

**Hawai`i 2050 Sustainability Task Force
Hawai`i State Capitol, Room 407
October 25, 2005
Minutes**

Members Present: Senator Russell Kokubun, Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Senator Fred Hemmings, Senator Gary Hooser, Representative Corinne Ching, Representative Pono Chong, Representative Ryan Yamane, David Goode, Dr. Kem Lowry, Dr. Alan Garson, Jane Testa, Michael Foley, Pamela Tumpap, Wallace Kudo (representing the County of Kaua`i), Keith Kurahashi, Keith Rollman, Marion Higa, Laura Thielen

- I. **Call to Order.** The first meeting of the Hawai`i 2050 Task Force was called to order at 1:05 p.m. by Marion Higa, State Auditor, on Tuesday, October 25, 2005 in Room 407 at the Hawai`i State Capitol.
- II. **Introductions.** Introduction of the task force members, staff, and audience.
- III. **Orientation: legislative intent for Act 8, Special Session Laws 2005—Senator Kokubun.** The senator delivered a brief history of the task force development, noting the important foundations laid by the work of Jim Dator and colleagues in the book “Hawai`i 2000,” the Hawai`i State Plan and the subsequent State Functional Plans. The adoption of S.B. No. 2077 in 2004 gave rise to further discussion about Hawaii’s future and resulted in S.B. No. 1592 in 2005, which called for the creation of a plan for a sustainable Hawai`i in 2050. The senator emphasized the significant role that we must play “not only in the Hawai`i, but in the world.”
- IV. **Orientation: implementation and logistics—State Auditor Marion Higa.** Legislation has required the auditor to prepare the Hawai`i 2050 sustainability plan and to define and implement state goals, objectives, policies, priority guidelines, and to incorporate recommendations of the task force. The legislation appropriated \$100,000 for FY 05-06 and FY 06-07 (\$75,000 for the creation of a sustainability plan and \$25,000 for staffing and travel expenses for the task force). The task force shall submit a report prior to the 2006 and 2007 legislative sessions. The Hawai`i Institute for Public Affairs (HIPA) has been selected to provide technical assistance to the Office of the Auditor and the Hawai`i 2050 Sustainability Task Force.
- V. **Requirements of open meeting law—Office of Information Practices.** Jennifer Brooks, staff attorney with the Office of Information Practices, shared information on the Hawai`i Sunshine Law (Hawaii’s open meetings law). The intent of the statute is to open up the governmental processes to public scrutiny and participation by requiring State and county boards to conduct their business as openly as possible.

VI. **Election of chair.** Ms. Higa opened the floor for nominations for chair of the task force. Senator Hooser nominated Senator Kokubun and Senator Hemmings seconded the nomination. Senator Hemmings moved to close the nominations and Mr. Goode seconded the move. A vote was taken and Senator Kokubun was named chair of the task force by acclamation. Ms. Higa turned the meeting over to Chair Kokubun.

VII. **State planning efforts, Hawai`i 2000 and beyond—Professor Jim Dator, University of Hawai`i—Manoa.**

Professor Dator from the Hawai`i Research Center for Futures Studies engaged the group with his talk, “From ‘Hawaii 2000’ to ‘Sustainability 2050’ and Beyond.” Dator challenged the task force members to see that “the work of this task force does put Hawaii once again squarely and fairly at the forefront of futures-oriented communities.” He noted that “2050” should not be merely a metaphor, but “a sign of our genuine commitment to improving the lives of unborn future generations whose lives we impact by the way we live now.”

