



## MANOA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 7

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813  
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### REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2007 NOELANI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

**CALL TO ORDER:** At 7:06 p.m., Chair Paul Holtrop called the meeting to order with nine members present and introduced the members of the Manoa Neighborhood Board.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Eric Eads, Francisco Figueiredo, Tom Heinrich, Paul Holtrop, Dwight Jackson, John Kim, Brandon Mitsuda, George Nakano, Nadine Nishioka. (Seventeen seats, two vacancies - quorum is nine members).

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Gary Andersen, Rodney Chun, Rose Niimoto, Milton Ragsdale, Nathan Say, and Glen Tanaka.

**GUESTS:** Larry Reifurth (Governor's Representative); Officer Kahapea, Lt. Lee, Sgt. Numasaki, Officer J. Yee (Honolulu Police Department); Jim Manke (University of Hawaii); Grace Furukawa, Jim Harwood, Representative Kirk Caldwell; Councilmember Ann Kobayashi; Senator Brian Taniguchi; Susan Miyao (Senator Taniguchi's office); Captain Clyde Shimaburkuro (Honolulu Fire Department); Bryan Mick (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

**FILLING OF VACANCIES:** The Chair asked if there were any people interested in filling any of the two vacancies in Subdistrict IV. No one was.

#### PUBLIC SAFETY INPUT:

**HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT (HFD)** – Captain Shimaburkuro reported for the month of November, there was one structure fire, 31 medical responses, one search and rescue operation, and six miscellaneous responses.

Fire Safety Tip - Dried Christmas trees, wreaths, and other natural decorations are extremely flammable. Remove them from your home as soon as possible. Your Christmas tree can be taken to a participating recycling center. Consider leaving fireworks to the professionals. Enjoy one of the public fireworks displays on New Year's Eve. Follow all warnings and instructions for the safe use of fireworks. Never give fireworks, even sparklers, to young children. Older children should only use fireworks under the direct supervision of an adult.

Questions, answers, and comments:

Heinrich thanked HFD for their recent work during the inclement weather. He also commented that the Board would like to help lobby the government for any Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funds that HFD would like to see included in upcoming budgets. Last month, he had asked HPD if they thought the narrowness of the University Avenue near Maile Way posed a hazard as far as emergency vehicles being able to get thru. He would like to pose the same question to HFD. Shimaburkuro replied that area is a difficult place for large vehicles to traverse, and luckily the public is very cooperative with pulling over to the side and making room for emergency vehicles to pass.

**HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT (HPD)** – Officer Kahapea distributed his report. For the month of November compared to October, Manoa Valley had 8 burglaries (+1), 13 unauthorized entry into motor vehicles (UEMV) (-11), and 26 thefts (-7). Officer Kahapea reminded everyone that the past six months worth of statistics is posted online at <http://www.honolulupd.org/patrol/d7>

Questions, answers, and comments:

Heinrich thanked HPD for their recent work during recent inclement weather, especially in assisting motorists caught by flash flooding. He also thanked HPD for their input at a recent meeting held by Maryknoll Schools to address traffic concerns related to upcoming construction at their Elementary campus.

**COMMUNITY INPUT:**

**COUNCILMEMBER ANN KOBAYASHI** – Councilmember Kobayashi apologized for not being here at the last meeting to defend herself against the administration. She is against the proposal to create a panel of experts charged with selecting the technology for our mass transit system. The law says the City Council reserves that right. Why create the panel after all this time has passed.

She also said she was working closely with Representative Caldwell and Senator Taniguchi on the issue of adult residential care homes (ARCH). Two operators have been buying up property in the area around College Hill. This raises the specter of the whole street becoming one continuous ARCH. This is similar to the issue of bed and breakfasts faced by other Oahu communities. Where do we draw the line?

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Heinrich asked that the Councilmember stick around for the Board's agenda item dealing with ARCH's tonight.
- 2) Nishioka commented that she has received complaints from pedestrians about the crosswalk on Woodlawn Drive being too dark. They also think the location of the crosswalk is poor, and would be better if it lined up to the stairs that lead into Longs. Councilmember Kobayashi commented that there was lots of discussion about its placement. The City does not like to install mid-block crosswalks, but they did do so in this case.
- 3) Councilmember Kobayashi reported that the Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM) has been forwarded the previous complaint by Nishioka as to their dumping of debris on the side of the road. Heinrich observed that DFM wrote the Manoa Stream Maintenance Plan which includes a one page check off page for supervisors. The plan was a contact between the City and the State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

**MAYOR'S REPORT-** No representative was available.

**REPRESENTATIVE KIRK CALDWELL** – No representative was available.

**SENATOR BRIAN TANIGUCHI** - Senator Taniguchi reported the Senate had recently ended their special session where they passed a law allowing the Hawaii Superferry to operate while conducting an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and confirmed many gubernatorial appointees. Before passing the Superferry law, the Senate held hearings on the outer islands. What he took away from that was many outer island residents live there because they like the way of life. For them, the Superferry symbolizes things they don't like such as urbanization, commercialization, and consumerism. One good result was that everyone now pays more attention to things shipped here from out of state. This allowed the Christmas trees with the wasps to be caught before the trees were removed from their shipping container. The Superferry also had some financial considerations attached to it, as \$40 million had been used from a special harbor fund to pay for necessary infrastructure improvements. Senator Taniguchi encouraged people to submit their ideas for bills in the upcoming legislative session.

