

Meeting Summary of the
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 20, 2009, 3:30 p.m.
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 309
415 South Beretania Street, Honolulu, Hawaii

Members Present:

Land Use Research Foundation
NB #34 Makakilo-Kapolei-Honokai Hale
AARP
American Planning Association Hawaii
American Society of Civil Engineers
Citizens for a Fair ADA Ride
Eye of the Pacific
Hawaii Bicycling League
Hawaii Teamsters and Allied Workers, Local 996
Institute of Transportation Engineers
Interagency COORDINATION Councils
League of Women Voters
Leeward Oahu Transportation Management Association
NB #01 Hawaii Kai
NB #02 Kuliouou-Kalani Iki
NB #03 Waialae-Kahala
NB #05 Diamond Head-Kapahulu-Saint Louis Heights
NB #08 McCully-Moiliili
NB #12 Nuuanu-Punchbowl
NB #13 Downtown
NB #18 Aliamanu-Salt Lake-Foster Village
NB #22 Waipahu
NB #23 Ewa
NB #29 Kahaluu
NB #35 Mililani Mauka-Launani Valley
North Shore Chamber of Commerce
Tax Foundation of Hawaii
Waikiki Residents Association

David Arakawa, Chair
Michael Golojuch, Vice Chair
Mary Protheroe
John Valera
Tiffany Hamada
Ronald Pike
Twila Lai
Mitchell Nakagawa
Michael Costa
I. Robert Nehmad
CC Curry
Jacqueline Parnell
Shannon Alivado
Greg Knudsen
Linda Starr
Lester Fukuda
Bert Narita
Ron Lockwood
James Marn
Tom Smyth
Lorene Godfrey
Robert Kakalia
Coby M. Lynn
Ken LeVasseur
Pamela Young
Gil Riviere
Randall Hiu
Daisy Murai

Members Absent (Reps):

American Society of Landscape Architects
Castle & Cooke Homes Hawaii
Charley's Taxi
Committee for Balanced Transportation
E Noa Corporation

Chris Dacus
Dean Minakami
Dale Evans
Joseph Magaldi
Tom Dinell

Federal Rental Assisted Tenants Agency
Hawaii Highway Users Alliance
Hawaii Transportation Association
Honolulu Community Action Program
Hui Kupuna VIP
NB #09 Waikiki
NB #10 Makiki-Lower Punchbowl-Tantalus
NB #14 Liliha-Alewa-Puunui-Kamehameha Heights
NB #15 Kalihi-Palama
NB #20 Aiea
NB #21 Pearl City
NB #24 Waianae Coast
NB #25 Mililani-Waipio-Melemanu
NB #26 Wahiawa
NB #27 North Shore
NB #30 Kaneohe
Pacific Resource Partnership
Sierra Club Hawaii Chapter
Waianae Coast Transportation Concerns Group

David Yaw
Darcianne Evans
Gareth Sakakida
Val Tavai
Louise Horio
Robert Finley
Charles Carole
Dale White
Shane Yaw
Carl Jacobs
Cruz J. Vina, Jr.
David Brown
Dick Poirier
Joseph Francher
Antya Miller
Wendell Lum
Mike Kido
Julie Shiohita
Dick Boddy

Guests Present:

Jan Bappe	Citizen
Christine Absher	Citizens for a Fair ADA Ride
Laureen Kukino	Citizens for a Fair ADA Ride
Kainoa Kaumeheiwa-Rego	Councilmember Charles Djou
Nicholas Poulos	Department of Transportation Services
Norman Ota	Hawaii Association of the Blind
Charlene Ota	Hawaii Center for Independent Living
Janet Inamine	Moiliili Resident
Tom Heinrich	NB #7 Manoa
Rich Hargrave	NB #23 Ewa
Joshua Magno	Pacific Resource Partnership
Jared Yamanuha	Senator Carol Fukunaga

OahuMPO Staff Present: Gordon Lum, Randolph Sykes, and Marian Yasuda

At 3:40 p.m., the CAC lacked a quorum; therefore, in accordance with the *Bylaws for the CAC* as approved by the Policy Committee on January 26, 2009, Chair David Arakawa revoked the membership of nine member organizations with the lowest attendance credits earned during fiscal year 2009. The Bylaws specifically state in Section III.C.2.:

Prior to the beginning of a meeting of the CAC at which there is no quorum present, the Chair may revoke the membership of an organization(s) with the least attendance credits earned during the current fiscal year.

Chair Arakawa called the meeting to order at 3:43 p.m. with a quorum (22 member organizations) present.

Chair Arakawa recognized Jacqueline Parnell for her years of participation in and contributions to the CAC on behalf of the League of Women Voters. It was Ms. Parnell's final CAC meeting before her relocation to the mainland.

