

**Staff Report**

**January 22, 2022**

Prepared by:

Executive Director Toshiko Hasegawa

Project Coordinator Brenda O’Brien

January Public Board Meeting: ZOOM Conference Call

Improving the well-being of Asian Pacific Americans by examining issues, advancing advocacy, and ensuring access to government.

**Staff Report**

January 22, 2022

Staff report to the Commission covering activities, progress, and updates from November 13, 2021 to January 22, 2022.

1. **STAFF AND COMMISSION ACTIVITY**

**Staff Update**

Rosa Mai served her last day as Project Manager on January 7, 2022. CAPAA held a competitive, open application process with support of Human Resources. Brenda O’Brien and Executive Committee members participated in the applicant review and interview process. The position was accepted by K’gnausa Yodkerepauprai, who will begin February 7th, 2022.

Gov Inslee’s Office sent a message to all agencies saying that reopening expansion plans should be delayed to March 15. At this time, CAPAA staff will continue with remote operations. At the Capitol Court building, only two people work in the shared office on a regular basis.

**Commissioner Activity:**

Commissioners submitted activity reports for the time period of November 13, 2021 – January 14, 2022. Total events reported = 67; Activity Report response rate = 100% (12/12 respondents). Outstanding reports for this period: 0. Details of Commissioner Activity can be found in Appendix I.

**Appointments:**

* Satpal Singh Sidhu was appointed on December 14, 2022 to represent Whatcom County upon the Commission for term effective through June 30, 2024. Commissioner Sidhu is the first Asian American to serve as Whatcom County Executive, where he currently holds public office, and is also the first Commissioner to represent Whatcom County. Commissioner Sidhu has joined the Economic Development and Education committees.
* Former CAPAA Cmmr. Lisa Dickinson (Spokane County) has been reappointed for the expanded work of the State Recovery Workgroup.

**Sponsorships:** CAPAA fulfilled two requests for sponsorship, both of which were made by community groups in Spokane, WA. One event is a Winter Festival and the second is a Lunar New Year celebration.

1. **FINANCE**

The November 2021 Financial Status Reports show that CAPAA is in good financial condition. CAPAA’s projected FY21 ending balance depends on what happens during legislative session. Possible legislative outcomes are:

* If the $11k audit funding transfer is not approved, and none of CAPAA’s DPs are approved, then the agency will overspend its budget by about $17k (this scenario is highly unlikely)
* If the audit transfer and your $4k salary adjustment DP are approved, the agency will overspend its budget by $2k (approx. 50% chance of this happening)
* If all of CAPAA’s DPs and the audit transfer are approved, the agency will underspend its budget by $16k (approx. 50% chance of this happening)

Regardless of the legislative outcome, CAPAA has sufficient funds in its donation account to cover the overspend in either of the first two scenarios above. Currently, the balance of the donation account is $34k.

**Sponsorship:** During the previous reporting period, CAPAA received and approved two events. One was for the Spokane Winterfest and the Spokane Lunar New Year event.

**Advertisements:** CAPAA also purchased holiday advertisements from NW Asian Weekly, International Examiner, the Korean Media, and the NW Vietnamese News.

1. **LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

The Washington State Legislature convened for the 2022 Legislative Session on Monday, January 10. It is a short, 60-day session with, “a long list of things to get done.” Due to the resurgence of Omicron, session will be held virtually. Both the Senate and the House of Representatives plan to hold committee meetings and floor votes virtually. The situation will be reassessed every two weeks, and may move to a hybrid model later in Session depending on the COVID-19 situation.

**State of the State Address** Governor Jay Inslee opened the legislative session on Tuesday, January 11th with the State of the State address, which can be watched in full here: [https://tvw.org/video/joint-legislative-session-governor-inslee-state-of-the-state-address-2022011130/?eventID=2022011130](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftvw.org%2Fvideo%2Fjoint-legislative-session-governor-inslee-state-of-the-state-address-2022011130%2F%3FeventID%3D2022011130&data=04%7C01%7CToshiko.Hasegawa%40capaa.wa.gov%7Ce1bd8c89aaf546a32b7908d9d536b950%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C637775253343455334%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=xxzWN%2B3pfAIvzcXkXdKV%2FiTCmgkpyYGskVDGf5A5%2Fww%3D&reserved=0).

