**REGULAR MEETING DRAFT MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2023 7:00 P.M. VIRTUAL VIA WEBEX AND IN PERSON AT KAPĀLAMA HALE**

[00:00:00] CALL TO ORDER: Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. **Quorum was established with 10 members present.** (Note - This 15-member Board requires eight (8) members to establish quorum and to take official Board action.)

Board Members Present- Mason Aiona, Adrienne Dillard, Paula Kurashige, Kathy Grebe, Patrick Smith, Roberta Chun (logged on 7:27 p.m.), Kahelekaapuni Asaivao, Meghan Kenney (logged on 7:02 p.m.), Audrey Hidano, Roberta Marks and Raenette Gee, and Phillip Soon.

Board Members Absent - Sylvia Young and Michael Lum

Guests– Lieutenant Arnold Sagucio - District 1, Sergeant Yamashita - District 5 (Honolulu Police Department-HPD), Iris Oda (Board of Water Supply-BWS); Director Kim Hashiro, Customer Services Department-CSD (Mayor Rick Blangiardi’s Representative); Councilmember Tyler Dos Santos-Tam, Lisa Leonardo (Councilmember Tyler Dos Santos-Tam’s office); William Nhieu (Governor Josh Green’s Representative); Sydney Warren (Senator Karl Rhoads’s office); Representative Jenna Takenouchi; Sterling Higa, Puni Kekauoha, Ronald Higa, Pat Taira, Robert Quartero, and Gary Kikuchi, (residents and guests), Zhoydell Magaoay (Neighborhood Commission Office-NCO). **Total of 28 participants.**

CITY MONTHLY REPORTS

[00:00:08] Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – No representative present. Report was submitted.

February 2023 Statistics – There was one (1) nuisance fires, two (2) activated alarms (no fire), 61 medical emergencies, three (3) motor vehicle crash/collisions, two (2) mountain rescues, and one (1) hazardous materials incident. For questions, please email their Public Information Office at [HFDRFI@honolulu.gov](mailto:HFDRFI@honolulu.gov).

Safety Tip: Smoke Alarm –HFD highly recommends Installing smoke alarms inside each bedroom and outside the sleeping areas (hallways) and on every level of the home (including basement). Keep smoke alarms away from the kitchen or bathroom to reduce false alarms. Test all smoke alarms once a month. Press the test button to ensure the alarm is working. Dust or vacuum smoke alarms frequently to eliminate dust, debris, and insects that may cause false alarms. Replace smoke alarm unit every ten years, or sooner if they do not respond properly. Visit <https://fire.honolulu.gov/> to learn more.

**Member Kenney logged on at 7:02 p.m. There are 11 members present.**

[00:00:23] Honolulu Police Department (HPD), District 1 – Lieutenant Sagucio reported.

February 2023 Statistics: There were five (5) motor vehicle thefts, nine (9) burglaries, five (5) thefts, and eight (8) Unauthorized Entries into Motor Vehicles (UEMV). There were 600 total calls for service. For more information you can visit [www.honolulupd.org](http://www.honolulupd.org). For the month of February 2023 there was a 50% decrease in thefts for the area. Lieutenant Sagucio noted no catalytic convertor theft reported. Lieutenant Sagucio also noted HPD still receiving fireworks violations in Pauoa Valley, Lusitana Street, and Kanealii Avenue areas. Officers will continue to patrol the areas. Lieutenant Sagucio noted he assisted a female Officer administer two (2) doses of NARCAN to an individual that had signs of opioid related overdosed and obviously in need of help. Lieutenant Sagucio also noted the individual recovered at the scene and was taken to an area hospital as a precaution.

