



# HAWAII PLANNING

The Newsletter of the American Planning Association Hawaii Chapter  
APA Hawaii - P.O. Box 557 - Honolulu - Hawaii - 96809 <http://www.hawaiiapa.org>

## APAHI TRANSIT COMMITTEE

John Whalen and Cheryl Soon have formed an ad hoc group of planners to meet and represent APAHI on transit within the current public policy deliberations occurring at the City and County level (e.g., council, administration, agencies, etc.). Both John and Cheryl are Fellows of the American Institute of Certified Planners (FAICP), and represent a combined 70+ years of planning experience and expertise, much of it within the distinguished realm of public policy.

The group is open to all members and is meant to be an open forum for discussing important planning, land use and community- building issues that follow on the City Council's recent vote to proceed with a fixed guideway project on Oahu.

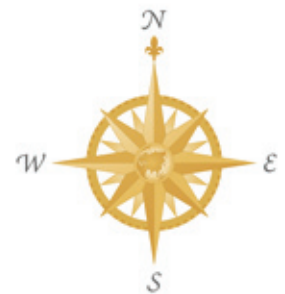
*(APAPI TRANSIT COMMITTEE continued on page 4)*

## PRESIDENT COMMENTS

Welcome to our Winter Quarterly newsletter of the Hawaii Chapter of the American Planning Association.

As we pass by the recent holiday season, we are pleased to include some reflections of recent UH DURP graduates on the transition to various planning-related career paths. These reflections may bring back to mind many of our own memories of our early planning days.

Congratulations to UH DURP for its recent reaccreditation and many thanks to APAHI's committee (chaired by Kimi Yuen and including Mark Hastert, Sue Sakai, Leo Asuncion, Hilarie Keehne, Ruby Edwards, and Scott Derrickson) which assisted with site visits and professional perspectives related to the accreditation process.



Please also find news of APAHI's newest Ad Hoc Committee on Transit. It is chaired by John Whalen, FAICP and Cheryl Soon, FAICP, and coincides with the timely and ongoing efforts of our State to implement a rail-oriented transit program to complement our existing exemplary bus transit system.

This is an exciting period for Hawaii, as it contemplates and envisions joining other great world cities which have long had an integrated multi-modal transit system, including; New York, Boston, Chicago, San Francisco, Vancouver, Tokyo, Singapore, Hong Kong, and London, among many, many others.

*(PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS continued on page 5)*

## FINAL PRINT EDITION

This will be the last print edition of Hawaii Planning, the newsletter of the Hawaii Chapter of the American Planning Association.

Future editions will be distributed exclusively via email to our members and posted to our website at [www.apahi.org](http://www.apahi.org).

Please send email information to our Chapter Secretary if you have not received recent chapter-related announcements via email or emailed copies of this newsletter. This means your email info. is not in APAHI current member database.



# WINTER

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**FAICP**  
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**Indigenous Planning Division**  
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## UH Institute for Astronomy project at Mauna Kea or Haleakala: Panoramic Survey Telescope and Rapid Response System (Pan-STARRS)

Scoping meetings for preparation of Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)  
 5:30pm, Tuesday, January 23, 2007, Kealakehe Intermediate School Cafeteria, Kona  
 5:30pm, Wednesday, January 24, 2007, Waimea Civic Center, Hawaii  
 5:30pm, Thursday, January 25, 2007, UH Hilo Campus Center, Hawaii  
 5:30pm, Tuesday, January 30, 2007, Cameron Center, Maui  
 5:30pm, Wednesday, January 31, 2007, UH Hawaiian Studies Kamakakuokalani, Oahu

Contact: Jeff Overton, Principal, Group 70 International, Inc., 925 Bethel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, HI, 96813, (808) 523-5866 x104

