



# Meeting Minutes

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## Interpretive Plan Kick-off

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*Date and Time:* **July 7, 2011, 11:30 am**

*Location:* **Ali`i Place, 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room**

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Stipulation VII of the project's Programmatic Agreement was introduced, which calls for development and implementation of an interpretive plan. The focus of the meeting was to begin discussion of interpretive components such as signage, materials and exhibits in stations.

### Presentation

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A PowerPoint presentation provided an overview of general interpretive concepts and examples of exhibits and materials used in transit systems throughout the United States and abroad.

### Discussion

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- Cultural appropriateness and integrity is critical; interpretation should contain an appropriate level of detail.
- There may be the need for at least three languages (Hawaiian, English and Japanese; perhaps others appropriate to Hawai`i).
- The use of Native Hawaiian place names for the station names and/or reference to the Ahupua`a in which they are located is highly desirable; Individual station interpretation and artwork could be based on relevant Ahupua`a.
- General interest in cultural mural concept accompanied with sensory stimulation; murals have opportunity to tell story.
- Efforts should be made to have interactive components (visceral and/or sensory). Auditory components such as iPhone Apps and kiosks could be incorporated in addition to visual art and other interactive ways of sharing authentic Hawaiian stories and memories about areas located within the project vicinity.
- Interactive components should be at the stations and considered within the train cars themselves.
- Interpretive components should be included near system maps since that is a critical location within transit stations.

#### Stephanie Foell

- Critical that all information conveyed is historically accurate and vetted; efforts to avoid trivializing history and treating topic with respect and dignity are of paramount importance to the project team.

#### Gary Omori

- Suggests reviewing existing interpretation in Honolulu and throughout Hawai`i (e.g. Honolulu International Airport and Bishop Museum).

#### Eddie Akana

- Tourists have curiosity about Hawai`i. Interpretation should be exciting and entertaining to engage interest.

**Jennifer Murphy**

- The City is developing a station art program that addresses pre- and post-historic contact. The three major components the program may address are:
  1. **Loia** (customs and culture)
  2. **Aloha 'Aina** (love of the land)
  3. **Mo'olelo** (stories)
- Most storytelling was done through chants, hula or oral stories. The vision of the art program is to use art to tell stories of the Hawaiian history, culture and spiritual connection with the land.

**Mahealani Cypher**

- Suggests incorporating a Hawaiian phrase-of-the-day (mo'olelo or olelo no'eau) to educate transit riders on Hawaiian language and culture.
- Inquired whether stations would be of the same size and/or design? Ken Caswell responded that stations will be in a variety of configurations and most will be open-aired and/or not fully enclosed, which limits available wall space to exhibit artwork.

**Jean Rasor**

- Liked the concept of interactive components and suggests rotating exhibits throughout the stations so that all patrons can access and/or experience interpretive programming.

**Hinaleimoana Falemei**

- Sustainability and marketing are important but should not be the only components.
- Hawaiian culture/history is not "for sale" but recognizes this program as an opportunity to showcase the Hawaiian culture and create a world-class, transit-oriented interpretive experience. Should stay away from the commercialized Hawai'i interpreted by tourism.
- Program presents an opportunity to promote cultural integrity; when authentically conveyed, Hawaiian history is highly marketable.
- Suggests visiting the Imiloa Museum on the island of Hawai'i, which provides good examples of cultural and educational tools and provides cultural insight on many levels.
- Interpretation should be unbiased and relate to "cold, hard" facts.
- Supports the project as an opportunity to educate visitors and residents alike on Hawai'i's authentic culture and history—the actual story of Hawai'i from the ancient period to the monarchy and to present day.

**Kainaloa Koko**

- Suggested developing interactive/digital maps identifying historically and culturally significant locations.

**Nālani**

- Appreciate the consulting parties and their contribution to the interpretive plan; we look forward to working with them on the cultural and historical integrity and accuracy.

\*\*\* Meeting adjourned at 1:15pm \*\*\*

**Attending Signatories and Consulting Parties**

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Edward Akana, Royal Order of Kamehameha  
Hinaleimoana Falemei, O'ahu Island Burial Council  
Jean Rasor, Royal Order of Kamehameha  
Joseph K. Lewis, Office of Hawaiian Affairs  
Kahu Manu Mook  
Kanaloa Koko, Royal Order of Kamehameha  
Keola Lindsey, Office of Hawaiian Affairs  
Kiersten Faulkner, Historic Hawaii Foundation  
Mahealani Cypher, Hawaiian Civic Clubs - O'ahu  
Ted Matley, Federal Transit Administration

**Attending Project Staff**

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Barbara Gilliland  
Denise McGeen  
Faith Miyamoto  
Gary Omori  
Jeanne Mariani-Belding  
Jennifer Murphy  
Josh Silva  
Kaleo Patterson  
Kelsey Britt  
Ken Caswell  
Matt Derby  
Matt McDaniel  
Nālani Dahl  
Stephanie Foell