Alternative Funding Mechanisms for Acquisition and Maintenance of Shoreline Public Access

Marine & Coastal Zone Advocacy Council

May 8, 2014

Welcome & Introductions

Hawaii CZM Program Coastal Zone Management HAWAII STATE OFFICE OF PLANNING

Consultant



Sub-consultants



Advisory Committee



Project Goal

With the likelihood that general funds will continue to be scarce, the goal of this project is to be a *positive force* for public access by identifying new and creative techniques to *finance* not just acquisition, but the needed improvements and maintenance for safe and responsible access.

Project Process

- Form a committee to obtain feedback and input on the project
- Compile inventories of public access to better understand existing situation and possible issues
- Research and describe existing and alternative funding mechanisms
- Develop suggested financing principles to guide providers' selection of applicable and appropriate financing methods

Advisory Committee Membership

County of Hawai'i

- Planning (2)
- Parks & Recreation
- Finance, Property Management Division (2)

County of Kaua'i

- Planning
- Parks & Recreation

City & County of Honolulu

- Budget & Fiscal Services
- Parks & Recreation

County of Maui – Finance

- Finance
- Budget Office
- Parks & Recreation

DLNR

- DOFAW
- State Parks
- OCCL

Trust for Public Land MACZAC PATH

Role of Advisory Committee

Meeting #1: Develop framework of issues

Meeting #2: Review alternative financing techniques

Meeting #3: Review funding principles & recommendations

Meeting #4: Review draft report

Summary of Funding Sources

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Summary of Funding Sources (con't)

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Summary of Funding Sources (con't)

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Funding Plan

Shoreline Access Funding Plan

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Coordination & Technical Assistance

Enhance coordination among the state and counties to:

- *increase leverage* for competitive federal or foundation funding,
- encourage sharing of experiences/knowledge,
- *equalize* funding allocations among the state and counties.

Coordination & Technical Assistance

Recommendations	Funding Source Examples
Step up DLNR's role as provided in HRS 198D:	Special Land & Development Fund [D]
 Maintain inventory 	
 Provide indemnity agreements 	
 Advise on liability issues 	
CZM provides organizational	Smart phone apps [38, 43]
& research support ("Forum")	CZM federal sources [4c, 4d, 4e]
Assist in developing shoreline access plan for State and each	CZM federal sources [4c, 4d, 4e]
county	12

Acquisition

Systematically progress towards a shoreline network based on:

- Defined interval standards and
- Acquisition priorities.

Acquisition

Recommendations	Funding Source Examples
Developments should contribute a proportional in-lieu fee if the shoreline access is not feasible or safe in the development	<i>Higher permit fee</i> [27]
Re-tool HRS 115-7 to be a revolving fund that could be repaid through streaming revenue sources	State county partnership fund [G] Partnership [54] General Obligation Bond

Acquisition (cont.)

Recommendations

Participate in the Forum to annually prioritize special resource and/or heritage areas statewide

Counties determine how to use funds to match their respective Open Space funds **Funding Source Examples** Legacy Land Fund [E] Special resource funds [1, 2, 16, 66] *Rails-to-trails* [3, 37, 66] *LWCF through SCORP* [6] Foundation grants [18, 19] County open space funds [H, I, J, K]

Acquisition (cont.)

Recommendations	Funding Source Examples
supplement a revolving fund or	Film permit fees [34] Pro Bowl ticket surcharge [35]



Improvements

Budget the level of improvements (and associated funding requirements for capital improvements) based on:

- Defined standards;
- Standards should also be a **basis** for county liability immunity.

Improvements

Recommendations	Funding Source Examples
Through the Forum, develop uniform, statewide standards for adequate levels of improvements. Lobby for county tort immunity based on these standards.	Special Land & Development Fund [D] CZM federal sources [4c, 4d, 4e]
Through the Forum, use STIP-like process to identify and prioritize projects to allocate "block grant" funds.	FHWA Transportation Enhancement [11] Increase & earmark TAT allocation (HRS 237D-6.5) to Special Land & Development Fund [D]

Improvements (cont.)

Recommendations

Where a shoreline trail system or access specifically benefits a resort area, consider BID or hotel surcharge Funding Source Examples Special Tax District [46] Special Tax [48] Hotel opt-out donation [63] CFD [33]

Maintenance

(1) Since visitors are likely to use any access, visitor funding sources should **not be restrictive**.

(2) Counties should be substantially aided in maintenance so that they meet quality and safety standards.
(3) User fees should benefit the place from which they are collected.

Maintenance

Recommendations	Funding Source Examples
Increase TAT and/or Tourism Fund allocation to counties as annual block grants in proportion to prior year visitor counts.	Amend Tourism Fund Natural Resources allocation to be a block grant to counties [F]
To keep user fees place-specific, consider donation programs to adopt-a-park groups.	Hotel opt-out donations [44, 63] User fee example not place- specific [26]
Include resource impact monitoring programs and enforcement. Seek assistance from volunteer organizations.	Surfrider [14]

Maintenance (cont.)

Recommendations	Funding Source Examples
Initiate and formalize Adopt-a- Park programs.	Seattle Street Ends [50]
Charge parking fees (e.g., Honolulu Zoo)	

Discussion

MACZAC Representation. Should there be a MACZAC representative on the Forum?

Legislative Amendments. Would MACZAC help to lobby for legislative amendments such as increased TAT funding, tort immunity for counties, and other recommendations in the report agreed to by the Forum?

Community Role. Do you think you could encourage more community groups to participate in adopt-a-park programs and other volunteer efforts related to public access (e.g., through land trust or other groups like Surfrider Foundation)?

User Fees. Do you think people would be willing to pay, especially if the funds could be dedicated and used for the place where the fees are collected?

Next Steps

- Final Advisory Committee meeting on May 22
- Committee will review and comment on draft report at that meeting
- Consultant team will finalize report by the end of June

Questions?



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