



## ALIAMANU/SALT LAKE/FOSTER VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 18

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

### **DRAFT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES** **THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 2012** **OAHU VETERANS CENTER**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Lorene Godfrey called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. **A quorum was established with six (6) members present.** Note – This nine members Board requires five (5) members to establish quorum and to take official Board action.

**Board Members Present** – Larry Baird (Arrived at 7:08 p.m.), Dennis Egge, Lorene Godfrey, Chandra Kanemaru, Maurice Morita, Lennard Pepper, and David Yomes.

**Board Members Absent** – Constante Domingo and Barbara Troegner.

**Vacancies** – There are no vacancies at this time.

**Guests** – Capt. C. Caraang, Sgt. P. Lucas, and Lt. R. Chinen (Honolulu Police Department), Capt. J. Kam, FF1 D. Delovio, FF1 W. Melemai IV, and FF1 D. Kubo (Honolulu Fire Department), Jade Butay (State Department of Transportation/Governor's Representative), Erin Fale (Representative Aaron Johanson's Office staff), Arthur Smith, Pat Lee (Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor Project), Ruth Baker (Councilmember Romy Cachola's Office staff), Senator Glenn Wakai, Representative Linda Ichiyama, Lillian Hong, Suzette Adversalo, Jiro Sumada (City Department of Planning and Permitting/Mayor's Representative), and Kazuaki McArthur (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

#### **CITY MONTHLY REPORTS:**

**Honolulu Fire Department (HFD)** – FF1 D. Delovio reported the following;

- **May 2012 Statistics:** Included 3 structure fires, 4 rubbish fires, 5 vehicle fires, 109 medical emergencies, 3 search and rescues, and 40 miscellaneous calls for service.
- **Safety Tip:** Summer is upon us, and our island will be at higher risk for fires due to dry vegetation and hot weather. Historically, wild land fires were referred to as brush fires; however, the term wild land fire is now nationally recognized. Please exercise caution when utilizing flame producing devices, such as fireworks, lighters, or matches, as a spark or flame can ignite dry vegetation. Always follow the manufacturer's directions on the label. Keep flame producing devices away from children.

**Honolulu Police Department (HPD), Pearl City** – A representative was not present; a report was not provided.

**Honolulu Police Department (HPD), Kalihi** – Sgt. P. Lucas reported the following;

- **May 2012 Statistics:** Included 47 arguments, 5 assaults, 2 burglaries, 1 drug/narcotic case, 2 driving under the influence (DUI) case, 7 family offenses, 5 motor vehicle thefts, 33 motor vehicle collisions, 8 property damages, 2 sex offenses, 17 thefts, and 4 unauthorized entries into motor vehicles (UEMV).

Baird arrived at 7:08 p.m.; **seven (7) members present.**

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

1. **Mapunapuna:** It was asked and clarified that beat 553 patrols activities in Mapunapuna.
2. **Food Truck:** It was noted that a food truck has been parking in a no parking area near the Mapunapuna Toyota dealership. HPD suggested calling 911 if vehicles are parked in no parking zones.



3. Parking on Corners: It was asked if HPD actively seeks out cars parking on corners. It was noted cars parking near corners make it difficult for drivers to see oncoming traffic. It was noted that HPD is usually busy responding to other calls. It was suggested calling 911 and reporting any illegally parked vehicles.
4. HPD Online Reporting: Residents were encouraged to utilize the HOD online reporting system. It was noted that residents can make a report and track the progress of the report.
5. Thank You: It was reported that Sgt. Lucas would be promoted and would be transferring to another area. Gratitude was expressed for his service to the community.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) – A representative was not present; a report was not given.

Mayor Peter Carlisle's Representative – Jiro Sumada circulated a report and highlighted the following;

- Street Sweeping Program: The street sweeping program is still in place. Due to the absence of “No Parking” signs, HPD is unable to enforce parking restrictions. When the signs are replaced, HPD will enforce by citation. Officers will not towaway cars based on the “No Parking” restriction. In the past, unregistered vehicles or vehicles with expired safety inspections were. This may have confused residents who thought that towing vehicles was standard on street sweeping days. The City Departments of Facility Maintenance (DFM) and City Department of Transportation Services (DTS) are coordinating to replace the signs.
- Ala Puumalu Park: A sign with office hours is posted on the Ala Puumalu Park office door. However, staff routinely must leave the office to attend training, meetings, or to do other official business. When such instances occur, staff has been instructed to post a temporary sign stating when they will return. There is a full time groundskeeper assigned to the park; however, due to staff shortages, the City Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) have been forced to reallocate grounds keepers from assigned sites to assist at other parks on an as needed basis.
- Salt Lake District Park: Holes in the chain-link fence at Salt Lake District Park have been repaired in May 2012.
- Grass: Cork to cut grass on Salt Lake Boulevard was completed on May 9, 2012.
- Arizona Road Brush: Work to cut back brush on Arizona Road was completed on May 29, 2012.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

