

**HCR 189 PLANNING GROUP MEETING
BROADBAND ASSISTANCE ADVISORY COUNCIL (BAAC)
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (DCCA)
STATE OF HAWAII**

MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: Thursday, July 23, 2015
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Place: King Kalakaua Building, 335 Merchant Street,
Queen Liliuokalani Conference Room,
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

BAAC Members Present: Chair Catherine Awakuni Colón – DCCA
Representative Kyle Yamashita
James Miwa (for Todd Nacapuy) – Office of Information Management and Technology (OIMT)
Don Jacobs – County of Hawaii
Tony Velasco – City & County of Honolulu
Garret Yoshimi – University of Hawaii (UH)
Sharene Urakami-Oyama (via call-in) – AT&T Mobility
Kiman Wong (for Gregg Fujimoto) – Oceanic Time Warner Cable (OTWC)
Shannon Sandry (for Scott Barber) – Hawaiian Telcom
Ian Kitajima – Oceanit

HCR 189 Participants Present: Mary Alice Evans (for Luis Salaveria) – Dept. of Economic Development and Tourism
Marc Togashi – Hawaii Tourism Authority
Tracy Ban – Dept. of Budget and Finance
Elton Ushio – County of Kauai, Civil Defense
Karen Wataru Nakaoka – Hawaii Lodging and Tourism Assoc. (HLTA)
Norman Nakagawa (for Rudy Tamayo) – Hawaiian Electric Company

Other Participants Present: Victoria Garcia – Dept. of Defense (DOD)
Dolores Cook – DOD
Arnold Kishi – OIMT

DCCA Members Present: Jon Okudara – Verizon Wireless
Ji Sook Kim, Cable Television Administrator
Cathy Takase, Broadband Program Specialist
Debby Shin, Broadband Program Specialist

I. Call to Order

Chair Catherine Awakuni Colón (Chair) called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Attendee introductions were made. Attendees included BAAC members, identified additional BAAC participants under House Concurrent Resolution No. 189 and other invited stakeholders who would be able to assist in the planning process.

II. House Concurrent Resolution No. 189 (HCR 189) Overview

The Chair presented an overview of HCR 189: The Legislature asked the BAAC and other identified participants to look at the deployment of affordable and accessible broadband services in Hawaii, and specifically to look into developing strategies for the establishment of high speed broadband access through resort areas and other identified areas, including the Honolulu International Airport and the Hawaii public schools. A report is due to legislature prior to 2016 Legislative Session, which will be prepared with the assistance of the HCR 189 Planning Group and utilizing DCCA staff.

A. Deliverables identified in HCR 189

HCR 189 contains specific deliverables:

1. Create a master plan to provide universal high speed broadband access in resort areas, including identified areas, the Honolulu International Airport and Hawaii public schools;
2. Develop specific strategies for the establishment of universal high speed broadband access throughout those same identified areas;
3. Identify best practices to establish a database that identifies current and prospective projects for deploying broadband; and
4. Submit a written report to legislature with findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation.

B. Approach to be taken

The Chair summarized DCCA's proposed approach to meet these deliverables:

1. DCCA will work directly with the Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Department of Education (DOE) to learn about the agencies' broadband needs and to incorporate their plans into the final report. DCCA has already contacted DOT and has been informed that they plan to issue a Request for Interest (RFI) shortly relating to WiFi concessions at the Honolulu International Airport, Kahului Airport, Lihue Airport, Kona International Airport and the Hilo International Airport. DCCA will

continue to keep the HCR 189 Planning Group apprised of the DOT plans as they progress. DCCA will similarly advise the group on the DOE's broadband plans and incorporate them into the report.

2. The HCR 189 Planning Group is asked to focus on the resort areas planning and strategies. Participants with contacts in resort areas, such as hotels, will be asked to reach out to gather more information on the different resort areas and their needs.

3. DCCA will research best practices to establish a database that identifies current and prospective projects for deploying broadband.

III. Overview of Work Plan to Create Broadband Assessment for Identified Resort Areas

The Chair presented an overview of the Broadband Assessment Outline, which had been provided to the participants in advance of the meeting. The Chair noted that DCCA welcomed feedback on this work plan.

