# HONOLULU HIGH-CAPACITY TRANSIT CORRIDOR PROJECT
## Meeting Minutes

**Meeting:** Oahu Island Burial Council Meeting

**Location:** Department of Land and Natural Resources

**Attendees:** Judy Aranda and Nalani Dahl

**Purpose of Meeting:** OIBC Monthly Meeting

The HHCTCP was one of the agenda items discussed at OIBC's August 13, 2008 meeting. The main discussion items concerning the project are summarized below.

1. Issues of Concern – Kawika MeKeague (Vice Chair) summarized the issues raised at last month's meeting:
    a. The timing and phasing of project construction
    b. Proposed alignment, especially in areas of concern (e.g., Kaka'ako, Kalaeloa)
    c. OIBC's desire to be a signatory on the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). OIBC members emphasized that the MOA must have "teeth" to be effective.
2. Inventory – OIBC will request, in writing, that an inventory of archaeological resources (and historic) be done now rather than later. Because project construction will occur in phases, the chance of a greater number of disturbances to potential resources is more likely to occur if the inventory is done later. Doing the inventory now will result in a better chance of an *advertant find*. This means that if the presence of a resource is identified before construction, then OIBC can decide the disposition of the resource(s). However, if the find is *inadvertent*, then the decision would be the SHPD's responsibility.
3. Onsite Archaeological and Cultural Monitor – Both the Council, particularly Andy Keli`ikoa and Lemaile Ehia-Quitevis, and several members of the audiences (such as expressed strong concern that because the HHCTP is the "Mayor's project," there will be strong emphasis to move the project forward regardless of resources encountered or workers may look the other way, if they discover a find during construction, for fear of losing their job. One commenter stated "rules will go out the door" without continual vigilance. One commenter stated that this situation happened recently on another project. Because of this concern, the OIBC will request that an archaeological and cultural onsite monitor be placed on the construction project full time to ensure protection of resources.
4. Letter to FTA, SHPD and ACHP – OIBC will send a letter to FTA, SHPD and the Advisory Council of Historic Preservation describing their concerns and recommendations that:



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a. An inventory be conducted now and that monitoring be done during the inventory.

b. A full time monitor be required during construction

c. OIBC be allowed to be a signatory on the MOA.

d. A collective approach should be utilized in making decisions or actions related to inventory, discovery and disposition of potential resources.

The letter to be drafted will refer to a policy directive concerning treatment of Hawaiian human bones. A member of the SHPD stated that mostly likely, if FTA agrees, OIBC would be a "concurring party" but not necessarily a signatory with equal weight. Aranda commented that based on recent discussions, OIBC will be granted the opportunity to sign the MOA.

5. Strong Emotions - Several people attending the meeting, including two on the council, were quite emotional in expressing their concerns. They are adamant and feel strongly that *iwi* (bones) will be discovered during construction. They feel what is at stake is the preservation of their heritage and culture.

6. Contingency Funds – Kawika MeKeague (Vice-chair) stated he was aware that the construction budget would include contingency monies. He questioned whether these monies could be tapped for project monitoring. This point may be discussed in the letter to FTA.

7. Technical Reports – Aranda reported that the OIBC would receive the Historic, Cultural and Archaeological technical reports next week via mail. 7 hardcopies and 9 CDs will be delivered.

During a 10-minutes break, Aranda and Dahl had a brief discussion with David Shideler, who is PB's consultant for archaeology. David stated that if the Council takes action on recommending that an inventory be done now, it would push back the project 6 months or more. At this point, Shidler has no scope or budget to conduct the inventory.



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