1. Merge Signage: It was suggested placing signage before Namur Road on the Makai side of Salt Lake Boulevard to alert drivers of the merge just after the Namur Road/Salt Lake Boulevard.
2. Street Sweeping Pilot Program: It was noted that the posted “No Parking” signs were part of a street sweeping pilot program. The “No Parking” signs made it possible for cars to be towed on street sweeping days. It was suggested the signage be reposted.
3. No Parking Signage: It was noted that “No Parking” signage was never removed from Likini Street and Ala Ilima Street. It was expressed that it is in the City's best interest to keep roadways clear.
4. Dead Vines: It was suggested that the City clear away dead vines along Salt Lake Boulevard. It was noted that the community asked the City to not touch the vines because removing the vines in an area and letting it grow in another would make the area look unsightly. It was suggested fixing sprinklers so the vines would not die.

Honolulu Rail Transit Project – Pat Lee reported the following;

- Bills: The Honolulu City Council recently approved four (4) Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART) measures:
  - Bill 31: HART's operating budget
  - Bill 32: The capital or construction budget

- Bill 33: Authorizes bonds for the project
- Bill 37: Establishes a method for short term borrowing as a safeguard in case there is a catastrophic event and the surcharge is diminished. Establishing the additional safeguard is a requirement of the FTA to ensure the project's completion and also a part of their approval process for the FFGA of \$1.55 Billion in federal funds for rail construction. This is a contingency upon a contingency which is in addition to the \$800 million contingency already built into the rail financial plan.
- Traffic: Honolulu is officially ranked as the top US city for traffic congestion. A national study finds that gridlock cost each isle driver 58 hours last year, the worst average in the US. Each person lost about two and a half days stuck in traffic last year. With population on Oahu projected to grow by over 100,000 people in the next 16 years (most of which will be living on the west side of the island) traffic congestion will only get worse. With no way to reduce traffic congestion due to future growth, rail will offer a sensible alternative to commuting on the highways.
- Benefits: An elevated rail system provides travel reliability and dependability for commuters, and is not affected by delays from congestion, accidents or bad weather. When fully operational, rail will have 116,300 daily boardings, which is the equivalent of removing about 40,000 cars off the road each day, and an 18% reduction in future traffic congestion.
- Cancellation of Project: \$2.18 billion in contracts have already been awarded. Of that, \$503 million is already invested (spent) in planning engineering, utility work and acquisitions along with another \$236 million in work that has already been authorized. To date, HART has collected 25 percent of the GET (\$858 million). The project would also lose the \$1.55 billion in federal funding and there would be the loss of project-related jobs. There would also be the potential loss of billions in transit-oriented development.
- Construction Work: Crews continue work along Kamehameha Highway between Pearl City and Aloha Stadium, conducting pre-engineering activities for the second section of the Honolulu rail transit project route. Work will consist of potholing to locate utilities, soil sampling and pothole restoration. Besides the normal day work, there will be evening work in the area. East and westbound lane closures of Kamehameha Highway occur between:
  - Kuala Street to Lehua Avenue
  - Puu Poni Street to Kaahumanu Street
  - Kanuku Street to Honomanu Street
- Contact: For more information, please visit the project website at [www.honolulutransit.org](http://www.honolulutransit.org), or call the project hotline at 566-2299.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

1. Map: Lee was thanked for providing maps indicating access to rail stations from high rise districts.
2. Commute Time: It was asked and clarified that the approximate rail commute time from Ewa to Honolulu would be 40 minutes. It was noted that one would also have to factor in the amount of traffic in 15 years.
3. Bus Speed: It was noted that all traffic moves at bus speed.

Councilmember Romy Cachola – A representative was not present; a newsletter was provided.

#### ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Governor's Representative – Jade Butay reported the following;

- Hurricane Season: It was reported that Civil Defense and the Hawaii National Guard are preparing for hurricane season. It was suggested residents refer to the Civil Defense website at [www.scd.com](http://www.scd.com) for emergency preparedness information.
- Public Labor Agreement (PLA): The Governor is committed to following PLA plans to ensure the timely completion of projects.

- Education: On May 24, 2012, \$26.8 million was approved to improve education in Hawaii. \$500,000 has been allocated to Moanalua High School, and \$1 million has been allocated to Salt Lake Elementary School.
- Moanalua Freeway: Moanalua Freeway resurfacing is expected to complete by the end of June 2012.
- Dillingham Lights: Due to copper wire continuously being stolen from light posts on Dillingham Boulevard, the State has left lights in disrepair and is trying to determine a way to fix the lights and deter thieves from stealing the copper wire.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

1. Lights: It was suggested leaving lights on all day to deter thieves from stealing the wire. It was noted that thieves who try to touch live wiring will be shocked. Butay noted concerns with liability should someone be injured.
2. Copper Restrictions: It was suggested placing restrictions on buying and selling used copper wire.
3. Grass: It was noted that there is a short stretch of grass near the library and Aliamanu Elementary School needs to be cut.
4. Zip Lane: It was suggested widening the Zip Lane from the Mililani onramp to Kalihi and allowing traffic from Mililani to utilize the Zip Lane.
5. Kamehameha Highway Paving: It was suggested waiting for rail crews to dig their trenches before paving Kamehameha Highway. It was noted that rail crews will not start digging for another four (4) years.

