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Quality Transit Service



J. Roger Morton
President and General Manager

A few weeks ago, the OTS Board of Directors and our executive staff attended a retreat to discuss the future of our organization. An important part of that process involved the development of a new mission statement.

A mission statement is not just words that look nice printed in calligraphy and hung on a wall in a fancy frame. An effective mission statement should tell us and the world, the reason we are in business.

After considerable brainstorming and healthy debate, we adopted the following mission:

“We are responsible to the City & County of Honolulu to provide safe, accessible, efficient, and dependable public transportation driven by the Spirit of Aloha.”

Operator of the Quarter



Operator of the Quarter
Congratulations, Terry G. Caberto!
Read about Terry on page 6 of Express!

I think this mission statement captures the essence of Oahu Transit Services, Inc. First, it says “WE” – not “THEM.” Our company exists for the betterment of all residents on Oahu. WE are all a part of this company and WE as a team will sink or swim together.

Second, the mission statement recognizes that the City is our customer. They expect us to operate a great transit system. They put up the money and provide us with the buses, buildings and resources necessary to operate a complex transit system.

We operate a safe bus system. Operating over 80,000 miles of service per day will always be a risky business. Safety must always be our first order of business.

Our service is accessible. Certainly we provide service to people with disabilities who might otherwise not have any other transportation. However,

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Mayor Hannemann promotes TheBus... Asks Honolulu Residents to Dump The Pump

TheBus joined with public transportation systems nationwide to participate in the Second Annual National Dump the Pump Day on June 21, 2007. Sponsored by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), the National Dump the Pump Day is a day that encourages people to ride public transportation to help improve the environment and to conserve gasoline.

On Tuesday, June 19, 2007, Mayor Mufi Hannemann held a press conference in his chambers announcing to all of Honolulu that they should try an alternative form of transportation on June 21, most notably TheBus. Mayor Hannemann signed a proclamation which declared June 21 as Dump The Pump Day in the City & County of Honolulu.

Department of Transportation Services (DTS), Public Transit Chief, James Burke and Oahu Transit Services, Inc. (OTS) President, J. Roger Morton were on hand to accept the signed proclamation and answered media questions.

The Mayor also announced TheBus' partnership with Google and many of the new advances happening with Google Transit. OTS Sr. Planner, Jon Nouchi presented to the TV cameras the features and functions of both the Google Transit site and the Google Next Bus feature on the regular Google maps site. These innovations will make it easier for current and prospective bus riders to better use our system.

In conjunction with the event, OTS and DTS staff distributed flyers and Dump The Pump buttons throughout the downtown area to make potential bus commuters aware of the special day. City and OTS staff and management also did their part and dumped the pump, by using TheBus on their commutes that day.



Photo Above: Local Media Stations setting up in the Mayor's office for the press conference.

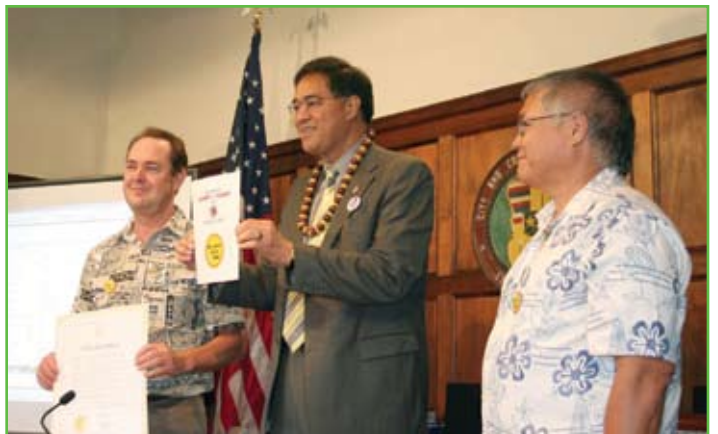
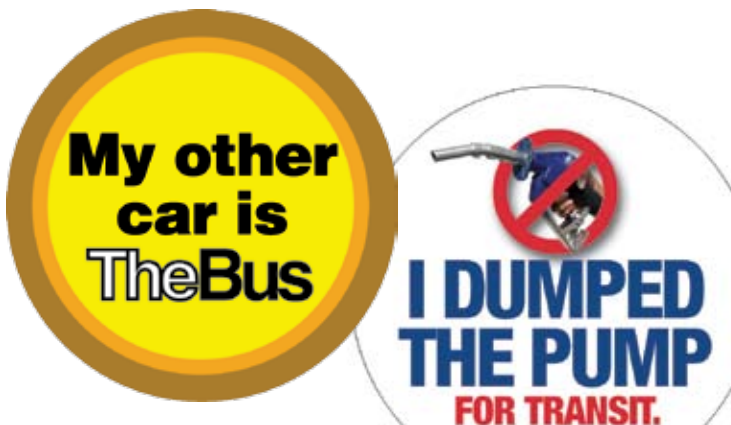


Photo Above (left to right): **J. Roger Morton**, President and General Manager, Oahu Transit Services, Inc.; **Mayor Mufi Hanneman**; **James Burke**, Chief, Public Transit Division.