## Biennial Land Use Law Conference

## Hawaii State Bar Association

Real Estate Property and Financial Services Section  
 January 25-26, 2007

The keynote presentation will be by Frank Turner, FAICP, Executive Director of the Development Business Center, Plano, Texas, will be on Rapid Transit Land Use Zoning and Development. Among the other topics: RLUIPA, Culture Impacts, HCDA, ATDC, HHFDC, ESA, Land Trusts, Development Agreements, Agricultural Districts, and Water Law. Cochairs of the conference are UH Law School Professor David Callies, FAICP, and Ben Kudo, Esq. For further information, contact The Seminar Group at: [www.TheSeminarGroup.net](http://www.TheSeminarGroup.net), [info@TheSeminarGroup.net](mailto:info@TheSeminarGroup.net) (206) 463-4400 or (800) 574-4582

## APAHI February Lunch Program

## American Planning Association Hawai'i Chapter

## Speaker: Rick Barboza, Hui Ku Maoli Ola

11:30am-1:00pm, February 14, 2007  
 Richards Street YWCA (downtown)

APA Members: \$17.00

Non-Members: \$20.00

Students: \$10.00, or free without lunch (ID required)

To register, contact Martha Spengler, 545-2055, or at "[mspengler@hhf.com](mailto:mspengler@hhf.com)"

## Historic Hawai'i Foundation Preservation Honor Awards Nominations Due

Wednesday, March 14, 2007

Historic Hawai'i Foundation's annual historic preservation honor awards nominations are due Wednesday, March 14 to 680 Iwilei Road, Suite 690, Honolulu, HI 96817. Nomination form and more information available at [www.historichawaii.org](http://www.historichawaii.org)

## American Planning Association National Conference

Keynote Address to include Mr. Robert Kennedy Jr.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

April 14-18, 2007

More information and registration materials available at [www.planning.org](http://www.planning.org).



# A SORT OF HOMECOMING

Reflections on transitioning to planning careers from UH DURP's Class of 2006



JOAN SCANLON  
Indonesia/ASUSAID

I'm settling in to permanent life here, although not so sure how permanent it will be. Great for now.

We finally found a nice little house to rent, centrally located (for our life activities in Yogya), but with rice fields as the view from our front terrace. It was worth the wait.

I am totally overwhelmed by my new job. I am working on an AUSAID project. Millions of Australian dollars to spend on long term recovery and rebuilding after the earthquake in May. My Papohaku-Coastal Zone Management stuff really paid off-enough for them to consider me an expert. So here I am creating programming for hygiene promotion (personal and environmental) as part of their WATSAN project. And my main task will be earthquake preparedness and disaster readiness (or something like that) programming to go along with school and health clinic reconstruction. But of course, I am busy also doing a bunch of other things (which I don't mind at all). I am part of the Community Engagement team, watching a bunch of experienced professionals make all the mistakes we were warned about at DURP. Fortunately, I have a lot of good advice and insight on how to integrate the social and technical and have a high level of awareness of some of the faults which happen in these kinds of projects. I just joined the project a couple of weeks ago. The "managers" have been busy for months-- so for the coming phases, specifically construction, my input will be

really important. I'm the only planner in the group. Upon my suggestion to our team manager (big boss in the office below the AUSAID guy down the street), they are looking to hire an Indonesian planner to ensure implementation. Lots of people are big on ideas and theories but can't seem to get anything done. So this is a great learning experience. And a great first job. Hopefully the first of many in this kind of consultant, contract position. I dream of working throughout the Indonesian islands first and then further east in the Pacific.

I wonder if that is helpful for any bullet points? I just re-read your letter. Professional vs. Student life. hmmm... Timing. As a student we have lots of time to plan and discuss and in the field things need to happen in a timely manner, based on budgets, and with quick impact or measurable results. This can really affect community involvement and participation, because working with the people takes time, and sometimes the technical doesn't want to wait. So it feels like a lot of catching up, and skipping over important steps.

I keep seeing DURP mailings about AOC presentations and I know lots of people are done this semester. I do miss DURP. I really enjoyed my time there and in Hawaii. I didn't want too much time to lapse between the degree and employment. There aren't many job opportunities here for a foreigner, especially one without

years of experience. That is a problem. At least now I have my foot in the door (as they say).

