



KAHALU'U NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 29

(Heeiea Kea, Ahuimanu, Kahalu'u, Waihee, Kaalaea, Waiahole, Waikane, Hakipuu, Kualoa

c/o KEY PROJECT • 47-200 WAIHEE ROAD • KANEHOE, HAWAII, 96744
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"LET US NOT EVER HAVE AN UNHAPPY MINORITY; RATHER, LET US BUILD A COMMUNITY CONSENSUS."

**DRAFT – REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2015
KAHALU'U KEY PROJECT**

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Flora Obayashi called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. **Quorum was not established with 7 (seven) members present.** Note – This 15-member Board requires eight (8) members to establish quorum and to take official Board action.

Board Members Present: Daniel Bender (arrived at 7:12 p.m., departed at 9:45 p.m.), Lee Gomes (arrived at 7:02 p.m.), Rocky Kaluhiwa (arrived at 7:30 p.m.), Ron Kubo, Ken LeVasseur, Clifford Loo, Amy Luersen (arrived at 7:12 p.m.), Art Machado, Yvonne Nelson, Flora Obayashi, Lola Jean Tangaro (arrived at 7:02 p.m., departed at 9:45 p.m.), and Alice Taum.

Board Members Absent: Marina Pasion.

Vacancies: There were two (2) vacancies in subdistrict 6.

Guests: Firefighter Scott Kadomoto (Honolulu Fire Department); Lieutenant Darryl Kon (Honolulu Police Department); Art Challacombe (Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative); Barry Usugawa (Board of Water Supply); Tiffany Patrick, Elizabeth Feeney and Pete O'Hare (Marine Corps Base Hawaii); Michael Sakata (Council Chair Ernie Martin's Office); Francisco Figueiredo (Councilmember Ikaika Anderson's Office); Watson Okubo (Department of Health); Representative Jarrett Keohokalole; Bennett Young; Gina Chirieleison; Byron Ho; Marie Samudio; Bridgitte Daniel; Charles Tanouye; Eldean Kukahiko; Bryan Nuss; Jerry Kaluhiwa (Kaneohe Bay Regional Council); Lori Snyder (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

Gomes and Tangaro arrived at 7:02 p.m. There were nine (9) member present and quorum was established.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT:

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD): Firefighter Scott Kadomoto reported the following:

- **February 2015 Statistics:** Statistics included 1 fire, 26 medical emergencies, and 49 hazardous condition, service, good intent, and false calls.
- **Cooking Safety Tips:** Cook only when alert. Keep watch of what is cooking, and turn off the stove if stepping away. Keep dish towels, paper towels, and potholders away from the stove. Avoid cooking in loose clothing; loose sleeves can easily catch on fire. Keep hot items away from counter or table edges. If a fire has started, go outside, call 9-1-1, and stay outside.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD): Lieutenant Darryl Kon reported the following:

- **February 2015 Statistics:** Statistics included 4 motor vehicle thefts, 4 burglaries, 11 thefts, and 7 unauthorized entries into motor vehicles (JEMV).
- **Car Chases:** There was a car chase in the area that injured four (4) HPD officers.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. **Crime Reports:** Loo noted he recognized a criminal's photo in the Midweek newspaper. Lieutenant Kon responded that the crime stoppers website, www.crimestoppers-honolulu.org, publicizes the crime statistics for Kahaluu, and for immediate help call 9-1-1.
2. **Presence in Waikane:** Tangaro thanked HPD for their presence in the Kahaluu and Waikane area.
3. **Burglary Information:** Machado inquired about the three (3) or four (4) houses that were burglarized on his street. Lieutenant Kon noted that fingerprints were recovered from the scene, but HPD rarely receives a follow-up from the detectives. For statistics about burglaries in specific areas, visit www.honolulu.hpd.org.
4. **Bridge Fishing:** LeVasseur requested that the HPD educates community members who are fishing off of the bridge into the lagoon.

Bender and Luersen arrived at 7:12 p.m. There were 11 members present.

FILLING OF VACANCIES: There were no nominations and the item was deferred. Chair Obayashi announced that the Neighborhood Board elections will be held electronically from Friday, April 24, 2015 to Friday, May 15, 2015. The new term will begin on July 1, 2015. Voters will receive a passcode in the mail to vote online. Chair Obayashi encouraged each voter to vote for the representative from their subdistrict. For more information call Jordan Ozaki at 768-3708.