Photo Above: **Jon Nouchi**, Senior Planner, Data Analysis, Oahu Transit Services, Inc., demonstrates the Google Transit site to the Media.



Movin' On Up

Quality Transit Service

Wendell W. Grace Jr., Dispatcher, was promoted on 3/16/07. Wendell was previously a Bus Operator since 3/3/89.



Peter Boncales, Paratransit Lead Mechanic, was promoted on 4/16/07. Peter was previously a Paratransit Mechanic since 6/12/02.



Terry L. Lopes, Paratransit Dispatcher, was promoted on 6/6/07. Terry was previously a Paratransit Reservationist since 6/12/02.



Randall M. Tanaka, Lead Mechanic, Electric Shop at the Kalihi-Palama Division, was promoted on 6/16/07. Randall was previously a HEM in the Electric Shop and has been with OTS since 12/1/81.



Alan T. Oshiro, First Class Trades at the Kalihi-Palama Division, was promoted on 6/16/07. Alan was previously a Service Attendant since 6/1/07.



Melvin K. Chan Jr., Acting Assistant Superintendent of Transportation, was promoted on 6/16/07. Melvin was previously a Central Radio Controller and has been an employee since 9/3/76.



Dwain L. Orion, Mechanic Helper at the Kalihi-Palama Division, was promoted on 7/1/07. Dwain was previously a Service Attendant since 7/19/07.



Continued from Cover

we also serve many others in our community, including the young, and the elderly. Accessibility is more than just lifts and wheelchairs. Many barriers to riding are attitudinal; not just physical.

We manage an efficient system. TheBus and TheHandi-Van now costs about \$200 million per year to run with more than \$100 million going towards employee's salaries and benefits. We all have a responsibility to provide value for every dollar.

We provide a service that's dependable. People won't ride TheBus if the buses break down too often or the service doesn't run on-time. We will continue to offer a quality product that our riders can rely upon.

And finally, we provide service driven by the spirit of Aloha. There is no substitute for that special quality that we are so fortunate to have in Hawaii. All of our managers must continue to use Aloha when making decisions and all employees can let their Aloha shine through when dealing with the public.

We as an organization not only embrace our mission, but we also embody it, so that there is no doubt that we are a winning team and America's Best.



Bus Operator Class 171 Graduated May 21, 2007



First Row (left to right): Harvey Alexander, Senia Gurr, Philip Tabilang, Micah Quartero, Kevin Ramos, Omeli Reupena, Woo Suk Kim. Second Row (left to right): Jason Rego, Aaron Andaya, Patrick Buckley, Adam Fong, Kimberly Souza, Larryle Wong.

Coming Full Circle

Retirement of George McGuire

Arthur Loeb Operations Manager, Paratransit

We often hear the phrase “coming full circle” in life. George McGuire has made a full circle, retiring on June 1, 2007, after 13½ years of service as a driver with TheHandi-Van.

In 1954, George was hired as a bus operator for Honolulu Rapid Transit (HRT). He drove the old electric trolley bus and the new “white” motor bus with a 12 cylinder engine under the hood, standard stick shift, and no power steering or air conditioning. Then came the “GMC” bus with a seating capacity of 49 passengers, which they called the “49’ers,” again with no power steering or air conditioning.

George loved driving and meeting different kinds of people on the bus routes, and after almost five years at HRT, he had an opportunity to make a little more money at Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) as a truck driver. Over a 32 year period, George worked his way up to Supervising Dispatcher, and retired from HECO in 1993.

George became bored after completing projects around the house, and joined TheHandi-Van as a driver in 1994. George thoroughly enjoyed his challenging job. He especially liked his run to Waimano Home, which included 12 to 18 wheelchair customers daily.

Upon retiring, George expressed his gratitude and enjoyment for being a part of the ever-growing

transformation taking place at “TheHandi-Van.” He commented that it has been great being involved with so many improvements for the community of persons who ride our service since joining the Oahu Transit Service `ohana. Being recognized as a vital component of the overall transportation service provided to the citizens of Oahu is a great ending to his career.

George said he had a great career because he did what he loved - driving, meeting new people, and sharing compassion. Aloha George! We know your customers miss seeing you on your run, and all of your Handi-Van `ohana thank you for sharing your aloha with us.



Photo Above (left to right): **Arthur H. Loeb**, Operations Manager, Paratransit; **George McGuire**, Paratransit Operator, 13 years of service; **Patricia M. Nielsen**, Vice President, Paratransit.

Bus Operator Recognized For Living The “See Something? Say Something!” Motto



You’ve seen the carcads on the bus, safety and security page on the web site, and we’ve continued to stress “See Something? Say Something!” in the media. It’s something we tell our bus riders and for one bus operator, he took that as his call to duty.