Some key points of Dator’s presentation:

- Dator respectfully referred to the Hawaii State plan and the functional plans, but added that the plans may not be fully adequate to the opportunities and challenges that currently exist. Reasons noted:
 - * the plans were drawn up without the key underlying value of “sustainability”;
 - * the plans are now outdated, suggesting that it may be time for the plans to change;
 - * the plans need to be linked more firmly and effectively to legislative and administrative actions, and those actions themselves evaluated by effective and firm methods linking back to the plan (policy makers must be confident that their actions leading to sustainability in one area are not clashing with those in another);
 - * current plans formally *exist*, but they do not actually *guide* policy and actions in any effective way (where they do, they may be causing us to do things we should no longer be doing); and
 - * some people—even people responsible for major actions—are unaware that there exists a State Plan and functional plans that should be followed.
- Dator challenged the group to make the creation of this sustainability plan a **citizens’-driven process**, as was Hawaii 2000.
- He strongly recommended that the task force work with several groups experienced in “preferred futures.” These include Kanu Hawai`i, World Future Society, University/Community Partnership, Futures Subcommittee of the UH Centennial Committee, UHM School of Tourism and the School of Education (both are planning major futures activities), and the Sustainability Committee of UHM.
- The product we want at the end of the process, he said, is a *vision*, not a *blue print*. “The project’s metaphor should be a *sailing canoe*, and not a railroad. The future is

like an ocean, and [the task force's] intent should be to help us set out on a great journey...to fashion a canoe, train our crew and determine where among many alternatives we want to go... perhaps changing courses many times as we continue to move forward with vision and foresight....Future generations whose lives depend on you are counting on you to do your job conscientiously and well.”

A copy of Professor Dator's presentation is attached.

VIII. Task force members' roundtable and interaction with Professor Dator.

Several questions were asked and comments made after Professor Dator's presentation:

- How will the visioning exercise be organized to ensure public participation? It should be citizen-driven, flexible and friendly, informal, open-ended, “trust” that all points of view will be heard. Visioning exercises should be connected to activities that people like to attend.
- Should the time frame for the Plan be shortened? Senator Kokubun clarified that the 2050 Plan should be visionary and maintain a long-term approach; however, more specific plans linking the vision and goals to concrete benchmarks could be developed and adjusted to make them more useful.
- What process should be used for developing the Plan? Need to determine the type of data and information required, resources available, timeline, and funding; and how community participation will be obtained.
- Visioning: a good starting point would be to review the experiences of others involved in visioning over the past decade—how they have facilitated community participation and how successfully they have connected vision with actions and accountability. State models (Virginia; Oregon Progress Board) and local models (Maui, Hawaii, Honolulu counties) already exist.
- Examine the successes and challenges of Hawaii 2000: Plan needs benchmarks or scorecard to evaluate implementation of Plan, needs “teeth” to ensure implementation; and needs regular update to ensure its relevance.
- What kind of data is needed to formulate the Plan and aid the process? Need to understand federal requirements in areas like health and transportation that may impact Plan; look at population projections; and identify gaps in knowledge, e.g., real estate trends, non-employed residents not included in population projections based on employment, and overemployment.

IX. Planning for next meeting(s). The next three meetings are scheduled for November 18, 9:00 a.m.; December 5, 1:00 p.m.; and December 21, 1:00 p.m. Location TBA.

Task force member Ms. Pamela Tumpap, president and CEO of Maui Aloha United Way, suggested longer meetings (e.g., at least one day, or perhaps two) than the proposed three

hours, noting that members from the neighbor islands spend more time getting to the meeting site than in the actual meeting. Mr. Foley agreed and suggested the meetings be held on various days of the week as some members have set meetings (e.g., every third Tuesday) to attend. Members agreed to longer meetings. Dr. Garson suggested conducting meetings via video conference. Ms. Higa and Mr. Bill Kaneko's staff members are researching this option. The use of "blogs" and other communication venues were discussed, keeping in mind Sunshine Law regulations.

Possible agenda topics for next meeting:

- Adopt task force policies and procedures.
- Review of the State Plan and functional plans. How can we be more accountable?
- Get speakers to educate the group on how to create a vision in an inclusive way (how do we create a vision that is everyone's vision?). Good source: Urban Land Institute.
- Look at specific sustainable projects in Hawai`i. (Representatives from the Big Island, Maui, Kaua`i and O`ahu counties to share exemplary visionary projects happening on their respective islands.)
- Discuss how to handle public participation.
- Discuss population issues and projections—look at the "gaps" that need to be filled.

X. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.