KATRINA MENZA  
Belgium/Assistant to member of  
European Parliament

Mark and I are doing good - renovating the house and trying to stay warm here in dark and cold Europe (actually it's been unusually warm in whole Europe: Finland's lost all its snow and it's close to Christmas!). Coming back has gone well - I feel like I am home even herein Belgium. But I do miss Hawaii a lot, and all of you(s).

A quick note on transitioning to career life: When I was in school, I started to really feel like I just wanted to work already. I always thought it'd be easier in the working world. Now I'm thinking, what was the rush? when you're in school you have, in a way, more freedom (not financial though) and even though you constantly feel you should be studying, or this and that paper needs to be finished, you still have more time for other things in life.

After just starting in the working life, it really amazes me how little time I have for anything after work - sports (getting out of shape & gaining weight are definitely the downsides of transitioning to career life), correspondence with friends in Hawaii, etc. - and all the time I have left after work seems to be spent sleeping and relaxing. Perhaps this is just because I am working for the European parliament where the pace is crazy hectic.

But I guess for me the most difficult thing I have to cope with is the loss of free time (especially when you don't feel that you get enough compensation for the time you've lost). So, Ph.D. is not out of the question - especially if I can come back to Hawaii to do it.

(More reflections in the ONLINE EDITION  
OF HAWAII PLANNING on Page 6)



(APAPI TRANSIT COMMITTEE continued from page 1)

Here is a thumb-nail sketch of legislative activity.

- o Bill 79 CD 2 FD 2 Final #2 passed December 22, 2006 and selected a fixed guideway system as the preferred alternative.
- o Bill 80 and Bill 92 both address the choice of technology and are referred to the Committee on Transportation and Planning, headed by Councilmember Garcia. This committee meets on Thursdays at 1:00
- o Bill 81 to select station sites and an LPA was deferred and sent back to the Transportation and Planning Committee which is expected to take it up in January.
- o Bill 82 became Ordinance 06-50 when Council overrode the Mayor's veto. It requires stations to be placed as a symbol on the infrastructure maps and it requires Transit Oriented Zoning within the LUO. It came from the Zoning Committee which meets on Tuesdays.

Initial concerns addressed by the ad hoc group are:

- 1) The LUO, Subdivision Regulations, Public Works Standards, Zoning and Parking regulations are all overdue for revision and update to conform to the Development Plans and Sustainability Plans adopted over the last several years. Many voices (Jim Charlier, Paul Brewbaker, Honolulu Advertiser among others) make note that the city planning implications match or exceed those for transportation. This badly needed and long overdue overhaul needs to be properly funded. We recommend a level close to \$ 4 Million for a 2-3 year effort, which should be contained as an earmark to DPP in the next budget. The Charter amendment for Bike Policy and Ordinance 06-50 provide still more urgency to this task.
- 2) We recommend a five person professional staffing unit, with consultant assistance, to negotiate and implement TOD after the zoning provisions are in place. We can provide examples from other locations.
- 3) The land use and TOD issues should be linked to the livable communities and other community based planning work from the last several years. This includes: Waikiki Livable Community Plan (Wilson Okamoto), Ala Moana Sheridan Community Plan (PlanPacific), Kakaako Mauka (HCDA and PlanPacific), Moilili/McCully/Makiki/Manoa (4M) (inventory by PlanPacific, additional work by Helber Haster Fee), Manoa Community Plan Lester Inouye), Chinatown Waterfront, Capital District, Iwilei, Aloha Tower Guidelines, Pearl City/Aiea Livable Community Plan (Wilson Okamoto), Waipahu Livable Community Plan (Wilson Okamoto) and Ewa area landowner masterplans (DH Horton, DHHL, Kalaeloa HCDA and others).
- 4) Unresolved or Open Alignment Issues – Council left to the Mayor decisions on Airport versus Salt Lake; Farrington versus Kalaeloa/North-South Road (green versus yellow); and a Waikiki spur. They also left open what would be the first segment, called the Minimum Operable Segment, or MOS. There are good planning rationales for these decisions in addition to those argued by those preparing the EIS (total ridership, cost of additional riders).

