

MINUTES

**COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE/INTERGOVERNMENTAL  
RELATIONS COMMITTEE  
September 12, 2007**

A meeting of the Community Assistance/Intergovernmental Relations Committee of the Council of the County of Kaua'i, State of Hawai'i, was called to order by Councilmember Shaylene Iseri-Carvalho, Chair, at the Historic County Building, Room 201, Lihu'e, Kaua'i, on Wednesday, September 12, 2007, at 3:43 p.m., after which the following members answered the call of the roll:

Honorable Shaylene Iseri-Carvalho  
Honorable Tim Bynum  
Honorable Ron Kouchi  
Honorable JoAnn A. Yukimura  
Honorable Bill "Kaipo" Asing, Ex-Officio Member  
Honorable Jay Furfaro, Ex-Officio Member

EXCUSED: Honorable Mel Rapozo

Minutes of the August 14, 2007 Special Community Assistance/Intergovernmental Relations Committee Meeting.

Upon motion duly made by Councilmember Yukimura, seconded by Councilmember Bynum, and unanimously carried, Minutes of the August 14, 2007 Special Community Assistance/Intergovernmental Relations Committee Meeting was approved.

Minutes of the August 15, 2007 Community Assistance/Intergovernmental Relations Committee Meeting.

Upon motion duly made by Councilmember Yukimura, seconded by Councilmember Bynum, and unanimously carried, Minutes of the August 15, 2007 Community Assistance/Intergovernmental Relations Committee Meeting was approved.

The Committee proceeded on its agenda items as shown out of order in the following Committee Report which is incorporated herein by reference.

**Bill No. 2202**      A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A NEW CHAPTER, KAUA'I COUNTY CODE 1987, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO THE HOUSING POLICY FOR THE COUNTY OF KAUA'I  
[This item was deferred.]

SHAYLENE ISERI-CARVALHO, COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE/IGR COMMITTEE CHAIR: This has been previously been deferred. What I anticipate doing is that there has been a lot of discussions back and forth with the County Attorney as well as the Housing Agency and the parties that are going to be affected by the bill. They have requested that the item be deferred to October 10 Committee Meeting and that is what I will be requesting. What I will do before that is to suspend the rules.

There being no objections, the rules were suspended.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: Is there anyone who wishes to speak on this matter? There being none, I will call the meeting back to order.

The meeting was called back to order, and proceeded as follows:

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: Does anyone want to make the motion to defer to October 10?

JOANN A. YUKIMURA: Madam Chair, before we have a motion to defer, just a query. We have been waiting for a draft bill or an amended draft to come from the Housing Department. When do... do we expect on October 10 then? So then we would be able to work on amendments after that.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: We will be able to work on amendments. It is still the anticipate schedule. Staff, if I could have the calendar. We will be having an opportunity to present amendments on that date, October 10 and we would hope that those amendments will be completed and will be able to be reviewed by the 17<sup>th</sup>, and then on the 24<sup>th</sup>, we will have further discussion with respect to all of the amendments. I am still expecting and I am hoping that we could potentially pass it out on the 24<sup>th</sup> to be voted on, on the 7<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Yukimura: So the 10<sup>th</sup> is a Committee Meeting?

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: The 10<sup>th</sup> is a Committee Meeting.

Ms. Yukimura: So we would have the amendments from the Housing Agency on that day?

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: Yes.

Ms. Yukimura: And then you are wanting to set a deadline for Councilmember amendments?

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: Which is a week later which is October 17.

Ms. Yukimura: And then have a discussion in Committee about all of the amendments.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: All of the amendments on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay, I understand the schedule. Thank you.

TIM BYNUM: So you wouldn't be anticipating that draft prior to the 10<sup>th</sup>, so we can review it prior to the meeting?

