevin Shiota volunteered for the position, noting too his willingness to work with the Board but this was his first Board meeting. **Stevens nominated Kevin Shiota to fill the vacancy in sub-district two. Shiota was APPOINTED UNANIMOUSLY, 7-0-0 (Aye: Burr, Hilea Jr., Hurst, Ibara, Newcamp, Okumoto and Stevens.)**

Following a short recess called by the Chair, Neighborhood Assistant Ribac verified the two volunteer's residences and provided the Oath of Office. Following the oath the two members joined the Board and **a quorum of nine (9) members were present**.

### **CITY MONTHLY REPORTS:**

**Honolulu Fire Department (HFD):** Captain Keith Kondo reported;

1. **Fire Statistics for January 2010:** Included; 17 fire calls, 251 medical emergencies, 27 search and rescues and 37 miscellaneous calls.
2. **Fire Safety Tip:** Smoke alarms save lives and are an important part of a home fire escape plan. Since the late 1970's, properly installed and maintained alarms have contributed to an almost 50% decrease in fire deaths.
3. **Public Access Signs:** It was clarified that as a result of a multi-agency city project in 2008 the access signs are designated as 'emergency response locations' and were designed to better identify a persons' location in the event of an emergency. This will better aid first responders in reaching a hurt individual.



Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Distance Between Access Signs: Concerns were raised regarding the distances between the Ala Moana Beach Park access signs. It was noted that residents should provide the most accurate detail of a location when reporting an emergency; the more detailed the better the response first responders are given.
2. Private Condominium Alarms: Concern was raised with a condominium that did not sound an alarm while a floor had caught on fire; Kondo explained that private condominiums are checked yearly and any concerns should be directed to the building manager or owner.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD): Sergeant Aaron Agmata reported;

Crime Statistics for January 2010: Included; 30 assaults, 7 burglaries, 31 drug offenses, 23 driving under the influence (DUI), 6 family offenses, 10 graffiti, 144 motor vehicle collisions, 13 motor vehicle thefts, 31 property damages, 1 sex offense, 45 unauthorized entrance to a motor vehicle and 276 miscellaneous.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Weed and Seed Area: It was questioned and clarified that the district Weed and Seed has lost its funding capabilities; however the designation as a Weed and Sees area remains in place and drug offenses remain federal offenses.
2. Outstanding Award: It was noted that the Sheridan Citizen Patrol has received the Outstanding Award for the second year in a row by HPD for their efforts in the community. Applause followed.

Board of Water Supply (BWS): Sandy Nahoopii-Soong reported;

1. Water Main Breaks: No breaks were reported in January 2010.
2. General Water Announcements: An estimated 50% of water consumption of the average single family is used outdoors. Using a home rainwater catchments system can help to conserve water. The BWS promotes using rain barrels to collect rain water to use for non-drinking activities. A class is scheduled for Saturday, February 13, 2010 to build your own rain barrel, but is already full. Residents can keep posted of the next available class online at [www.boardofwatersupply.com](http://www.boardofwatersupply.com).
3. Halawa Xeriscape Workshops: Upcoming classes include; 1) Learn how worms can turn food into organic fertilizer at the worm workshop on Saturday, February 20, 2010. 2) Visit with a 'Plant Doctor' for plant care and gardening tips on Saturday, March 20, 2010. 3) Xeriscape egg decorating workshop with garden egg hunt on Saturday, April 3, 2010.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Non-Potable Water: It was questioned and clarified that BWS is not pumping water from Wilson Lake as the water is untreated and non-potable.
2. Kapiolani Boulevard: Concerns were raised with a hearsay project on Kapiolani Boulevard that will cost \$11.7 billion for water and sewer improvements; Nahoopii-Soong noted she is unaware of the project but will follow up at the next Board meeting.

#### RESIDENTS' CONCERNS:

Honolulu Rail Project: Pat Lee reported;

- President Barack Obama has included \$55 million for the project in his FY2011 budget. This latest funding installment under the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) New Starts program supports the FTA's expectation to provide \$1.55 billion in federal funds to help build the Honolulu rail system.

