



## MILILANI/ WAIPIO/ MELEMANU NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 25

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 400 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813  
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### MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2007 MILILANI RECREATION CENTER III

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Chair Dick Poirier called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was observed in memory of the ten soldiers killed in Iraq last night.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Elizabeth Andrews, Erik Chun, Dick Poirier, Carole Siegel, Ann Freed, Pua Iuli, Doug Thomas D, Alvin Wong, Josie Kaanehe, Jessie Weinberger, Carl Medeiros, Keith Hamada, Mary Bass-Segura, Bill bass, Karen Loomis, Charlie Remington, Hallah Nilsen, Bill Bass, Lulani Arquette.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mary Jean Castillo-Barkley, Noel Araki, David Bremer, Andrew Garrett.

**GUESTS:** Annette Ishitani, Dean Minakami, Rodney Funakoshi, Ray Kunishige, and Rhonda Biffle (Castle & Cooke); Heather Ho (Castle & Cooke HI), Mary Liles, Captain Neal Detwiler, B. Kaneshiro, C. Shim, and P. Kim (Honolulu Fire Department – Mililani), Lt. S. Nishihara (Honolulu Police Department – District 2, Wahiawa), Ann Thornock (Representative Marilyn’s Office Staff); Tim Houghton, Athan Adachi, Clayton Yamada (City Department of Environmental Services), Lori Kunioka (Councilmember Nestor Garcia’s Office), Kathy Best (Castle & Cooke HI), Pat Lee (HHCTCP), Carlton Ching (Castle & Cooke HI), Pete Pascua, Senator Ron Menor, Glenn Yoshimura (MTA), Bruce Barrett (Castle & Cooke HI), Michelle Kidani (Mayor’s Office/Neighborhood Commission Office), Councilmember Nestor Garcia, Lori Kunioka (Councilmember Nestor Garcia’s Office Staff), Kyle Monette, Owen McCabe (Governor’s Office), Nola Frank (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

**APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 25, 2007:** Chair Poirier asked if there were any corrections/additions to the minutes. **Without objections, the regular meeting minutes of July 25, 2007 stood as written.**

**FILLING OF AT-LARGE VACANCY (one seat)** – There were no persons present interested in filling the vacancy.

#### COMMUNITY FORUM:

**Honolulu Fire Department (HFD)** – Firefighter Kim reported statistics for the month of July included 8 brush, 40 medical, 3 search/rescue, and 9 miscellaneous response calls. Twenty-five companies participated daily to put out the brush fire in Waiialua. Fire Safety Tip: August is in the start of a new school year, be careful while driving near schools and mindful of students crossing the street. Take the time to teach your children how to cross the street safely and remind them to call 911 for emergencies. HFD was thanked for attending the meeting.

**Honolulu Police Department (HPD)** – Lt. Nishihara reported: 1) statistics for the month of July included burglary 17, unauthorized entry into motor vehicle (UEMV) 27, auto theft 10, theft 27, and graffiti 9. 2) On July 23, 2007 an elderly female drove into the Long’s Drugs Store at Mililani Market Place. Two pedestrians sustained minor injuries and refused treatment. The driver stepped on the gas instead of the brake. 3) On July 27, 2007 a vehicle traveling North bound on Kamehameha Highway at Roosevelt Bridge crossed the center lane and collided head-on with two vehicles that were traveling South bound. Five people were taken to Queen’s Medical Center with serious injuries. Negligent Injury and OVUII (operating a vehicle under the influence of an intoxicant) charges are being sought against the driver responsible. 4) Copper Thefts: Melemano Neighborhood Park (July 11 & July 13 2007), copper valve from sprinkler system taken; cost less than \$300. Lt. Nishihara was thanked for his report.

**Military** – There was no representative present.

**Oahu Arts Center (OAC)** – There was no report.



**Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project (HHCTCP)** – Pat Lee reported the next project process is the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and preliminary engineering stage. The final decision would be made by the Federal Transit Administration on the City's plans. Lee was thanked for his report.

**Other Community Concerns** – There were no other community concerns.

**Recognition Award** – Chair Poirier presented Kyle Monette with a certificate of appreciation for helping kids with diabetes. Arquette presented lei to the Monette. Kunioka presented a certificate on behalf of Councilmember Nestor Garcia and the City Council. It was noted that Monette raised over \$40,000 for the cause.

