



## PĀLOLO NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 6

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

### **DRAFT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2014 PĀLOLO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Paul Holtrop called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. **Quorum was not established with six (6) members present.** Note - This 13-member board requires seven (7) votes to establish a quorum and to take official Board action.

**Board Members Present:** Frank Farm Jr., Paul Holtrop, Beverly Mau, Darlene Nakayama, Earl Shiraki, and Michael Weinstein.

**Board Members Absent:** Gladys Gerlich-Hayes, Randolph Hack, Stephen Maybir and Rachel Orange, and Shaun St. Vincent.

**Vacancies:** There were two (2) vacancies; one (1) vacancy in sub-district 2 and one (1) vacancy in sub-district 3.

**Guests:** Captain Paul Bass (Honolulu Fire Department), Lieutenant Clinton Sukekane (Honolulu Police Department), Dominic Dias (Board of Water Supply), Martha Torney (Governor Abercrombie's Representative), Ed Manglallan (Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative), Cliff Kaneshiro (Councilmember Ann Kobayashi's Office staff), Speaker Emeritus Calvin Say, Senator Les Ihara Jr., Ben Park (Hawaii Project Housing Authority), Kelly Cruz (Department of Transportation Services), Jason Lau (Limtiaco Consulting), and Lori Snyder (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

**FILLING OF VACANCIES ON BOARD:** Due to lack of quorum, the filling of seven (7) vacant board seats was deferred to the next meeting.

### CITY MONTHLY REPORTS

**Honolulu Fire Department (HFD):** Captain Paul Bass reported the following:

- **April 2014 Statistics:** There were 2 structure fires, 2 wildfires, 1 rubbish fire, 21 miscellaneous calls, and 34 medical emergencies. There was 1 unusual incident where a child experienced hypothermia in a pool.
- **Fire Safety Tip – Fire Escape Plan:** Have a working smoke alarm in every bedroom and hallway. Create an escape plan showing all doors and windows in the home. Know at least two (2) ways out of every room. Designate a meeting place a safe distance outside the home. Teach children how to escape on their own. Call 911 from outside the home, and never go back inside for people or pets.

**Honolulu Police Department (HPD):** Lieutenant Clinton Sukekane reported the following:

- **April 2014 Statistics:** There were 9 burglaries, 26 thefts, 7 motor vehicle theft, 7 unauthorized entries of motor vehicles (JEMV).
- **Safety Tips:** The monthly safety tip and the contact information for the Community Policing Team were located on the back of the handout.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. **Car Accident:** Shiraki inquired about a car accident in the area along a fence by a 12 foot drop, and requested a speed bump be installed to decrease speeding violations. Lieutenant Sukekane did not know about the accident but noted officers could be sent to monitor the area for speeding violations.
2. **Mopeds:** Shiraki voiced concern about the danger of mopeds passing cars that were stopped for pedestrians.

**Board of Water Supply (BWS):** Dominic Dias reported the following:

- **Main Breaks:** There was one (1) water main break on 2333 Palolo Avenue and one (1) water main break fronting 3420 Hardesty Street in the month of April.
- **Copper Thieves:** Copper thieves broke into a Kalihi reservoir, damaging the operating systems and caused a major outage for a portion of Kalihi. Residents were asked to watch for suspicious activity and report such activities to the security hotline at 748-5911.

- Newsletter: "Water Matters" is a monthly newsletter with information about upcoming workshops, initiatives, and fun facts from BWS.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Reservoir Contamination: Shiraki voiced concern about a man urinating in an open reservoir in Portland, and asked if this type of contamination could occur in the reservoirs on Oahu. Diaz noted the water reservoirs on Oahu were not used for consumption. The water used for consumption was contained within concrete barriers, and BWS would conduct tests if suspicious activity occurred.

Honolulu Community Action Program (HCAP): There was no representative and no report was available.