Bus operator Steven Naeole started his bus route like any other day, when he spotted someone painting graffiti on a bus shelter. He reported

the incident to the Honolulu Police Department and they were able to apprehend the suspect. As it turned out, the graffiti artist was also in possession of narcotics, and the minor graffiti offense turned into a felony arrest.

On Wednesday, July 18, 2007, Mr. Naeole will receive a Letter of Appreciation from the Honolulu Police Department for his role in the arrest.

Paratransit Safety Awards

February

1st Yr. Award	<i>Harry Kurihara</i>		
2nd Yr. Award	<i>Kory Gabriel</i>	<i>Emmaline Madali</i>	
4th Yr. Award	<i>Leonardo Arcano</i> <i>Robyn Freitas</i>	<i>Darlene Kawelo</i> <i>Isaako Loa</i>	<i>Kalani Makekau</i> <i>Jacob Turner</i>

March

1st Yr. Award	<i>Jonah Mawae</i>	<i>Robert Tabalba</i>		
2nd Yr. Award	<i>Benjamin Calamayan</i>	<i>Abram Cassel</i>	<i>Afioga Leui</i>	
4th Yr. Award	<i>Tanya Afoa</i> <i>Raymond Perreira</i>	<i>Lance Amero</i>	<i>Ernie Haili</i>	<i>Janice Holi</i>

April

1st Yr. Award	<i>Gregory Chang</i>	<i>Eric Dixon</i>	<i>Eleanor Leusu</i>	
4th Yr. Award	<i>Marian Gaea</i>	<i>Gary Nettles</i>	<i>Faapali Sipili</i>	

May

1st Yr. Award	<i>Paul Bringas</i> <i>Warren Remolacio</i>	<i>Treven Cullen</i> <i>Sablan Sablan</i>	<i>Julio Fonoti</i>	<i>Terrence Kealoha</i>
2nd Yr. Award	<i>Winona Konohia</i>	<i>Duncan McKay</i>	<i>Virginia Mole</i>	
3rd Yr. Award	<i>George Biacan</i>	<i>Timothy Carlson</i>	<i>Loreto Macadaeg</i>	<i>James McDonald</i>
4th Yr. Award	<i>Betsy Cabral</i>			

Blowing Out The Candles On Their Birthday Cake. . . TheHandi-Van Celebrates 10 Years With OTS.

On Thursday, April 5, 2007, the Paratransit staff commemorated their 10 year anniversary with Oahu Transit Services, Inc. with a luncheon celebration.



Retiree Corner

Name	Position	Date Retired	Yrs. of Service
KAGAMI, DENNIS KEICHI	HEM - Running Repair	04/01/07	37
KALAMAU, RICHARD A.	First Class Trades Person	05/01/06	32
KANG, DENNIS A.	Storekeeper II, Step II	05/01/07	16
KAUWALU, BRUCE P.	Bus Operator	05/01/07	38
PALIMOO, ROBERT KAUA	Bus Operator	05/14/07	32
BARRIOS, MUELANG NAPUA	Paratransit Operator	06/01/07	14
MCGUIRE, GEORGE D.	Paratransit Operator	06/01/07	13 ^{1/2}
KAAWA, ANNIE V.	Bus Operator	06/05/07	33
CORREA, VAN ROBERT	Bus Operator	07/01/07	28 ^{1/2}
FOSTER, WAYNE H.	Director of Safety & Security	07/01/07	30
KAAWA, HENRY K.	Bus Operator	07/01/07	32 ^{1/2}
MATSUMOTO, THOMAS MASAO	Bus Operator	07/01/07	26 ^{1/2}
OYABU, SUEO	Bus Operator	07/01/07	34

Safety Awards

March	Years
Stephen Aton	30
Ernest S. Busboso	24
Ruben Colleado	32
Guy T. Gamurot	24
Eugene A. Perreira	28
Keith J. Souza	23
Leti Tootoo	22
Robert Vierra	22
April	
George Naweli	21
Herman K. Nunies	29
David Paakaula, Jr.	21

May	Years
Wilfred P. Centeio	31
Michael Costa	27
Iameli I. Kaio	22
Paul N. Fernandez	25

Operator of the Quarter

Terry Caberto celebrates 32 years at TheBus. He is also named this issue's Operator of the Quarter and awarded with a trip to Las Vegas.

Terry's philosophy is simple, "Go with the flow and everything's going to be alright."

Terry's bus career began in July 1975 with Class #49 mates Jonathan Porlas and Ben Lanai. "A few years back, my work record was pretty bad, but I was given a chance to do better," says Terry, who certainly succeeded.

Terry has three sons, ages 25, 22 and 18, and likes to take trips with his girlfriend, Ellie Keola. Congratulations Terry! Have fun in Las Vegas!

Good News to Share!



On Saturday, July 7, 2007, Paratransit Reservationist Clerk, Natasha Arelliano, married Dennis Morris. The ceremony took place at Lanikai Beach, and the reception followed at the Hale Koa Hotel.



