

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

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 925 DILLINGHAM BOULEVARD, SUITE 160 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96817 PHONE (808) 768-3710 • FAX (808) 768-3711 • INTERNET: http://www.honolulu.gov/nco

# <u>DRAFT</u> REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2017 KAPOLEI HALE – CONFERENCE ROOM

<u>CALL TO ORDER</u> – Chair Evelyn Souza called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. **Quorum was established with six (6) members present.** Note – This nine (9) member board requires five (5) members to establish quorum and take official Board action. Vice Chair Dudley announced testimony and reports would be accepted as listed on the agenda.

<u>Board Members Present</u> – Dean Kalani Capelouto, Jack Legal, Michael Madix (arrived to the meeting at 7:13 p.m.), Christopher Pierce, Thad Spreg, Evelyn Souza, and Kanani Wond (arrived to the meeting at 7:33 p.m.; departed the meeting at 8:45 p.m.).

Board Members Absent - Kioni Dudley and Brandon Mutchek

<u>Guests</u> – Lieutenant Farrel Sojot (Honolulu Police Department); Captain Robyn Desuacido and Firefighter John Chun (Honolulu Fire Department); Scott Enright (Governor David Ige's Representative), Meg Turner (Senator Mike Gabbard's Office); Geanine Gomes (Senator Maile Shimabukuro); Representative Andria Tupola; Wendee Wilson and Dylan Waterfall (Representative Sharon Har's Office); Rian Adachi (Board of Water Supply); Tessie Fernandez (Department of Public Safety); Pat Lee (Honolulu Authority on Rapid Transit); Lloyd Yonenaka (Communications Pacific); Joe Earing (Department of Accounting and General Services); Tom Rudary (Architects Hawaii); Bob Nardi (Louis Berger Group); Heidi Armstrong (Department of Education); Steve Vendt (Hawaiian Railway); Victor Flint (Naval Facilities Engineering Command); Karen Awana (Nanakuli Neighborhood Board No. 34); Elizabeth Stewart-Marshal (Kapolei Public Library); Frank Genadio; Ron Schaedel; Valerie Vanderveer; John Bond; Brian Donahue; John Sabas; Cynthia Spencer; Greg Gomes; Jarry Galdeira; Ruth Kepoo; Bettina Mehner; Andrew Fowers Relley Araceley (Neighborhood Commission Office); and videographer (DVDModo).

Roll Call/Statement of Order and Decorum - The Neighborhood Assistant (NA) took a roll call attendance.

### CITY MONTHLY REPORTS

<u>Honolulu Fire Department (HFD)</u> – Firefighter John Chun circulated the monthly incident report and gave Fall Prevention Safety Tips which covered the following:

- Regular exercise will help build strength, improve balance, and enhance coordination.
- Take your time when getting out of chairs and be aware of your surroundings.
- Keep stair and walkways clear.
- Improve lighting inside and outside of your home.
- Use nonslip mats this increases safety in the bathtub and on shower floors.
- Be aware of uneven surfaces.
- Wear sturdy, well-fitting shoes.

## Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

- 1. <u>Fireworks</u>: Pierce asked if there were any fireworks-related fires in the area. Firefighter Chun responded that the statistics show that there were 0 structure fires, one (1) wildland/brush fire, and one (1) nuisance fire in Makakilo; 0 structure fires, four (4) wildland/brush fires, and three (3) nuisance fires in Kapolei; and 0 structure fires, (1) wildland/brush fire, and 0 nuisance fires.
- 2. <u>Death</u>: Chair Souza asked and Firefighter Chun responded that HFD is unable to respond to inquiries regarding the recent incident in the Campbell Industrial area but provided a phone number to access fire reports which is 723-7208.

<u>Honoulu Police Department (HPD)</u> – Lieutenant Farrel Sojot reported the following: <u>Crime Statistics</u>: There were 43 motor vehicle thefts, 41 burglaries, 189 thefts, 48 unauthorized entry into motor vehicles (UEMV), and 8,121 total calls for service.

