

INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

September 27, 2010

Council Chamber, 8th Floor

CONVENE: 9:07 a.m.

PRESENT: VOTING MEMBERS:

Councilmember Bill Kauakea Medeiros, Chair
Councilmember Gladys C. Baisa
Councilmember Sol P. Kaho'ohalahala (Out 9:45 a.m.)
Councilmember Danny A. Mateo
Councilmember Michael P. Victorino

NON-VOTING MEMBERS:

Councilmember Wayne K. Nishiki

EXCUSED: Councilmember Joseph Pontanilla, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Michael J. Molina

STAFF: Michael J. Geers, Legislative Analyst
Camille Sakamoto, Committee Secretary

ADMIN.: Milton M. Arakawa, Director, Department of Public Works
Don Medeiros, Director, Department of Transportation
Tara Sabado, Inclusion Specialist, Department of Parks and Recreation
Lori Tshako, Director, Department of Housing and Human Concerns
Kimberly A. Sloper, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the
Corporation Counsel

Seated in the gallery:

Marian Feenstra, Senior Executive Assistant, Office of the Mayor
Darlene Endrina, Executive Assistant, Office of the Mayor
Dennis "Denny" Schwind, Executive Assistant, Department of Management
Jarvis Chun, Supervising Land Use and Building Plans Examiner,
Development Services Administration, Department of Public Works
Ty Takeno, Engineer, Engineering Division, Department of Public Works
Robert Halvorson, Capital Improvement Project Coordinator, Department of
Parks and Recreation
David A. Galazin, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the
Corporation Counsel

OTHERS: Bryan Zoellner, caregiver for Elaine Ota
Karen Hue Sing, representative for Maui Wheelers
Christine McConnell

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Ramoda Anand

Jesse Orton, caregiver for Ramoda Anand

Doreen Forsberg, Chair, Council on Aging

Andrew Valentine, Chair, Commission on Persons with Disabilities

Sandy Baz, Chief Executive Officer, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Ted Lusk, Teacher, Baldwin High School

Theodore Grier

Baldwin High School Best Buddies program participants (approximately 40 students)

Michael McCormick, State Director, Best Buddies

Daniel Richardson, Maui Director of Best Buddies

Helena Ross, Teacher, Baldwin High School

Terry Miller, Teacher, Baldwin High School

Eric Johnson, Teacher Baldwin High School

Luz Ramil, Baldwin High School

Sheri Cohen, Teacher, Baldwin High School

Leila Adolpho, Teacher, Baldwin High School

Two (2) additional unidentified attendees

PRESS: *Akaku: Maui Community Television, Inc.*

CHAIR MEDEIROS: . . .(*gavel*). . . Aloha and good morning. I am Councilmember Bill Kauakea Medeiros. I am the Chairperson for the Infrastructure Management Committee. We do have a quorum present, and so at this time, I will call the meeting to order. Today is September 27th, 2010, and it is now 9:02 a.m. [*sic*]. Thank you, everyone, for being here on a bright and early Monday morning after the weekend.

ITEM NO. 38: QUALITY OF SERVICES AVAILABLE TO PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED PERSONS (C.C. No. 10-70)

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Appreciate your attendance, Members, and those of you up in the gallery from the public and those that have been invited to be on our panel this morning. At this time, I'd like to introduce, first, the Voting Committee Members. Mr. Joseph Pontanilla is excused and he is the Vice-Chair. We have Member Gladys Baisa. Morning, Gladys.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: We have Member Sol P. Kaho'ohalahala.

COUNCILMEMBER KAHO'OHALAHALA: Aloha, good morning, Chair.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Aloha and good morning. We have the Council Chair, Mr. Danny A. Mateo.

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COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Good morning.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Good morning. We have excused the Council Vice-Chair, Mr. Michael J. Molina, and we have in attendance Member Michael P. Victorino.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Good morning. And we have Non-Voting Committee Member this morning joining us is Mr. Wayne K. Nishiki.

COUNCILMEMBER NISHIKI: Morning.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Good morning. I'd like to introduce the other support from the Administration and the Committee this morning. From the Department of Corporation Counsel, we have Deputy Corporation Counsel Kim Sloper. Good morning. From the Administration, even though they're not on the panel this morning, we have invited them to be here to listen in on this and possibly to be available should some questions come up from the Members, and we would be able to call them down to the podium. And from the Mayor's Office, we have Marian Feenstra, the Senior Executive Assistant in the gallery. Good morning. And we also have Dennis Schwind, Executive Assistant to the Managing Director. Good morning. Thank you for being here. We invited the Civil Defense Administrator or representative, but they're not here this morning. They had some kind of a personnel issue that they had to remain at their office, but we thank them for considering to be here. On the panel this morning...and after I introduce them, certainly I'll have them say more about themselves and what their connection would be to the item we have this morning. On the panel and not in the order that they're sitting but in the order that I have them listed, we have the Director of Public Works, Director Milton Arakawa, who's not here yet. He's going to come after...oh, he's here in the gallery, but he's gonna come and be seated once we get through with the testimony. Representing the Department of Housing and Human Concerns, we have the Director Lori Tshako. Lori, good morning. Representing the Department of Parks and Recreation, we have Ms. Tara Sabado.

MS. SABADO: Good morning.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Good morning. Thank you for being here. From the Department of Transportation, Mr...we have Mr. Don Medeiros.

MR. MEDEIROS: Good morning.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Good morning, Don. From the Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc., we have the Executive Director, Mr. Sandy Baz.

MR. BAZ: Good morning.

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CHAIR MEDEIROS: Aloha, good morning. From the Council of [*sic*] Aging, we have Chair Doreen Forsberg. Aloha, good morning. And from the Commission on Persons with Disabilities, we have the Chair, Mr. Andrew Valentine. Aloha. Aloha. And my staff this morning which makes the wheels on this Committee turn, we have Ms. Camille Sakamoto, Committee Secretary, to my left; and to my far left, we have Mr. Mike Geers, our Legislative Assistant...Analyst, I'm sorry. Okay. Members, we have just one item that I scheduled for this morning, and the purpose to schedule just one item is I wanted to be sure that we have, we had sufficient and appropriate time to discuss this item. Because this is very important to all of us and especially to those that are physically challenged or disabled. I just want to point out also that we have quite a panel here this morning, and I appreciate their attendance to be here. I know they're all very busy as we all are, but we can see the importance of this agenda item by their attendance. So once again, I thank them for being here. Before we go any further, I want to ask the Members and the panelists and those in the gallery to please shut off or put your cell phones on the vibra-mode or turn them off or any other devices that may go off during the proceedings of this meeting, so we would minimize disruption. Thank you for your cooperation. We're gonna now have the opportunity for people to come up and testify. And the first testifier we have--I'm not sure if the person still wants to come up; I have a note that he may not--Mr. Theodore Grier. Are you going to testify? Okay. Thank you for that. And then we have a second testifier, but before we do that, I want to give you the ground rules for testifying. You come up and give your name and any agency or group you may be representing. You have three minutes to testify. When the yellow light comes on, you have 30 seconds, and when the red light comes on, you need to conclude. So at this time, I'm going to call the first testifier up, and he is Mr. Bryan Zoeller, Zoellner. Please, if you come forward. Good morning.

...BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY...

MR. ZOELLNER: Hi

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Yeah. Give your name and if you're representing anyone or any group.

MR. ZOELLNER: My name is Bryan Zoellner and I represent Elaine Ota. I'm her fulltime caregiver. I'd like to start by just saying that we, we live in Kihei which...and we, we chose to live there on purpose, because it's relatively new and accessible. The sidewalks are nice and wide and, and open and clear as opposed to other parts of the island where the sidewalks are old, cracked, and narrow, and things are growing over them. But I just wanted to say that we travelled to a friend's house. He lives about 20-minute walk so we walked there, and his neighborhood is just above Shaka Pizza in Kihei and there's no sidewalks in that whole neighborhood. And I know that there's a proper way to go about asking for sidewalks, but what really concerns me is that there was speed bumps put in and that just makes it even more hard to get around. It's, it's not...I just ask that people would please put sidewalks before speed bumps, 'cause speed bumps are just...that's too hard to get around in a wheelchair. Every little bump hurts, really does. Another note I

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had was the night of the bon dance, the last bon dance in Kihei, we were taking the Maui Bus and we were waiting at the bus stop. We were there pretty early, it was like 5:30, and there was lots of people waiting on, for the bus. And the bus driver had let everybody else on first and then told us there wasn't any more room on the bus for a wheelchair. And we were like what, why did you just let these 15 people on the bus first? And he says well, I'm sorry, they just cut in line and now there's no room for a wheelchair. I'm really sorry. And so we were, I don't know, given the choice to either walk and we walk often. Elaine...and we get around just fine, but it just to us was, we were waiting for the bus for 15 minutes and we could have been there already if we had just walked. So we, I got on the bus and just, you know, saw there was obviously room, but the bus was running late and so he didn't want to help us. And it was, you know, it was just really upsetting and then after we had even gotten on the bus, the bus driver was, was telling us like oh, we don't have to help you on the bus if, if we don't have time or the bus is full. I'm really sorry. And that just upset me even more that why...like that just made it worse, the fact that he didn't want to help us and then trying to tell us that he didn't have to help us. And that's all I got.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Zoellner.

MR. ZOELLNER: Yeah. . . .(Inaudible). . .

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Members, any questions for the testifier? Mr. Victorino followed by Member Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Zoellner for being here. Was a complaint made to the bus system, to the Department of Transportation?

MR. ZOELLNER: No. Most bus drivers are actually really nice. Most of them are great and they're more than happy to help. And it's few and far between that we get somebody that wants to like refuse us boarding.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yeah.

MR. ZOELLNER: So...

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: You know, and the reason I'm saying that is we cannot improve the system or the Department of Transportation along with the provider cannot improve the system unless we know of these incidents so that we can take, what I call, appropriate action. To me there's no reason that...number one, you guys should have been first, and I think that's the protocol, and secondly, not allowing you on the bus even thereafter because it was full. I mean that, that to me made no sense. And then what the other incidents that you occur, you also mentioned. What, you don't know what street this is that--and I'm changing the subject right now--that you said the street had no sidewalks but they put speed bumps?

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MR. ZOELLNER: Yeah. It's Mahina. . . *(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Mahina? Okay. Mahina.

MR. ZOELLNER: And it's off of Kupuna above Shaka Pizza.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Above Shaka Pizza. Yeah, yeah. Okay. I just wanted to know what street you were referring to and...

MR. ZOELLNER: Speed bumps went in less than a year ago.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Uh-huh. Okay.

MR. ZOELLNER: And there's still no sidewalks.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Okay. But, you know, that's the only thing I would recommend in the future. Any kind of incident like that, get the name of the bus driver, what time, what date, and all of that stuff, and report it. Because we cannot improve if you just constantly say oh, never mind, you know.

MR. ZOELLNER: . . . *(Inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: And then...you understand what I'm saying, Mr. Zoellner?

MR. ZOELLNER: Uh-huh.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: You know, and we've talked about this before, so this is not something new.

MR. ZOELLNER: Yeah. Definitely.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: So please in the future, if you don't and if you don't want to do it then call my office. You know, I'll go look into it, but, you know, just not, do nothing, it makes me angry because then that's just says we're condoning it. And we do not condone that.

MR. ZOELLNER: I was also thinking maybe having a complaint line clearly listed on the bus, every bus so that people know where, who to call and, and what to say. Because I've called Roberts --

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yeah.