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: I have requested previously which was my schedule previously with Housing. Mr. Rainforth is unavailable for the next two (2) weeks, so he had requested and I had consulted with the parties who have proposed amendments. We had DHHL proposed amendments and we also have amendments proposed by, I believe, Tracy Nagata and several other people.

JAY FURFARO: You also have my housing presentation too, considered by Ken's staff.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: That is correct, so there was a whole bunch of things that they were referring to and also to get an updated County Attorney review, so there was on Friday, a meeting of four (4) hours between the County Attorney, myself and staff. Looking at the extensive nature of the amendments and the County Attorney's opinions in reviewing all of the different proposals and October 10 was the date that everyone decided on.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay, can we see all these amendments that have been proposed from the various parties just so we can familiarize ourselves.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: Those are in the folders.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: All of the amendments have been put in the housing folders.

Ms. Yukimura: Alright, excellent. Thank you very much.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: I did not receive anything subsequent from our workshop.

Ms. Yukimura: So everything is received as of that date?

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: Yes, there was ample opportunity because the workshop had been August 29 I believe.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay, I didn't realize they...

Mr. Furfaro: I think my presentation was passed out as a separate item.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: As a separate item, that is correct and we also had the benefit of the SMS study as well as the KPAA, so there were different documents that were received at different times, but everyone had copies of those that were either given on the floor or put in your folder.

Ms. Yukimura: Excellent. Thank you very much.

Mr. Bynum: Thank you.

Upon motion duly made by Councilmember Bynum, seconded by Councilmember Yukimura, and unanimously carried, Bill No. 2202 was deferred until October 10, 2007 Committee Meeting.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: Are we still not ready with the...

Ms. Yukimura: Maybe we can have your presentation while we call over the Administration on the legislative package?

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: Let me see if they have that ready. I need to get my folder prepared for that.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: What I am going to be doing... if we could get the item read on the agenda before I start.

**CR-CA/IGR 2007-8:** on CA/IGR 2007-4 Communication (8/6/2007) from Shaylene Iseri-Carvalho, Community Assistance/Intergovernmental Relations Committee Chair, requesting agenda time to give a report of the Annual Conference of the National Association of Counties (NACo).  
**[Received for the record.]**

There being no objections, the Committee recessed at 4:15 p.m.

The meeting was called back to order at 7:45 p.m., and proceeded as follows:

**CA/IGR 2007-5** Communication (8/1/2007) from Shaylene Iseri-Carvalho, Community Assistance/IGR Committee Chair, requesting that the Administration be present to discuss the County's legislative proposals to be submitted for the 2008 State Legislative Session; and

**CA/IGR 2007-6** Communication (7/2/2007) from Mel Rapozo, Hawai'i State Association of Counties (HSAC) President, requesting that proposals for the 2008 HSAC Legislative Package be submitted to the HSAC Executive Committee for consideration by October 1, 2007.

**[These items were deferred.]**

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: Gary, you are up. At this time, we will suspend the rules.

There being no objections, the rules were suspended.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: What I will explain to the Committee members is that I have previously spoken with Mr. Heu and he has informed me that he is working on preparing the legislative packet. I explained to him that we do have strict deadlines which we have incorporated in the agenda item and that based on HSAC President's request, we need to have the items for the package to be submitted prior to October 1, 2007, therefore, that leaves us... being that today is September 12, September 26 is the final day that we would have to vote this out of Committee.

Ms. Yukimura: It would be the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: I am sorry. It will be the 25<sup>th</sup>. I apologize, yes, because of the conference, therefore, it will be September 25 Gary. I have been assured by the Administration that they will have the official packet prepared and ready to be voted out on September 25. So today's meeting is basically is to get concerns from the Councilmembers and input as to any additions they would like to propose to the Administration for its consideration in the legislative packet. That would be the total discussion. There is no report at this point that will be presented to the Council by the Administration because they are working on various types of bill and in order to prepare a final package, they wanted input from the Council. So today's meeting is simply for that to allow us Councilmembers an opportunity to provide suggestions to the Administration should they desire to consider it for the 2008 legislative package. With that, Gary, unless you have something to say, I will open it up for the Councilmembers. Go ahead.

