

# COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

## MEETING AGENDA

10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Thursday, May 16, 2013

Hale Mahaolu Elima Community Room

11 Mahaolu Street, Kahului, HI 96732

- I. ROLL CALL, QUORUM, WELCOME**
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** April 18, 2013
- III. PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON ALL AGENDA ITEMS**
- IV. REPORTS**
- a. Video broadcast subcommittee – Commissioner Sabado
  - b. Molokai Senior and Disability Resource Fair – Commissioner Laemoa
- V. CORRESPONDENCE**
- a. Mayor Arakawa's 2/27/13 reply to Commission's request for reduced fare for riders with disabilities.
- VI. Unfinished Business**
- a. List of issues considered unfinished from previous Commission on Persons with Disabilities meetings. – Commissioner Tomita
- VII. AGENDA SETTING**
- VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- a. Next meeting is set for 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m., June 20, 2013, Hale Mahaolu Elima Community Room, 11 Mahaolu Street, Kahului, HI 96732.
- IX. ADJOURNMENT**

OFFICE OF THE  
COUNTY CLERK

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# COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

## MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Hale Mahaolu Elima Community Room

### I. ROLL CALL, QUORUM, WELCOME

- a. **Commissioners Present:** Cesar Gaxiola, Kealoha Laemoa, Charlotte Smith, Kevin Souza, Mikey Tomita
- b. **Commissioners Excused:** Gayle Burton, Yolanda Mau, Paulo Sabado
- c. **Commissioner Absent:** Joseph Felipe
- d. **Staff Present:** Deputy Corporation Counsel Gary Murai, Transportation Specialist Darren Konno, Staff Jan Roberson.
- e. **E. Others Present:** Interpreter Kate Eifler, MEO Transportation Director George Reioux, Ka Lima O Maui Executive Director Chantal Ratte.

### II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 14, 2013

- a. Commissioner Laemoa MOVED to approve the minutes without correction. Commissioner Souza SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED,

### III. PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON ALL AGENDA ITEMS

- a. None

### IV. PRESENTATION

- a. Executive Director Chantal Ratte provided an overview of Kalima O Maui services & programs.
- b. Ka Lima O Maui is a community based vocational rehabilitation program providing job training and employment opportunities for disabled and economically disadvantaged adults.

- c. Mission: To provide training and employment to persons with disabilities
- d. Founded: 1955 – one of Maui’s first non-profits
- e. Motto: Enhancing Lives Through Self Reliance
- f. Maui’s largest employer of persons with disabilities
- g. Funding:
  - i. Service Contracts 53%
  - ii. State Purchase of services 37%
  - iii. Private Fundraising 10%

**V. REPORTS**

- a. Video broadcast subcommittee – deferred

**VI. CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. Letter sent to Mayor Arakawa requesting reduced fare for riders with disabilities.
- b. Mayor Arakawa’s 2/27/13 reply to above letter – deferred to May 16 meeting

**VII. New Business**

- a. List of issues considered unfinished from previous Commission on Persons with Disabilities meetings – deferred
- b. Board Orientation and Training –
- c. Deputy Corporation Counsel Gary Murai provided a brief overview of county policies and rules governing the commission.

**VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a. Commission meeting time, date and venue
  - i. Commission meeting time, date and venue changes to 10:30 – 12 p.m., each third Thursday, at Hale Mahaolu Elima

**IX. AGENDA SETTING**

- a. Video Subcommittee

- b. Letter of reply from Mayor Arakawa on discounted fixed route bus fares for persons with disabilities

**X. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a. Next meeting is set for 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m., May 16, 2013, Hale Mahaolu Elima Community Room, 11 Mahaolu Street, Kahului, HI 96732.
- b. Molokai Senior and Disabilities Resource Fair will be held May 9 at Home Pumehana on Molokai.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

- a. Meeting adjourned at 12 noon.





DEPARTMENT OF  
**HOUSING AND HUMAN CONCERNS**  
COUNTY OF MAUI

ALAN M. ARAKAWA  
Mayor

JO-ANN T. RIDAO  
Director

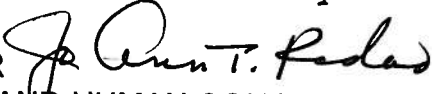
JAN SHISHIDO  
Deputy Director

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MAILING ADDRESS: 200 SOUTH HIGH STREET • WAILUKU, HAWAII 96793 • EMAIL: director.hhc@mauicounty.gov

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: MAYOR ALAN ARAKAWA

FROM: JO-ANN T. RIDAO, DIRECTOR   
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND HUMAN CONCERNS

DATE: FEBRUARY 14, 2013

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM THE COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Transmitted herewith is a letter from the Cesar Gaxiola, Chair of the Commission on Persons with Disabilities, requesting your consideration in implementing a fee structure for disabled bus riders.

