

LOTMA

2006 and 2007

Annual Report

**Leeward Oahu
Transportation
Management
Association**



People Moving People

www.lotma.org

2006 and 2007 LOTMA Annual Report

President's Message

After several years of strong economic growth peaking in 2004-2005, Hawaii's economy sharply slowed in 2006 and continued its sluggish growth in 2007. Concurrently, Hawaii's housing market cooled, ending the local real estate boom, with declines in residential sales transactions, new home sales and home construction. Housing prices reached their upper bounds in 2005 and then flattened out.

In the Ewa and Central regions, home construction continued with Castle & Cooke's Mililani Mauka, Gentry Homes' Ewa by Gentry and Haseko's Ocean Pointe project which neared its halfway point of 2,000 housing units in late 2006.

During 2006 and 2007, Hawaii's commuters grappled with ever rising gas prices. After a huge spike following Hurricane Katrina in September 2005, gas prices came down to pre-Katrina levels but then marched upward reaching near post-Katrina levels in 2006 and again in 2007. Rising energy prices are one of the contributing factors to a potential national recession as we enter 2008. Despite Hawaii having the dubious honor of paying the highest gas prices in the nation, the gas cap law proved unpopular due to the greater price fluctuations and was repealed by the Legislature in 2006. Increasing gas prices will push commuters to seek more economical transportation alternatives.

With a healthy employment market stretching into 2006 and 2007, Oahu residents continued to struggle with increasing traffic congestion, one of Oahu residents top concerns. The City and County of Honolulu (City) has made concerted efforts to provide transportation alternatives. Oahu's General Excise Tax increased from 4% to 4.5% on January 1, 2007 to fund rail transit for which the City began its planning and project development process. The City also initiated a one-year pilot project to provide ferry service from Kalaeloa to Aloha Tower starting in September 2007.

Since 1990, LOTMA has been promoting and facilitating the development and use of alternative transportation opportunities through its advocacy efforts and provision of services to ease traffic congestion and improve mobility for Leeward, Central and North Shore Oahu commuters.

While the LOTMA Manager position was vacant through 2006 and 2007, support from the Land Use Research Foundation enabled LOTMA to continue its provision of free information, referrals and support services for commuters interested in alternative transportation, such as carpooling or vanpooling, through its website and phone inquiries. Also, we continued the LOTMA Commuter Express which provides express coach service from Mililani and Waipio Gentry to Honolulu and Waikiki, a comfortable and convenient transportation alternative helping to reduce traffic congestion and to save our environment by lowering gas emissions.

We look forward to continuing our efforts to promote efficient and sustainable transportation alternatives in 2008.

Darwin Hamamoto,
President 2006 and 2007

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Program Highlights

LOTMA Commuter Express:

This convenient express commuter coach service provides a “first-class” commute option from Mililani and Waipio Gentry to Honolulu and Waikiki. To keep fares attractively priced, the service is subsidized by Castle & Cooke Homes Hawaii and the Gentry Companies. The condition requiring this subsidy will be fulfilled in the near future. The Commuter Express program currently runs one bus which ran at an average capacity of 82% in 2006 and 71% in 2007.

The LOTMA Commuter Express is positioned as an alternative transportation mode for people who want to rideshare, whether for cost savings or stress reduction, but desire a cleaner, more comfortable and relaxing ride than the public bus system. As with other mass transit systems, there are certain elements on the City buses which some people may find unpleasant. Standing is not allowed on the Commuter Express so strangers do not hover over you or jockey for a seat at each stop. Over time, the Commuter Express riders get to know each other which increase their comfort level. At the same time, the luxury coaches afford a higher level of privacy than a carpool or vanpool and allow riders to sleep, read or work as they so choose. A 2004 survey conducted by LOTMA showed that the majority of riders would be driving alone if the Commuter Express was not available.

Emergency Ride Home:

This program supports and encourages carpooling, vanpooling and use of the LOTMA Commuter Express by providing a free taxi or car rental ride home when an unexpected emergency arises. Knowing there is a guaranteed ride home removes the fear of being stranded at work and provides commuters the security to take alternative ridesharing options with confidence. While the program had limited use in 2006 and 2007, the program’s effectiveness is measured not in its actual usage but the peace of mind it gives commuters so they will commit to a ridesharing option.

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Highlights Continued...

Commuter Consulting Services:

LOTMA provides advice and information about additional commute options, such as the Vanpool Hawaii program, the State Department of Transportation's carpool matching program and TheBus. It is our goal to help commuters identify the best transportation option for their individual needs.

LOTMA Website:

The LOTMA website (www.lotma.org) provides current information and tips about carpooling, vanpooling, the LOTMA Commuter Express, the Mililani Trolley, the Emergency Ride Home Program and TheBus.

