

# REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

Gary H. Okino, Chair; Rod Tam, Vice-Chair  
Todd K. Apo, Member

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Committee Meeting Held  
November 28, 2006

Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Chair, City Council  
City and County of Honolulu

Mr. Chair:

Your Committee on Public Safety, which considered Resolution 06-344 entitled:

“RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE OAHU CIVIL DEFENSE AGENCY  
CREATE AND MAINTAIN A CONTACT LIST OF ALL PRIVATE  
TRANSPORTATION COMPANIES AND TAXICAB COMPANIES FOR  
EMERGENCY CONTACT PURPOSES,”

reports as follows:

The purpose of the Resolution is to request that the Oahu Civil Defense Agency (OCDA) create and maintain a contact list of all private transportation and taxicab companies in the city so that these companies can be contacted in a timely manner if, due to a natural disaster or power outage, the Honolulu International Airport is closed.

Your Committee posted a proposed CD1 version of this resolution that requests instead that the OCDA coordinate and improve communications with state tourism authorities and private visitor and transportation industry organizations and associations during times of emergency or when operations at Honolulu International Airport are closed or disrupted.

Your Committee heard testimony from the Acting Administrator of the OCDA in support of the proposed CD1 version. It was noted that by working directly with private sector tourism and transportation associations and organizations, as opposed to each individual company or operation, accurate and timely information could be more efficiently and effectively disseminated by OCDA.

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**CITY COUNCIL**  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
HONOLULU, HAWAII

ADOPTED ON \_\_\_\_\_

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 481

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Accordingly, your Committee amended the Resolution to request that the OCDA coordinate and improve communications with state tourism authorities and private visitor and transportation industry organizations and associations during times of emergency or when operations at Honolulu International Airport are closed or disrupted.

Your Committee on Public Safety is in accord with the intent and purpose of Resolution 06-344, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as Resolution 06-344, CD1. (Ayes: Okino, Apo – 2; Noes: None; Excused: Tam - 1.)

Respectfully submitted,



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Committee Chair

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**CITY COUNCIL**  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
HONOLULU, HAWAII

ADOPTED ON DEC 13 2006

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 481



## RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE OAHU CIVIL DEFENSE AGENCY TO WORK WITH STATE AGENCIES AND PRIVATE SECTOR TOURISM AND TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS TO COORDINATE AND IMPROVE COMMUNICATIONS DURING TIMES OF EMERGENCY AND DISRUPTIONS IN AIRPORT OPERATIONS.

WHEREAS, at approximately 7:10 a.m. on Sunday, October 15, 2006, the Hawaiian Islands experienced an earthquake reported at a magnitude of 6.6 on the Richter scale, with its epicenter located a few miles northwest of the Big Island's Kohala coast, followed by a number of aftershocks, the largest of which measured 5.8 on the Richter scale; and

WHEREAS, on Oahu the earthquake triggered an island-wide electrical power outage which, for most Hawaiian Electric Company customers, lasted for more than 12 hours; and

WHEREAS, the effects of the electrical power outage affected the operations at the Honolulu International Airport (HIA), where many out-bound flights were significantly delayed; and

WHEREAS, news of the disruption of operations at HIA did not reach many departing airline passengers, and as a result, many passengers checked out of their hotels, boarded buses and taxis, and were dropped off at the HIA; and

WHEREAS, visitor and transportation industry operators were caught in the same confusion experienced by visitors in and around Waikiki and were uncertain whether departing airline passengers should remain in Waikiki or go to the airport to await their flights; and

WHEREAS, had visitor and transportation industry organizations and associations been contacted in a timely manner about the disruption of operations at HIA, the confusion, discomfort and disappointment experienced by airline passengers could have been mitigated; and

WHEREAS, if all hotel and visitor accommodation operators and private transportation and taxicab companies on Oahu are able to receive timely notification through their organizations and associations when operations at HIA are disrupted, such information could be readily conveyed to visitors; now, therefore,



RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that the Oahu Civil Defense Agency is requested to coordinate and improve communications with state tourism authorities and private visitor and transportation industry organizations and associations during times of emergency or when operations at Honolulu International Airport are closed or disrupted; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the clerk transmit a copy of this Resolution to the president of the Hawaii Transportation Association, the president of the Hawaii Hotel & Lodging Association, the president of the Hawaii Hotel and Visitor Industry Security Association, the director of State Civil Defense, the president of the Hawaii Tourism Authority, the administrator of the Oahu Civil Defense Agency, and the mayor.

INTRODUCED BY:

Charles Djou

Todd Apo

Nestor Garcia

Rod Tam

Ann Kobayashi

Romy M. Cachola

Donovan Dela Cruz

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

November 2, 2006  
Honolulu, Hawaii

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Councilmembers

(OCS/112006/ct)