Questions, comments, and concerns that followed: <u>Appreciation</u>: Pierce thanked Officer Ross for the work he has done in the Upper Makakilo area especially in regards to arrests concerning graffiti.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) - Rian Adachi provided the 2017 BWS calendars and reported the following:

- Water Main Breaks: There were no main breaks to report.
- 2017 Water Conservation Calendar and Water Conservation Contest: The BWS is excited to launch its' 39th annual Water Conservation Week Poster Contest and 9th annual Poetry Contest. For 2017, the contest theme, "Conserve to Preserve," invites Oahu students to creatively express the importance of conserving water now to preserve our water supply for the future. The poster contest is open to Oahu students in grades kindergarten through six (6). The poetry contest is open to Oahu students in grades seven (7) to twelve. The deadline to enter these contests is Wednesday, March 1, 2017.
- New Year's Resolution to Save Water: The New Year is a time of reflection and represents an opportunity to commit to positive changes in our lifestyles. For water saving tips or to watch a video showing how to check for leaks, visit <a href="https://www.boardofwatersupply.com">www.boardofwatersupply.com</a>.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: <u>Contamination</u>: Chair Souza asked and Adachi responded that a private lab will check if water within the home is contaminated. BWS is responsible for the water up to the water meter and assures that it is safe through multiple quality checks.

### **BOARD BUSINESS**

<u>APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 7, 2016 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES</u> – The board moved to approve the **December 7, 2016 minutes as written. The motion was APPROVED, 5-1-0. (AYE:** Capelouto, Legal, Pierce, Souza, and Wond; **NAY:** Spreg; **ABSTAIN:** None).

Board Member Madix arrived to the meeting at 7:13 p.m. Seven (7) members were present.

Hawaii State Department of Public Safety (PSD) Relocation of the Oahu Community Correctional Center (OCCC)—Lloyd Yonenaka, with Communications Pacific, noted that display boards and material were provided for the community during the informal open house held before the neighborhood board meeting and introduced Tessi Fernandez with PSD, Joe Earing with the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS), Tom Rudary and Bettina Mehner with Architects Hawaii, and Bob Nardi with Louis Berger Group. Rudary and Nardi reported the following:

- <u>Process</u>: The team has presented to other Neighborhood Boards and will be creating a short-list of sites which will be presented to the State Legislature.
- <u>Background</u>: OCCC is the largest jail facility in the DPS system and has been at its current location for 40 years or more. Nardi noted that he has been a part of siting and developing every federal prison in the country for the last 30 years
- <u>Outdated</u>: OCCC is outdated, costly to run, costly to maintain, overcrowded, and overdue for modernization.
- <u>Update</u>: The criteria covered proximity, land environment, community acceptance, development costs, infrastructure, and other community services. All locations were submitted willingly by the owners. 11 sites are currently a part of the inventory. The inventory will be whittled down and screened for major flaws before presenting a more manageable list. The sites vary in size and location. Each site presents challenges and possibilities. The scoring of each of the sites and the process undergone by the team will be made public in a couple of weeks and that the full report will be delivered to the State Legislature. The environmental impact statement (EIS) process will likely last four (4) to six (6) months. Nardi noted that various booklets are available at the meeting to answer various questions and concerns that were previously brought up.

Board Member Wond arrived to the meeting at 7:33 p.m. Eight (8) members were present.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. <u>Airport</u>: Legal asked and Nardi responded that the federal prison building looked at 20-30 lots in the downtown area that are now fully developed. The federal prison area was justified through federal and state partnerships. Currently the property surrounding the airport is coveted by the airport as they have a need for more space. Nardi noted that the team will look into the option but that all property along Lagoon Drive have height and noise limitations. Rudary clarified that options may still be brought forth even after the short list is presented to the Legislature.

