

## Comments for Draft Oahu Regional Transportation Plan 2040

March 3, 2016

Dear Policy Board Members,

I have two high-priority changes to draft ORTP 2040 that should receive favorable consideration by your Board:

1) Project #351 (Farrington Highway widening) on the draft ORTP 2040 should be moved up in priority from the “Long-Range Projects” list to the “Short-Range Projects” list.

a. Traffic is absolutely unbearable on Farrington Highway between Hakimo Road and Nanakuli Avenue eastbound during morning rush hours (5 – 9 am) and between Laaloa Street and Lualualei Naval Road westbound during afternoon rush hours (2:30 – 7 pm). During non-rush hours traffic can be unbearable in either directions between the previously mentioned Farrington Highway intersections during weekdays and weekends, especially during any roadwork, light pole and other utility work, and traffic accidents.

b. The State, City and OahuMPO have known for many years that the leeward corridor in and out of Nanakuli cannot adequately handle the heavy traffic being experienced. Studies and planning for alternate routes to alleviate traffic problems exist from as far back as December 1968. Had the 1968 plan been implemented, the phased construction would have been completed on October 19, 2012 and proper planning would have prevented our current predicament.

c. It is time to stop kicking the “can” down the road and immediately address the horrible traffic situation faced by leeward residents by immediately commencing the planning, design and construction of ORTP Project #351. Therefore, Project #351 must be placed on the “Short-Range Projects” list of ORTP 2040. Recently a resolution passed unanimously by the Nanakuli/Maili Neighborhood Board also asks for this to happen.

2) Project #50 (Makaha area highway safety improvements and Makaha Beach mauka bypass) of ORTP 2035 should be added on the ORTP 2040 Table 3: Project List for “Short-Range Projects” or “Mid-Range Projects”. Project #50 was not carried over from ORTP 2035 to the draft ORTP 2040 – this travesty is unacceptable. Project #50 is a high priority within the Waianae community and its importance has been addressed numerous times over the past several years to the US DOT, the FHWA, the Governor, the Mayor, City Council and OahuMPO. Hopefully the dropping of Project #50 was an accidental oversight or a result of the project moving into the design, planning and construction phase – any other reason is simply unacceptable and very likely an Environmental Justice violation of DOT Order 5610.2 and FHWA Order 6640.23.

Please favorably consider and implement these critical changes to the ORTP 2040. I am readily available for clarification and historical documentation for the issues I’ve raised.

Sincerely,



AL Frenzel,  
al@makaha.us  
(808) 343-4916