Safety Tip – Pedestrian Safety: Lieutenant Sagucio noted the roadways for the past month of February has been extremely dangerous, highlighted by the tragedy that occurred at the intersection of Kamakee Street and Kapiolani Boulevard. Lieutenant Sagucio also noted raised crosswalk or speed hump will be installed at the intersection to get drivers to slow down for pedestrians. Lieutenant Sagucio further noted pedestrians should be very attentive when crossing or anytime stepping onto the roadway.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Raised Crosswalks: Aiona suggested to have more raised crosswalks similar to the ones on Kalihi Street between Dillingham Boulevard and North King Street because it does make a difference. Lieutenant Sagucio noted there are criteria in regards to the installation of raised crosswalks or speed humps. Kurashige noted she was called to speak about the raised crosswalk for Kapiolani Boulevard and believed the raised crosswalk at the location would not have helped the situation since the man was going too fast.
2. Mental Illness: Soon raised concern regarding an individual who is obviously struggling with mental illness, walking aimlessly up and down Lusitana Street yelling absurdities, swearing not directing at anything or anybody in particular, and spitting on people. Soon asked and Lieutenant Sagucio suggested to contact HPD and have the Officers deal with the situation at that location. Lieutenant Sagucio noted in regards to someone that is spitting or in a situation where it can provoke a violent response is considered harassment and is an arrestable offense. Lieutenant Sagucio further noted for someone with mental illness or lacking faculties a different technique is used and consider taking the person in to Mental Health One for observation at Queens Hospital.
3. Signs: Kurashige asked and Lieutenant Sagucio noted he will take the request to his Command regarding the interest in putting up Neighborhood Security Watch signs.
4. Inhibitors: Kurashige asked and Lieutenant Sagucio noted the Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) is responsible for installing inhibitors around school areas.
5. Domestic Violence: Kama asked and Lieutenant Sagucio noted the vulnerable victim need to take the first step and generate a restraining order in regards to protecting themselves and anytime a domestic violence is occurring to contact police to do an investigation. Lieutenant Sagucio also noted Officers do not necessarily need a complainant in domestic violence situations and Officers can make an arrest off of the totality of the circumstances in regards to the probable cause that a domestic violence situation had occurred. Lieutenant Sagucio noted the victim need to follow through with the court proceedings and generate a temporary restraining order (TRO) to keep the abusive person away.
6. Police Report:  Community member Robert Quartero requested for HPD to include the location of the collisions when giving reports of motor vehicle collisions and reports of motor vehicle collisions involving pedestrians so the board can monitor the areas that might be of high danger and when possible, have Department of Transportation (DTS) or HDOT make any arrangements to improve the conditions of where collisions occur.  Quartero noted a recent head on collision on Lusitania Street and San Antonio Avenue where a request to DTS was made to investigate the area at night and DTS concluded that the area was not lit as well as it could be.  The street lights were changed and DTS notified residents in the area to trim the trees, the trees were trimmed, and the intersection have since improved.

[00:19:36] Honolulu Police Department (HPD), District 5 – Sergeant Yamashita reported.

February 2023 Statistics – There were three (3) burglaries, eight (8) general thefts, and 13 UEMVs. There were 866 total calls for service.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Graffiti: Kurashige raised concerns regarding occasional graffiti on a bus stop on Wood Street. Sergeant Yamashita will reach out to the Community Policing Team to patrol the area.

[00:23:45] Neighborhood Security Watch/Community Policing (NSW/CP) Report – Kurashige announced to anyone wanting to join the Neighborhood Security Watch to contact Matt Tinay at 1-808-382-2789. Kurashige noted the NSW/CP is going to interview people that want to be on the NSW/CP as to how they do and follow their precautions as to their safety for everything that goes on with the NSW/CP. Kurashige also noted the NSW/CP have not had any meeting in the area because of no place to meet.

**Member Chun logged on at 7:27 p.m. There are 12 members present.**

[00:27:05] Board of Water Supply (BWS) – Iris Oda noted BWS and participating City agencies are observing “World Water Day” on Wednesday, March 22, 2023. The theme this year is “accelerating change.” Oda reported follow-up responses to questions raised at the last meeting and was available for questions.

Follow up from February 2023:

* Oda noted the contract was awarded on Wednesday, March 15, 2023 for the Puiwa Road and Dowsett Avenue water system improvement project and currently pending signatures. Notice to proceed is anticipated 200 calendar days after execution which is around January 2024 or February 2024, so construction would probably not start till the end of 2024. Oda noted materials can arrive earlier, however it is hard to determine due to the national shortage of supplies.

