

**Hawai`i 2050 Sustainability Task Force  
Hawai`i State Capitol, Room 211  
December 21, 2005  
Minutes**

Members Present: Senator Russell Kokubun, Representative Lyla Berg, Representative Corinne Ching, Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Ian Costa, Michael Foley, Donald Fujimoto, Alan Garson, David Goode, Senator Fred Hemmings, Marion Higa, Senator Gary Hooser, Kem Lowry, Jane Testa, Mary Lou Kobayashi (for Laura Thielen), Keith Rollman, Stacie Thorlakson, Beth Tokioka, Pamela Tumpap, Representative Ryan Yamane, Steve McPeek (for Jane Testa)

- I. **Call to Order.** The task force meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chair Russell Kokubun on Wednesday, December 21, 2005, in Room 211 at the Hawai`i State Capitol.
- II. **Review and Approve Minutes.** A copy of the “DRAFT” minutes was presented to the members of the task force. Donald Fujimoto moved that the minutes from the December 15, 2005 task force meeting be approved; Beth Tokioka seconded the motion. The task force unanimously approved the minutes.
- III. **Continue Discussion of and Adopt the Draft Report to the 2006 Legislature.**

A. General Impressions of the Task Force on the Draft Report

Facilitator Leland Chang explained that comments should address the tone, comprehensiveness (whether the report contents are sound), and organization (contents are in order of priority) of the report.

Several members commended Bill Kaneko and Sharon Miyashiro on an “outstanding draft.” Everyone agreed that the report does a “great job of addressing the Task Force issues, is easy to read and portrays good logic, a strong introduction and emphasis on purpose and process.”

The report should:

- Move from a “statement of general concerns” to a focused sustainability action agenda that will include community and agency input.
- Lead to specific implementation actions and accountability (e.g., monitored “report cards” or ways to measure whether the plan can be measured).

- Include a more concise statement (e.g., an Executive Summary that “lights a fire”) so that the readers can rapidly get “to the point.”
- Make the definitions of sustainability more “visible”; move to front of document.
- Create a vision *with* a plan. Futurist Jim Dator shared that his plan for Hawai`i 2000 created a vision without a plan, and said that the Hawai`i 2050 Sustainability Plan should address both. The plan should articulate a vision and establish “buy-in.”

## B. Section-by-section review of draft—discussion and approval.

### I. Foreword by the Auditor—OK

### II. Table of Contents—OK

### III. Background & Introduction

- Incorporate the following comment from an earlier task force discussion into the report using a direct, more positive tone: “We got the future that we specifically didn’t want.”
- Frame the report to reflect coherence in legislative policy and mitigation of negative or unexpected consequences—keep in mind the impact of our actions on our citizens and infrastructure.
- Involve community—everyone should steward the process.
- Incorporate how will the process help us be better prepared to recognize and deal with the forces that are beyond our control, e.g., bird flu, natural disasters, terrorism threats, etc.
- Page 1, paragraph 2—List of current problems facing Hawaii should be more inclusive, e.g., overcrowded schools, overuse of resources, major public facilities in tsunami zone, steady infrastructure deterioration, environmental changes that are beyond our control, change in population.
- Recognize that being a victim of our own successes and other unintended consequences leads to other undesirable things.
- Recognize that geographical isolation was, and still can be, sustainable.

### IV. Purpose & Objectives of Act 8

- In reference to the current State Plan, amend paragraph 1, sentence 2 to state that the plan is “largely unknown” and “unused.”
- Linkage of Hawai`i 2000 to the Hawai`i State Plan—OK—leave as is.

### V. Significance of the Hawai`i 2050 Sustainability Plan

- This section is an opportunity to be poetic. The plan is not just for government officials or policy makers; it offers an opportunity to imagine the future, to think in new ways (futures process) about the Hawai`i in which we want to live. As residents of the Islands, we are aware of our limits, but we should be more aware of peoples' imaginations.
- The plan should be global and inclusive. It should also speak to individual action.
- Page 3, paragraph 1: “The main purpose of the Task Force is to develop a process that will enable government officials to base their policy...”—find a stronger word for “enable.”
- Page 3, paragraph 2: “Moreover, they want to know that their actions in housing, for example, relate positively to their actions in education...” Change “want to know” to something stronger, clarify the reference to “they.”
- Replace “citizens” with “residents” throughout.
- Clarify “judicial decisions”—not clear how plan will influence.

## VI. Creation of the Hawai`i 2050 Task Force—OK

## VII. Summary of Task Force Activities and Proceedings—OK

## VIII. Overview of Hawai`i's Planning Process

- Bill Kaneko acknowledged Mary Lou Kobayashi's outstanding effort in writing this section of the report.
- Include bridge language that explains how HI2050 ties in to the Hawai`i State Plan, builds on what already exists, and acknowledges what is being done that is *different*.
- Make a general statement that other state and departmental plans exist. (County economic development plans, HTA strategic plan, and others such as education, transportation, health-related plans, etc.
- Know the audience—Legislature is specific target audience.