INFORMATIONAL SESSION:

Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH): Tiffany Patrick reported the following:

- F-18 Jets: The F-18 jets will be on the MCBH runway for an exercise for the next week and a half, during the daytime hours.
- The Beast 10K Run: MCBH will be hosting The Beast 10K on Saturday, March 21, 2015. For more information visit www.MCCSHawaii.com.
- Elizabeth Feeney: Elizabeth Feeney will be the MCBH community relations specialist for Kahaluu.
- Kaneohe Bay Air Show: Pete O'Hare provided a handout and announced that MCBH is hosting the Kaneohe Bay Air Show on Saturday, October 17, 2015 and Sunday, October 18, 2015. The free event is open to the public and is expected to be the largest attended event in Hawaii. Applications are available at www.kaneohebairshow.com for local food vendors interested in participating.

Questions, comments, and concerns that followed: Thank You: Luersen thanked Patrick for connecting her to the Navy Public Relations Specialist.

Kahalu'u Stream/Flood Control Lagoon Department of Health (DOH) Update: Scott Murakawa from DOH provided an update on the Kahalu'u Stream/Flood Control Lagoon: weekly sampling of the water continues, and no new information has been discovered. The toxic levels vary in relation to the amount of rainfall. DOH is hoping to hire two (2) additional researchers to help in data collection. The data from the sampling is available online at <http://health.hawaii.gov/cwb/>. For more information or for questions call the DOH clean water division at 586-4309.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Signage: Tangaro requested additional signs along all entrance points of the lagoon. Murakawa suggested that Tangaro send a list to Okubo of the desired locations for signs to be posted, and encouraged the community to report missing signs to 586-4309. LeVasseur recommended posting the "Toxic Water" sign closer to the "No Fishing" sign.
2. Windward Baptist Church: Murakawa answered for Loo that his department section is not working on the issue regarding the Windward Baptist Church audit, but Watson can follow up next month.
3. Timeline: Murakawa answered for Tangaro that there is no timeline available for when the bacteria levels will return to normal, but DOH is still in the assessment phase.

Kaluhiwa arrived at 7:30 p.m. There were 12 members present.

Kaneohe Bay Regional Council (KBRC): Jerry Kaluhiwa reported that a community member claimed one (1) of the boats in the harbor, which will stay at the harbor until the community member can find a location in town for the boat.

RESIDENTS'/COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

Big Brothers Big Sisters Hawaii: Resident Bridgette Daniel provided a flyer and announced that Big Brothers Big Sisters Hawaii is seeking college graduates for a one (1) year program that connects volunteers with a student at Castle High School. The program involves exchanging e-mails regularly and meeting in person once a month.

Ahilama Road/Waihee Stream Bridge: A resident voiced concern about the Ahilama Road/Waihee Stream Bridge wall's inability to withstand a major storm, and inquired about the status of the wall repair. The resident noted that rocks are piled up under the bridge due to children cutting the bags of rocks open. LeVasseur requested this item be placed on next month's agenda. Sakata noted that the 2015 budget has allocated \$600,000 for bridge/wall repair.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Total Board of Water Supply (BWS) Windward Production: Barry Usagawa reviewed a handout that showed a line graph of the total BWS windward water production from 1994 to 2014. The graph showed that in 1994, water production

was at 23.5 million gallons per day, and in 2014 production was at 15 million gallons per day. Those numbers conclude that potable water usage is decreasing on the Windward side due to conservation and higher water rates, more water is staying in the ground, and there is more stream flow in the tunnel. The Ko'olaupoko Watershed Management Plan adopted by the City Council says that the transfer of water to town should not be detrimental to the Windward community. Only a half million are being moved to Hawai'i Kai.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Drought: Chair Obayashi inquired about the report from 2012 which noted that Kahalu'u would be in trouble if a drought was to occur. Usagawa noted that Kahaluu had a six (6) year drought from 1998 to 2003, and another drought in 2008. It was observed that the pumping stations would have difficulty producing water if there was not enough rainfall. As a drought mitigation strategy, water is kept stored in the ground as a water reservoir.
2. Waiahole Water and Kahuku Well: Chair Obayashi asked if the water that was directed to the other side of the island for agriculture use would be brought back to the Windward side. Usagawa was unaware, and noted that the Kahuku Well is a stand-alone well, but BWS found a third source of water and are digging a third well to provide reliability for the other two (2) pumps if they were to fail.
3. Turtle Bay Water: Usagawa answered for Loo that the Turtle Bay water is received from North Shore.
4. Spikes in Graph Statistics: Usagawa answered for Taum that the spikes in the amount of gallons of water produced in 1996 and 2012 were primarily related to the weather conditions; during dry seasons, more of BWS water is used by residents.
5. Koolaupoko Sustainable Communities Plan (KSCP) Water Agreement: Luerson noted that she did not see the Watershed Plan water agreement in the KSCP, and would address this during the KSCP agenda item.
6. Waihe'e Tunnel Gate: Loo noted that trespassers still enter the Waihe'e tunnel even though there was a new gate installed.

