

COUNCIL ON REVENUES

General Fund Meeting Minutes **Wednesday, May 21, 2025**

Virtual Meeting
Meeting was held virtually and video [recorded](#).

Wednesday, May 21, 2025
2:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Council Members:

Kurt Kawafuchi, (Chair), Kristi Maynard (Vice-Chair), Carl Bonham,
Scott Hayashi, Wendell Lee, Mike Hamasu

Staff Members:

Department of Taxation: Director Gary Suganuma, Deputy Director Kristen
Sakamoto, Seth Colby, Yvonne Chow, Baybars Karacaovali, Shi Fu, Sisi Zhang
and Roderick Tuliao
Department of Budget and Finance (B&F): Gregg Hirohata-Goto

CALL TO ORDER:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COUNCIL AND PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chair Kawafuchi asked if there was any communication to the Council on Revenues (the Council). There were no communications to the Council and no public comment.

APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MARCH 12, 2025:

Chair Kawafuchi called for a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Maynard moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Lee seconded.

It was moved by Ms. Maynard and seconded by Mr. Lee that the minutes of the March 12th meeting be accepted. The Chair called for the vote, and the motion passed with the following votes:

Kurt Kawafuchi	Yes
Kristi Maynard	Yes
Carl Bonham	Yes

Scott W. Hayashi	Yes
Wendell Lee	Yes
Mike Hamasu	Yes

REVIEW OF REVENUES BY DR. SETH COLBY, TAX RESEARCH & PLANNING OFFICER:

Dr. Colby prepared a brief presentation for the Council which highlighted the following information for the:

1. Preliminary Comparative Statement of State General Fund Tax Revenues for April 2025.
2. Monthly GET Revenues
3. Individual and Corporate Collections
4. Corporate income Tax
5. General Fund Collections
6. Potential General Fund Revenues for Fiscal Year 2025
7. Table 1: Summary Table Estimates of General Fund Tax Revenues: FY 2025 to FY 2031
8. Current Council on Revenues Forecast – March 12, 2025
[\[PRESENTATION AVAILABLE ON COR WEBSITE\]](#)

DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON THE GENERAL FUND TAX REVENUE FORECAST FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025:

The meeting transitioned into the Council's discussion for Fiscal year 2025.

Dr. Bonham started by sharing a few comments regarding Table 3 (Council's Mean Forecast).

Dr. Bonham stated that his forecast was the highest amongst the Council.

Dr. Bonham explained the difference between his forecast and the Council's forecast was due to construction.

Dr. Bonham highlighted Table 3 third line in panel B, stating that in order to get to the Council's forecast of 9% there would have to be no growth in construction for the second half of the Fiscal Year 2025.

Dr. Bonham suggested a 4.5% growth rate for FY2025 and asked the Council if they had any objections to a 4.5% growth for FY2025.

Mr. Lee responded that although he was thinking a growth rate of 4.6%, he would be fine with a growth rate of 4.5%.

Ms. Maynard expressed her concerns with the surrounding uncertainty about tariffs and trade-offs along with people being cautious about traveling.

Ms. Maynard asked Dr. Bonham if any of her concerns would have any effects on the numbers regarding the Council's forecast for FY2025.

Dr. Bonham responded that it would be an issue for fiscal year 2026.

Mr. Kawafuchi asked the Council if there were any proposals on the number for current Fiscal Year.

Mr. Hamasu stated that, what was proposed on the table was a 4.5% growth rate which would be slightly higher than the previous year.

Dr. Bonham then made a motion of 4.4% growth rate for FY2025.

Ms. Maynard seconded the motion of 4.4% growth rate for FY2025.

Mr. Hamasu asked Dr. Bonham if the influence of construction on overall revenues has a direct correlation with regards to a surge in construction.

Dr. Bonham said that construction does affect overall revenues.

Mr. Kawafuchi asked the Council if there was any further discussion for FY2025.

There was no further discussion and a vote was taken.