MR. ZOELLNER: --and complained, and they don't really care too much.

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COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: We'll talk to the Director about that. I think that's a great idea, you know --

MR. ZOELLNER: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: --for any, not only for you folks but any of our constituents or any of our clients that may have a challenge, not only that but other issues. That'd be a good idea to have, so thank you Mr. Zoellner for the opportunity. Thank you Mr. Chair.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Ms. Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: My question was answered. Thank you.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. Thank you. I think my, my questions were, too, but let, let me see. Yeah. I was gonna ask you, you reported the incident that you talked about. But I was going to ask you, were other experiences good? And you did say most of the bus drivers had been very accommodative and so forth. The other question I wanna ask you--and if you don't know that I'll ask the Director of Transportation--is that are there designated seats in the bus for wheelchair people?

MR. ZOELLNER: Yeah. The green bus has two seats designated for persons with disabilities. And in the white buses, there's actually the entire front row or the entire lower side of the bus, there's four tie-downs.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. So, so my question would be if there are designated seating why was it full if there was only one wheelchair waiting?

MR. ZOELLNER: Yeah. I don't know.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: . . . *(Inaudible)* . . .

MR. ZOELLNER: There, there was another wheelchair on the bus but there was two seats.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Right.

MR. ZOELLNER: And one of the seats wasn't being used.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. Maybe...and you did say you approached the bus driver?

MR. ZOELLNER: Yes.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay.

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MR. ZOELLNER: And I , I just, I actually went on the bus myself and saw that there was room. And I said this is, this is the space where she's gonna go. And I just insisted that we took the bus. And we did end up taking that bus that day.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Oh.

MR. ZOELLNER: You just had to really insist and, you know, pretty much pull the, the seat out myself.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. So you did get a ride on that bus.

MR. ZOELLNER: Yeah.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. Well...

MR. ZOELLNER: But then afterwards --

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay.

MR. ZOELLNER: --was when he said you know we don't have to make room for you.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Uh-huh. And, and my final question is regarding not having sidewalks on, on those streets that you mentioned and then mentioning that it's difficult to maneuver around the speed humps. So on the streets that you're familiar with without sidewalks, does the wheelchair then go on the road?

MR. ZOELLNER: Yeah. On the road.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: I see.

MR. ZOELLNER: And it's not very well lit, as well. And I think that's why people put the speed bumps. It's 'cause it's...people drive very fast --

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Right.

MR. ZOELLNER: --on that street. And like, it just common sense to me if you got a problem with people being on the road and you're scared for them to get hit don't put speed bumps, put sidewalks.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. Okay. Thank you so much for your testimony this morning. And, and thank you for bringing the person that you care for to, to the meeting.

MR. ZOELLNER: Thank you.

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CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. Any other questions, Members? I'm sorry. Okay. Seeing none, thank you. Next to testify is Karen Hue Sing and she's a representative of the Maui Wheelers. Would you come forward, please. If you need some assistance we can provide that for you. Ms. Hue Sing, good morning.

MS. HUE SING: Good morning.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you for coming to the meeting.

MS. HUE SING: My pleasure.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Go ahead.

MS. HUE SING: I'm here this morning as a representative of the Maui Wheelers. We're a group of persons with disabilities that use wheelchairs or other mobility devices.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Yeah. And give us --

MS. HUE SING: And...

CHAIR MEDEIROS: --your name for the record.

MS. HUE SING: My name is Karen Hue Sing.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you.

MS. HUE SING: A lot of...

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Proceed.

MS. HUE SING: I don't see any of our other members here besides Elaine and Bryan and Mr. Valentine, another friend, Christine. And I think one reason is because for peoples with, people with disabilities, a lot of us have caregivers and so my morning started at 6 o'clock. That meant my nurse aide started at 5:00, getting up and so I would suggest that perhaps we could hold meetings for people with disabilities at a later time that would allow them to come. So that would be my first request. Other than that, I was here the last time we had this meeting, and you know, I, I've received good services from the County and I am able to advocate for good treatment or even excellent treatment. And I have been given that respect, so I appreciate it. I have dealt with the Office on Aging. I attend their ADRC meetings, Aging and Disability Resource Centers. And they have been extremely accommodating. Our meetings are held at accessible places. We get e-mails to notify us what's happening. They contact us. They're, they're open and willing to hear what we have to say, so that's one venue that we can go to, to request what, what's needed. Also again through the County Parks and Recreation, my participation has been with a swimming program which Tara Sabado initiated and it was

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excellent. It was an opportunity for several of us to finally get into the water. Many persons had not been in there, you know, in the swimming pool, for quite awhile. The lifeguards were...you know, she, I guess she did training ahead of time, so they knew what to expect. She had volunteers. I can't say where they were from, but they were kind, they were young, you know, young, young people, different ages. And so it's great to have the community come and support us. There was also a tennis program that just finished. I wasn't able to attend. Perhaps Mr. Valentine could tell you about that, that event. But also that got some of our other members out to participate and, you know, get the recreational, social, and also it's very empowering to be able to be out there and, you know, do what maybe you used to or to try something for the first time and feel successful. You know, that's real important. I will say I'm disappointed that there's not other people here to come and express their concerns, because of course, you know, when I came in, I heard Mr. Victorino saying, you know, if no-one says anything no-one knows about it. Well unfortunately for us, and I guess with myself being a, having a physical disability, I'll have people come off the street and tell me things. You know, so I always say, you know, you have an opportunity to come or write a letter, let people know what's going on. So in a sense, those of us that do come and participate in bettering our community, we, we carry a heavy burden on our shoulders, because we hear from many people with disabilities --

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Ms. Hue Sing, would you conclude.

MS. HUE SING: --different problems. And so that...I will conclude by saying for those in the community, if you have something you are dissatisfied with take steps to make a difference.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you so much for your testimony and for your presence here --

MS. HUE SING: You're welcome.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: --this morning. I, I can say that because of my meetings with Mr. Valentine, that initiated my communication to the Chair, Council Chair, and that's why we have it in Committee now for discussion. So he, he did step forward and, and come and see me and, you know, put it on our agenda. But thank you for being here. Members, any questions for the testifier. Member Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Yes. Thank you very much, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Hue Sing for being here. I know how active you've been. You've been an advocate for many, many years for many people and I'm sure they're very grateful for your help. Approximately how many people belong to the Maui Wheelers?

MS. HUE SING: We have roughly about 20 persons.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Twenty.

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MS. HUE SING: Uh-huh. . . *(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: So there's a whole lot more people than, than we see here today?

MS. HUE SING: Definitely.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: And...

MS. HUE SING: One person is in the hospital right now. Two others live in Haiku and they couldn't arrange and, to get here on time. I see another person that just came in. I don't know if he had time to sign up yet.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Right. You mentioned earlier that you thought that maybe having meetings for the disabled, the persons with disabilities that use wheelchairs would be better later. Did you have an idea about what time might work for you?

MS. HUE SING: I think 11 o'clock or 12 o'clock at least. I know with our Wheelers' meeting we meet at 1 o'clock.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I see. So that gives you enough time to get ready and get your aide and get your transportation and go where you're going. Okay. Thank you. That's a very important point, because, you know, those of us that aren't caught up in that transportation and getting ready to go somewhere sometimes don't realize, you know, what is needed. And thank you for bringing it up. Thank you.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Members, any further questions? Member Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yeah. Thank you. And thank you, Ms. Hue Sing for being here. We've talked many times and even Reverend Valentine, and I've always been an advocate and continue to push for better services. You had brought up an interesting...at one time, you mentioned about some of the bus stops and the inaccessibility at some of the bus stops. You were telling me it was real difficult for you folks. Has anything been formally sent to the Administration as far as that if you'll, if you know of anything that's been sent to the Administration?

MS. HUE SING: I've also serve on the Mayor's Commission on Persons with Disabilities and we have requested several times for the County Department of Transportation to be present. And we've...you know, at this point, I don't where we stand, but we have mentioned different things. I don't know if there's a...we could find anything in the minutes, you know, exactly what it entailed.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Okay. Well, we'll, we'll...I'll make a note of that to ask Mr. Medeiros, 'cause he's here today, to look into that if, you know, if any action is been taken for you folks. 'Cause I know on numerous occasions, you've mentioned to me and

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I've said, you know, forward it to them and let's see what we can do to help you out. Thank you, Ms. Hue Sing. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Ms. Hue Sing, I think we heard in our first meeting that there was a Mayor's representative that attended the meetings. Is that your understanding? Do you know of that?

MS. HUE SING: The Commission on Persons with Disabilities --

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Yes.

MS. HUE SING: --that meeting?

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Yes.

MS. HUE SING: Yes. We usually have a Counsel --

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Corporation Counsel?

MS. HUE SING: --Kimberly Sloper. Jan Roberson is our liaison and she facilitates it --

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay.

MS. HUE SING: --with us.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you. Members, Member Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you. I just want clarification. You mentioned that you would like to see a Department representative from the Department of Transportation at your meetings. What meeting is that, Karen?

MS. HUE SING: The Mayor's Commission on Persons with Disabilities.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I see. So they're not...they don't attend regularly?

MS. HUE SING: They don't.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Okay. Thank you very much.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: And just to give you some information on that. I know for us on the Council, for us to request a representative from the Administration, we make that request through the Mayor's Office, and through that we get the representatives here. So I'm not sure if the Commission that you're speaking about makes request to the Mayor's Office to have somebody there from either our Department of Transportation or from the Mayor's Executive Assistants.

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MS. HUE SING: We have and there's a process. We have to write a letter, we have to draft it, so sometimes it might take even two meetings before it's approved by the members, and then it's submitted to the Mayor, and then we wait for an answer.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. Thank you. And, you know, I did invite the Mayor's Office, and they have representatives here sitting in the gallery, so I'm sure they'll take that back to the Mayor. But thank you so much for your testimony this morning. Members...oh, Mr. Nishiki.

COUNCILMEMBER NISHIKI: Yeah. Thank you and, and it is nice to hear someone like you with disability speak so positively today. I, I was curious since you've been a part of this council or you've been attending meetings, have you seen activities and services improve?

MS. HUE SING: I definitely have seen improvement, and it's because we've made requests. And there's a lot more that could be asked of if people come and ask. You know, we, at our own Maui Wheelers meeting, you know, I had a participant tell me that I should be doing more at the Mayor's Commission. And so that's when I said you're welcome to come, you know. Here we have the meetings and we don't have anyone in the public to express concerns. You know, I, I'm there and I'm there because I care and I'm bringing issues. I mean we have a mile-long, you know, things that we want to do. So, you know, I, I always have to go back to say, you know, to other people please come and voice your concerns. We're there to do what we can and we are busy. You know, we're doing things. We've had a request about the County Fair, so we've tried to address it. We're not there doing nothing, you know, that's what's I'm trying to say.

COUNCILMEMBER NISHIKI: Yeah. And, and I thank --

MS. HUE SING: We, we're real busy.

COUNCILMEMBER NISHIKI: --and I thank you. It, it seems like since the inception of public transportation, which I think you people rely a lot upon to get around, I personally, despite that, that I'm not handicapped, I've seen the transportation system constantly improve. But today I hear it's in pieces of isolated concerns. In your participation, in your experience, has transportation deeply improved for those of you handicapped?

MS. HUE SING: It's improved because...

COUNCILMEMBER NISHIKI: Yes or no?

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Go ahead, Ms.

MS. HUE SING: Then I'll say no.

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COUNCILMEMBER NISHIKI: No, no. I mean...you can explain.