## ELECTED OFFICIALS

Councilmember Ann Kobayashi – Cliff Kaneshiro provided a newsletter and reported the following:

- Council Meeting: The next Full Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 4, 2014 at the Mission Memorial Auditorium.
- Sewer Projects: Current sewer projects included Ala Moana Boulevard/Auahi Street Sewer Rehabilitation, Palolo Sewer rehabilitation Pukele Stream Sewer, and Wider Avenue and Metcalf Street Sewer Rehabilitation.
- Sports Teams Recognition: The Full Council honored and recognized Punahou School's varsity girls basketball team, varsity girls swim team, and varsity boys swim team.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Left Turn on 10th Avenue: Shiraki voiced concern about pedestrian safety from the left turn traffic on Waiālae Avenue and 10th Avenue, and noted the lack of a designated left turn signal made it difficult for drivers to watch for pedestrians. Shiraki asked for Kobayashi to contact Director of the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) Michal Formby about the issue.

Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative: Ed Manglallan reported the following:

- City News: Maglallan reviewed the May 2014 City News handout. Topics included the reopening of the Maunaloa Bay comfort station, upcoming town hall meetings, Mayor Caldwell's major priorities, Bike to Work day, and the opening of the Pearl Harbor vehicle registration office.
- Road Repairs: Road repairs included Kuahea Street Roadway Stabilization with a completion date of Thursday, May 8, 2014, and Palolo Avenue Bridge No. 2, with an anticipated bid opening date of Wednesday, January 14, 2015.
- Sewers: The Palolo Sewer Rehabilitation Pukele Stream Sewer's anticipated construction finish date is Monday, August 11, 2014.
- Parks: The Kanewai Community Park Reconstruction of Playcourts and Lighting System's anticipated construction start date is Sunday, June 1, 2014.
- Bike to Zoo Day: Sunday, May 18, 2014 was noted as the 6th Annual Bike to the Zoo Day. Riders who biked to the Honolulu Zoo from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. would get in free, and the first 200 bicyclists who enter at Monsarrat gate would receive a free bag with goodies.
- Playground Equipment: The play apparatus replacement at Palolo District Park project was put out to bid on Monday, April 28, 2014, with the bid opening on Friday, May 23, 2014. The contractor would be providing the design drawings for approval by the Department of Design and Construction before construction could start. The process would take three (3) to four (4) months to complete before construction began. This project was funded with current Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) Capitol Improvement Project (CIP) funds.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Playground Equipment: Manglallan reassured Nakayama that there was more than a 75% chance the playground equipment would be installed by the end of 2014. Chair Holtrop requested a monthly progress update on the playground project, and Manglallan noted he would make the commitment to monthly updates.
2. Road Patching: Shiraki noted the process and equipment used to patch potholes was not sufficient. Manglallan noted the method used to patch roads was temporary, and the long term goal was to resurface the entire road. This temporary method allowed for less traffic delays until the major resurfacing was required.
3. Bike to the Zoo: Manglallan clarified for Shiraki that bicyclists could take their bicycle on the bus and ride from the bus stop if their house was a large distance from the zoo.

4. Waialae Avenue Bicycle Lanes: Chair Holtrop inquired about the dedicated bicycle lanes promised on Waialae Avenue. Maglallan would ask for a response from the Department of Design and Construction (DDC).

Governor Neil Abercrombie's Representative: Martha Torney reported the following:

- Minimum Wage: The state Legislature passed a bill to increase Hawaii's minimum wage to \$10.10 an hour by 2018. The Governor strongly advocated for increasing the minimum wage since taking office.
- Turtle Bay Property: The Governor's administration was able to help protect pristine coastlines from development by preserving 665 acres of the property surrounding Turtle Bay for public use. The property was purchased for \$48.5 million, \$40 million of which came from the State, 5 million from the County, and 3.5 million from the Trust for Public Land.
- Legislative Bills: Two (2) bills that had already been signed by Governor Abercrombie included House Bill (HB) 2275, increasing the protection of distressed homeowners against predatory mortgage rescue fraud, and Senate Bill (SB) 2768, making kindergarten mandatory for children who will be at least five (5) years of age on or before July 31 of the school year. The public was invited to express thoughts on specific bills by going to [www.governor.hawaii.gov](http://www.governor.hawaii.gov).