#### **PUBLIC FORUM:**

**The City's Wastewater Management Treatment System and the City's Priorities in Managing Oahu's Sewage:** Tim Houghton, from the City's Department of Environmental Services, circulated handouts and proceeded with a power point presentation. Highlights: The City's Honouliuli Wastewater Treatment Plant currently provides at least full primary treatment for 27 million gallons of wastewater daily before the treated water is discharged at the Ewa outfall (1.7 miles) offshore at a depth of 200 feet where the water can be turned into the natural water cycle. From 1991-1995 the plant operated with a 301(h) waiver from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); and applied in 1995 for another five-year waiver. The EPA did not act on that application until March 2007, when a tentative denial was issued. Under federal laws and regulations governing the renewal of EPA issued permits, the Honouliuli WWTP 301(h) waiver permit has been administratively extended and continues in effect until a final decision is made. Denial of this waiver will force the plant to be upgraded to full secondary treatment at tremendous cost for little or no benefit. Upgrading to full secondary treatment will cost the City \$400 million in construction costs alone (plus additional operating and electricity costs yearly) for speculative benefit. This denial comes at a time when the City must focus on our aging system of sewage pipes first. Conditions at Honouliuli have improved since the EPA awarded the waiver in 1991, although the EPA has changed its position. No evidence has been found that the discharge from the plant at current levels of treatment causes any harm to our environment or to public health. Secondary treatment contributes to greenhouse gases, the equivalent of 4,000 additional automobiles on the road. The right thing to do is to continue to make the top priority the collection system (the pipes and pump stations that carry sewage from our homes to the treatment plant. Addressed must be what the EPA called "decades of neglect" of our pipes carrying raw sewage to treatment plants.

Testimony or comments before August 27, 2007 may be sent to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Attn: Sara Roser  
Region IX, WTR-5  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

Questions, answers, comments followed: 1) The State's wastewater quality exceeds the EPA standard. EPA laws and regulations were changed to establish new standards for lakes. Hawaii did not default and the off-shore location is not at the shoreline. Houghton was thanked for attending the meeting.

**Koa Ridge (Waiawa Development Update):** Kathy Best gave the following overview: Located on the Central Oahu plateau, between the northern edge of Waipio, and the southern edge of Mililani Town, off of H-2 freeway is where Castle & Cooke Homes Hawaii, Inc. plans to develop Koa Ridge. The concept is to meet the projected demand for housing and create a new community with distinct identity in Central Oahu. It will integrate the new community with a unique environmental setting surrounded by gulches and open space. The project would establish new employment opportunities through new commercial, retail, office, health facilities, and infrastructure. The Master Plan description includes Koa Ridge Makai 574 acres, 3,500 residential units; Castle & Cooke Waiawa 191 acres, 1,500 residential units totaling 765 acres and 5,000 residential units. Together the project will include approximately 5,000 single family homes and multi-family units, elementary school and middle/high school sites, neighborhood commercial sites, church/day care centers, recreational centers, community parks, park and ride facilities, and medical/health care facilities. Required approvals – State Land Use District Boundary Amendment with an Environmental Impact Statement will be submitted. A separate land use petition was submitted by Castle & Cooke Waiawa in July 2007, and Koa Ridge Makai immediately following the settlement discussion with Waiawa Hospital. Both are included within the Urban Community Boundary of the City and County of Honolulu Central Oahu Sustainable Communities Plan. A zoning

amendment, subdivision approval, and a building and grading permits will be needed from the City and County of Honolulu. The project will be phased over a 20-yr period, with an estimated completion date of 2030.

Questions, answers, comments followed:

1. Any reference to the Pacific Health Center could not be discussed since the matter is still in litigation.
2. Kaanehe noted if the first homes are to be completed in 2011, when will the schools be available. Best replied that is yet to be decided. Plans are to have the elementary schools ready at the start of the project, and Castle & Cooke is working with the Department of Education. Kaanehe added, if the school is not complete when the families move in what schools are the children suppose to attend. Best answered she was not sure, but a possibility is Pearl City.
3. Nilsen wanted to know if HPD and HFD would have a building at Koa Ridge. The response what they don't believe a new fire station would be built in the vicinity. Per the EIS, there will be an update on where HPD/HFD services are available in the area.
4. Traffic concerns were expressed a question was posed if Kamehameha Highway and the H-2 would be the main artery. The answer was yes. Plans are to work with the City Department of Transportation Services regarding a transit center.
5. Per the map, Siegel commented that it looks as though the access road goes to Mililani Cemetery. The reply was to take Ka Uka Boulevard and turn right.
6. Arquette asked the estimated cost for the homes and affordable homes. Best replied that would be for future consideration. To date no determination has been made, will be defined when the zoning process is reached.
7. Hamada noted the one high and middle school and asked how many elementary schools would be built. The reply was two; it was reiterated that they are working closely with DOE regarding school facilities.
8. Bass wanted to know if Castle & Cooke is actively working with the DOE. In answer, per the Impact Fee Bill Castle & Cooke is working towards an agreement with DOE and the developer's obligation.
9. Bass emphasized that using Ka Uka Boulevard as a main access is a mistake. Best replied there aren't many alternatives and traffic study is currently being done.
10. Freed relayed that \$1 million allocated by the legislature for a traffic study in Central Oahu was lost. She expressed concern relative to more homes and more traffic in the area, and sewer problems. She asked if sewers are included in the EIS. In response, Waiawa is installing its own collection system that would go to the Pearl City station then to the Honouliuli Wastewater Plant. Discussion relating to the environment will continue.
11. Kaanehe again raised the issue of schools and asked who makes the final decision when the first school would be built. Best replied it is a collaborated process and joint responsibility (DOE/Castle & Cooke). Castle & Cooke is aware of previous problems regarding schools in Mililani. Kaanehe added that it took 25 years to build the middle school, which was not built earlier as promised. She asked that the schools are built in a timely manner. Best said they are trying to correct past mistakes.
12. Luli commented that all she was hearing that the land would be developed. Once the project is built, Castle & Cooke won't want to hear what the community wants. Best answered all agencies will provide input for the Land Use Commission process (LUC) who will impose conditions required for the developer.
13. Nilsen commented what is driving for development. She does not see that the homes would be affordable and how is the developer going to assist those needing a home. The reply was the City requires thirty-percent of the homes be affordable and up to 120 percent of the median family income. There is a demand for all types of housing.

14. Chair Poirier noted per the DOT presentation is the Ka Uka interchange a done deal. Siegel suggested having a DOE representative come to the Board.
15. Remington mentioned that there is a corrections facility back of the development and that the road runs straight through to the facility; will a new access road be built. In response, a new access will be available in the future, but is yet to be finalized.
16. Thomas commented relative to the lack of infrastructure. He noted the problem is the City and State decides when roads and schools would be built.
17. The sustainability plan is yet to be put forth. Arquette noted she finds difficulty with what has been presented because the State must become energy efficient.
18. Chair Poirier asked if Castle & Cooke intended to construct the Pineapple interchange. The reply was that even though Mauka is not in the picture, they intended to build the interchange. He asked if DOE policies have changed preferring the construction of smaller schools.
19. Farrell asked if traffic into town would be included in the EIS. The answer was no.
20. Regarding affordable housing, Freed suggested asking legislators to change the formula, and that median says nothing.
21. Luli asked if the affordable homes would be closer to Waiawa and the traffic impact that would have to the area.

Kathy Best and other Castle & Cooke employees were thanked for attending the meeting.

#### **Chair Poirier relinquished the gavel to Vice Chair Bass,**

**Mililani Neighborhood Boards No. 25 and No. 35 Central Oahu Transportation Issues:** Poirier presented a slide show and highlighted: A background history was give regarding transportation issues. Passed by the City's Master Transit Plan and projected is an additional 25,000 units. According to the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO) the 2030 plan included a Paiwa Street interchange costing \$45 million, the H-2 Waipio Interchange widening \$20.7 million (four leaf clover design), and the Wahiawa second access road \$34.4 million. A study of specific elements must be done. It is not practical to use federal funding to build roads used for parks. Involved in transportation issues are SDOT and OMPO, and plans to create an advisory group. He stressed the importance of needing a traffic study now.

Questions, answers, comments followed: 1) Luli asked why would the roads need to be widened. 2) Bass stressed the importance of the Paiwa Road extension because it will allow direct access to Waipahu, Kapolei, etc. 3) A meeting will be held with area legislators and councilmembers to discuss this matter further.

