



KALIHI – PALAMA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 15

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DRAFT –REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 2012 KALIHI UNION CHURCH

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Donald Guerrero called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m., **with a quorum of seven (7) members present.** Note: This 13 member Board requires seven (7) members to establish quorum and to take official Board action.

Board Members Present: Cy Feng, Donald Guerrero, Rodolfo Ibay, Robert Lum, Fetu Taua Kolio (arrived at 7:31 p.m.), Roland Louie, Darryn Ng (departed at 8:15 p.m.), Glorice Rone (arrived at 7:10 p.m.), and Bernadette Young.

Board Members Absent: Cardy Fang and Pauni Nagaseu-Escue.

Vacancies: There are two vacant at-large seats.

Guests: Ray and Theresa Perreira, Ursula Kuier, Willis T., Ronald Higa, Robert Gersaba, Ethan Bellinger, J. Kellett, Justin Kessler (Board of Water Supply), Ashley Dias, Daniel Holt, David Sakamoto (Governor's Representative), Richard China, Carole Kaapu (Office of Representative Aaron Johanson), Leolani Oyama (Office of Representative Suzanne Chun-Oakland), Jack Patterson (City Department of Transportation Services), Glenn Nakasaki (Kalihi Union Church), Fire Fighter Chad Nakagawa (Honolulu Fire Department), Sgt. Douglas Vollrath and Lieutenant Baron Lee (Honolulu Police Department, District 1-Downtown), Major W Chur, Lieutenant R. Chinen and Sergeant J. Kim (Honolulu Police Department, District 5-Kalihi), Nancy Bernal (Office of Senator Donna Kim's Office), April Bautista (Office of Representative Karl Rhoads), Stan Toyama, Ian Nishi (Office of Representative Joey Manahan), Pat Lee (Honolulu Rail Project), Nicole A. Velasco, Kevin Velasco, and Landon Leu (Velasco Ohana 2012), Senator Glenn Wakai, Glenn Moir and Eileen Mark (City Department of Transportation Services), Representative Aaron Johanson, Lindsey Barrow (Office of Representative Corrine Ching), Nola J. Frank (Neighborhood Commission Office staff), and several others who did not sign the guest list.

FILLING OF BOARD VACANCIES: Chair Guerrero asked if there were any individuals interested in filling the at-large vacancies. There being no interested individuals, filling of the at-large vacancies were deferred to the next meeting.

ELECTION OF BOARD SECRETARY: Chair Guerrero asked if any Board members were interested in serving as Board Secretary. There being no interested Board members, the election of a Secretary was deferred to the next meeting.

PUBLIC SAFETY INPUT:

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD): Firefighter Chad Nakagawa reported the following:

- **March 2012 Statistics:** Included 3 structures and 3 rubbish fires; 62 medical, and 35 miscellaneous calls.
- **Fire Safety Tip:**
 - ◇ **Electrical Home Fires** – In 2010, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 46,500 home structure fires involving electrical failures or malfunctions. These fires caused 420 deaths, 1,520 injuries, and \$1.5 billion in property damage. Check electrical cords to ensure they are not running across doorways or under carpets. Extension cords are intended for temporary use. Have a qualified electrician add more receptacle outlets so an extension cord would not have to be used. Major appliances, such as refrigerators, dryers, washers, stoves, air conditioners, etc., should be plugged directly into a wall receptacle outlet. Extension cords and plug strips should not be used. Plug only one heat-producing appliance, such as a coffee maker, toaster, space heater, etc., into a receptacle outlet at a time.
 - ◇ **Building Identification** – Building identification is critical for emergency responders to quickly identify the correct location. Due to several inquiries last month, the following information is provided: House



numbering requirements from the national Fire Protection Association 1, Uniform Fire Code™, 2006 edition: (a) New and existing buildings shall have approved address numbers placed in a position to be plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property (Section 10.12.1.1.); (b) Address numbers shall contrast with their background (Section 10.12.1.2.); (c) Address numbers shall be Arabic numerals or alphabet letters (Section 10.12.1.3.).

Honolulu Police Department (HPD):

District 1: Sergeant Douglas Vollrath reported the following:

- March 2012 Statistics: Included 3 assaults, 4 drug/narcotics, 2 driving under the influence (DUI), 2 family offenses, 14 motor vehicle collisions, 1 motor vehicle theft, 3 property damages, 1 robbery, 1 car break-in (UEMV), and 25 miscellaneous calls for service.
- Safety Tip: Driving Awareness – “One (1) Call Could Wreck It All.”