The ad hoc committee welcomes participation from others. The primary method of communication will be email, so interested persons should forward their name and email address. The ad hoc committee may visit with key players in the administration, city consultants, Council and elsewhere to offer planning findings from other transit and TOD experiences, and to share sound planning advice as the bills are considered. Where policies and recommendations are clearly outlined at the national level of APA, these will be forwarded as the basis for APAPI's positions. For more information or to get involved, please contact Cheryl Soon at "thesoons@yahoo.com" or John Whalen "jwhalen@planpacific.com".



*(PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS continued from page 1)*

Creating a multi-modal transit system will allow Oahu's leaders and planners to envision and plan for an island that can take advantage of; a) our existing concentration of development within relatively narrow spine-oriented corridors, coinciding with coastal plains and mauka-extending valleys, b) our culture of mass transit ridership as represented by one of the highest bus ridership rates nationwide, c) our City and County's longstanding efforts to concentrate development pressure away from the Country by making urban living more attractive and more accessible and d) reduce our dependence on automobiles as the primary means of travel, including its related demands on infrastructure and land and impacts on the physical character of our cities.

Late last year, I sat in on an AIA-organized meeting with Parsons Brinckerhoff on the transit study. With a view to the existing transit study by PB to select the preferred mode of transit, the following points were emphasized with regards to the potential interests and concerns from APAHI and its membership:

-APAHI's membership focus is on process, scope, and parameters of transit studies.

-APAHI's membership wants to see transit succeed, and play a part in its success on multiple levels (process & product).

-APAHI's would like to be a constructive party to the process.

-Understanding that the big battle is in contract definition, provide adequate budget and contract scope for consultants to study transit and its ultimate footprint (ie. stations) more holistically.

-Need to educate key gatekeepers to the process (administration, elected officials, etc.) and ensure that they rely on, and see the value of, key technical advisors (e.g., DPP, DTS/Public Transit, etc.).

-Key may be not in trying to reshape parameters and scope of existing contracts, but in influencing the scope and parameters of subsequent planning and design contracts which ultimately determine the focus and parameters for construction funding.

-Need to sustain the public and political will to see transit succeed over an extended period of time, potentially spanning multiple administrations, to get to the point where implementation is a real possibility.

-Client (not just consultant) needs to be involved in any ad hoc working committee with AIA/APA, as consultants perform to their contracts. Client maintains continuity through subsequent contracts.

-APA membership and leadership represent past leaders in public and private sector with good working knowledge of public policy and state & county-level bureaucracies (e.g. past agency directors & senior staff, etc.). Future administrators of planning and design contracts may come from our membership (e.g., future directors, dd's).

Several of APA's policy guides, namely on "Surface Transportation" and "Smart Growth" among others (see extracts on page 6 of the Online edition of Hawai'i Planning), and as found on the APA website at "www.planning.org", provide helpful perspectives on policies and implications of current past efforts to study and plan for a transit system in a more holistic manner, and to better involve the many local communities which will be affected by a transit system.

2007 promises to be an exciting year for the Hawai'i's planning community, as numerous public and private initiatives are underway to address the significant issues affecting our standards of living and way of life, including affordable housing, transportation, land use reform, and development pressure on agriculture and rural lands, among many, many others.

*Gene Yong, APAHI Chapter President*



SEAN C. MCNAMERA

Ph.D. Candidate, UH DURP, Hawai'i

I entered into the Ph.D. (program at UH DURP), and have so far taken the methods class, and am now taking the theory class. Its been very very helpful that I already have a project and am continuing my master's thesis/aoc as my Ph.D. dissertation. I think this is critical as it places me ahead of the other students, and enables me to be focused on what I am doing. I am finishing up the historic preservation certificate and have also begun taking futures studies courses under Jim Dator. Very very fascinating, it's not just about changing the here and now, but about creating your preferred future, world, governance, society, planet, galaxy, or what have you, the first class was theories and methods of futures studies and this semester is the design aspect; creating what is your preferred future and then designing a form of governance for that future,...,pretty cool.