- 2. <u>Halawa Site</u>: Legal asked and Rudary noted that the Legislature mandated that the team look for a new site for the new jail but that the team is open to alternative idea. Rudary stated that if the chosen option is to move OCCC to Halawa it would be maybe 15 years until a new prison can be built to refit the Halawa prison. Nardi stated that PSD has made the return of out-of-state prisoners a priority and that all documentation can be found at <a href="http://dps.hawaii.gov/about/divisions/corrections/occc/">http://dps.hawaii.gov/about/divisions/corrections/occc/</a>.
- 3. <u>Varona Village</u>: Capelouto requested for Varona Village to be included on the stakeholder's contact list. Nardi asked requested contact information of anyone who may be interested in the project. Capelouto will follow up but noted that Steve Vendt of the Hawaiian Railway Society and the Barbers Point Riding Stables should be contacted. Nardi noted that there are 500 names on the contact list.
- 4. <u>Board's Expectation</u>: Capelouto asked and Nardi answered that each board will respond differently in regards to their support, opposition, or concerns of the projected sites, but that a response is requested soon. Nardi noted that the board could choose to write individual letters or make a suggestions as a board. Capelouto asked and Nardi responded that PSD and the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) will deliver the report to the Legislature on Wednesday, February 1, 2017 as mandated. Capelouto noted that a special meeting may be necessary.
- 5. <u>Population</u>: Capelouto asked and Rudary responded that the population forecast is ongoing, but that the team is looking at a possible capacity of 955 individuals with an additional pre-release function of 392. Capelouto noted that the current facility's design capacity is 954 individuals but currently houses 1200 inmates with almost 200 additional inmates being housed at the federal detention center that should be at the OCCC.
- 6. <u>Release</u>: Wond asked about the inmate release process. Nardi responded that there are gradual releases and transitional releases but that inmates will not be simply released into the surrounding community. Wond asked about the release of homeless and Nardi responded that the current policy held between OCCC and the Judiciary will be upheld, but that there is hope that there will be legislation in the future that will address recidivism and to help divert the population out of prison and jails.
- 7. <u>Contract</u>: Legal asked and Nardi answered that the current contract does not include design and construction. Nardi clarified that the technical studies, public outreach, Els, and various other tasks is what the current team is contracted for and that it does not expire on February 1, 2017.
- 8. <u>Expiration</u>: Legal asked and Nardi responded that the cancellation of the contract is unlikely due to the necessity of updating OCCC but that other sites outside of the short list may be included after it is delivered to the Legislature.
- 9. Worst Case: Madix asked and Nardi responded that a worst case scenario is trying to be avoided. Nardi noted that there are various cities that have constructed modern jail facilities that coexist with their surroundings. Nardi explained that perceived images of searchlights is not plan for the new OCCC. Nardi noted that there will be 500 law enforcement workers for the new facility.
- 10. <u>Transportation</u>: Madix asked and Nardi confirmed that transportation of inmates occurs during the day unless a medical emergency occurs in the evenings.
- 11. <u>Operations</u>: Wond asked about the operations within the facility. Nardi responded that if any of the sites within the area are chosen then the team will return with individuals who can address questions regarding operations.
- 12. <u>Data</u>: Capelouto asked and Nardi answered that entire report with the point scoring data and siting study will be made public. Nardi explained that the PSD will make the shortlist. Capelouto asked about the community response scoring scheme and Nardi explained that the score will reflect the opinions from all sources that have been or will be received.
- 13. Opposition: Chair Souza noted opposition to having the OCCC relocated to any of the proposed locations and questioned why Representative Takayama's suggestion has not been given full consideration. Nardi stated that meetings have been held with all the area Representatives. Rudary clarified that all 11 sites were presented without judgment or bias and that Representative Takayama's suggestion is being considered. Chair Souza stated that there is no infrastructure at any of the five (5) Kalaeloa sites and voiced various concerns with relocating OCCC in the area.
- 14. <u>John Bond</u>: Resident John Bond voiced concerns with the work furlough program and that an EIS is usually done for one (1) property at a time. Bond also noted possible overpopulation at the new OCCC.
- 15. <u>Laumaka</u>: Resident Mike Freitas asked if Laumaka will also be relocated with OCCC. Freitas voiced concern with statistics that show 30% of OCCC inmates in 2014 were homeless. Freitas noted that nothing within Barber's Point follows City standards.
- 16. <u>Vanderveer</u>: Resident Valerie Vanderveer asked for clarification on a previous statement regarding height restrictions and who provided the sites. Vanderveer also noted that the Ewa Beach Neighborhood Board No. 23 was not involved in the process. Nardi responded that all five (5) Kalealoa sites are large enough to allow for a low-rise campus-style facility. Nardi also clarified that the sites were brought forth voluntarily by the responsible property owners or agencies to fill the site inventory. Nardi noted that there have been no