On Saturday, May 26, 2007, Tamara Puanani Kaniaupio, daughter of Distribution Clerk Dee Kaniaupio, wed Richard Starbuck Rentz in Anchorage, Alaska. Congratulations to the Bride and Groom!

New OTS 'Ohana

	Position	Date of Hire
AGAG, RANNIE RAQUINIO	Paratransit Operator	02/24/07
ANDRADE, ROSE LOUISE	Paratransit Operator	02/24/07
BAKER, IRENE KEONAONA	Paratransit Operator	02/24/07
BAQUIEL, JONATHAN DAVID	Paratransit Operator	02/24/07
BOCOBOC, GLENN CLEMENTE	Paratransit Operator	02/24/07
CRUZ, RUDY PERUCHO	Paratransit Operator	02/24/07
FUJITANI, ERIC SATORU	Paratransit Operator	02/24/07
TABUNO, NOEL S.	Paratransit Operator	02/24/07
TAKESHITA, ALAN T.	Paratransit Operator	02/24/07
BERANO, LESTER JOSEPH	Bus Operator	03/03/07
CRUZ, IVAN K.	Bus Operator	03/03/07
DIOCARES, NELSON MOLINA	Bus Operator	03/03/07
IOANE, MARIA KELI	Bus Operator	03/03/07
IOANIS, JOHN	Bus Operator	03/03/07
LOYD, IAN DEWAYNE	Bus Operator	03/03/07
MCANGUS, DAVID J.	Bus Operator	03/03/07
MERCADO, JOHN III	Bus Operator	03/03/07
MINER, SHELBY K.	Bus Operator	03/03/07
MITSUNAGA, SEIJI	Bus Operator	03/03/07
REANO, HENRY K.	Bus Operator	03/03/07
ROMERO, JR., ALONZO	Bus Operator	03/03/07
SIAANA, VAVAESE MATALA	Bus Operator	03/03/07
VIERRA, SEAN K.	Bus Operator	03/03/07
YOSHIOKA, RANDALL TAKAO	Bus Operator	03/03/07
DUREG, EDWIN U.	Paratransit Mechanic	03/12/07
UTAI, TUIAANASAGATE	Paratransit Mechanic	03/12/07
MINA, WILSON CANDELAR	Paratransit Mechanic	03/16/07
CHEE, DUANE KWAI MIN	Storekeeper I	03/27/07
GILB, HOWARD MAKAI KA	Paratransit Fueler/Cleaner	04/03/07
ROBERTS, EDWARD L.	Bus Operator	04/25/07
ALEXANDER, HARVEY GLENN	Bus Operator	05/22/07
ANDAYA, AARON A.	Bus Operator	05/22/07
BUCKLEY, PATRICK O.	Bus Operator	05/22/07
FONG, ADAM-KEITH QT	Bus Operator	05/22/07
GURR, SENIA L.	Bus Operator	05/22/07
KIM, WOO SUK	Bus Operator	05/22/07
OMELI, REUPENA	Bus Operator	05/22/07
QUARTERO, MICAH A.	Bus Operator	05/22/07
RAMOS, KEVIN KEONE	Bus Operator	05/22/07
REGO, JASON GREGORY	Bus Operator	05/22/07
SOUZA, KIMBERLY K.	Bus Operator	05/22/07
TABILANG, PHILIP KELII	Bus Operator	05/22/07
WONG, LARRYLE LEE	Bus Operator	05/22/07

The Art of Teaching

Bus operators Marc Behic, Kevin Look and Herman “Mana” Nunies recently conducted a Filipino Martial arts (Escrima\ Kali\ Arnis) seminar at Farrington High School. Seventy-five + “at risk” kids attended the training. Thanks to Marc, Kevin and Mana, their mentoring is helping young people develop into positive peers, while keeping them out of trouble instead of joining gangs. Way to go!



Photo Above (left to right):
Bus Operators **Kevin Look**, and **Mark Behic**,
showing the children the finer points.

Our Winning Ways

Everyone knows that TheBus has won the America's Best Bus System Award, twice. We won once in 1994 and then again in 2000. You might also be aware of our winning APTA Bus Rodeo Team that places high on the mark every year.

But did you know that our organization has won many more awards? In fact since 1994, we have won one or more awards a year, not to mention all of the awards and recognition won by OTS staff and board members.

These awards run the gamut, from community service awards to service excellence commendations. A yearly event that our OTS staff participates in is the annual March of Dimes WalkAmerica charity walk. This event has been coordinated every year by Charlotte Hee in the Executive Office, with the assistance of Linda Mitsunaga from Customer Communications. For four years OTS was recognized as the top City & County fundraising department, which is a great achievement.

TheBus has been recognized by two organizations that deal with bicycles as a lifestyle choice. In 2005, SportsWorks, the bicycle rack manufacturer, honored TheBus with an award for carrying the highest number of bicycles for a large urban area. A few years ago, the Hawaii Bicycle League honored TheBus for its contribution to cycling in Honolulu.