Questions, comments, concerns followed. Heavy Equipment: Kurashige asked and Oda responded the roadway is designed at a certain way to handle a certain load. Oda will provide a response at the next meeting regarding lighter equipment going to Nuuanu for main break repairs. Resident Taira noted contractors with the state or agencies are bringing heavy equipment onto Dowsett Avenue, Alika Avenue, and Wood Street and use the streets to turn their vehicles around. Taira asked can the residential streets handle an 51,875 pounds operating weight of equipment. Taira noted it is a coincidence that all of the water main breaks are happening where the heavy equipment are turning around. Taira also noted it is inconvenient for seniors to be walking to the water wagon and hauling buckets of water back to their homes. Taira asked for the heavy equipment be monitored and stopped. Oda responded that she will not going to be able to answer the question because BWS cannot control what the State or other agencies coming to the streets.

[00:33:21] FILLING OF SUBDISTRICT 1 (PUNCHBOWL) VACANCY: No one stood for one (1) Subdistrict 1 vacancy.

[00:33:46] RESIDENTS AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS

1. Stay Movement Pledge: Sterling Higa reported that one of the projects that they are working on this year is the Stay Movement pledge in support of workforce housing. Higa noted 1,500 people signed on to the statement in support of workforce housing and hoping others will join them. The Stay Movement pledge is a pledge to get educated, to get involved, and to advocate for meeting the workforce housing needs of the community. More information can be found at [www.staymovement.org](http://www.staymovement.org). The goal is to have 5,000 people sign on in support by the end of this year so they can send a message to policy makers that the need to have middle class housing so that young families are able to start their careers and their families here in Hawaii.
2. Stream Laws:  Kurashige asked for the rationale  to  having more and more laws about cleaning the streams in the area.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

[00:37:15] Mayor Rick Blangiardi’s Representative – No representative present. A memo with updates to a number of issues that were brought up from last meeting was provided and can be found at [www.nb12.org](http://www.nb12.org).

Questions, comments, and concerns followed. Town Hall Meetings:  Member Kurashige raised concerns that the Nuuanu area was not included in the Mayor’s Town Hall meetings and the residents were recommended to attend the meeting at Kalakaua Middle School.  Kurashige is requesting for a Town Hall meeting closer to Nuuanu because many of the residents would want to go to the meetings.

[00:39:05] Councilmember Tyler Dos Santos-Tam – Liza Leonardo noted Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam’s newsletter can be found at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1o8bIOcaFVASOhMRCku_xdukZZO-kok9F/view?usp=sharing>. Leonardo provided follow up responses to questions raised at the last meeting and was available for questions.

Follow up from February:

* Light Emitting Diode (LED) Lights: Leonardo requested for Member Chun to contact Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam’s office at 808-768-5072.
* Road Lane Width: Leonardo noted all roads of 18 feet or less are by ordinance 15 miles per hour (mph) automatically, all roads that do not have another speed limit are automatically 25 mph. Leonardo also noted the City additionally may set speeds of 10, 30, 35, 45, 50, 55, and 65 mph and there are factors that may be considered when establishing or reevaluating speed limits such as road characteristics, shoulder condition, alignment, sight distance, the pace, roadside development and environment, etc.
* Sewer Update: Leonardo noted a Request for Investigation and Service Report (RISR) has been submitted requesting a status update on Project #2000071 for sewer, mainline installation on the 2100 block of Puowaina Drive.
* Monster Homes: Leonardo noted a Conditional Use Permit Minor, # 2021/CUP-18, was issued in 2021 for the joint development of two lots at 3300 Kamaaina Place. Leonardo also noted three (3) building permits have been issued, and five (5) applications were submitted and of those five (5) applications, one (1) was cancelled so there are four (4) active applications for building permits. Information on Puu Paka Drive or “Dowsett Estates” building permits can be found at <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1SQC2mdiqzJCr3TYovWt9QVSG3dSRunuD?usp=share_link>.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed.

