



## MAKAKILO/ KAPOLEI/ HONOKAI HALE NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 34

C/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
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### DRAFT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2010 KAPOLEI HIGH SCHOOL CAFETORIUM

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Maeda Timson called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.; with a quorum of eight (8) members present. Note – This nine (9) member Board requires five (5) members to establish a quorum and to take official Board action.

Roll Call / Appoint Timekeeper / Statement of Order and Decorum.

Members Present – Troy Cullen, Keoki Dudley, Mike Golojuch, Jack Legal, Evelyn Souza, Maeda Timson, Linda Young, and Charles Zahn

Members Absent – George Yamamoto

Vacancies – There is no current vacancy

Guests – Councilmember Nestor Garcia, Lt. Michael Johnson (Honolulu Police Department), Captain William Steinke (Hawaii Fire Department), George Kuo (Board Water Supply), Tasha Kobashigawa (Councilmember Todd Apo's office), Michael Golojuch Jr., Karen Awana, Anthony Austin, Michael Doyle III, Lorraine Marling, Rose Shin, Mike Freitas, Ralph Faufata, Jamye Windsor, John Kaopua, Mel Kahele, George, Koh & Jeanette Grace, Ron & Jame Schaedel, Marcie & Herman Young, Jo Jordan (Waianae Neighborhood Board), Michael Kitchens, Sheirah Silva, Michelle Golojuch (Timekeeper), and Mary Chanel-Benjamin (Neighborhood Commission Office).

### CITY MONTHLY REPORTS:

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) – Lt. Michael Johnson circulated the reported information:

1. District 8 Crime Statistics for July 2010 – There were 2 robberies, 40 UEMV, 19 auto thefts, 38 thefts, 27 property damage, 64 motor vehicle collisions. Total calls for service was 1,746, and total arrests were 384.
2. HPD Safety Tip – Please do not speed, do not drive in a reckless manner, do not use cell phones or overt hand held devices while driving, make sure every passenger in the vehicle and the driver are wearing seatbelts, and do not drink and drive but be sure to designate a driver. All of these simple rules are broken daily, and because of this people can get seriously injured or die. In order for this State to have a non-fatality 2010 year, everyone needs to remember and abide the laws.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

- Panhandling – The problems continues to plague Kapolei intersections. HPD will keep a watch out for such actions.
- Speeding – Also, continues to happen especially on Makakilo Drive downhill. HPD does routinely have speed traps; however, HPD cannot be everywhere at once.
- Public Parking – Lower Makakilo area residents are claiming public parking fronting their homes as private. This issue has been a long standing one and residents are asking for a resolution. Lt. M. Johnson asked to submit addresses of alleged violators.

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Captain William Steinke circulated the reported information:

1. Company Statistics for July 2010 – There were 10 fires; 1 structure, 6 wildland, 1 rubbish, and 2 vehicles. There were 82 medical emergencies, with 61 miscellaneous calls.
2. Safety Tip – A home fire escape plan is an integral part of your family's safety; create one and practice it with your family. Install working smoke alarms in every home level and each bedroom, identify a meeting place outside, ensure two exits from every room, sleep with room doors closed to minimize smoke, ensure all windows can be easily opened from the inside, and once outside, call 911.



Questions, comments and concerns followed:

- Firebreak – Recommended was 30feet clearance firebreak surrounding a home. According to the Fire code; trees should be kept at six feet with a 10 foot break recommendation and at least three feet from a home.
- Brushfire – The cause of the recent brushfire that closed H1 going westbound was not known; no report was available.

Councilmember Todd Apo:

1. A monthly report was circulated.
2. Reach Councilmember Apo by email at [tapo@honolulu.gov](mailto:tapo@honolulu.gov). or at 768-5001.