Just last year, Kenneth Hong, our Sr. Vice President, was presented with the Collaborative Leader Award by the Mediation Center of the Pacific. And this year, our board member Bennette Evangelista, was selected as Hawaii's Mother of the Year, by American Mothers, Inc.

We know there are countless stories about our individual staff members and their personal and professional achievements that we want to report to everyone. Please send in your winning stories so we can all celebrate your life's victories. Email your stories to express!@thebus.org, or call 852-6048.

Year	Award	Organization
2007	6th Place Bus Rodeo Team	American Public Transportation Association (APTA)
2007	Outstanding Business Leader Providing Education and Support of Mental Health in the Workplace Award	Mental Health America of Hawaii
2006	3rd Runner-Up Bus Rodeo Team	APTA
2006	Collaborative Leader Award - Kenneth Hong	Mediation Center of the Pacific
2005	Highest Number of Bicycle Boardings for Large Urban Area	SportsWorks
2004	Best of America - Best Bus System	Reader's Digest
1998/1999	WalkAmerica - Top City & County Fundraising Department	March of Dimes
2003/2004		
1994/2001	Best Large Transit System	APTA
2000	Outstanding Achievement Award	APTA
1999	WalkAmerica - Best T-Shirt Design	March of Dimes
1999	Contribution to Cycling Award	Hawaii Bicycling League
1999	Kalihi Palama Beautification Award	Kalihi Business Association
1998	'Oihana Maika'i - Purple Level Winner	Hawaii State Award of Excellence
1994/1996/1998	AdWheel Award - 1st Place Passes, Tickets & Newsletter	APTA
1997	Investing in the Environment	Island Business
1996	Ilima Award of Excellence - Touch of Aloha Bus Passes	IABC
1996	Certificate of Improvement - Improved Safety Record	APTA
1995/1996	Pele Award - Bus Passes	Hawaii Advertising Federation
1995	Ilima Award of Merit - Marketing Communications & Newsletter	IABC
1994	Kahili Award - Print Media, Monthly Bus Passes	Hawaii Visitors Bureau

2007 APTA National Bus Rodeo



Photo above: **Charlie Lee, Burke Moriguchi, and Homer Nagaki** giving it their all during the Maintenance Rodeo.



Photo above (left to right): The 6th Place Overall Team: **Burke Moriguchi, Homer Nagaki, Charlie Lee, and Alipate Taulupe** looking sharp.



Photo above (left to right): **Jerome Preese**, Vice President, Transportation Operations; **Kenneth O. Stanley**, Vice President, Operational Planning & Marketing; **John L. Black**, Assistant Operations Manager, Paratransit.



Photo above first row (kneeling): **Cheryl Nagaki**.
back row (standing left to right): **Burke Moriguchi, Charlie Lee, Patty Lee, Brandi Taulupe, Alipate Taulupe, Alma Nagaki, Homer Nagaki**.

OTS Board Member Named Hawaii Mother Of The Year

The job of being a mother is one of the hardest, but for many, the greatest life fulfilling position they will ever hold. With all of the pitfalls and responsibilities, most mothers joke that they will never be crowned Mother of the Year.

For OTS Board Member, Bennette Evangelista, that won't be a statement she will ever be able to use again. On Friday, April 14, 2007, at the Hale Koa Hotel, American Mothers, Inc. presented Bennette with the title of Hawaii Mother of the Year for 2007.

As the New Hawaii Mother of the Year, Bennette joins an illustrious group of mothers, which includes former first lady of Honolulu, Joyce M. Fasi and former Miss Hawaii and local entrepreneur Patricia Lei Anderson Murray.

Congratulations to Bennette Evangelista and the entire Evangelista 'ohana.



Photo above: **Amanda Dupont**, President of American Mothers, Inc.; presenting the Mother of the Year honors to **Bennette Evangelista**.



Photo above: Husband **Alfredo G Evangelista**, being escorted by Mother of the Year **Bennette Evangelista**.

New Paratransit Home Coming Soon

The groundbreaking for the new Paratransit building took place in August of 2006. Since then we've seen the walls come up and move in is slated for the end of this year.



Photo Above: Paratransit Staff break ground with Mayor Hannemann.



Photo Above: Artist rendering of the completed building.



Photo Above: First of the walls go up.



Photo Above: The building is on its way.



Photo Above: All the walls are up!

Improvements at Kalihi Transit Center

The Kalihi Transit Center is going through a transformation. Public areas are being improved,

while employee areas are being secured. The estimated completion is at the end of this year.



Photos Above: Concrete pour in front of TheBus Pass Office.

Developing The Leaders Within

As the public transportation future in Honolulu continues to evolve, the Oahu Transit Services, Inc. management team is working to improve their leadership skills to meet the demands of the changing landscape. All management staff from individual section heads to the general manager will participate in a five part training program, designed to hone teambuilding, communications, mentoring and people management skills.

To kick off the new program, the entire management team converged at Hale Ikena meeting facility on Fort Shafter. Board Chairman, Anthony “Tony” Guererro Jr. opened the event with words of encouragement and pearls of wisdom from his experience of change at First Hawaiian Bank(FHB).