District 5: Sergeant Kim reported the following:

- March 2012 Statistics: Included 237 arguments, 19 assaults, 15 burglaries, 7 drugs/narcotics, 29 driving under the influence (DUI), 10 family offenses, 4 graffiti, 10 motor vehicle thefts, 206 motor vehicle collisions, 27 property damages, 4 robbery, 1 sex offense, 63 thefts, and 26 unauthorized entry into a motor vehicle (UEMV).

Questions, comments and concerns: Changes to DUI Law: It was asked and clarified that HPD has not been notified regarding Councilmember Berg’s proposal to change the DUI Law.

Weed and Seed (W&S) Updates: No report.

Mayor Peter Carlisle’s Representative: Keoki Miyamoto had nothing to report. Jack Patterson of the City Department of Transportation Services (DTS) was introduced, and reported the following:

- Leilani Street Update: The following departments DTS, HPD, HFD, Environmental Services, and Department of Transportation are still evaluating the situation to see if partial closure during peak hours would solve the issue. Traffic calming devices have also been requested.

Questions, comments and concerns:

1. Working with the Residents: It was asked and clarified that once the departments are coordinated the residents would be informed.
2. Timeframe – Decisions should be made within the next month.
3. Partial Closure of the Leilani Street: It was asked and noted that signage would probably be posted. Having a 24-hour closure would be a difficult for emergency services.
4. Hours of Potential Closure: It was asked and clarified that signage would be posted with times of closure, 6:00-8:00 a.m. and 3:00-6:00 p.m., same hours as the “no left” turn sign from School Street. No physical closure is planned.
5. Left Turn Sign from School Street: It was reported that drivers ignore the “No left turn” sign on School Street turning into Leilani Street.
6. Updates – Future updates will be reported as received.

Rubbish on School Street: Deferred to the May agenda.

Board of Water Supply (BWS): Justin Kessler reported the following:

- Halawa Shaft Tours: The tours are temporarily suspended because the underground passenger elevator is out of order. There is no timeframe at this time for when the repairs will be completed. Tours should resume when the elevator is up and running.
- BWS Easements – Follow-up will continue regarding any credits or fee reductions with BWS easements on private properties and reported at a later date.
- March 2012 Water Main Breaks: There were three (3) water main breaks reported: (1) March 6, 2012 at 900 Nimitz Highway; (2) March 9, 2012 at 2007 Pahukui Street; and (3) March 29, 2012 at 807 Gulick Avenue.

- Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation: In celebration of Earth Month, Oahu residents are encouraged to get involved by taking a free pledge to conserve water and energy by joining the Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation, sponsored by the Wyland Foundation, the City and County of Honolulu and the Board of Water Supply. The nationwide program runs from March 30-April 30, 2012 and challenges residents to submit pledges to reduce water use online at www.mywaterpledge.com. Entrants are then qualified to earn prizes, including a Toyota Prius, water-saving showerheads, home watering kits and more. For more contest information visit www.boardofwatersupply.com or call the BWS Communication Office at 748-5041.
- Customer Service Request Forms: BWS has recently developed a new customer service request form allowing customers to request account services online. Customers seeking to update existing account information, or who wish to start or stop water service may not submit requests online and avoid long waits on the phone. Completed electronic forms are filed online and automatically submitted to the BWS via email. Printable versions are "for fillable" and can be mailed, e-mailed, or faxed to BWS. Visit www.boardofwatersupply.com to access forms.

Councilmember Romy Cachola: Dennis Galolo distributed the monthly newsletter, the Draft 2012 TheBus service change outline, and highlighted the following:

- Mokaeua Street Project Completion: The City has completed work on the Mokaeua Street Improvements between North King Street and Dillingham Boulevard.
- Funding for Area Parks: As a member of the Council's Budget Committee, Councilmember Cachola was successful in including finds in District VII at Kalihi Waena Park (\$100,000 for play courts resurfacing), Kamehameha Field (\$100,000 for play court resurfacing), and Fern Community Park (\$300,000 (FY2011-2012, play apparatus construction, out to bid).
- Banyan Court Mall: The City Council approved a resolution for the sale of this mall. The church next door plans to convert the property into parking for members.
- Next City Council Meeting: Scheduled for Wednesday, April 25, 2012 at Kapolei Hale. The agenda will be posted soon.
- HART Community Informational Meeting: Scheduled for Thursday, May 3, 2012, Farrington High School Cafeteria from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Questions, comments and concerns: Thank You: (a) The City was thanked for doing a nice job on the Mokaeua Street Improvements Project. (b) Board member Ibay thanked the City Council and Mayor's representative Miyamoto for their help on the matter.

Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor Project (HHCTCP): Pat Lee distributed a flyer with the community meetings schedule, and reported the Honolulu rail project will have a positive economic impact on our local economy.

- Approximately 10,000 jobs on average each year of the ten year build out will be attributed to rail construction. Out of that total, about half of that figure is direct construction jobs.
- At the peak year of construction, there will be an estimated 17,000 direct and indirect jobs created that year.
- Kiewit has over 100 subcontractors as part of their three contracts, with the majority of them being local subcontractors.
- Along with construction-related jobs, jobs will be created in other fields of retail, services, food, entertainment and other industries. These are local jobs created as a result of rail construction and can be filled by local workers.
- Development around rail stations can potentially infuse the local economy with billions of dollars during the coming decades.
- Rail is the largest capital improvement project in Hawaii's history, and there is no better time to make these kinds of capital investments.
- Infrastructure projects undertaken during down times insure that people are employed and in turn, spend their pay checks on local businesses and help the local economy. For example, Hoover Dam was built right after the Great Depression, and put thousands of unemployed people back to work and helped the economies of the western states of Nevada, Arizona and California.
- In an effort to provide accurate information on the project, HART has a new section on the website called "setting the record straight" which includes information on the number of seats on train cars, operations and maintenance costs and a lot of other issues that have been in public discussion lately.

- HART will present a series of five informational community updates on the Honolulu Rail Transit project. The public is welcome to attend and learn up-to-date details from project experts, experience informational displays, and ask questions of HART representatives. The meeting in Kalihi is on Thursday, May 3rd from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Farrington High School Cafeteria.
- For more information, please visit the project website at www.honolulutransit.org, or call the hotline number at 566-2299.

Questions, comments and concerns:

1. Rail: Chair Guerrero suggested that Lee check out Councilmember Berg's You Tube site regarding rail.
2. Comment: Board member Louie noted once the columns for the rail are built, would the columns be taken down if the project does not go through. He stated that this is an election year and anything could happen.
3. Purchase of Private Property: (a) It was asked and clarified that the Waipahu Zippy's, Tanioka's Market and other area merchants are not affected. Businesses should continue to run uninterrupted during construction. (b) Fetu raised concern about the demolishing of residential areas for transit lanes. Lee replied a new park and ride is planned for the Banana Patch property with a 1600 stall parking lot. Banana Patch residents agreed to relocate and received compensation based on the federal law's fair market value (approximately 14-16 people). (c) Board member Young asked if there are any properties facing condemnation. Lee answered there are some land acquisitions going on, with slivers of property needed to widen lanes on Kamehameha Highway, Dillingham Boulevard, Halekauwila Street straight down through 44 properties. An owner on Kahai Street would like to sell the property before the land acquisition situation arises. (d) Board member Ng wanted to know if the Banana patch property is zoned for agriculture. Follow-up will be done. Lee added there were no condemnations, but friendly acquisitions/negotiations. The process for condemned land is through court proceedings. If an owner refuses to sell, a resolution through the City Council is needed. Thus far, there has been no condemned land for this project
4. Timeframe: Rail Completion should be in 2019-2020.

RESIDENTS' CONCERNS:

PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS:

Bus Route Changes/Adjustments: Glenn Moir, of the City Department of Transportation Services (DTS), reported the following: DTS is planning several service changes for TheBus in June and August of this year, affecting several parts of Oahu including East Honolulu, the Windward side and North Shore, Central Oahu, Ewa, and the Waianae Coast. Some schedule changes will affect service frequency and routes operating or ending at different locations. The changes are designed to balance service with demand to make better use of the resources, saving money where possible to avoid the need to raise fares, while maintaining acceptable service. For this area possible changes include:

- Route 1: Kaimuki-Kalihi weekday frequency changes to every 15 minutes (June).
- Route B: Discontinued; increase Route 2 service to compensate (June).
- Route 2: Serves Campbell Avenue extends to Kapiolani Community College (KCC) (August).
- Route 13: Moves to Kapiolani Boulevard, extends through Kapahulu to the University of Hawaii (August).
- Information: Visit TheBus Stop@honolulu.gov for more details.

Questions, comments and concerns:

1. Route C – It was mentioned that there is standing room only during the day on this route. It was suggested that smaller buses be used during non peak hours and no changes to this route.
2. Changes Due to Rail – The proposals are to cut costs, balance services, and save money in the process. This has nothing to do with the rail project. All communities involved in the proposed changes are being visited.
3. Middle Street Transit Station – It was reported that the restrooms at the Middle Street Transit Station have no soap or paper towels, just hand blowers.
4. Route B Express – a) It was explained that express buses are not the same as commuter buses and offer a different type of service. (b). Route 2 usually takes 20 minutes longer than the Route B bus. It was stated to not change Route C. (c) Due to the many comments in support of Route B this evening the proposal may just go away.

