

**House of Representatives  
The Thirty-Third Legislature  
Interim of 2026  
Simplifying Permitting for Enhanced Economic Development (SPEED) Taskforce  
Meeting #4  
Wednesday, May 26, 2026  
10:00 a.m. – approximately 3:00 p.m.**

**Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street. Rm 325  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813  
Via Videoconference & In-Person  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HshciLT0ESI>**

Members/  
Designees

Rep. Greggor Ilagan,  
Chair  
Glenn Waikai  
Councilmember Yuki  
Lei Sugimura  
Cameron Deptula  
Leodoloff Asuncion  
Ciara Kahahane  
Martin Anzellini  
Garcia-Reyes  
Dean Minakami  
Mary Alice Evans  
Cameron Black  
Mohan Samtani  
Jennifer Salisbury  
Jessica Puff  
Jon Nagato  
Brain Lee

Dennis Onishi  
Mark Clemente  
Howard Wiig  
Ka'aina Hull  
Aaron Spielman  
Jordan Molina  
Dawn Apuna  
Sheryl Abellanosa  
Jordan Odo  
Brian Kung  
Monica Toguchi  
Denise Nakanishi  
Perry Arrasmith  
Darryl Oliveira  
Morgan Gerdel  
Christine Camp  
Addison Bulosan  
Esther Kia'aina

\*Attendees present on last page

**1. Call to Order, Meeting Protocols, and Previous Meeting Minutes**

Chair Ilagan called the meeting to order at approximately 10:05 a.m. and confirmed that the meeting was being held in Conference Room 325 at the State Capitol and via Zoom.

The Chair reviewed meeting protocols for Zoom participants, including muting, video use, testimony procedures, and removal for disruptive or uncivil behavior.

Public testimony was opened on the previous meeting minutes. No testimony was received. The Chair asked whether any members wished to speak on the previous minutes; no comments or objections were raised.

#### **Action**

The previous meeting minutes were filed.

## **2. Chair's Report**

Public testimony was opened on the Chair's Report. No testimony was received.

Chair Ilagan reported that outreach activities were limited during the legislative session because the Task Force focused its efforts on legislation related to SPEED priorities. The Chair stated that outreach would resume during the interim and asked members to suggest organizations or groups that should receive a presentation on the SPEED Task Force's work.

Because several new members and participants were present, the Chair conducted introductions for members in the room and confirmed that, for Sunshine Law purposes, all in-person members had signed in and would be listed in the minutes.

## **3. 2026 Legislative Session Review**

Public testimony was opened on the 2026 legislative session review. No testimony was received.

Reginald King provided a summary of SPEED-related legislation from the 2026 session. He noted that the session began with more than 21 bills related to SPEED and permitting reform, and that seven key bills remained by the close of session.

Bills discussed included HB 1710 (historic preservation and SHPD review reform), HB 1721 (expedited housing permits), SB 2543 (state construction permit coordination), SB 2671 (staffing and retention), SB 2673 (permitting data transparency and standardization), HB 1618 (individual wastewater systems and cesspool implementation), and HB 2104 (Island Burial Councils).

Members emphasized that passing legislation is only part of the solution and that staffing, funding, and implementation remain critical. Discussion addressed SHPD quarterly stakeholder meetings, SB 2671 implementation, and SB 2673 data standardization involving OPSD, counties, the State Chief Data Officer, ETS, and other relevant agencies.

## **4. SPEED Draft Report and SPEED Summit Update**

The Chair initially called the SPEED Draft Report item, but the item was temporarily tabled so the Task Force could proceed with the SPEED Summit update.

Jordan Odo provided an update as SPEED Summit Coordinator. The SPEED Summit is scheduled for January 15, 2027, as an all-day event at the Sheraton Waikiki. The program is expected to include reports from PIG chairs or their designees and thematic breakout discussions in the afternoon.

Potential summit themes discussed included workforce, technology, and additional thematic topics still being developed. Jordan stated that Sen. Wakai would lead the technology breakout panel. Planning is expected to intensify around July. Fundraising is underway to help offset admission costs, and the target attendance is approximately 750 participants.

Housing Hawaii's Future was recognized for assisting with contracts and donation processing for the summit. Chair Ilagan stated that the goal is to bring together the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, mayors, Senate President, Speaker, departments, and stakeholders around the initiatives that will be laid out in the SPEED Task Force report.

## **5. Presentation: Water and Wells**

Public testimony was opened on the Water and Wells presentation. No testimony was received.

Ciara Kahahane, Deputy Director of the Commission on Water Resource Management, and Ryan Imata from the Groundwater Branch presented on CWRM's jurisdiction, staffing, budget, and permitting processes related to water and wells.

CWRM described its constitutional and statutory role as the State's primary guardian of Hawaii's water resources under the public trust doctrine. The presentation distinguished water quantity regulation, under CWRM, from water quality regulation, under the Department of Health.

Key permit types discussed included construction permits, pump installation permits, water use permits, stream diversion permits, and stream channel alteration permits. Ryan Imata explained that well construction and pump installation permits are often reviewed together and that staff review includes the well location, aquifer system, sustainable yield, reported withdrawals, construction design, pump capacity, intended use, potential impacts, consistency with the Hawaii Water Plan, and agency comments.

Members asked about designated water management areas, public guidance on agency responsibilities, CWRM and DOH coordination, timelines for permits that must go to the Commission, and how applicants are informed when both well construction and water use permits are needed. Staffing was identified as a significant bottleneck.

## **6. Presentation: District Boundary Amendments**

Public testimony was opened on the District Boundary Amendment presentation. No testimony was received.

