



HAWAII 2050 SUSTAINABILITY TASK FORCE



Sen. Russell Kokubun,
Chair

Fall Community Meeting October 10, 2007, War Memorial Convention Center

Participants

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Rep. Colleen Meyer
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Beth Tokioka
Sen. Jill Tokuda
Michael Tresler
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Chris Collins
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Doug Tiffany
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Michael Tresler

Facilitators:
Randy Francisco
Sarah Shiraki
Catherine Stovall

Following a brief presentation of the draft plan, participants were asked to join a small “break-out group” for discussion. Each group was asked to first offer comments about the draft plan goals, strategic actions and indicators. They were asked to identify what they saw as positives – things that they thought were especially important or on point; things they thought were negatives – things they didn’t agree with or didn’t understand; and things they thought were missing. The groups were then asked to give comments on the draft implementation and accountability plan. They were asked specifically to comment on what they saw as the strengths of the proposed sustainability council; what they saw as weaknesses of the proposed sustainability council and how they might be addressed; and any other general comments they might have about the plan for implementation and accountability. Their input will be considered by the H2050 Sustainability Task Force as it revises the draft H2050 Sustainability Plan.



The goals in the draft plan are:

- Goal I – A Way of Life
- Goal II – The Economy
- Goal III – Environment and Natural Resources
- Goal IV – Community and Social Well Being
- Goal V – Kanaka Maoli Culture and Island Values

GROUP 1

➤ Discussion: Plan goals, strategic actions and indicators

What are the positives – things that are really important or on point?

- Goal I – School curricula/standards.
- Goal II
 - Incentives provided (consumer & business).
 - Workforce development.
 - Reducing regulations.
 - Insure funding for infrastructure.
- Goal III
 - Water conservation (education standards).
 - Statistical differences underscored.
- Goal IV
 - S.A. #1 good.
 - Increase of high school graduation rates.
 - Outmigration included (brain drain).
 - Increasing public transportation. Bike/walking paths.
 - Recreation facilities highlighted.

What are the negatives – things that you don't agree with or don't understand?

- Goal I
 - Frequency of tracking,
 - Tracking – What does that mean? What to do then?
 - “Natural systems” – How will that happen? Frequency again important.
- Goal II - Do we really want more...military/visitor/construction?
- Goal III
 - Lack of urgency (but mentioned) regarding global warming.
 - Check water-use statistic.
 - Catchment systems.

What do you think is missing from this section of the plan that is critical?

- Goal I
 - Standards based requirements.
 - Missing youth (S.A. #2), environmental clubs.
 - Need for legislation mandating these actions.
- Goal II
 - Provide specific incentives for infrastructure.
 - Targeted regulations for businesses that impact environment.
 - Workplace development in elementary/high school levels.



- Timing development of technology with training of local workforce (plan for local workforce).
- New economic venues to be self-sufficient and “off the grid”.
- Determine sustainable population. What is it? Concept of carrying capacity vs. global economy.
- Goal III
 - Indicators needed with more real-life examples (broad-based education).
 - Personal incentives (off the grid).
 - Mandatory “front of the house” recycling for visitors – more consistent.
 - DLNR needs funding to protect natural resources.
 - Door-to-door recycling for green waste.
 - Change mindset regarding composting.
- Goal IV
 - Missing “gap” that makes more than 140% - too limited.
 - Youth services (S.A. #1) social, cultural activities/facilities.
 - Value of aloha.
 - Pre-school strengthened.
 - Returning students after college.
 - Indicator regarding elderly population.
 - Bike/walking paths - recreation vs. practical.
 - Un-gated access.
 - Size-appropriate roads (urban v. rural).
 - Keep students connected/interested through extra-curricular activities.
 - Increase quality of higher education
 - Urban/rural areas have different needs.
 - Different islands have different needs.
- Goal V
 - Teaching Kanaka Maoli - language in all (not just immersion) schools.
 - Neighborhood Centers offering language and culture.



➤ Discussion: Concept of Sustainability Council

What do you see as the strengths of the proposed Sustainability Council?

None

What are the shortcomings or weaknesses?

- Increase number from 15 to 20-25 (not 100% attending). More representation from each island.

Other comments about the sustainability council?

- Representatives include M.S., H.S., college.
- 2 per island plus 1 youth.
- No governor appointees.
- Surplus in bottle bill...grab it!
- If no funding, stash it (staffing).
- How will representatives be chosen?
- Diverse representation.
- Encourage county-level councils

How can we engage the general public in taking action to promote Hawaii's sustainability?

None



GROUP 2

➤ Discussion: Plan goals, strategic actions and indicators

What are the positives – things that are really important or on point?

None

What are the negatives – things that you don't agree with or don't understand?

- Population growth is not sustainable.
- Concern regarding the word “balance” since economics always wins out.
- Goal II – A goal should not be competitive.
- Goal III & V – Would like to see more on preservation of endangered species and more control of GMO's.

What do you think is missing from this section of the plan that is critical?

- Add education to goals.
- Addressing the end of cheap oil and what are the effects.
- Growth is bigger; sustainable development is better. Environment must be protected first.
- Legislative action.
- Add goal of becoming world model of sustainability.
- Remembering that without our environment we have no culture.
- Living consciously with sustainability in mind. Global awareness and willingness to learn from other communities.
- Include approach of compassion; nonviolence in communication and peace and harmony with each other, with environment and resources.
- Because each island is different, goals should be umbrella around state with each island picking and expanding.
- Goal III – Respectfully used and reused with goal towards zero waste.
- Goal II – Move towards eco-tourism.