A. Introduction

DCCA will draft this section of the Broadband Assessment. The Chair noted that for purposes of working on the Broadband Assessment, DCCA proposed to define "Universal Broadband Access" as access to wired or wireless broadband by all consumers everywhere at reasonable and affordable rates. The Chair invited feedback on this definition. No comments were offered.

B. Background

DCCA will draft this section of the Assessment

C. Master Plan Roadmap for Resort Areas

1. Subtarget Areas Identified.

The Chair discussed seriatim the subtarget areas named within HCR 189.

Waikiki

The Chair noted that the BAAC had received a presentation at its last meeting by Mark Wong, the Information and Technology Director for the City, on the City & County of Honolulu's Waikiki WiFi project. The Chair noted that DCCA was working on a summary of that project for the Assessment.

Because the City is working with OTWC on this project, the Chair asked Kiman Wong (OTWC) to share general details on the project. Mr. Wong stated that this is a pilot project to try and provide outdoor WiFi coverage in Waikiki. The project area is on Kalakaua Street from the Police Station down to the tennis courts at Kapiolani Park (approximately 7 blocks), and includes the street and the beach area.

The pilot project consists of a combination of different types of WiFi offerings, which includes the City's desired WiFi offering of free WiFi for anyone under the "Waikiki WiFi" name. At present, the City's intent is to launch the pilot program at one hour free per day per device and to collect data on usage to determine the appropriateness of this time period.

Mr. Wong noted that Waikiki presents a particular challenge to installing WiFi systems because the infrastructure there is placed underground. One challenge was to find places to safely mount the devices to cover the project area. Phase one of the installation is complete and the second phase installation target completion date is September. The Project completion date is November 2015 in order to launch the WiFi system in time for the Honolulu Marathon. OTWC is using some of its own existing broadband infrastructure, but is also installing new infrastructure to provide the service. Devices are being mounted on traffic light poles, rest pavilions, and comfort stations.

The pilot project includes testing to see if the speed, which is consistent with OTWC's WiFi offering "TWC WiFi", is fast enough or whether it needs to be augmented. This determination will be based upon the usage and the load they see. The Chair noted her understanding that the City intended to provide some WiFi access for the casual user visiting the area, rather than for the heavy duty user or for public safety use. The Chair also noted that Mr. Wong mentioned in his presentation to the BAAC that the City was being careful to direct coverage to avoid interference with the revenue streams of private owners, such as hotels that offered WiFi services to its guests for a fee. This would also need to be considered if this type of project was to be applied to other resort areas across the State.

DCCA's intent is to use the City's pilot project to create a model that could be used by other counties to similarly provide WiFi access in their resort areas.

Other Subtarget Areas

The Chair noted the other subtarget areas identified in HCR 189 and asked for any comment by those familiar with those areas on known gaps in service or specific challenges.

Kohala, Hawaii

Don Jacobs (County of Hawaii) questioned the identification of Kohala because the resort area is in the Waikoloa area and down to Kailua-Kona, although noting that a consortium of the hotels used the place descriptor of Kohala. He suggested that DCCA obtain clarification on this area.

Garret Yoshimi (UH) concurred, noting that the areas of Kohala and Hanalei had been raised previously in discussions of underserved areas so that the identified areas might be intended as a mix of resort and underserved areas. He also suggested contacting the property owners in the resort areas for information on what they cover so that the maps could include that information also.

Kaanapali, Maui

No comments offered on any service gaps.

Hanalei, Kauai

Elton Ushio (County of Kauai) noted that Hanalei may also be more likely characterized as an underserved area because there are no resorts in Hanalei proper. Located in the vicinity are the Bluffs at Princeville and the Hanalei Colony Resort, which is in the more secluded area of Haena. He noted the intermittent cell phone signals in that area and the loss of signal in every valley along the coastline. Mr. Ushio said that the Mayor's Office can check with Representative Kawakami and Representative Tokioka about the reason for identifying Hanalei.

2. Identify type of service gap in broadband access

The Chair asked the participants for input on what types of service and service gaps need to be focused on for each of the subtarget areas -- WiFi, Cellular, Wireline, or all of these. Kiman Wong (OTWC) suggested that it should be all because the desire for resort areas is to get visitors at least one type of access. For example, U.S. tourists will likely have cellular access while foreign tourists may not. He also noted that WiFi is more universal and wireless is more convenient to access. He added that OTWC provides at least wireline access to the property of the hotels in most of the resort areas. He asked whether the assessment should be looking at whether service is available in public areas or both public and private properties.

