

**Meeting No. 1
Group Memory**

Mayor's Advisory Committee on Landfill Site Selection
City and County of Honolulu

January 20, 2011

Attendance:

Committee Members Present: Bruce Anderson, David Arakawa, Tom Arizumi, John Goody, Joe Lapilio, Tesha Malama, Richard Poirier, Chuck Prentiss, George West

Committee Members Absent: David Cooper, John DeSoto, Janice Marsters

Welcome and Opening Remarks: Doug Chin, Tim Steinberger

Department of Environmental Services (ENV) Staff: Steve Serikaku

Consultants: Brian Takeda, Gail Atwater, Mark White

Facilitator: Dee Dee Letts

The meeting began at 9:00 AM and opened with a welcome by Acting Mayor Doug Chin who thanked the Committee for agreeing to serve and noted that he and the Mayor looked forward to receiving their recommendations. Tim Steinberger, Director, ENV, also thanked the Committee and echoed the comments of Doug Chin.

The purpose and outcome for the Committee were next shared – the purpose is to share information and sites under consideration for the next solid waste landfill on O‘ahu, identify additional sites, if any, and to develop criteria from a community perspective to measure the identified sites against – the outcome is to forward to the Mayor a list of ranked sites based on the criteria.

The Committee agreed to guidelines and ground rules for their deliberations around this issue; they agreed to be courteous in their discussions, that it was OK to disagree as long as the disagreements were around issues and not personalities, that they would listen as an ally meaning that they would listen for agreements as well as disagreements, that they would state their concerns openly, and agree that every opinion is important to the discussion.

The Committee next invited comments from any member of the public in attendance. There were no comments.

Brian Takeda from R. M. Towill Corporation (RMTC) then provided an overview to the Committee regarding the City's present solid waste management system and scope of the process. He clarified that the committee is tasked with helping to identify the next landfill site on O‘ahu and that the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill (WGSL) will not be considered in this process. Key points covered included the following:

- The basis for the formation of the Committee is Condition No. 4 of the Special Use Permit (SUP) for the operation of the WGSL dated October 2009 which required the ENV to begin the process of identifying O‘ahu's next landfill site by November 2010.

- The City is pursuing all feasible alternatives to landfilling. However, all present alternative processes result in the generation of waste by-products that cannot be further reused, recycled or otherwise combusted. For these forms of waste a solid waste landfill remains the most viable alternative for the City.
- The planned landfill will be designed to accept municipal solid waste, ash and residue, and construction and demolition debris waste.
- He explained the package of materials that was distributed to the Committee members.
- The schedule of 7 meetings was explained and it was noted that if more meetings are necessary, that they would be scheduled at the Committee's discretion.
- An overview of the City's refuse handling system including solid waste collection, transfer stations, H-POWER, landfills, recycling and bioconversion, source reduction and reuse, special waste management, and education.

After the presentation the Committee asked questions and began to develop preliminary issues for discussion. The following is a summary of the discussion and the issues raised:

Q: Are we talking about the identification of just one site or is there the potential to look at multiple sites depending on the waste stream?

A: The Committee can make comments on appropriate sites for waste streams however the Committee's task is to rank the sites from the best to the least satisfactory and not pick one; the further charge to the Committee at this point is to rank sites that can accommodate all waste streams including Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), ash and residue, and construction and demolition (C&D) debris, in part because of economies of scale and costs associated with multiple EISs and operators, etc.

Q: Can we have a copy of the LUC Conditions?

A: Yes we will provide

Q: Can we get information on waste stream composition by region and from the various transfer stations?

A: Yes and we will do our best to get it as well defined as possible

Q: Interested in drinking water retention and recharge areas.

A: We can get the Committee the current UIC or underground injection control line information.

Q: Are there other watershed restrictions?

A: Yes, but it will depend on the location of the site in question

Q: Can we have a presentation by DOH on environmental issues?

A: Yes, we can request this from DOH

Q: Can we get some parameters around the area that would be required for the site?

A: Yes we will get that

Q: Will we look at cultural sites that might be located in any of the sites we are looking at?

A: Existing information would be available and we will supply it to the Committee – any site ultimately chosen would be subject to the preparation of a Cultural Impact Assessment as part of the EIS process.

Q: Can we have a briefing by the LUC staff?

A: There was discussion around this and the group decided to look at the Decision and Order (D&O) first and then decide if a presentation would be helpful to the Committee in reference to the work they are being asked to do.

The Committee next discussed issues that they needed to address as part of their work:

- What is the timeframe to develop the new site
- What is the City's overall vision for waste stream disposal
- Precipitation patterns
- Existing cultural sites
- Current land use designations for sites under consideration and whether there are land use conflicts at any of the sites being considered
- Transportation costs
- Wind patterns
- RCRA Subtitle D requirements
- Information on the Waimanalo North and Bellows alternative sites, should the state and military say we can continue to look at those sites
- Problem of landfills that were closed in the past so we can be aware of these in our deliberations
- Availability of cover material and other engineering requirements at sites
- Different requirements for sites by type of waste disposed
- A lot of what we have mentioned is technical criteria; we need to make sure that we fulfill our charge of developing criteria from the community's perspective
- The site needs to accommodate C&D waste also

The committee next discussed the dates for future meetings understanding that the dates are tentatively set and may be adjusted:

February 10: 9 AM to +/-5 PM – There will be a tour of solid waste handling facilities– Committee members will meet at Kapolei Hale at 9:00 AM – we will furnish additional information to the Committee as the details are finalized.

March 10: 9 AM to 12 PM

March 31: 9 AM to 12 PM

May 12: 9 AM to 12 PM – (Note: This date is corrected from an earlier date)

June 23: 9 AM to 12 PM

July 21: 9 AM to 12 PM

All meetings will be in the Mayor's Conference Room unless the Committee is otherwise notified. Materials necessary for each meeting will be available no later than 7 days prior to the meeting.

The Committee requested that as the process progresses they would like an additional field trip to the top sites and also requested: (1) that maps be furnished when appropriate for discussion; and (2) that the appropriate Development Plans also be provided for the final sites.