HĀ O KE KAI

2019 HAWAI’I CLIMATE CONFERENCE

“CLIMATE CHANGE & EQUITY”

Hawai‘i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission

Dr. Beverly A. Scott
CEO,
Beverly Scott Associates, LLC

Senior Partner,
Parker Infrastructure Partners, LLC
US EQUITY PERSPECTIVE

- The US has the greatest income inequality across individuals among Western industrialized nations – and growing. (Gini Coefficient)

- The US ranks 27th in terms of “social justice” among the 31 OECD member nations – with “alarming poverty levels”.

- Current research on “inequality” in the US and Europe indicates that greater inequality of income in the present leads to reduced intergenerational mobility in the future.
HAWAII EQUITY SCAN: A COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

• Hawaii “Better” in Many Areas Compared to Other States

• Most Diverse State (culture, workforce, lifestyle)

• A Legacy of Community Well-Being and Mutual Support
Figure 6: Per Capita Income by Race Group

- White: $31,621
- Filipino: $21,403
- Japanese: $32,129
- Native Hawaiian: $20,664
- Chinese: $23,496
- Korean: $26,185
- Samoan: $21,095
- Vietnamese: $21,095
- Marshallese: $14,757
- Guamanian or Chamorro: $19,449
- Tongan: $12,131

Total Population: $29,822
HAWAII EQUITY SCAN CHALLENGES

Highest Cost of Living + Lowest Wages in US *(adjusted for Cost-of-Living/Available Govt Assistance)*

Nationally, 2nd Highest Tax Burden on Low-Income Households/Families in Poverty

Housing Crisis *(Affordability; Availability)*
HAWAII EQUITY SCAN CHALLENGES

1 of 8 Residents Face Food Insecurity

14% of Children Living in Poverty; rank 36th in Education Domain (2017 KIDS COUNT Data Book, Annie E. Casey Foundation)

- Below National Math & Reading Proficiency
- Low Preschool Enrollment (3-and 4-year olds)
THE JOURNEY FORWARD

Anchor Work in GOOD OUTCOMES for “PEOPLE” and “COMMUNITIES” – with special care for the most vulnerable.


ALIGNMENT… Connect the Dots. Avoid a Narrow “Climate Crisis-Only” Lens.
THE JOURNEY FORWARD

INSTITUTIONALIZE. Statute and policy trump “practice” and “personalities”.

Well-Developed TRANSITION PLANS, ACTIONS, MEASURES & PROGRESS REPORTS

BEST SCIENCE, DATA, REPORTING, PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY
MAJOR CHALLENGES / OPPORTUNITIES

• AGRICULTURE
• TOURISM
• TRANSPORTATION
• SMART GROWTH & LAND USE
• HOUSING AFFORDABILITY & AVAILABILITY
• TAXATION BURDENS
• GOOD JOBS/BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
FOOD FOR THOUGHT ...

Follow the “DECISION-MAKING” and follow the “MONEY”!

- “WHO” Pays?
- “WHO” Benefits – environmental, social, economic?
- “WHO” is at the Table?
- “WHO” is NOT at the Table?
FOOD FOR THOUGHT …

• **What Disparities Currently Exist?** How Does What is Being Proposed Address these Disparities?

• **“HOW” and “WHEN” Do “I” Know What is Happening,** i.e., meeting times, locations, availability and ease of public access to meaningful information.

• **OPPOSITION. LISTEN** – “WHAT”, “WHO” and “WHY”?

• **DEEP COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT** – “RADICAL HOSPITALITY”. What approaches will be used to meaningfully engage diverse communities, youth, seniors, people with disabilities, and our most vulnerable in the process, i.e., homeless?

• **PERSONAL EDUCATION**, i.e., a 100% regular day walking and on transit (work, shopping, medical, etc), an evening schedule, use of an assisted device.
MAHALO!

Beverly@beverlyscottassociates.com

www.beverlyscottassociates.com

Dr. Beverly A. Scott
CEO,
Beverly Scott Associates, LLC

Senior Partner,
Parker Infrastructure Partners, LLC