Update on the Waihe'e Ahupua'a Initiative (WAI) meeting: Usagawa reported on the WAI meeting held on Monday, February 23, 2015: BWS is examining the possibility of using the land to include a learning center on the stream. Access to the tunnel could be better controlled if the area was designed for group use. There was a suggestion to survey trespassers on their willingness to participate in site clean-ups.

Questions, comments and concerns followed: Vehicles at Tunnel Entrance: Loo voiced concern that trespassers were parking their vehicles in the neighborhood to enter the Waihe'e Tunnel site.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) General Announcements: Usagawa reported the following:

- Telephone Scam: BWS customers are being targeted in an attempt to fraudulently collect money. Anyone who receives unexpected and/or aggressive phone calls in reference to a past due bill should not give any information to the caller and should call the BWS for verification. Precautions include knowing one's own account status, understanding BWS collection procedures, safeguarding personal information, and hang up on suspicious callers. Call 9-1-1 and BWS at 748-5000 to file a report for suspicious activity.
- National Fix-a-Leak Week: Monday, March 16, 2015 through Sunday, March 22, 2015 is National Fix-a-Leak Week. Residents are encouraged to check for property leaks by using leak detection dye tablets.

Kahekili Highway Traffic Congestion: LeVasseur reported on solutions to reduce the Kahekili Highway traffic congestion. It was stressed that the community does not want to urbanize Kahalu'u, but instead wishes to "keep the country country" while creating an easier way to travel to Kahaluu. Possible solutions to the traffic include creating a third lane where Kahekili Highway meets Haiku Road, creating another lane going east at Hui Iwa on Kahekili Highway, and fixing the area where the cemetery light was placed. Governor David Ige recognizes the problem of the growing population on the Windward side and progress is occurring.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Testimony: Community member Bryan Nuss voiced concern that this plan would continue to bring construction, development, and traffic into Kahalu'u, and noted that he testified about this at a previous meeting. Luerson voiced concern that if it was suggested to change various streets, the State will change the entire highway.
2. Education Express Shuttle: Luerson noted that most of the traffic congestion begins when the University of Hawaii session begins, and recommended creating an "Education Express Shuttle" from Windward Community College (WCC) instead of changing the highway.
3. Tax for Excessive Vehicles: Bender suggested implementing a tax on an excess amount of vehicles per household. Gomes noted that he was against the tax on excessive vehicles, and Loo explained that some children live from their parent's house and need a vehicle to drive to work.

4. Old Kamehameha Highway: Tangaro suggested that DTS fix the Old Kamehameha Highway. A community member noted that the City has plans to fix the Old Kamehameha Highway in 2017.
5. Highway Widening: LeVasseur noted that highway widening is incredibly expensive, and the solutions in his presentation are more cost effective and focuses on specific congested intersections.

Ahuimanu/Kahalu'u Cesspool and Septic Tank Proposals: Bender noted that community members are concerned about losing their homes if they are required to replace their septic systems.

Ko'olaupoko Sustainable Communities Plan (KSCP) Extension: Deputy Director of DPP Art Challacombe noted that the deadline for comments for the KSCP was extended to Monday, March 16, 2015.

Luerson moved and Bender seconded that the Kahaluu Neighborhood Board No. 24 requests that the Koolauloko Sustainable Communities Plan add water policy language consistent with the Koolauloa Sustainable Communities Plan and the Ko'olaupoko Watershed Management Plan to restrict any further transmission of water outside the Ko'olaupoko area. The motion was ADOPTED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 12-0-0 (Bender, Gomes, Kaluhiwa, Kubo, LeVasseur, Loo, Luersen, Machado, Nelson, Obayashi, Tangaro, and Taum).

Prioritization of Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Requests: Obayashi referred to a Kahalu'u Community Master Plan handout provided at the February 2015 Kahaluu Neighborhood Board No. 29 regular meeting by Michael Sakata. Sakata recommended that the Board choose from the requests listed on the handout. Discussion followed:

- Education Express Shuttle: Luersen recommended requesting funds for the study of an Education Express Shuttle as discussed earlier.
- Waihee Stream Bridge: A community member recommended funds for fixing the Ahilama Road/Waihee Stream Bridge. Sakata noted the funds to fix the bridge have already been allocated.
- Waihee Valley Nature Park Entrance: Loo recommended funds for fixing the entrance at the Waihee Valley Nature Park.
- Bus Transfer Station: LeVasseur recommended funds for a bus transfer station at the Old Hawaiian Bank location. It was noted that the location had already been sold.
- Key Project Roof: Sakata answered for Tangaro that the Key Project roof repair had been completed.

