



HAWAII' I 2050 SUSTAINABILITY TASK FORCE



Sen. Russell Kokubun,
Chair

Hawaii' i 2050 Sustainability Plan Community Meeting December 6, 2007

University of Hawaii' i at Mānoa, Campus Center Ballroom

Rep. Lyla Berg
Rep. Pono Chong
Ian Costa
Henry Eng
Sen. Mike Gabbard
David Goode
Marion M. Higa
Jeffrey Hunt
Dr. Karl Kim
Millie Kim
Keith Kurahashi
Brad Kurokawa
Sen. Ron Menor
Rep. Colleen Meyer
Keith Rollman
Dr. James Spencer
Jane Testa
Stacie Thorlakson
Beth Tokioka
Sen. Jill Tokuda
Michael Tresler
Pamela Tumpap
Rep. Ryan Yamane

Participants

College of Social Sciences

Richard Dubanoski

State Legislature

Sen. Jill Tokuda

Sen. Will Espero

Public Policy Center

Katia Balassiano

Susan Chandler

Muthusami Kumaran

Sharon Miyashiro

David Nixon

Diane Sakai

Institute for Peace

Karen Cross

Dolores Foley

Bryan Nakamura

Brian Hallett

CTAHR

Andrew Hashimoto

Chris Evensen

C.N. Lee

Skip Bittenbender

Political Science

Stuart Candy

Jake Dunagan

Ashley Luken

Steve Lohse

Ashley Luken

Ira Rohter

Spencer Smith

Shanah Trevenna

Communication

Chris Lee

Biology

Kira Bird

Isao Kaji

Architecture

Keith Blake

Engineering/HNEI

Mike Foley

Patrick Takahashi

Jacob Tyler

Scott Turn

Botony

Amanda Taylor

Leyla Cabins

Office of Sustainability

Linda Day

Law

Denise Antolini

Philosophy

Mary Tiles

Urban & Regional Planning

Kem Lowry

Karl Kim

Jim Spencer

Makena Coffman

Art

Naomi Redleaf

Ashley Page

Environmental Science

Tamara Armstrong
Juanita Matthews
John Stevenson
Norm Wang

Ethnic Studies

Davianna McGregor

*There were an estimated 40 other UH and community attendees who declined or did not fill out the sign-in sheet. This event was an open UH Mānoa community forum

Facilitators

Keith Blake
Isao Kaji
Kira Nims
Daniel Alexander
Norman Wang
Naomi King
Vance Arakaki
Mike Foley
Shanah Trevenna

Recorders

Bryan Nakamura
Karen Cross
Katherine Li
Katia Balassiano
Muthusami Kumaran
Susan Chandler
John Cusick
Bryan Bushley

Following a pule by Davianna McGregor, welcoming remarks and introductions by Richard Dubanoski, Dean, College of Social Sciences, and Susan Chandler, Interim Director, Social Sciences Public Policy Center, Senator Jill Tokuda, member of the Hawai‘i 2050 Sustainability Task Force, provided a brief background presentation on the draft of the Hawai‘i 2050 Sustainability (HI2050) Plan, in particular its goals, strategic actions, and implementation proposals. Senator Tokuda indicated that this was the last community meeting, and fitting that it should be convened at the University of Hawai‘i with its focus on students whose future was being designed.

Unlike the other community meetings, the HI2050 meeting on the UH campus was planned by students and focused on areas of interest that would engage discussion and enable thinking in

terms of the “triple bottom line” – environment, economy, and community. Rather than discussing each goal and strategies separately, the groups focused on how the HI2050 Plan would and should be interconnected. Thus, participants were to select one of the following interest groups focusing on: (1) Waste Management; (2) Built Environment; (3) Industry/Business; (4) Transportation; (5) Education; (6) Water; (7) Food; and (8) Energy. Participants were also encouraged to form other groups if they so chose. Two such groups were formed.