➤ Discussion: Concept of Sustainability Council

What do you see as the strengths of the proposed Sustainability Council?

- Like the idea of a council.

What are the shortcomings or weaknesses?

- 15 members is too small; 21 would be good. Governor appoints 5; Mayors appoint 4 from each island. Grassroots mix of 16 from different islands (not overloaded with corporate executives).
- Governor appoints 1 from each island for government appointees and none from public.
- Government 5. 1 person from environment. 1 from business.
- Solicit representatives from identified groups, i.e. environmental groups submit representative.
- Representatives from outer islands should be confirmed by their islands' county council, not state senate.
- Equal representation by islands.
- State must accept appointees at face value.

Other comments about the sustainability council?

- Scope:
 - Emphasize education
 - Each member should have the ability to create committee to work with/support them.
 - Statewide public forums bi-annually.
 - Local public forums quarterly held by each island's rep for their island.
 - Strike exemption to procurement code.
 - An incremental number come on and as they come on, task force members go off.
 - Continue public input via meetings, media and web.

How can we engage the general public in taking action to promote Hawaii's sustainability?

None

➤ Calabash:

- Implementation /Strategies



- Goal I – Education and awakening the unconscious.
- Strategic Action #2 – Backtrack with what’s existing, streamlining government.
- Enforcing compliance with new goals & vision.
- Legislative action.
- Cultural renovation.
- Goal II, pt. 1 – Direction of economy – not make the government responsible for military and corporate success.
- Goal II – Very limiting. Need to expand, open to new avenues.
- Goal II – Support agriculture in ways that make it economically viable.

GROUP 3

➤ Discussion: Plan goals, strategic actions and indicators

What are the positives – things that are really important or on point?

- Goal I – Agree with goal and living sustainably is part of our daily life; “taking ownership”.

What are the negatives – things that you don’t agree with or don’t understand? None

What do you think is missing from this section of the plan that is critical?

- Goal I
 - Have a way of educating people about “What sustainability is.” Need more example modeling; simplifying will help people understand.
 - Need definition of sustainability.
 - Add “encourage” as a word. Acknowledge/appreciate anything going towards sustainability.
 - Weekly report in newspaper
 - For goals to work need to be at levels from youth to adults, such as greening ideas (language, vocabulary) of everyday things.
 - Large/small things/actions that can be done every day; a green way of living.
 - Have leaders of community associations become involved. Cooperative effort of media.
 - Strategic action #2 – Should include all media. Reasonable access to statewide (all islands).
 - Strategic action #1 – Can’t stop at grade 12; continue to grad school.
 - Develop a sustainability ethic.
 - Indicators need to have a number. And must be measurable and have a process in place for gathering data such as a baseline.
 - Some industries already have process in place.
 - Vision about H2050 with a tagline phrase that’s repeated (powerful and concise).
- Goal II
 - Enormous fear factor; need to change mindset. Fear of making a mistake.
 - Tech, ag., transportation – More effective use of transportation resources for employees and others.
 - SA I – Kaua’i to grow all its resources in ag and become self-sufficient. Permanent farmers’ market in each town.
 - Buses better utilized and therefore have less cars. Buses and bikes go everywhere.



- Emphasis placed on ag - future of state; develop hydroponics and other technologies.
- An organic Kaua'i becomes more self-sufficient and a breadbasket to rest of the state. Health as a sustainable ethic.
- Goal III
 - Cancel tax on bio-fuel resources. Do this where it makes sense scientifically.
 - Increased incentives/rebates/action.
 - Encourage diversified Ag such as organic farming methods. Indicators-pollution etc... these should be measured; measure clean water.
- Goal IV
 - Health, wellness and well-being as part of a sustainability concept.
 - Keep diversity and climate for business. Change government regulations.
 - Strategic action #3 – Increase graduates in/from post secondary education.
 - Encourage ag for youth as possible careers. Not all students are interested in tech. Indicator is about the earnings. A well educated and healthy society.
 - Dichotomy of organic and conventional ag as not evil and need for education.
 - SA #1 – A gap definition of low vs. affordable income. The GAP is addressed (a social safety net is addressed, a way for them to be helped).
 - Ensure affordable and accessible healthcare for all.
 - Important communication about treatment.
 - Strengthen state's ability to deliver services.
 - Include facilities for recreation.
 - How to become self-sufficient in terms of healthcare?
 - Increase incentives such as promoting a healthier lifestyle.
 - Kaua'i Community Network; that is a resource.
 - Youth-What is the real issue? Such as drugs and need to take care of youth.



➤ Discussion: Concept of Sustainability Council

What do you see as the strengths of the proposed Sustainability Council?

- Structure is fine.
- Dedication of people in large sustainability network, including subgroups.

What are the shortcomings or weaknesses?

None

Other comments about the sustainability council?

- Need to remember this as a grassroots effort.
- Legislative mandate = 1 representative is a student.
- Need authority and sufficient resources in order to collect data. Prevent from being politicized. Acknowledge through Sustainability Awards (annually), promising practices. Also student-based awards in science area.

How can we engage the general public in taking action to promote Hawaii's sustainability?

None