



MILILANI/ WAIPIO/ MELEMANU NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 25

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 400 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
PHONE (808) 527-5749 • FAX (808) 527-5760 • INTERNET: <http://www.honolulu.gov>

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2006 MILILANI RECREATION CENTER III

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Poirier called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m., and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. A quorum was present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Carl Medeiros, Dick Poirier, Susan Hough, Ann Freed, Pua Iuli, Carole Siegel, Douglas Thomas, Josie Kaanehe, MaryAnne Selander, Jessie Weinberger, David Bremer, Bill Brizee, Mary Segura, Keith Hamada, Karen Loomis, Lulani Arquette, Bill Bass, Charlie Remington.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Andrew Garrett, Elizabeth Andrews, Alvin Wong, Noel Araki, Hallah Nilsen.

GUESTS: Evelyn Souza, Franklin Souza, Jaime Freitas, Charles Freitas, Charles Freitas, Jr., Jeanette Grace, George Grace, Darrick Rodrigues, and Les Vallarano (SORT); Major Philip Hughes (US Army Schofield), Lt. Steven Nishihara (Honolulu Police Department, Wahiawa Station), Don Robbins (Ka Nupepa People), Captain Warren Faurot (Honolulu Fire Department, Mililani Station), David Aki, Michelle Kidani (Mayor's Office/Neighborhood Commission Office), Representative Marilyn Lee, Kurt Fevella (Ewa Neighborhood Board No. 23), Beth Kuch (Tobacco-Free Oahu), Rod Haraga (State Department of Transportation), Mrs. Haraga, Nola J. Frank (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 21, 2006: Members present add, "...Pua Iuli and MaryAnne Selander..." Without objections the minutes were approved as corrected.

COMMUNITY FORUM:

Honolulu Fire Department – Captain Faurot reported the following:

- 1) Statistics for the month of October included fires –structure 2, brush 0, rubbish 1 and vehicle 1, medical responses 23, search/rescue 3 (auto accident).
- 2) The holidays are a time for celebration and that means more cooking, home decorating, entertaining and an increased risk of fire due to heating equipment.
 - Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home fires in the United States.
 - After a party, check for smoldering cigarettes.
 - Use caution with holiday decorations and, whenever possible, choose those made with flame resistant, flame- retardant, or non-combustible materials.
 - Purchase only lights and electrical decorations bearing the name of an independent testing lab, and follow the manufacturer's instructions for installation and maintenance.
 - Do not overload extension cords.
 - Try to keep live trees as moist as possible by watering them daily,
 - When purchasing an artificial tree, ensure it is made with fire-retardant materials.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) – Lt. Nishihara distributed the property crime statistics/highlights and reported burglaries were up in the month of October. One arrest was made, when a person was reported in a residence. Only eight burglary cases were reported in November.

- 1) The Honolulu Police Department's Communications Division is scheduled for an on-site assessment, December 10 through 13, 2006, as part of the program to achieve reaccreditations by verifying it meets professional standards. As part of the on-site assessment, the public is invited to offer comments by



calling 479-6307 on Monday, December 11, 2006 from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, call HPD's Office of Accreditation at 529-3323.

- 2) In a response to an earlier request regarding speeding on Apoai Street, due to the increase of traffic that street is used as a short cut going west to Mililani. Officers' monitored the area for three hours. Lt. Nishihara said in his opinion an engineering solution would be a better way to go.
- 3) HPD was thanked for the signage at Kahoahea and Kuahelani Streets.
- 4) The burglary suspect was caught on the west side of Mililani, but charged a few weeks later at court.
- 5) Lt. Nishihara relayed that the Crime Reduction Units was to do a presentation this evening, and apologized that they were not present.

Lt. Nishihara was thanked for attending the meeting.

Military – Major Philip Hughes, of Schofield, reported this is the fourth month of deployment, with 4,000 soldiers remaining at the base. The military having ties with several area schools participated in "Make a Difference Day" on October 28, 2006. The soldiers assisted with landscaping, and purchased and installed air-conditioning at Mililani High School, as well as other various tasks at other area schools.

Questions and comments:

Bremer asked if the Army is going to comply with the new State law regarding smoking and expressed concern that 25% of military personnel smoke. Major Hughes replied he did not know, but assumes they will follow the state's procedures. The Army does have a no smoking campaign.