In his speech, he highlighted his proposed budget, including: investments into behavioral health and housing; Following the poverty reduction workgroup’s recommendations, he has proposed $125 million reinvestment fund to address economic and social disparities across decades that are the legacy of federal policies that hurt communities of color. $900 million to help schools address students’ critical needs, includingan increase the number of school counselors, nurses, psychologists and social workers available to serve K-12 students. $80 million to pay providers more for housing and support for foster youth with complex needs; and his call for **action, this day to fight climate change, including** $626 million towards the effort and a reaffirmation the Climate Commitment Act principles that center disparate impact of climate change and climate related disasters upon communities of color. $187 towards salmon recovery. It also reinvests in our rainy day reserves with $2.5 billion toward our financial resilience this biennium. He closed his remarks by saying, “I will reiterate that this may be a “short session,” but it is unlike any in our history. We must act according to what this moment demands. We must be big. We must be bold. We must act at a scale commensurate to our challenges because of the multiple, urgent crises facing our state.”

His budget also included all of CAPAA’s, including funding to cover the cost of our audit (which occurs every five years, and we passed with flying colors), as well as our asks to increase staff salaries.

**ANHPI Legislative Days** The 2022 ANHPI Legislative Day will take place virtually February 2 – 3. For over 20 years APIC-WA has held an annual lobby day in Olympia, bringing Asian and Pacific Islander community members from around the state to meet with elected officials and lobby for policies and programs that are critical to our communities. Priorities this year include unemployment benefits for undocumented workers, health equity for immigrants, investment in affordable housing, and more. The full legislative agenda can be found here: [https://bit.ly/APILegislativeDaysAgenda](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbit.ly%2FAPILegislativeDaysAgenda&data=04%7C01%7Ctoshiko.hasegawa%40capaa.wa.gov%7Caeb1ebe7a3cf4329f34808d9d62d8c45%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C637776315263806565%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=mgKO%2BOa0fV%2FatGZbLqp5nRwtM%2FGtiRQAVbxDRbxK0pg%3D&reserved=0)

All CAPAA Commissioners have been registered for ANHPI Legislative Days. Prior to Legislative Days, there will be two lobbying trainings:

* **Lobby Training #1 (you only need to join one**): Tuesday, January 25th from 3-4 PM. Sign up here: [https://bit.ly/APILegDaysLobbyTraining1](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbit.ly%2FAPILegDaysLobbyTraining1&data=04%7C01%7Ctoshiko.hasegawa%40capaa.wa.gov%7Caeb1ebe7a3cf4329f34808d9d62d8c45%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C637776315263816517%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=7Kt1BcgSAzZeQ7eHPm27p8mBFnkTpUa362IOKNsytw0%3D&reserved=0)
* **Lobby Training #2 (you only need to join one**): Wednesday, January 26 from 5PM-6PM. Sign up here: [https://bit.ly/APILegDaysLobbyTraining2](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbit.ly%2FAPILegDaysLobbyTraining2&data=04%7C01%7Ctoshiko.hasegawa%40capaa.wa.gov%7Caeb1ebe7a3cf4329f34808d9d62d8c45%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C637776315263826478%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=NjvBw5J1fkcdlAzrZZLNqw5dO2NHdEHU4rIN96EWLgo%3D&reserved=0)
* **Meeting with Gov Inslee:** We have confirm3ed February 2 from 11:30 – 11:50 am for a virtual event with Gov Inslee.

**Day of Remembrance –** Annual event commemorating the signing of EO 9066 leading to the incarceration of 120,000 people of Japanese ancestry during WWII will be held Friday,February 18, 2022 at 12:30-2:00 PM. The ceremony will be televised and live streamed at the time of the event. To watch the event on television, you can identify the channel number of TVW in your area using the attached document or this [link](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.tvw.org%2Fabout%2Fchannel-locator%2F&data=04%7C01%7CToshiko.Hasegawa%40capaa.wa.gov%7C4400df47ab4d458beb9808d9dcfd6aaf%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C637783803381797901%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=6Iguonho2YFH36rWG%2FynuVb3GhgW9J8DhZ6iZ87k8AA%3D&reserved=0). To watch it live streamed online, you can click the “LIVE” button on the top of the [TVW website](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.tvw.org%2Fcurrent-recent-video%2F&data=04%7C01%7CToshiko.Hasegawa%40capaa.wa.gov%7C4400df47ab4d458beb9808d9dcfd6aaf%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C637783803381797901%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=OWcCBGX35X%2Fqe1HxDswSshPqeOtDGWeCLgHV%2BXsvYRY%3D&reserved=0) at the time of the event.

