

LAND USE COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
October 22 2025 – 10:00 a.m.

Pursuant to Hawai'i Revised Statutes, HRS §92 as amended, the Commission conducted its meeting in hybrid format. Interested persons submitting written testimony were recommended to submit their written Statements 24 hours in advance of the meeting to allow for distribution to the Commission prior to the meeting.

LOCATION: Leiopapa A Kamehameha, State Office Tower, Room 405
235 S Beretania Street, Room 405, Honolulu, HI 96813

YOUTUBE RECORDING: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T_QvD8vcATA

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Brian Lee
Ken Hayashida
Mel Kahele
Micheal Yamane
Bruce U'u
Nancy Carr Smith

STAFF PRESENT:

Daniel Orodenker, Executive Officer
Scott Derrickson, Chief Planner
Martina Segura, Staff Planner
Ariana Kwan, Chief Clerk
Miranda Steed, Esq. Deputy Attorney General

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Dan Giovanni
Kū'ike Kamakea-Ōhelo
Myles Miyasato

COURT REPORTER:

Naegeli Deposition and Trial
(Via Zoom Recording)

CALL TO ORDER (YouTube: 00:00:06 - 00:03:04)

Chair Lee called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING: SIMPLIFYING PERMITTING FOR ENHANCED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ("SPEED") TASK FORCE (YouTube: 00:03:05 - 01:09:48)

Presentation by Representative Greggor Ilagan on the SPEED Task Force, highlighting actions undertaken, challenges encountered, and legislative initiatives aimed at facilitating, expediting, and coordinating state and intergovernmental development permitting processes.

Appearances

Guest Speaker

Representative Greggor Ilagan

Office of Planning and Sustainable Development ("OPSD")

Mary Alice Evans, Director

Public Testimony Round One

The LUC received two written public testimony prior to the start of the meeting, from Cory Harden and Sierra Club Hawai'i Island Group.

During the first round of public testimony Janice Palma-Glennie and Charles Flaherty provided testimony regarding the SPEED Taskforce.

Presentation

The presentation outlined the SPEED Task Force goals, current county permitting processes,



environmental review processes, the interaction with the State Historic Preservation Division, interaction with State Department of Health, Chapter 343, environmental review triggers, types of reviews (exemptions, environmental assessments, the composition of the task force, and the procedure/methodology.

Public Testimony Round Two

During the second round of public testimony, Charles Flaherty provided additional testimony on this matter.

Commissioner Hayashida left the meeting at 11:20 AM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 24-25, 2025 *(YouTube: 01:10:00 - 01:12:04)*

The next agenda item was the approval of the September 24-25, 2025, Minutes. There was no written testimony, or members of the public who wished to testify to the approval of the Minutes.

Commissioner Kahele moved to adopt the minutes, and Commissioner U'u seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with 5 ayes, 0 nays, and 4 excused.

INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING: SUPREME COURT OPINION IN HONOIPU HIDEAWAY, LLC V. STATE OF HAWAII, LAND USE COMMISSION ("LUC")

(YouTube: 01:12:05 - 01:14:15) The Commission anticipates convening in Executive Session pursuant to Hawai'i Revised Statutes ("HRS") § 92-5(a)(4) to consult with its attorney regarding Case No. 3CCV-22-0000088 (LUC Docket No. DR21-73, Honoipu Hideaway, LLC). Discussion will focus on legal issues relating to the Commission's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and potential liabilities.

Commissioner U'u moved to enter executive session, pursuant to Hawai'i Revised Statutes ("HRS") §92-5(a), in order to consult with its legal counsel on questions and issues pertaining to the Board's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities of the Commission. Commissioner Carr Smith seconded the motion, and the motion passed with 5 ayes. The Commission invited LUC staff to be included in the executive session. The Commission entered Executive Session at 11:29 a.m.

At 12:10 p.m., Commissioner U'u moved to exit executive session, and Commissioner Carr Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed with 5 ayes. The Commission returned to the open session at 12:11 p.m.

Chair Lee disclosed that the Commission discussed the implications of the Supreme Court Decision.

Public Testimony

The LUC received one written testimony from Skylar Geasey. During the first and second opportunity for public testimony, there were no members of the public who wished to provide oral testimony on this matter.

TENTATIVE MEETING SCHEDULE *(YouTube: 01:14:15 - 01:17:39)*

Chair Lee called for LUC Staff to provide the Tentative Meeting Schedule.

Executive Officer, Daniel Orodener provided the following tentative meeting dates:



November 19, 2025: A25-811 Ho'onani Development LLC (Maui)
December 3, 2025: A02-737 University of the Nations Kona (Hawai'i)

Chair Lee requested lunch be provided for the November 19, 2025 meeting, as the Commission intends to work through lunch.

Commissioner Carr Smith asked for consideration of an agenda item and was reminded of the procedure for setting the agenda.

ADJOURNMENT (*YouTube: 01:17:40 - 01:18:11*)

With no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:15 p.m.