

**MINUTES OF THE  
MEETING OF THE  
HAWAI‘I CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION COMMISSION**

DATE: MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2022

TIME: 1:00 PM

PLACE: 1151 PUNCHBOWL STREET, CONFERENCE ROOM 132  
HONOLULU, HI 96813, AND VIDEO CONFERENCE

Public Viewing Link:

[https://youtu.be/VqwhX8RJ\\_IQ](https://youtu.be/VqwhX8RJ_IQ)

Attendees:

Suzanne Case, DLNR, Co-Chair

Mary Alice Evans, OPSD, Co-Chair

Ed Sniffen, DOT

Jeff Dack, Maui County Planning Dept.

Sen. Mike Gabbard

Nancy McPherson, DHHL

Ka‘aina Hull, Kaua‘i County Planning Dept.

Sylvia Hussey, OHA

George Kam, HTA

April Surprenant, Hawai‘i County Planning  
Dept.

Rep. Nicole Lowen

Scott Glenn, DBEDT

Luke Meyers, HI-EMA

Justine Nihipali, CZM, OPSD

Marianne Rossio, DOH

Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser, DOA

Rep. David Tarnas

Dean Uchida, City and County of Honolulu

Due to COVID-19 closures, the meeting was live cast on Zoom, and YouTube, with links posted on social media accounts of the commission for public viewing. All materials are posted on the Commission’s website: <https://climate.hawaii.gov/hi-commission/>.

1. **Welcome.** The YouTube recording time started 00:01 minutes into the recording. Co-Chair Evans began the meeting at approximately 1:12PM when quorum was reached.
2. **April 6, 2022 meeting minutes.** (11:56) Minutes moved
3. **Draft statement on climate ready Hawai‘i.** (14:00) Draft Statement on “Legislative Update to the Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Committee”
  - a. *Opening Remarks*, Senator Gabbard (14:31) Discussed bills that passed and those that did not pass relating to carbon sequestration and regenerative agriculture.
  - b. *Response to Bills*, Rep. David Tarnis (21:11) Discussed relevance of bills in regards to sea level rise and coastal erosion.

- c. *Decarbonization*, Rep. Nicole Lowen (27:15) Discussed decarbonization, energy efficiency, energy equity, plastic waste reduction, and clean transportation bills that are moving through her committee this year.
- d. *Closing Remarks*, Rep. Nicole Lowen (35:08)
- e. *HDOT Vulnerability Studies Analysis*, Ed Sniffen (36:55) Regarding findings in the Vulnerability Studies, HDOT discussed upgrading various facilities and their climate adaptation action plan and guidebook. Also discussed climate hazard mapping platform in partnership with Goggle that overlays equity data with climate hazards to highlight portions that need repair.
- f. *Closing Remarks*, Ed Sniffen (44:00)

**4. Informational Updates from Commission Members.** (non-action item) (44:15)  
Resilient infrastructure projects and programs demonstrating climate readiness and addressing adaptation and mitigation in Hawai‘i.

- a. April Suprenant (Big Island): (44:25)
  - i. About to complete the comprehensive review of their general plan with focus on various sustainability principles. Also working on a climate action plan and refined mapping of hazards.
- b. Justine Nihipali (Coastal Zone Management Program): (49:32)
  - i. The Coastal Zone Management Program signed contract with contractor to explore shoreline management strategies using more regional approaches and trying to define regions for looking at facilitating larger scale nature-based comprehensive management strategies. Also submitted proposal to NOAA to help conduct a legal analysis of implementing managed retreat.
- c. Nancy McPherson (Department of Hawaiian Home Lands): (54:05)
  - i. Discussed updates on the DHHL general plan and incorporation of goals and objectives relating to climate change. Preparing to start a community resilience planning process for Molokai coastal homesteads. Conducting cesspool assessments statewide to ground truth the presence, location, and condition of on-site disposal systems on homestead lots. For education, they provide monthly and bi-monthly updates to the Hawaiian Homes Commission on climate change related impacts and projections regarding sea level rise.
- d. Dean Uchida (Department of Planning and Permitting): (58:00)
  - i. Introduced DPP’s plan to conduct a managed retreat study for Oahu and identify areas where land can be replaced. Got approval to add six new positions to the permitting division and create a special SMA shoreline branch.
- e. Marianne Rossio (Department of Health): (59:52)
  - i. Signed a three year contract that will result in the development of new inventories and include projections through 2045 and updates to previous year. Hazard evaluation and emergency response office are beginning to develop a climate and health profile for Hawaii.
- f. Jeff Dack (Maui Planning Committee): (1:02:45)