5. Route 9 – It was noted the proposal is to replace the Palolo route with a shuttle every 20 minutes to a half hour.
6. Comment – A Board member commented that this is not a done deal, only proposals and can be modified. DTS is taking and logging comments, double checking the proposals, and will alter to correct situations.
7. Standing Room Only on Buses – Opposition was expressed for the disabled and elderly people have to stand while on the bus. Residents concerns regarding not discontinuing Route B was supported.
8. Off Peak Times – Changes will be made for no peak hours and for weekend schedules
9. Mahalo – DTS/OTS was thanked for the efficiency of the express buses to Waikiki.
10. Route 13 and 2 – Changes to these routes are at Kapahulu Avenue.
11. Fare Increases – It is unknown at this time if unable to generate enough funding, what increase fares would be. It was reiterated that DTS does not want to raise the fares.
12. Notices – In the past notices were sent out in different languages, through press releases, and bi-lingual staff personnel.

Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Proposal: Renee Espinau of the City Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) distributed the October 2011 Community Survey Executive Summary, and highlighted the survey background, purpose, methods, reports, findings, resident mobility, community amenities, and development opportunities. Also distributed were the Downtown and Kalihi Draft TOD Framework Plans and emerging vision. The comment period starts July 2012.

Questions, comments and concerns:

1. Cost: It was asked who would be paying for these development plans. In answer, when new developments occur in a certain residential area, a certain amount of space must be provided. Funding could be through private developers, which the City can require. Sewer capacity can be built on site.
2. Rail: It was asked and clarified if rail fails the project would create pedestrian walkable communities; the principles are sound.
3. Public/Private Partnership Concept: Different options are being explored and incentives that would benefit communities.
4. Information: For more information visit www.honoluluodpp.org and click on get on board.

Sand Island Recreational Park: No representative present; report not provided. A constituent relayed that Mr. Yuasa did not know that the Board requested monthly updates. Chair Guerrero will contact Mr. Yuasa.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

BOARD BUSINESS:

Three Absences Notices: Absentee notices were sent to Board members Robert Lum and Pauni Nagaseu-Escue. Lum was in attendance and announced that Lum is moving out of the district and would be submitting his resignation from the Board to the Chair. Board member Pauni Nagaseu-Escue was not in attendance. The Board took no action to vacate her seat.

Planning of Future Meeting Presentations and Topics: Chair Guerrero asked that future agenda requests be sent to him, encouraged the guest to get involved in the community, and reminded everyone that there are two (2) Board vacancies and to consider becoming a Board member.

MONTHLY REPORTS:

Approval of the March 21, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes: **Louie moved and Feng seconded APPROVING the March 21, 2012 regular meeting minutes, 7-0-0 (Aye: Feng, Guerrero, Ibay, Kolio, Louie, Rone, and Young).**with the following correction:

- Page 8, Senator Susanne Chun Oakland should read, "...**A representative was present and the written report provided ...**"

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Glorice Rone reported Board expenditures were \$32.63, leaving the account balance at \$145.39; the report was filed.

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Governor Neil Abercrombie's Representative: David Sakamoto reported the following:

- State Homeless Strategic Plan: The Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness' draft strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness in Hawaii is posted online at www.hawaii.gov/dhs/HomelessnessPlan: The interagency council is responsible for developing the statewide strategic plan for the governor's review and approval.
- Unemployment Insurance Bill: House Bill 2096, extends the mitigation of the unemployment insurance tax increase.
- Mayor Wright Housing: Capital Improvement Project (CIP) allocates \$760, 2730; \$514,800 for backup gas heaters for all 35 buildings and \$245,473 for repairs, renovations and American Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance.

Questions, comments, and concerns: Vineyard Boulevard/Palama Street (Freeway on-ramp West bound): Chair Guerrero reported old mattresses, old tires, and trash next to the concrete wall across from the Samoan Church.

Senator Donna Mercado Kim: Nancy Bernal reported the following:

- 2012 Legislative Session: The session ends in two (2) weeks. The Senate and House are meeting and going over bills.
- Special Committee on Accountability: As chair of this committee, Senator Kim has been reviewing the failure of state agencies to pursue funds from employees and former employees who have been overpaid. The issue of pension spiking is also under review.
- Affordable Rental Housing Projects: The governor released \$7 million in loans to developers of affordable rental housing projects, geared toward households at or below 60 percent of the median income.

