

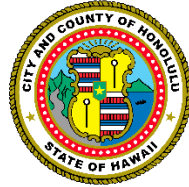
**OFFICE OF ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION  
KE KE'ENA HO'OMOHALA WAIWAI  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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**Economic Revitalization Commission**

City and County of Honolulu  
711 Kapi'olani Blvd., 12th Floor  
Waimea & Kāne'ōhe Conference Rooms  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Agenda – Seventh Meeting  
January 23, 2024  
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**Meeting Minutes**

**Commissioners Present In Person:** Chair Olin Lagon, Vice Chair Eliza Talbot, 'Olu Campbell, Reid Chung, Meli James, Greg Kim, Tony Mizuno

**Commissioners Excused:** Keoni Lee, Deborah Liu-Anderson

**OER Staff Present In Person:** Amy Asselbaye, Kym Sparlin, Patrick Williams

1. Call to Order: The chair called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m.
  - a. The Commission reviewed the draft minutes from the November 28, 2023, meeting. Commission Member Chung moved to approve the minutes as drafted and Commission Member Mizuno seconded. The Commission approved the draft minutes by a voice vote.
2. Chair Lagon and Vice-Chair Talbot shared their report from their presentation to the Honolulu City Council's Planning and Economy Report on January 11, 2024.

- a. Chair Lagon noted the interest Councilmembers expressed about the Commission's three priorities. Council Vice Chair Kia'aina asked to receive a copy of the 2024 work plan when finalized.
3. The Chair and Commission Members Campbell and Chung reported on their attendance at the "Advancing a Circular Economy" conference on December 13, 2023.
  - a. Commission member Campbell noted the conference is aligned with OER and the Commission's work with community, equity, and good jobs. He commented that the conference helped him understand circular economic models in other U.S. and international cities that may have useful metrics and measurements of success to consider.
  - b. Commission member Chung suggested that OER and the Commission emphasize lowering barriers to entry for careers and businesses such as childcare and kupuna care. He noted that those fields keep money in the local economy and create jobs that care for our keiki, kupuna, and place.
4. Report by the Permitted Interaction Group (PIG)
  - a. The PIG recommended the Commission meet on these dates in 2024, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at OER's offices (711 Kapi'olani Blvd., 12th Floor): March 19, May 21, July 23, September 17, November 19.
  - b. The Commission discussed options 1 and 2 in the PIG's proposed 2024 agenda and work plan. Commission Member Kim suggested each meeting have at least one action item for the Commission. Chair Lagon motioned to adopt option 2, with:
    - i. The addition of an action component for each meeting.
    - ii. The ability of the Chair, Vice Chair, and OER Executive Director to adjust the organizations presenting at each Commission meeting aligned to the approved thematic approach.
  - c. Dr. Ruben Juarez, PhD, presented UHERO's 2023 small business survey analysis and proposal for additional research and surveys in 2024. The Chair proposed an agreement to expend \$50,000 budgeted for a Commission project which allows the Chair, Vice Chair, and OER Executive Director to make non-substantive adjustments to a new UHERO contract and study.
  - d. Chair Lagon asked for a motion to approve the PIG's recommended meeting dates, work plan, and the UHERO study, with the provisions identified above in items 4a, 4b, and 4c. Commission member Campbell

made a motion to approve and Commission member James seconded. The Commission approved by a voice vote.

5. New Business

a. Commission member Kim noted he has been reviewing the City's procurement code and that it largely follows the State of Hawai'i's procurement law. He said that neither the City or the State procurement gives preference to local companies; this means that small businesses in Hawai'i have difficulty gaining valuable experience in government contracting to ultimately compete for federal contracts. He noted that it also allows local and State government funding to go to out-of-state companies.

i. Commission Members generally agreed that there is an opportunity to draft a new City policy to establish a preference for small Hawai'i-based businesses in City contracts.

6. Adjournment. Chair Lagon adjourned the meeting at 12:50 p.m.

7. Approved Work Plan for 2024:

**MARCH 19:**

**Workforce:** Good Jobs in Hawai'i Report (Islander Institute) & O'ahu Workforce Development Board (OWDB) or WorkHawaii or Hawaii Employers' Council or ALICE update

**MAY 21:**

**Grants:** U.S. EDA and DBEDT Office of Planning & Sustainable Development on Economic Development District status and USDA

**JULY 23:**

**Business Opportunities:** (Amazon, Wahiawā Product Development Center, Pacific Gateway Center, Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement)

**SEPTEMBER 17:**

**Data:** UHERO Report & O'ahu Business Connector (OBC) update; form PIG to plan for 2025

**NOVEMBER 19:**

Review and Finalize 2025 Economic Revitalization Commission Report