Senator Glenn Wakai – Senator Wakai circulated a newsletter and reported that 345 bills were passed by the State legislature. The Governor has until July 10, 2012 to either sign the bills into law, let it pass without his signature, or veto them. To date, the Governor has signed off on 90 bills.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

1. Human Services: It was noted that Human Services will receive more funding than Education in the 2013 budget.
2. Budget Cost Process: It was suggested legislative leaders be involved with the budget cost process. It was noted that the responsibility belongs to the Executive Branch.

Representative Linda Ichiyama – Representative Ichiyama circulated a newsletter and reported the following;

- Senate Bill (SB) 2320: Builds a statewide system of support for Hawaii's older adults and their family caregivers and provides essential home and community based services for Hawaii's elderly population. It establishes the Kupuna care program under law and appropriates \$4.9 million to support the needs of Hawaii's seniors.
- SB 2779: Appropriates \$1.4 million for aging and disability resource centers in each county. The centers are intended to streamline access to services for older adults, persons with disabilities, and family caregivers.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

1. Aging and Disability Resource Center: It was suggested placing an Aging and Disability Resource Center at the old Blockbuster building in Slat Lake Shopping Center.
2. Salt Lake Library: It was suggested opening up the second floor of the Salt Lake Library for community meetings. It was noted that when the library was built; the community advocated that the second floor of the library be available for community use.

Representative Aaron Johanson – Erin Fale circulated a newsletter and reported the following;

- Radford high School: Monies have been secured to install a new 8-lane all weather track and improvements to gymnasium flooring.
- Parking: HPD has the ability to tow cars parked on street corners if they feel the vehicle poses a traffic hazard.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

1. Bills: It was suggested extending testimony notice period to allow more input on bills.
2. Military Dump: It was noted that the Radford High School was previously used as a military dump. It was suggested fixing under the field before installing the track. Concern was raised that the field would sink and the new track destroyed.
3. Library Cuts: It was suggested seeking out senior volunteers to staff library shortfalls.

RESIDENTS'/COMMUNITY CONCERNS: None.

#### BOARD BUSINESS:

Discussion to Support Re-Route of Rail to Salt Lake Boulevard – Chair Godfrey noted that the Board had previously taken a position regarding the rail route on Salt Lake Boulevard and opened the floor for discussion to see if the Board wanted to change its position.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

1. Money: It was noted that much money has already been invested in the project. It was suggested the Board not make any changes at this time.
2. Timeliness: It was noted that it is already too late to make a decision.

#### PRESENTATIONS:

Oahu Veteran's Center – A representative was not present; a report was not made available.

#### REPORTS:

Chairman's Report – Chair Godfrey reported the following updates:

- Ewa Development Plan Hearing – June 27, 2012 at Mission Memorial building
- Special Use Permits Hearing – June 11, 2012, at Mission Memorial building
- Bus Service Update – The next Neighborhood Board Meeting

Correspondence – None.

Approval of May 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes – **The May 10, 2012 regular meeting minutes were UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED AS AMENDED, 7-0-0 (AYE: Baird, Egge, Godfrey, Kanemaru, Morita, Pepper, and Yomes).** Corrections included;

- Page 1 – Under Members Present should have stricken: ~~(Arrived at 7:10 p.m.)~~
- Page 2 – should have stricken: ~~Board member Kanemaru arrived at 7:10 p.m.; 8 members present.~~

Treasurer's Report – Kanemaru read the Treasurer's report and reported a starting balance of \$3,351.00 and an ending balance of \$1,445.65. The report was filed.

Transportation – None.

Environment – Egge presented the environment emphasis report. (refer to the attached report).

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

1. Noise Focus: It was suggested creating a policy to address moped noise rather than cars.
2. Animal Noise: It was noted that there used to be a problem with roosters; however, there is now a problem with barking dogs. It was further noted that owners of noisy roosters were cited and the noise stopped.

Legislative – None.

Emergency Preparedness – Egge presented the emergency preparedness emphasis report. (Refer to the attached report).

Questions, comments, and concerns followed;

Amateur Radio Operators: it was asked how many amateur radio operators are in the area.

Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO) – None.

Zoning and Planning – None.

Parks and Recreation – None.

Police/Fire – None.

Education/Military – None.

Health/Human Services – Kanemaru reported that in an effort to promote good health, DPR facilities have removed all sodas from vending machines and replaced them with healthy beverage alternatives.

Senior Citizens – None.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Next Meeting – The Next Aliamanu/Salt Lake/ Foster Village Neighborhood Board is scheduled for July 12, 2012, at 7:00 p.m., at the Oahu Veteran's Center, 1289 Kukila Street.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Submitted by: Kazuaki McArthur, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by: Lorene Godfrey, Chair