Councilmember Nestor Garcia reported the following information:

1. Real Property Tax (RPT) – Bill 6 recently passed by the Council, allows commercially zoned property owners to dedicate their property to 100 percent residential use for five year periods. Unfortunately, the ability to dedicate residential property was not enacted until after the bills were sent out this billing period. The Administration will work with about 250 property owners who are financially burdened with the tax change based on their financial ability to pay and the need to establish payments plans for this year.
2. Waste – Mostly bulky items and landfill material waste will be processed by Hawaiian Waste Systems according to a reached agreement with the City; 20,000 tons of solid waste remains unshipped. Most of the waste will be transported to HPower; remaining waste will be disposed of at the Waimanalo Gulch Landfill.
3. Fireworks Bill 34 – The bill was deferred to the September 22, 2010 Council meeting for further consideration.
4. Bulky Waste Fines (Bill 78) – The bill allows the City to assess fines for incorrect placement of bulky wastes that are placed too early and states that it shall not impede vehicular or pedestrian traffic. A maximum fine of \$250 per violation; the ordinance becomes effective January 1, 2011. Savings from not shipping the trash was about \$4-million.
5. Reach Councilmember Nestor Garcia by email at [ngarcia@honolulu.gov](mailto:ngarcia@honolulu.gov) or by phone at 768-5009.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

- RPT – Letters were sent to the affected homeowners regarding the tax change; however, most did not understand the notices until their tax bills arrived. The City wants to move in a positive direction to assist with explanations and a payment plan by the February 2011 billing cycle. There are about 280 thousand parcels affected by the tax re-zoning; most of the mixed used clusters of residents are along the planned rail route. The timing to increase the RPT for those residents to \$12.40 per square footage was not very accepting due to the economy.
- Neighborhood Commission Office (NCO) – The recent NCO budget was cut by 50 percent; therefore, the Olelo video taping may have to be eliminated due to limited funding. The Councilmember will be meeting with the NCO to address the complaint. A resident came forward to offer payment assistance with Olelo videotaping if need.
- Fireworks Ban – The City Council has no right to ban fireworks; the issue should be placed on the ballot for the people's vote.

BOARD BUSINESS: Chair Timson announced the format of tonight's Mayoral forum.

1. The Board did invite all Mayoral candidates to participate in tonight's forum.
2. The debate will end at 9:15 p.m. If there is time, open questions will be posed from the audience. The Board would also like to give time for the candidates to meet the community.
3. The candidates will pull numbers to determine order of speaking for each question posed; with only two minutes allowed per candidate per question for response.
4. Mayoral Candidates Present: Kirk Caldwell, Peter Carlisle, Panos Prevedouros, and Rod Tam.

MAYORAL FORUM SUMMARY:

Opening Statements:

- Tam: Tam's budget analyst experience will be needed for a plan with goals for the City.

- Caldwell: Caldwell has assumed the job for the past 18 months; he has the following to work on as soon as possible: Road pavements address the homeless issue/shelters, create a City housing office, ship trash, bulky items, and property taxes. Has worked in the government sector for 30 years.
- Carlisle: Since 1977, Carlisle's vision for Kapolei has been: affordable housing, UHWest Oahu (UHWO), traffic solution for West Oahu residents, he is also committed to bring the rail project to reality, safety issues and Hawaiian Homelands.
- Prevedouros: Prevedouros understood the traffic congestion; he owns a unit in Kapolei. Prevedouros does not support the current rail project as it will bankrupt Hawaii and residents. The final environmental impact statement was too long a document for the common person to read and understand. Hawaii residents already are facing a \$7-billion sewer project and the \$5-billion rail project; the City cannot even afford the NCO budget for Olelo taping.