I feel that since I chose to go into the Ph.D. (program) instead of the work field, it has been tough in the sense that will people take me seriously. Well, I hope by creating my own project and making change within my own community we gain the credibility work experience would have. Also, as a Ph.D. student, I feel it imperative to explore aspects of the mind and planning that perhaps working may not provide in time or stimulation.

TROY KNOTT

Planner, Group 70, Hawai'i

My thoughts revolve around getting experience and being involved prior to graduating from DURP. Having a year under my belt with Group 70 while finishing my degree really helped in the transition to fulltime work. First, I had a fulltime job waiting for me. That is a stress reliever! Second, while I was considered a regular/part-time employee, I was allowed a little leeway while being a student. So this set up a very good learning environment where making mistakes, if made, didn't feel as detrimental as it might be if I was the head project planner. Also, I had a year to get "encultured" into the work environment of a professional practice over a longer period of time, rather than just jumping in to a fulltime work week in a new environment from the safety zone of academia. Finally, having continued professionally at the same place that hired me as a student, allowed me to work at a higher capacity on jobs I already knew. So the rampup that is normally associated with a new job was decidedly less.

My main other point has to do with my role with USURP last year. Having that experience exposed me to a lot of people in the community that students might not normally associate with. I got to know all of the APA officers well, including some national reps from other states, divisions, chapters, etc. Because of my involvement and attendance at various professional functions on behalf of USURP I came to know a number of other planners in the community - developers, state and city officials, planners from various private firms, etc. In short, being involved with USURP and in general with DURP at a level beyond just taking classes for a degree, has been a wonderful networking opportunity. This provides the sense that more doors are open to me than might normally be after graduating.

I believe these two things, experience and involvement, considerably helped prepare me for professional planning life. I haven't felt very surprised in my role as a fulltime planner, and I think these are things that many students should take advantage while still in their DURP days.

## EXTRACTS OF APA POLICY GUIDES

relating to transit planning

### SMART GROWTH

Smart growth means using comprehensive planning to guide, design, develop, revitalize and build communities for all that:

- have a unique sense of community and place;
- preserve and enhance valuable natural and cultural resources;
- equitably distribute the costs and benefits of development;
- expand the range of transportation, employment and housing choices in a fiscally responsible manner;
- value long-range, regional considerations of sustainability over short term incremental geographically isolated actions; and
- promotes public health and healthy communities.

Compact, transit accessible, pedestrian-oriented, mixed use development patterns and land reuse epitomize the application of the principles of smart growth.

In contrast to prevalent development practices, Smart Growth refocuses a larger share of regional growth within central cities, urbanized areas, inner suburbs, and areas that are already served by infrastructure. Smart Growth reduces the share of growth that occurs on newly urbanizing land, existing farmlands, and in environmentally sensitive areas. In areas with intense growth pressure, development in newly urbanizing areas should be planned and developed according to Smart Growth principles.

### SURFACE TRANSPORTATION

"Transportation is a major sector of the United States economy, accounting for more than ten percent of GNP. Transportation systems affect most significant aspects of human society including:

- settlement patterns;
- land development and land use;
- economic activity;
- goods movement and trade;
- jobs and wages for thousands of workers;
- energy and resource allocation;
- access to places of work, education,
- health care, social life, and commerce for individuals;
- general social equity;
- environmental quality; and
- overall livability of communities and metropolitan areas.

Therefore, how and how well a transportation system functions have deep and long-term consequences for the quality of both the built and natural environments and the persons who inhabit them. Transportation represents a significant area of concern for professional planners."

(NEWS continued from page 3)

### Historic Hawai'i Foundation's Annual Preservation Honor Awards

Wednesday, May 2

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Island Princess, Honolulu Harbor

Cocktail reception, entertainment, ship tour and awards ceremony recognizing excellence in historic preservation throughout the state. Historic Hawai'i Foundation's Preservation Honor Awards are Hawai'i's highest recognition of projects, individuals or organizations active in preservation, rehabilitation, restoration or interpretation of the state's historic archeological, architectural and cultural heritage.

Tickets are \$50 (includes parking); reservations required.