GARY HEU, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Just one second. Gary Heu for the record. Good evening Councilmembers. I just wondering if we could take like a 1 minute break and if I could ask a question of the County Clerk.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: Alright. Well, are we ready for a caption break or anything anytime soon? We will take a caption break. How's that, Gary, at this time and you have more than a minute.

Mr. Heu: Okay.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: So 10 minutes and if we can be back here by... I guess we will do a little bit more (5 to 8). That will be great. Thank you.

There being no objections, the Committee recessed at 7:48 p.m.

The meeting was called back to order at 7:58 p.m., and proceeded as follows:

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: We have before us Mr. Heu. As indicated earlier, Mr. Heu is basically here to hear the concerns from the Councilmembers and what kinds of proposals they would like to submit in addition to the Administration. I think Mr. Heu is prepared to discuss minimally just the kinds of proposals that they are thinking of, but that is not set in stone. So if you would like to take this time to just discuss preliminarily what you guys are working on, this would be the opportunity Gary.

Mr. Heu: Sure. One of the... one issue that is of concern to us is Act 191 regarding privatization. With the enactment of this initiative, it now limits the county's ability to let contracts for services. It limits that to contracts of no more than one year and for a value of no more than \$750,000 and that is a concern to us. In fact, that Act covers the neighbor islands, but excludes City & County of Honolulu.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: What was that number again Gary?

Mr. Heu: It is Act 191.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: 190. I thought it was 190.

Ms. Yukimura: It is not Act 90?

Mr. Heu: No, Act 90 is... well, that is the information that was provided to me. Let me see if I have the backup on that. That was driven off of House Bill 1171 and I am sorry, I don't have the other backup material, but that is... but I can back and validate that, but regardless, it is the privatization issue. As you folks are aware, previous to this, the counties had the ability or had a vehicle to be able to enter into contracts for... with private entities for certain types of services and there was no limit on the... we weren't limited to the one year provision nor the \$750,000 provision, so this greatly restricts what we are able to do relative to privatizing certain services, so it is of concern to us and I am sure that it is of concern to, you know, Councilmembers. So we are currently looking at ways to address this in the

upcoming session and I would anticipate that this would be part of the package that we sent over to you folks. Another one that is currently under review and we hope to have it... the review completed in time to be able to submit something if it is appropriate is that there was a Senate Bill 1642 relating to labor which was passed. It basically reduces management rights and that is currently under review by our Department of Personnel Services. It may limit the County's ability to reclassify positions, transfer employees from one work base to another and I know that there were certain departments that spoke out very loudly against the enactment of this bill. However, it was enacted and we, like I said, are currently... hopefully, finalizing our review so that we can make a determination as to whether or not to include this in the package for this year. Those are the primary ones that we are looking at. There are some things that are... we are further reviewing that were part of our package from last year, but I can go into more detail on that maybe the next we are before this Committee.

Relative to CIP, as you folks know, Representative Tokioka is on the Finance Committee and, so...

Ms. Yukimura: So is Representative Sagum.

Mr. Heu: That is correct. Representative Sagum also, so I have had some preliminary discussions in trying to seek a certain amount of guidance in terms of how we restructure that particular package. However, we would like to continue to put certain issues such as lighting retrofits which we, again, believe are shared County and State concerns. When I say lighting, retrofits, I am talking about our sports facilities which are used both by State entities as well as our County and community entities. Unfortunately, we were unable to secure any State funding last year, but would like to go back in this year and, again, push that forward. Another concern of ours which we are continuing to do a little more research on before we include in the CIP package is... we have some wastewater concerns and that is never an issue that anybody necessarily wants to embrace. It is not a glamorous issue, but nonetheless, we do have some upcoming challenges that we need to grapple with and ultimately, it requires funding, so that may be a candidate that we are looking at in terms of placing on our CIP.

