



ALA MOANA/KAKAAKO NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 11

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
TEL: (808) 768-3710 • FAX: (808) 768-3711 • INTERNET: <http://www1.honolulu.gov/nco>

DRAFT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2014 MAKIKI CHRISTIAN CHURCH

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Larry Hurst called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. **Quorum was established with five (5) members present.** Note - This nine (9)-member Board requires five (5) members to establish quorum and to take official Board action.

Board Members Present - Rodney Chang, Larry Hurst, Tom McLaughlin, Ryan Tam, and Michael Zehner.

Board Members Absent - Julianne Irace, Matt Johnson, and Duane Komine.

Vacancy - One (1) seat in Subdistrict 2.

Guests - Jonathan Tungpalan (Representative Scott Sakai's Office staff), Anthony Ching (Hawaii Community Development Authority), Mike Formby (Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative, Department of Transportation Services, Director); Councilmember Carol Fukunaga; Councilmember Ann Kobayashi and James Larson (Councilmember Ann Kobayashi's Office staff); Brittany Mounce (Councilmember Stanley Chang's Office staff), Captain Leroy Malterre (Honolulu Fire Department, Pawa Station); Lieutenant James Ferrell and Sergeant Lyle Fleck (Honolulu Police Department, District 1), Pat Lee (Honolulu Rail Transit Project); James Kramer, Ron and Ruth Falter, M. Tait (Hawaii Convention Center); Joli Tokusato, Martes Uy, Meynard Doyao, and Rodney Nakashima (AiKea); Taylor Ritenberg (Hawaii Bicycling League), Gerald and Lina Chun (KDIR), Tamar Berry (Best Care), John Horvath (One Waterfront Tower, Resident Manager), Aaron Landry, Annie Koh, Kathy Inouye and Brett MacNaughton (MK), Steve Miller, Tino Balcita (Citizens Patrol), Dexter Okada (KBLA), Roy Gritter, Francisco Gurierrez (General Growth Partners), and K. Russell Ho (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

CITY MONTHLY REPORTS

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) - Captain Leroy Malterre reported the following:

- January 2014 Statistics - There were a total of 7 fires - 5 structure, 1 rubbish, and 1 vehicle fires; 160 medical emergencies, 42 search/rescues, 137 miscellaneous calls for service, which include activated fire alarms and service calls.
- Fire Safety Tips - Microwave Oven Safety: Purchase a microwave oven with an independent testing laboratory label. Complete and return the product registration card to ensure the manufacturer will be able to notify the purchaser in the event of a product recall. Always supervise children when they are using a microwave oven and use only microwave-safe food containers or dishes. Never use aluminum foil or metal in a microwave oven. If a fire starts in a microwave oven, leave the door closed, turn the oven off, and unplug it from the wall receptacle. If the fire does not extinguish, go outside and call 911.

Comments followed: Renovations - Fire personnel were re-assigned to other stations. Response times are a little higher, due to farther distances. When a fire is reported, companies are dispatched by a computer to ensure that all remaining stations are covered. The renovations may take a little longer than eight (8) months to complete, as asbestos was found.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) District 1 - Sergeant Lyle Fleck reported the following:

- January 2014 Statistics - There were 34 motor vehicle thefts, 36 burglaries, 282 thefts, and 115 unauthorized entries into motor vehicles (UEMV). There were 11,413 calls for service for District 1. There is more statistical breakdown at the HPD's public website at www.honolulupd.org.

Comments followed: Coverage - Although there are 24 beats in District 1, there is still coverage.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) - Chair Hurst mentioned that there was no report and no water main breaks reported.



FILLING OF VACANCIES ON BOARD

Subdistrict 2 (Boundaries - King Street, Keeaumoku Street, Kapiolani Boulevard, and Pensacola Street) - As there were no volunteers present, this item was deferred to the next meeting.

RESIDENTS'/COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Citizen Patrols - Dexter Sensui was not present, but Chair Hurst mentioned that there will be new street lighting on Queen's Lane.