MS. HUE SING: It's improved because we have more transportation; however, we constantly have to advise the drivers how to do correct tie-downs. I mean I just did it again yesterday.

COUNCILMEMBER NISHIKI: Thank you.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Members, any other questions for the testifiers. See none, Ms. Hue Sing, thank you so much for being here this morning and for your testimony.

MS. HUE SING: You're welcome and thank you

CHAIR MEDEIROS: You're welcome. Next to testify will be Christine McConnell, if Christine will come forward, please. Good morning. If you'll state your name and if you're representing any group or agency, but thank you for being here this morning.

MS. McCONNELL: Mahalo.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Aloha pilikea.

MS. McCONNELL: Much mahalo. My name is Christine. . .*(inaudible)*. . .McConnell. I represent McConnell and Associates and I also brought with them myself. So I'm a dual partner. I just want to...I know...there's only good. . .*(inaudible)*. . .right? So I realize that . . .*(inaudible)*. . . most likely. I came to Maui eight months ago and I found it very disturbing that no-one was celebrating the 20th anniversary of the ADA; therefore, I got together with the DDD Council and other members of the community and we put on a celebration less than a month. And everybody joined so therefore there's a need and a want to educate the public, and it was packed with people. So therefore I applaud Maui for the efforts that are trying to be made in the disability community. I found the Maui Wheelers and the Maui ohana in Maui. So that is wonderful, but I think that more need to have education. As a retired professor and a resident scholar of the UH on disability studies, I analyzed intellectually we're about 18 years behind. So that was my goal and I'm here to testify that we have to speed up. I don't want to put you on the spot, Councilmen or people in the audience, but "handicapped" is a derogatory word. And it offends a lot of people like myself who is a geek, 'cause I am a resident scholar aka geek. ...*(laughter)*... So that is a derogatory term, because in the 1600s that the early white people was...never mind. I quit, sorry.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Ms. McConnell, are you done with your testimony?

MS. McCONNELL: I see the red light.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Oh, okay.

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COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Chair.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. We're going to ask the Members if they have some questions for you. Member Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Chair. Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you very much, Chair, and, Ms. McConnell, thank you very much for being here this morning. And thank you for the lesson. You know, having chaired the State Commission on Persons with Disabilities during the adoption of ADA, I have tried to stay away from using the word "handicapped", but I don't think people mean it in a derogatory sense. They just, like you say, we're not educated, and the proper terminology is "persons with disabilities". Is that still so? I haven't been on that Commission for a long time.

MS. McCONNELL: Here, like I said, I'm a geek, so if I analyzation [*sic*] and we're about 18 years behind. In the mainland, in Berkeley, California, and in England, and myself, I consider "disabled persons"...if we use "persons with disabilities" we're enforcing that we should be normal.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Emphasis on person rather than on disability.

MS. McCONNELL: No. It's --

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No?

MS. McCONNELL: --the other way around.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Let's...

MS. McCONNELL: ...*(Inaudible)*...

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Help us, help us learn.

MS. McCONNELL: Well, I don't want to use up your time.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No. It's okay, it's important. You know, we're here today to discuss services for persons with disabilities, and we want to make sure that part of this is that we understand the importance of, you know, how we refer to persons with, with disabilities. And, you know, another thing we say a lot is "wheelchair-bound" and I don't know if that's changed, but I was told that that is not an appropriate thing. You're very fortunate to have a wheelchair. You're a person who uses a wheelchair.

MS. McCONNELL: It's, it's wheelchair. ...*(inaudible)*... My way, I walk with a walker is where I like using my scooter, because it utilizes my energy more sufficiently.

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That. . .(*inaudible*). . .terminology...and terminology is always changing. So I can be . . .(*inaudible*). . . I was totally wrong. But the new and upcoming trend is “people with disabilities”, it sends a message that they want to be normal. Well, having a disability to me is normal. So I put “disabled person” because that’s who I am.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you very, very much for coming this morning. It’s a pleasure to meet you.

MS. McCONNELL: Likewise.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Mahalo, Member Baisa. Member Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you. Thank you, Ms. McConnell for being here. I was --

MS. McCONNELL: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: --honored to be at the anniversary celebration for which you were an integral part of, and I was very impressed with your presentation and the ability and the whereall [*sic*] to tell all of us that education is a continual. We think we’ve made progress but we’re not nowhere close to where we need to be. Isn’t that correct?

MS. McCONNELL: Well, we will never be --

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you.

MS. McCONNELL: --where we need to be, but that will be utopia.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yeah. That’s...well, thank you and maybe one day, I don’t...I’m not sure. And the other word that, that I, you used and I heard the world, that word “normal”. You know, I hear that all the time and, you know, “normal” is almost like in the eye...is like beauty in the eyes of the beholder. You know, it is really in, as an abstract word that should never be used. The only question I have for you is as far as this County and areas from which you come from...you come from the mainland, right? I know you were living there for quite a...

MS. McCONNELL: I come from the East Coast and I come from here.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yeah.

MS. McCONNELL: I’m a geek. That’s how I...

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Okay.

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MS. McCONNELL: I'm, I . . . *(inaudible)*. . . my dissertation on . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: How would you rate our overall services, transportation, and other areas for our persons with disability? How would you say, if one to ten, one being the best, ten being the worst, where would Maui County rate in your opinion right now?

MS. McCONNELL: Well, I don't want to answer that.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Okay.

MS. McCONNELL: Because I drive my own car and there's a lot of people on this island that lived here all their lives. I just got . . . *(inaudible)*. . . to vote, so to speak . . . *(inaudible)*. . . and the husbands. So I'm not here to judge. I just know the education system and the knowledge and terminology . . . *(inaudible)*. . . Maui, we are learning . . . *(inaudible)*. . . people with disability . . . *(inaudible)*. . . But in my perspective, I think it's wonderful that the Maui Wheelers meet --

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Uh-huh.

MS. McCONNELL: --and I, I believe . . . *(inaudible)*. . . 'cause I judging Maui and I can't judge Maui 'cause I only been here eight months.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Well, thank you for that honest answer, and I truly appreciate it. And I guess in closing, I say that your emphasis if you're saying to us today beyond trying to get the necessary infrastructure corrected and, and upgraded would be education so that we never forget and always keep first and foremost our special needs, our people with disability.

MS. McCONNELL: But can I correct you?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Go ahead. I love when you correct me.

MS. McCONNELL: I'm so sorry --

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: 'Cause you did that a two, a couple of times the other day, so no problem.

MS. McCONNELL: . . . *(inaudible)*. . . We're not special needs because special needs meaning we're special. We're not special. We're just people.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Hm. Okay. I...

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MS. McCONNELL: Lots of people think that it's special education, special children. You can have a person, a child with disability who is a brat. Are you gonna call that kid special? No.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Well, I, I, I and I'll grant, I'll give you that one and I will say this. You still in my heart of heart--I don't care what--you all are special people in my heart. So that's, that's where it ends and I will thank you very, very much.

MS. McCONNELL: Much mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you, Ms. McConnell.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Members, any other questions? Seeing none, thank you, Ms. McConnell, for your presence this morning and your testimony.

MS. McCONNELL: Much mahalo to all of you.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. We have another testifier signed up, Jesse Orton. Jesse. Okay, coming down. And he's a caregiver and representative of Ramoda? Is that correct, Jesse?

MR. ORTON, FROM THE AUDIENCE: Yes.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. What's the last name of?

MR. ORTON, FROM THE AUDIENCE: Anand.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Anand. Okay. Thank you.

MR. ANAND: ...*(Inaudible)*...

MR. ORTON: ...*(Inaudible)*...

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Would you be able to speak on either mic, please so we can get you on the recording. Which one do you prefer?

MR. ANAND: Aloha, Members of the Committee.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay...

MR. ORTON: Aloha, Members of the Committee.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Yeah. Give your name.

MR. ANAND: Ramoda Anand.

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MR. ORTON: Ramoda Anand.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay.

MR. ANAND: I've been working in Makawao for three years.

MR. ORTON: He's been working in Makawao for three years making the sidewalks there ADA accessible. That has been his hometown.

MR. ANAND: And it's really embarrassing to me. I went there the other day.

MR. ORTON: It's really embarrassing to him. Me and him went there the other day and I could not get him anywhere. I would have to walk in the streets next to him or like in front of him, not knowing where I was going and I got him stuck a few times. And I don't know; it's just kind of a disaster.

MR. ANAND: And as far as bus service, I, I have my own car.

MR. ORTON: As far as bus service, he has his own car.

MR. ANAND: I'm very lucky.

MR. ORTON: He's very lucky.

MR. ANAND: And I just want Makawao to be better for the disabled.

MR. ORTON: He just wants Makawao to be better for the disabled --

MR. ANAND: And for myself.

MR. ORTON: --and for himself --

MR. ANAND: . . . *(Inaudible)* . . .

MR. ORTON: --and all of Maui County.

MR. ANAND: And have to worry about being hurt.

MR. ORTON: And not have to worry about being hurt just trying to go to the store.

MR. ANAND: Aloha. That's my testimony.

MR. ORTON: His aloha. That's his testimony.

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MR. ANAND: . . .*(Inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay.

MR. ORTON: Questions? Okay.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Yeah. Mr. Orton, thank you for being here and for bringing Mr. Anand here this morning.

MR. ORTON: You're welcome.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: We appreciate, because I, we, we know how challenging it is to go from one location to another. So at this time, Members, any questions for the testifier? Okay. We will ask our Director of Public Works about the sidewalks in Makawao. And I know that the Department of Public Works is working on a plan to improve sidewalks throughout the County. And we'll see when that plan will be implemented in the Makawao area. So we, we thank you very much for bringing that to our attention and especially for being here this morning.

MR. ANAND: . . .*(Inaudible)*. . .

MR. ORTON: Oh, he's also a member of the Maui Wheelers, just so you know.

MR. ANAND: . . .*(Inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Oh, that's good to know.

MR. ANAND: I've been going to the Commission meetings --

MR. ORTON: And he's been going to Commission meetings --

MR. ANAND: --as a private citizen.

MR. ORTON: --as a private citizen.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Mr. Anand, thank you so much for being here and for your testimony and for your involvement with the community. We appreciate that.

MR. ANAND: Sorry for my nervousness.

MR. ORTON: He says sorry for his nervousness. And mahalo. Aloha.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Yeah. Thank you, too, both of you, and aloha. Members, that's all we have as far as people signed up to testify. But I will give this opportunity to anyone in the gallery that did not sign up to testify. You're certainly welcome to come down and

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testify, and we can have you signed up after that. It's only for people that have not given testimony at this point. So anyone in the gallery wishing to testify, come forward at this time, please. Anyone wishing to testify? This is a good opportunity to do that because of the panel members that are here and also representatives from the Mayor's Office. Okay. If there's none and seeing none coming forward, Members, at this time, without objection, the Chair will close public testimony.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No objection.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: No objection.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: No objections.

...END OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY...

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you, Members, and so ordered. Okay. Members, just a note for all of you. We are bare quorum now. Member Kaho'ohalahala had to leave, so we have four Voting Members and one Non-Voting. So we are at quorum and we can't lose any more people; otherwise, we have just to discontinue this meeting which has gone very well so far. At this time, I want the panel members to introduce themselves, and I'm gonna start to my far right, Tara. If you would introduce yourself, what organization you represent, and what involvement the organization you represent has with this item that we're discussing today, the services for physically challenged persons or persons with disabilities. Go ahead, Tara.