- Rail is almost shovel-ready and the biggest job creating engine our state has. Construction will put 4,000 people back to work next year. Over the life of construction, it will employ about 10,000 people a year. Rail construction will bring \$330 million in new revenue into our economy next year.
- Accommodations for providing information to those with visual impairments at stations and on trains consist of Braille and/or raised letter print and large print signage, as well as, verbal announcements. For passengers with hearing deficiencies we will be providing variable message signage, directional and informational signage, and visual signage.
- In addition, verbal announcements will be made prior to the train reaching a station and will also be made to announce incoming trains within stations. "Help" buttons will be placed in stations and on trains to assist passengers in need. There will also be security cameras at stations and on trains, along with station attendants to answer questions or provide help in an emergency.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Chair's Report: Chair Hurst reported;

1. Liquor Resolution: There has not been a response from the Liquor Commission (LC), the Department of Finance or the Mayor's office regarding the Board's resolution on Liquor Licensed Establishment.
2. Club 939: Although the Liquor Commission has found nothing wrong with the establishment of Club 939. No written report has been submitted to the Board and the license was restored from revocation to an altered premises. The club is known for its exotic dancers and illegal activity.
3. Crystal Palace: The establishment has been considerably altered and was part of the illegal construction work on Keeaumoku Street. There no longer is a stage for exotic dancers; the room near the women's restroom does not meet regulated requirements.
4. Imperial Plaza: The Imperial Plaza has written concerns regarding late night noise and smoking on the property of a club, The Asylum. The Board has always encouraged contacting HPD and the Liquor Commission regarding complaints such as these. The Asylum is prohibited from soliciting minors less than 18 years of age, high school students and teenagers. By State law drinking is not allowed after 2:00 a.m., and it is the LC's responsibility to enforce this law.
5. Shinnyo-en Hawaii: The Board was asked to support the traditional Memorial Day ceremony at Ala Moana Beach Park, and having opposing arguments for the festival, the Board agreed to support Shinnyo-en.
6. Wal-Mart Delivery Trucks: Chair Hurst has spoken to the resident whom raised concern with delivery trucks using narrow roads; it seems Wal-Mart is taking a proactive approach and speaking with the delivery personnel.
7. Department of Health (DOH): Senator Fukunaga has provided information from the Director of DOH regarding evaluations of licensed adult care facilities.
8. Candidate Debates: United States representative candidates will not be allowed to debate at this Neighborhood Board meeting.

Community Relations: Ibara reported having been in discussions with Juanita Kawamoto and Edith Ho whom suggested a farmers market be implemented in the community. In the discussion, it was suggested that the market be held here at the Makiki Christian Church. Ibara will provide more information in the future.

Honolulu Rail Project: Chair Hurst explained that this is a new committee and without objection would like to appoint Kevin Shiota to this committee. **Shiota was appointed Chair to the Honolulu Rail Project by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 9-0-0, (Aye: Burr, Hilea Jr., Hurst, Ibara, Newcamp, Okumoto, Shiota, Stevens and Zehner.)**

Request to Review Rail Project: Shiota he has been in discussion with several Association of Apartment Owners (AOAO's) who has formed an Ad hoc group requesting a full review of the Rail Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) by the Governor. Shiota to provide more information in the future.

Homeland Security/Disaster Preparedness: Stevens attended a meeting at Koolani Condominiums with resident Virginia Lowe; the condominium association is looking to start their own Neighborhood Security Watch (NSW) in the area.

Land Development/Utilization: Newcamp explained there will be a public hearing regarding the Pacifica Honolulu Modification project tomorrow, Wednesday, February 24, 2010. The project proposes road work be done on Kapiolani Boulevard. Interested residents can speak to Newcamp following the meeting.

Legislative/Government Affairs: **Without objection by the Board, House Bill 2835 and Senate Bill 2914 were included in the committee discussion, 9-0-0, (Aye: Burr, Hilea Jr., Hurst, Ibara, Newcamp, Okumoto, Shiota, Stevens and Zehner.)**

House Bill (HB) 2835 and Senate Bill (SB) 2914: As a long standing issue in the neighborhood, the two bills will help address the issue of derelict cars on Queen Street. The bills, introduced by Representative Rhoads, will require the registrar to provide adjoining landowner information of record relating to the management of any public highway, waterway or water course.

**Stevens, on behalf of the Legislative/Government Affairs Committee, moved to support HB 2835 and companion SB 2914. The motion was ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0, (Aye: Burr, Hilea Jr., Hurst, Ibara, Newcamp, Okumoto, Shiota, Stevens and Zehner.)**

Parks/Waterways: Burr has been working on the residents' concern regarding Ala Wai Promenade. A letter was drafted and forwarded to the City Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) requesting night time closure.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

Promenade Phase III: It was questioned and clarified that closure includes from the Ala Moana Boulevard to the Kalakaua Avenue portions of the Promenade and not the Phase III portion.