#### Pre-Selected Questions –

1. Kapolei has long been planned as the New City with many exciting residential, commercial and education opportunities for our local people. How do you plan to help realize this long term vision for our community?
  - Carlisle: The goal was to become a vibrant city; spending time in Kapolei and seeing the new generation will be able to afford homes. The rail project will be deserving of West Oahu residents.
  - Tam: Partners were needed to create a democracy plan, timetable to promote City plans.
  - Prevedouros: Money is needed to move jobs to the islands; the City also can use the rail project funding. The rail project will not help the City flourish.
  - Caldwell: UHWO will expedite about 200 jobs; the growing commons area is also growing quickly. His visions include starting up projects to offer more community amenities and give rail a choice for residents of West Oahu.
2. Kalaeloa is a re-development partnership between the City, State and private entities. What are your plans for the City's partnership and what is the timeline?
  - Tam: Tams hopes to work with residents on a timetable plan to bring economic developments and infrastructures close to being a reality.
  - Prevedouros: Using a small business plan; Prevedouros would like to use the plan to re-develop Kalaeloa mostly due to many mainbreaks causing City liabilities as the City does not have much funding available.
  - Carlisle: The Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) seems to have a plan on track that he will accommodate. The rail has the excise tax backing; however, the City has had some years of poor finance management. Carlisle also would like to mandate sewer fees. Carlisle also added he would like to decrease infrastructures in City buildings, parks, and roadways as a City should not continue to build without proper maintenance of current infrastructures.
  - Caldwell: Caldwell will work with the HCDA's 200 acres needing sewer and infrastructure; he will seek federal funding for the needed upgrades.
3. The Rail Project; is it a thumbs up or thumbs down for you? What is your plan and how will you proceed?
  - Carlisle: Carlisle is a 'yes for rail'; the rail project has been delayed for too long and if elected Mayor, there will be no delay. Carlisle will make it a point to speak with Governor Lingle; the local unions will gain employment as well as circulating money is what the rail will bring to Hawaii.
  - Caldwell: Caldwell is 'two thumbs up for rail'; he was a member of the rail task force and has collaborated both with Senator Inouye and Governor Lingle to move rail forward. The FIES signature is at least 60days past due
  - Prevedouros: The FEIS incorrectly states the rails will remove 40,000 vehicles; however, it's more like 40,000 vehicle trips. The FEIS also says that the total number of daily trips on Oahu by the year 2030 will be about 4-million; and rail will only reduce this by 1 percent. The rail funding of \$5.5 billion for a 1 percent reduction in traffic basically costs tax payers \$800,000 to remove per car. Prevedouros would rather propose offering 7,000 jobs to residents near home. Oahu taxpayers should really know that the federal government is only funding rail 25 percent with the rest coming from tax dollars; reminding sewer fee increases (4-billion) that has yet to come.

- Tam: Tam voted for rail as a Councilmember; perhaps now is the time to bring new investments to Hawaii's economy. If elected Mayor, he is open to allowing investments from Asia as he has planned.
4. Will you work closely with the State to help insure that the pending City/State infrastructure projects are completed? How will you do it and how long will it take?
- Prevedouros: Two projects long overdue that will save driving time; the evening zipper lane traveling back to the west side could save at least 10 percent while the Middle Street merge widening will save at least 25 percent travel time.
  - Tam: Tam would like both government sectors to be able to work in agreement to reach goals facing Oahu. Tam hopes to collaborate with the middle class; upper government management has not had much success in getting jobs done.
  - Caldwell: Caldwell would like to find common grounds to be able to work with the Senate, City and State and not let politics get in the way.
  - Carlisle: Carlisle has seen progress with the Veterans Court assisting post war disorders. As a non-partisan leader, he would like to place forensics support in the City; also he felt the City needs a non-party system.

#### Board Selected Questions –

1. Besides moving people off the beaches and out of the parks, as Mayor do you plan to work with the State in resolving the housing issue for most of the homeless? If yes, what is your plan and possible programs?
- Tam: Tam said the three homeless categories all need help as the homeless issue continues to increase especially in the urban area; the economically deprived he will offer more outreach services, the mentally disabled he will propose the need for medication, and those that enjoy the homeless lifestyle also really needs some kind of help.
  - Carlisle: Carlisle would like to offer more training for those able; perhaps identifying what type illness to deal with each solution. Carlisle doesn't think offering housing alone will solve the drug problems.
  - Prevedouros: The government housing projects are filled with migrants leaving many of Hawaii's own homeless; Kuhio Park Terrace is a good example. Hawaii also has been a target for mainland homeless due to its warm climate; some federal programs have used Hawaii to send their homeless.
  - Caldwell: The issue has become everyone's problem including the federal government; he will create safe zones, more HPD patrol, more bathrooms, temporary homes, and find a solution to getting medication out to those that are lacking them.
2. Now that the City cannot ship its trash out of the State, and the third boiler for HPower is at least a year away, what are your short term and long term goals in handling the trash and landfill requirements?
- Caldwell: Bulky items the boilers can handle shall be crushed at the Kalaeloa location, the third boiler can burn at least 20 percent, and the City curbside recycling has eliminated at least 40 percent from the landfill.
  - Tam: Tam would like to incorporate all solutions including adding a shredder; always more solutions are needed to battle the trash issue. On the landfill issue; Tam thought Kapa'a Quarry would be a good choice.
  - Carlisle: The third boiler was not yet available for another year; currently 300,000 tons out of 900,000 tons of waste was not being burned. Oahu needs more recycling facilities.
  - Prevedouros: Nine out of 10 recycling bins being sent to the mainland are empty; this is not resolving the trash issue. What Oahu needs are facilities to produce energy from trash such as ashes, tires, and glass for instance.
3. Do you believe in a Leeward Coast Benefits Package and if yes, how would you administer such a package?
- Carlisle: Distributing a fair trade infrastructure is what Carlisle has in mind in order to balance the whole island of Oahu if elected Mayor.