(UNKNOWN): (Inaudible).

Mr. Heu: Some wastewater issues and I don't have the specifics to that tonight, but certainly by the time we finalize our package, I will have more detail to share. Another one that we are currently wrestling with which, again, we are debating whether to include formally in our package is funding for coqui frogs and not for eradication, but for maintenance because this Council appropriated money in our General Fund budget to address the eradication issue. However, it has been identified as an ongoing maintenance need or there has been a cost associated with the ongoing maintenance need and we would like to see if we can maybe embrace the State in providing funding for that to the tune of about \$100,000 a year. So we

are considering that and we are not sure if we should make it officially part of our package or if we should just have that as a side issue that we continue to work with the Legislature and DLNR on.

Mr. Furfaro: Gary, you know, we talked about that with the ag committee that was here.

Mr. Heu: In August right?

Mr. Furfaro: We told them that it was probably going to be a request.

Mr. Heu: Okay, so I will go back and I think Beth Tokioka was also present and part of those discussions, so I will go back and have further discussions with her and we will make the determination whether or not to include that officially. You know, in a nutshell, those are some of the things that we are looking at.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: But we are assured that to meet the deadlines that were set that we will have the final package by Tuesday of the 25<sup>th</sup>. So at this point, we will open it up for questions. There doesn't appear to be anybody here to testify, so I will bring the meeting back to order.

The meeting was called back to order, and proceeded as follows:

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: Councilmember Furfaro?

Mr. Furfaro: I share your concern with Act 191 especially on the part where they would limit contracts to a year because, quite frankly, if anybody had to invest equipment or anything of that nature, they would never bid on it flat out because there was no period that they could show a return on investment for the equipment that they would purchase to do the work. I would certainly hope that we would really try and portray that as a... you know, it is almost a cut off from the very beginning. Nobody is going to bid on a one year contract especially if there is capital cost to improve their business. On the lights Gary and I am more... I didn't see this is in the piece, but I know it is something that we need to talk about going forward. Even if we retrofit the lights, there is a message here regarding the Federal invasive species law that we would probably need to buy some time on compliance and any mitigation plan that we have to have by law. I just don't know how you approach that.

Ms. Yukimura: You mean endangered species.

Mr. Furfaro: Yes, what did I say?

Ms. Yukimura: You said invasive.

Mr. Furfaro: I am sorry. I am back on the coqui frog. I am sorry. The Federal Endangered Species Act. We, as I understand it would probably still... even after we retrofit some of our parks, we would have to produce a mitigation plan and probably have to contract the services to companies that have that experience in particular and it is not only just the County of Kaua'i, but I am sure it would be these other counties that would have similar problems on coming up with a acceptable plan for compliance with the Federal act that we are dealing with here. I would like us to give that some more thought too and not just the lights, but how do we formulate a plan. We have Hanapēpē, we have Wai'oli Valley (Hanalei), we've got Kalihiwai, we've got Nāwiliwili, and that may even affect the lighting disbursed from the cruiseships at night. You know, how do we come up jointly as the four (4) counties with a potential mitigation plan. Thank you Councilwoman.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: Councilmember Yukimura?

Ms. Yukimura: Thank you. Regarding Act 191 or 90 or whatever it is, you say that the City & County is exempt from the restrictions.

Mr. Heu: They are not exempt, they were excluded in the Act, so in other words, they don't even have the ability, the limited ability to let a contract for a year or for \$750,000.

Ms. Yukimura: Oh, my goodness. And what about State agencies like the DOT. I am reminded of the gateway project which I think is now contracted out.

Mr. Furfaro: Contracted out by the State.

Ms. Yukimura: I mean, what about all these State projects? Are they under that?

Mr. Heu: That is a good question because, you know, I can't answer that, but that is a good question.