Scott Derrickson, Chief Planner for the State Land Use Commission, presented the District Boundary Amendment process. Brian Lee, Chair of the State Land Use Commission, also provided comments.

Scott Derrickson explained that Hawaii has two layers of land use regulation: state land use districts and county zoning. State land use districts include Urban, Agricultural, Rural, and Conservation. A District Boundary Amendment is typically initiated by a landowner or developer seeking to change the state land use classification of a property, often from agricultural or conservation to urban.

The LUC process is quasi-judicial and operates as a contested case proceeding. LUC staff have 30 days to review a draft petition for completeness; once a petition is deemed

complete, the 365-day statutory clock begins. The LUC must render a decision within 365 days, subject to limited extension. If the LUC fails to decide within the statutory timeframe, the petition is automatically approved with generic conditions.

Members asked about previously approved agricultural-to-urban conversions, whether promised housing units were built, whether the 365-day statutory period could be shortened, and whether county-level processes could handle more reclassification matters. The LUC explained that a shorter timeline would require legislative action and that any process must still satisfy due process and evidentiary requirements.

## **7. Presentation: Building Codes**

Public testimony was opened on the Building Codes presentation. No testimony was received.

Howard Wiig, Hawaii State Energy Office and longtime State Building Code Council participant, presented on building code adoption, code cycles, and the State Building Code Council process.

The presentation covered HRS Chapter 107, Part II; SBCC membership and investigative committees; county building officials' role in the SBCC; national building code cycles; state adoption and amendment of model codes; county adoption and amendment of state codes; and the need for SBCC staffing.

Howard stated that national codes are generally on a three-year cycle and that Hawaii has two years under HRS Chapter 107 to adopt or amend those codes. He emphasized that the SBCC has lacked the executive director and executive assistant positions contemplated in law, creating challenges for scheduling, agendas, minutes, training, tracking code updates, and maintaining Sunshine Law compliance.

Members asked about whether Hawaii is up to date on codes, how state code adoption interacts with county adoption, the role of county building officials, staff support for SBCC, the three-year national code cycle, federal program eligibility, disaster resilience, and technical committees to resolve interpretation questions.

## **8. SPEED Draft Report**

The Chair returned to the SPEED Draft Report item later in the meeting. Public testimony was opened on the SPEED Draft Report. No testimony was received.

Chair Ilagan noted that the draft report outline was included in the board packet. Trey was not present to provide an update, so the Chair asked members to review the outline and place any comments or questions on the record.

The Chair emphasized that the final report should be understood as the SPEED Task Force report, not only a collection of PIG reports. While PIG findings and recommendations will be incorporated, the final report should reflect the full Task Force's findings and recommendations.

### **Action Items**

Members should review the draft report outline.

Members may provide comments or questions for staff follow-up.

Staff will continue developing the report using PIG findings, recommendations, and full Taskforce input.

## **9. Establishment of Permitted Interaction Groups**

Public testimony was opened on the establishment of new Permitted Interaction Groups. No testimony was received.

Chair Ilagan explained that PIGs are limited to fewer than a quorum of Task Force members and that outside participants may be invited by the PIG chair to contribute to discussions.

Three new PIGs were established: Building Codes PIG, Water and Wells Permit PIG, and Land Use Boundary Amendment PIG.

### **Actions**

Building Codes PIG: Established with Sen. Troy Hashimoto recommended as Chair and 17 members identified by the Chair.

Water and Wells Permit PIG: Established with Sen. Sharon Moriwaki recommended as Chair and 14 members identified by the Chair.

Land Use Boundary Amendment PIG: Established with Sen. Glenn Wakai recommended as Chair and 15 members identified by the Chair.

Interested outside stakeholders may send contact information to [STF@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:STF@capitol.hawaii.gov) so it can be forwarded to the appropriate PIG Chair.

## **10. Adjournment**

Chair Ilagan stated that the Task Force had completed the final agenda item and was ahead of schedule. He noted that the interim would be busy, with the three newly established PIGs expected to finish by September or sooner, additional PIGs expected afterward, a final report targeted for January, and the SPEED Summit being planned for January 15, 2027.

The Chair thanked members for their participation. The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:05 p.m.

### **In-person Guests/ Attendees**

- Rep. Greggor Ilagan
- Sen. Moriwaki
- Sen Glenn Wakai
- Reginald King
- Diana Setness
- Mary Alice Evans
- Scott Derrickson
- Ciara Kahahane
- Ryan Imata
- Dean Minakami
- Joanna Seto
- Perry Arrasmith

- Howard Wiig
- Robby Kelly, Avalon Group, designee for Christine Camp
- Sam Kim, Hawai'i Regional Council of Carpenters, designee for Mark Clemente

- Jordan Odo
- Jennifer Salisbury

Additional in-person attendees as noted on the sign-in sheet.

**Zoom Guests/  
Attendees**

- Andrew Okabe, Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission
- Anand Samtani, Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission
- Martin Anzellini, HCDA
- Lindsay Apperson, Office of the Governor
- Brian Lee, State Land Use Commission
- Brian Kung
- Jessica Puff, State Historic Preservation Division
- Leo Escalona, County of Kaua'i Building Division
- Lance Nakamura, County of Maui Department of Public Works
- Neal Tanaka, County of Hawai'i
- Councilmember Heather Kimball, Hawai'i County Council
- Morgan Gerdel, AIA Hawai'i
- Sheryl Abellanosa, HGEA
- Anna Matsunaga, representing Sen. Troy Hashimoto
- Councilmember Esther Kia'āina, City and County of Honolulu
- Jordan Molina, County of Maui
- Aaron Spielman, County of Hawai'i
- Monica Toguchi Ryan
- David Arakawa