MS. SABADO: Good morning. I'm Tara Sabado, the Inclusion Specialist for the Department of Parks and Recreation. And our Parks Department currently, in regards to disabled persons, assists with access and accommodations in our public facilities: our beaches, our parks, our community centers, and our programs.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. Mr. Medeiros?

MR. MEDEIROS: Aloha. Don Medeiros, the Director of County Department of Transportation. And we oversee the Maui Bus operation, transportation operation as well as the Maui Economic Opportunity transportation systems that all of which serve persons with special needs, have disabilities. The equipment we have is all accessible. Yes, our infrastructure is trying to catch up with the Maui Bus system as we're only in our, what, fifth year of operation. Thank you.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you. Ms. Tsuhako?

MS. TSUHAKO: Good morning, Mr. Chair, Members. I'm Lori Tsuhako. I'm the Director of the Department of Housing and Human Concerns. The Commission on Persons with Disabilities as well as the Council on Aging are both housed in the Department of Housing and Human Concerns.

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CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you. Corporation Counsel, would you like to say anything this morning?

MS. SLOPER: Kimberly Sloper, Deputy Corporation Counsel. I advise the Department of Housing and Human Concerns. I also advise the Council on Aging and the Commission on Persons with Disabilities.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. Thank you. Mr. Baz?

MR. BAZ: Good morning, Chair and Members. My name is Sandy Baz; I'm the CEO for Maui Economic Opportunity. We have, of course, transportation services and a variety of transportation services for disabled persons. We also have other County-funded services that disabled persons have access to, including rental assistance, our Head Start, and Kahi Kamali'i programs for infant-toddlers and for pre-schoolers as well as chore services through the Office on Aging for either frail or elderly or both--as we'll get into shortly--persons.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you. Ms. Forsberg.

MS. FORSBERG: Aloha. Thank you Chair. My name is Doreen Forsberg; I'm the Chairwoman for Council on Aging. Our Council is here wanting to listen to the various needs that people with disabilities have, helping them to...provide them with more accessible information.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Mahalo. And, Mr. Valentine?

MR. VALENTINE: Andrew Valentine, I'm currently the Chairperson of the Commission on Persons with Disabilities. Our requirement is to advise the County, the programs and their budgets that, that provide activities and programs that assist persons with disabilities throughout the County infrastructure as well as give public advice on things they can do to make their operations more accessible. We are to disseminate information about accessibility not to force them. Let them know this is what you can do to make your operation more useable.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Mahalo.

MR. VALENTINE: Thank you.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Mr. Arakawa?

MR. ARAKAWA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I just wanted to mention that, some of the areas the Department of Public Works is involved with. We have been involved with curb ramp modifications which we've implemented. And actually this was as a result of a Consent Decree and Order which was filed in the late '90s, and we had to do a transition plan.

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And the implementation of this plan was completed in the years actually 2000 to 2005, and the County appropriated approximately \$10.8 million to implement this plan. After this was done...of course, this does not cover curb ramps on all County streets. So as streets are resurfaced, plans are reviewed by the Disability and Communication Access Board, which is a State Commission. And as needed, curb ramps will be implemented on those resurfacing projects as they are done. And of course as new streets come forward before the Council for dedication, these meet the standards that are applicable at the time. There was some testimony on sidewalks. I just wanted to talk a little bit about that. The, the County Code requires concrete sidewalks 6-foot wide on both sides of the street within areas that are zoned Apartment, Hotel, Business, and Industrial. The Director may waive the sidewalk requirement for M-2, Heavy Industrial Districts if there is...if the Director believes that sidewalks are not required for public welfare and safety in those instances. In Residential, Duplex, and Interim Districts, 5-foot wide concrete sidewalks are required on one side of the street, but if warranted by public safety or other identified public benefit the Director may require sidewalks on both sides of the street. And this is typically what we require for new streets. Sidewalks are required on one side of the street within one-half mile of any elementary, intermediate, or high school, or college. But right now, sidewalks are not required in the Rural and Agricultural Districts. There, the provisions on sidewalks that I just mentioned apply to new development, but there are, of course, a number of County streets which were built to the standards acceptable at the time but do not meet current standards. Thus new sidewalks are sometimes installed through the CIP process. And examples of this are the Iolani Street sidewalk in Pukalani and South Kihei Road sidewalk near Hale Kamaole. So anyway, that, that concludes my comments.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Mahalo, Director Arakawa. Panelists, any of you have any further opening remarks? If you did incorporate your opening remarks in your introduction of yourself and the agency then and that suffices for you then that will be fine. But if you have prepared open remarks beyond what you expressed during your introduction I'll give you that opportunity at this time. Starting from my far right again, Tara, any further comments or opening remarks?

MS. SABADO: No, sir. Thank you.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. Mr. Medeiros, Don?

MR. MEDEIROS: No thank you, Chairman.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. Ms. Tsuhako.

MS. TSUHAKO: Nothing further. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. Ms. Sloper?

MS. SLOPER: Nothing. Thank you.

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CHAIR MEDEIROS: Mr. Baz?

MR. BAZ: Nothing.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. And Ms. Forsberg?

MS. FORSBERG: No.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: And Mr. Valentine?

MR. VALENTINE: I pass, sir.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. So, Members, before we give you an opportunity and I, before the Chair opens up the floor for questions, I wanna give you some information. And this is IM-38, relating to the, to the Quality of Services Available to Physically Challenged Persons, and we understand from testimony that possibly the correct description of people in that category would be people with physical disabilities or just disabilities. Okay. Thank you. And this is how the item appears on our agenda, IM-38, Quality of Services Available to Physically Challenged Persons. And now we know how to correct that on our next meeting. The Committee is in receipt of County Communication No. 10-70, from Councilmember Bill Kauakea Medeiros, relating to the quality of services available to physically challenged persons in the County of Maui.

And with that, I'd like to...and the Director of Public Works did give his remarks on this. And, but let me add this to what you have heard thus far. I have all the Directors of, or their representatives from Public Works, Parks and Recreation, Housing and Human Concerns, and Transportation as well as representatives from Maui Economic Opportunity, Council on Aging, Commission on Persons with Disabilities, and our other departments. The goals of this meeting is first, to show this Committee's support and willingness to address these important issues. Second goal, provide an opportunity to communicate and help the public become aware of those services and accommodations that are available for the physically challenged in our County. And third goal, help identify and address those areas that may require further attention and allow for comments and suggestions from the public.

As far as general information, I want to share this with you, Members. Mr. Andrew Valentine, a member of the County's Commission on Persons with Disabilities and actually the Chair of that Commission, expressed deep concern with regard to the quality of services available to physically challenged persons in our County. He met with me on two or three occasions, and his concern at that time to me was that they were bringing up these concerns in their meetings, and the representatives that were at the meetings, but nothing was moving or getting the attention that he thought it should get. So I decided to write a letter to the Council Chair asking the Council Chair to place this item and, and

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refer it to one of the Committees, and the Chair referred it to our Committee, Infrastructure Management Committee as we introduced this.

Two of the goals, other than already mentioned of this meeting, are to get ideas from testifiers, panelists, and Committee Members as to what the County is doing right and to identify and address those areas where greater focus may be required. And, and I say this because it's important that we testify and we give information of what is right and what is going right with what we have, because all too often, we, we hear just the negative side. But we need to also express the positive side. And on the negative side, if something needs to be upgraded or improved then certainly that's what we want to do. The range of people in our County who may face physical challenges include our elderly, who may require greater assistance in getting around; injured military veterans; the disabled; and others whose mobility is somewhat limited. And this is a note that the goal for this Chair of this Committee is that I hear all the discussion from the Members and the panel participants, and with that, in a subsequent meeting, if it is so desired by this Committee, this Chair will prepare a resolution to move this item forward.

The discussion will give us an opportunity to see if we have other individuals or agencies we may discover or be suggested by Committee Members or panel participants for future meetings. 'Cause we're told there's a lot of organizations that are involved with something like this, and the thing is where we're limited to how many panelists we could have up here. As you can see, we utilized the, our entire, you know, desk area and microphones. But if there are some very important other agencies that we have not considered or do not know about, we'd like to hear about them and in a subsequent meeting, I will form an additional panel to further discuss this item. So with that, Members, the Chair will open the floor for discussion. Members, Ms. Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you very much, Chair. I've got a lot of questions, but I'll just ask one and then that way we can kind of move along here and others --

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. I --

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: --can have a chance.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: --I agree with you, Member Baisa. We'll just ask one each down and then we can return back for second and third chances to give information. Go ahead, Member Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you very much. My first question I believe is for Ms. Tshako. She mentioned that her Department is charged with the responsibility of making sure that persons with disabilities are, you know, taken care of. Who has the responsibility? I know that getting a placard in order to get parking for persons with disabilities is at DMV. But who has the responsibility of educating the public about how those things are appropriately used? Because I see a great deal of...I don't think that

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people do it, you know, intentionally, but I don't think people understand how those placards are supposed to be used.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Director Tsuhako?

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you for your question, Mrs. Baisa. I don't know who has the ultimate responsibility. I think all of us have a responsibility jointly to make sure that we don't use them inappropriately, those placards inappropriately. I think that my previous conversation with Mr. Valentine, he had suggested that he or other Commission members would be willing to help the Division of Motor Vehicles with either a presentation or some kind of written material to be included when people get recertified for their license and have that information available to them when they, when they get their license extended. I don't know off the top of my head whether the Communications Access Board has that responsibility for doing some of that education or the oversight of that. Tara, do you know? Yeah. So...

MS. SABADO: Do you want me to...

MS. TSUHAKO: Tara...I will defer to my colleague.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Okay.

MS. SABADO: Hi, Councilmember Baisa. DCAB actually, effective I believe this month, will be taking over the placard issuance. And they are the State department regulatory on public awareness for how to utilize the parking placards and the rules applied as well as created a booklet that and a manual that people can download from their website. And I, and as a Department, we have utilized that resource in order to plan for our parking placard replacement and sign parking information.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Chair, I see Mr. Valentine trying to say something.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Certainly. Mr. Valentine?

MR. VALENTINE: Mr. Schwind had found that...

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Wait, you need a mic.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: You gotta do the mic.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: You need a mic, Rev.

MR. VALENTINE: Denny Schwind, who is the ADA coordinator for the County, had located a DVD program that covered that issue that DCAB had put out that's available for putting on *Akaku* or whatever that accurately, you know, explains very well how best to use those parking placards and the spaces. And so some processor using what's already been

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published, if the County would present that some way to the general community they would see it. Everybody watches cable TV nowadays, so it may be a way to educate them like that. But there are media presentations that Mr. Schwind had identified that we need to find some way to put it out to the general community and it, it helps with that, as well as Police Department maybe going around and writing tickets a little more often. 'Cause those tickets are like \$237 if they find a violator. They don't...I don't think they do it enough.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you very much. I, I just think that, you know, there's a real opportunity for education if we're going to make those placards work. Thank you very much, Chair.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you, Member Baisa. Council Chair Mateo?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr Valentine, good morning.

MR. VALENTINE: Good morning, sir.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: The, the Commission, is it been given the kind of credibility that it deserves or are you just continuously spinning wheels?