Ms. Yukimura: That is the kind of information that we need to know in order to develop a strategy, but I think we all understand the importance of this legislation.

Chair Asing: (Inaudible)... I am not sure what the bill says or does, but, you know, if it is anything like the original bill many years ago, you know, I can see the intent and why it was so strongly opposed by the union and it is infringing upon work that the union members have done over the years and the County comes in and starts to privatize that. So, you know, I can remember the original bill, so I am not sure exactly what this one means, but if that is anything that is closely related to that, I think, you know, we need to kind of understand that it is probably something that the union was very strong against. I can recall, as an example, when we had the Kekaha Landfill area. You know, what kind of a battle we had

with that one, so it is not that simple (black and white) and I think, you know, I am going to go look at what it really says, but I know what the problem was back then originally and that is probably 10 or 12 years ago.

Ms. Yukimura: But as I understand it and I wasn't in politics at that time. The... I mean, they came to some kind of a working medium that has been functioning over the last so many years. I think, you know, I think they were making sure that no union jobs were lost. You know, they were making sure that they were a certain kind of a project and I think there is a place for both... certainly the union type of work and others.

Chair Asing: I don't know the particulars.

Ms. Yukimura: It is something that we do have to pay attention to it.

Mr. Heu: As you were saying, Council Chair, the original law really covered... it covered services that had not previously been provided by the counties as well as those that had historically been done by the counties. But as Councilmember Yukimura was saying, there were certain requirements that needed to be met by the counties in order to successfully let out a contract for one of those types of services. Each County was required... if you were going to employ that to come up with a process with a procedure that met the various requirements.

Ms. Yukimura: So if I could continue. When you met individually with Councilmembers, I had mentioned the 51% rules in Act 183 which is an arbitrary cap on the amount of agricultural land that can be designated lands of importance to the State and it is... you know, it was a last minute unprocessed provision that is in the statewide ag working group that met for months before the bill was introduced that never came up (change tape)... I presume in the discussions that we will hear it, but to me it is severely restricts in an arbitrary way, the process of determining ag lands of importance to the State. It could actually move people to designate lands that are not as good for agriculture because you have this cap. So, you know, I think it is a provision that needs to be removed and I feel that that should be in our legislative package. And then we are addressing the issue of... we have been looking at the amortization statute which has limited our powers by some interpretation and there is a lack of clarity. It seems to me that we could also go in and ask for a clarification of that statute as to whether it was intended to say, you know, cover vacation rentals or not as residential uses. So that, to me, would be a good thing to have as clarification and then there is an issue that has come up in the zero waste (solid waste discussions) that discounted shipping rates both inter-island and between the islands and the mainland or even Asia would be an important or could be an important incentive for recycling that is recycled materials that are going back off of our island to O'ahu and then to the mainland... if they could get discounted rates then that would be a big help and the fact that the return trip is already paid for because most of them are empty. You know, there is more coming into our island or into our State than it is going out. So the roundtrip is

actually paid for already. It means that, you know, it is economically feasible probably to give discounted shipping rates. So I have been trying to look into that and, you know, if the Administration feels those are of interest and worth or value, those are the three (3) things that I have been looking at. And then I don't know if we will talk about it at our next meeting, but I assume that it is part of our legislative package that we will look at the Federal legislation to give guidance to our lobbyist in Washington D.C. and while we don't have the HSAC October 1 deadline, I don't know what our timetable is for the lobbying package for the Federal level. But knowing that the highway fund is, first of all, going bust by 2008 and 2009, and that there is going to be a reauthorization of that fund. I know that at the National level, there are groups working for smart growth policies to be incorporated into the funding framework. Right now, most of the funding goes to highways and that there might be more flexibility in the funding mechanisms would be really a boon to us. It would allow for the diversity of local jurisdictions to... some might go more highway, some might go more transit, but to have the flexibility would be really useful. I think Mr. Charlier mentioned that, in fact, there is quite a push to give it to the States and let the State policies determine the funding, so it would be almost like block grants and, you know, it is at its very preliminary stages, but I think if we had a position, then at least if it comes up and then if... as the process moves closer to passage and it gets more intense, we at least have some direction for a lobbyist. It could be a real help to us as we develop our transportation system here.