Mr. Guererro explained how FHB adopted the concept of Kina’ole many years ago when he saw a poster at OTS. Kina’ole means:

Doing the right thing in the right way, at the right time, in the right place, to the right person, for the right reason, with the right feeling, the first time.

He also talked about the concept of taking care of the internal customers and the bank’s adoption of the five C’s, which stands for Character, Cooperation, Competitiveness, Confidence and Caring. These are all concepts that support the leadership development program goals.

When Roger Morton addressed the group, he stressed the importance of this program to the organization and the power each manager has to create a positive working environment. Every manager has the ability to make this the kind of place where every employee is excited to come to work and be a contributing member of the team.

The training program was custom created specifically to meet the needs of the OTS management team, based on a 360° view of the organization. Nishihama & Kishida’s management consulting division headed by Dennis Higashiguchi, conducted focus group meetings which included Executive Staff, middle managers and front line employees. Based on the results from these meetings, the program was developed to hit specific target goals.

The Guiding Coalition (GC); the group responsible for the successful implementation and continued follow through of this program was presented to the attendees and are currently busy working to direct this program to success. GC group members include:

Dan Ahuna, Asst. Superintendent of Maintenance, Pearl City Division

Nathan Akiyoshi, Manager, Professional Development

Richard deRego, Superintendent of Maintenance, Kalihi Division

T.K. Hannemann, Manager, Labor Relations

Kenneth Hong, Sr. Vice President & Assistant General Manager

Michelle Kennedy, Manager, Customer Communications

Art Loebl, Operations Manager, Paratransit Division

Luis Navarro, Asst. Superintendent of Transportation, Pearl City Division

Ran Suen, Director, Human Resources

Stephen Ventura, Superintendent of Transportation, Kalihi Division

Wendy Wasano, Controller, Paratransit Division

Robert Yu, Sr. Vice President, Finance & Special Operations

To ensure that the program concepts are adopted and transferred to the workplace, all program participants will be given assignments between classes. The guiding coalition will continue to monitor the results to lead our teams to achieve their goals.



City Spotlight:

Message from City & County of Honolulu - DTS

James Burke
Chief, Public Transit Division

We appreciate the good job and efforts of the bus and handi-van operators, management and staff at Oahu Transit Services, Inc. (OTS), and the staff at the City Department of Transportation Services (DTS).

This past fiscal year was a good one for public transportation. Fare revenues were higher than budgeted and ridership is up nearly 5%!

Our activities for Fiscal Year 2008 focus on enhancing safety and security, bus and handi-van service performance, and completing the construction of new facilities. We will also start on a bus facility master plan.

Security projects include improved fencing, lighting, planning and design of an on-board security camera system.

DTS and Operational Planning and Marketing staff have been working on an island-wide Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP). The BSIP will be our guide for bus service improvements. We expect to implement East Honolulu improvements in December 2007. We also expect service to the new Mililani and Waianae Transit Centers to start with the August sign-up.

We will be receiving nine diesel-powered articulated buses by the end of this year. Our next order will be for 10 hybrid diesel-electric articulated buses to be delivered by the end of next year.

Handi-Van fleet will also see some changes. We are expecting 20 new vans to be delivered by September 2007. Our next order will be for 10 regular vans and 18 mini vans to be delivered by the end of next year. Speaking of TheHandi-Van, the Handi-Van Administration and Maintenance Facility is expected to be completed early next year, and we will turn our efforts on developing the Middle Street Intermodal Center's bus transit platform.

FY2008 promises to be an exciting year with all of our planned bus service improvements, bus procurements, and design and construction projects.

Again, we are thankful for the hard work and good job of the employees and staff at OTS and DTS.

WalkAmerica 2007

April 14, 2007



First Row (kneeling left to right): **Brieann Astrande, Susan Laquihon, Kitty Souza, Christina, Hea, Davina and Jason Laquihon, Kathleen Bajo, Charlotte Hee.**

Second Row (standing left to right): **Theresa Gomes, Lavone Ikeda, Darlene Kawelo, Jeff and Domi Laquihon, Barbara Nansen, Mercedes Laquihon, Gary Nettles, Richard Mole, Bernard Nunies and Darren Astrande.**

Missing from photo: **Guil Colon, Tim Ho, Janice Holi, Linda Mitsunaga.**

Bus Operators of the Month 2007

KALIHI DIVISION

May 2007

1. James H. Hyde, Jr.
2. Samuel Johnson-Espinosa
3. Lawrence P. Ligo

June 2007

1. Renato Cabanero
2. Christopher Lee
3. Ioane Liufau

July 2007

1. Jason D. Aukai
2. Glenn A. Gima
3. Carl Romero

PEARL CITY DIVISION

May 2007

1. Jeffery D. Aquino
2. Rogelio V. S. Cajimat
3. Benjamin V. Valderama

June 2007

1. Jesus Espinosa
2. Elmer Eleccion
3. Stewart Hirota

July 2007

1. Bradley L. Bantolina
2. Jarry P. Gomes
3. Keith R. McMillan

ALOHA UNITED WAY DAY

**Friday, September 21, 2007
Kalihi / Pearl City / Paratransit Trailers
Operators' Lounges**

STEW COOK-OFF

**Are you an Emeril Brahdah Brahdah Lagasse in the making?
BAM!**

**Maybe a Rachel Alohalani Ray?
YUM OH!**

**Earn some bragging rights by joining us for the first ever
OTS STEW COOK-OFF!**

**Bring in a pot of your BEST STEW.
It can be beef, chicken, pork, luau, mystery meat, what-eva!
Win the People's Choice Award with the most votes.**