Chair Poirier resumed the meeting.

#### **REPORTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS:**

**Mayor's Representative** – Michelle Kidani reported that 1) Mayor's Hannemann sends his aloha. Circulator maps for new bus Routes 501 and 504 were circulated including new maps for existing routes 52,84A, 98A, and 503 which will be serviced by the new transit center dedicated on August 13th. Kidani announced that fares on the new circulator buses are free from August 19 to 25, 2007. It was announced that the new Mililani Transit Center has already been vandalized and tagged with graffiti. Follow up to a previously concern requested painting of a crosswalk the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) will conduct an investigation and report by the November meeting. The Central Oahu Regional Park will be renamed to the Patsy T. Mink Park on August 30 at 1:00 p.m. Board member were invited to attend.

Questions, answers, comments followed: 1) Luli thanked the City for the new fence on Waimakua Drive below Kipapa Drive. 2) Thomas asked with the increase of graffiti in Mililani who is responsible for the paint over. In answer, the homeowner; however there was a graffiti group going out doing paint over. He then wanted to know if MTA notifies homeowners of graffiti. He reported graffiti along Kipapa Drive, Lanikuhana that has been there a couple of months. 3) Nilsen asked about the green chain link fence along the median across the school. In response, Kidani stated the City put the fence up to prevent people from running across the road. Medeiros

asked if a permit was needed to put up the fence because MTA does not allow chain link fences. Kidani responded that the fence is in the median owned by the City. Similar to commercial property and the school, the City is exempt from MTA regulations. Follow up will be done. Kidani was thanked for her report

**Councilmember Nestor Garcia** – Councilmember Garcia circulated his written report and noted: 1) On July 5 with a vote of 9-0-0 Resolution 07132 relating to the 301h EPA waiver passed. Included in the resolution is the clean water act pertaining to waivers and variances. The EPA will make the final decision this fall. 2) Today Councilmember Marshall and Olelo unveiled City and County people access live and all Council proceedings via the internet. 3) His accompanied his staff and experienced the new Mililani shuttle. Rides on the new circulators are free for one week.

Questions, answers, comments followed: 1) Bass asked if it is realistic to change the full rate for the circulator. Garcia replied he will speak with Department of Transportation Services Deputy Director Richard Torres regarding the service paying for itself. He noted maybe the fares should be cut back. 2) Nilsen asked if the Sunshine Law training could be done through the internet. She said she attending the workshop where slides were shown. Garcia will check the contract. 3) Nilsen asked why the lights at bus stop along Meheula Parkway bright neon green. Follow up will be done. 4) Medeiros asked if roadway construction on City streets could be done at night. Garcia explained that if they start early the problem is commuters going towards Waipahu on Kamehameha Highway would be backed up. A new connector road is being built by the Filipino Cultural Center. He agreed with the Board that they don't want to see another Fort Weaver Road situation (traffic) in Mililani. Councilmember Garcia was thanked for his report.

**Governor's Representative** – Owen McCabe read distributed Governor Lingle's Weekly Update was available for questions. McCabe was thanked for his report.

**Senator Ron Menor** – Senator Menor distributed his written report and highlighted: 1) He is currently a member of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Task Force. Members are analyzing the input to be incorporated into the draft plan, which is scheduled to debut at the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Summit on September 22, 2007. He will keep the Board updated. 2) He supports the Board regarding transportation issues and a need for a traffic study. 3) His is presently chair of the Ways and Means Committee.

Questions, answers, comments followed: 1) Freed wanted to know what percent of the people are living under poverty. Follow up will be done. 2) There is a good chance that a councilmember will respond to the article written by Shapiro that was in the newspaper this week. 3) Medeiros asked how much taxpayers would save if legislation was done every other year. Menor replied there are no new bills until one is deleted. If the legislators do not meet yearly all issues could not be addressed. Other states are considering meeting more than once a year. Medeiros noted issues that are tables should be a priority the next year. The response was that each bill is looked at on a case to case basis. Freed strongly disagreed with Medeiros and due to issues facing the state she believes legislators should meet year round. Senator Menor was thanked for his report.

