

Advisory Committee Memory

Mayor's Advisory Committee on Landfill Site Selection County of Kaua'i Department of Public Works

Meeting 4
August 19, 2008
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Attendance:

Committee Members: Gary Pacheco, David Sproat, Ted Inouye, George Costa, Mike Curtis, Mary J. Buza-Sims, Michael V. Layosa, Edward Kawamura, Keith Nitta, Palmer Hafdahl, Glenn Frazier, Kathleen Hurd
Members Absent/Excused: Diana Simao, Kenny Ishii
County DPW: Troy Tanigawa, Emily Ishida, Donald Fujimoto
Consultant: Brian Takeda
Facilitator: Dee Dee Letts

The meeting began with Donald Fujimoto discussing that the County was beginning a series of community meetings that would cover three topics: (1) the expansion of the existing Kekaha Landfill; (2) the process that this committee was engaged in to select a new landfill site; and (3) a discussion of community benefit package concepts. He informed the Committee that the public would receive their names during the presentation but not telephone and contact information. The County would field the phone calls resulting from the meeting.

The Committee discussed the criteria they had developed with input from the consultant concerning those criteria that were difficult to measure in a way that separated one site from another, or that were redundant. The committee discussed all of the criteria which had been identified as problematic with the following results:

- The criteria "The site should have adequate space for landfill needs as well as adjacent lands that could provide an opportunity for collocation." The following points were made should the County decide to do a garbage to energy facility:
 - The County may not want to collocate with the landfill for practical and other technical reasons; and
 - Likewise, a recycling facility may need to locate closer to business and residential centers than the landfill – so not all businesses that could be related to solid waste management may want to collocate – it was suggested that this be stated in the recommendations as goal rather than a criteria – for these and other reasons it would be difficult to come up with measures that would differentiate one site from another - some members of the committee felt that it was important to keep this as a criteria – the committee members will work on identifying measures for consideration at the next meeting
- Public or private ownership became part of the criteria on "Cost of site acquisition"

- The criteria “Potential final use of the site when the landfill is closed” was suggested for deletion as most of the uses would be the same for all sites, new uses that weren’t available now might be in 30 years and this should be the decision of the government and community at the time of closure – some felt that it was important to keep so the committee will be trying to develop measures for presentation at the next meeting.
- The criteria “Potential impact to site from future highway construction” was dropped because the development and timeline for future highway construction is highly variable. Even if a site is designated for construction, the project may not be constructed for numerous reasons.
- The criteria “Closure and post-closure cost” was also dropped as these costs would be similar for all sites

The Committee next discussed the criteria worksheets that were created based on the criteria the committee had developed. There is one worksheet per criteria. The worksheets are attached to these notes and include the following items:

- The criteria developed by the committee
- Measures for the criteria
- The point value assigned to each measure
- The data source
- How the point value was determined
- Complications if any in obtaining the data
- Complications if any in calculating the point value
- Any other information relevant to the worksheet

The Committee made changes to several of the criteria these changes are noted and tracked on the attached sheets.

The following issues have been identified to be developed for inclusion in the report although not within the scope of this committee:

- A discussion of the importance of minimizing what goes into the landfill – implementing alternatives such as recycling and others – the county needs to work to implement a solid waste management plan that considers all alternatives to landfilling
- A recognition that issues such as flora and fauna habitat can also be an opportunity to improve the habitat or propagation of species through the appropriate siting of landfills and use of proactive measures to address these concerns.
- Any final siting decision must take into account the importance of not only the need for a landfill but the loss of potential use of the property and impact on the area as a whole.

The consultant will begin to write a draft introduction for the final recommendations that addresses these and other issues that may come up over the next several meetings.

Next meeting is scheduled for September 16th. The homework assignments of the Committee will be discussed, as referenced in these notes.