



WAIANAE COAST NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 24

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
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DRAFT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2015** **WAIANAE DISTRICT PARK – MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM**

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Johnnie-Mae Perry called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. **A quorum was established with eight (8) Board members present.** Note-This nine (9) member Board requires five (5) members to establish a quorum and to take official Board action.

Board Members Present: Calvin Endo, Al Frenzel, Cedric Gates, Robin Grant (departed at 9:05 p.m.), Craig McDonald, Johnnie-Mae Perry, Albert Silva, and Kellen Smith.

Board Members Absent: Rene-Andre DeRosa

Guests: Sergeant Philip White (Honolulu Police Department), Captain Ryan Maeda (Honolulu Fire Department), Lieutenant Colonel Will Griffin (US Army 25th Infantry Division), Representative Jo Jordan, Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Cynthia Rezentes, W. Ken Koike, Jack DeFeo, James Manaku Sr., Jose Cano, Gabriela Cano, Melva Aila, Alice Greenwood, Richard Landford, Shirley Landford, Marlen Sommers, Dennis Sakai, Joyce Sakai, Tom Berg, Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai, Suzanne Watanabe, and Lori Snyder (Neighborhood Commission Office Staff).

Pule/Pledge of Allegiance/Hawaii Pono'i: Chair Perry welcomed everyone to the Board meeting. Endo led the pule, Silva led Hawaii Pono'i, and Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MONTHLY REPORTS: Part One (1)

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD): Captain Ryan Maeda reported the following:

- **January 2015 Fire Statistics:** There were 2 structure fires, 6 wildland fires, 8 rubbish fires, 1 vehicle fire, 346 medical emergencies, 4 search and rescues, and 66 miscellaneous emergencies. There were no major or unusual incidents.
- **Hiking Safety Tips:** When planning a hike, inform others and let someone know the trail name and location, and the estimated time of return. Plan to have enough time to return from the hike to account for sufficient daylight. Carry a fully charged cell phone. Stay on the hiking trail; most accidents occur when hikers leave the established trail and disregard warning signs. Staying on the trail greatly reduces the risk of having a serious fall or getting lost. For more information visit <http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/recreation/>.

Honolulu Police Department (HFD): Sergeant Philip White reported the following: **December/January 2014 Crime Statistics:** There were 31/33 motor vehicle thefts, 70/50 burglaries, 186/173 thefts, 78/71 unauthorized entries into motor vehicles (UEMV), and 7,957/7,470 total calls for service.

US Army 25th Infantry Division: Lieutenant Colonel Will Griffin reported the following:

- **Malama Makua Cultural Access:** Malama Makua's next scheduled cultural access dates are Sunday, February 18, 2015 and Thursday, February 22, 2015.
- **Training:** Training will occur from Tuesday, February 24, 2015 through Thursday, March 5, 2015.
- **Local Natural Resources Program:** The Army's Local Natural Resources Program leads monthly volunteer service trips to protect rare and endangered plants on military land. For more information and to register to volunteer, visit oanrp.ivolunteer.com.
- **Makua Marine Study:** The Army announced a 60 day comment period for the Makua Marine Study beginning Sunday, February 1, 2015 and ending Friday, April 3, 2015. Comments may be submitted through e-mail at usaghi.pao.comrel@us.army.mil; through postal mail at US Army Garrison Hawaii Environmental Division Attn: Marine Study, 9408 Santos Dumont Avenue, Schofield Barracks, HI 96857; or by attending the public meeting on Thursday, March 5, 2015 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Waianae High School. For more information about the study visit www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/makua.
- **Army Community Listening Session:** Thank you to all who participated in the Army community listening sessions.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. **Thank You:** Chair Perry thanked the Army for their presence at the locations they impact the most on

Oahu.

2. Pilot Option: A community member referred to a captured Jordanian pilot and suggested that pilots have a method to take their own lives in such an event.

Board of Water Supply (BWS): A representative was not present and a report was not provided.

Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative: Chair Perry read a memo from the Neighborhood Commission Office (NCO):

- Rehabilitation of Localized Streets: Phase 15A is in scope development and the consultant procurement process is ongoing. Phase 15C has ongoing utility clearances. Both Phase 15D and Unit 70 are in the planning and design phase.
- Sewers: The Lualualei Waste Water Pump Station (WWPS) Force Main System Condition Assessment is in the planning and design phase.
- Parks: The Mauna Lahilahi Beach Park Environmental Assessment for Revetment revised from Protective Breakwater is in the planning and design phase. Pu'u O Hulu Community Park Comfort Station is in scope development and the consultant procurement process is ongoing. Waianae District Park Improvements Project is up for bid using 2015's construction funds with an anticipated bid opening date of Tuesday, March 31, 2015.
- Neighborhood Board Elections: Candidate registration for the 2015 Neighborhood Board Elections has begun and the deadline to apply is Friday, February 20, 2015. For more information call 768-3708.
- Ti Leaf Collection: The Mayor's Office of Culture and the Arts (MOCA) and the Honolulu Zoo are asking for donations of ti leaf to help repair the hale la'i. Hundreds of leaves will be needed, and green, yellow or brown leaves with stems may be dropped off in plastic bags at the Honolulu Zoo entrance.
- Rail: Rail questions should be addressed by the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART).

Councilmember Kymberly Pine's Representative: A representative was not present and a report was not provided.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Surfing Beach Bridges: Silva inquired if the bridges on surfing beach were getting replaced or moved.

Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Hearing: Chair Perry voiced concern that PUC is holding a meeting miles away from the actual community that would receive the proposed solar farm. The meeting will be held on Thursday, February 12, 2015 at Nanaikapono Elementary School Cafeteria at 3:30 p.m. Four (4) Board members are allowed to attend. Chair Perry, Gates, and Frenzel volunteered to attend.

PVT Land Company (PVT) Proposal Application: Chair Perry noted that PVT is requesting to expand their recycling and materials recovery operations to allow the site grade to reach a maximum elevation of up to 255 feet above mean sea level at the mauka portion of the site. Chair Perry voiced concern that in the past, residents at that area complained about dust from the site. For questions or comments, contact Mark Taylor at 768-8020.

Makaha Valley Lo'i Restoration Draft: Chair Perry noted any questions regarding the Makaha Valley Lo'i Restoration Draft Environmental Assessment should be directed to Barry Usagawa at 748-5900.

Waianae Satellite City Hall Concerns: Smith voiced concern about the short hours at Waianae Satellite City Hall, staff reductions, and the office closures during the day. James Manaku Sr. reiterated the concern.

Solar Panel Concern: James Manaku Sr. voiced concern about reflective solar panels causing damage to birds.

HPD Drawing Guns: James Manaku Sr. voiced concern about HPD drawing their guns on community members.

Government Officials Concern: DeFeo voiced concern that the government officials were not serving the Waianae community, and noted that he did not include Representative Jo Jordan in that comment. McDonald noted citizens have the opportunity to recall government officials if the public is unsatisfied with their services.

SB769 Relating to Transportation: Gates encouraged the community to review SB769 which would appropriate moneys for the Department of Transportation (DOT) to conduct a feasibility study for the establishment of a fifth lane of travel on the ocean side of Farrington Highway in Nanakuli. Gates noted that this is a possible solution to the traffic.

Downsizing Concern: Community member Alice Greenwood voiced concern about the negative impacts that the Army downsizing would have on the Waianae community. Greenwood encouraged the community and government officials to consider the effects of the downsizing, including raising taxes and cost of living.

NEW BUSINESS:

Alternative to the City's Rail Project: Tom Berg played a 10 minute video about the alternative to steel-on-steel rail, Maglev, which included the following facts: Maglev was invented in 1966 and is short for Magnetic Levitation, meaning that the train is levitated off the track by a magnet. There are more builders of Maglev than steel for rail systems. The Maglev system is currently operating in Russia, Japan, and Germany. Maglev contains two (2) foot pillars rather than eight (8) foot. This alternative has a low design build cost but a high maintenance cost. President Obama and Berg were on the video testifying that Maglev was the technology of the future.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Private Organization: Frenzel asked Berg why he believes the rail technology could be changed even though the project has already begun. Berg answered that the Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA) of \$1.55 billion will not allow reduction of the number of stations or a change in technology. Any recipient can petition and amend the FFGA in the situation of a financial crisis as long as the technology is rail.
2. Board Help: Smith thanked Berg for the presentation and asked what the Board could do to help. Berg noted that a letter to Daniel Grabauskas and Transportation Chair Councilmember Joey Manahan would help, asking them to answer the question, "Can the FFGA be amended."
3. Communication with Elected Officials: Chair Perry asked if Berg has communicated with the elected officials. Berg referred to a November 2011 City Council hearing where three (3) councilmembers said they do not have the right to ask the Federal Government to change the rail technology, and since that hearing Berg has been calling officials and has yet to have anyone return his calls.
4. Rail in Waianae: Frenzel noted steel-on-steel cannot travel up a certain grade percentage, so the extension possibility into Waianae is not possible with the current technology being installed.