The WINNER from each facility will receive a \$100 Sam Choy's Gift Card, an article in the Express! newsletter, a winner's certificate and bragging rights for having the BEST STEW at OTS!

To enter call: Linda Mitsunaga at 848-4505 or email at: express!@thebus.org

THE TASTE OF OTS STEWS

9:00 AM – UNTIL THE STEW RUNS OUT

Taste the best stews imaginable by purchasing each tasty sample bowl for \$2.50 or three bowls for \$6.00. All proceeds will go towards the Aloha United Way fund.

Each bowl of stew will be accompanied with a voting sheet. Fill out the sheet with your information and place it in the box of the stew you are voting for. All votes will be tallied at the end of the day and a winner announced the following week.

All of the votes cast will go into a drawing for a \$25.00 Zippy's restaurant certificate.

**Feed your opu, enter a drawing and fund many of Hawaii's human services organizations.
You just can't lose!**

AUW Prize Drawing September 21, 2007

Did you know, for as little as a \$1.00 donation, you could win a fantastic prize?

Video Game System, Apple iPod, Restaurant Certificates, etc.

Simply fill out the Aloha United Way Pledge form attached to your pay stub and drop it into the AUW drawing box.

All pledge forms with \$1 or more pledged will be entered into the drawing for our fabulous prizes.

Remember, \$1 is the minimum, but knowing that your donation is both tax-deductible and funds many of Hawaii's most worthwhile human services agencies, we know you'll give generously from the heart.

Technology Corner

Google: The website that keeps on giving.

Jon Nouchi

Senior Planner, Data Analysis

Mapping websites are everywhere now. Sites like Google Maps (maps.google.com) offer web surfers easy access to driving directions, business locations, and road maps.

Since Oahu Transit Services and the City & County of Honolulu partnered with Google in the Google Transit (www.google.com/transit) project, some great things have happened. Google is a progressive company that is focused on providing accurate information for free to everyone.

We were extremely happy to report last year that step-by-step public transit information for Honolulu residents and visitors was available through the Google Transit beta site.

Since then, Google has worked continuously to refine the data that we provide them. Through the efforts of OTS staff, notably Planner Analyst John Worthington and Software Analyst Cory Tom, TheBus schedule data has been massaged, filtered, processed, and analyzed. It's called a data stream, however, considering the amount of information passed to Google, it really is more of a flood!

Imagine: Each of our 4,038 bus stops has a name and a set of GPS coordinates. Each of these stops are strung together like a huge dot-to-dot puzzle to make trips on a route. All the distances to and from each stop are recorded in each trip. These trips, in turn, are strung together to make route keys or blocks, where the time each trip crosses each stop is noted. Finally, these blocks are cut into the work pieces bus operators know as runs. All these locations, coordinates, distances, and times comprise a huge amount of data that translates to bus tires rolling down the streets of Honolulu.

We were surprised to learn that Google has taken our transit data and used it in a very effective way. If you look anywhere on the island of Oahu using Google Maps and zoom in to the closest level, you will see little blue bus icons peppered throughout the neighborhoods. These icons represent bus stops. Click on one of them, and the Google's magic becomes evident.

A window will pop up and clearly list what routes serve that particular stop. It will go on to show exactly when a bus is scheduled to pass that specific stop. It will also tell you the next few departures of each route and when the last bus is scheduled to pass. It even displays the proper destination signs that passing routes will use.

The Internet and the worldwide web have brought information to the masses. This is another convenient technology tool that will help our current riders navigate their way within our excellent bus system and hopefully attract new riders through its ease of use.

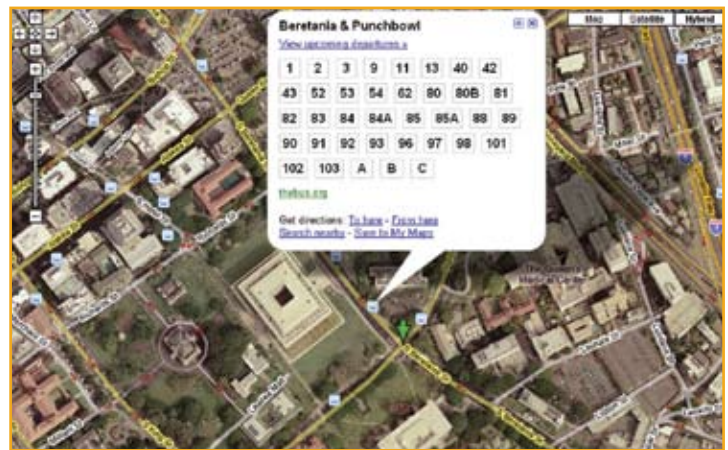


Figure 1: When you click on a bus stop, it shows the routes that service each stop.