The Board voted on which three (3) CIPs to request to Sakata from the Board. The Board voted on the following projects: Kalohaka Bridge, Waihee Stream Bridge, and the Windward Education Shuttle.

Board Banner: LeVasseur moved and Bender seconded that the Kahaluu Neighborhood Board No. 29 purchase a banner to announce the Kahaluu Neighborhood Board meetings. Discussion followed:

- Location: Gomes inquired where the banner would be located. Machado noted that he will look into a location.
- Cost: Luerson inquired about how much the banner would cost. It was noted that the last banner was \$50 and the Board has enough remaining in their budget.
- Posting of Banner: Machado volunteered to put up and take down the banner.

The motion was ADOPTED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT, 12-0-0 (Bender, Gomes, Kaluhiwa, Kubo, LeVasseur, Loo, Luersen, Machado, Nelson, Obayashi, Tangaro, and Taum).

REPORTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS:

Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative: Deputy Director Art Challacombe reported the following:

- Ti Leaf Collection: The Mayor's Office of Culture and the Arts (MOCA) and the Honolulu Zoo are asking for donations of ti leaf to help repair the hale la'i. Hundreds of leaves are needed, and green, yellow or brown leaves with stems may be dropped off in plastic bags at the Honolulu Zoo entrance.
- Crosswalk Stickers: The Department of Transportation Services (DTS) will begin placing stickers on crosswalk signal poles to inform pedestrians about crosswalk safety.
- Windward Homelessness: In 2013, the Administration set the policy to prioritize the Housing First program for the areas with the highest population of chronically homeless households. These areas are Chinatown/Downtown, Waianae Coast, and Waikiki based on the annual Point in Time Count data. The Housing First Permanent Supportive Housing program contractor is the Institute for Human Services (IHS). IHS began their contract in mid- November 2014 and by the end of January 2015 has housed 25 chronically homeless households from these three (3) communities.

- Crowded Bus: DTS recognizes that during the peak commute periods, crowding of buses with standing loads are a system-wide concern and all available resources are at maximum output. Elderly and disabled passengers who require seating can and should ask the bus driver for assistance. DTS will monitor Route 55 service and consider additional service for the peak commute periods if warranted and pending availability of resources.

Questions, comments and concerns followed: Kualoa Beach Park: Tangaro voiced deep concern about unkempt comfort stations at Kualoa Beach, and noted the groundskeeper on the premises only cleans Bellows Beach comfort stations. Tangaro noted she has brought this issue up to Council Chair Ernie Martin's office, and Sakata noted there is a live-in caretaker that makes periodic checks to the comfort stations. Bender noted that there was only one (1) comfort station currently open due to upgrading the other comfort stations. Challacombe will relay the concern to the Department of Parks and Recreation and report back.

Council Chair Ernie Martin: Michael Sakata provided a handout and reported the following: Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Budget: The FY 2016 Budget was released; the operation budget was \$2.2 million and the CIP was \$494 million. The budget will be clearer after its fourth and final reading.

Questions, comments and concerns followed: Kamehameha Highway Repaving: Machado asked how long the Kamehameha Highway repaving will take to complete, and if the repaving is scheduled to begin in March 2015. Sakata noted the BWS project must be completed before repaving can begin.

Zoning and Planning Committee Meeting: Chair Obayashi noted she attended a City zoning and planning committee meeting at City Hall and brought the Board's motions about the Koolau Loa Sustainable Communities Plan (KSCP) before Committee Chair Ikaika Anderson. The committee was in support of the Ho'opili project but did not support the proposal of the third city in Malaekahana. Challacombe noted the committee passed the KSCP out of committee but the chair is going to hold the plan until the general plan is submitted to council, which will hopefully be early Fall 2015.

Councilmember Ikaika Anderson: Francisco Figueiredo provided a handout and reported the following:

- Bill 47: Bill 47 relating to development on the Malaekahana parcel was deferred. Councilmember Anderson is opposed to developing on the parcel because it is outside the urban growth boundary.
- Resolution 15-72: Ikaika Anderson introduced Resolution 15-72, which allows a limited number of permits to be issued to owner occupied bed and breakfasts.
- Road Repaving Updates: Many of the Kaneohe streets are getting packaged and will be open to bid in middle March 2015, construction beginning in early 2016.