Major Philip Hughes was thanked for attending the meeting.

Oahu Arts Center – No report.

Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Center Project – No report.

Other Community Concerns:

New Mililani Post Master – MaryAnne Selander announced she brings tidings of great joy because Mililani has a new post office manager, Royalle Watanabe who is a Mililani resident. Neighborhood Board No. 25 voted a resolution for a dozen improvements, which went to Washington D.C., of which many were accomplished. There was a promise of more parking, better window service, access to the mail drop and pedestrian access. The good news is an interview with Mrs. Watanabe she provided the following schedule pertaining to the Christmas season: a) New season hours-8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; b) 42 plus 2 handicap parking spaces will be available, with 21 stalls the left side of the post office; c) the black top at the bottom of the drive to the parking will be repaired as a temporary assist; d) Five windows for service will be open most hours and a person will be available to receive pick up for packages; e) On December 2 a staff member will be available all day to brief customers on self mail, and post office pickup from your home; f) the self postal machine has been repaired; g) In February of 2007 the entire parking area will be resurfaced, the green area removed and 21 additional parking spaces added; h) Mrs. Watanabe has agreed to find a way through traffic to the mail drop by driving through the new parking area and avoid the post office entrance.

MaryAnne Selander was thanked for her report.

Traffic Issues – David Aki relayed the following concerns: 1) Recommended an overpass by Mililani High School. 2) Attended the following Neighborhood Boards Wahiawa Board 26 and Mililani Mauka Board 34 requesting the boards to have the transportation people to include Board 25 and the North Shore Board No. 27 to address the issues by volume.

David Aki was thanked for attending the meeting.

PUBLIC FORUM:

The Future of Hawaii Raceway Park – Evelyn Souza represented the group SORT (Save Our Oahu Race Track) and discussed the Hawaii Raceway Park (HRP). HRP sits on 67 acres in Campbell Industrial Park was built in the sixties at a cost of \$750,000 with estimated replacement cost at \$120 million. HRP included a drag strip, road cross, motor cross, go-cart and dirt tracks. The racetrack was made available for pursuits training for both the sheriff's and police departments. SORT is trying to save the only raceway park on the island. Their opinion is that the park is salvageable, suitable and is asking for board support. Support has been received from the Waianae and Ewa Neighborhood Boards. A parcel in Kalaeloa owned by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands was previously proposed for a swap with the racetrack parcel for the past 18 years. There are no identifiable investors for the Kalaeloa, a suitable site for a racetrack that has not been acquired. No land swapping is pending. The lessee of the racetrack parcel went to the legislature last year seeking to acquire \$50 million in tax credits. Sort was able to block it out. Sort's goal is to preserve HRP. The SORT plan is to utilize the outer island model with a county owned track, run by a private non-profit organization providing operations and maintenance. SORT is asking the county to acquire HRP with a combination of state, county, and private funding. One million was set aside last legislative session for the purpose of acquiring HRP. Souza stated that SORT would payback every penny to the county with income from the track. She added that 85 percent of racers live on Oahu. The City and County of Honolulu has recreational facilities including parks, tennis courts, and even dog parks. Souza emphasized there are more dog parks than raceway parks. The City also owns and operated six golf courses. The HRP assessment value is \$5.8 million for the 6.7-acre park. The current problem is racing on Oahu's streets. An example given was cars witnessed in the parking lot COSTCO between 1 and 3 a.m. drifting. SORT is trying to take drifting off the streets. In summary, Souza said the best way to prevent street racing is to get the young enthusiasts to the racetrack at an early age.

Questions and comments:

- 1) Drifting is a vehicle burning rubber, similar to doughnuts.
- 2) A comment made was that people who race on the streets do no honor the racetrack.
- 3) Drifting increased since the movie "Tokyo Drift" was released.
- 4) The HRP place must be condemned because SORT wants the parcel to remain a raceway park. The landowner has plans for the property that is zoned agriculture, and used as agriculture with a variance. SORT wants the county to own the land to preserve the racetrack.