Tamaki Senior Care on Birch Street - Tamar Berry reported that she is applying for a permit to build a 1,500 square feet (sq. ft) adult day care facility. The facility will open from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. with a parking structure for drop-off and pick-up. Snacks and delivered lunch service will be provided. Pacific Day Care will be offering games and exercise programs. There will be a staff of three (3) to six (6) people. The permits are pending, as this presentation before the Neighborhood Board is the first step in the process. This area needs adult day care, as it is in a central location. There will be 10 parking spaces for staff and others. There will be one (1) live-in staff person. The property is located south of Rycroft Street. **Tam moved and Zehner seconded that the Ala Moana/Kaka'ako Neighborhood Board No. 11 supports the project. As there were no objections, the Ala Moana/Kaka'ako Neighborhood Board No. 11 ADOPTED the motion by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 5-0-0 (AYE: Chang, Hurst, McLaughlin, Tam, and Zehner).**

Oahu Bike Plan - Taylor Ritenberg from the Hawaii Bicycling League summarized the following:

- Hawaii Bicycling League (HBL) - The Hawaii Bicycling League is a 39-year old non-profit organization that is working to enable more people to ride bicycles for health, transportation, and recreation through advocacy, education, and events.
- Oahu Bike Plan - The Oahu Bike Plan is the master plan created by the City to guide the development of Oahu's Bikeways. In Ala Moana/Kaka'ako, the Oahu Bike Plan calls for bikeways to be added to most of the major streets in the area. With the rail expected to cut down the middle of the neighborhood, adding bikeways will increase the viability of rail as a transport option.
- Ala Moana/Kaka'ako - The plan for Ala Moana/Kaka'ako includes:
 1. A bike lane of Ala Moana Boulevard, providing connectivity to Waikiki and the bike lanes on Nimitz Highway.
 2. An extension of the existing paths in Ala Moana Beach Park, connecting to other existing paths along the Ala Wai and expanding towards Aloha Tower.
 3. A number of bike routes in the mauka-makai direction, connecting the neighborhood with the planned bikeways on Beretania, Young, and King Streets.The most imminent project is the Department of Transportation Services consideration of bike lanes on Cooke Street. These plans are still tentative.
- More Information - If interested in advocating for more projects in the area and helping the HBL to get the Oahu Bike Plan fully implemented, please contact the Hawaii Bicycling League through the website www.hbl.org or call (808) 735- 5756. More information about future bicycling infrastructure plans is available online at: www.hbl.org/content/ala-moana-kakaalco-oahu-bike-project.

Ritenberg displayed maps and noted that bike instructors are more likely to get jobs.

Comments followed:

1. Bike Lanes on Kapi'olani Boulevard - Tam asked if there were plans for bike lanes on Kapi'olani Boulevard and about Bike Sharing. Ritenberg mentioned that there are plans for both projects.
2. More Information - Zehner asked how bicycles would affect traffic. Zehner would need more information about the number of parking spaces, which depends on location. Zehner supports the project.
3. More Comments - Chang supported the idea, but needs to see the specifics.
4. Final Comments - Chair Hurst added that in Waikiki there is misuse of the bike lanes on Kalakaua Avenue and the Ala Wai Boulevard. Ritenberg mentioned that the Bike Plan is on the City's website. Chair Hurst commented that there needs to be more education and regulation of bicycles on the sidewalks, before the Neighborhood Board takes a position on the Oahu Bike Plan.

Night Market - For the January 2014 minutes, Lehua Vermeesch spoke for the Night Market. Vermeesch did not sign in on the Guest list.

Kamehameha Schools Update - For the January 2014 minutes, Bob Oda spoke for the Kamehameha Schools. Oda did not sign in on the Guest list.

Montessori Schools - A spokesperson noted that Montessori Schools is looking for a location in Kaka'ako. The Montessori Schools teaching methods work across all economic levels. The Montessori Schools have applied as a Charter school (public), but will be private for the first year. More information was in a handout, entitled "Authentic Montessori Education at Montessori of O'ahu (Mo'O)." Interested persons may ask questions outside of the meeting. Chair Hurst invited the Montessori Schools to come back, if they need Board action.