**Other Events –** Other notable legislative activities relevant to the ANHPI community include:

* 2022 API Legislative Days February 2 – 3
* Day of Remembrance Friday, February 18, 2022 at 12:30-2:00 PM.
* Lunar New Year
* MOCC POC Elected Officials Reception

**Legislative AdHoc Committee –** In light of Cmmr. Trudeau’s appointment to the State Senate, Commissioner Cho has graciously agreed to chair the committee as necessary. The Legislative Tracker can be found here, updated as of January 6th: [https://trello.com/b/8bpmxD0x/2022-legislative-tracker](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftrello.com%2Fb%2F8bpmxD0x%2F2022-legislative-tracker&data=04%7C01%7CToshiko.Hasegawa%40capaa.wa.gov%7C817bfea6e45e4bbf69b808d9d15e8787%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C637771026188563600%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=5NFkwsbXAaanLjKphjkxjW33UkwQrBvseqnsMWTYoC8%3D&reserved=0). Please note that, unless explicitly stated otherwise, legislation that is being tracked is not necessarily supported/opposed—just that the legislation was brought to CAPAA’s attention and affects the ANHPI community in some capacity. Brenda can help with scheduling committee meetings, whether they are regularly weekly meetings or ad hoc meetings, once a new Program Manager has been hired.

**Legislative Tracking –** CAPAA is tracking a number of legislative priorities that were raised by community advocates, partner organizations, staff, and Commissioners. These priorities are tracked on CAPAA’s [2022 Legislative Tracker](https://trello.com/b/8bpmxD0x/2022-legislative-tracker) via Trello. Legislation tracked by CAPAA are either identified by staff or have been brought to the attention of staff as legislation that affects the ANHPI community; legislative tracking does not necessarily equate to support or opposition to a particular piece of legislation.

**SB 5264 –** Establishing January as Americans of Chinese Descent History Month – sponsored by Senator Keith Wagoner, has moved off the Senate floor and will head over to the House of Representatives.

**Human Rights Commission**  requested 6 FTE’s. This is the firs ttime they have received everything they’ve asked for in their decision packages. In 2009, HRC was cut $2,000,000, then again in 2010, 2011 and 2012. They are suffering at remendous backlog and the amount of time it takes for cases to be assigned only grows. Today they are at half the size they once were. CAPAA has received multiple inquiries from Asian and Pacific Islander community members who believe they have been discriminated against and are unsatisfied with how their cases are moving forward. EDI is important but we need enforcement. They used to have 60 employees – they have 25 now and will have 31 with the new hires.

1. **STRATEGIC PLAN**

Following the Legislative Session, staff will begin the process to update the 2023-2025 Strategic Plan. Developing the strategic plan is a year-long process that lays the vision, goals and objectives for the next three years, led by Committee Chairs and requiring input and participation from all 12 Commissioners.

* Civil Rights & Immigration
* Economic Development
* Education
* Health & Human Services

1. **OTHER DEVELOPMENTS**

**Tonga Tsunami** Following the eruption of an underwater volcano off the coast of Tonga, a tsuami advisory was issued in Washington State, though no damage was sustained to any Washington State land, properties or residents. Unfortunately, Tonga was hit with a Tsunami that washed up through the capital. Commissioners Lydia Faitalia and Toka Valu have been responding to concerned community members who have not been able to connect with family members in Tonga. They catalyzed inquiries on behalf of the Commission to the Governors Office and White House regarding a response to the disaster. The White House shared [a statement from Secretary of State Blinken that the U.S. government stands prepared to provide support to our Pacific neighbors](https://twitter.com/SecBlinken/status/1482542896087715840?s=20). We continue to monitor the federal response to international disasters.

**Executive Order 22-01:** Subcabinet on Business Diversity advised on [Executive Order 22-01](https://www.governor.wa.gov/news-media/inslee-signs-executive-order-equity-public-contracting-and-announces-intention-rescind), requires executive and small cabinet agencies to adopt the best practices in the toolkit, and to work with the Office of Minority and Women’s Business Enterprises (OMWBE) on inclusive outreach and accurate data reporting. This executive order supports the Department of Enterprise Services (DES) to bolster the number of certified minority-, women-, and veteran-owned business on state master contracts. The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and DES are reviewing whether bonding, insurance, and experience requirements in state contracting present unnecessary obstacles to the participation of minority-, women-, and veteran-owned businesses, and if so, whether such obstacles can be mitigated or eliminated.

