

**Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Task Force
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 408
February 11, 2008
Minutes**

Members Present: Senator Russell Kokubun, Representative Pono Chong, Senator Mike Gabbard, Marion Higa, Jeffrey Hunt, Karl Kim, Keith Kurahashi, Representative Colleen Meyer, Keith Rollman, Jane Testa, Stacie Thorlakson, Beth Tokioka, Senator Jill Tokuda, Representative Ryan Yamane

Members Not Present: Representative Lyla Berg, Ian Costa, Henry Eng, David Goode, Millie Kim, Brad Kurokawa, Senator Ron Menor, James Spencer, Michael Tresler, Pamela Tumpap

I. Call to Order. Chair Russell Kokubun noted that although there was no quorum, he would open the meeting since this was more of an informational meeting and no official action would be taken. Chair Kokubun opened the meeting of the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Task Force on Monday, February 11, 2008 at the Hawai'i State Capitol in Room 408.

II. Review and Approve of Minutes. No minutes to review and approve.

Chair Russell Kokubun inquired if there were any objections to discussing agenda items out of order. No task force members objected. Chair Kokubun continued with discussion on Agenda Item V, Community Outreach.

III. Update on Legislative Actions. A summary and analysis of sustainability legislation contained in Senate and House Majority packages and Joint Senate and House Majority package was distributed to task force members. After crossover, the task force will have a clear idea of which legislation is still alive. Chair Russell Kokubun asked members to follow House Bill No. 2590 and Senate Bill No. 2833 which are the bills that reflect the recommendations of the sustainability plan, including the establishment of the Sustainability Council and request for appropriation. Bill Kaneko informed members that the house bill will be heard tomorrow (February 12) in the House Committee on Economic Development and Business Concerns at 9:00 a.m. Chair Kokubun noted that the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing heard the senate bill today and will be moving it out to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means. Chair Kokubun will keep members informed of bills that are moving through the legislative process so that members could choose to submit testimony if they so wish. Marion Higa suggested members take a look at the committee report for the house bill (H.D. 1) being heard tomorrow. The committee report encapsulates some of the concerns that have been raised. Marion also noted that the bill's effective date is not defective, but a legislative mechanism to keep the bill moving.

A list of supporters of the sustainability plan was also distributed to task force members. Chair Kokubun clarified that those listed are in support of the plan. Jeanne Schultz Afuvai informed members that individuals, organizations, and businesses on the list had given HIPA their permission to include them on the list of supporters. The list will be updated as the legislative process continues. Stacie Thorlakson inquired if letters of gratitude or acknowledgement will be given to these supporters. Jeanne responded that letters will be sent after the end of the legislative session.

Beth Tokioka expressed concerns, which were also shared by others, on the reluctance to codify of the plan. Chair Kokubun commented that the plan in its entirety will not be codified. His understanding is that the guiding principles will be included in the legislation. Bill confirmed and added that the bill also acknowledges the plan.

Bill informed members that they are in the process of scheduling meetings with legislators on February 20 (Maui and Kaua‘i) and 21 (Hawai‘i and O‘ahu) to discuss the plan and answer questions they may have and seek their support for the plan and other sustainability related bills. Bill also asked county task force members to attend these meetings with their respective county legislators if their schedules permit.

Bill commented that one of the ways for 2050 to become relevant is to support pending legislation that is reflective of the plan. This was the initial intent of the summary and analysis of joint, house, and senate majority packages. It was suggested by Representative Kirk Caldwell that if task force members submit written testimony on selected measures, it would show some connectivity between the task force and pending legislation. Keith Kurahashi agreed but cautioned members to be careful that the legislation they are supporting is actually tied into the sustainability effort. Most of the legislation he reviewed was good, but some were very distantly connected to sustainability. Chair Kokubun suggested having the sustainability fellows assist in analyzing the bills.