State House Speaker Emeritus Calvin Say: Speaker Emeritus Say reported the following:

- Funds Released to Chinese Home: \$750 thousand in capital improvement grant funds was released for the Palolo Chinese Home.
- Ka'I Project: Speaker Say promoted the Ka'I project where Iolani Schools accepts 12 students from the 6th grade to attend Jarrett Middle School's summer school program. Speaker Say requested support from the community to help finance the growing number of students wanting to attend.
- Lego Judge: Speaker Say was a judge for a Lego event for children with autism.
- Thank You: Speaker Say thanked Kirk Caldwell's administration for a job well done on making improvements that will positively impact the future of Oahu's freeways and highways.
- Mopeds: Speaker Say recommended the Board address the moped noise by making a resolution to lower the moped decibel level.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Medical Marijuana: Shiraki asked for the status of medical marijuana. Speaker Emeritus Say noted the Department of Health (DOH) will determine what the dispensary of medical marijuana would be in Hawaii. There was no legislation in the decriminalization of marijuana.
2. Harbors: Farm Jr. asked if there were any efforts to privatize the harbors around the island. Speaker Say deferred the question to Governor's Representative Martha Torney for follow up.
3. Mopeds: Shiraki emphasized the need for moped safety check requirements. Chair Holtrop agreed with Shiraki, noting moped use needed to be reexamined as people were riding double on a moped and reaching speeds of 60-65 miles per hour. Chair Holtrop suggested mopeds be registered similar to motorcycles, requiring a license plate, insurance, and driver's license.

Senator Les Ihara, Jr.: State Senator Les Ihara reported the following:

1. Turtle Bay Land: Senator Ihara was involved in the creation of a number of bills, including the Turtle Bay legislation, which was an ingenious way to have tourists pay for the preservation of the lands.
2. Text and Drive: A law was passed that banned texting and driving. Drivers already faced tickets for distracted driving, but this law simplified the system for addressing the violation. The fine for texting and driving started at \$100, and then increased for every repeated violation.
3. Harbors: Senator Ihara noted that if the harbors were privatized, cost of harbor use would increase. Farm Jr. requested the community be informed if harbor privatization did occur.
4. Ala Wai Canal Project: Senator Ihara noted the Ala Wai Canal Project would place two (2) retention bases upstream to capture the water. Speaker Say attended an informational meeting and noted Ms. Athline Clark gave an excellent presentation. To attend Ms. Clark's presentation and hear more information about the project, community members were encouraged to attend an Open House on Tuesday, May 20, 2014 at Manoa Valley District Park MPB Room and on Wednesday, May 21, 2014 at Stevenson Middle School Cafeteria, 1202 Prospect Street, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Text and Drive: Shiraki noted the fine for texting while driving should increase in order to effectively get drivers to stop texting. Chair Holtrop agreed with this statement.
2. Positive Contributions: Shiraki asked Senator Ihara to list two positive contributions he was making to Hawaii. Senator Ihara noted funds were invested in endangered species, affordable housing, and a senior fall prevention program.

3. University of Hawaii (UH) Faculty Housing: Chair Holtrop noted UH faculty was getting pushed out of faculty housing, and voiced concern about the lack of housing available for the 150 plus faculty. Much of the faculty comes from out of state or out of the country. Senator Ihara took note of the issue.

RESIDENTS'/COMMUNITY CONCERNS: There were no resident or community concerns.

#### OLD BUSINESS

- Community Recognition Awards: The following community members were suggestions to receive a community recognition award: Mark Carpenter and Sarah Kamida (requested by Shiraki), and Ruth Silberstein and Chino Montero (requested by Speaker Say). A brief description about their accomplishments followed. Due to a lack of quorum, no action could be taken at this time.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA): Ben Park from HPHA presented an update on the Palolo Housing Project. A concern about a clause in the Alert Alarm of Hawaii contract was delaying the Palolo Housing Project, and the Honolulu Fire Marshall would not allow tenants to reside in the units. HPHA was trying to streamline the permit. Construction would continue, with the start of buildings 18 and 19 on Friday, August 1, 2014. The affected families have been consulted with individually. Park thanked Speaker Say and Senator Ihara for putting 26 million in the budget for HPHA to renovate the 50 year old housing facilities.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Thank You: Shiraki thanked Park for presenting and told him to keep up the good work.
2. Help: Speaker Say requested the Board to support Park in finding a way to stop the delay due to the Alert Alarm of Hawaii contract. Speaker Say was unsure of a solution, but encouraged the Board to stay supportive the Palolo Housing Project.