- written agreements or commitments made by the property owners. Chair Souza noted that Representative Takayama's suggestion for a vertical facility means that the facility should not be built in Kalaeloa.
- 17. Officials: Chair Souza asked and Nardi responded that Senator Gabbard has voiced some reservations to relocating OCCC in the area. Nardi responded that a meeting was held with Representative Har's staff. Nardi stated that there have been many meetings held with various elected officials. Fernandez reported that letters were submitted to PSD from Representatives Ty Cullen and Sharon Har opposing the relocation of OCCC to Kalaeloa. Chair Souza asked Nardi responded that he could not recall any of the area legislators supporting the relocation of OCCC to the area.
- 18. <u>Sites</u>: Resident Frank Genadio asked and Chair Souza that the Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL) and the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) were asked to be present at the meeting. Nardi explained that the team had requested input from various agencies and organizations to volunteer sites for the relocation of OCCC. Nardi explained that the Navy provided the property that is slated for disposal but it is not guaranteed to fall to the State for use.
- 19. <u>Opposition</u>: Multiple residents voiced opposition to having OCCC in the area. Various residents do agree that a new facility needs to be built in Hawaii.
- 20. <u>Possibility</u>: Resident David Roy noted that a correctional facility may be part of being considered a metropolitan city. Legal suggested that a cultural center within the area could be packaged with the relocation of OCCC.
- 21. <u>Clarifications</u>: Resident Cynthia Spencer noted that it should be a negative attribute to be close to a growing city, that it may be less expensive to utilize State Lands, requested a cost analysis within the short list report, noted that the property in Kapolei has "higher and better" use, feels that there should be more weight appointed to societal attributes on the criteria list, and asked how long it would take to build it. Rudary explained that the timeline for completion would depend on financing and the delivery method of the project but that six (6) to seven (7) years is a realistic goal.
- 22. <u>Legislature</u>: Chair Souza asked and Nardi responded that the full report will be provided by PSD to each legislator on Wednesday, February 1, 2017. Fernandez announced that a joint informational briefing with the House and Senate's respective Public Safety Committees will be held on Thursday, February 2, 2017.
- 23. <u>EIS</u>: Bond asked and Nardi responded that doing an EIS on multiple sites is very common. Nardi noted that the process for the Hawaii Island courthouse required an EIS for seven (7) possible sites. Chair Souza asked and Nardi responded that the EIS process for the relocation project should be completed in 2017.

## BM Wond departed the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Six (6) members were present.

24. <u>Population Forecast</u>: Spencer asked and Rudary explained that population forecasting shows expectations of a 2% decrease with the pre-release population increasing 3%. The female population will also be moved out to the Women's Community Correctional Center (WCCC). Rudary stated that the population forecast will likely be redone a few more times before the end of the project.

Capelouto moved and Legal seconded that the Makakilo/Kapolei/Honokai Hale Neighborhood No. 34 oppose the relocation of the OCCC to any of the five (5) Kalaeloa site based on the February, 1, 2017 reporting deadline.