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland: Leolani Oyama distributed the written report.

Senator Brickwood Galuteria: No representative present; report not available.

Senator Glenn Wakai: Representative Glenn Wakai reported the following:

- 2012 Legislative Session: The session is in the fourth quarter.
- Budget Bill: The Senate voted to pass their version of the \$11 billion supplemental budget with no tax increases.
- Facilities Repair Plan: Lawmakers are contemplating a \$500-million plan to repair facilities around the state. The Senator toured the Farrington High School campus checking on needed repairs. The school is currently going through an extensive makeover. The state will spend approximately \$100 million in the next two decades to turn Farrington High School into a 21st Century school in four phases.

Questions, comments and concerns:

1. Community Improvements: Community improvements will include housing improvements, Honolulu Community College (HCC), bridges, roads, and health centers.
2. Thank You – Kolio thanked legislature for the ceded lands bill and noted he supports the Farrington High School renovations.

Representative Corinne Ching: Lindsey Barrow reported the following:

- Likelike Elementary School: House resolution 177, relating to the closure of Likelike Elementary School is stalled; efforts will continue next year. It was mentioned that the schools is an historical site.
- Preservation Commendation – Representative Ching will be recognized on May 11, 2012 with a Preservation Commendation at Historic Hawaii Foundation's 2012 Honor Awards Ceremony at the Neal s. Blaisdell Center.
- Farmers Market Returns: The Nuuanu Farmers Market will be held on Tuesday, April 24, 2012 at the Honolulu Seventh Day Adventist Church on Pali Highway from 4:00p.m. – 7:00 p.m.; thus far 10 vendors are participating.
- Community Garden – Private entities are being sought to help start a community garden.

- Palama Settlement Film Premiere – Voices of Palama Settlement will be shown on Sunday, April 22, 2012 on Channel 5 at 7:00 p.m.

Questions, comments and concerns: Likelike Elementary School Closure: (a) Follow-up will be done regarding historic significance of this school and future plans if the school is closed. (b) Comment – Councilmember Ching was thanked for her efforts in keeping the school open. It was noted it is not necessary for the Department of Education (DOE) to close everything, especially in Kalihi. This issue was previously addressed by the Board and asked that another presentation be brought before the Board during the next legislative session. (c) Chair Guerrero added that he thinks it was Senator Chun Oakland's office that mentioned the closure. However, new playground equipment was installed a few months ago.

Representative Karl Rhoads: April Bautista reported the following:

- "No Parking" Sign: Request received to replace missing "No Parking" sign on the Diamond Head side of Austin Lane near the Kaiulani Elementary School cafeteria entrance; forwarded to the City.
- Poles without No Signs: (1) Located at 1178 North King Street; forwarded to the City.
- Pothole: Front of 1203 B Palamea Lane; forwarded to the City. (2) Makai and Diamond Head corner of Wolter Lane and Palamea Lane;
- Kamehameha Homes Complaints: Roaches and rats in units; forwarded to Hawaii Public Housing Authority.
- Faded "No Parking Here to Corner" Sign: 1555 Pohaku Street; forwarded to the City Department of Transportation Services (DTS).
- Rubbish: Reported Makai of 1486 Kohou Street (rubbish, tires, green waste): forwarded to the City Department of Environmental Services (ENV).

Representative Joey Manahan: Ian Nishi reported that the Representative was in a Budget Conference this evening and was available for questions.

Representative Aaron Johanson: Representative Johanson reported the following:

- Bills Affecting the Community: (1) Senate Bill 2859 sets guidelines for permitted interaction between board and commission members. Allows members to hear testimony for a meeting cancelled for lack of a quorum and to attend informational meetings. (2) Senate Bill 2737 permits the use of interactive technology to help the public and members of state and county boards attend board meetings, and establishes requirements for notices and use of visual aids.

Questions, comments and concerns:

1. Visit to the Legislature: Chair asked if the Board could be invited to the House to observe sessions.
2. Committees: It was asked and clarified that Representative Johanson serves on the Transportation, Public Safety and Military Affairs, Labor and Public Employment, Education and Higher Education Committees.
3. Likelike Elementary School: – It was asked and clarified that Representative Johanson would support to keep the school open if the issue came as a resolution. He noted that each school serves as important community centers; and there are lots of ways to evaluate school issues.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Next Meeting: The next regular Meeting to be held on Wednesday, May 16, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Kalihi Union Church, 2214 North King Street.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Submitted by: Nola J. Frank, Neighborhood Assistant
Reviewed by: Donald Guerrero, Chair