Update on Tobacco-Free Oahu Program – Beth Kuch presented the following:

- Hawaii Supports the Law - 85% of Hawaii voters support statewide smoke-free workplaces, public buildings, restaurants and bars; 93% agree; and 88% regard secondhand smoke as a health hazard.
- On November 16, 2006, "The Great American Smoke out", Hawaii went smoke-free. The law protects health and well being by reducing exposure to secondhand smoke in public places and in workplaces. This is not a ban. Smokers may still purchase and use tobacco products. Fourteen states have passed similar laws and is a global trend.
- As of November 16, 2006, smoking will no longer be allowed in partially or fully enclosed buildings and vehicles: owned by state or the counties; open to the public (including private businesses); that are places of employment.
- Each year 1,100 adults, children and babies in Hawaii die from smoking, secondhand smoke or smoking during pregnancy. One-third to one-half a billion dollars in healthcare and lost productivity due to smoking related illnesses.
- Smoke-free workplaces are safer, healthier, help control costs, enhance corporate image, reduce employer' legal liabilities, and experience unaffected or improved business.
- In Hawaii smoking is no longer allowed in airports from cabin to curb, within 20 feet of doorways, windows and ventilation intakes, in sports areas, outdoor arenas, stadiums and amphitheaters, in the common areas of condo and apartment buildings.
- The law covers all workplaces including restaurants, bars, outdoor and lanai areas and nightclubs.
- Compliancy is easy by posting the required signage – Smoking Prohibited by Law or International No Smoking symbol at every entrance, must be clearly visible, implement "No Smoking" policy, and inform violators they may not smoke in your establishment.

- Resources are available by calling 211, the Aloha United Way Help Line, the Department of Health at 586-4613 or log on to www.hawaiismokefree.com.
- Exceptions are private residences except when used as a care facility, 20% of hotels and motels rooms; retail tobacco stores; in private or semi-private resident rooms of nursing homes or long-term care facilities, requested in writing; outdoor areas of employment except those identified within the bill; film productions, when part of the artistic portion; and state prisons.
- Violations: the Department of Health would fine business \$100 for the first offense, \$200 second offense, \$500 for each additional violation within one year, or licenses may be suspended or revoked. Individuals would be cited by HPD at \$50 plus court fees.
- For cessation help contact HMSA's Ready Set Quit, on Oahu at 952-4400, and the Neighbor Islands at 1-888-225-4122; the Hawaii Tobacco Quitline at 1-800-Quit-Now, Kaiser Permanente, and all others.

Questions and comments:

- 1) Bremer asked if veteran free counseling and prescriptions is accepted with a co-payment.
- 2) Relating to condominiums, Freed said complaints are received regarding smoke from other condominium owners' smoke. Kuch replied private residences are not covered under the law. It is up to the Condominium Association to propose a house rule. Remington added 75% of ownership approval is needed.
- 3) A question was posed if it would be better to have smoking in a common area set aside rather than getting smoke from lanais. Kurch answered she thinks if it is under the law a complete open area can be designated.
- 4) Freed asked about enforcement by HPD. Kuch reiterated the \$50 fine for individuals plus court fees. Kaanehe said HPD is yet to issue a directive. Medeiros added a complaint party is need for the citation to be made or the violation witnessed by an officer.
- 5) Brizee inquired if smoking and continue walking along a public sidewalk is a violation. He added if the person smoking is not moving who is liable.

Beth Kuch was thanked for attending the meeting.

REPORTS OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS:

Mayor's Representative – Michelle Kidani reported Mayor Mufi Hannemann sends his Aloha.

- 1) Regarding the hose for the sprinkler system for Waena tennis courts, the staff looked at the need for irrigation hose and will remove it if not needed.
- 2) Regarding the need for a concrete staircase on the park side of the opening of Waena Elementary and Waena Park due to the fence in between, Mililani Elementary will install the step.
- 3) Regarding the surface cracks in the tennis courts at Mililani District Park, the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) looked to resurface through an informal bid, but the cost to resurface was higher than the cost for the informal bid. The courts will have to be refurbished through the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) process.
- 4) The Department of Design and Construction (DDC) is working on plans for an irrigation system at Town Center Park.
- 5) The City trimmed trees in the median of Kuahelani Avenue and Kamehameha Highway. Plans are to add this area to the contractor's tree maintenance bid.
- 6) The City to OIP has referred the suggestion that the Office of Informational Practices (OIP) create an on-line video and testing for sunshine law training, which is a state agency.