## Discussion followed:

- <u>Timing</u>: Capelouto noted that there is not enough time to fully discuss the issues by Wednesday, February 1, 2017.
- <u>Parcel 6A-7</u>: Pierce stated possible support for the relocation of OCCC to parcel 6A-07 dependent on future information.
- Opposition: Madix noted opposition to the motion due to a possible misunderstanding of the process. Nardi explained that the 11 sites will all be scored and presented to PSD who will make recommendations to the Legislature. The sites that are chosen from the 11 will move into the EIS process.
- Scoring: Chair Souza asked and Nardi answered that a specific score could not be reported at the moment but a general sense of the board's and community's opinions have been noted as well as everyone who has submitted their opinion.
- <u>Possibility</u>: Capelouto asked and Nardi responded that there is no chance that only the five (5) Kalaeloa sites will be selected for the short list and that the current OCCC site must be a part of the next round.
- <u>Timeline</u>: Legal asked and Capelouto responded that the action is based on the timeline for the report to be made public.

The motion FAILED, 3-3-0. (AYE: Capelouto, Legal, and Souza; NAY: Madix, Pierce, and Spreg; ABSTAIN: None).

<u>Update on the Hawaiian Railway Society</u> – Steve Vendt reported that a meeting was held on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 to discuss the Programmatic Agreement which sets up levels for allowing the crossing the historic right-of-way. The Hawaiian Railway Society was initially in favor of the agreement until receiving a letter. Concerns were raised with language regarding the "integrity of the railway". The Department of Transportation (HDOT) Deputy Director Ed Sniffen stated that it would no longer be an issue but no written commitment has been provided. Currently a petition is being circulated via <a href="www.change.org">www.change.org</a> regarding encroachment into the Hawaiian Railway Society's property. The North-South Road issue has yet to be decided and is claimed to be in the environmental assessment (EA) phase. There are about 720 signatures on the petition currently.

#### Chair Souza handed the gavel to Vice Chair Legal at 8:55 p.m.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

- 1. North-South Road: Capelouto asked and Vendt responded that HDOT stated that the January 18, 2016 meeting was specifically for the Programmatic Agreement and that questions which concerned the North-South Road issue was not addressed. Vendt noted that if the North-South Road project moves forward then a public notice will be made.
- 2. <u>Programmatic Agreement</u>: Capelouto asked and Vendt responded that Hawaiian Railway Society was in favor of the agreement prior to receiving the letter with the "integrity to the right of way" concerns. Vendt noted that there are no integrity levels in regards to the national register. After voicing opposition to the "high integrity" language, HDOT removed it from the presentation. Capelouto asked and Vendt clarified that the Programmatic Agreement was brought up in the past to address the different levels to the right of way. The next level would be something above the right of way that would not impact it a great deal and the highest level would be at-grade crossing of the tracks and would require the full federal 106 process.

# Vice Chair Legal returned the gavel to Chair Souza at 8:59 p.m.

- 3. <u>106 Process</u>: Madix asked and Vendt answered that the previous crossing did undergo a shortened 106 process. The deed was found in 2013 to explain in more detail what must be done before moving forward in the area
- 4. <u>Preference</u>: Chair Souza asked and Vendt responded that he would like the current rules to be abided by and that no more crossing occur. Chair Souza asked and Vendt responded that the Kualaka'i Parkway crossing would be six (6) lanes wide and would put the Hawaiian Railway Society out of business. Chair Souza asked and Vendt responded that an overpass is an option.
- 5. <u>Underneath</u>: Capelouto asked and Vendt responded that the water table may be too high to cross underneath.
- 6. <u>Wakea Street</u>: Bond noted another possible crossing at Wakea Street. Bond noted that plans seem to be leaning towards connecting the road to the upcoming Haseko development project and requested the presence of HCDA at the board meetings.
- 7. <u>Crossing</u>: Resident Valerie Vanderveer and various other residents noted concerns with where a six (6) lane road would be going.
- 8. Importance: Multiple residents noted the importance of the railway's historical value.
- 9. Parkway Split: Genadio asked if Kualaka'i Parkway were split into two (2) three (3)-lane portions, at grade, would it still put the Railway Society out of business. Vendt responded that it would depend on where they locate the road.

<u>Update on West-Leeward-Central Oahu Traffic Mitigation Joint-Special Meeting at Kapolei Hale</u> – Capelouto stated that the meeting was held on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 and reported the following.