Mr. Heu: And we would be more than happy to work with Committee Chair Iseri-Carvalho to develop an agenda item to discuss those issues.

Ms. Yukimura: Yes.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: We have had some of that discussion already, so we will continue to do that.

Ms. Yukimura: But we haven't had a Council, you know, review of the Administration proposals and some input... I think that was one of our stipulations for the continuation of the Federal lobbyist, right? That we would really have more communication and more discussion about a common package or something.

Mr. Heu: And we have not developed anything yet.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: They have not. I had inquired when I got back from D.C. as to what we were working on. They have not had the opportunity to work on that. I presented them with the documents from certain other lobbyist that may be interested in working. They also have timelines and I have also provided that information on the (inaudible) to Finance Director as well. So I know Gary was away during that period, but we had those discussions with the Finance Director too. Any other... Councilmember Bynum?

Mr. Bynum: Now with the issues that have already been discussed (inaudible). One is... I am also concerned about Act 183 and this provision of 50%...

Ms. Yukimura: 51%.

Mr. Bynum: 51% and I still don't understand the rationale and it could have very significant impact on the future of ag on Kaua'i and I think that is a really... I am wondering if the other counties outside of Honolulu might want to join with us on that or share some more concerns and I would love to hear more feedback about that. And then on the Federal level, the whole transportation thing is very scary because of the issue of contributing States, I think that this is a National focus with the bridge disasters could be an effort on, you know, there is contributing States that... large States that don't get the same percentage and where the smaller States benefit from that and I think that there is a good chance that, you know, there is going to be a push by those larger States to try to take a bigger (inaudible) share and they are going to argue that they have these bridges and other things that they need and that could be disaster for us and then just on the... I think the Administration has done a good job in this fiscally constrained STIP of keeping some of our priority projects funded at least for next year, but the westside, Kūhiō Highway funding for next year goes just past the community colleges I understand, but then the next segment of the road widening to get past there into Puhi much less the tunnel of trees is pushed back years. I don't know that that is going to do it for the westside commuters that... you know, unless they can get further out where the traffic can get up to speed is going to move the choke point and people are still going to be spending a lot of time in traffic and we... all the public (inaudible) to be on the Kapa'a side where there are some things that we talked about today like they make a difference. It seems like the westside drivers are more... not as vocal, but I think they are suffering probably worse than Kapa'a drivers on their morning and evening commutes. So I would see that as a high priority for our County that to keep up that advocacy for... for the highway on the westside beyond that initial segment which is funded. I mean the good news is that the first thing that it is funded or still in that physically constraints (inaudible) which is like the first (inaudible)... in our State of these constraint Federal funds, so just a couple of things that I would like to... I like.

Mr. Heu: Councilmember, you bring up a good point because in previous years we have, I believe, in our legislative package communication supported State DOT projects that were not necessarily funding issues... we weren't necessarily requesting funding that would come to our County coffers, but supported DOT projects which benefited our calming constituents (State and County). So that is certainly something that we can collectively look at doing this year.

