

OAHU WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

715 SOUTH KING STREET, SUITE 211 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 768-7790 • www.OahuWDB.com

RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR



CHRISTOPHER K. LUM LEE
CHAIR

HARRISON KURANISHI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**SECTOR STRATEGIES
AND CAREER PATHWAYS
COMMITTEE MEETING**
Thursday, August 28, 2025
1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

Note: Per the State Office of Information Practices (OIP), members of the public may contact OahuWDB@honolulu.gov to be added to a mailing list for future meeting announcements

Members Present:

Andrew Rosen
Trevor Bracher
Pat Anbe
Sherry Menor-McNamara
Su Lazo
Sarah Guay
Wes Akamine

Guests:

Vanessa Rogers, Chamber of Commerce Hawaii, Vice President of Workforce Development
Rose Templeton, Hotel and Restaurant Industry Employment & Training Trust, Program Manager
Ka'ohinani Miyashiro, Hawaiian Electric, Talent Acquisition Partner

Staff:

Lisa Pereira, Oahu Workforce Development Board, WIOA Specialist
Erin Nicole Fernandez, Oahu Workforce Development Board, WIOA Specialist
Daven Kawamura, Oahu Workforce Development Board, WIOA Specialist

I. Call to Order

The Sector Strategies and Career Pathways Committee meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by Committee Chair Andrew Rosen.

II. Welcome and Introductions

(Note: Per the State OIP, a quorum of members must be visible throughout the public portion of the meeting, but so long as that requirement is met, Oahu Workforce Development Board (OWDB) members are allowed to attend board meetings on audio only. Their votes will still count, and their attendance will also count toward quorum. However, board members must state their names clearly during introductions

and before all of their comments during the meeting.)

III. Approval of Minutes May 29, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Chair Andrew Rosen requested a motion to approve the minutes for the May 29, 2025, meeting. Sherry Menor-McNamara moved to approve the minutes. Wes Akamine seconded the motion. There were no objections or abstentions. The minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. Sector Partnership Quarterly Update

Vanessa Rogers, Vice President of Workforce Development at Chamber of Commerce Hawaii, shared the Quarterly Sector Partnership Update. The slide deck can be found at the following link:

<https://oahuwdb.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/OWDB-SP-Update-8.28.25.pdf>

Per slide four of the slide deck Vanessa wanted to note the seven active sector partnerships in Hawaii.

- Vanessa noted that all seven sectors are in different levels of maturity, with the most recent sector, Transportation, being launched May of 2025.
- Each sector has identified key initiatives and created action teams to move the identified key initiatives forward.

Vanessa noted the “Kama’aina Come Home” program started in the Engineering Sector Partnership, however it has grown to become more of a cross-sector initiative.

- Vanessa noted that the Kama’aina Come Home program was initially founded by the Hawaii Island Economic Development Board (HIEDB), close collaboration with HIEDB is critical to stay in line with the initial vision.
- Vanessa also noted that conversations have arisen regarding a Kama’aina At Home program, striving to be inclusive of all Hawaii residents.

Andrew Rosen inquired if the Kama’aina Come Home program is on the Hawaii Island as well as Oahu.

- Vanessa clarified that “Kama’aina Come Home” was trademarked and originally envisioned by HIEDB, however with the Engineering sector partnership wanting to utilize the program as an initiative permission was granted since the initiative lines up with HIEDB’s original mission and vision.

Vanessa shared that September is Workforce Development Month, the third annual Future of Work Conference is being held on September 24th, 2025. This year’s conference is focused on a county to county insights. There are multiple Sector Partnership meetings convening in September, the dates and times can be found on page 17 of the slide deck.

V. OWDB Report

Daven Kawamura, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Specialist at OWDB, gave a short update on behalf of Harrison Kuranishi, Executive Director of OWDB.

- Over the weeks of August 18th and 25th OWDB staff has had the opportunity to visit several organizations to talk about WIOA aiming to increase the numbers in the WIOA Title I programs.

- Daven noted that Program Year (PY) 23 funding had ended on June 30, 2025 and subsequently PY24 funding was accessed on July 1, 2025.
- Daven also mentioned that since the last Sector Strategies and Career Pathways committee meeting, OWDB has hired two staff; Lisa Pereira and Erin Fernandez.

VI. Announcements and Public Testimony

Andrew Rosen extended an outreach request to the individuals present at the meeting to have meetings to further discuss ideas. Andrew has thoughts for the committee moving forward but would like to better understand the committee goals.

VII. Schedule Next Meeting

The next Sector Strategies and Career Pathways Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 20, 2025 from 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm.

VIII. Adjournment

Chair Andrew Rosen adjourned the meeting at 1:32 pm.