- <u>Attendance</u>: 11 other Neighborhood Boards were invited and representatives from five (5) attended. The Chair of the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO) Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) and a representative Councilmember Brandon Elefante's also attended.
- Minutes: The minutes are still in draft form.
- <u>Topics</u>: Traffic, Oahu's population, H3 costs (\$1.3 billion) in comparison to the current rail project costs (estimated around \$8.5 billion), and traffic impact on military and shipyard workers was discussed at the meeting. Rodney Boucher from the Ewa Neighborhood Board No. 23 gave a presentation on the evacuation process.
- <u>Population</u>: A question regarding how realistic the amount of homes in the Ewa Neighborhood Plan was raised. 2010 census data shows that there is a population growth of 1.1% per year. From that the question then became whether the Department of Permitting and Planning (DPP) had used a reasonable growth factor when creating the Ewa Neighborhood Plan. Capelouto noted that it was reported that Oahu's growth

is 32,000 per decade. Concerns were raised about putting possible limits on resources within the State and if the maximum capacity of residents has already been reached for Oahu.

- <u>H1/H2 Merge</u>: The traffic issues could be seen as a determinant of the maximum capacity that the current infrastructure is able to withstand. After including the two (2) zipper lanes as well as the rail's projected capacity, the total is still short about 30,000 vehicles per hour. Statistics show that 62% of the traffic at the H1/H2 merge is from the Leeward area. Dr. Panos Prevedouros believes that the rail ridership numbers are overly optimistic when New York, Chicago, Washington D.C., and San Francisco are the only cities of the top 50 populated cities with ridership above 5%. Honolulu does not qualify as a one of the top 50 most populated cities.
- <u>H4</u>: The Chair of the Pearl City Neighborhood Board No. 21 proposed the construction of an H4 that would run from Waianae through Central Oahu into Iroquois Point and through a tunnel that will run under Pearl Harbor into Honolulu. 90% federal funding is the goal for the project.

<u>Update on Important Agricultural Land</u> – Chair Souza reported that Vice Chair Dudley was feeling ill and would not be able to make the report so the issue would be deferred to the next meeting.

<u>COMMUNITY CONCERNS</u> – <u>Kapolei Public Library</u>: Librarian Elizabeth Stewart-Marshal reported that the library's parking lot belongs to the library and is clearly signed for the use of patrons of the library. Stewart-Marshal noted that there have been increased use by non-patrons in the past year and has become a safety issue due to unsafe and disrespectful drivers. Stewart-Marshal noted that the signs were created and posted to deter parking by non-patrons.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

- 1. <u>Signs</u>: Capelouto urged the signs be made a little bigger and visible. Capelouto suggested a possible driveby drop-off mail box at the nearby post office to help alleviate some possible parking issues in the area.
- 2. <u>Lots</u>: Stewart-Marshal stated that the area is getting more populated and that a municipal parking lot in the area should be considered as a suggestion from the Neighborhood Board.
- 3. Parking Issues: Madix asked if overnight parking is an issue. Stewart-Marshal noted that the gates help deter overnight parking, but there are issues with all-day parking. Madix asked and Stewart-Marshal responded that the library does not wish tow vehicles and would rather have the community understand that they are not allowed to park there unless using the library. Legal asked and Stewart-Marshal responded that there are about 100 parking spaces. Legal suggested possible implementing a system that utilizes the library card as an access card to the parking lot.

<u>TREASURER'S REPORT</u> – Treasurer Madix reported a monthly expenditure of \$31.62 and a remaining balance of \$161.94. Legal urged the Neighborhood Commission Office reimburse Capelouto for the signage.

## MONTHLY REPORTS

<u>Mayor Kirk Caldwell</u> – No representative was present; a report was provided.

<u>Councilmember Kymberly Pine</u> – No representative was present; a report was provided.