- Prevedouros: The Waimanalo Gulch Landfill was not sustainable; more solutions are needed.
  - Caldwell: Caldwell supports the current package; however, he doesn't favor the current annual \$2million package and would like to see the task force reformed and become more transparent.
  - Tam: The subject should involve both the City Council and public and perhaps more public input.
4. The City Department of Parks and Recreation received over 200 acres in Kalaeloa in 1999 and has not made any efforts to accept or reject this conveyance. Will your administration address this issue within your first year in office?
- Prevedouros: Perhaps continue a sports theme as it was once used as a race track in 1998.
  - Caldwell: The City could consider a long term lease from the Navy and apply for federal funding to possibly create more parks.
  - Tam: The Waipio Mink Park is currently facing a lack of maintenance funding with no full time employees. Teams utilizing the fields are sharing the duties and responsibilities of up-keeping the park; therefore, creating more parks was not a good use of the land.
  - Carlisle: Again, current parks are in poor conditions; new parks will create more issues.
5. The mention of a 'creation of thousand jobs' will manifest with building of the rail. If the rail does not happen, what other major building/construction would put others back to work.
- Tam: Selling bonds could create new jobs.
  - Carlisle: The general excise tax collected for rail should not be diverted elsewhere but rather be refunded back to tax payers. The City was in need of maintaining current infrastructure before adding new projects.
  - Caldwell: Roadways and sidewalks are a priority. City permit processing time was also key to getting private construction up to circulate the economy. The sewer system upgrade project was also slated to be completed by the year 2038.
  - Prevedouros: The \$120-million slated for the 10,000 rail jobs will only equally pay 1,000 workers each \$120,000; not very prosperous. However, upgrading the sewer system will offer 10,000 jobs definitely.
6. In your mind, how can we afford both the rail at between \$5 to \$7 billion dollars, and the sewer upgrades at more than \$5 billion? And how will you pay for both without greatly burdening our small number of taxpayers?
- Caldwell: The tax surcharge will gain enough funding over the years along with the federal funding that has been allocated to Hawaii's rail project. The sewer will be paid from sewer fees and will seek federal funding.
  - Tam: Again, loans and investments could possibly come from Asia where there are many ongoing cash projects currently.
  - Carlisle: The rail will be completed with the GET and federal funding. The sewer fees have not increased in about eight years; therefore, the proposed increase hopefully will prevent further costs for a while.
  - Prevedouros: The average cost per taxpayer on Oahu to fund rail will be \$13,800. Currently, per household pays \$80 per month for sewer; if continued on the same path, in fifteen years, each household instead will be paying \$2,500.
7. The Land slated for the Ho'opili development is the highest producing farmland in the state. We import 85 percent of what we eat today. In light of these facts, what will you do to keep that land in agriculture?
- Carlisle: Hawaii's real estate cannot compete with overseas; prime land in Hawaii was very expensive.
  - Prevedouros: The development calls for 13,000 more homes; the rail will also take away agriculture land. Prevedouros wishes to keep the agriculture land intact.
  - Caldwell: Yes to Ho'opili; home buyers need that choice. Pearl City was also once agriculture land.
  - Tam: Oahu farmers provide fresh foods for the island; save the agriculture land.