MR. VALENTINE: ...*(Chuckles)*... Thanks. I think we're spinning our wheels. Based on the mission statement that's published on the County's website, we are not afforded the opportunity to really address in general those things that are pertinent to the American Disabilities Act as they address the general population. I, I feel like we're being held back a little bit in getting out there. But I, we're charged with providing information to the general population, but we're not giving, we're not receiving the kind of assistance I think we ought to have in doing that. If we're supposed to educate the community then we need some mechanism where we can get that information on a continual basis to the general public. I see a lot of violations, like the one testifier about the bus driver, a lot of individuals like that who have a perception that we, persons with disabilities, are getting too many breaks. I had a major issue at the County Fair last year on that very same issue and I see it all the time. People think, we know, we're just getting so much and they, it's because their lack of awareness or understanding what it's all about since there's no-one in their family that's, you know, directly addressed. And it is the awareness issue and it's not forcing somebody to do something. It's letting them know this is what the law says, this is what's required. I noticed recently on the TV that the President has a public service announcement on that very same issue of providing increased awareness to the general population so everybody understands what is best to provide reasonable and equal, you know, accommodations for everybody concerned.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Okay. Yeah. Thank you so...Mr. Chairman, if I could?

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Certainly.

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COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Corporation Counsel and perhaps the Department, in order for this Commission to be effective and to actually address their major charge, how can the Department or via Corp. Counsel provide continued advice to them in actually trying to comply with Federal guidelines in addressing the disabilities' needs?

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Who would like to respond to that first?

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you, Chair Mateo. My understanding is that this, the Commission on Persons with Disabilities is an advisory function and not either an adjudicatory function or any other more formal, have a more formal function as other commissions may have in the County. And so I think understanding the scope of that is important, because I think the folks who are there and who participate as part of the Commission are very knowledgeable. They have personal experience dealing with some of the issues that impact others with disabilities of one sort or another. And so the, the struggle has been, I think, that the members maybe feel constricted by the, by the function of what the Commission is supposed to do. And I think they would like to do much more than maybe the Commission was meant for it to do, and we were trying to work with them very, you know, closely so that they can have their advocacy and make meaningful recommendations and changes in a way that's allowable by their function within the Commission. And I think that's, that's kind of the, the...that's kind of the...that's kind of the, not the disagreement but sort of the discomfort around that.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Mahalo, Council Chair Mateo. Member Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you. Following along the same line of questions my colleagues have asked, you know, I'm curious to find out from...let's go to the Department of Transportation, because that seems to be the next big issue and Parks and Recreation. 'Cause those are two that really tie in together, Transportation and Recreation, you know. And I'd like to know do you...two things, number one, do you send representatives to these meetings so that they can express their concerns? And is any written response given back once these concerns are made, like giving timetables for certain things to occur or, you know, for, if monies are needed or whatever else might be so that people with disability have some kind of idea what's occurring, when it's gonna be occurring? I think this is so important. So is any kind of line of communication from both your Departments, Department of Transportation and Department of Parks and Recreation, is there any formal representation? And secondly, is there responses when concerns are given to you to this, this group of people?

MR. MEDEIROS: As I mentioned at the last meeting that we had here, we, we're starting to send a representative to the meetings. We've...and we had sent one prior to that meeting. Since then, they haven't been able to have a quorum so that haven't met. But we plan on doing that from now into the future for those specific reasons.

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COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: And, and will a response be given to them? You know, when they give you concerns, is something given back as far as any...and sometimes you cannot. I understand. I think even Reverend Valentine and many of these people understand. But is some kind of formal...in the future then, I guess we'll say some kind of response will be given back to them so they have an idea something will happen or could happen or may happen instead of just they give their concern. . .*(inaudible)*. . .it just in the air.

MR. MEDEIROS: Certainly.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Okay. You heard that, Reverend Valentine? Okay. Okay. How about the Parks and Recreation.

MS. SABADO: Hi, Councilmember Victorino. I attend all the meetings regularly and when concerns and system issues are, are brought forward, I'm able to address those directly with our Chief and Director. And usually they'll see the outcome pretty quickly as far as programming. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Well, thank you. I know you've...we have had issues with the pool and some of the other areas, and you guys have been...I've been privileged to be at a few meetings and you guys have rectified the situations fairly quickly. So I do admit, Mr. Chair, that Parks and Recreation has been one of those departments that has been very quick to respond to all of the concerns of our, our citizens with disabilities, yeah. So thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you, Member Victorino. Before I continue the second round of questions, I'm looking at the time, and those of you that are parked in the County parking lot or on the streets that allow only two-hour parking, if you got here by 8:30, you're getting close to two hours. So I'm gonna take a break shortly, but before I do that, I saw a group of young people come in and we always encouraging young people to attend our meetings so they can be part of it and know the government and public process. Who is the lead adult for those group? Okay. If you'd come up to the mic, introduce yourself and the adult leaders and the young people that are here today. The other way, the other way.

MR. LUSK, FROM THE AUDIENCE: I can do it from here, too.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: No. We need it to be on the mic. If you'll introduce the adult people that are here with the group and then just where's this group from and who are they? Introduce yourself first.

MR. LUSK: My name is Ted Lusk. I'm a teacher at Baldwin High School and our group is the Best Buddies Club from Baldwin High School. And there's 44 students here and we, we range all grades, freshman through senior, and we, like you said, Mr. Medeiros, we're here to observe the County and the government in action. And we're very thankful to

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have that opportunity and that we got a little break from school. And so we're, we're all ears. Our adults, well, we have about four adults. If I can have you stand up so I can...we've got Mr. McCormick on the far side. He's our Hawaii Director of Best Buddies. We have Ms. Daniel, our Maui Director of Best Buddies. Ms. Helena, she works at Baldwin High School with myself as a teacher. Ms. Terry, Ms. Terry works at Baldwin High School with me as a teacher. And, oh, Eric, Eric, Mr. Johnson, right here, is a teacher. And Leila, Leila that works at Baldwin High School is a teacher. But we're all here for learn, every one of us...oh, and Ms. Ramil on the far side.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Yay.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: ...*(Inaudible)*...

MR. LUSK: And Sheri, there's Sheri. Sheri works with Mike and Ms. Daniel at the office for Best Buddies. But again thank you for...I'm with...sorry, you're going on break, but thank you for introducing us. Any student like to have a question or, or...

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Well, well, we, we won't allow that --

MR. LUSK: Oh, okay.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: --because we're...I want...but I want to thank you for introducing them and certainly we always want to encourage young people to come here --

MR. LUSK: Oh.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: --and see the process of government. But would...those of you that are here with the group, would they all stand to be recognized, please, students.

...*(Applause)*...

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you very much.

MR. LUSK: Many mahalos, too.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. Alright, Members, I'm gonna take a ten-minute break. We'll be back at 10:30 so that people can move their cars if they have to. Hopefully, students, you'll remain here. We'll just be on recess for ten minutes, then we'll continue the meeting. This meeting is now in recess. ...*(gavel)*...

RECESS: 10:21 a.m.

RECONVENE: 10:35 a.m.

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CHAIR MEDEIROS: ...*(gavel)*... The Infrastructure Management Committee meeting of September 27th, 2010 is now reconvened after the recess. Members, thank you for that recess. And some of you got an opportunity to talk to the young group here, the students from Baldwin and the, their adult leaders. And they were certainly appreciative of being here and learning, at least observing the process. They would have stayed longer but they have a scheduled meeting with the Mayor and so they proceeded to go there. So, Members, we're going to continue. We, we did one questioning from everybody, so we'll continue. Member Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Yes. Thank you, Chair. And thank you for the break and it was nice to see Best Buddies here. It was very impressive to see the numbers. You know, I don't think we realize how many people they're serving in a, just one school. So, it was very, very good to have them here. Anyway, Chair, I want to follow up on some of the testimony that we received this morning, and so I'll ask one question again and then move on. But question is in regards to the, the comment that was made about a complaint hotline. And the reason I think that is so important and I want to ask Mr. Medeiros about it is, you know, when I was at MEO, I remember having a doctor call me and call me and call me and he said he wanted to have some way to report complaints about drivers or how things were being done. And he suggested that we put a bumper sticker on the back of the MEO buses so if you see an MEO bus, you'll see in the back a little bumper sticker that says, HOW'S MY DRIVING? and a number. So I wanted to ask Mr. Medeiros how he thinks about that? Mr. Medeiros?

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Director Medeiros?

MR. MEDEIROS: Any way to get information out has got to be a good thing, and so it's something we, we can look into and, and see if we can proceed in that direction.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you very much. I think it might be really helpful, because that way even the public if they see any, you know, funny moves or they see stuff, maybe a driver doing something they shouldn't be doing then we can get that feedback right away going to a central location. So that was my question for this round. Thank you.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. Mahalo, Member Baisa. And just to follow up on Member Baisa's, Director Medeiros, and thank you for that consideration. Does the decals on the exterior of the bus already have a number that they can call your agency if there's anything that they want to speak to the Department about?

MR. MEDEIROS: No. No, it doesn't. All of the stop signs, bus stop signs have, have a number, and that is the operator's number, Roberts' number. And then the schedules of course have, you know, the Roberts' number and, and our number in the back, but that's the extent of it.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. And that might be part of your consideration in your planning. Thank you. Council Chair Mateo.

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COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Chairman, thank you. The question is for Public Works and this is in regards to the testimony we heard from Mr. Anand and his three years in trying to work with the accessibility through Makawao Town. This would primarily be sidewalk issues and just accessibility. Could the Department provide comments?

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Director Arakawa?

MR. ARAKAWA: Sure. Mr. Chair, generally, I guess in terms of providing sidewalks on non-conforming County streets, I do want to mention that this past Legislative Session, there was a law passed by the State Legislature which basically encourages the County to implement complete streets which not only involve accessibility issues but pedestrian access in general, bicycle access, bus access as well as for cars. So we basically have to look at the entire spectrum of things that need to be included within the street. In fact in Makawao, we have a Federal Aid project which is in the planning stage right now which involves improvements to Makawao Avenue from Eddie Tam Gym to Makani Road, and Makani Road, from Makawao Avenue down to the school. And you might recall, we're trying to implement the concept of complete streets there as well to include not only physically disabled access but also pedestrian access in general, bicycle access. There's also a need for turning lanes as well at that, at that area. And predictably it's also going to include road widening and land acquisition. And that's been part of the problem in, in Makawao is that to, to include these amenities we will have to acquire land. And that's something we're working with the owners, affected owners with now. And that will have to go through an Environmental Assessment process and a permitting process to get that approved first, then come forward before the Council to get the appropriation approved. So it's gonna be a long process, and I think if we're talking about the other areas of Makawao Avenue and Baldwin Avenue within Makawao Town, those will face similar challenges as well as far as permitting, land acquisition, and, and basically funding.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: So, Mr. Arakawa, then at this point, we don't actually have any kind of a plan, we don't have any kind of a remedy at his point?

MR. ARAKAWA: We're working on that section that I was mentioning on. We're still in the planning stage for that section.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: That's from Eddie Tam to --

MR. ARAKAWA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: --Makani, but we talking Makawao Town, the, the...

MR. ARAKAWA: Yeah. Within Makawao Town, we'd have to basically come up with a plan for that. And that, you might recall, the Makawao Main Street Association had attempted to come out with a plan for a section of Baldwin Avenue. They're still a need to get a general community consensus on that plan. As you know, accessibility is a big issue

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along that section of Baldwin Avenue. The existing sidewalks are currently on private property, and, and they're not really accessible. So in, in order to provide full accessibility, we'll have to acquire land which will affect the businesses. And so that's part of the issue that need to, needs to be resolved.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Okay. So I mean real quickly then, Mr., Mr. Anand, who, who has been working on this project for the last three years, his best bet would be to what...to contact the--what did that?--small town group? I can't...

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Makawao...

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Makawao...