<u>Governor David Ige's Representative</u> – Chairperson for Department of Agriculture (DOA), Scot Enright reported that he will relay the feelings of the board in regards to the relocation of OCCC.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: <u>Tax</u>: Spreg thanked Chairman Enright for removing the banners that were discussed at the last meeting. Spreg urged that the proposed tax extension be denied.

Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transit (HART) – Pat Lee reported the following:

- Extension: HART and the City and County of Honolulu will be seeking an extension of the half percent general excise tax (GET) surcharge from the State Legislature to obtain more funds to complete the 20-mile, 21 station rail project. Due to projected increases in construction costs, an extension of the GET is needed to finish the full project as planned, which would include the City Center segment, which are all of the stations in Kalihi past Middle Street as well as the guideway and stations through Kakaako to Ala Moana Center.
- <u>Progress</u>: About 11 miles of guideway is completed, and tracks are being installed from Aloha Stadium to
  East Kapolei. The test tracks at the Rail Operations Center (ROC) should be energized soon, and this will
  be followed by train testing up on the guideway. The trains will be tested at nights and on weekends.
  Testing includes verification of all safety features of the signaling system, starting and stopping at various

station locations, keeping proper speed and schedule, and stopping at the correct spot at the stations where the platform passenger safety gates open and close for boarding. Following the train qualification testing, HART will perform the signaling system integrated qualification testing. This will verify the overspeed protection and other safety features of the signaling system. Once the preliminary testing is completed the train will progress into automated operations testing. HDOT and the Federal Transit Authority (FTA) would certify the Honolulu rail transit system as the first fully automated, driverless system built in the US.

<u>Information</u>: For general project information, traffic updates, meeting notices and more information, please
visit the website <u>www.honolulutransit.org</u> call the project hotline at 566-2299 or email a question at
info@honolulutransit.org.

### Questions, comment, and concerns followed:

- 1. Tax: Spreg reiterated opposition to the extension of the general excise tax (GET) for rail.
- 2. Shims: Capelouto asked and Lee answered that the shims were replaced at no cost to HART or taxpayers as it is a materials warranty item. Chair Souza asked who is in charge of quality control for the rail parts. Lee will follow up. Chair Souza asked and Lee responded that the shims did not meet contract specifications. Chair Souza voiced concerns with the number of shims found faulty. Bond voiced concerns with the use of plastic shims. Lee responded that the use of shims was chosen due to the design/build contract.

Senator Mike Gabbard - Meg Turner highlighted a newsletter and reported the following:

- <u>2017 Session</u>: The 2017 Legislative Session has begun and will conclude on Thursday, May 4, 2017. The Senator's current term of office will conclude in 2020.
- <u>Committees</u>: Senator Gabbard will Chair the Agriculture and Environment Committee, Vice Chair the Senate Water and Land Committee, and continue to serve on the Judiciary and Labor Committee.
- <u>Focus</u>: Senator Gabbard will focus on local food production, land and ocean conservation, fighting invasive species, and addressing renewable energy within the State. An informational briefing on the Governor's Sustainable Hawaii Initiative Goals will be held on Thursday, January 26, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the State Capital in room 325.
- Listen Story: The next Listen Story will be held on Saturday, January 28, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

<u>Representative Sharon Har</u> – Wendee Wilson reported that both Representative Har and Representative Cullen were unable to attend the night's meeting due to the bill introduction deadline and was available for questions.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: <u>Tax</u>: Spreg reiterated opposition to the GET tax extension.

<u>Senator Maile Shimabukuro</u> – Geanine Gomes reported that Senator Shimabukuro is neutral on all projected sites for the relocation of OCCC and will be deferring to Senator Gabbard in regards to the fitness of the Kalaeloa parcels.

Representative Andria Tupola – Mahealani Kahala distributed a newsletter and reported that the questions regarding the release of inmates will be followed up and that Representative Tupola opposes the relocation of OCCC to any of the five (5) Kalaeloa sites.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Next Meeting – The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at Kapolei Hale Conference Room A at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Submitted by: Relley Araceley, Public Relations Assistant Reviewed by: Brittany Yadao, Neighborhood Assistant I