Garret Yoshimi (UH) noted that universal access usually does not place a limit, but suggested limiting the report to whether service is available to the private property because it is then up to the property owner to choose the type of service to provide. He suggested that we provide overlays to show which property owners have made provision for services.

3. Verify current broadband coverage and infrastructure and identify service and infrastructure gaps

Coverage Maps

The Chair informed the attendees that DCCA will be sending out broadband coverage maps to the HCR 189 Planning Group for feedback. Reviewers will be asked to (1) review and investigate coverages shown in maps for each type of service (Wi-Fi, cellular, wireline), utilizing their personal knowledge and experience and their contacts with users in the subtarget areas; and (2) report back on service gaps. The Chair noted that the maps utilize existing, publicly accessible data, which is known to overstate service availability for certain census blocks. DCCA will also be asking providers for assistance in verifying their service availability.

Existing Broadband Plans

The HCR 189 Planning Group will also be asked to (1) investigate and report back on any existing broadband plans for the subtarget areas for each type of service to be addressed; and (2) provide comment on whether a project like the City & County of Honolulu's Waikiki WiFi pilot is one that should be considered for use in the other subtarget areas.

Infrastructure Gaps

The HCR 189 Planning Group will be asked to investigate and report back on any known infrastructure needs to provide access for each type of service.

Identify Stakeholders to Carry Planning Forward for Resort Areas

The HCR 189 Planning Group will be asked for input on identifying all stakeholders that should be included for each subtarget area, including private landowners and hotels in the area, to carry planning forward. The Chair also welcomed the formation of subgroups by the participants for the respective subtarget areas.

Next Steps for Planning

The Chair stated that "next steps" would be discussed at later meetings. Next steps may include identifying needed legislation and developing specific recommendations for the target areas.

IV. Key Milestones

- A. HCR 189 Planning Group is being asked to provide comments on the Draft Broadband Assessment Outline by July 27, 2015.
- B. DCCA will send out meeting notes, available coverage maps and a request for information on coverages and gaps by the end of July.
- C. HCR 189 Planning Group will be asked to provide comment on coverage maps and to report back on any existing plans, additional coverage information, and known gaps in service or infrastructure by about mid-August.
- D. HCR 189 Planning Group will be asked to review Final Draft of Report to Legislature about early November.
- E. Report is to be submitted to Legislature by the end of December.

V. Additional Comments and Announcements

- A. The Chair asked attendees to reserve following dates and times for future meetings, if needed:

August 19, 2015 @ 9:00 a.m.
October 19, 2015 @ 9:00 a.m.

- B. The Chair welcomed any assistance that the participants could provide in gathering information and providing input, and asked for timely review and comment for circulated material given the tight timeframe to finalize the report.
- C. The DCCA Point of Contact will be the Cable Television Administrator, Ji Sook "Lisa" Kim (808-586-2620).
- D. Additional comments were offered by participants:
 - 1. Karen Wataru Nakaoka (HTLA) suggested creation of a survey that may be sent out to their contacts to collect information regarding service in the resort areas. The Chair noted that this was something that DCCA had hoped to do and welcomed the assistance of HTLA in reaching the hotel owners.

2. Victoria Garcia (OIMT) asked about the type of broadband data that might be drawn from, including data available from the National Telecommunications & Information Administration (NTIA). DCCA staff noted that the NTIA data, which was obtained through a mapping grant awarded to DCCA, is comprised of data voluntarily provided by providers generally on the census block level. DCCA staff noted that this data was being used as a starting point and that further detail was sought to refine the data because it may in part overstate coverage. The intent is also to gather more information on other broadband services, such as wireless coverage and WiFi. To obtain further detail, it is very helpful to have participation of the counties, which may have actual knowledge regarding broadband access in the resort areas.

3. Representative Yamashita stressed the importance of this effort in getting as many agencies and other parties to the table to communicate on broadband. He said that would include the DOE, noting the \$30M set aside in the past budget to complete covered network infrastructure for the schools, which infrastructure might be used to extend coverage. DCCA noted that it would be meeting with the DOE separately to obtain information for the Assessment, but would also invite DOE to future HCR 189 meetings.

4. Victoria Garcia (OIMT) added that this effort and the FirstNet effort are different but may complement each other in terms of bringing information together on coverage across the State.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.