IV. Media Update. (discussion occurred in Community Outreach)

V. Community Outreach. Bill Kaneko reported on the distribution of the final version of the Hawai‘i 2050 Sustainability Plan.

| Recipients | Qty |
|--|------------|
| Four counties (to be distributed by county task force members) | 225 |
| Key Stakeholders—business, labor, non-profit, etc. | 500 |
| Participants involved in the planning process | 60 |
| Department of Education—all schools | 296 |

Chair Russell Kokubun asked to confirm that charter schools were included in the DOE distribution. Jeanne Schultz Afuvai said she would confirm. Jane Testa asked if the

county councils were included in the distribution. Bill responded that the council was part of the distribution to county task force members. Bill added that briefings with the councils are being scheduled in the next two to three weeks. Senator Jill Tokuda inquired if private schools received copies of the plan. Patrick Williams informed members that the plan, including press materials, is also posted on the Hawai'i 2050 website. An email blast is being sent to individuals and organizations announcing the release of the final plan and asking them to forward the message to their members. As of noon today, approximately 80 people downloaded the plan—one was downloaded in Canada.

Chair Kokubun noted for the record that a quorum has been established (1:34 p.m.). He also acknowledged that many of his legislative colleagues will need to leave to attend other legislative hearings.

Marion Higa commented that additional copies are available if task force members exhausted their allotted copies. Chair Kokubun clarified with Jane if she preferred that formal letters from the task force be sent to the county council members on the release of the final plan. Jane confirmed. Bill said he would draft letter to county council members.

Representative Colleen Meyer inquired on the number of copies printed. Patrick responded that 2,500 copies were printed. Stacie Thorlakson clarified if local newspapers on the neighbor island received copies also. Patrick confirmed that copies were sent to newspaper editors. He also noted that many of the neighbor island newspapers pick up Honolulu news from the Associated Press. Three of the four television stations were present at the press release earlier, as well as both Honolulu newspapers and the Associated Press. The Honolulu Advertiser covered the process since the beginning and we are very grateful for their support. Chair Kokubun noted that an editorial was also published in this morning's edition of the Honolulu Advertiser. Marion added that a reporter from Hawai'i Public Radio also covered the press release. Jeff Hunt inquired on the timeline for meeting with the county councils. Jeanne responded that the meeting on Hawai'i Island is scheduled for February 20 and February 27 for Kaua'i. They are still waiting to hear back from Maui and Honolulu. Jeanne also noted that the task force had previously agreed that instead of having a final round of community meetings, the task force would have a meeting with the county councils and invite the general public to attend. Jeff inquired if the intent is to get the councils to support a resolution. Chair Kokubun confirmed. Jeff could not speak for the other counties but commented that it may be difficult for Maui to take quick action on a resolution. Beth Tokioka commented that the meeting on Kaua'i is intended to be more of an informational briefing and hopefully seek support for the plan. Keith Rollman commented that for Honolulu, they have the option to send the plan to neighborhood boards and have them take action on the plan. Chair Kokubun commented that this effort will go beyond this legislative session and there needs to be continued dialogue with the counties to move the plan forward. Senator Jill Tokuda suggested that the task force actively publicize these county meetings and reach as many people as possible.

Senator Tokuda announced two Sustainability Youth Fellows, Brandy Boatmer and Dana Beattey, who are Hawai'i Pacific University students. Brandy is a PR/Communications graduate student, and Dana is currently doing graduate studies in Sustainability Global Leadership. Both are developing a workplan which will review the indicators, strategic actions, goals, potential models, best practices, etc. They will also be involved in the youth outreach component. Senator Tokuda noted that many youth have shown interest in getting involved in the sustainability effort and Brandy and Dana will be developing a communication network to reach these youth. Brandy will use her skills to reach out to our youth through electronic means, such as MySpace, Facebook, etc. They will also track and identify key bills that relate to sustainability. Senator Tokuda also thanked the many applicants that showed interest in becoming a youth fellow.

- VI. Next Steps; Plan for Future Meetings.** Another meeting will be scheduled for a later date. Task force members will be informed. Chair Russell Kokubun would also like to have updates and feedback on the presentations at the county council meetings.
- VII. Adjourn.** Chair Russell Kokubun commented that members should take great pride in this effort and the end product—you all did a great job and should be proud. The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.