

Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness (HICH)
Honolulu International Airport Conference Rooms 3&4

June 19, 2017
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Council Attendees:

Mr. Scott Morishige	Chair
Ms. Bridget Holthus for	Director of the Department of Human Services (DHS)
Dr. Ginny Pressler	Director of the Department of Health (DOH)
Ms. Elaine Young	Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations
Ms. Jodie Maesaka-Hirata for	Director of the Department of Public Safety
Mr. Garret Kamemoto for	Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
Brigadier General Bruce Oliveira for	Adjutant General of the Department of Defense
Ms. Deja Ostrowski for	Chairwoman, Office of Hawaiian Affairs
Ms. Melissa Lewis for	Attorney General
Ms. Tobi Portner for	Superintendent of Education
Ms. Sarah Beamer for	Executive Director of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority
Mr. Marc Alexander for	Mayor of the City & County of Honolulu
Mr. Lance Niimi for	Mayor of the County of Hawaii
Ms. Kanani Fu for	Mayor of the County of Kauai
Ms. Jennifer Stasch	Continuum of Care for the City & County of Honolulu, Partners In Care
Ms. Brandee Menino	Continuum of Care for the County of Hawaii, Bridging the Gap
Mr. Robert Shack	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Mr. Mark Chandler	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development
Pastor Daniel Kaneshiro	Faith-Based Representative

Absent:

Representatives from the Homeless Programs Office; Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; State Senate; State House of Representatives; County of Maui; Continuum of Care for the County of Kauai; Continuum of Care for the County of Maui; Business Community Representative

Staff:

Ms. Tamah-Lani Noh, Community Engagement Specialist; Ms. Julie Ford, Public Affairs Specialist; Mr. Eric Lopez, Homelessness Assistant; Ms. Ipo Paia, Administrative Assistant on Homelessness; Ms. Sasha Inouye, Intern; Ms. Andrea Suzuki, Deputy Attorney General

Special Guests:

Ms. Katy Miller, Regional Coordinator, US Interagency Council on Homelessness; Mr. Lance Goto, Deputy Attorney General; Mr. Leo Asuncion, Director of DBEDT OP; Ms. Jane Tam, Special Plans Project Analyst, Office of Planning; Ms. Debra Mendes, Planner V, Office of Planning

a. Mr. Michael Peacock, Hawaii Vet to Vet.

Mr. Peacock stated he wanted to comment on the agenda item in regard to safe zones. He is looking forward to see how this bills evolves because he feels this would have worked when he was homeless. He also wanted to agree on the importance of sustaining the state's efforts to address homelessness. He stated that he knows the importance of training and why the State is working toward a having a system in place. Mr. Peacock is working with churches and wanted to make sure we do not forget the importance of the faith based community.

The Chair thanked Mr. Peacock for his testimony and reminded the council of the work his office has been doing with co-sponsoring the Faith Based Summit that was held in April 2017 and how Hawaii County is planning their second annual Faith Based Summit with CoC–Hawaii. Chair also stated that we recognize the importance of the faith based community which is why we have been working with Pastor Daniel Kaneshiro and organizing resource fairs in the community.

b. Ms. Cynthia Rezentes, Leeward Housing Coalition and Kealahou West Oahu

Ms. Rezentes commented on SB 895 – Criminal Trespassing. She was wondering if the State has established rules for doing enforcement on State property. She stated that the City has been more diligent at doing enforcements in parks and the enforcement actions have had positive effects. She wanted to emphasize that the State needs to partner with the City since it seems counterproductive to do things alone.

The Chair acknowledged Ms. Rezentes testimony. He stated that the State does have policies and procedures in place that allow state land owners to address issues of unauthorized encampments on state lands. The Chair also stated that there has been close coordination with the City & County of Honolulu, and that he works closely with Executive Director Marc Alexander from the City's Office of Housing.

c. Ms. Connie Mitchell, Director, Institute for Human Services (I.H.S)

Ms. Mitchell stated that she was glad that the HICH was reviewing the plan. I.H.S has been engaged in outreach and she wanted to bring up that people are being released from prison without any place to go. She is requesting information from the Department of Public Safety on how many people are being released from prison due to serving the maximum time of their term. She would also like to know their specific needs before they return to the streets. Ms. Mitchell recommended integrating Substance Abuse and Mental Health in Public Safety system.