Mr. Bynum: I think we've made a strong argument for a couple of years that we are due for highway improvements. You know, just meeting with the State officials I've seen in the last couple of meetings, they are like, hey, you guys

are getting this Kapa'a... you know, we expedited this Kapa'a four (4) lanes from the bypass and we are getting started on the westside project is kind of like, okay, so you are set for the next 10 years. It is like, no, you know, we still have a strong argument that we have the one commuter route when other islands have their mauka highways in and, you know, recent trip to Maui, there is a lot of road construction going on in Maui and they already have alternatives. So, but particularly that westside stretch... when I looked at that physically constrained thing, it is like, ho, this got set way back and I want for the westside people to know that we are lobbying to move... to continue to make that a priority.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho:            Anyone else? If not, Gary, I think those are good starting points. You got basically a little less than two (2) weeks to get the final package together. If there are any... I think that is it for you Gary, so if there are any other concerns that Councilmembers want to bring, Gary, they will contact you directly otherwise you can assume that those were the only ones that the Councilmembers were interested in pursuing for this 2008 Legislative Package. And, you know, we can work together as we have in the past with your staff to develop some of these measures (proposed measures)... what I would say before I leave tonight is that, you know, some of the issues that we are looking at from... I guess it would include some of the things that Councilmember Yukimura also brought up, but certainly the ones that I mentioned earlier regarding privatization and then our review on the bill or the statute which limits our management rights. We are currently reaching out to some of our counterparts on the other... in the other counties and my take at it is that they may be, you know, candidates that this Council may want to consider as being part of the submitting... submitted as part of the HSAC package proposals. An issue like privatization, I have to believe that all counties are concerned about that, so I am not sure what kind of feedback you folks are getting from your counterparts, but we are in that process of reaching out to our counterparts in the Administrations of the various counties to check the pulse on where they stand on some of these issues.

And I would suggest also Gary that I believe Vice Chair Rapozo who is the HSAC President should be around maybe like early next week, so you can discuss with him. I know that he has had discussions with the other HSAC representatives as to their issues before they make the proposal. So I know you are working on the administrative side and talking with the Administrations of the various counties, but clearly if you communicate with the Chair of... the President of HSAC that he could also garner support hopefully with the rest of the members of HSAC.

Mr. Heu:                            Okay.

Mr. Furfaro:            I just want to add, again, you know, this is a very small County and even though we have \$137 million Operating budget, Gary, it is really important... I mean I didn't touch too much on roads because I saw those pieces in the package (Pouli Road), but, you know, we have made money available for engineering studies, we have made money available to fight coqui frog, we made the

money available for parks and recreation that have mutual State benefits and so forth. It is very, very important I think that we convey the fact that we may have to look at other resources and other funding sources, but we have a lot of capital items that we need to address. We really need funding support, you know, we can help with the design elements to expedite it, but after the design, it is now the cash to build and make that improvement and do it in a very sensible way that works for the community. So I just want to convey that again. I mean, there is going to be some big money issues coming up. Thank you very much for what you put together for us.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: Thank you Gary and thank you for hanging around. I know it is late and I appreciate it.

Mr. Heu: No problem.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: Okay, we will call the meeting back to order.

The meeting was called back to order, and proceeded as follows:

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: Any further discussion? Councilmember Kouchi?

RON KOUCHI: I didn't have a question for Gary, but what I did want to say is that, you know, when I did have a chance to talk to Gary and Lani about, you know, what we should be doing and the first thing I said is we should be having a legislative update during this particular Committee meeting (every time this Committee meets during the legislative session), so that we can stay abreast of what is happening at the Legislature. We all agree that things happen very quickly. Also, there always are a lot of bills that get introduced that can adversely impact the County, so while we have spent a lot of time talking about what we would like to advocate for and what would be good for Kaua'i, you know, we still need to be prepared to deal with bills that would adversely affect our constituents. We found in the past that being a small island community and by having these updates, we can also reach out to organizations that may have mutual interest whether it is the Chamber or it is the Visitor Bureau, KEDB on business related items when we talk about some of our sports facilities that are jointly used by the State and County to enlist the aides of the... the aide of community groups that utilize the facility and they certainly can make a strong impact in contacting our Legislators and contacting the Governor. I think the effort by the YMCA and the community group to get us to the point that we are at, at the Olympic sized swimming pool is a good example of how active community collaboration working in part with the County Council affected good positive change at the State Legislature. So, you know, I think those Committee meeting briefings will help us educate our public and help empower other lobbyist to be added voices for us at the capitol.