Community Participation & Partnership:

LOTMA is interested in developing partnerships and being an active participant in the community. In 2006 and 2007, LOTMA continued as an active member of the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization Citizen Advisory Committee, an advisory group tasked with providing input to decision makers regarding transportation planning efforts on Oahu. Additionally, our partnership with TheBus continued through the LOTMA Plus program, which provides free TheBus transfers for LOTMA Commuter Express subscribers, and our participation in TheBus BONUS! Check fare payment program, which provides tax savings incentives to employers and employees for utilizing transit options.

Advocacy

LOTMA advocates for improved transportation means, including lobbying and testifying on bills before the State Legislature and City Council and commenting on proposed plans by government agencies. LOTMA participated in public forums and testified in support of transportation projects and initiatives such as the 2030 Oahu Regional Transportation Plan, the Ewa Regional Highways Master Plan and Impact Fees, rail transit, transit-oriented development and the City's ferry project.

2006 and 2007 LOTMA Annual Report

Officers, Directors & Staff

President

Darwin Hamamoto
City & County of Honolulu, Department of Design & Construction

Vice President

Debbie Luning
The Gentry Companies

Treasurer

Nancy Maeda/Jon McKenna
Haseko Homes, Inc.

Secretary

Loralyn Cachola
The Kamehameha Schools

Director

Dan Davidson (2006)/Cameron Nekota (2007)
Aina Nui Corporation/Kapolei Property Development LLC

Director

Laura Kodama
Castle & Cooke Homes Hawaii, Inc., Castle & Cooke Properties
and Kunia Residential Partners

Director

Janice Takahashi
State Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation

Director

Larry Sumida
State Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

Director

Harvey Goth/Will Espero (to August 2007)
Robert Bruhl/Dean Uchida (from September 2007)
D.R. Horton, Schuler Division

Ex-Officio Directors

Gordon Lum
Executive Director, Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization

Rodney Haraga (2006)/Barry Fukunaga & Brennon Morioka (2007)
Director, State Department of Transportation

Melvin Kaku (to November 2007) & Wayne Yoshioka (December 2007)
Director, City Department of Transportation Services

LOTMA Staff

Dean Uchida/Gladys Quinto (2006)
David Arakawa/Gladys Quinto/Pat Liu (2007)

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

December 31, 2006 (unaudited)

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Current Assets | |
| Cash | \$22,152.18 |
| Savings | <u>\$69,624.49</u> |
| Total Current Assets | \$91,776.67 |

Statement of Revenues and Expenses

For the Year Ended December 31, 2006 (unaudited)
Cash Basis

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Revenues | |
| Membership Dues | \$ 93,214.00 |
| Commuter Express Subsidy | \$ 63,035.00 |
| Commuter Express Fares | \$ 44,949.00 |
| Interest | \$ 489.61 |
| Miscellaneous | <u>\$ 45.26</u> |
| Total Revenues | \$201,732.87 |
| Expenses | |
| Commuter Express | \$110,797.50 |
| Program Operations | \$ 39,599.13 |
| Management Fee | \$ 24,999.96 |
| Bank Charges | <u>\$ 51.00</u> |
| Total Expenses | \$175,447.59 |
| Revenue over Expenses | \$ 26,285.28 |
| Fund balance, beginning of period | \$ 65,491.39 |
| Fund balance, end of period | <u>\$91,776.67</u> |

Leeward Oahu Transportation Management Association

700 Bishop Street, Suite 1928
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Phone (808) 677-RIDE / Fax (808) 536-0132

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

December 31, 2007 (unaudited)

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Current Assets | |
| Cash | \$ 574.10 |
| Savings | <u>\$112,507.81</u> |
| Total Current Assets | \$113,081.91 |

Statement of Revenues and Expenses

For the Year Ended December 31, 2007 (unaudited)

Cash Basis

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Revenue: | |
| Membership Dues | \$ 93,214.00 |
| Membership Dues Overpayment* | \$ 4,906.00 |
| Commuter Express Subsidy | \$ 74,199.50 |
| Commuter Express Fares | \$ 40,110.00 |
| Interest | <u>\$ 589.32</u> |
| Total Revenues | \$213,018.82 |
| Expenses | |
| Commuter Express** | \$119,487.50 |
| Program Operations | \$ 47,067.62 |
| Management Fee | \$ 24,999.96 |
| Bank Charges | <u>\$ 158.50</u> |
| Total Expenses | \$191,713.58 |
| Revenue over Expenses | \$ 21,305.24 |
| Fund balance, beginning of period | \$ 91,776.67 |
| Fund balance, end of period | <u>\$113,081.91</u> |

*In 2007, Kamehameha Schools was erroneously invoiced and overpaid \$4,906 in dues. Half of the overpayment (\$2,453) will be applied to its 2008 dues and the remainder reimbursed.

**In 2007, an erroneous overpayment of \$9,559 was made to Polynesian Adventure Tours for the Commuter Express; this amount will be reimbursed to LOTMA in 2008.

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