1. Road Lane Width: Chun asked for the minimum lane width on primary streets for speed limits of 25 mph, 30 mph, and 35 mph. Chun also asked for the minimum lane width on secondary streets where a bus does not go on which the speed limit is generally 25 mph. Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam noted the only specific width that triggers a specific speed is when the roadway is 18 feet wide or less in which case it is automatically 15 mph and for all the other roads, it depends on sort of the road conditions. Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam also noted the federal standards in the Manual Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) also does not have specific standards because in different towns, villages, and cities around the country have different roadway standards. Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam further noted there is no specific answer to Chun’s questions other than for roads, 18 feet wide or less it is 15 mph and the other roads are up to the traffic conditions but the default speed is 25 mph. For more information on Speed Limit Ordinances can be found at <https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/honolulu/latest/honolulu/0-0-0-11023>.
2. Light Emitting Diode (LED) Lights: Chun asked for a study to reassess the distance between the light polls. Chun noted the light comes out brighter on the roadway but on the sidewalk have dark spots now so people, pedestrians are even falling on the street because of the dark spots. Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam noted the some of the LED lights are adjustable. If there is specific street where residents feel that the cone should be made broader to cover a broader part of the sidewalk to contact Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam’s office. Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam also noted the challenge in some areas is the cone ends up going into somebody’s house and ask to narrow the cone.
3. Notice:  Gee requested for the film industry to inform residents a week in advance, if possible, because of roadways blocked and lot of heavy trucks was in the Nuuanu area for three days inconveniencing the residents with just a few days’ notice before filming. Chun expressed support of the one week notice because if somebody has a doctor’s appointment or HandiVan cannot come in.
4. Monster Homes Permit Notice: Chair Smith asked and Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam responded that his office receives weekly report on all the permits that are created and issued within his district. Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam will check with Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) whether the report is public information, which he thinks it is. Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam would like to have a running list that he can share with the neighborhood board districts.
5. Town Hall Meeting: Aiona requested to have more Town Hall meetings in the district for neighbors come in and share their concerns with lawmakers in their district. Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam noted he is currently working out the details with other lawmakers in the district for another Town Hall meeting sometime after the Legislative session.
6. Streams Law: Kurashige requested for all the laws regarding streams to be printed out in the minutes. Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam will develop a cheat sheet when it comes to streams and all the relevant ordinances and will provide the information at the next meeting.

[01:01:43] Governor Josh Green’s Representative – William Nhieu highlighted Governor Green’s priorities which are to provide economic relief and restore hope to the people of Hawaii, prioritize the health and well-being of the Sate, and to preserve the islands for future generations. Nhieu provided hard copies of the Governor’s Ke Ala Hou Newsletter which can also be found online <https://governor.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Ke-Ala-Hou-Newsletter-March-2023-WebPrint.pdf>. Nhieu provided follow up responses to questions raised at the last meeting and was available for questions.

Follow up from February:

* Rock Fall Mitigation: Nhieu noted the slope between Pali Highway and Pacific Heights Road extending north towards Wylie Street is not ranked in the Department of Transportation (HDOT) top 10 rock fall mitigation plans, however HDOT is assessing the area and considering mitigation measures in the future. Nhieu also noted that two (2) areas on the Pali Highway are on the list. Nhieu further noted HDOT programmed eight (8) rock fall projects as part of the statewide transportation improvement program at a cost of roughly $33 Million.
* School Locator: Nhieu noted he needed more information. Kurashige requested visible signage to let people know that children are walking to Nuuanu Elementary School so speed limits are enforced.

[01:08:27] Senator Karl Rhoads – Sydney Warren noted the Red-Light Safety Program is in effect on Vineyard Boulevard from Palama Street to Pali Highway and the intersections of Likelike Highway and School Street and the intersection of Kapiolani Boulevard and Kamakee Street are under construction. Warren also noted Senator Rhoads is encouraging the community to get their shots, boosters and continue to wear mask inside even where you do not have to. For questions or concerns to contact Senator Rhoads’s office at 808-586-6130 or email at [senrhoads@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senrhoads@capitol.hawaii.gov). Warren noted Senator Rhoads introduced SB987 which appropriate funds to develop and implement a statewide program relating to emergency examination and hospitalization for any of those in need of mental health intervention, however the bill died. Warren further noted SB1540 which contains similar provisions on SB987, except that it is for people who are already under probation so it would give them those mental health evaluations and treatments as a condition of their continued probation.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed.

