

# DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

1010 Richards Street, Room 118 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V) • Fax (808) 586-8129 • TTY (808) 586-8162

# MINUTES Standing Committee on Parking Meeting

Location Virtual via Zoom and 1010 Richards Street, Room 118

Date: March 19, 2024

Time: 9:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Summer Kozai, Chairperson; Violet Horvath, Charlotte Townsend, Board

Members; Bryan Mick, Romala Sue Radcliffe, David Langille; Staff

ABSENT: Gerald Ohta, Board Member

GUEST: Alberto Perez

I. Chairperson Summer Kozai called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

II. Chairperson Summer Kozai reported no written public testimony was submitted.

III. The Committee approved the January 8, 2024 meeting minutes (M/S/P Horvath/Townsend).

#### IV. Old Business

# A. Parking Placard Issuance Statistics

Bryan Mick reported that in the first two months of the third quarter of fiscal year 2023-2024, around five thousand (5,000) placards were issued. Three hundred (300) special license plates were reauthorized or issued. Of the placards, about one thousand four hundred (1,400) were temporary and three thousand six hundred (3,600) were long term. DCAB issued one thousand four hundred thirty nine (1,439) long term placards and nineteen (19) Disabled Paid Parking Exemption Permits (DPPEP). The placard renewal rate was sixty-six percent (66%).

#### B. Email Notification to Permittees of Pending Parking Permit Expirations

For the first two months of the third quarter of fiscal year 2023-2024, DCAB emailed one thousand two hundred twenty one (1,221) permittees to notify them of their pending permit expirations.

## C. Procurement of Parking Placards and Decals

The long term and temporary placards and decals have gone out for bid. The decal bid was awarded, and the decals are in production.

## D. Death Records Crossmatch and Parking Permit Retrieval

Four thousand three hundred sixty five (4,365) death retrieval letters and prepaid envelopes were sent out to the estates of permittees to retrieve the placards. To date, thirty three percent (33%) of the placards were returned to DCAB. Three percent (3%) were reported as lost and fourteen (14%) of the letters were returned as undeliverable. The Committee suggested DCAB conduct two (2) rounds of notifications to the estates of permittees in fiscal year 2025 to see if that improves the return rate.

#### E. Public Education Efforts

#### Webpage for Reporting Placard or Access Aisle Abuse

Four (4) inquiries were submitted through the webpage to report abuse of a disability parking permit. Many of the inquiries are for vehicles parked in a reserved accessible space without displaying a disability parking permit.

## Webpage for Reporting Non-Design Compliant Accessible Spaces

One (1) submission was made to the webpage on a non-design compliant parking space.

Committee member Violet Horvath suggested DCAB advertise and promote the webpages. Committee member Charlotte Townsend suggested DCAB use the Midweek's Voice sectional to advertise the webpages.

## F. Van Accessible Spaces

Voluntary Informational Sign for Van Accessible Spaces at Places of Public Accommodation

Kirby Shaw is reviewing a press release about the informational sign. The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) has installed signs at State facilities.

Request State and Local Governments to Increase the Number of Accessible and or Van Accessible Parking Spaces at Their Facilities

DCAB has still not received any responses from their request to local and state government officials about providing additional accessible parking spaces that exceed the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) minimum at State and County parking facilities.

Requesting Private Entities with Parking Facilities to Consider Providing Accessible Parking Spaces that Exceeds the Minimum Number

Kirby Shaw is reviewing a letter to the Retail Merchants Association and Chamber of Commerce. DCAB will continue to seek ways to encourage ADA Title III entities (places of public accommodation) to create additional accessible parking spaces.

#### G. Draft Legislation

#### Travel Placard

Bryan Mick explained that House Bill (HB) 2447, would have allowed someone with an existing parking permit to obtain a second parking permit for travel and that the parking permit would expire the last day of the month following their return travel date, crossed over to the Senate but has not been given a hearing date.

Combination Bill that Includes Suspension of Driver's License for Using a Deceased Permittee's Parking Permit, Remittance of Fines Imposed from Citations to Agencies that Issued the Citations and Authorizing Counties to Enforce Accessible Parking Space Design Requirements at Places of Public Accommodation

Bryan Mick mentioned that HB 2446, House Draft (HD) 2 would be heard in the Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts and the Committee on Government Operations on March 19, 2024, at 3:35 p.m. The bill will authorize the County Examiner of Drivers to suspend a driver's license of a person who violates certain regulations relating to the use of disability parking permits. This will require amending the parking statute so that using a placard issued to a deceased person is a separate violation from other types of illegal use.

The bill would also remit fifty percent (50%) of fines imposed from citations for violations of Hawaii Revised Statutes §291 part III to the agencies that issued the citations. This will hopefully result in increased levels of enforcement.

The bill would also authorize the counties to enforce accessible parking space design requirements at places of public accommodation. This will provide a local mechanism when people observe non-compliant accessible parking spaces.

H. Volunteer Special Enforcement Officer (VSEO) Programs and Enforcement

## City and County of Honolulu

The staff assigned to the City and County of Honolulu's Police Department VSEO is on leave until June.

#### County of Maui

Although the County of Maui currently does not have an active VSEO program - Bill 65 (2023) would have allowed VSEOs to cite vehicles parked on the highway. Specifically, vehicles parked while sightseeing along the Hana Highway.

I. Change in the City and County of Honolulu Procedures When Applying for a Disability Parking Permit at a Satellite City Hall.

The City and County of Honolulu has implemented an online appointment process for obtaining parking permits and they have published a phone number for people to call for assistance.

#### V. New Business

There was no New Business discussed.

# VI. Open Forum

There were no comments.

# VII. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 7, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

# VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:54 a.m.

NOTE: All votes were unanimous unless otherwise noted.

Respectfully submitted,

**ROMALA SUE RADCLIFFE** 

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