## IX. Designing a Process to Create the Hawai`i 2050 Sustainability Plan

- A. Overarching Themes for Creating the Sustainability Plan (p.10). Make reference to ahupua'a system of philosophical model of resource management. Use as a general theme. Explain what it is trying to accomplish.
- A.1. Hawaii's Unique Geographic and Cultural Foundation (p.10). Build up cultural diversity and foundation of Native Hawaiian culture.
- A.2. A Futures Approach to Creating the Sustainability Plan (p.10). Include use of GIS mapping and other technology to aid in

looking at the future and how technology is and will be such an important part of present and future life.

- A.5. Planning Through the Lens of Sustainability (p.11).  
Definitions of sustainability: 1) Gather more input; 2) Move definitions to start of section or to another more appropriate place (e.g., Executive Summary); 3) Emphasize that the definition of sustainability is subject to change; 4) Use more positive language—change “without limiting” to “to maximize the future”; and 5) Broaden definition to more than simply serving as a “criteria.” Sustainability is a “way of life; it’s how we operate; it is self-enforcing. Anything else is unsustainable.”
- B. Qualities of the Ideal & Optimal Planning Process (p. 12, second bullet). Process should go where the people are—to their neighborhoods—and should include the involvement of youth.
- C. Setting Goals for Major Substantive Areas (p. 13-14). Include recreation in description of Sustainable Quality of Individual and Family Life. Also add concept of balance throughout.
- D. Information, Data & Research Needs (p. 14). Is task force asking for too many studies/data? Perhaps include that Act 8 requires the addition of data and research.  
\*Bullet 1 (Population and Carrying Capacity study): Impact of unchecked tourism (other economic activity) on economy, lifestyle, infrastructure. Instead of “trends,” is “alternatives” a better word?
- Deliberate recognition of host culture—need to sustain, not counterpoint to diversity. Continue to assemble and develop definitions.
- Perhaps a more important focus may be multi-culturalism.
- Ramsey Taum’s presentation—a powerful reminder of what Hawai`i is and that the language that we use is important. When possible, refer to Ramsay Taum or Alani Apio for review and comment.
- Reminder: Education is integral to our goals.
- Continue to emphasize values in throughout document. Define how to handle trade-offs.
- F. Ensuring Accountability & Implementation of the Sustainability Plan (p.16). Sounds too passive. “Stronger teeth” language is needed at end of bullets to assure that this plan will be different.
- F. Ensuring Accountability & Implementation of the Sustainability Plan (p. 16). Change wording re: county authority and resources. County to have authority to pass ordinances, coordinate, and implement. Emphasize accountability.
- Include Jim Dator’s chart in final report.
- F. Ensuring Accountability & Implementation of the Sustainability Plan (p. 16). Concern re: incentives. Include accountability and enforcement mechanisms in plan.

## X. Task Force Recommendations

- Integrate into one of the recommendations the need for ongoing resources to continue the sustainability planning process.
- Recommendation II (p. 17). Include in this recommendation that the decision-making process should include *everyone*, not just “the State.”
- Next steps: need to ensure the sustainability of the process, including financial sustainability, e.g., setting up a trust fund as a possible funding mechanism to sustain the plan for the long term.
- Consider “culture” as an overarching *theme* for all goals/areas of sustainability vs. making “sustainable culture” a goal in and of itself.
- Recognize the centrality of culture. Use State Constitution for overarching language and a caveat that community input will help focus the discussion.
- Recommendation III (p.17). Temper language, e.g., “irrelevant” and “outdated.” Include solid evaluation of what didn’t happen with the State Plan. Need to be real, but not harsh.
- Recommendation IV (p.17). Need to look at public/private partnerships and other innovative/diverse methods of implementation.

## XI. Recommended Timeline & Deliverables

- January 2006: Change to March 2006 since activities are contingent on funding anticipated in February 2006.
- February 2007: Include continuation of community outreach and convenings.
- September 2007: Change to July 2007 (need to move activities back to give enough time before submission of plan to the Legislature in December 2007).
- November 2007: Change to September 2007.
- Add May 2008: Report to community.
- Consider consequences of no additional moneys and/or time.
- Secure legislative and private/community commitment.

## XII. Summary and Conclusion

- Include “youth” when referring to “people of Hawai`i.”
- Paragraph 3, last line: Insert “island” before “community” to read: “...develop a common vision that will unite us as an island community for years to come.”

- Include translation of a Hawaiian saying: “No task is too hard when done by all.”

It was moved by Ian Costa and seconded by Suzanne Chun Oakland that the Task Force adopt the Hawai`i 2050 Sustainability Task Force report with the suggested amendments and authorize the Auditor to submit the report to the Legislature. The motion was carried unanimously.

- IV. Next Steps: Plans for future meetings.** The next meetings are tentatively set for Thursday, February 23, 2006 and Wednesday, March 29, 2006 starting at 10:00 a.m. at Hawai`i State Capitol. Location of the meetings will be announced.

The task force briefly discussed holding a statewide Sustainability Summit in July 2006. A suggested O`ahu location is the Hawai`i Convention Center. The task force agreed that creating an entity on each island will help to ensure consistency of content and “product.”

- V. Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. by Chair Kokubun.