TheBus Signs - Roy Gritter reported that in Chinatown TheBus moved the signs from Hotel Street to King Street for the Chinese New Year celebration and put tape on them. The City has removed the signs, but not the tape. Gritter would like the City to remove the tape, too.

Limit Hotel/Condo Conversions - A spokesperson mentioned the threats of hotel/condo conversions and the impact on the tourism industry. The Ilikai Hotel converted to condominiums. From 500 rooms and employing 600 workers, the Ilikai now has 200 hotel rooms left and employs 60 employees. The impact to the local economy is the loss of jobs and taxes. The group has 6,000 signatures and there are bills in the Legislature. The group wants the Board to endorse the campaign to limit conversions. Chair Hurst added that when they know the bill number, then they can return to the Board at the March 2014 meeting and the Board can take a position.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chair's Report - There was no Chair's Report, as Chair Hurst had taken it off the agenda.

Community Relations - Duane Komine was not present. A sewer report was available.

Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) Committee - McLaughlin had copies of his written report and deferred to Anthony Ching, HCDA Executive Director, who reported the following: HCDA - Ching brought two (2) handouts, one (1) that detailed the breakdown of the number of market units, reserved units, and Average Median Income (AMI) for several projects since 1984 and other that showed the price range for reserved housing for six (6) projects since 1986. The HCDA closed the Auahi Street sidewalks and installed the orange fences and blinking lights. HCDA plans to put in a planter system to discourage the chronic homeless from returning. The HCDA wants to open a pre-school on lot near Kaka'ako Waterfront Park. Finally, the HCDA is working to develop a six (6) acre lot, Ewa-side of the University of Hawaii (UH) School of Medicine.

Health - Julianne Irace was not present and no report was available.

Legislation - Michael Zehner reported the following: Bills - There were several bills concerning the HCDA and development - Senate Bill (SB) 2696, House Bill (HB) 1863, House Bill (HB) 1865, and House Bill (HB) 2554, which would allow private parties to sue the HCDA. There is a bill that affects the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA). In the City Council, Bill 5 would loosen the fireworks ban. Bill 60 relates to no fooling around the newspaper boxes. The "State microbe" bill was deferred.

Parks/Waters - Matt Johnson was not present. Ryan Tam reported the following: Parklets - The City Council passed Resolution 13-290 to install parklets in several test sites around Honolulu. Last month there was a report about parklets, parking stalls/sidewalk spaces converted into green space or recreational areas. However, the Parks Committee is concerned that parklets are not a substitute for park space. The HCDA Master Plan calls for nine (9) acres of green space, but there should be 60 acres for the 30,000 people by 2030. Other concerns for the Parks Committee include mini parks, dog parks and bicycle paths. Interested people may contact Tam.

Planning/Transportation(Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OahuMPO)/Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) - Tam reported that Resolution 14-16, which relates to fees to support the infrastructure for TOD, was introduced and the resolution is proceeding through the City Council.

Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART)/Honolulu Rail Transit Project (H RTP) - Pat Lee summarized the following report:

- Federal Courts - Two (2) federal courts have recently ruled that the Honolulu Rail Transit Project (H RTP) did everything necessary to comply with applicable federal laws and is allowed to move forward. A panel from the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that Oahu's elevated rail project complies with

environmental, historic preservation, and other laws. At the trial court level in the same case, Judge A. Wallace Tashima ruled that the project had properly considered and rejected a route, involving an underground tunnel beneath Beretania Street. Tashima also lifted an order blocking construction and most property acquisition activities in the City Center section of the project, which extends from Kalihi to Ala Moana Center.

