**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HAWAIʻI CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION COMMISSION**

DATE: WEDNESDAY, April 2, 2025

TIME: 1:00PM

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

PUBLIC VIEWING LINK: [https://www.youtube.com/@climatecoordinator2356](https://www.youtube.com/%40climatecoordinator2356)

Attendees:

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| Mary Alice Evans, OPSD, Co-ChairDawn Chang, DLNR, Co-Chair Earl Yamamoto, DOALaura Kaakua, DOTMonique Zanfes, DBEDTKatie Ducatt, DHHLLaura Acasio, Hawaii CountyJoshua Cooper, Maui County | Matthew Wall, HIEMAMarianne Rossio, DOHMeg Turner, Senator GabbardChris Liu, CZMRepresentative Nicole LowenLeah Laramee, CCMACNatalie Ovena, CCMACSummer Cornell, CCMAC |

Additional Attendees: Amy Wirts (OCCL), Jonathan Lance (CCMAC), Bill Unruh (CCMAC), Udi Mandel (CCMAC), Jennifer VanderVeur (CCMAC), Nancy McPherson (DHHL), Keith Regan (DAGS)

The meeting took place in a hybrid format. It was hosted in person at 1151 Punchbowl Street and on Zoom and live cast on the Commission’s YouTube for public viewing. All materials are posted on the Commission’s website: <https://climate.hawaii.gov/hi-commission/>.

1. **Welcome, and Roll Call** (non-action item) Co-Chair Dawn Chang (DLNR) began the meeting at approximately TIME(1:06PM).
2. **February 5, 2025, Meeting Minutes** (action item) (1:11pm) Discussion and Approval
	1. Leah Laramee (CCMAC) noted that corrections from DHHL have been incorporated.
	2. Designee Laura Acasio and Designee Earl Yamamoto abstain.
	3. Co-Chair Chang accepted the minutes as approved.
3. **Discussion of Climate Bills** (non-action item) Discussion (1:13pm)
	1. Leah Laramee shared that the commission is tracking 42 key bills, including 19 up for testimony. Zero bills have been named.
	2. SB1396 CAT Team Rec Admin Bill and HB504 both look at imposing TAT on cruise ships and creating revenue for environmental stewardship and hazard mitigation and sustainable tourism.
	3. Co-Chair Chang explained that for Bill HB504 was ammended to HB504 and SD1 adding a part three to implement act 90 to require DLNR to transfer ag leased to Department of Ag. Therefore, DLNR supports sections 1, 2, 4 and opposes section 3.
	4. Bills headed to conference: HB1020, HB1051, SB1120, SD1, SB589,SB657-SD1.
		1. SG657 Coastal Zone Managment program is supporting.
	5. Waiting to be heard:
		1. HB309: Inventory of fishponds throughout state.
		2. HB316: Green jobs youth corps.
			1. Talk about incorporating KUPU into DLNR budget.
		3. HB344: Requires EV parking for all new construction and state buildings
		4. HB736: UH Wastewater pilot program.
		5. HB750: DOH Waste Assessment
		6. HB751: Waste Reduction Goals
		7. HB977 HD1: funding to be used for clean energy revolving fund to provide financial assistance to underserved taxpayers.
		8. SB552 SD1: Health Soils Program.
	6. Clarified for HB1501 that its not extending a deadline to achieve, its adding a further out goal and adding a 2045 date to achieve additional savings through energy efficiency.
	7. Co-Chair Evans Commented: SB657- coastal zone management program has been giving strong support to this bill.
4. **Presentation on the Draft Energy Security & Waste Reduction Plan** (informational presentation, non-action item) (1:27pm)
	1. Laura Kaakua from DOT presented overview of planning. June is when the release of a draft of the plan is scheduled. Final plan will be submitted in august.
	2. Overview: Plan is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. 48% of Hawai’i’s emissions are from transportation, including transportation activities that occur within Hawai’i. Domestic Interstate.
	3. Signed settlement agreement. DOT agreed to implement concrete statewide plan to reduce greenhouse gasses on a timeline that consists with Hawaii law. 50% reduction by 2030 with 2005 as baseline. Net negative by 2024.
	4. Finding at overview stage: certain things critical to all DOT modes around aviation and marine. Need to conduct affordability studies. Ensure how measures proposed in legislature are going to affect local residents in Hawaii. Next session work to pass bills that have the most impact on greenhouse as reduction while being affordable.
	5. Integrate decarbonization goals early on in department planning.
	6. Goals: Increase EV use, expanding transportation choices, low carbon fuels for high fuel vehicles. Ramp efficiency, electrification of ground and field at airports. Marine: diesel and natural gas in short term and methanol. Ammonia, hydrogen in long term.
	7. Rep Lowen questioned why DOT is using 2005 as the baseline level of emissions. Designee Kaakua clarified it is the year specified in HRS 225p-5
	8. Co-Chair Evans asked for clarification about electrification of air, field and ground access. Designee Kaakua clarified
	9. Co-Chair Evans asked to expand on decisions related to harbor imports.
	10. Co-Chair Chang asked about settlement. Designee Kaakue Clarified that the plans come from the Navahine youth council.
	11. Bill, Unruh(CCMAC) asked about sustainable aviation fuel. Would this be applicable to private jets flying in and out of Hawai’i. Designee Kaakua clarified that yes it does apply to all aviation.
	12. Co Chair Evans inquired how a carbon tax can be implemented without disproportionately impacting ALICE families and who are they thinking of having conduct this study? Designee Kaakua responded that they want to consider affordability for all people, since DOT doesn’t yet know how individuals will be affected.
		1. Rep Lowen suggested that there was a previous study done by UH regarding the carbon tax and they use that instead of conducting a new study, responded that further studies may need to be done for a fuller picture.
5. **Coordinator’s Report on Climate Action Pathways Update** (informational presentation, non-action items) (1:58pm)
	1. Leah Laramee gave an update on the CAP.
		1. Initially told that report could be submitted by December 2025, but time line has moved up to July due to. Believe we will be able to submit by then.
		2. Phase in now: identifying specific measure that will be included in CAP. Currently working groups have develop 224 measures across multiple sectors. Hoping to refine down to less measures per sector.
		3. Want to gain community feedback and make the CAP a document that is easily digestible.
		4. While the EPA guidance has been focused on greenhouse gas reductions. Outreach talking to communities about their priorities: sea level rise, flooding, drought, water. Adaptation resilience type topics.
			1. Co-Chair Evans asked for clarification: Will part of Cap will be following to EPA guidelines, and the other section be responding to community priorities. Coordinator Laramee res
		5. Green budgeting conference attended by Coordinator Laramee.
			1. Access funding- identifying funding gap on a regular basis and demonstrating commitment and co-finance.
			2. Climate budget links to improve transparency of where we ant to spend money to make sure it aligns with goals.
			3. Improve effectiveness of spending.
			4. DOT is piloting green budgeting in their Energy Security and Waste Reduction Plan

Vi. Co-Chair Evans asked a question regarding how the focus on green budgeting seems to be on greenhouse gas sequestration. Is there a similar plan for adaptation and mitigation? DOT responded that yes, assess whether budgeting is helping them meet green goals.

1. **Meeting Adjourned at (2:21pm).**