Frenzel moved and Smith seconded that the Chair request the Transportation Chair Councilmember Joey Manahan coordinate a public presentation about alternative rail technologies. Discussion followed:

- Taxpayer Concern: Community member James Manaku Sr. voiced concern about the increase of taxes to pay for the rail and requested getting rid of Transit Oriented Development (TOD).
- Opposition to Rail: Community member DeFeo noted opposition towards the rail.
- Lower Costs: Community members Alice Greenwood and W. Ken Koike voiced agreement with Berg and were in support of solutions that would lower costs.
- Time Limit: A community member asked if there was a time limit for when the City Council cannot ask FTA for the technology change. Berg answered that the request to cancel the FFGA can be done even after the FFGA has been executed.
- Committee Meeting Invite: Community member Richard Landford invited Berg to present at the Nanakuli/Maili Neighborhood Board No. 36 Transportation Committee meeting on the third Thursday of the month.

Frenzel repeated the motion. The motion was ADOPTED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 8-0-0 (Endo, Frenzel, Gates, Grant, McDonald, Perry, Silva, and Smith).

BOARD BUSINESS/ACTION - Part One (1)

Approval of Tuesday, January 6, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes: **Endo moved and Gates seconded to approve the January 6, 2014 regular minutes. The motion was ADOPTED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 8-0-0 (Endo, Frenzel, Gates, Grant, McDonald, Perry, Silva, and Smith. 8-0-0 (Endo, Frenzel, Gates, Grant, McDonald, Perry, Silva, and Smith).**

Treasurer's Report: Endo read the January 2015 financial statement. The expenditures for postage and printing was \$95.53 leaving a balance of \$379.78. The report was filed.

Letter of Complaint to PUC: Chair Perry referred to her earlier concern about the PUC meeting held in a different community than the one receiving the proposed solar farm. Chair Perry requested an informal complaint be sent to the PUC. **Gates moved and Endo seconded that the Chair of the Waianae Coast Neighborhood Board No. 24 send an informal complaint letter be sent to the PUC about the meeting held on Thursday,**

February 12, 2015 at Nanaikapono Elementary School Cafeteria. The motion was ADOPTED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 8-0-0 (Endo, Frenzel, Gates, Grant, McDonald, Perry, Silva, and Smith).

MONTHLY REPORTS - Part Two (2)

Governor David Ige's Representative: A representative was not present and a report was not provided.

Representative Jo Jordan: Representative Jo Jordan provided a handout and reported the following:

- Governor Ige's Financial Plan: Governor Ige's financial plan has been released.
- Legislative Hearings: Legislative hearings have begun and Representative Jordan encouraged community members who want to provide testimony for certain bills to be aware of hearing dates.
- Preschool Open Doors (POD) Applications: The Department of Human Services (DHS) will be accepting applications for its POD program between Sunday, March 1, 2015 and Thursday, April 30, 2015.
- Health Insurance Enrollment: DHS Med-QUEST Division and the Hawaii Health Connector are working together to ensure that all Hawaii residents enroll in a health insurance plan by Sunday, February 15, 2015.
- Interim State Librarian: Stacie Kanno, Hawaii State Public Library System (HSBLS) Public Libraries Branch Director, is currently serving as the Interim State Librarian until the Board of Education selects and announces a new State Librarian.
- Makaha Flood Study on O'lelo: Representative Jordan's most recent Makaha Flood Study meeting will be aired on O'lelo channel 49 on Wednesday, February 4, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Legislative Process: Endo inquired about how a bill gets passed into law. Representative Jordan explained that bill introductions started on Wednesday, January 21, 2015 and ended on at the end of January 2015. Bill committee assignments ended on Monday, February 2, 2015. Representative Jordan encouraged the community to find a bill number on the website, find its assigned committee, and contact the committee chair to encourage the bill to be scheduled. An individual can be notified when a bill is scheduled for hearing via e-mail, in which testimony can be given. The Public Information Office at the Capital can help individuals navigate the website.
2. Satellite City Hall Concerns: Chair Perry provided Representative Jordan with an e-mail message regarding Waianae Satellite City Hall hours being cut, staff reductions, and office closures during the day.
3. Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Hearing: Representative Jordan noted for Chair Perry that she contacted the individual holding the PUC meeting and sternly voiced her dissatisfaction with the meeting location being held miles away from the proposed farm. Unfortunately, the meeting announcements were already sent and the meeting was already published in the Honolulu Star Advertiser. Chair Perry requested that Representative Jordan inform the community about the PUC meeting. Representative Jordan answered for resident Marlen Sommers that she would check her committee meetings schedules if she was available to attend the meeting. Resident Sommers also noted the meeting should be after 7:00 p.m. in order for residents to be able to attend.
4. Surfing Beach Bridges: Silva inquired if the bridges on surfing beach were getting replaced or moved. Representative Jo Jordan answered for Silva that she has a meeting with the Deputy Director of DOT on Wednesday, February 4, 2015 and will ask for an update on Makaha Bridges 3 and 3A. Representative Jordan believes the project will not go out to bid in 2015.
5. Hawaii Health Connector (Connector): McDonald asked how the State will keep the Connector contractor accountable. Representative Jordan noted that the contractor requested \$15 million to run the Connector, and the State has given \$5 million. Currently, the connector must be kept running until a waiver can be submitted in 2017. If a different connector was chosen, individuals could not apply for federal tax credits.
6. Tax Fairness: McDonald noted that in January 2015, the International Revenue Service (IRS) released a study of tax codes in Hawaii that revealed that 20% of the poorest people in Hawaii pay the most taxes, the non-elderly tax payers in the poorest 20% pay 13.4%, the middle class pay 20.1%, and the wealthiest pay 5.6% of taxes. McDonald inquired if there is any legislation that will address the tax code to create fairness, which would result in alleviating many budget problems. Grant reiterated McDonald's concern. Representative Jordan responded with the following: In the last four (4) years, the standard deduction and exemption amounts have increased. There are currently almost 15 bills regarding the rental tax credit. Representative Jordan introduced a measure to increase the income level from 30,000 to 60,000 depending on the filing status, and is asking that the Consumer Price Index (CPI) automatically increase in future years. The Department of Taxation (DOTAX) gave a presentation that was disenchanting. Representative Jordan understands that the poor need to be taken care of, but if tax credits were raised,

other services would be affected. In 2014, Representative Jordan voted "no" on a bill that would decrease the highest tax rate. Representative Jordan supported an increase of standard deductions and exemptions, and noted she is not in support of what some of her leadership is trying to do, which is to decrease tax on the wealthy and not make changes for the poor.

7. Tax Legislation: Gates asked which tax bills were passed, what Representative Jordan's strategy was to help get her bills passed, and which bills were most important. Representative Jordan noted she introduced a bill to increase low income housing affordable credit, a bill related to rental tax credit, and communicates with legislators to request her bills to be heard. Representative Jordan believed both bills were equally important but the tax credit to build more affordable homes would be easier to pass.
8. Cost of Living: Chair Perry voiced concern that citizens are unable to live comfortably with tax increases and the high cost of living.
9. General Excise Tax (GET) Extension: Frenzel voiced concern that the City should not continue to take from taxpayers in order to save the rail. Frenzel and resident Marlen Sommers noted opposition towards the GET extension.
10. Tax Credits: Endo inquired if there were other ways to help teachers other than tax credits that would not affect the entire population. Representative Jordan understood Endo's concern.
11. Makua Military Reservation: Community member W. Ken Koike encouraged Representative Jordan to not support Makua Military Reservation for Army training. Representative Jordan noted she did not sign House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 3, and encouraged support for her Makua Bill that would start preparations to take the Makua land back.
12. Generate Revenue Instead of Taxes: Resident Jack DeFeo noted the City and State should find ways to bring revenue to Hawaii so that the residents are not burdened with fees and taxes. Representative Jordan agreed, noting she is disappointed that the State has not promoted manufacturing.