It was moved by Dr. Bonham and seconded by Ms. Maynard that the General Fund growth rate forecast be 4.4% for FY2025. The Chair called for the vote, and the motion passed with the following votes:

Kurt Kawafuchi	Yes
Kristi Maynard	Yes
Carl Bonham	Yes
Scott W. Hayashi	Yes
Wendell Lee	Yes
Mike Hamasu	Yes

DISCUSSION AND VOTE FOR THE GENERAL FUND TAX REVENUE FORECAST FOR FY2026:

Mr. Kawafuchi asked Dr. Bonham to start the discussion for FY2026.

Dr. Bonham started the discussion by stating that fiscal year 2026 is full of uncertainty.

Dr. Bonham explained briefly about the effects of tariffs.

Ms. Maynard asked Dr. Colby if he had any suggestions regarding the above and below the line along with the inheritance tax.

Dr. Colby stated that the -2.25% already involves the estate tax payment and everything which is below the line, and however the Council's view from March to present would be the amount that they should take into account for their forecast.

For discussion, Ms. Maynard suggested a -3.5% growth rate for FY2026.

Dr. Bonham motioned for -3.5% growth rate for FY2026.

Mr. Lee seconded the -3.5% growth rate for FY2026.

Mr. Kawafuchi asked the Council if there was any further discussion for FY2026.

There was no further discussion and a vote was taken.

It was moved by Dr. Bonham and seconded by Mr. Lee that the General Fund revenue growth rate forecast be -3.5% for FY2026. The Chair called for the vote, and the motion passed with the following votes:

Kurt Kawafuchi	Yes
Kristi Maynard	Yes
Carl Bonham	Yes
Scott W. Hayashi	Yes
Wendell Lee	Yes
Mike Hamasu	Yes

DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON THE GENERAL FUND TAX REVENUE FORECAST FOR FY2027 THROUGH FY2031:

Dr. Bonham started the discussion by stating the uncertainty for the following out years.

Dr. Bonham also indicated that he thought it was very plausible to have two years of weak performance.

Mr. Kawafuchi asked the Council where they were currently with the numbers.

Dr. Colby shared the Council's current forecast of 2.9% for FY2027, 2.5% for FY2028, 2.6% for FY2029, 1.9% for FY2030, and 3.1% for FY2031.

Dr. Bonham suggested a 1.0% growth rate for FY2027.

Ms. Maynard motioned for growth rate of 1.0% for FY2027, 1.5% for FY2028, 2.6% for FY2029, 1.9% for FY2030, and 3.1% for FY2031.

Mr. Lee seconded the growth rate of 1.1% for FY2027, 1.5% for FY2028, 2.6% for FY2029, 1.9% for FY2030, and 3.1% for FY2031.

Mr. Kawafuchi asked the Council if there was any further discussion.

There was no further discussion and a vote was taken.

It was moved by Ms. Maynard and seconded by Mr. Lee that the General Fund revenue growth rate forecast be 1.0% for FY2027, 1.5% for FY2028, 2.6% for FY2029, 1.9% for FY2030, and 3.1% for FY2031. The Chair called for the vote, and the motion passed with the following votes:

Kurt Kawafuchi	Yes
Kristi Maynard	Yes
Carl Bonham	Yes
Scott W. Hayashi	Yes
Wendell Lee	Yes
Mike Hamasu	Yes

**REPORT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET & FINANCE ON OTHER REVENUES
BY MR. GREGG HIROHATA-GOTO:**

Mr. Gregg Hirohata-Goto provided the Council with a report of revised projections for General Fund non-tax revenues, non-General Fund tax, and non-tax revenues since the March 12th meeting. He provided a written report summary of significant changes in revenues from Repayment of Loans & Advances, Transfer of General Excise Tax, Charges for Current Services; Utilities & Other Enterprises, Federal Grants.

It was moved by Mr. Hayashi and seconded by Ms. Maynard to adopt the Budget & Finance Report. The Chair called for the vote, and the motion passed with the following votes:

Kurt Kawafuchi	Yes
Kristi Maynard	Yes
Carl Bonham	Yes
Scott W. Hayashi	Yes
Wendell Lee	Yes
Mike Hamasu	Yes

NEXT MEETING:

The Council tentatively agreed to meet on Thursday, July 31, 2025, at 2 p.m for the Total Personal Income forecast.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 4:04 p.m.