



State Planning Act Task Force

Meeting #5

MEETING MINUTES

May 19, 2026

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, 6th Floor Conference Room
State Office Tower – Leiopapa A Kamehameha Building
235 South Beretania Street, Honolulu
and Via Videoconference

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n29PXvxkTYA>

All meeting materials are posted at <https://planning.hawaii.gov/spb/hawaii-state-plan-update-phase-2/past-meetings-and-materials/>

Members/Designees Present:

Michelle Ahn, County of Hawai'i Planning Department
Mary Alice Evans, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD), Chair
Steven Bond-Smith, University of Hawai'i Economic Research Organization
Michael Cain, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission
Ka'āina Hull, County of Kaua'i Planning Department
Jacky Takakura, Planning Department, County of Maui
Leinā'ala Ley, Office of Hawaiian Affairs
Leslie Wilkins, Maui Economic Development Board
Dina Wong, Planning Division, City and County of Honolulu
Cat Awakuni Colón, O'ahu Economic Development Board
Ken Kakesako, Department of Education
Chris Liu, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission

Members/Designees Excused:

Jacqui Hoover, Hawai'i Economic Development Board

Jackie Kaina, Kaua‘i Economic Development Board
Jeffrey Darrow, County of Hawai‘i Planning Department

OPSD Special Plans Staff:

Scott Allen, OPSD
David Kobayashi, OPSD
Lauren Primiano, OPSD
Isabelle Sholes, OPSD

Guests:

Leo Asuncion, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development
Rebekah Kim, Office of Vice Speaker Linda Ichiyama
Jesse Souki, Department of Education

1. **Call to Order, Roll Call, and Quorum**

Mary Alice Evans, the Director of OPSD and Chair of the Task Force, called the meeting to order at 1:04 PM.

2. **Approval of Minutes from Task Force Meeting #4 on March 31, 2026**

The Draft Meeting Minutes from the Task Force meeting on March 31, 2026 were approved as circulated.

3. **Establishment of Planning Issue Permitted Interaction Groups**

Evans shared the proposed names of chairs and members who would be appointed to the following Permitted Interaction Groups (PIGs):

a. Climate Change and Resilience

- i. Chair: Chris Liu
- ii. Member: Michael Cain

b. Housing and Community Stability

- i. Chair: Leo Asuncion
- ii. Members: Dina Wong, Steven Bond-Smith, Ken Kakesako

c. Economic Stewardship and Resilience

- i. Chair: Cat Awakuni Colón
- ii. Members: Leslie Wilkins, Jacqui Hoover, Jackie Kaina

d. Culture and Place

- i. Chair: Jacqui Hoover
- ii. Member: Leinā‘ala Ley

4. Establishment of a Planning Systems and Governance Permitted Interaction Group

Evans established the following chair and members for the Planning Systems and Governance PIG:

- a. Chair: Mary Alice Evans
- b. Members: Jeff Darrow, Jacky Takakura, Ka'āina Hull, Dina Wong

Evans explained that the Permitted Interaction Group Chairs would be empowered to invite subject matter experts as deemed helpful in hearing from different voices within that area of interest.

Evans noted that the Chairs will be assisted by a vendor that OPSD conducted a competitive procurement for and selected. She explained that the vendor would assist the Chairs with recordings of the PIG meetings and provide summaries to track progress. Evans also stated that the hope is that vendor support will help the PIGs and Chairs focus less on procedures and process and more on the policy and vision.

Evans then called for a motion to approve the appointment of PIG chairs and members, and the charge to each PIG.

Michael Cain moved to approve the action item, and Cat Awakuni Colón seconded the motion.

Evans asked if there were any objections to the motion or if there were any questions.

Cain asked if the vendor had been chosen.

Lauren Primiano responded that a Notice of Award had been posted on HANDs, and that the selected vendor was Hua Nani Partners.

Cain asked about the role of the vendor.

Evans responded that the vendor would help the chairs in any way that they would need help, except that the vendor would not be providing any content for the PIGs.

There were no comments from the public. Evans asked if there were any objections from the members. Seeing none, Evans noted that the motion passed.

5. Announcements

Primiano reiterated that the role of Hua Nani is to support the coordination and facilitation for the chairs, adding that the OPSD team would reach out to the PIG Chairs for an onboarding meeting.

Primiano also highlighted the commencement of development of Thematic Area Briefs to assist discussions on the functional areas.

Primiano explained that the briefs are envisioned to be individual reports on 1) the environment and natural systems, 2) economy and innovation, 3) infrastructure and services, 4) social services and civic, and 5) land use and management.

She noted that OPSD is working with the University of Hawai'i contract for the briefs.

Evans called for comments before adjourning the meeting.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:16 PM.