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.”

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,
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.
**Movin’ On Up**

**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.

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**Quality Transit Service**

**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.
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.

You’ve seen the carcards 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

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

### March

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

### April

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st Yr. Award</th>
<th>Gregory Chang Eric Dixon Eleanor Leusu</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4th Yr. Award</td>
<td>Marian Gaea Gary Nettles Faapali Sipili</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### May

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

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**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.
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!

Safety Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Date Retired</th>
<th>Yrs. of Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Aton</td>
<td></td>
<td>04/01/07</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ernest S. Busboso</td>
<td></td>
<td>05/01/06</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruben Colleado</td>
<td></td>
<td>05/01/07</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guy T. Gamurot</td>
<td></td>
<td>05/01/07</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eugene A. Perreira</td>
<td></td>
<td>05/01/07</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keith J. Souza</td>
<td></td>
<td>05/01/07</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leti Tootoo</td>
<td></td>
<td>05/01/07</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Vierra</td>
<td></td>
<td>05/01/07</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Naweli</td>
<td></td>
<td>05/01/07</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herman K. Nunies</td>
<td></td>
<td>05/01/07</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Paakauala, Jr.</td>
<td></td>
<td>05/01/07</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilfred P. Centeio</td>
<td></td>
<td>05/01/07</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Costa</td>
<td></td>
<td>05/01/07</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iameli I. Kaio</td>
<td></td>
<td>05/01/07</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul N. Fernandez</td>
<td></td>
<td>05/01/07</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 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!
New OTS ‘Ohana

AGAG, RANNIE RAQUINIO  Paratransit Operator  02/24/07
ANDRADE, ROSE LOUISE  Paratransit Operator  02/24/07
BAKER, IRENE KEOANA  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
BERRY, LESTER JOSEPH  Bus Operator  03/03/07
CRUZ, IVAN K.  Bus Operator  03/03/07
DIODORES, 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, VAVAEESE MATAKA  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.
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 Roadeo 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.

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

**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.
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” Guerrero Jr. opened the event with words of encouragement and pearls of wisdom from his experience of change at First Hawaiian Bank (FHB).

Mr. Guerrero 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 deRegio**, 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. Ligot
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.
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.
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.
Calendar of Events

July

- **Deadline to submit “Division Transfer” memos to Dispatch**
- **Independence Day - Holiday**
- **Regular Run Sign-Up:**
  - Start Time: 2:00 p.m. at both divisions
- **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

August

- **Admission Day - State Holiday**
- **Effective Start Date of the August 2007 Sign-Up**
- **Regular Run Sign-Up:**
  - Start Time: 9:00 a.m. at both divisions
- **Regular Run Sign-Up:**
  - Start Time: 9:00 a.m. at both divisions
- **Relief Run Completion:**
  - Start Time: 9:00 a.m. at both divisions
  - Start Time: 9:00 a.m. at the

September

- **Labor Day - Holiday**
- **Memory Walk (benefit for the Alzheimer's Association)**
  - [Start and Finish at Ward Warehouse]
- **Regular Run Sign-Up:**
  - Start Time: 9:00 a.m. at both divisions
- **Regular Run Sign-Up:**
  - Start Time: 9:00 a.m. at both divisions

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.

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