**On behalf of the Parks/Waterways Committee, Burr moved to support the letter requesting closure. The motion was ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0, (Aye: Burr, Hilea Jr., Hurst, Ibara, Newcamp, Okumoto, Shiota, Stevens and Zehner.)**

Planning: Hilea Jr. reported the following;

1. Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO): At the February 17, 2010 meeting discussions included developments and improvements for TheBus and transit riders with disabilities. Residents were reminded that service animals are allowed on TheBus and personal care attendants do not pay a fee when performing their services.
2. Kakaako Makai Master Plan: Hilea Jr. was able to attend a workshop on Saturday, January 30, 2010 at the John A. Burns School of Medicine campus; Peter Apo provided history and cultural values of the area at that same workshop.
3. Kakaako Improvement Association: Hilea Jr. signed up to be included in the Kakaako Improvement Association meetings; and interested residents should contact Lori Lum of General Growth Properties (GGP).
4. OMPO Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC): Chair Hurst explained that Hilea Jr. has met the meeting requirements to be eligible for the OMPO CAC. The CAC also calls for a Board Alternate; seeing no volunteers Chair Hurst will become the Board Alternate.

Public Safety: Okumoto reiterated on earlier concerns regarding the distance between the beach access signs at Ala Moana Beach Park, noting that tourists may not be able to describe their location when in need of assistance.

Traffic: Chair Hurst questioned if there were any objections to appointing Zehner to this committee. **Zehner was appointed Chair to the Traffic Committee by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 9-0-0, (Aye: Burr, Hilea Jr., Hurst, Ibara, Newcamp, Okumoto, Shiota, Stevens and Zehner.)**

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

City Council Members:

Councilmember Ann Kobayashi: A written report was provided and representatives were available to take back concerns or questions.

Councilmember Rod Tam: Shawn Hamamoto provided the Councilmember's written report and highlighted information regarding Bill 5 (2010) relating to fees and permits for building, electrical, plumbing and sidewalk codes. For more detailed information please see the handout.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Council Bill 7 and 8: It was questioned and noted that residents concerned with Bills 7 and 8 should contact the office. Hamamoto will provide more information at the next meeting.
2. Illegal Construction Update: It was explained that the illegal construction on Keeaumoku Street has been cited with another order of violation yesterday, Monday, February 22, 2010.

Office of the Mayor: Robin Chun-Carmichael introduced herself as the new Mayor's representative. Chun-Carmichael is the Deputy Director of the City Department of Human Resources (DHR) and is open to any questions; no questions followed.

State Representatives:

Representative Tom Brower: A written report was provided.

Representative Karl Rhoads: Bertrand Kobayashi reported;

1. Rycroft Street: The City Department of Transportation (DTS) has denied the request for additional signage of Rycroft Street, but has agreed to re-stripe the center lane of Piikoi and Sheridan streets.
2. Possible Brothel: A concern was brought to the representative's attention regarding a possible brothel on Rycroft Street.
3. Department of Labor: The Department has been contacted regarding the illegal construction on Keeaumoku Street and is investigating possible labor law violations.
4. Suggested Stop Signs: A request has been placed to DTS for two stop signs on Sheridan Street; no response by the department at this time.
5. Bring Your Own Bottle (BYOB) Bill: The 'BYOB Bill' Senate Bill (SB) 2545 passed out of committee with amendments. For complete details visit [www.capitol.hawaii.gov](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov).

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

Mahalo for Follow-Up: Board members thanked the representative for his follow-up on the many issues in the community; especially his aide in the illegal construction on Keeaumoku Street.

Representative Scott Saiki: No representative or report available.

State Senators:

Senator Carol Fukunaga: Francis Choe apologized for the Senator's absence and reported;

1. Senate Bill 2545: As previously reported, the 'BYOB Bill' as commonly referred to, has passed out of committee. The bill addresses the concerns regarding establishments that allow patrons to bring their own liquor and the lack of regulations.
2. Upcoming Community Meetings: Area legislators will be hosting a community meeting to provide residents with an update of the 2010 Legislative Session. On Thursday, February 25, 2010, a meeting will be held to discuss traffic congestion issues in the surrounding areas.
3. Regulated Industries Complaints Office (RICO): The Senator's office will keep the Board abreast of any new information from RICO or the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) regarding the illegal construction on Keeaumoku Street.