The second thing is that at the HSAC Conference in Maui, I went with Representative Tokioka to Wailuku and had a chance to sit down with

Representative Bob Nakasone who Chairs the Capital Improvement Budget for the House. So you are asking about us getting money and the first thing that Representative Nakasone told me is, boy, the County of Kaua'i was absent this past session. I stand corrected. I saw representatives of your Board of Water Supply and, so we can argue how visible we were, we can argue if we were there or not, but in the end for the guy making the decisions, that is the perception and we need to change his perception into a different reality and it is still a people business and it still takes people going up there and advocating the message and so I took the message to heart and I have already had two (2) meetings with Chair Nakasone in the past two (2) months with other members of the House. Most importantly, Chair Nakasone is a former County Councilmember from Maui, so unlike a lot of people who start their career in the Legislature and know nothing about the counties, we have someone who knows intimately and intricately how Counties work, what the problems are, and he has dealt with the problems at the County level, so we just need to do a better job of being recognized for being there if we were there. I think that those are two (2) areas that we need to work on to just improve how we do our job at the Capitol and these are all prospective about what we should be doing. I think if we do that, then we don't have to worry about what happened. Thank you.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: Thank you. Any further discussion or comments?

Mr. Furfaro: I think Councilman Kouchi summed it up very nicely and I think with our representative (inaudible) and the local counties and the encouragement that we get to spend time at the Legislature, I think we can make some great improvements along with the Administration being there. So I take those comments very constructively. Thank you Councilman Kouchi.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: Any further comments?

BILL "KAIPO" ASING, EX-OFFICIO MEMBER: I guess echoing what was just said a while ago and that was echoed at the HSAC Conference on Maui by former Councilmember Dane Kane who was a former Councilmember on Maui and now the lobbyist for Maui Council and he expressed that same thought that we need to be more visible at the Legislature in order to get things done. Thank you.

Ms. Iseri-Carvalho: Great comments taken to heart. Also, again, you know, an excellent suggestion by Councilmember Kouchi of keeping abreast of the bills as they merry their way through the Legislature. Cyndi actually does that. I mean, she has... we just hadn't brought it to the Council floor and this is an opportunity for us to do so at this point. This is the first time that I am doing the IGR (Intergovernmental Relations) and there is a lot to gain from the insightful experience of Councilmember Kouchi. We will definitely take those to heart and have more information both on the Administration side because it was my understanding also that Lani Nakazawa is the administrative counterpart that will be tracking the legislative bills. So we will request updates from the Administration on where those bills are in addition to, you know, our department

also tracking those bills. Alright, if there are no further discussion, then what I would request is that we defer these two (2) items. I also would like to get an update from the Administration regarding the last legislative session. Our successes or maybe non-successes, but really the efforts we made to try to accomplish the objectives we had set. We have that attached for the three (3) items that the County had proposed and that was the Pouli Road connector improvements, the ball field and recreational facility light system retrofit and the coqui frog eradication. So I will put that as an additional agenda item, so we can get an update on the 2007 package as well as our request for the 2008 Legislative Session as well as the proposals for the HSAC Committee for consideration. For these two (2) matters, if I could get a motion to defer if there is not any further discussion.

Upon motion duly made by Councilmember Bynum, seconded by Councilmember Kouchi, and unanimously carried, CA/IGR 2007-5 and CA/IGR 2007-6 were deferred.

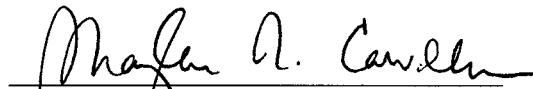
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Ishibashi  
Council Services Assistant

APPROVED at the Committee Meeting held on October 10, 2007:



SHAYLENE ISLERI-CARVALHO  
Chair, Community Assistance/Intergovernmental Relations Committee