8. What differentiates you from the other Mayoral candidates on the ballot?

- Prevedouros: As a civil engineer, he will work with all residents.
- Tam: As a democratic, he has many ideas which he hopes to propose to communities.
- Caldwell: Caldwell felt his diverse levels of government experience along with his 30 years of private sector work qualifies him as Acting Mayor of Honolulu. Caldwell says he is already on the job doing the job and would like to continue.
- Carlisle: As the only mayoral candidate having been previously elected by the people as prosecutor for many past years; as prosecutor, during Carlisle's term, crime was reduced elevating Honolulu as one of the safest cities to live in.

9. If elected Mayor, what four City departments will be the focus and what goals would you set to accomplish the first 100 days in office.

- Carlisle: The experience Carlisle found to work best is to give chance for improvement rather than force behavior on resistance. Personnel that have proven successful will be given that opportunity.
- Prevedouros: Prevedouros wants to focus on Customer Services, Planning and Permitting, Emergency Medical Services and, Transportation Services. The City received over 200,000 complaints excluding those for potholes.
- Tam: Tam will make it a point to visit with constituents in person rather than work behind a desk. Positions requiring engineer experience will receive qualified personnel.
- Caldwell: Most critical impact City departments to focus are Planning & Permitting, Environmental Services, Design & Construction, and Transportation Services. Caldwell would like begin his term by accepting the final environmental impact statement to begin the rail transit project as soon as possible.

10. Are you open to public/private ventures in order to save City funding and/or open to allowing those public entities to care for public parks with the possibility of developing recreational projects?

- Tam: Tam believes in using public resources where possible. Partnerships with residents, government and private sectors maintain good relationships in order to move the City forward.
- Caldwell: Caldwell is open to the idea and will consider it especially if it's a savings to the City and will benefit the public. Currently, many parks are lacking maintenance as vandals continue to increase.
- Carlisle: The idea is possible especially when residents volunteer; an advantage to their community.
- Prevedouros: The City does need more resources to keep up with services need; partners with all agencies should be considered for most projects.

11. How will you reduce government spending and control overtaxing the middle income families of Oahu.

- Prevedouros: Honolulu was the only City that had an increase to government spending during the worse 2008-10 recession years. The rail project will be an added funding and is not a private sector project.
- Tam: Tam will implement a detailed budget formula and mandate a budget law that could help reduce spending.
- Caldwell: There were about 860 City jobs cut in the past two fiscal years; a 10 percent spending reduction. Caldwell would like to consider a hire restriction; however, first responders such as HPD would be considered to expand services as the need for them was great.
- Carlisle: During the recession years, the Prosecutor's office was on budget. Carlisle wishes to hire from the bottom and promote from the top; HPD could use more new recruits rather than offering higher pay increases to current officers already earning \$106,000 annually. Carlisle also suggested those departments with reduced budget and over time should be compensated with proper benefits.

12. Closing Statements:

- Caldwell: Caldwell would like to create jobs, offer more competition, open to outside investments, and preserve agriculture land. There is no room for blame during critical times and sharing credit will unite many; he's an advocate for family values.
- Tam: Tam is committed to a plan that will stabilize the economy, and gather ideas and suggestions from residents. He is open to a plan for the future as Chair of the Planning Committee at the City Council; he is a good listener.
- Prevedouros: After being a Hawaii resident for 20 years; he has found City fees to have doubled over the past 15 years. Oahu still faces billions in sewer upgrades; billions being planned for the rail project was not a feasible plan during the current economic state we are in. The current City dilapidated infrastructures condition could use more engineers to get things in order.
- Carlisle: Many are not happy with the usual politics at the City level; priority was to get finance budgets in order; he is optimistic that this is the golden opportunity to do just that. Carlisle is committed to government values; values to share and leave behind for Hawaii's children as he is seeking the route to leave the world in a better place.

Chair Timson thanked the public for their participation and especially to all the present mayoral candidates.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Olelo Broadcasts – The Board meeting is aired on 'Olelo cable television Channel 49, Monday evenings at 9:00 p.m.
- Next Board Meeting – The Makakilo/Kapolei/Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board's next meeting scheduled is for Wednesday, September 22, 2010 at Kapolei High School Cafeteria.

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

Submitted by Mary Chanel-Benjamin