- Model of Train Cars - A near life-sized model of the train cars to be built by Ansaldo Honolulu JV for Honolulu's rail system is now available for public viewing. The model was built for a conference in Europe, and will be at Kapolei Hale until the end of April 2014.
- Federal Funding - President Barack Obama signed the appropriations bill that provides \$250 million dollars in federal funding for the H RTP. The \$250 million is the Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 share of the Full Funding Grant Agreement that guarantees a total of \$1.55 billion in federal funds for rail construction. The \$250 million will be added to the \$560 million H RTP has already received from the federal government, making the current amount received \$810 million.
- State Funding - HART received more than \$43 million in State General Excise and Use Tax (GET) revenue for the fourth quarter of 2013. The total GET revenue for H RTP now stands at \$1.18 billion. The half-percent GET surcharge dedicated to the Honolulu rail system was levied beginning in January 2007 and is set to expire at the end of 2022. It is estimated the surcharge will fund nearly 70 percent of the project's cost, with the remainder to be covered with federal funding.
- More Work to Be Completed - The public should expect to see a lot happening in 2014. There is both construction and pre-construction work occurring all along the rail alignment. Over 50 of the 422 columns that will be built to support the elevated guideway in the first ten miles of the rail system have now been completed. Work on more of the column foundations continues in Ewa and 220 columns should be up by the end of the year. H RTP should pass the 1,000 jobs mark soon, and later this year workers will be putting the first guideway segments on top of the columns.
- Other Projects - Workers have been busy at the future home of the rail system's operations and maintenance center in Waipahu. Much of the grading has been completed. Work on the foundations for the Maintenance and Storage Facility buildings are planned next. The rail pre-cast yard is also under construction in Kalaeloa. The pre-cast yard will fabricate the rail guideway sections that will be installed onto the columns. Each 50-ton guideway section will measure 10 feet long by 35 feet wide.
- Other Work to Be Done - In addition, soil testing, utility relocation and demolition is underway at several other locations all along the twenty-mile rail route. Before construction work can begin in a specific area, several pre-engineering tests need to be performed: potholing to locate underground utilities; boring to collect soil samples, and test shafts to help finalize design for the actual rail columns.
- Archaeological Inventory Survey (AIS) - In the Kaka'ako area, Archeological Inventory Survey (AIS) work involving trenching will take place next month on Halekauila Street from Richards Street to South Street, and on Queen Street between Ward Avenue and Cummings Street. This will include data recovery as well as supplemental trenches for the AIS due to an alignment refinement. The AIS was completed last year as part of the State Supreme Court ruling. The AIS work will be performed during daytime hours.
- Safety - As safety is a main priority for HART, motorists are advised to use caution when entering a construction zone, observe posted signs for detours and construction activity and keep a safe distance from workers and equipment. Motorists should anticipate some possible delays in traffic and proceed with caution through the work areas.

For traffic updates and more information, please visit the website www.honolulustransit.org, call the project hotline at 566-2299 or email a question at info@honolulustransit.org.

Ala Moana Center Renovations and Expansion - Francisco Gutierrez, General Growth Properties, mentioned the renovations of the Center Stage, the Food Court, and the parking areas and gave a timeline for completion. Gutierrez showed the drawings of the planned building of the residential (condo) project on the makai side of Ala Moana Center, from Piikoi Street to Neiman Marcus. The 150 units, in eight (8)-story buildings, would be low rise at approximately 100 feet tall and would be under the current height limit. There would be no special permits. Construction will begin in mid-2014. Completion of the retail parking levels is expected by November 2015 to coincide with the opening of the Ewa retail expansion. The residences are expected to be completed by late 2016.

Public Safety Committee - Chair Hurst mentioned an unknown person visited his building and stated that he worked for the U.S. government. Chair Hurst warned everyone to verify the identity of visitors first.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

City Councilmember Stanley Chang - Brittany Mounce distributed Councilmember Chang's newsletter and reported the following:

- Street Light on Kapi'olani Boulevard at Atkinson Drive - Councilmember Chang's Office referred the concern to the Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM) to fix.
- City Council Meeting - The next City Council meeting will be on Wednesday, March 12, 2014 at Kapolei Hale. Everyone is invited.

City Councilmember Carol Fukunaga - Councilmember Fukunaga was not present and no report was available.

