

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

DATE: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19 2022

TIME: 1:00 PM PLACE: 1151 PUNCHBOWL STREET, CONFERENCE ROOM 132
HONOLULU, HI 96813, AND VIDEO CONFERENCE

PUBLIC VIEWING LINK:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ekq9-gtPy7U&ab_channel=ClimateCoordinator

Attendees:

Mary Alice Evans, OPSD, Co-Chair	Marianne Rossio, DOH
Suzanne Case, DLNR Co-Chair	Jeremy Koki, DOE
Jhanavi Pomerantz, Senate Agricultural and Environmental Committee	Michele McLean, Maui County Planning Dept.
Rep. Nicole Lowen	Zendo Kern, Hawaii County Planning Dept.
Rep. David Tarnas	Hannah Shipman, Maui County
Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser, DOA	Amy Wirtz, OCCL
Tyler Gomes, DHHL	Nancy McPherson, DHHL
Scott Glenn, DBEDT	Kevin Sullivan, Hawaii County Planning Dept.
Ed Sniffen, DOT	Luke Meyers, HI-EMA
George Kam, HTA	
Doug Adams, County of Hawaii Research and Development	

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 1:15 PM when quorum was reached.
2. **July 20, 2022, meeting minutes. (09:34)**
Meeting minutes deferred by Co-Chair Evans
3. **Informational Updates from Commission Members.** (non-action item) (10:11)
Resilient infrastructure projects and programs demonstrating climate readiness and addressing adaptation and mitigation in Hawai‘i.
 - a. Jhanavi Pomerantz, (Senate Agricultural and Environmental Committee) (10:11)
 - i. No updates at this time
 - b. Rep. Nicole Lowen (11:01)
 - i. Discussed reintroducing the proposal to adopt an internal cost of carbon, working on a bill to extend out the EEPS goal to 2050, working on EV charging infrastructure funding.

- c. Rep. David Tarnas (13:02)
 - i. Discussed the rules package coming out from OCCL on shoreline hardening. Emphasized the need to work on landscape scale mosquito control in order to protect native Hawaiian birds.
- d. Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser, (Department of Agriculture) (15:54)
 - i. Discussed working together with DLNR on controlling the impact of mosquitos on native birds, continuing to move forward on restorative agricultural products, and researching native kelp forests.
- e. Tyler Gomes, (Department of Hawaii Home Lands) (16:55)
 - i. Discussed the General Plan update with climate change and sea level rise being incorporated, South Molokai Shoreline Erosion Management Plan is being finalized in late 2022, community resiliency planning efforts to Molokai's coast homesteads is being initiated in 2023, and the Department will move forward and begin analyzing geothermal production suitability.
- f. Scott Glenn, (Department of Business, Economic Development, & Tourism) (18:32)
 - i. Highlighted that the legislature passed HK1800 and signed it into law as Act 238 which directs the State Energy office to perform a decarbonization strategy and emphasized the work on the Infrastructure Act and the Inflation Reduction Act.
- g. Ed Sniffen, (Department of Transportation) (21:53)
 - i. Emphasized the Department's push on adaptation and that climate resilience is incorporated in planning, design, construction, and maintenance and discussed the projects that support this.
- h. Marianne, Rossio, (Department of Health) (29:03)
 - i. Gave an update on the Statewide Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Contract.
- i. Michele McLean, (Maui County Planning Department) (31:42)
 - i. Discussed the adoption of the Wetlands Overlay Ordinance and proposed amendments Maui Planning Commission's SMA and Shoreline rules.
- j. Zendo Kern, (Hawaii County Planning Department) (33:30)
 - i. Emphasized the work being done with the General Plan and the Comprehensive Zoning Code update and is currently connecting with other departments to support green infrastructure.
- k. Luke Meyers, (Hawaii-Emergency Management Agency) (35:04)
 - i. Discussed the 2023 Hazard Mitigation Plan update, numerous mitigation opportunities for natural hazard reduction areas, and use of funds from the Federal Storm Act.