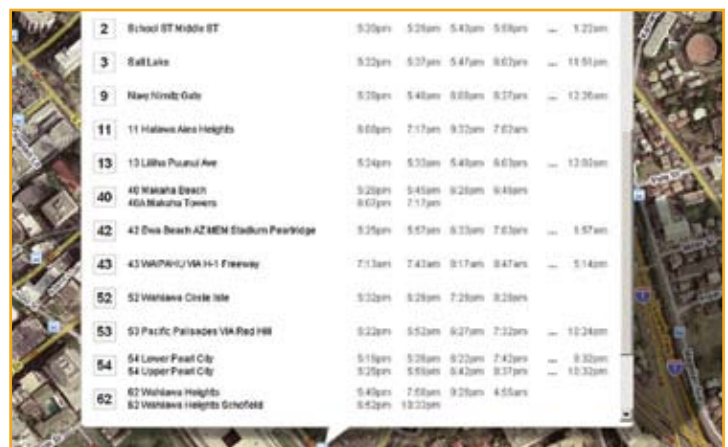


Figure 2: If you click on "View upcoming departures," another window will show when all the routes listed pass by this stop, their proper destination sign, and when the last departure is.

Maintenance Addresses The Health of the Fleet

Richard W. Hardy

Vice President, Maintenance

Gillig Rehab Program: In order to address the rapid aging of the bus fleet (166 out of 525 buses will reach or exceed FTA retirement age by the end of 2007), Maintenance Department Body Shops are about to embark on an energetic rehab program targeting the 1995 and newer Gilligs, specifically BUS 660 through BUS 795. The program will encompass floor replacements, frame inspection, graffiti shield replacement, corrosion repair/treatment and a complete exterior facelift to include fenders, rub rails, paint, decals and lights. We estimate completing about 20-30 buses a year, which will vacillate up or down depending on bus accident rates and Main Body Shop workload.

New Flyer Artic Repower Program: The year 2000 70-series artics garaged at Kalihi-Palama are notorious for slow acceleration problems. The engine in these buses met clean air requirements at the time but failed to provide the kind of power performance that one would expect from a transit bus. Efforts to improve engine performance were not successful, so we resorted to replacing the engine. Results on the pilot bus, BUS 86, were very good. Therefore, Kalihi-Palama has started a repower program which will convert 12 more artics to Cummins engine power. BUS 71 was recently completed and the next conversion is already underway. We expect to complete the repower program by the end of January 2008 giving us 13 out of 30 artics with reliable power plants. Funding will dictate if additional artics are to be converted after that.



Express!

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Calendar of Events

July

- 1 - **Deadline to submit "Division Transfer" memos to Dispatch**
- 4 - **Independence Day - Holiday**
- 16 - **Regular Run Sign-Up:**
Start Time: 2:00 p.m. at both divisions
- 17 - **Regular Run Sign-Up:**
Start Time: 9:00 a.m. at the Pearl City division
Start Time: 2:00 p.m. at the Kalihi division

- 18 - 20 - **Regular Run Sign-Up:**
Start Time: 9:00 a.m. at both divisions
- 23 - 24 - **Regular Run Sign-Up:**
Start Time: 9:00 a.m. at both divisions
- 30 - **Relief Run Completion:**
Start Time: 9:00 a.m. at both divisions
- 31 - **Relief Run Completion:**
Start Time: 9:00 a.m. at the

August

- 17 - **Admission Day - State Holiday**
- 19 - **Effective Start Date of the August 2007 Sign-Up**

September

- 3 - **Labor Day - Holiday**
- 8 - **Memory Walk (benefit for the Alzheimer's Association)**
[Start and Finish at Ward Warehouse]

Q & A

***Why can't we relocate the stickers advising the public not to place articles on the wheelwell enclosure on the 500 and 900 series buses?**

We heard your comments and our team immediately reworked the decal design to have a white backing and a bigger design for better readability. The new and improved decal will be placed on the wheelwell so the bus riders will be able to see it.

***How often does the company fumigate the buses?**

All buses are fumigated every 6 months.

***There is very little parking space at the Kalihi facility for bus operators in the afternoon. Can anything be done?**

We know parking is a problem at the Kalihi facility. The Transportation team did a check of the lot and found parking available along the wall by Love's Bakery.

When the new Paratransit building and the Kalihi Transit fencing is complete, additional parking spaces will become available. We appreciate everyone's patience.

If you have a question, send an email to express@thebus.org or leave a voicemail at 852-6048.



TheBus
TheHandi-Van

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