MR. ARAKAWA: Makawao Main Street.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Yeah. Makawao Main Street, is, is that his best bet at this point, 'cause they have a plan?

MR. ARAKAWA: They have that conceptual plan, but they've actually asked us to move forward on it. But we basically need to go and still get the, the funding from the Council to actually do the, the planning and the Environmental Assessment to get, get it approved. But in terms of immediate improvements, we can do things like repair existing sidewalks. If there are cracks, if it's in disrepair, portions that are in disrepair, we can respond to those types of complaints.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Mahalo, Mr. Mateo. Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you. I would like to ask a question, Mr. Chair, if I may, of MEO, because MEO has been an integral part of helping our citizens with disabilities for many, many years. Mr. Baz, I'm curious. You heard some of the comments made today as far as the bus drivers and the training, or, or lack of according to a couple of the testifiers. In, when you at MEO...your, your bus drivers are they trained continually on strapping and also loading and unloading of people of, with disabilities?

MR. BAZ: Yes, Council Member. We have a pretty intense training process for any new employees. They go through about a six-week training process of teaching them tie-downs and routes and all kinds of issues regarding not only just the disabled persons but in general.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yeah.

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MR. BAZ: Then on a regular basis they go through training process. We have two safety trainers that go through and, and work with individuals on that. We're also going to be working with Mr. Valentine. He has national training, things that we can bring in. Our trainers are certified as, you know, possible, you know, passenger assistance specialty trainers. They are certified through a national organization on how we do the training and how we do those tie-downs. We also get training from the manufacturers of the tie-down, 'cause they're not, it's not, it come with the bus, right. It's an additional thing.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Right.

MR. BAZ: So if it's a Q'Straint or whoever the tie-down provider is we also get national training on, on that from the manufacturer.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you. And I, I guess, Mr. Chair, if I may ask the same question to Mr. Medeiros as far as what their procedures are as far as training for, for...and I understand there is a little dynamic and let's make so that everybody understands. In your case, Mr. Baz, generally it's on a request basis. It's not like you pick up all over the island as far as on a regularly scheduled route, right?

MR. BAZ: Well, we don't run a fixed route system on Maui...

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yeah. Fixed route, I should have said.

MR. BAZ: But we do provide transportation for persons with disabilities or disabled persons constantly throughout the community.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Okay. And we have, and the Maui Bus system has a fixed transit system, right? So that...I just want to make sure the public understands the difference . . .(inaudible)... so we're comparing apples with apples, yeah. But going with the same apples and apples question about the training and development of drivers, 'cause we heard some concerns brought up by some of the testifiers. Mr. Medeiros, do you know if Roberts has a training program similar to what Mr. Baz has been saying with MEO?

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Director Medeiros?

MR. MEDEIROS: Roberts does have, have a training program and they use some of the, similar elements that was, that Sandy mentioned. Moving ahead, we will be bringing in some national, a national trainer next month, predominantly for the fixed route drivers to address some of the issues that were brought up this morning. Those do happen occasionally, and so we, you know, you can always better yourself and training is the way to do it. There is ongoing training. And, you know, you can just, you can only make things better.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Right.

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MR. MEDEIROS: You can always improve on what you're doing. What I, what I would like to bring to your attention is that specifically with the Paratransit operation, it, it is one that's been growing by leaps and bounds. In July of 2009, the, under the Maui Bus, that Paratransit service did about 1,300 boardings. This year, we are almost at 3,000 boardings. So with growth, you know, comes challenges and we look at them as positive challenges. And in the very near future, November the 1st, to be...if everything goes alright and I think it will, we have the grant agreement in Corp. Counsel now, expected to be out before the end of the week. MEO will be taking over the Maui Bus Paratransit operation. And so we look to that relationship and the consolidation of disabled transportation particularly in County of Maui under one moniker, that of Maui Economic Opportunity.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: That is wonderful news, Mr. Chair and, and Mr. Medeiros. I think we've had many conversations on that, Mr. Baz and Mr. Medeiros and a number of the colleagues here on the, in the Council. And I think they are well equipped, and I think that recognition of that, Mr. Baz, is, is a tribute to your organization, of course, Ms. Baisa, for all the years you were there and made the, gave Sandy the mantle and he's just continued making it better. So thank you and that's great information for the public to understand. And I think it's a good move on all of everybody's part. Just the main thing is our citizens with disabilities are served to the best capacity that we can possibly do. If we are doing that and that's the only thing we work hard at doing then many of the complaints may never, never happen. There will always be something. You know, it's never a perfect system, you know, and we all know that. But I'd like to have one day a meeting where Mr. Valentine walk in and says . . .*(pounds desk with fist)*. . .Mike, things are okay and not have, have deh, deh, deh, but. You know, the "but", every time when he starts with the "but", I go, oh, here we go. But I love the man, so that's why I want to hear him to tell me that soon. Okay? So thank you, Mr. Chair, for allowing me that comment.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Mahalo, Mr. Victorino. And the Chair would...before we go to a third round, I'd like to ask some follow-up questions, one that Mr. Victorino just asked about disabled transportation, Director Medeiros. Because MEO has that contract, now...what is that contract with.

MR. MEDEIROS: That will be...we're, we're shooting for November the 1st of...

CHAIR MEDEIROS: No. What, what is the contract? What does it involve, what kind of transportation?

MR. MEDEIROS: It would be the Paratransit operation for the Maui Bus.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Paratransit. Okay. Now, being that when we provide services, a lot has to do with what the budget is, how's, how's your fleet been affected or how do you

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utilize the buses that you once used for Paratransit? Can you utilize them in the regular transportation services now?

MR. MEDEIROS: The...wait, let me see if I understand. The buses that we use for Paratransit --

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Correct.

MR. MEDEIROS: --are very small.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay.

MR. MEDEIROS: They usually hold anywhere from about three to four wheelchairs and some seating. We don't use those buses for the fixed route. The fixed route we use the very large buses, 25 seaters and above. Is that...did I answer your question?

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Yeah, yeah. And my question is attached to that. Is...MEO has that contract now --

MR. MEDEIROS: Will have.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: --so what happens to our buses that you won't use in the fixed route? Did they sit idle now?

MR. MEDEIROS: The buses...if the question is are the buses that we're currently using for the fixed route what happens?

CHAIR MEDEIROS: No. . . .(inaudible). . .

MR. MEDEIROS: No, for the Paratransit?

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Correct.

MR. MEDEIROS: We'll be transferring them to MEO.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Oh, I see. Okay.

MR. MEDEIROS: Yeah. 'Cause Roberts will have no use for them, because--

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Right.

MR. MEDEIROS: --they're too small.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Right. Okay. That, that --

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MR. MEDEIROS: Okay.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: --was my question and thank you --

MR. MEDEIROS: That...okay . . .(inaudible). . .

CHAIR MEDEIROS: --for that response. Okay. Now I'll start the third round. Member Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you, Chair. And that's very good news to hear, Mr. Medeiros. Thank you very much. I think that's where specialized transportation will be served well. It's what MEO did, what they've always done, and they'll do a good job. I have another follow-up question for Mr. Arakawa. Milton, do you know...I'm kinda concerned about Mr. Anand. You know, he's been sending us e-mails now for quite awhile, and I think he has very justified in being concerned about getting around Makawao. And you know, those of us who had the opportunity to see him today knows that...you know, we know that moving around in that kind of an environment is extremely difficult and it's fortunate that, like he says, he has his own car and that he has an aide to assist him. But are there any curb cuts, like on Baldwin Avenue, where a wheelchair can go, or is it totally inaccessible?

MR. ARAKAWA: Councilmember Baisa, portions of the access ways are, are on private property, so of course those is not within our jurisdiction to, to touch. But, you know, we can certainly look at, as I mentioned, repairs for those portions of access ways that are on County property. If you're talking about widening, curb cuts, you know, we, we, I think we've, we can also take a look at that. Those are some, some things that maybe are within our control that we can take a look at. But if you're talking about the whole concept of complete streets--

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No.

MR. ARAKAWA: --and all that, that --

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No.

MR. ARAKAWA: --that's really gonna be more of a long-term --

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No.

MR. ARAKAWA: --issue.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I, I walked the streets myself for many, many years. I very seldom go into town anymore 'cause there's no place to park except for the occasional visit to Komoda's. But, you know, if you can't park and walk it's very difficult to get around Makawao Town. But I'm thinking more so for somebody like him. I mean it would be really difficult, but there are sections of the street where there might be a place

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where you could park and get in a wheelchair and go into a store if we had simple thing like a curb cut. But, you know, it's kind of complicated, because Makawao Avenue, I mean Baldwin Avenue even has telephone poles in the middle of the sidewalk. So, you know, you can't even get around that. So it's very, very challenging, and I think this beautification plan that's been talked about, that's, you know, kind of controversial and I don't think there's community consensus as to what, you know, will be done up there. But it needs to take into consideration ADA when it is done. And I'm sure it is, because I know Ms. Perreira has a tremendous amount of architectural expertise on her board and I know you do, too. So I'm sure we're gonna pay attention, but for now it's a real problem in Makawao because it's just not made for what it's doing. And I think this is a very important point for us to think about when we think about development and traffic coming through Makawao. It is already...that four-way stop is already overdone, and it's very perilous. And I think the only reason we don't see many accidents there is 'cause anybody who's familiar with Makawao Town knows you better slow down and know how you behave in a four-way stop or you're gonna have accidents. So that's it, Chair. I think we've pretty much covered what needed to be covered so this is my last question. Thank you.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Mahalo, Member Baisa. Just to follow up with Director Arakawa. Director, where the private property driveways cross sidewalk areas and unto the roadway, are those driveways...do they have to meet any kind of ADA requirements? I know the driveways up there are from plantation days, but what is the requirement now of driveways that cross sidewalks or intersect sidewalks?

MR. ARAKAWA: Mr. Chair, generally with driveways, similar situation with sidewalks, at the time the older driveways were constructed, they may have been constructed in conformance with the standards that were in effect at that time. But it may not comply with the new standards. So unless there's like a new development coming in, those driveways are basically considered non-conforming. But when there is a new development, we require the driveways to be in conformance with the latest ADA standards. And we would also require the sidewalks along the, the frontage of that new development to comply.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. Thank you, Director. So with the new ADA compliance requirements for new construction, those driveways now become accessible for people in wheelchairs or scooters, and does it meet their needs as far as ADA compliance?

MR. ARAKAWA: Yes. Generally, they'll have to comply with the requirements, and it's any driveway. Now they're required to be basically flat for wheelchair access as opposed to some of the older driveways which you see where it may have been more inclined and it's not as wheelchair accessible. So basically like I say, for new development we have to comply with those standards and especially if we're talking about State- or County-funded projects we are required to comply as well.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you, Director. Council Chair Mateo?

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COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Mr. Chair, I guess the question just goes right back to the Department. Ms. Tsuhako, we, we've heard and this is not, this is not new for us of the, the many challenges the disabled has, you know, within Maui County in terms of accessibility. As you prepare for your next upcoming budget, is there going to be considerations for potential, I don't know, awareness sessions or opportunities for the Commission to hold a large forum with the multitude of different players, so they can at least start the awareness communications needs, so that everybody can be on the same page and they know exactly what this sector needs and how to address them. Is that something that your Department will be looking at since this Commission falls under your control?