Questions, comments and concerns followed: Makaekahana Bill Amendment: Figueiredo answered for Luersen that Bill 47 is held in committee, and the bill has been amended to omit any reference to the Makaekahana parcel.

Governor David Ige's Representative: A representative was not present and a report was not provided.

Senator Gil Riviere: A representative was not present and a report was not available.

Senator Jill Tokuda: A representative was not present and a report was not available.

Representative Jarrett Keohokalole: Representative Keohokalole provided a handout and reported the following:

- Resident Survey: A survey has been sent to residents in the district concerning general comments and concerns from the community.
- Crossover Day: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 was Cross-over day. The House of Representatives will begin hearing the Senate bills.
- SB 1118: SB 1118, which would make an appropriation to the Department of Health for hazard evaluation and emergency response preparedness, crossed over to the House and will be heard by the House Finance committee.
- Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Draft: The State House version of the CIP budget draft became available, which includes \$4.25 million for Kahekili Highway expansion.
- Pali Highway Construction: A public meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 18, 2015 in Nuuanu regarding the Pali Highway project, including details about the noise protocols for the construction.
- Kahekili Bike Path: The State Department of Transportation (HDOT) is planning to hold a public meeting in early summer 2015 to discuss the installation of a bike path through Kahekili Highway.

- **Key Project Bathrooms:** A Grant in Aid (GIA) request has been submitted to help cover the costs of restroom improvements at Key Project; a hearing is scheduled next week in the House Finance committee.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. **Crossover Bills:** Bender asked and Keohokalole answered that the marijuana dispensary bill has crossed over, as well as both Senate and House bills for the excise tax extension for rail.
2. **Current Rail Funding:** Keohokalole answered for Loo that there is enough funding for the projects that have currently been put out to bid. There are plans to open the remaining stations for bid by the end of 2015.
3. **Kahekili Highway Widening Concern:** Luersen voiced concern that the widening of Kahekili Highway is moving forward, and asked what could be done to prevent the widening. Keohokalole noted that his position is to find a solution to alleviate traffic, and he has received many different ideas. Luersen requested Keohokalole find other alternatives besides Kehekili Highway widening, such as an "Education Express" shuttle from Windward Community College into town. Luersen recommended educating the community on the effects of highway widening. Bryan Nuss commented that he attended a meeting about the highway widening at Windward Community College, and there was a heated discussion. Bryan Nuss also noted that he did not receive a survey in the mail.

Bender and Tangaro departed at 9:45 p.m. There were 10 members present.

Luersen moved and Machado seconded that the Kahaluu Neighborhood Board No. 29 supports the developing options to traffic alleviation on Kahekili Highway to be broader than just widening the highway. The motion was ADOPTED by RAISE OF HAND, 9-0-1 (AYE: Kaluhiwa, Kubo, LeVasseur, Loo, Luersen, Machado, Nelson, Obayashi, and Taum. ABSTAIN: Gomes).

Representative Feki Pouha: A representative was not present and a report was not provided.

BOARD BUSINESS

Treasurer's Report: Luersen reported a balance of \$414.74. The report was filed.

APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 11, 2015 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: The Kahalu'u Neighborhood Board No. 29 February 11, 2015 Regular Meeting minutes were ADOPTED by RAISE OF HAND, 9-0-1 (AYE: Kaluhiwa, Kubo, LeVasseur, Loo, Luersen, Machado, Nelson, Obayashi, and Taum. ABSTAIN: Gomes).

MEMBERS ABSENCE REPORTS: Gomes noted that she was gone on business during her absences. The Board took no action on her absences.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Disaster Preparedness: Samudio attended a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) meeting, noted that tsunami shelters have been identified, and noted that CERT would also like to eventually organize hurricane shelter locations. Emergency evacuation routes will be produced to help direct residents to the shelters. Samudio also noted that the Department of Emergency Management (DEM) has requested to be placed on next month's agenda. Bryan Nuss noted that four (4) years ago the Fukushima earthquake occurred, and encouraged the Board to get involved as other communities are getting their neighborhood boards connected with CERT.

Preservation of Hawaiian Heritage: Kaluhiwa noted that two (2) important bills have crossed over, including a bill related to Hawaiian burial.

Military/Civilian Affairs Liaison: Machado reported that he will attend the Civilian Military Board's meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 17, 2015.

There were no reports from the following committees: Water and Environment, Transportation and Safety, Parks and Recreation, Planning, and Legislation and School.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The next Kahalu'u Neighborhood Board No. 29 regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 8, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at KEY Project.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Submitted By: Lori Snyder, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed By: Neil Baarde, Neighborhood Assistant, Reviewed and Finalized By: Flora Obayashi, Chairperson