The Chair thanked Ms. Mitchell for her testimony and stated that this Council did establish a permitted interaction group to address coordinated entry, which includes the Department of Public Safety and Department of Health. In addition, the Legislature did provide additional funding this session for unsheltered persons experiencing mental illness and/or substance use.

V. New Business

- a. Discussion and possible action regarding the formation of a working group pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes (H.R.S.) §92-2.5 to review and recommend potential revisions to the ten-year strategic plan to end homelessness, and the Hawaii State Framework to Address Homelessness.**

Motion to establish a working group pursuant to H.R.S. §92-2.5 to review and recommend potential revisions to the ten-year strategic plan to end homelessness, and the Hawaii State Framework to Address Homelessness.

Director Pressler made the motion, and Executive Director Alexander seconded. The suggested composition of the working group includes Chair Morishige; representatives from the Continuum of Care for Hawaii Island, City & County of Honolulu, and Kauai; a representative from DBEDT; and a representative from the Faith-based community.

The Chair asked if there was any further discussion. Seeing none, the Chair called for the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Discussion and possible action regarding appointment of HICH members, in accordance with House Concurrent Resolution 148, to a working group to address the issue of squatting in the State of Hawaii pursuant to HRS §92-2.5 (b)(2).

Chair Morishige provided background in regard to this action item. The Hawaii State Legislature recently passed HCR148, which requests the convening of a working group to examine and develop recommendations to address the issue of squatting. A copy of the resolution was distributed to all members.

Motion to establish a working group pursuant to H.R.S. §92-2.5 and in accordance with House Concurrent Resolution 148 to address the issue of squatting in the State of Hawaii.

Deputy Attorney General Melissa Lewis made the motion, and Director Pressler seconded. The suggested composition of the working group includes Chair Morishige; a representative from the Department of the Attorney General; representatives from the Continuum of Care for the City & County of Honolulu and Hawaii Island; and a representative from the Department of Human Services.

The Chair asked if there was any further discussion. Seeing none, the Chair called for the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Discussion and possible action regarding appointment of HICH members, in accordance with House Bill 83, to a working group to discuss the issue of safe-zones for homelessness pursuant to HRS §92-2.5 (b)(2).

Chair Morishige provided background related to this action item. The Hawaii State Legislature passed Act 212, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017 (HB83), which requires the council in conjunction with and with the advisement of the Department of Human Services and Department of Land & Natural Resources, to establish a working group to examine and develop recommendations related to the establishment of safe zones for persons experiencing homelessness. A copy of the Act was distributed to all members.

VI. Permitted Interaction Group.

- a. Report and discussion of the permitted interaction group established pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes (H.R.S.) §92-2.5 to review HICH structure and make recommendations.**

The Chair provided an update on HICH structure was established in 2016 to provide guidance on the structure of this council. It has been an important issue to get information out to council members in a timely manner. PIG has not met in a few months, but want to balance the work that is already being done to help streamline the process.

- b. Report and discussion of the permitted interaction group established pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes (H.R.S.) §92-2.5 to review and develop a sustainability plan for the Hawaii Pathways Project (HPP).**

The Chair provided an update on the review of the sustainability plan. Chair stated that he met and worked with provider and City and County of Honolulu to identify supportive housing.

- c. Report and discussion of the permitted interaction group established pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes (H.R.S.) §92-2.5 to review and provide support for the 2017 homeless point in time count.**

The Chair concluded this PIG. Point In Time count numbers were released and Partners In Care and Bridging the Gap were able to mobilize volunteers while working closely with Region Leads for the PIT.

- d. Report and discussion of the permitted interaction group established pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes (H.R.S.) §92-2.5 to review and support the implementation of a Coordinated Entry System (CES) to comply with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requirements.**

Chair Morishige noted that CES PIG to comply with HUD requirements. First meeting was done with state agencies to intersect. DOE is in dialog with DHS to input data into HMIS to ensure data quality with support CES.

VII. General Announcements

A. Chairperson and Staff Reports: March/April/May 2017

- Accomplishments / Highlights
- Planned Activities

The Chair referred to a handout entitled "Highlights of Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness Staff Activities, Monthly Report for March/April/May 2017."

MINUTES CERTIFICATION

Minutes prepared by:



~~Tamah Lani S. K. Noh~~ 
Community Engagement Specialist

9/18/17
Date

Approved by the Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness at their Regular Meeting on
September 18, 2017: [] As Presented [] As Amended



Scott S. Morshige, MSW
Chair

9/18/17
Date