RSVP to 808-523-2900 or [member@historichawaii.org](mailto:member@historichawaii.org). Information available at [www.historichawaii.org](http://www.historichawaii.org)

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# EMPLOYMENT

## GROUP 70 (posted 1/9/07)

### PLANNER: URBAN & ENVIRONMENTAL

Seeking energetic land use planner with experience in master plans, permitting and environmental studies. Planning or related degree required with 3-5 years experience. Strong skills for report writing, organization and communication essential. GIS, and physical planning experience desired.

Send cover letter and resume to:

Group 70 International, Inc.

Fax: 808-523-5874

[jho@group70int.com](mailto:jho@group70int.com)

## OCEANIT (posted 12/4/06)

### PLANNERS

Seeking individuals who possess strong community facilitation and meeting skills to prepare and process NEPA documents, Environmental Assessment/EIS document, Special Management Area Permits, and other permit and regulatory processes. This includes participating and conducting public hearing presentations.

#### Responsibilities:

- \* Preparation and processing of permit applications;
- \* Drafting Environmental Assessments (EA) and Environmental Impact Statements (EIS);
- \* Community relations and facilitation efforts related to permits and projects;
- \* Development of planning business in conjunction with engineering services (including grant/proposal writing or private sector marketing encompassing Oceanit services such as NPDES, stream channel alteration, benthic surveys, water quality);
- \* Assist with field work, site visits, coastal or biological survey investigation projects, as needed (such as water quality sampling, benthic surveys);
- \* Assist with administration functions in support of meetings
- \* Computer literate; and
- \* Comfortable with new technologies.

Please apply on line via our website, under careers. [www.oceanit.com](http://www.oceanit.com)



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Hawaii Chapter of the American Planning Association  
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## HAWAII PLANNING Newsletter Information

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS:** Hawaii Planning does NOT maintain address lists. All lists are maintained at the national office and are mailed to the local chapters each month. If your address or phone number has changed please contact:

APA Membership Department  
122 South Michigan Avenue, Suite 1600, Chicago, IL 96063  
Phone: (312) 431-9100  
Fax: (312) 431-9985

**EMPLOYMENT ADS:** Employment and job wanted ads are \$20.00. Ads are distributed via email on a one-time basis to APA Hawaii Chapter's membership, posted onto the Chapter's website for sixty days, and posted in our quarterly newsletter. Send your copy to Mike Murphy (address below) with a name and billing address.

**CONSULTANT DIRECTORY:** Put your business card in the newsletter. Rates are \$20.00 for a sixty day posting on our Chapter's website, and a one-time listing on our quarterly newsletter, or \$100.00 for one year listing on the Chapter's website and postings in four newsletters. Send business cards to (2" wide x 3.5" long to Mike Murphy (address below).

**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:** If you are interested in joining the American Planning Association, contact the national office at the address and numbers listed above. For just \$35.00 per year, you can become a member of the Hawaii Chapter; this entitles you to a newsletter subscription and a member's discount on Chapter program luncheons.

**SUBMISSIONS:** Hawaii Planning welcomes articles, photos, calendar listings, etc. Please feel free to send anything you think is of interest. We may need to edit articles due to space limitations.

**NEWSLETTER MATERIALS:** Materials submitted for use in the Hawaii Planning newsletter are recommended to be submitted in digital form via email or CD-ROM disks. Printed materials are also accepted.

**GRAPHICS:** Graphics are always welcome—photos, charts, cartoons, etc. Because images may have to be reduced or cropped, originals may not always be returned.

**DEADLINES:** Please observe our quarterly deadlines. Hawaii Planning is generally mailed out the last week of January (winter), April (spring), July (summer), and October (fall). We have a one-month lag time, so for calendar listings, be sure to get your copy or ad to us at least one month in advance.

Please send copy and newsletter items to:

Michael Murphy, AICP  
91-1087 Aipo'ola St., Ewa Beach, HI 96706  
Phone: 699-2202  
E-mail: mikeamurphy@yahoo.com

SUBMIT INFORMATION FOR THE SPRING ISSUE (BY MARCH 30, 2007)