



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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MINUTES

Disability and Communication Access Board Annual Planning Meeting

Location: Virtual and 1010 Richards Street, Room 118
Date: August 1, 2024
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Violet Horvath, Chairperson; Anthony Akamine, Ronald Awa, Rosanna Daniel-Kanetake, Nikki Kepo'o, Marie Kimmey, Summer Kozai, Gerald Ohta, Teri Spinola-Campbell, LisaAnn Tom, Charlotte Townsend, Board Members; Kirby Shaw, Rodney Kanno, Kristine Pagano, Elizabeth Pearson, Sue Radcliffe, Susan Rocco, Justin "Pono" Tokioka, Staff

ABSENT: Scott Fleming, Gerald Isobe, Michael Nojima, Board Members

PUBLIC PARTICIPANTS:

Peter Fritz; Genesis Leong, University of Hawaii; Sarah Henry; Tosa Lobendahn, Committee Clerk, Office of State Senator Joy San Buenaventura; Donald Sakamoto, President, Citizens for a Fair ADA Ride

SIGN LANGUAGE

INTERPRETERS: Darlene Baird and Jackie Gonzalez

REAL TIME

CAPTIONERS: April Chandler and Kelly DeCamp

- I. Chairperson Violet Horvath called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m. She provided an overview of the procedures for public testimony or comments, and remote meeting procedures.
- II. Roll was called, and Board members, staff, and guests introduced themselves.
- III. Statement from Public and Written Testimonies Submitted

Chairperson Violet Horvath stated that Peter Fritz submitted written testimony and read the testimony aloud.

Testimony: The written testimony indicated that the Programs and Services Manual should be updated frequently to include new or current information; displaying the full hyperlink on paper agendas filed with the Lieutenant Governor's Office, which should be priority 1. Also, the Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) should work with the Department of Health (DOH) to have standardized language on the accommodation statement for DOH entities, which should be priority 1. Peter Fritz added orally that he would like to see DCAB take a more active role in leadership with respect the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) coordination.

Kirby Shaw commented that the U.S. Department of Justice which requires an accommodation notice for persons with disabilities to participate in meetings, has no prescribed wording to place on public notices or agendas.

IV. Disability and Communication Access Board End of the Year Report Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024

- Staff accomplishments relating to the Plan of Action's Goals and Objectives FY 2023-2024

Staff provided highlights of the accomplishments of goals and objectives for the End of the Year Report for FY 2023-2024, and as well provided information on new or reworded and deleted goals and objectives.

Testimony: Peter Fritz inquired how often does DCAB collaborate with the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission (HCRC) on complaints, such as housing.

Board member Charlotte Townsend said historically technical assistance in the area of housing was referred to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) rather than HCRC, as far as civil rights coordination in linking the area of housing.

Testimony: Peter Fritz inquired if staff attended meetings of the Access Hawaii Committee and Office of Enterprise Services IT Steering Committee. The internet is a communication highway for a lot of people with disabilities and should be part of the objective.

Board member LisaAnn Tom joined the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

Kirby Shaw provided an update to objective 11.1.5 regarding a passenger loading zone in front of the Kamamalu Building. He spoke with Roger Morton, Director of Transportation Services (DTS) with the City and County of Honolulu. DTS staff analysis indicated that an accessible passenger loading zone is warranted, and a work plan will be developed.

V. Disability and Communication Access Board Proposed Plan of Action for FY 2024-2025

- Review of Standing Committees and staff recommendations for the proposed Plan of Action FY 2024-2025
- Approval of Proposed Plan of Action FY 2024-2025

Under Civil Rights and Justice:

Reword and change priority to 1: 1.1.4 Provide technical assistance to State agencies to assist in improving web content and mobile app accessibility for persons with disabilities in accordance with the U.S. Department of Justice Title II regulations. **(Priority 1)**

Reword: 1.1.8 Provide training to State and County ADA Coordinators and relevant employees on the new ADA Title II regulations requiring state and local government web content and mobile apps to be accessible to persons with disabilities (projected number = 12 sessions). **(Priority 1)**

Kirby Shaw said that DCAB requested a position that would provide technical assistance to State agencies, per the U.S. Department of Justice Title II

regulations to improve web content and mobile app accessibility for persons with disabilities.