- 7) Per the Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM) the streetlight on Wenuka Place will not be replaced.
- 8) Board of Water Supply does not have enough representatives to attend all board meeting (34).
- 9) Regarding the sidewalk block on Waimakua Drive, the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) sent an inspector out and the sidewalk was not blocked at the time of the inspectors visit. However, the tenant has a repair business. Complaints have been received by the City's Customer Services Department and from Council Chair Dela Cruz's office. A van and trailer for the business are parked on the street. A Notice of Violation was issued by DPP. It was suggested to call 911 if a violation is witnessed.

Questions and comments:

- 1) Selander expressed the need for Mililani residents to get from the H-2 to the H-1 freeway. The need for planning infrastructure is now for phase 2 with the 20,000 new homes to be constructed. It is not fair to all that the attention is given to one thing at a time. Kidani agreed. Selander added to tell the Mayor the community needs the \$1 million now.
- 2) Regarding the District Park, cost would be higher than \$25,000. Kidani suggested asking Councilmember Garcia for assistance with adding the project to the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) list.
- 3) Chair asked that the left turn lanes on Lanikuhana Avenue next to Tesoro be checked.
- 4) Brizee asked if follow up could be done on the irrigation system at the YMCA Park, which was a vision project.

Michelle Kidani was thanked for her report.

Councilmember Nestor Garcia – Councilmember Garcia circulated his written report and noted:

- 1) Speeding is a major concern and plans are to revisit traffic calming devices. Experimental plastic should be installed prior to installation of a permanent device.
- 2) Transit Related Bills: Bill 79 (2006) relating to transit, selecting the transportation mode for the city's locally preferred alternative passed first reading on October 25, 2006; reported out of committee on November 2, 2006 in CD1 for; a Special Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 7, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. for second reading.
- 3) The Waiianuhea zone change was deemed denied due to the processing deadline, but plans are to restart the process.
- 4) The Department of Transportation Services has committed to upgrade speed limit signs and install additional curve warning and chevron signs along Alapoi Street, conducting traffic count to justify median makers, and some type of engineering.
- 5) The City received one bidder for the Kipapa Drive Traffic Calming modification (near Mililani Waena CP/Mililani High School) project; negotiations with bidders are on going.
- 6) Mililani Park Improvements (Rehabilitation): a) Makaunulau Community Park parking lot repaving work completed and awaiting landscaping. b) Noholoa Community Park court reconstruction work completed, but being damaged. c) Kipapa Neighborhood Park court resurfacing is anticipated to be completed next week. d) Kuahelani Neighborhood Park court reconstruction anticipated bid early 2007.

Councilmember Nestor Garcia was thanked for attending the meeting.

Governor's Representative – No representative was present.

Oahu Regional Transportation Plan (ORTP) Report – Rod Haraga, Director of the State Department of Transportation (SDOT), reported Gordon Lum, responsible for the 20-30 Transit Plan was unable to attend tonight's meeting. The legislature approved \$1 million for this study according to the O'ahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO). It was suggested that Chair Poirier request an OMPO representative to a board meeting to explain the report that has already been completed; OMPO knows about some of the regional effects about the lack of transportation. The plan includes a number of proposed projects to improve traffic flow on the Central Oahu corridor: include improvements to the Waipio interchange, Waiawa interchange, widening of Kamehameha Highway from Ka Uka Boulevard to Lanikuhana Avenue and a new central mauka road, paralleled to the H-2 from the Waiawa interchange to Mililani Mauka. Details of the particulars can be found on the OMPO website – oahumpo.org. OMPO is working on a report for the next legislature regarding access to Mililani Mauka from the proposed new central mauka road. This road will be under the jurisdiction of the City. According to OMPO the \$1 million is not necessary because OMPO has performed the study and understand the needs of the community.