1. SCR198: Gee expressed gratitude to Senator Rhoades for introducing Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR)-198 relating to HDOT Audit on the Pali Highway Resurfacing Project. Gee asked for the status of the resolution. Gee noted on the chat that the Pali Highway’s Audit was offered on Friday, March 10, 2023 and on Wednesday, March 15, 2023, the resolution was referred to the Commerce and Consumer Protection (CPN) and Transportation and Culture and the Arts (TCA) committees. The resolution can be found at <https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SCR&billnumber=198&year=2023>.
2. American Disability Act (ADA): Kurashige requested for the ADA standards for the blind and those in wheelchairs because there are still situations where people cannot get pass utility poles in the middle of sidewalks on Pali Highway.
3. Helmet Bill: Kurashige requested the rationale of why the helmet bill for motor scooters, skateboards, etc., died.

[01:15:04] Representative Jenna Takenouchi: Representative Takenouchi noted Senator Rhoads sent a House companion resolution on the Pali Highway Audit Resolution and it is scheduled for hearing on Thursday, March 23, 2023 at 11:15 a.m. The hearing notice can be found at <https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2023/hearingnotices/HEARING_TRN-LMG_03-28-23_.HTM>. Representative Takenouchi encouraged the board to submit testimonies in support of the resolution to give to the committee. To submit testimony can be found at <https://lrb.hawaii.gov/par/engagement-101/>. Representative Takenouchi announced the State Judiciary Council is seeking applications to fill an upcoming vacancy on the Hawaii State Ethics Commission which the term runs from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2027. Representative Takenouchi noted the HDOT is sharing information on an ebike and electric moped rebate program. To learn more, you can visit <https://hidot.hawaii.gov/hawaii-electric-bike-and-moped-rebate/>.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed. Town Hall Notice: Resident Taira asked to get notification for any upcoming Town Hall meetings at least two (2) weeks in advance. Representative Takenouchi will get information out sooner next time.

[01:19:05] Federal Elected Officers & other Elected Officials: No other elected officials present.

[01:19:16] BOARD BUSINESS

[01:19:20] Consideration of Resolution Urging Decommissioning of Red Hill – Chair Smith noted the Resolution was posted in the [www.nb12.org](http://www.nb12.org) website. Discussions followed. Chun raised concerns regarding the Resolution asking the Navy to defuel faster and not pay attention to the safety measures. **There was no motion made to adopt the Resolution.**

[01:25:05] Review of Proposed Policy Changes for NCO Meeting Minutes Recording – Chair Smith provided a short summary of the proposed policy changes. Discussions followed. Kurashige noted that half of her neighbors on her street do not have cell phones or computers and to cut back on the minutes to video recordings is forgetting the seniors that are terrible with technology. Chair Smith noted the item will be discussed at the next Neighborhood Commission meeting. Gee noted the board will be personally liable if the board breaks any sunshine law rules. Chair Smith noted it is always been the board itself that is responsible for the minutes according to the Neighborhood Plan, although the Neighborhood Assistant (NA) has been providing draft minutes. Chun noted if you have a concern with the proposed changes to attend the next Neighborhood Commission meeting. The agenda can be found at <https://www.honolulu.gov/cms-nco-menu/site-nco-sitearticles/865-site-nco-agenda-minutes-list-cat/20495-neighborhood-commission-agenda-minutes-listing.html?year=2023>  Dillard expressed support for recording as it provides greater access to not only to the minutes, but information overall.

[01:36:10] Papakolea Community Updates – Dillard announced the Health Fair is scheduled for Saturday, April 1, 2023.  Kaiser will be providing covid vaccinations and Queen Emma Clinic will be doing health screening.  Dillard noted 40 kupunas came out to speak with Aina Archaeology regarding their work.  Dillard also noted that they are preparing the proposal to do academic support and wraparound services for the schools.

[01:37:36] Approval of February 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes – **8:39 p.m. Hearing no objections, the minutes were adopted with amendment.** NA will make the corrections.

[01:39:57] ANNOUNCEMENTS

* Next Regular Board Meeting –The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. via WebEx and in-person at Kapālama Hale.
* Vehicle Removal – Chair Smith announced that the City has a vehicle removal service.

[01:41:00] ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Submitted by: Zhoydell Magaoay, Neighborhood Assistant.

Reviewed by: Naomi Hanohano, Community Relations Specialist