City Councilmember Ann Kobayashi - James Larson distributed Councilmember Kobayashi's newsletter and Councilmember Kobayashi reported the following:

- How the City Approves Sewer Permits - The permits are decided on a case by case basis, sometimes on a conditional basis. There were/are concerns about filters and odors. Councilmember Kobayashi hopes that Department of Environmental Services (ENV) will be able to determine the cause for the odors in Kaka'ako.
- Revenue Bills - The City Administration has submitted two (2) revenue bills - one (1) bill would allow ads on the exterior of buses to restore bus service that had been reduced and the other bill proposed a \$10/month refuse collection fee. There are many people opposing this bill.
- Budget Hearings - The Budget hearings will begin on Monday, March 10, 2014. The Mayor is supposed to submit the Budget by Friday, February 28, 2014 and the Budget Committee will review the budget line by line.
- Sidewalks Survey - Councilmembers Fukunaga and Kobayashi have introduced a bill to have the City produce a sidewalk survey. As the City had completed a survey of the condition of the roads for cars, Councilmembers Fukunaga and Kobayashi believe that the sidewalks "are the roads for pedestrians." They want to encourage walking on the sidewalks.

Comments followed: Sewers - Chair Hurst mentioned that a neighbor's sewer line collapsed and the sewage is leaking out. However, there are no records of the sewer connection and who owns private sewers. Chair Hurst gave some historical background for the lack of records in the 1920s.

Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative - Mike Formby reported the following:

- State Of the City Address - The State of the City Address will be tomorrow, Wednesday, February 26, 2014. The speech will be broadcast live on Hawaii News Now, 'Olelo and honolulu.gov.
- Two (2) Handouts - Formby mentioned that one (1) handout was about the \$10 fee per month for refuse collection and the other was for Bill 69, relating to bus advertising. Bus advertising was not about billboards, but for a sustainable revenue source for "transportation equality." The operating costs for TheBus are over \$225 million a year and the costs will not decrease. The Mayor does not want service to decline for riders, who depend on buses. The Mayor prefers adding income, from limited advertising, instead of increasing bus fares or real property taxes. Contact Councilmembers to have them reconsider hearing the deferred bill.
- Pothole Hotline - Due to the recent rains, Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM) is reminding the public that the Pothole Hotline is at 768-7777 for pothole repair.

Comments followed: - \$10/Month Fee for Refuse Collection - Chair Hurst commented on the \$10/month fee for refuse collection.

State Representative Tom Brower - Representative Brower distributed his report and reported the following:

- Chair of the Tourism Committee - Representative Brower noted that he was Chair of the Tourism Committee. Mayor Caldwell had testified this morning.
- Waking the Neighborhood - Representative Brower added that he has been walking the neighborhood and that he is available to talk about concerns and the homeless.

State Representative Scott Saiki - Jonathan Tungpalan distributed Representative Saiki's report and was available to hear concerns.

State Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland - Senator Chun Oakland was not present and a packet of information was available.

State Senator Brickwood Galuteria - Senator Galuteria was not present and no report was available.
Governor Neil Abercrombie's Representative - Barbara Krieg was not present and no report was available.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 28, 2014 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: As there were no objections, the Ala Moana/Kakaako Neighborhood Board No. 11 ADOPTED the January 28, 2014 regular meeting minutes as amended by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 5-0-0 (AYE: Chang, Hurst, McLaughlin, Tam, and Zehner). The amendments were as follows:

- Page 1, under Guests, and Page 3, under Night Market on Auahi and Keawe Streets, it should read, "Lehua Vermeesch mentioned that the next event will be on Saturday, February 15, 2014 and there will be one in March 2014."
- Page 1, under Guests, and Page 3, under Kamehameha Schools, it should read, "Bob Oda presented a demonstration project to improve the pedestrian environment by turning parking stalls into parklets, useful spaces for pedestrians....Oda will come back when more information is available."

TREASURER'S REPORT - Tam reported that for January 2014, \$38.43 was spent for the printing and mailing of the agenda and minutes, leaving a balance of \$298.81. The Treasurer's report was filed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next Meeting - The next meeting of the Ala Moana/Kakaako Neighborhood Board No. 11 will be on Tuesday, March 25, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at Makiki Christian Church, 829 Pensacola Street.
- No Loitering on church grounds after 9:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Submitted by: K. Russell Ho, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by: Neil Baarde, Neighborhood Assistant, and

Reviewed by: Larry Hurst, Chair