- ii. Mary Alice Evans asked if HI-EMA’s use of the term mitigation is equivalent to the way the Climate Commission uses the term adaptation. (38:19)
 - iii. Luke Meyers responded that is correct. (38:35)
 - l. Suzanne Case, (Department of Land and Natural Resources) (39:20)
 - i. Discussed efforts in getting the off-road vehicle fleet to convert to non-fossil fuel vehicles, environmental impact and cultural impact analysis on the release of mosquitos research, engineering division efforts on dam safety, and the launch of the public scoping of 30 x 30.
 - m. Hannah Shipman, (Maui County) (45:17)
 - i. Gave an update on the final stage of the climate action and resiliency plan and entered into a 20-year contract with Johnson Control.
 - n. Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser, (Department of Agriculture) (46:16)
 - i. Added that the Department is moving to transition to EV’s for their inspection fleet.
- 4. **Informational presentation on COP27 and Hawai‘i State Representation.** (nonaction item). (47:01) Co-Chair Case, DLNR
 - a. Reminded everyone that there is a statewide drought and to cut back water significantly. Gave updates on COP27 in November and emphasized how important it is for Hawaii to showcase the important work everyone has been doing.
- 5. **Informational presentation on County actions and regulations on sea level rise.** (nonaction item).
 - a. Erin Derrington, (Maui County Department of Planning) (55:09)
 - i. Gave brief updates on the state of Maui Shoreline as its relevant to sea level rise and discuss how they are working to update policies and plans to address the change that is coming from the shoreline rules and adaptive pathway planning approaches.
 - b. Kevin Sullivan, (Hawaii County) (1:10:23)
 - i. Gave brief updates on sea level rise and setback initiatives on Hawaii County.
 - c. Alex Yee, (City and County of Honolulu) (1:23:08)
 - i. Alex Yee presented on the City and County actions related to sea level planning. The City and County is going to release the Climate Ready Oahu strategy in early 2023. He emphasized that the current status quo on shoreline management is not enough, and that the City and County is committed to doing no additional no harm. It must focus on communities that have been calling for shoreline setbacks. Finally, he discussed its comprehensive approach which utilizes spending, planning, regulatory, and market-based tools to adapt to sea level rise.

- d. Kauai County video (1:33:33)
 - i. Kauai County shared a video on the passing of Bill 2879, the Kauai Sea Level Rise Constraint District Bill
- 6. **Informational presentation on 5-year sea level rise update.** (non-action item). (1:40:50) Amy Wirts, Hawai'i Sea Grant and OCCL
 - a. Discussed the 2022 update of the 2017 Sea Level Rise Report that was required by Act 83. Reported on the 9 recommendations from the 2017 Report. Showed the previous product and tools on SLR and the proposed timeline of the new 2022 report predicted to be finalized by December 15, 2022.
- 7. **Informational presentation on US Climate Alliance Natural and Working Lands Grant Outcomes.** (non-action item). (1:51:02) Dr Susan Crow, Associate Professor of Soil Ecology and Biogeochemistry University of Hawaii Manoa
 - a. Presented on Hawaii Partnerships for climate-smart commodities. Introduced the vision of the AI Institute for Actuating Resilience in Agricultural Landscapes at the University of Hawaii Manoa, whose goal is to enable climate-smart commodities in Hawaii. Then discussed the proposal phases, foundations, climate-smart supporting practices, identified commodities, and the climate benefits of this project.
 - b. Rep. David Tarnas emphasizes that if any of the counties had recommendations of state legislative actions that would facilitate the discussed projects, would let state legislators know. (2:03:58)
 - c. Luke Meyers asked if there was any look at groundwater infiltration. (2:05:33)
 - d. Nancy McPherson asked Kevin Sullivan if they were able to account for shoreline subsidence globally. (2:07:02)
 - e. Kevin Sullivan responded that they had not because of the lack of data. (2:07:26)
 - f. Co-Chair Evans ask Erin if Maui was able to track subsidence. (2:08:31)
 - g. Erin answered and said they were not able to. (2:08:41)
- 8. **Coordinator's Update.** (non-action item). (2:09:47) Leah Laramee, Hawaii Climate Commission Coordinator, updates on Oahu climate change mitigation and adaptation pilot projects, climate vulnerability clearinghouse, updates on various climate change adaptation and mitigation projects and programs
 - a. Shared updates on the Punaluu Beach Restoration Project. The Climate Commission has partnered with Hua Nani Partners LLC and the Climate Group to identify grant opportunities, find funding for implementation and grant reporting support, and use projects in existing plans and Grants 2 Projects Bridge. Recently attended the US Climate Alliance to discuss federal funding opportunities and challenges, projected emissions reductions from Congressional action, the state climate opportunity assessment, future federal actions, and identified analytical needs for the year ahead. Leah will be in attendance of COP 27 representing the Hawaii Climate Commission and sees it as a great opportunity for Hawaii to be

present on the global stage. The Commission is restarting their conferences in partnership with PICASC, Pacific RISA, and HNEI and will take place January 10-12, 2023 at the Imin Conference Center. Leah presented a certificate thanking co-chair Suzanna Case for all her work for the Commission as it is her last meeting.

9. Co-Chair Evans reemphasized the conference in January at the East West Center and the quarterly meeting in April (2:19:26)
10. Meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm (YouTube time stamp at (2:20:10))