- i. The committee is developing shoreline rules update after doing some public outreach. Discussed overall progress of a resiliency hub analysis project.
- g. Luke Meyers (HI-EMA): (1:07:03)
  - i. Discussed flooding emergencies that have impacted Hawaii and the usefulness of mitigation measures that have been applied. Discussed potential for revolving loan funds for hazard mitigation.
- h. Pam Eaton (Maui Planning Committee): (1:12:33)
  - i. Discussed finished action plan that identified lots of policies and actions with regard to mode shift and opening up and connecting sidewalks. They are now transitioning into the central Maui community plan update and have completed the West Maui community plan.
- i. Scott Glenn (HSEO): (1:17:50)
  - i. Discussed IPCC report stating that current emissions trends demonstrate we will not meet our goal of reducing global temperature rise by 1.5 degrees. Mentioned HSEO's trip to COP26 where leaders across the world addressed these issues. HSEO investigating whether direct air capture and geologic sequestration of CO2 is a good solution for HI. Also mentioned the closure of Oahu's coal plant and how it is on track.

5. **Informational presentation on climate change adaptation work.** (non-action item). (1:25:13) *Roadway Expansions and Vehicle Miles Traveled*. Presenter: Ben Holland, Manager for RMI's Urban Transformation Team (see accompanying slides)

6. **Informational presentation on climate change adaptation work.** (non-action item). (1:37:50) *Hawaii Vulnerability and Equity Framework*. Presenter: Suwan Shen, Associate Professor at University of Hawaii Manoa (see accompanying slides)

- a. Scott Glenn asked how the next steps of this project can benefit the work that is being done at the Hawaii State Energy Office. (1:53:00)
- b. Ed Sniffen asked if they can reach out to Suwan's team to ask questions regarding grant applications and usage of specific grants (1:56:30)
- c. Luke Meyers asked what matter were they starting with to track or parcel level data. (1:57:03)
- d.

7. **Coordinator's Update** (non-action item) (1:) Presenter: Leah Laramée, Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation Commission Coordinator.

- a. Discussed Sea Level Rise Disclosure Flier that identifies what realtors need to disclose about the sea level rise tools.
- b. Update from partners with the Climate Resiliency Initiative. The goals of the initiative are to conduct investigations of sea level rise and community design, increasing resiliency to extreme weather events projecting future climate stresses and shocks marine and reef impacts and better understanding community exposure to rising heat, storms, and droughts.
- c. Discussed IJJA/BIL Crosswalk Grants-to-Projects Bridge to find grant opportunities that match existing projects.

- d. Discussed Earth Month Social Media campaign run by the Hawaii Climate Commission. Covers four themes of active transportation, nature-based solutions, sea-level rise, and food security and resiliency.
  - e. Discussed Ha O Ke Kai Collection that brings speakers to Hawaii to present on important climate change mitigation and adaption strategies and topics.
  - f. Introduced the Hawaii Climate Ready Cohort that works to help in assisting low and moderate income and ALICE communities and uplift them out of vulnerable situations. Also each VISTA introduced themselves, their roles, and current projects they are working on.
  - g. Presented Vehicle Miles Traveled Reduction Tool Kit goals and rationale behind the project. Discussed Transcending Oil's Analyses and Recommendations and Healthy Hawaii Strategic Plan.
8. Meeting adjourned at 3:56 pm (YouTube time stamp 2:50:50).

Respectfully submitted,

---

Leah J. Laramée, Coordinator

Approved for Submittal:

---

Suzanne D. Case, Co-Chair  
Department of Land and Natural Resources

---

Mary Alice Evans, Co-Chair  
Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, DBEDT