Questions and comments:

- 1) Chair explained that the type of sites the board is talking about is very specific that ties into land use, such as the O'ahu Regional Park and Kamehameha Highway meets the h-1 Freeway. The H-3 controversy is one issue. Bremer pointed out that maybe Ka Uka Boulevard should not be the entrance, but the H-1 junction. It was stated that this should be the time to look at this because nothing has been built yet. The proposed intersection improvements at Ka Uka Boulevard make no sense because it does not include Castle and Cooke; the seven phases make no sense because current problems exist. Chair pointed out that a request to Governor's representative Lillian Koeller asking for a meeting with the Mayor, Governor is still awaiting a response regarding the release of CIP transportation planning funds for Central Oahu. Haraga replied the board's views are different from what he understands, but will speak with Gordon Lum who is saying that the study is not necessary. Concerns will be taken back to the highway division for the next steps. The plans must be resolved with the State Department of Transportation, OMPO and return to the board for a result.
- 2) Relative to the widening of Ka Uka Boulevard to Lanikuhana Avenue, a traffic study is going on with the cost prohibitive. The 20-30 Pan would work together to get highway relief off H-2. Chair added the plan would add not relieve the traffic and the Environmental Impact Study (EIS) is a planning study.
- 3) Medeiros commented he appreciated Haraga's openness about the ORTP. Concern was expressed relative to the H-1 Freeway west bound after the Pearl City off-ramp where the left lane shuts down due to flooding around the bend and added it could be a drainage issue. Haraga said he is aware that the drains clog. Repairs will be done from H-1 near Leeward Community College to the airport to Keehi Lagoon to flatten the asphalt bumps and laminated concrete. Work would commence next summer during the evening hours.
- 4) SDOT plans to fix all state highways striping.
- 5) In response to Representative Lee, the SDOT is adding radar speed signs in school zones.

Rod Haraga was thanked for attending the meeting.

Representative Marilyn Lee – Representative Lee stood on her written report, and announced that she is Co-chair for the Interim Committee on Family Care. A new assisted living meeting will be held in January 2007. This year she will be serving as Vice-Chair of the Finance Committee and will also sit on the Transportation and Labor Committees.

Representative Marilyn Lee was thanked for attending the meeting.

COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS:

Solid Waste/Hickam POL – Jessie Weinberger reported the Central Oahu Regional Advisory Board would be meeting next Tuesday. Pipeline valve parts will be worked on from Wheeler to Pearl City and Aiea.

Planning and Zoning – Doug Thomas reported he attended the Koa Ridge Visioning meeting, where the Koa Ridge and Mililani Mauka and Makai residents gave input. Acreage to the proposed health center has been reduced and the dispute is not resolved.

Jessie Weinberger and Doug Thomas were thanked for their reports.

There were no other Committee or Other reports.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution/Motion on the Future of Hawaii Raceway Park:

- **Weinberger moved and seconded by Remington** be it resolved that the City and County of Honolulu and the State of Hawaii should work together to expedite the process of getting an operational motor sports facility on the island of Oahu as quickly as possible, without waiting for the development of a new racing facility and to this end; **Be it further resolved** that the City and County of Honolulu is requested to expedite the process of putting a park symbol on the public infrastructure map as a first step in preserving the Hawaii Raceway Park site as a racetrack (attached). The motion carried unanimously, 19-0-0.

Resolution in Support of Critically Needed Ambulance Facility in Central Oahu:

- **Bremer moved and seconded by Arquette** be it resolved that Neighborhood Board No. 25 urges the purchase and staffing of additional ambulances for the EMS on Oahu with first priority given to Central Oahu (attached). The motion carried unanimously, 19-0-0.

Motion Requesting that Temporary Speed Humps be installed on Alapoi Street in Response to Neighbor Concerns:

- **Hamada moved and seconded by Brizee** that the Department of Planning and Permitting, in conclusion with the state Office of Environmental Quality Control, is requested to determine whether a supplemental environmental impact statement should be prepared and accepted by the Department before further subdivision permits are issued for the Kuilima Expansion Project (attached). The motion carried unanimously, 19-0-0

Resolution in Support of Save Oahu Coalition in Reevaluation of Propose Kuilima Expansion Project:

Thomas moved and seconded by Selander that the Department of Planning and Permitting in consultation with the state Office of Environmental Quality Control, is requested to determine whether a supplemental environmental impact statement should be prepared and accepted by the Department before further subdivision permits are issued for the Kuilima Expansion Project (attached). The motion carried 18-0-1, with Brizee abstaining.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The Board will recess in December. The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday, January 23, 2007, at Mililani Recreation Center III, at 7:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Submitted by,
Nola J. Frank, Neighborhood Assistant
Reviewed by Dick Poirier, Chair