The group work included envisioning the future and recommending actions to implement their vision within each respective interest area. Groups were also asked to examine the action initiatives of the HI2050 Plan and provide feedback, including but not limited to, which initiatives were most useful; least useful; and what initiatives were missing and should be added in order to meet the visions and actions earlier developed by the group.

After the group discussions, facilitators reported their discussion to the entire group, comprised of approximately 100 students, faculty and staff as well as interested public members. The following provides a summary of the discussion and, in particular, recommended action initiatives. It also includes suggestions relating to implementation of the HI2050 Plan.

Group 1: Waste Management

General Comments on the 2050 Plan:

- Wean dependence on petroleum
- Curbside recycling to be applied to the entire state
- Paper recycling
- Establish a firm, holistic policy that aims to recycle everything
- Quantify waste incentive structure
- Solve landfill dilemma/H-power
- Food sustainability
- Find ways to pass economic recycling benefit to businesses (i.e. crushing waste for construction materials raises cost)
- Identify gaps in recycling system – promote industries to fill the gap
- Water—catchments
- Food—composting

Hawai‘i 2050 Plan Actions

- Most useful:
 - Conduct ongoing forums and dialogue
 - Incentives for industries to operate more sustainability
 - Diverse and alternate energy
 - Sponsor cross-sector
 - Support education and lifelong learning
- Least useful:
 - Integrate smart growth principles
 - All items that are vague (like reduce congestion – need to be relevant)
- What’s missing?
 - We need the “how”
 - Alternate and diverse transportation

Group 2: Built Environment

General Comments on the 2050 Plan:

- Reduce A/C use
- Increase use of local materials
- Green building code—revise current code
 - Create incentive for green building
- Integrate building and transportation (e.g. bicycles)
- Decentralize business government
- Address commuting issues
- Planned retreat from coastline by moving crucial infrastructure inland
- Production and use of hemp to replace fiberglass parts
- Recycle building materials (e.g. wood)
- Tax non-owner occupied homes/lots
- Planning for sea-level rise
- Energy generation plan/reduction
- Onsite waste management system
- Ecosystem (closed) buildings
- Identify threatened infrastructure and coastal resources
 - Funding
 - Prioritize
 - Policy
 - Increase public awareness by drawing a blue line
 - Strengthen public trust doctrine
 - Population redistribution mitigation strategy
 - Coastal hazard mapping
 - Stop building in certain areas

Hawaii 2050 Plan Actions

- Most useful:
 - Smart growth
 - Reduced fossil fuels
 - Incentive sustainability
 - Infrastructure crisis points
 - Review and increase affordable housing
 - Energy efficiency for public and private businesses
 - Seal level management, coastal and hazards for erosion
- Least Useful:
 - Whole first page is fluff

Group 3: Industry/Business

General Comments on the 2050 Plan:

- Island-wide recycling
- Actual compliance with 2050 plan
- Eliminate poverty/homelessness
- Increase the extent and size of local businesses
- Interconnected society
- Attract/maintain key professionals
- More ecotourism
- Improve labor/management relationships
- Clarify role of organized labor
- Tourism industry to be more sustainable (e.g. sustainable hotels)
- “Ohana Hawai‘i” hou
- “Ekka lesia” Hawai‘i hou
- “Lawa lawa” Hawai‘i hou
- Hawaiian immersion business environments similar to those in the UK and Canada
- “Energy café” – concierge service for energy – information resources
- Require states to use only sustainable energy and businesses can follow lead
- Modeled on Berkeley legislation: funding for implementation sustainable efforts by businesses
- Recognize that all decisions have costs – how do we pay for them?
- Benchmark and predict future economic situations
- Speed of process is not adequate
- Incorporate sustainability ethic in all actions
- Don’t need to “reinvent the wheel”
- Use Hawaiian traditions
- Make Hawaiian a language graduation environment
- Ensure the value in what we invest in keeps the money in Hawaii
- Residents required to pay dump fee
- Build alliances between labor and environmentalists
- Recycle packaging materials and reduce materials going to the dump

What’s missing:

- Add number of Hawaii churches, NGOs, businesses, Hawaiian language schools
- Add bilingualism
 - Documents should be produced in Hawaiian and English
- Document has to address all items in combination, not only one

Group 4: Transportation

General comments/suggestions on the Hawaii 2050 Plan:

- Designated community bike path that is separate from cars and pedestrians
- Better paved roads for skateboards
- More efficient means to get through Waikīkī such as electric powered vehicles that offer protection from weather
- Increased number of bike racks
- Plan times for designated transportation
- More efficient/effective express routes (north shore) and more straightforward routes that come in faster intervals (biodiesel)
- The plan should have clear indicators and metrics to document both pedestrian and bicycles use as alternatives to the automobile

Methods of alternate transportation:

- Bicycles
 - Elevated pathways away from traffic
 - Bike paths separate from roads and pedestrian hubs
 - More lock stations and areas to lock bikes to make it more theft resistant
 - Bike lockers and showers for clothes/belongings
 - Rest stops
 - Integrate with PRT
 - From 11 am to 3 pm
 - After 7 pm, a dedicated elevated bike path on one of the PRT guide ways
 - Customized version engineered by UH physics or engineering departments
- PRT (Personal Rapid Transit)
 - Incorporated with bike paths
 - Have routes integrate with housing areas
 - Solar/electric power to get through busy cities like Waikīkī
 - Small spaces convenient to create shaded pedestrian walkways
 - System responds to demand on the track
 - Tax breaks for alternate energy vehicles to encourage people to carpool
 - No jet skis in marine environment to protect species
- Commuting
 - Efficient/effective bus system
 - Express buses go straight to town
 - More straightforward routes so the buses come more quickly
 - Biodiesel, other environmentally friendly sources of energy
 - Park and rides into campus from outer suburbs
- Monorail
 - Integrate transportation with affordable housing
 - Have the routes nearby the homes of people who work and have to travel
 - More park-and-rides for workers/commuters
 - Tax breaks for vehicles that use alternate energy

Group 5: Education

General Comments/Suggestions for Hawai‘i 2050 Plan:

- Mandatory core requirements for sustainability class
- Undergraduate and Graduate degrees in Sustainability (U of Arizona has)
- Learn about organic growing
 - Set aside space on campus
- Interdependency/interdisciplinary awareness of sustainable issues
- Bicycling access on campus
- Action → education
- Composting for UH foods
- Gardening classes for K-2
- General sciences core curriculum include both sciences/art/social sciences
- Participatory education to include hands on experiences
- Increase enrollment in high school and decrease the drop out rate at UH
 - Support extracurricular groups and their advisors
- Invest more in student support
- Relevance – engagement
- Political skills, speaking skills, sociology skills, advocacy skills
- Marketing campaign to go to school
 - “School is cool”
 - More creative base
 - More funding for “arts” in schools
 - Out door education
- Edible landscaping
- Sustainable ethics
- Cooperate with the visitors industry
- Integrate sustainability concept into the very young and into school curriculum
- More qualified teachers
- Nature creativity and awareness
 - Kanaka Maoli values
 - Individualized education
 - Different ways of learning
 - Choices in schools
- Alternative school systems based on a different type of learning
- Educate for sustainable job with good wages (for “regular” people)
- Educate for sustainable consumption
- Awareness of what sustains us
- Increase urgency of the actions
 - Update every five or two years
- Public awareness and media campaign for sustainability
- Less cars – more green limit on the number of cars in Hawai‘i
- Prohibiting gas guzzlers
- Less urban sprawl—more housing density

- Visitor industry should be green, acknowledging Hawai'i's natural beauty
- Educate visitors on the place about sustainability

Summary

- Educate for: cooperation with schools/government/private sectors
- Marketing o increase awareness and educate
- Less consumerism and respect for natural resources
- Explore through arts and sciences a basis for education

Group 6: Water

General Comments/Suggestions for the Hawai‘i 2050 Plan:

- Storm drain water recycling
- Better use/more use of tap water
- Alternatives to water purification
- Grey water/wastewater utilization
 - Development
- Inland waterway usage
 - Survey for utilization/alternate uses
- More solar water heating
- Evaporative cooling
- Preservation/revitalization of Ala Wai
- Hands-on public waterway education
- Metered (drip) irrigation
- More aquaculture sea and fresh
- Clean up Pearl Harbor
- Ahupua‘a management of water using technology
- Conduct ongoing forums, discussions, and actions
- Integrate technology into water conservation
- Strengthening social safety nets
- Native Hawaiian factors
- Integrate smart growth principles and development
- Water pollution/quality enforcement
- Water pollution/quality education
- Mandatory water-saving toilets (low flow)
- Reduce fossil fuel reliance
- Renewable energy
- Energy efficiency
- Increase public transportation access (including bicycle and pedestrian spaces)
- Increase consumption/production of local food/products
- Economic incentive for sustainable industries and construction
- Create compact patterns of urban development
- Transport system using renewable energy (bicycles)
- Renewables – energy efficient housing
- More high-density zoning in urban core
- Housing near jobs and schools
- Business/developer/industry support for renewables (solar, wind, etc.)
- Financial incentives for renewables for business, household, etc.
- Support and develop community organizations and actions (mobilizing supporters)
- State renewables policy/plan
- University take lead on sustainability (e.g. using renewables)
- University programs in sustainability (triple bottom line)

- Mainstream sustainability in all university program classes (submit results, e.g. via YouTube)
- Mainstream sustainability in all K-12 classes (submit results, e.g. via YouTube)

Group 7: Food

General Comments/Suggestions for Hawai'i 2050 Plan:

- Government subsidies for local organic farmers
- Better food safety
- GMO calorie and fuel crops
- Preservation of agricultural lands
- Improved bypass
- Preparation of food in natural ways
- Wind and solar usage
- Recyclable packaging materials
- Penalties for factory farmers
- Manage water run-offs efficiently
- Use green waste and sewage for fertilizer
- More solar panels on roof tops
- Warning labels for produce with GMOs
- Better school lunch programs (no junk foods)
- Investments in nutrition education
- Incentives for hybrid vehicles
- Measures to prevent usage of gas-guzzlers
- Sustainable local crops
- Free public transportation
- Reduce meat consumption by 5%
- Government subsidies for local farmers

Groups 8 & 9: Self-formed Groups

General Comments/Suggestions for the Hawai‘i 2050 Plan:

- Food
 - Community gardens/plots
 - Local agriculture
 - More farms, markets
 - Green roofs
 - Guerilla gardening
 - Food education
 - Compost
- Built Environment
 - Distributed energy
 - Ban air conditioning
 - No new high-rises
 - Tax part-time residents living in mansions
 - Enforce vacation rental laws
- Transportation
 - Public transit corridors that serves dedicated roads and serves current communities not new ones
 - Rationing-only odd number license plates can drive certain days
 - Free bike sharing
 - Car sharing
 - Cheaper bus rates would create an incentive
 - Create direct benefits for taking public transit
 - Mixed use communities would create walk able live, work, play neighborhoods
- Waste Management
 - Compost
 - Curbside recycling
 - Fines for not recycling
 - Caps on trash
 - Ban plastic bags
 - Store return bottles
- Education
 - More financial resources
- Governance
 - Ahupua‘a based representation
 - Hawaiian sovereignty

Comments from the Audience

- Actions proposed vague and toothless
- Transportation rationing
 - Encourage car pooling and commuting bicycles
- Garbage tax
- Incentive for homes who stay within garbage limits
- Phase out plastic bags by 2010; don't go to paper; go to reuseable
- Community gardens
- Green roof tax incentives
- Reclaim public space
- Paradigm for Hawai'i suspect
- Legislation, public activism – how to get from here to where we want to go?
- Be committed to actual change – need radical social change
- Disparity between income and cost of living – need strong government intervention
- Need more information about legislative leadership this session
- Every student at UH should be required to take a sustainable credit course (or interdisciplinary course/Hawaiian language)
- Pae pae'ana means sustainability in Hawaiian
- Encourage Hawaiian language requirement for graduation at UH
- We have a long list of what to do, but not on the “how” to do it
- UN Environmental report (GEO4 on web) a good resource and warning to the trouble of the future
- All parties need to be committed to REAL change. It may require dramatic corrections and radical action
- Be more specific and this session political leadership
- Every student at UH required to take an “S” focused course (interdisciplinary)
- Sustainability “fellows” at university