**Rescinding Director 98-01:** Governor Inslee also rescinded [Directive 98-01,](https://www.digitalarchives.wa.gov/governorlocke/eo/dir98-01.htm?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery) a 23-year-old document that was supposed to provide agencies with instructions on how to implement Initiative 200 (I-200) on affirmative action. Instead, the directive was overly restrictive. Gov. Inslee also issued a replacement executive order that will instruct agencies on how to move forward with achieving equity while still complying with I-200.

**WA State ANHPI Business Resource Group** – the process to establish an ANHPI BRG is underway! CAPAA recommended they explicitly include COFA islanders in their “definitions” section, and include among their responsibilities in promoting ANHPI Heritage Month activities across state departments. Their mission is

**Equity Impact Statement steering committee** – The Govenror’s Office has convened a steering committee of advisors on the development of an Equity Impact Statement (EIS). The EIS is an equity analysis tool that will be used during the legislative session to determine equity impacts of every proposed piece legislation and it will likely run in a parallel process to our fiscal note process. CHA is participate as a steering committee member, and CAPAA will participate in the Stakeholder committee.

**CAPAA/Department of Commerce Capital Funding Listening Session –** This event will take place Thursday, January 27, 12 – 1 PM online via Zoom. The session is designed to educate the public about programs under review, help Commerce understand barriers to obtain funding, and Share ideas about how to make funding more accessible to ANHPI communities. Registration is free and open to the public to attend. CAPAA Economic Development Committee members have helped with the organizing and promotion of this event and all Economic Development Committee members have been registered to attend.

Gov Inslee has expressed his desire for us to reach into Whatcom County to engage ANHPI communities and so we have also changed our 2022 meeting schedule to accommodate an in-person meeting in Whatcom County, pandemic permitting. Please also note other changes to meeting locations, which have been filed with the State Register.

**OSPI Grants –** CAPAA advised on the outreach efforts for the Kip Tokuda Memorial Civil Liberties in Public Education Fund, which will go towards programming to educate members of the public on the Japanese American WWII experience and civil rights. CAPAA was also asked to convene a conversation between APCC and OSPI on their decision not to award them the CBO Grant to Support Student Learning Recovery and Acceleration. CAPAA will convene a meeting with OSPI, EOGOAC members and Rep. Santos to discuss the eligibility and scoring process.

1. **COMMUNICATIONS**

**Newsletter:** CAPAA’s newsletter is sent to an e-mail listserv of 2,612 contacts (+61 from November Staff Report).

**Facebook:** 2,396 Likes

2,708 Follows

**Webpage:** [The Washington State Legislature](https://capaa.wa.gov/the-washington-state-legislature/)

**Social Media:** COVID-19 updates

Resources for reporting hate and discrimination

Holiday graphics (winter holidays, New Year’s)

CAPAA/Commerce Listening Session

**Printing Media** Holiday Ad Buys from NW Asian Weekly, International Examiner, The Korean Times,

Media Hangook, Seattle N, and NVTB

Lunar New Year Ad Buys from NW Asian Weekly, International Examiner,

The Korean Times, Media Hangook, Seattle N, and NVTB

1. **EVENTS**

**People of Color Legislative Summit**

December 4, 2021

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

**National Coalition of ANHPI-serving Commissions**

**ANHPI Community Celebration for Seattle’s first Asian Mayor**

**Asian & Black elected officials Unity Event**

1. **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**CAPAA/Department of Commerce Capital Funding Listening Session**

Thursday, January 27, 12 – 1 PM online via Zoom.

**ANHPI Legislative Days**

February 2 – 3

**Meeting with Governor Jay Inslee**

February 2, 11:30 – 11:50 am

**Day of Remembrance**

February 18, 2022 at 12:30-2:00 PM

**March Public Board Meeting – Online via Zoom**

March 19, 2022

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**June Public Board Meeting – Whatcom County**

June 28, 2022

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

**September Public Board Meeting – Yakima County**

September 17, 2022

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

**November Public Board Meeting – King County**

November 19. 2022

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

**APPENDIX I: Commissioner Activity Reports**

*Outstanding reports for this period: Cmmr. Cho*