MS. TSUHAKEO: Thank you for your question, Chair Mateo. The Department has previously funded an awareness activity for, that was organized by the Commission. This year, I believe that we had asked the Commission to look at partnering with the State Developmental Disabilities Community who also provides that sort of awareness. And I think the deadline for that event might have passed without a partnership because of the lack of a quorum for the Commission over the last two months or so for their meetings. But that's what we're looking at. We're not looking at necessarily funding our own, because that opportunity and the venue for providing that public information already exists. We're looking at doing what the Department has done over the last three years, and that is collaborating with existing services to make them better, not necessarily to reinvent the wheel.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Okay. Yeah. You know, that's good. It's just the continuation of the, of, of communication, that seems to be, you know, a part of the snag. And, and also a couple of years ago through the Police Department, there was a program where volunteers stepped up and they helped in the handicap parking issues, where they were trained to provide citations to individuals, individuals who utilized the stalls wrongly. And that particular program because it was funded, you know, when funds lapsed or when funds were, were used, the program just died. So maybe through the Commission or with your Department, you know, you guys can start talking about the potential of rejuvenating that particular program. Because it actually worked for a real long time. And when that disbanded, you know, nobody really followed up after that and the Police Department just is not able to continue the program. So perhaps in...you know, and I'm, I'm, I'm just going right back to the upcoming budget cycle. It's gonna be tough, but, you know, I think we need to address some of the difficulties that we're hearing about. So thank you, Madame Director. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Mahalo, Council Chair Mateo. Member Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you, Chair, and I'm...

CHAIR MEDEIROS: I'm sorry. Director, you, you --

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COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Oh, okay. . . *(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR MEDEIROS: --wanted to respond?

MS. TSUHAKEO: Thank you, Chair Medeiros. I think, if I recalled correctly, Ms. Sabado was talking about the Communication Access Board rolling out a program to take over the issuance of those handicap placards, and I'm, and I'm guessing, that along with that new responsibility, DCAB will be providing some sort of public awareness for that as well. But what we're planning on doing is with Tara's help, we'll plan on having somebody from DCAB come as a guest to the Commission and speak with them about that and possibly do a little bit more follow-up afterwards.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Yeah. No. Yeah. I don't think there's any...in terms of the use of the handicap stalls, so perhaps that's something that the Commission can actually address by sending these large stores communication letting them know that each of the large stores...they have their own security, but there is no security needs for the use of the handicap stalls. And like when you don't, when you have no business being in there, you shouldn't be in there. And you should utilize the store's security in helping to monitor that and too many times, they're not. So, you know, I think maybe the Commission should just start to flex your muscle and, you know, start pushing back, Mr. Valentine, right? Thank you.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Mahalo, Council Chair Mateo. I just want to, before I go to Member Victorino. In government, we use a lot of acronyms, so DCAB is Disability and Communication Access Board which was spoken of, for everybody to know. Member Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And I think most of the questions or at least there were responses to many of the testifiers' concerns. I would like to ask and if, with your permission, Mr. Chair, if the different groups that are here, the Council on Aging, MEO, and as well as our Reverend Valentine from the Council on Persons with Disabilities if we would allow them a few minutes if they would like to put any concerns or any comments out to...oh, since everybody is here and the public is watching, if that would be okay? And because I have a few more questions, but I'd rather give them a chance so that and maybe that questions will be answered. Then I don't have to ask them. With your permission, Mr. Chair, I'd like to ask that.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. And before we do that, I'm going to ask them some questions then if you, you want your questions to be, you want to wait?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: I would, I would --

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: --prefer waiting until after --

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CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: --they have spoken. Then I'm, you know, then it may not be a question at that point.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: So I want to ask both Ms. Forsberg and Mr. Valentine these questions. And I'll ask Ms. Forsberg to answer first. In your meetings Council on Aging, in your agendas, do you have frequent agenda items referring to persons with disabilities and the challenges and what improvements might be considered?

MS FORSBERG: During our meetings, we've actually not have, I mean, there have been discussions, talked about during the ADRC times, we discuss it but not one in direct.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: So it's not something that you do on a regular basis or is it by if somebody says, you know, we should have this on the agenda and discuss it, that it then gets placed on the agenda.

MS. FORSBERG: Unfortunately, all our meetings, it must be on the agenda before it can be discussed --

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Correct.

MS. FORSBERG: --and no-one's brought it up.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Right, just like ours. And who sets the agenda for the meeting?

MS. FORSBERG: Actually the Council does --

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay.

MS. FORSBERG: --with the, Kim's approval and the board members' approval --

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay.

MS. FORSBERG: --also.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you for that responses. Mr. Valentine, same for you, question for you. The Commission on Persons with Disabilities, how often does important items on the agenda appear, because I know when you came to see me on several occasions and we talked about it. One of the things is it is discussed, there are concerns about it, but

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nothing moves forward after the discussion at the meeting. So what is your perspective on what's on your agenda and how do you move that forward?

MR. VALENTINE: Hm. We have got items on our agenda...I think what encumbers us at times is that based on how we're instructed in Sunshine Law runs, we do not have adequate opportunity to prepare for those agenda items and an opportunity to discuss those items, because they're, were not on agenda in a specific way. It's kind of a difficult question, Mr. Chair, because I think from past experience elsewhere, there are not enough opportunities to help the Commission members to be prepared for agenda items coming up. Sometimes we don't realize that discussion is needed until we get to the meeting. And if it's not already down in a specific way, then we're informed that because it wasn't there, it wasn't recorded on the agenda in a certain way, we can't discuss it and we try to comply with that, that, that discretion. I, I don't know off the top of my head how best to deal with it except maybe when we're preparing agendas that more information is gotten out to the Commission members in general to better prepare them, advise them to be prepared for these items. Now that may be an education...*(inaudible)*...to the Commission members. One of the things that I missed when I first came in, there was no orientation for us on how the Commission was supposed to work. Either we...we got the invitation, we were sworn in, say, here you are. And there was no instruction on how the County, how we were supposed to interact with the Department, how we were supposed to interact with the County, and how we were supposed to follow with our mission statement that, that we given to...*(inaudible)*...where your responsibilities are. There never was any in-service training for that kind of thing. And I think with...our Commission members come from many different backgrounds. There needs to be some kind of solidarity on how to approach these items. A lot of the members don't, didn't even understand the Sunshine Law before it was brought up and they still don't. And that's something that needs to be explained to them in advance, so they fully understand what's required. Some of them, some of them still don't understand how that's supposed to work. And so it kind of just blows over our heads. They come prepared to discuss things and if it is not in a certain format, I bring it up, if it's in the format, like Kim, Kim Sloper tells us it's not in a certain way, you can't do that. And they get frustrated because of that. So maybe there should be some protocol to help better prepare them to be Commission members. And, and I think, I don't know how the Commissions work, but I know in ours, it, that they just don't know. They come in expecting certain things and they find out they can't do it. And it's not a bad thing. It's just that they haven't been properly instructed or, you know, prepared to do the job. And I think they stopped...sometimes I think the members stopped coming because they're, they're frustrated on that point. Well, if I can't do anything why do I go?

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Uh-huh.

MR. VALENTINE: At least that's the way I see, see their reactions. It may not be that way, but it feels that way.

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CHAIR MEDEIROS: Uh-huh. Well, thank you, Mr. Valentine, because it is important that we hear from, directly from you folks that are on the boards and commissions. And I'm gonna let Ms. Forsberg...she wants to make some comments, I guess. Go ahead.

MS. FORSBERG: Thank you, Medeiros. For the Council on Aging, I know that we do go through orientation. All of our Council, we all had questions of what was our actual instructions of what we were there for. But I think that's why we were formed, because we asked questions. And each time, each new member come on board, they have the same questions, and I think that's what makes us better and that's what helps us to serve the need out there. So for the Council on Aging, we do have orientation. We actually had Lori Tsuhako come in and sit down and explain to us what was not expected but what they were looking, I mean, you know, kind of help us, guide us through. And then again, as each time a new member comes on, we get the same questions and we're there helping each other on. 'Cause there's no real direction of where you supposed to go. We're here to listen, I think, for the Council on Aging, we're there to listen and, and I think that's the best way we can actually service. Because there's never a right or wrong, like he said, and it's always changing. So we go with the movement of what is, you know...

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you, Ms. Forsberg. And I have to say to Mr. Valentine, I can appreciate your frustration for not being trained. And I think if it falls under the Administration, then I think like Ms. Forsberg, if she said their Commission or Council was trained then so should yours. And there are new members that come on board periodically during the, the terms that people are done with serving. So I think training is very important. I mean in any corporation or any nonprofit, they constantly have board training for their members so that people know what's going on. I think for the boards and commissions such as the one you serve on, Mr. Valentine, it's even more challenging and difficult because for us we go through the same process of setting the agenda. But we can't meet with our members, so we meet with our staff, and we have a staff. And the Chair with the staff decides what the agenda items are going to be prior to a week before the meeting, because we have to post it a week in advance. So I can see how difficult it would be for you to have agenda items if you can't meet with your members, either because the logistics is too difficult or because of the Sunshine Law requirements. So I, I think we gonna ask the Administration through this meeting if they'll give your Commission some training on, on, for the members and how to conduct the business of that Commission. But thank you for bringing that up, because that's important for us to know. Because, as you mentioned, if the members are not aware of how to conduct that then they get frustrated and don't show up. Then you don't have a quorum and you don't have a meeting. Right. So they should be well trained and they should be a part of coming up with the agenda. How they do that I'm gonna leave it to the Administration to give you that training in, in compliance with the Sunshine Law. But thank you for bringing that up, and thank you, Ms. Forsberg, also for adding to that comments. Director?

MS. TSUHAKO: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman.

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CHAIR MEDEIROS: Uh-huh.

MS. TSUHAKO: The Department does conduct Sunshine Law training. I believe for the Commission on Persons with Disabilities that may have been, we may have been a little late, because Ms. Sloper was out on maternity leave at the beginning of the term of the new Commission members. However, that's done annually. Ms. Sloper and I have also, as well as Mr. Ueoka, I believe, and our staff has also tried really hard to work with the Commission and to help them to understand the limit and the scope of what they are doing.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Right.

MS. TSUHAKO: And I think...as I said earlier, part of the frustration is that there's many issues and problems or complaints that come up about accessibility that the County has absolutely no jurisdiction over. And so to have Commission members come in and say, and feel like voicing their concerns about this, you know, certain piece of property. For example, the Lahaina Gateway Center may not have accessibility in the way that Commission members feel it should is not necessarily something that the County has power over to change. Or we can address it through a letter, but not address it to the point where it meets everyone's satisfaction. So I think that's another layer of frustration. I do believe that the Department has met with committee members and has tried very hard to explain those limits and to explain why following the Sunshine rule regarding agendas, et cetera, is so important. The, no commission within the County should just simply talk about whatever is there and consider that an organized meeting. So we will continue to work with the Commission. We'll provide the training as we have regularly and try to make it a more useful forum for advisory functions to be conducted.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. Thank you for that response and I just, a further question for you, Director Tshako. Is, is any staff member provided to the boards and commissions when they're planning a pre-agenda meeting?

MS. TSUHAKO: Jan Roberson is the staff member who's assigned to the Commission on Persons with Disabilities. She has worked with Mr. Valentine to craft those agendas. The agendas are not created by the Department for the --

CHAIR MEDEIROS: No.

MS. TSUHAKO: --Commission.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: No. But I think it's helpful when somebody from the Administration meets with the chair of a commission or board to formulate the agenda. Because otherwise it's up to the chair to do it all, all alone, and then the other members feel frustrated because they weren't a part of it, which is because of Sunshine Law.