Senator Brickwood Galuteria: Pohai Ryan provided the Senator's report highlighting;

1. Ala Wai Promenade: It was requested that the Board provide a copy of the letter to DPR regarding the closure of the Ala Wai Promenade; Burr and Chair Hurst agreed.
2. Community Meeting: Residents were again welcomed to participate in the community meeting regarding traffic congestion on Thursday, February 25, 2010 at the Makiki District Park Arts and Crafts Room at 6:00 p.m.

Office of the Governor: No representative or report was available.

PRESENTATIONS: Chair Hurst apologized for a mistake on the agenda, noting that two wastewater presentations are present tonight; without objection of the Board, both projects will be heard.

Sand Island Wastewater Treatment Plant and Sewer Basin Facilities Project: Jim Niemann and Leighton Lum of R.M. Towill provided a project map and highlighted;

1. Project Overview: The City Department of Environmental Services (ENV) is conducting planning and engineering studies to evaluate alternatives for upgrading and improving the major wastewater conveyance infrastructure in Phase I Area of the Sand Island Sewer Basin, and the hydraulic capacity at the Sand Island Wastewater Treatment Plant.
2. Project Purpose: The project is aimed to protect public health and safety through the development and maintenance of municipal wastewater conveyance and treatment facilities as well as meet the requirements of federal and state permits and mandates.
3. Public Information Meetings: Residents were encouraged to participate in two community meetings scheduled for Tuesday, March 2, 2010 at Queen Kaahumanu Elementary School at 6:00 p.m. or Thursday, March 4, 2010 at Kapalama School at 6:00 p.m.

Beachwalk Force Main Project: Jim McCoy reported the following information;

1. Project Update: Mayor Hannemann has announced that the City will construct a new sewage force main pipeline that will stretch underground from Moiliili to Ala Moana Park. Once completed the new line will result in the removal of above ground sewer pipes now located on the mauka side of Ala Wai Canal and the entrance to Ala Moana Beach Park.
2. Project Location: Board members were provided a map illustrating the proposed route of the new sewage line which will travel mauka of the Ala Wai Canal pass Ala Wai Park and end at Ala Moana Boulevard.
3. More Information: Interested residents are encouraged to call 543-8374 or log onto the project website at [www.beachwalkforcemain.com](http://www.beachwalkforcemain.com).

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

Possible Variance Applications: It was questioned and clarified that the project is not looking to acquire any new variances; there currently is a standing noise variance in place for day time construction.

John A. Burns School of Medicine Cancer Research Project: Elton Wong reported;

1. Project Overview: Board members were provided an illustration of the proposed building and location. The proposed 150,000 square feet facility will serve as a multi-purpose building with office space, class capabilities, wet lab, possible early education and the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM).
2. Project Timeline: The project is currently in the planning phases; a General contractor has been selected to the project.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Opposition to Project: Board member Stevens strongly opposed this proposed project noting several safety concerns including the fact that a wet lab will be housed in the same building of a possible day care. It was also noted that the project is directly in the flood and tsunami zone.
2. General Contractor: It was questioned and noted that the University of Hawaii has not yet released the name of the contractor, and is planning to do so in the upcoming weeks.
3. Further Information: It was noted that the project coordinators would love to work with community organizations such as the Board and are willing to make additional presentations if needed.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 26, 2010 2009 MINUTES: **The January 26, 2010 regular meeting minutes were approved as circulated by UNANIMOUS CONCENT, 9-0-0, (Aye: Burr, Hilea Jr., Hurst, Ibara, Newcamp, Okumoto, Shiota, Stevens and Zehner.)**

TREASURER'S REPORT: Hilea Jr. read the January 2010 Treasurer's Report highlighting an expense of \$43.99 for printing and postage, leaving an ending operating balance of \$1,212.36 and a total balance of \$3,382.36. The report was filed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Several announcements were heard;

1. Next Regular Meeting: Scheduled for Tuesday, March 23, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at the Makiki Christian Church (current location).
2. No Loitering: Residents and Board members were reminded to drive home safely and not to loiter on the Church grounds following the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Submitted By:

Leland S.M. Ribac  
Neighborhood Assistant