Senator Maile Shimabukuro: Senator Shimabukuro provided a handout and reported the following: Legislative Support: Senator Shimabukuro encouraged the community to provide testimony for bills SB769/HB1446 related to the establishment of a fifth lane on Nanakuli, SB763/HB1265 related to mobile home parks, SB 1325 regarding illegal dumping, and SB774/HB509 related to taro lands.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Thank You and Support: Smith thanked Senator Shimabukuro for introducing the mobile home park and agriculture bills, and noted he had already submitted testimony for both.
2. Resolutions: Senator Shimabukuro noted she is working on a resolution Smith requested, and the deadline to submit resolutions is later in 2015.
3. Education Bills: Endo requested and Gates agreed that Senator Shimabukuro support a current bill that would allow school Principals to approve free usage of school rooms to organizations such as the Boys and Girls Club of Hawaii and church groups. Endo also voiced concern about a bill that would reduce the hours that children are in school.
4. Council Bill: Gates noted there was a bill in the City Council that would allow programs such as after school activity programs to use park facilities at no charge.
5. Makaha Realignment Bill: Frenzel inquired why Senator Shimabukuro did not highlight the Makaha Bridge realignment bill in her report. Senator Shimabukuro noted the Department of Transportation (DOT) will most likely vote against the bill, but noted the introduction of the bill has started a discussion. Frenzel requested ongoing updates about the Makaha Bridge bill.
6. PUC Meeting: Chair Perry requested that Senator Shimabukuro inform the community about the PUC meeting.
7. High Rent Costs: A community member noted there are many different reasons for high rent cost in Hawaii, and voiced concern that Section 8 waivers in the Waianae community increased rent cost. Resident Jack DeFeo noted real estate developers take advantage of the cost of living in paradise.
8. Trash Pick-Up: A community member noted that the trash that was at the boat harbor is now at the entranceway by Waianae High School.
9. Mobile Home Bill: A community member recommended surveying residents who would use the affordable housing alternatives to see if they would want to live in the proposed mobile homes.
10. Taro Bill: Community Member W. Ken Koike voiced support for SB774/HB509 related to taro lands.
11. SB770 Relating to Farrington Highway Realignment: Endo recommended showing photographs of the sand erosion to those who oppose SB770, and noted that with the high surfs and wind conditions, the erosion will continue to get worse. Senator Shimabukuro noted the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) performed a study which explained that the current placement of Farrington Highway is a large cause of sand erosion.

Grant departed at 9:05. There were 7 members present.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Education: Endo announced the next Waianae Coast Neighborhood Board No. 24 Education Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, February 12, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. at Waianae High School. Endo encouraged the community to review the legislation related to education.

Intergovernmental Affairs and Human Services: Endo announced the next Waianae Coast Neighborhood Board No. 24 Intergovernmental Affairs and Human Services Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, February 12, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at Waianae High School.

Parks and Recreation: Gates noted the Waianae Coast Neighborhood Board No. 24 Parks and Recreation Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, February 24, 2015. Gates held a meeting on Thursday, January 29, 2015 including concerns about Pokai Bay signage, painting of restricted parking, access to the boat ramp, and land fishing regulation. The committee is drafting a resolution regarding the Makaha Bridge. **Gates nominated and Frenzel seconded that Richard Landford to be a Waianae Coast Neighborhood Board No. 24 Parks and Recreation Committee member. The nomination was APPROVED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 7-0-0 (Endo, Frenzel, Gates, McDonald, Perry, Silva, and Smith).**

Housing and Development Committee: Gates noted the Waianae Coast Neighborhood Board No. 24 Housing and Development Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 24, 2015.

Transportation: Frenzel has been attending the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO) meetings about Honolulu transportation. Frenzel is a sub-committee member on the Certification Review Advisory Council responsible for cleaning up the OMPO certification process, which is currently trying to make the Citizen's Advisory Council a voting member on the OMPO advisory board. Frenzel encouraged the community to attend the Nanakuli/Maili Neighborhood Board No. 36 Transportation Committee meeting on Thursday, February 19, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at Maile Elementary School, involving discussion about bus stop and turn lane concerns, and traffic flow with the lane widening.

Hawaiian Affairs Committee: **Smith moved and Frenzel seconded to create a Hawaiian Affairs Committee, chaired by Smith. The motion was ADOPTED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 7-0-0 (Endo, Frenzel, Gates, McDonald, Perry, Silva, and Smith).**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next Regular Meeting: The next Waianae Coast Neighborhood Board No. 24 regular monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2015 at Waianae District Park at 7:00 p.m.
- Community Events: A mini Farmer's Market will take place on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Paint The Night Away II will take place on Friday, February 20, 2015 at Nanakuli High and Intermediate School from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. A Hike and Cultural Activities Saturday will take place on Saturday, February 21, 2015 at Ka'ala Farms from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m. by Chair Perry.

Submitted by: Lori Snyder, Neighborhood Assistant
Reviewed by: Stephen Saito, Neighborhood Assistant
Reviewed and Finalized by: Johnnie-Mae Perry, Chair