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MS. TSUHAKO: Correct and I believe that the Commission has a time set in their meeting, at the end of their meeting, to do agenda setting for the following meeting. So that is done with Ms. Sloper there as well as with the Commission members as well as our Department staff. So that is, that is part of what is done at the meeting prior.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Oh, okay. And that's allowed under the Sunshine Law?

MS. TSUHAKO: Agenda setting?

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Yeah.

MS. TSUHAKO: Yes.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Because you have all the members present and you haven't posted that, that was going to be an item in a meeting

MS. TSUHAKO: It's a, it's a regularly --

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. And it's posted too --

MS. TSUHAKO: --it's regularly posted on the agenda.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: --on the meeting?

MS. TSUHAKO: Yes.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. Thank you for that information. Okay. Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Well...

CHAIR MEDEIROS: All your answers came out?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Well, I would still like to...if, if it's allowable by you and we, we still have some time.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Allow all the three agencies to voice any other concerns that were not addressed or weren't brought up and any other comments that they may want to add, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Are, are you having certain agencies or all?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: All three, all three of the agencies. You know, I'm --

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CHAIR MEDEIROS: All three.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: --talking about the nonprofit agencies here --

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Oh, the three here?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: --not our Department. I would like to hear from the nonprofit agencies.

MR. VALENTINE: Yes.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. Mr. Valentine, we'll give you that privilege to be the first to --

MR. VALENTINE: Is this on?

CHAIR MEDEIROS: --give your comments.

MR. VALENTINE: One of the things that it says in our mission statement that we're supposed to advise the general public of the County on accessibility guidelines, et cetera. And there's no mechanism that gives us an opportunity to advise the general public on accessibility. It's not that the County has jurisdiction over those properties, but the website says that we're supposed to advise the general public, and there, there's no mechanism that help, that gives us the opportunity to disseminate information on what Mr. Mateo may possibly do at his restaurant to make it more accessible. And, and, and sometimes that, some things like that in conjunction with the public if they're given the information they may make those adjustments. Like even in Makawao Town, I make those corrections, because now I know that this is a good thing to do. But there's no mechanism that helps the County or our, our Commission to get information out to the private sector. Say here's some things you might consider. Here's a website you can go. Here's some material you can use to better provide for your community. It's not that the County needs to enforce certain things; it's the provision of the information to the general public so they become better aware what needs to be done and what can be done. And then that...then the two meet in the middle somewhere. The County does their part; the private sector does their part.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Valentine. Ms. Forsberg?

MS. FORSBERG: I would just like to encourage more of the public to attend meetings like this and even to attend the Council on Aging meeting. Because like what Mr. Victorino said, that we're not going to be aware or know what's going on unless we hear the public's outcry or statements.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Mr. Baz? Thank you, Ms. Forsberg.

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MR. BAZ: Thank you, Mr. Chair. You know, MEO is funded by a lot of different either Federal, State, County and those funding require us to not discriminate against disabled persons. So all of the services that we have, you know, at MEO are generally available to, to persons with disabilities. And we, you know, because we make it a point to serve disabled persons, we do that effectively in, in everything that we do. You know, the variety of transportation programs we have available, you guys know Ala Hou specifically. But, you know, our nutrition program, transportation, the Kaunoa transportation, you know, rural shuttles, you know, upcoming Special Fair Day on Friday--there's going to be a huge transportation thing for us--and now the ADA paratransit coming up November 1st are just, you know an additional thing that we do. Providing services for persons with disability is something that it's really important, you know. Having our former Director be on the State Commission and having MEO employees have been on the commission, County Commission, prior involvement in, you know, the councils, these two councils as well as the Office on Aging, and ADRC, and different things like that are really critical. We do have an opportunity coming up here very shortly to get more information out about persons with disabilities and things. This Maui County Senior Fair is coming up October 23rd, and with the partnership we have with Deborah Arendale and the Office on Aging, we can get some more information out there about those kinds of services and things like that, too. I think James is going to be there providing information and all that. So the more we can get the word out, the better. It is, it is a matter of education. It's a matter of awareness for the general public. Empathy is something that sometimes is very lacking in, so the more that we can provide that information, the better. You know, a lot of times, unless it affects a family member or yourself it's not something that is top of mind. So we can definitely work on that more and more, and we are happy to partner with the County, the Department has any concerns on, on those kind of things.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you, Mr. Baz, and thank you, oh, thank you, all the various agencies for their comments. Again, you hit a, you hit a sore spot when you, when you say... and, and I use the term "out of sight, out of mind". And that's what sometimes people of disabilities have that, 'cause they're not a part of your family, so you don't really consider them as important. And you know, they are just as important as any other citizen out there. And I hope that, Mr. Chair, with all of what we're doing here, you know, awareness by the departments, awareness by the Administration, and the key is communication, you know. And those who testified today not be afraid to say there's a problem, let somebody know. Don't let it fester, don't let it just continue. I mean it may be an isolated incident, but the point is it may be isolated for you, but it might have been three, four, ten, twelve others that may have had the same experience with that same driver or that same caregiver or whatever it might be. I don't, you know, I don't want to go into specifics. And if we don't know about it--and I said we, all of you up here, whatever, you're an agency or one of our departments throughout the County of Maui--then it's hard to correct. And I think that's what I would say to the public. If you've got a concern let them know. Again, a hotline would be good or a service line or something like that. If the Administration could look at that, that'd be really good not only for transportation but for any other issue, yeah. And I think that said, Mr. Chair, I

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thank you for bringing this forward. I thank you for allowing myself and all of us to ask these questions of the various departments and agencies. And I hope that we can continue to work and find positive solutions again so that one day people of disabilities will not have to be asking for anything, 'cause their services would be there and they would be treated as any other citizen. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Mahalo, Member Victorino. Members, any other, further questions? Member Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Not a question, Chair, but a suggestion. This has been very good, and I think it is very good for our community as well as the persons with disabilities who need our support. But I, we heard a lot of references today to an organization called DCAB, the Disability Communications Access Board [*sic*]. And during my term as Chair of the State Commissions on Persons with Disabilities, the Commission was housed in...at that time, it was the State office that took care of this responsibility and their names have changed. But essentially they pretty much do the same things, and I'm real happy to hear that the placard program is going back there. Because I think they're the right people to do it. It might be a good follow-up to this meeting to some, at some point, have DCAB come and discuss this issue with us. 'Cause they are experts and they are the ones who approve plans for construction, and they are the ones that have a lot of information about the legal aspects of what we've been talking about today, not so much the practical application but the legal impact of, you know, ADA and what we're required to do as a County and as, you know, companies and everybody, how we implement ADA. And I think all of us could learn a little bit more about the Federal requirements with ADA. So maybe sometime as a follow-up, I think it might be a really good panel discussion. And the other person that I also thought about and I cannot remember her official title, but she's the one who pulls together...every year we have that forum on persons with disabilities. I think many of us attended recently. It was held at Velma Santos Center. Yeah, Mary Matsukawa, but I'm trying to think of her name. What is her...Don, do you know her official title, or Sandy, anybody?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: ...(*Inaudible*)...

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Developmental Disabilities Council, Mary Matsukawa. And she might be another really good person to be here during that to discuss this. You know, the more that we learn, the more sensitive we can be and the more helpful we can be. So, Chair, thank you very, very much, and I'd also like to thank the people who came today, both the testifiers and the panelists. Because I think it's been very good for us to focus on this very important issue. You know, I spent a few months in a wheelchair myself, and believe me, it was an eye opener for me. I really thought I knew a lot about it. You know, I was Mrs. Chair of the Commission, so I thought I knew everything. But it's a different perspective when you're the one who's in the wheelchair, and you find all the barriers to your being able to do things, get in... I went to a conference at a hotel that was supposed to be ADA accessible, and I couldn't believe that the restrooms were accessible but the door to the restroom could not be opened without help. So you know,

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it's that of thing that you're not aware of until you actually experience it. So thank you very much.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you, Member Baisa. And I, I'd like to add, thank you for the suggestions. I had already talked to my Legislative Analyst about getting in touch with DCAB and possibly including them in our next panel session and also the Main Street Association and as you...and the last organization that you just mentioned. Is it Developmental Disabilities Council [*sic*]?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Yes.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: That's what it is?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: State, yes.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .(*Inaudible*) . . .

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Say the whole thing.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .(*Inaudible*) . . .

CHAIR MEDEIROS: State office. Okay.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .(*Inaudible*) . . . Yes. Department of Health.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. Department of Health. Okay. Members, any other, further questions? Seeing none, I'd like to give just the closing remarks, but, Members, if you had an opportunity to go through your binder, we have a really good chronological history of this item on our agenda. And it started off with my County Communication 10-70 which was March 15th, 2010. And then our first meeting was July 12, 2010. Letter to Director Arakawa, July 13th. He responded July 22nd and if you look at his response, Members, he has a copy of his opening remarks of the July 12th meeting which was requested by one of the Members. He also has a copy of the final transition plan related to curb ramps which was completed October 20, 1999, upgrading 458 intersections. And he has another, a third item with his letter, implementation of the transition plan funded calendar year twenty, 2000 through 2005. And that was approximately 10.8 million for design, construction, and construction management. So I want to thank the Director, Director Arakawa from Public Works for that response and the very informative response that it was.

So that's where we are right now, Members, and I want to thank you for your attendance. And before we close, I want to thank all the panel participants for being here. It has been very well spoken about, and I think the awareness alone over the television airways is one of the most important things. It give the public an awareness they may have not had about the challenges involved. And so this is a very important item for me. And I thank

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Mr. Valentine for his persistence in meeting with me, and he wanted something done, and, and to his credit, besides the meeting here, we'll take whatever necessary legislative action we can to make things happen. And that was the frustration that he and others in that community suffered was that there was a lot of talk about a lot of things, but nothing was done about it. So we thank the Departments that did their part on it, the Parks and Recreation, the Housing and Human Concerns, Transportation for listening to their suggestions for improvement in services, and especially Department of Public Works which seems to be the agency that is involved with everything. So Mr. and Director Arakawa is always here. I think we need to get him a plaque to put up, because he's always here. But anyway, thank you, panel members. I appreciate your attendance and for contributing your manao regarding this item. And thank you to the Staff, Ms. Camille, of, our Secretary, and Mr. Mike Geers, our Legislative Analyst. Thank you, members, that are in the gallery. I want to especially thank those that came with their wheelchairs and scooters, that had to come on buses or had to have their caretakers bring them on cars. We appreciate you taking the time, and I know it involves a lot of effort to, for transportation for you to get here. So thank you for being here and for testifying. And those of you in the gallery that are from the Administration and other agencies, thank you for being here. So without any further thing, I'll make my recommendation, Members.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Recommendation.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Recommendation.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Because of the further work I want to do on this item, the more information I want to gather, and also compiling another panel with some new agencies, the Chair, without objection, will defer this item.

COUNCIL MEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS. (excused: SPK, MJM and JP)

ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you, Members. So we are done with the business of our Committee this morning and I thank everybody here for being here. Okay. This meeting is now adjourned. . . .(gavel). . .

ADJOURN: 11:36 a.m.

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APPROVED:



BILL KAUAKEA MEDEIROS, Chair
Infrastructure Management Committee

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Transcribed by: Ann Freitas

INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 27, 2010

CERTIFICATE

I, Ann Freitas, hereby certify that the foregoing represents to the best of my ability, a true and correct transcript of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not in any way concerned with the cause.

DATED the 15th day of October, 2010, in Pukalani, Hawaii

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ann Freitas" is written over a horizontal line.

Ann Freitas