**GOVERNOR'S REPORT** – Larry Reifurth, Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA), distributed the Governor's report. He announced that Barry Fukunaga had been appointed Chief of Staff. He has a lot of government experience and was most recently the Director of

the State Department of Transportation. The Governor recently released \$5 million for school improvements, most of that relating to the removal of cesspools. The Governor is encouraging residents to nominate their friends and neighbors for "Hawaii's outstanding citizen" award by December 16, which is part of a program sponsored by the Congressional Medal of Honor Society. The Governor's website has directions on how to nominate someone. Please send ideas for bills to the Governor's policy office or to him at 586-2885 and [Ireifurth@dcca.hawaii.gov](mailto:Ireifurth@dcca.hawaii.gov). Reifurth thanked Senator Taniguchi and the Legislature for their work on the Superferry.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Eads asked if the State Civil Defense had been activated during our recent bad weather. Reifurth was not sure if they were formally activated, but they were sending out information bulletins and did have staff available to respond 24 hours a day to any problems.
- 2) Heinrich asked how far along DLNR was in addressing issues that had come up during last year's 40 days of rain, such as Round Top Drive and Puu Honua in Manoa. Reifurth said he could provide an update at the next meeting.

**UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII** – Jim Manke reported that Heinrich was in attendance at the recent inauguration for the Manoa chancellor. This week is the last week of classes; final exams are the following week with commencement shortly thereafter. There are 1500 eligible graduates. Traffic will be much lighter while the University is on break. Last Monday, the Board of Regents adopted in principle the Long Range Development Plan (LRDP). The University will present an update to the LRDP to the Neighborhood Board sometime next year.

Questions, answers, and comments:

- 1) Heinrich asked if the next step for the LRDP was to be submitted to the City Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP). Manke replied it was.
- 2) Heinrich asked that the Board be kept aware of the University's 2008 budget requests. Manke agreed to do so, and added that campus renewal is a priority. Although the Governor has different priorities, the University can go directly to the Legislature for some of their funds thanks to the autonomy that was granted to the University a few years ago.
- 3) The Chair thanked the Chancellor's office on behalf of the residents of faculty housing for giving them permission to dig an imu as part of their Thanksgiving celebration.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

**CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU - PRESENTATION OF THE MAYOR'S 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY AHUPUA'A SUSTAINABILITY PLAN** – This presentation was deferred.

**APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 7, 2007 MINUTES** – The following corrections were offered:

- 1) Page 1, Line 42 –have been running the red lights and prior to the City or State adding the barrier of poles to prevent vehicles from turning left off of Punahou onto the freeway, the trucks were turning left illegally onto the freeway. She said she called Shriner's.....
- 2) Page 1, Line 45 – ~~Nishioka~~ Niimoto commented that there is a white car.....
- 3) Page 3, Line 40 – the RFP calls for an ~~additional channel dedicated to~~ increased focus on government programming.

**The minutes were adopted unanimously 9-0-0.** (Aye: Eads, Figueiredo, Heinrich, Holtrop, Jackson, Kim, Mitsuda, Nakano, and Nishioka).

**PLANNING, TRANSPORTATION, AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**– Heinrich reported that the committee still has not met formally yet. He has started a list of issues for the committee to exam, which includes:

- 1) Application for a variance at 2289 Kamehameha Avenue. The application was denied, but an appeal can still be filed.
- 2) Legislation pertaining to ARCH's.
- 3) Flooding problems on University Avenue near the Oahu Avenue/East Manoa Road intersection.
- 4) Progress by DLNR at Puu Honua.
- 5) Progress of the University's LRDP.
- 6) Transportation improvement projects as identified by the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO) that impact Manoa. One is the creation of a joint City-State traffic control center. Another is the building of a rail system.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**BOARD RECESS IN JANUARY – Nakano moved that the Manoa Neighborhood Board recess in the month of January. Nishioka seconded.** Heinrich said he had prepared and distributed a calendar which showed all the upcoming Board meetings. If there is no meeting in January, then February 6, 2008 is the next meeting. Although there is no proxy vote at the Neighborhood Boards, he wanted to state that Board member Ragsdale had indicated to him that he was in favor of recessing. **The motion passed unanimously 9-0-0.** (Aye: Eads, Figueiredo, Heinrich, Holtrop, Jackson, Kim, Mitsuda, Nakano, and Nishioka).

**HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 07-348 PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE LAND USE ORDINANCE RELATING TO ARCH'S - Heinrich moved that moved that the Manoa Neighborhood Board adopt the following resolution.** "The Manoa Neighborhood Board respectfully requests the Honolulu City Council to promote public awareness and the opportunity to be heard in the administrative review process by including in its draft bill attached to Resolution No. 07-348 – 'Proposing an Amendment to the Land Use Ordinance relating to Adult Residential Care Homes, Special Treatment Facilities, and other similar facilities' - requirements that: (1) at the time that an application is accepted for formal processing by the Department of Planning and Permitting, notice of the application for such uses be given by the applicant (a) to all real property owners and residents within a 500 foot radius of the subject property, and (b) to the general public by publication of a notice in a newspaper of general circulation on Oahu; and (2) a public hearing be a mandatory part of the review process, similar to the conditional use permit, major process." **Nakano seconded the motion.**

Heinrich said he attended a meeting of residents in the area around College Hill last week. The current resolution in front of City Council was introduced by Councilmember Kobayashi and has a variety of proposals. One would be for ARCH application to go to DPP for public hearings and then back to the Council for consideration. The resolution the Neighborhood Board is considering tonight narrowly addresses certain issues. It would let all neighbors know about an application, not just those whose property abuts the parcel in question. Kim asked if this would set up a new category of applications. Heinrich replied it would be similar to the application for a Conditional Use Permit Major, but would indeed be a new category with its own processes. Nakano said although he likes this proposal, he thinks that the State Department of Health rules will be above this anyways and the Board should address ARCH's from that angle. Heinrich replied that this if for Councilmember Tam's committee at the City

level, and the Board is still free to address it from the State Department of Health's angle. **The motion failed 7-0-2 (Aye:** Eads, Heinrich, Holtrop, Jackson, Kim, Nakano, and Nishioka **Abstain:** Figueiredo and Mitsuda). (Nine votes are need to pass a motion).

**CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION REGARDING THE DRAFT NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN AS PRESENTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL – Heinrich moved that the Board adopt a resolution** which read in part **“BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Manoa Neighborhood Board No. 7 requests the Neighborhood Commission hold another series of public hearings for the purpose of explaining to the public and the neighborhood boards the differences and omissions between the original RNP and the Corporation Counsel RNP versions; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Neighborhood Commission is asked to take no further action on either RNP version until all neighborhood boards and the public have the opportunity to hear this explanation, to further state their concerns, and to find a common version, acceptable as a Revised Neighborhood Plan to be our guiding document to be effective by December 31, 2008...”

Heinrich explained that the McCully-Moiliili Neighborhood Board has passed an almost identical resolution. This was because the draft of the Revised Neighborhood Plan that was prepared by the Neighborhood Commission's Permitted Interaction Group had many differences from the version that Corporation Counsel returned to the Commission after reviewing it. These changes were never explained. **Jackson seconded the motion.** Heinrich added that the deadline to submit comments on the current draft is noon on December ninth. The public hearings were not very well attended. The Kailua Neighborhood Board has been very vocal about reverting to the Permitted Interaction Group's version. **The motion passed unanimously 9-0-0. (Aye:** Eads, Figueiredo, Heinrich, Holtrop, Jackson, Kim, Mitsuda, Nakano, and Nishioka).

**CONSIDERATION OF PUBLIC FACILITY MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT NEEDS (CITY & STATE) –** Heinrich explained that this was not a motion. It was just meant as a reminder for anyone with ideas to please get them to the Board and/or your elected officials. Councilmember Kobayashi has placed money in the City budget for repairs to the wall near Mid-Pacific High School. The wall is slowly moving, and it's currently about five inches offset. He suggested maybe the Board members break out by subdistricts and be responsible for canvassing their own areas looking for things in need of CIP funds.

**TREASURER REPORT –** The Chair deferred until next meeting.

**REPRESENTATIVE KIRK CALDWELL –** The Representative declined to present to the Board in the interest of ending the meeting early.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- 1) The Chair announced the Manoa Christmas Parade will be held on Saturday December 8, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. The parade begins at Noelani Elementary School, and then proceeds along Kolowalu Street to East Manoa Road to Lowrey Avenue to Manoa Road to the main entrance of Manoa Valley District Park.
- 2) Heinrich announced that on December 13, the Mo'iliili parade will occur and likely have an impact on Manoa traffic. The parade goes from Kuhio Avenue to Old Stadium Park.
- 3) Heinrich invited everyone down to the opening of the 2008 legislature.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by:

Bryan Mick, Neighborhood Commission Office Staff