**Representative Ryan Yamane** – Representative Yamane circulated his written end of the session report and noted: 1) The City will be considering a resolution regarding the first spur line for Mililani. He would have no problem resubmitting a request of \$1 million for a traffic study. He is actively looking at affordable and workforce housing. Representative Yamane was thanked for his report.

**Representative Marilyn Lee-** Ann Thornock distributed the written report and announced that Representative Lee was on the Big Island with the Finance Committee. She encouraged those wanting to submit suggestions for bills to do so now and not January when it would be too late. Thornock was thanked for her report.

**Other:**

**Chair** – Chair Poirier reported: 1) a letter of correspondence was received from Sandwich Isle Communications. 2) Richard Torres, Deputy Director for the City Department of Transportation Services, will be on the September agenda.

**State Department of Transportation** – Scott Ishikawa, of the State Department of Transportation, reported three upcoming projects in the area: 1) Kamehameha Highway Rehabilitation – Waihau Street to H-2 interchange; 2) Interstate Route H-2 Rehabilitation – Waipio interchange and Mililani interchange; 3) Interstate Route H-1 Deck Repair Airport Viaduct – vicinity of Valkenburgh Street to Middle Street. Maps were available for interested persons to review.

Questions, answers, comments followed: 1) The Kamehameha Highway repaving would be done during the day when traffic is lighter, with one lane closures at a time. Work in residential areas is usually done during the day. 2) Regarding the H-2 off-ramp (near Costco), Councilmember Garcia asked if there will be a dedicated right lane to Ka Uka Boulevard. Ishikawa replied not at this time but will follow up.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

##### **Motion Requesting the Installation of a No-Parking Sign on Hokuahiahi at Keahilele:**

- **Hamada moved, seconded by Thomas requesting a “No parking here to corner” sign on Hokuahiahi Street prior to the intersection at Keahilele Street (going towards Mililani Market Place). The motion was adopted unanimously, 18-0-0.**

##### **Resolution Requesting that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Continue to Allow the City’s Honouliuli and Sand Island Wastewater Treatment Plants to Operate with 301(h) Waivers from Full Secondary Treatment Requirements:**

- **Bass moved, seconded by Segura that Neighborhood Board No. 25 requests that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) continue to allow the City’s Honouliuli and Sand Island Wastewater Treatment Plants to operate with 301(h) waivers from full secondary treatment requirements. The motion was adopted 16-1-1; Nay: Weinberger; Abstention: Hamada.**

##### **Resolution Expressing Appreciation to the Outdoor Circle for Intervening with the State Department of Transportation Regarding the Recent Tree Cutting on H-2:**

- **Loomis moved seconded by Thomas that Neighborhood Board No. 25 extends its appreciation to the Outdoor Circle for its intervention and independent review of this matter.**

Discussion followed: 1) Remington stated that the albizia trees are not solid and should be eradicated. He was opposed to thanking the Outdoor Circle. Freed agreed with Remington. 2) Loomis noted there was a lack of information on replanting of sturdier trees in areas that the albizia trees would be removed.

- **The motioned failed to carry, 9-2-7; Aye: Andrews, Chun, Thomas, Wong, Medeiros, Weinberger, Loomis, Nilsen, Poirier; Nay: (Hamada, Remington); Abstention: Freed, Iuli, Siegel, Kaanehe, Segura, Bass, Arquette); Twelve votes are need for a motion/resolution to pass.**

Further discussion: Ishikawa from DOT agreed that more communication was needed. But albizia trees are a big problem and that 43 would be cut back, 40 smaller trees pruned, but not removed. They are an invasive species that grows 12-15 feet yearly, and a soft tree. The areas would be replanted with monkey pod, kou, and shower tree that would be discussed with the Outdoor Circle. A twenty-five foot buffer zone will be created along the road for drivers.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- ❖ Remington mentioned that Mililani Town Association used to have graffiti buster teams.
- ❖ Iuli announced a meeting is scheduled with Mr. Ham, this Saturday, 10:00 a.m. at the end of Waianuhea Street regarding his plans for a zone change.
- ❖ Bass announced the Greek Festival this Saturday and Sunday at the Ala Moana Park McCoy Pavilion from 12 to 9:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT** – There being no further Board business Chair Poirier adjourned the meeting at 10:02 p.m.

Submitted by,  
Nola Frank, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by,  
Dick Poirier, Chair