Department of Transportation Services (DTS) Phase 1 Traffic Calming Project: Kelly Cruz from DTS presented diagrams on the Palolo Valley traffic calming designs. Cruz gave a brief overview of the history of the project. The two (2) projects approved by the community were on 10th Avenue and Keanu Street, and on 10th and Hinahina Street. Construction would begin next year and included improving crosswalks, installing medians, installing a mini circle with landscaping, and upgrading curb ramps.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Parking: Chair Holtrop voiced concern about the loss of parking space due to the construction. Mau noted she lived on Hinahina Street and already had difficulty finding parking. Chair Holtrop noted the data was going on 15 years old and concerns have changed. Cruz would follow up on the number of parking stalls lost from the project.
2. Road Width: Chair Holtrop asked if the roads would be large enough for emergency vehicles. Cruz noted the street width was 10 feet, which was the minimum width to allow for busses and emergency vehicles. The four (4) inch curbs would be mountable so large vehicles could use the curb if necessary.
3. Vision Team: Shiraki inquired about the members of the vision team for the project. Cruz noted the vision team was chosen by the mayor at the time during the 1999 traffic studies.
4. Bicycle Safety: Shiraki voiced concern about bicycle hazards as a result of the project. Chair Holtrop shared Shiraki's concern, noting a bicyclist would be in danger between a curb and a car on this type of street. Cruz would follow up.
5. Inform Residents: Farm Jr. asked if the City informed the current residents in the area of the project. Cruz replied flyers were posted about a public meeting held in 2013 for residents to voice concerns, and the two (2) intersection chosen were the result of the comments from that meeting. Mau did not recall getting informed about the public meeting, and asked if the neighbors still had a voice in the project. Cruz noted the public could still voice concerns, and Chair Holtrop requested Mau tell the neighbors to attend the July 2014 Palolo No. 6 Neighborhood Board meeting. Speaker Say noted the project would slow down traffic, but emphasized the importance of informing HFD and refuse companies about the road narrowing. Jason Lau, consultant for the project, noted a mailing service was used to inform the residents about the construction.
6. History: Nakayama noted in 1998 there were multiple pedestrian accidents and a traumatic traffic accident and that caused speeding concerns on 10th Avenue. Nakayama noted it was unfortunate that the traffic concerns from 15 years ago took so long to get addressed. Farm Jr. commented that the problem did not seem as problematic now than 15 years ago, and thanked Nakayama for describing the history of the project.

7. Alternative Suggestions: Cruz addressed Shiraki's suggestion of a Four (4) Way Stop as a traffic calming device by noting it would not be effective on a main road such as 10th Avenue. Mau suggested relocating the traffic calming device onto the Aloha Service Station, away from a residential area. Cruz noted it would not be cost effective to survey another area and redo all of the crosswalks.

Appropriates of Excess Funds from the Board's Budget: Due to a lack of quorum, this agenda item was deferred to next month.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Bulky Trash Pick-Up: Take out by the morning of Wednesday, May 21, 2014.
- Farmers' Market: The Farmer's Market is every Wednesday from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. at Palolo District Park.
- Olelo Broadcast Slots: The Palolo Neighborhood Board No. 6 meetings are aired on Channel 49 the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 12:00 noon and the 4th Thursday at 9:00 p.m, or online anytime at <http://olelo.org>.
- Social Media: The address for the Palolo Neighborhood Board No. 6 facebook page is located on the agenda.
- Agenda Requests: Contact Chair Paul Holtrop by e-mail (preferred) and phone number, listed on the Neighborhood Commission Office (NCO) website.
- Next Meeting: The Palolo Neighborhood Board No. 6 will recess in June 2014. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 9, 2014 at the Palolo Elementary School Cafeteria, 2106 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 12, 2014 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Due to a lack of quorum, this agenda item was deferred to next month.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Chair Holtrop reported a monthly spending of \$24.44 for total a balance of \$517.35.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Submitted by: Lori L. Snyder, Neighborhood Assistant I

Reviewed by: Neil Baarde, Neighborhood Assistant I

Reviewed by: Paul Holtrop, Chair