General Comments/Suggestions Relating to Hawaii 2050 Implementation/Accountability:

- Environmental Planning Committee: see UN report “GEO4” on web – should be incorporated into 2050
- Get handle on overpopulation in Hawaii
 - Limit the number of people moving here
- Military land useable for other purposes
- Income disparity controls

Written Comments

Senator Tokuda also provided comment sheets to enable participants to submit additional written comments on the HI2050 Plan relating to goals, strategic actions, indicators, and implementation/accountability. Those comments follow:

Comments on Goals, Strategic Actions and Indicators

- The metric for the goal of more walking and biking needs to count the percentage of bike trips and percentage of walking trips
- The goals are too complicated...keep it simple
- Good ideas and feedback from the workshop
- The goals of society seem to address cultural preservation but not equal of everyone on the island. Think of sustainability as equity. Environmental and economic sustainability. Try to address equal opportunities and make sure that a single group is not bearing the brunt of the burden of change
- I found the survey to be divisive-the point is not to pit the business sector against the environment which the study did with its representation of false choices
- Too vague. Need better defined goals and indicators. Plus, goals should be compelling. They should at first glance make you say, “what, that’s crazy”, but still remain realistic. For example, if the Kyoto Protocol asks to meet 1990 gas emission by 2020. THAT’S NOT ENOUGH!! Instead of following, HI should take the lead, as a model of sustainability to the world
- Paepae‘ana = sustainability
- Appears to be a good ‘laundry list’. These are what need to happen, need how to do these things (legislation, public optimism, education, economic incentives, organizations, groups)
- Think holistically – ALL action items must benefit ALL goals-indicators must monitor these benefits. Sustainability resides in interrelationships among goals, not within individual goals taken in isolation
- Sustainability centered curriculum in Hawaii’s public and private schools. This needs to be adopted in a speed manner. Also an educational system that is holistic in nature. It teaches how to survive in an economy while teaching about self-actualization. I want to see a more encompassing, progressive education system.
- No student behind is leaving everyone behind and burning out teachers
- Was real happy to see students, teachers and politicians get together and talk about sustainability. Gave me hope. I still don’t know what I can do besides going to school, but I have a sense of purpose when I try sustainable living at home. Small actions first, baby steps are required.

Comments on Ensuring Implementation and Accountability

- Practical simple steps
- We’ll need more direct interaction with local legislators
- Create an island plan (a general regional scope or guidelines) that requires comprehension from each jurisdiction or else the jurisdiction cannot create further development. Urban growth management!

- Why not stimulate local businesses to adopt sustainable initiatives by public highlighting those that do? Instead of mandating business to do things, let's entice them. Maybe even encourage them, through the city/county/state demonstrating these initiatives
- Making smaller goals, give timelines for things to be accomplished until 2050
- Hold government responsible for issues concerning local residents and how sustainability will affect their daily life
- Talking to school boards about incorporating bilingualism
- If we create a better way that conveniently benefits everybody, then it should not need to be enforced. What happens when sustainability plans get turned over to linear, fragmented, budgeted, mandated bureaucracies to implement?
- To keep on having these kinds of meetings on a regular basis. Have bigger signs/posters for advertising. Email all UH students, like how we get alerts. Invite younger students and have larger meetings every 2 months or so. Community action days with food!

Additional Comments

- Don't stop believing, hold on to that feeling
- Promote diversified, alternative energy
- Promote diversified, alternative transportation
- Recycle everything
- Think holistic