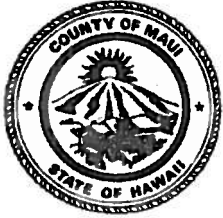
Should you have any questions, please contact Commission Staff Person Jan Roberson at Ext. 8221.

Attachments

xc: JoAnne Johnson Winer, Director of Transportation  
Denny Schwind, ADA Coordinator







## COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

February 14, 2013

Alan M. Arakawa, Mayor  
County of Maui

**MAYOR**  
Alan Arakawa

**DIRECTOR of HOUSING  
& HUMAN CONCERNS**  
JoAnn Ridao

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR of  
HOUSING & HUMAN  
CONCERNS**  
Janice Shishido

**COMMISSIONERS**  
Gayle Burton  
Joseph Felipe  
Cesar Gaxiola  
Kealoha Laemoa  
Yolanda Mau  
Paulo Sabado  
Charlotte Smith  
Kevin Souza  
Mikey Tomita

**DEPUTY  
CORPORATION  
COUNSEL**  
Gary Murai

**ADA COORDINATOR**  
Dennis Schwind

**COMMISSION STAFF**  
Jan Roberson, MPA  
270-8221

Aloha Mayor Arakawa,

At its January 10, 2013 meeting, the Maui County Commission on Persons with Disabilities voted to send a letter to you requesting consideration to implement a fee structure for disabled riders similar to that utilized by the City and County of Honolulu. On Oahu, riders who present Persons with Disability Identification Cards are charged \$1 fare per one way.

The Commission is aware that senior citizens and students benefit from reduced monthly fares of \$25 and \$30 respectively. We would like to emphasize that those who live with disabilities are often unable to work, thus live at or below poverty, and they are socially isolated. Your Commission believes a reduced fare structure would provide much needed relief to these citizens, as well as send the message that the County of Maui cares about the wellbeing of its residents who live with disabilities.

Please find attached two documents.

- 1) the C&C of Honolulu's Persons with Disabilities application and,
- 2) fare information.

The Commission greatly appreciates your time and attention to this matter.

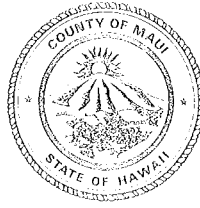
Sincerely,

Cesar Gaxiola  
Chair

Attachments



ALAN M. ARAKAWA  
MAYOR



200 South High Street  
Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793-2155  
Telephone (808) 270-7855  
Fax (808) 270-7870  
e-mail: mayors.office@mauicounty.gov

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Ke'ena O Ka Meia  
COUNTY OF MAUI – Kalana O Maui

February 27, 2013

Cesar Gaxiola, Chair  
Commission on Persons with Disabilities

Dear Chair Gaxiola-

Thank you for your letter of February 14<sup>th</sup>, in which the Commission on Persons with Disabilities requests the implementation of a separate fee structure for disabled riders, similar to that of the City and County of Honolulu.

After checking with our Department of Transportation, they provided some basic information relating to the request for a “disabled rider” fare. They noted the program for the disabled that is operated by the City and County discounts fares on “fixed route” services only. Oahu provides no monthly or daily passes for “paratransit” (Handi-Van) service, however, Maui **does** offer these as an option.

Our Department of Transportation serves over 700 eligible paratransit riders who regularly utilize ADA paratransit service with most riders paying \$30 or \$45 maximum fare per month. Very few disabled applicants are declined for paratransit and for those who are, the Department offers MEO transportation, which the County of Maui provides free of charge to riders. The City and County of Honolulu provides no such additional services.

If Maui County were to adopt your recommendation to follow the Oahu model, this may have serious negative impacts for our disabled ridership. With discounted fares for fixed routes only, and the majority of disabled riders using paratransit only, the costs could rise substantially for regular paratransit users.

For example, using Oahu’s model and our paratransit fare structure, persons with disabilities would pay a minimum of \$4 per day (roundtrip). If a rider had only twelve paratransit trips, their cost would be \$48, which already exceeds our current maximum pass costs. We know your members would agree that we do not want to harm our disabled riders by increasing their existing costs.

When looking at fixed routes, an additional concern is that by reducing fares even further, ridership may increase beyond our capacity. Our system is already challenged by overcrowding, limitations on wheelchair positions and one hour intervals between buses, which results in delays for our entire ridership.

Cesar Gaxiola, Chair

February 27, 2013

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On another note, due to Oahu's transit problems which include rising complaints, reduced revenues and stoppage of some routes altogether, we fear that any changes to our current fare structure, may result in similar outcomes within our system.

As an alternative, we have advised our Department of Transportation that if the Council is willing to fund a pilot "fare assistance" program, for those on limited incomes (including the disabled) that we would support such an effort, however with budget limitations this may not be possible.

Thank you to the Commission members for their valuable input and while we are unable to support changes to fares at this time, we look forward to working with members to continue to improve all services to the disabled community and especially those related to transportation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan Arakawa". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

ALAN M. ARAKAWA  
Mayor, County of Maui