

DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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

NOTICE OF MEETING

Disability and Communication Access Board

Standing Committee on Transportation Meeting

November 9, 2023
2:00 p.m.

AGENDA

The Disability and Communication Access Board will be meeting remotely using interactive conference technology. The public is welcome to participate as follows.

Public In-Person Meeting Location

Kamamalu Building
1010 Richards Street, Room 118
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Participate Virtually via Zoom

Click on the link below or copy and paste it into your browser window:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85104846489?pwd=MTlkL2c1VzIzVmZhZTB2U25KQ21BUT09>

and enter Meeting ID: 851 0484 6489; Passcode : Cars

To join by phone

Dial 1 253 215 8782 and enter Meeting ID: 851 0484 6489; Passcode : Cars

Public Testimony

Oral testimony - Members of the public may present comment or testimony on each agenda item.

Written Testimony - To ensure the public as well as its Board members receive such testimony in a timely manner, written testimony should be submitted 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting date and time. Any written testimony submitted after such time cannot be guaranteed to be distributed in time for the meeting. Written testimony may be submitted by one the methods listed below:

- By email to: dcab@doh.hawaii.gov
- By U.S. Postal Mail:
Kirby Shaw, Disability and Communication Access Board, 1010 Richards Street,
Room 118, Honolulu, HI 96813
- By facsimile to: (808) 586-8129

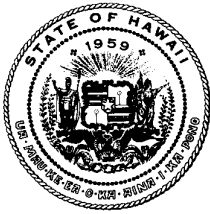
AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
Review Remote Meeting Procedures
 - This meeting is being recorded.
 - A quorum of Committee members is required to be visible on screen.
 - Raise hand to speak unless called upon.
 - Identify yourself before speaking.
- II. Introductions
- III. Written Public Testimonies Submitted - Review
- IV. New Business
 - A. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair
 - B. Adoption of Oral Time Limits for Public Testifiers
 - C. Review of DCAB Plan of Action – Transportation
 - D. Review of DCAB Guiding Principles on Public Transit Fixed Route Bus Service and Paratransit Services and DCAB Guiding Principles on the Mobility and Safety of Pedestrians with Disabilities.
 - E. Possible Standing Agenda Items
 - Public Transit and Paratransit
 - Streets and Highways
 - Pedestrian Mobility
 - Air Transportation/Airports
 - Water Transportation and Harbors
 - Update from Standing Committee on Parking
 - F. Discussion Items
 - City and County of Honolulu Taxi Voucher Program
 - City and County of Honolulu Rail
 - Kauai County Suspension of Bus and Paratransit Service on Sundays
- V. Open Forum: Public comment on issues not on the agenda for consideration on a future Committee agenda.
- VI. Next Meeting
- VII. Adjournment

If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, contact Cindy Omura at (808) 586-8121 or dcab@doh.hawaii.gov as soon as possible. Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled.

Upon request, this notice is available in alternate/accessible formats.

The agenda and meeting materials for this meeting are available for inspection at the DCAB office located at 1010 Richards Street, Room 118, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 and on the DCAB website at: <https://health.hawaii.gov/dcab/dcab-agendas-and-minutes/>.



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MINUTES

Standing Committee on Transportation Meeting

Location: Virtual via Zoom and 1010 Richards Street, Room 118

Date: November 9, 2023

Time: 2:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Violet Horvath, Teri Spinola-Campbell, Charlotte Townsend, Board Members;
Kirby Shaw, Bryan Mick, Sue Radcliffe, Staff

ABSENT: Gerald Ohta, Board Member

GUEST: Genesis Leong

- I. Chairperson pro tem Violet Horvath called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.
- II. Committee members, staff, and guest introduced themselves.
- III. Chairperson pro tem Violet Horvath reported no written public testimony was submitted.
- IV. New Business

A. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair

Violet Horvath was elected as the Chair of the Transportation Committee (M/S/P Townsend/Spinola-Campbell).

Charlotte Townsend was elected as Vice Chair of the Transportation Committee (M/S/P Horvath/Spinola-Campbell).

B. Adoption of Oral Time Limits for Public Testifiers

An oral time limit of three minutes with a notation that additional time would be granted to anyone requiring it due to a disability was adopted (M/S/P Horvath/Townsend).

C. Review of DCAB Plan of Action – Transportation

The Committee did not have any comments on the Transportation section of the Plan of Action.

D. Review of DCAB Guiding Principles on Public Transit Fixed Route Bus Service and Paratransit Services and DCAB Guiding Principles on the Mobility and Safety of Pedestrians with Disabilities.

The Committee asked staff to prepare a chart for the next meeting comparing the four (4) county paratransit systems for fares, subsidies, service hours, and service areas. Committee member Charlotte Townsend commented that she is traveling to Hilo and plans to use their paratransit system and some of the information they requested from her violates the ADA, so eligibility is also something that should be compared.

Committee member Teri Spinola-Campbell asked about the principle supporting subsidies for those on low fixed income and if the source of the subsidies was specified. Committee member Charlotte Townsend commented that there are various potential sources of subsidies, but the two (2) most common ones are from the transportation departments and from Medicare. Bryan Mick commented that to his knowledge, no counties have paratransit subsidy for low income riders, though the City and County of Honolulu is close to establishing one.

Committee Chairperson Violet Horvath asked if principle one which states that the paratransit fare never be higher than the fixed route transit fare conflicts with principle four which states that the fixed route transit fare for someone who is eligible for paratransit be lower than the paratransit fare. Bryan Mick explained that it is slightly confusing, but they do not conflict as they are indexed to different things. For example, the paratransit fare might be \$3.00 and the fixed route adult fare is \$4.00. That would comply with principle one. The fixed route fare for someone who is paratransit eligible could be \$2.50 to comply with principle four. This helps to encourage those that can use fixed route to do so, alleviating some of the demand on paratransit. Committee Chairperson Violet Horvath suggested that perhaps principle four could be amended to be less confusing.

Committee Chairperson Violet Horvath commented that DCAB needs to advocate for more accessible seating on buses. She often sees buses which have to pass by a wheelchair user because the wheelchair spaces are occupied. Committee member Charlotte Townsend explained that the City and County of Honolulu does not retire their buses very often, so it is somewhat random how many accessible seats there are on any given bus as the older ones lacked them. Committee Chairperson Violet Horvath also mentioned that the newer buses have the Q'Straint securement system where the person ends up facing the back of TheBus. This is not ideal and can make it hard for the person to know when they are approaching their destination. She also saw one person's wheelchair get damaged by the system which uses a mechanical arm to squeeze and hold the wheelchair in place. Committee member Teri Spinola-Campbell asked if the City and County of Honolulu has articulated buses in its fleet. Committee member Charlotte Townsend explained that articulated buses have accessible seating located in the front portion of TheBus. She added that DCAB should provide comments to the counties so that bids include specifications that exceed legally required minimums for accessibility and consider the preferences of disabled riders. DCAB should also advocate that electric paratransit vehicles be procured.

The rest of the meeting agenda was deferred to the next meeting.

V. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be January 8, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

NOTE: All votes were unanimous unless otherwise noted.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

BRYAN K. MICK