Under Communication Access:

Reword and lower priority to 3: 3.1.3 Provide technical assistance regarding Hawaii Administrative Rules, Title 11, Chapter 218, including the Hawaii State Sign Language Interpreter Credential and the recommended fee schedule. **(Priority 3)**

Reword to include Deaf, Deaf-Blind, and other persons with communication access disabilities: 3.1.4 Update and maintain a registry of current communication access providers (for Deaf, Deaf-Blind, and other persons with communication access disabilities) and their credentials and post it on the Disability and Communication Access Board's website. **(Priority 2)**

Reword: 3.1.6 Provide quarterly continuing education workshops and trainings for State credentialed interpreters and individuals studying for a credential to gain workforce experience. **(Priority 1)**

Reword to include audio transcripts: 3.2.2 Produce videos in American Sign Language with captions, audio descriptions, and audio transcripts relating to the legislative process with the Legislative Reference Bureau and the Public Access Room. **(Priority 2)**

New objective: 3.2.3 Organize and prepare for a Communication Access State Conference in 2025. **(Priority 1)**

Reword: 3.3.2 Serve on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advisory Board (DHHAB), Department of Human Services, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation; the Deaf and Blind Task Force (DBTF); and the Department of Health, Office of Language Access, Language Access Advisory Council (LAAC); to coordinate with Title II entities to improve communication access services. **(Priority 3)**

New objective: 3.4.4 Pursuant to Act 204-24, SLH 2024, convene a working group to study the state of American Sign Language interpretation services in Hawaii and prepare a report to be submitted to the Legislature. **(Priority 1)**

Under Education and Training:

Increase the number of trainings to from 5 to 6 to 8 to 10 for objective 4.2.2.

Under Emergency Preparedness:

Reword: 6.2.2 Create and maintain a page on the Disability and Communication Access Board website with information in accessible formats to disseminate emergency preparedness information that is relevant to Hawaii. Information shared will be from nonprofits such as the American Red Cross, and federal, state, and county emergency agencies. **(Priority 1)**

Under Parking:

Lower priority to 2: 8.1.5 Explore State legislation that would allow permittees who qualify for a Disabled Paid Parking Exemption Permit to receive the parking fee exemption through a special license plate. **(Priority 2)**

Delete 'upon renewal': 8.2.1 Retrieve voided or expired placards ~~upon renewal~~.
(**Priority 1**)

Increase priority to 1: 8.3.4 Explore possibilities of a State or county agency enforcing accessible parking design requirements. (**Priority 1**)

Lower priority to 3: 8.3.7 Explore possible legislation to reserve van accessible spaces for use by permittees who use a wheelchair or scooter and/or use a vehicle with a side mounted lift or ramp. (**Priority 3**)

Delete objective: 8.3.9 Explore legislation that would deposit a percentage of the fine from parking citations issued for a violation(s) of Chapter 291, Part III, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to the parking enforcement agency that issued the citation. (**Priority 1**)

Reword: 8.4.1 Provide technical assistance, training, and other public education efforts to consumers, operators of parking facilities, and the public on the requirements of the parking program. This includes supplying the Department of Education with flyers for its driver's education program, flyers to private driver education operators, and users guides to the permittees. (**Priority 1**)

Reword: 8.5.1 Advocate for State and local governments to increase the number of accessible and van accessible parking spaces. (**Priority 2**)

Amend: 8.5.2 Advocate for ADA Title III entities to increase their number of accessible and van accessible parking spaces. (**Priority 2**)

Under Employment:

Delete Goal 9.1 and objective 9.1.1: 9.1 Policies and procedures for employment and training will be strengthened to promote and enhance the employment of persons with disabilities.

9.1.1 Assist the Department of Human Resources Development (DHRD) complete its Executive Branch Procedure Manual on Reasonable Accommodation for ADA Coordinators and update the Disability and Communication Access Board Reasonable Accommodation Manual to be a Technical Assistance Manual to complement the DHRD Procedures Manual. (**Priority 3**)

Board member Charlotte Townsend inquired if staff still does employment training.

Under Other Program Issues:

Delete 10.1.2: 10.1.2 Publish a newsletter to report on legislation and rulemaking (federal, State and counties), significant issues and events, conferences, training, workshops, individual achievements, community resources and organizations. Disseminate via email only. Solicit reports and information from around the state, including neighbor island sources (projected number = 4 to 6 newsletters). (**Priority 3**)

Delete 10.1.4: 10.1.4 Establish an interim notice and grievance procedure pursuant to the requirements of Title II of the ADA and post on the Disability and

Communication Access Board's (DCAB) website until the Department of Health (DOH) establishes a notice and grievance procedure that covers DOH and attached agencies, including the DCAB. (**Priority 1**)

The Plan of Action for FY 2024-2025 was adopted (M/S/P Ohta/Awa).

VI. The meeting was adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

NOTE: All votes were unanimous unless otherwise noted.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

CINDY Y. OMURA