1. New Business

“Update on the Honolulu Rail Transit Project”

Chair Arakawa introduced Jim Van Epps, Project Manager, Parsons Brinckerhoff, and Scott Ishikawa, Public Information Officer, Rapid Transit Division, Department of Transportation Services (DTS). Mr. Van Epps presented the proposed alignment for the rail project and the 22 stations proposed along that alignment. The draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was completed in the fall of 2008 and released for public review. During that public review period, about 626 letters were received with a total of about 3,200 comments. The draft EIS has since been edited, based on the comments received, and will be submitted to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for their comments.

Mr. Van Epps detailed some of the potential benefits of having the rapid transit system built. On a two-car train, each car of the train will carry about 150 people, which, in total, could replace approximately 200 cars on the road. This can reduce the traffic congestion that Oahu will experience in 2030 with baseline conditions (nothing built) by 20 percent. The planning, design, and construction of the rail are projected to create about 10,000 jobs per year (approximately 1,500 jobs per \$1 billion project size).

The contracts for construction of the rail will be divided into four segments: 1) East Kapolei to Pearl Highlands, 2) Kamehameha Highway, 3) Airport, and 4) City Center. There will be concurrent work occurring throughout the process, with completion of the project in 2019. It is expected that the final EIS will be released the summer of 2009; the Record of Decision (ROD) is expected in the fall of 2009. The City anticipates that FTA will commit Federal monies to this project in the spring of 2011. Service between two stations in Waipahu is expected to begin in 2012; full service may begin in 2019.

Discussion Highlights:

[Note: Unless otherwise noted, all questions were answered by Mr. Van Epps.]

- In response to a question by Tom Smyth: The City is allowed to have up to four proposals selected for the short list of design-build contracts for the first segment of the rail.
- In response to a question by Linda Starr: Construction of segments will not be done sequentially; the initiation of one segment is not reliant upon the completion of prior segments.
- In response to a question by Pamela Young: This project is high on the list of projects for funding by the FTA. The FTA administrator, the Chair of the Congressional House Transportation Subcommittee, and Hawaii's two senior Congressional Senators all support the funding of this project.

- In response to a question by Daisy Murai: At the Pearl Highlands Station, there will be a 6-story parking structure in the “Banana Patch” area, with a ramp coming from the south-bound side of the H-2 Freeway.
- In response to a question by Kainoa Kaumeheiwa-Rego: The Governor’s signature and the FTA’s approval of the EIS are independent of each other.
- In response to a question by Tom Heinrich: There is no timetable for any extension to the system.
- In response to a question by Ms. Starr: Oversight of the construction of different segments will be conducted by a firm subcontracted by the City.

2. Approval of the March 18 and April 15, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Vice Chair Michael Golojuch moved and Mr. Smyth seconded that agenda items 2 and 3 be deferred until the next meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

This item was deferred until the next meeting.

3. Other Business

This item was deferred until the next meeting.

4. OahuMPO Meeting Highlights - Policy Committee & Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Ms. Yasuda announced the following:

- There had been no meeting of the Policy Committee since the CAC last met on April 15, 2009. The Policy Committee was scheduled to meet on Thursday, May 28, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. in the State Capitol, conference room 309. At that meeting, it was anticipated that the Policy Committee would:
 - Take action on the vision, goals, and objectives for the Oahu Regional Transportation Plan (ORTP) 2035 effort;
 - Take action on the FY 2010 Overall Work Program (OWP);
 - Acknowledge receipt of the early input on the FYs 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program from the CAC and the freight movers’ survey and forward them to DTS and the Hawaii Department of Transportation; and
 - Consider the applications for membership to the CAC by the Hawaii Centers for Independent Living and Manoa Neighborhood Board #7.
- There had been no meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee since the CAC last met on April 15, 2009. The TAC was scheduled to meet on Thursday, May 21, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. in the Department of Transportation 5th floor conference room. At that meeting, it was anticipated that TAC would:
 - Make a recommendation to the Policy Committee on the vision, goals, and objectives for the ORTP 2035 effort;

- Endorse the performance measures for the ORTP 2035 effort;
- Make a recommendation to the Policy Committee on the FY 2010 OWP; and
- Approve the Revised Rules of Procedures for the OahuMPO TAC.

5. Announcements

Mr. Smyth announced that Senate Bill 718, the Hawaii Complete Streets bill, was signed into law and is now known as Act 54. The bill requires the Department of Transportation and the Counties to establish a policy to reasonably accommodate all users of the road, including pedestrians, cyclists, and people of all ages and abilities.

Mr. Heinrich announced a joint meeting of the McCully-Moiliili, Makiki-Tantalus, and Manoa neighborhood boards on Tuesday, June 23, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Central Union Church Parish Hall to hear the long-range development plan of the Kapiolani Women's and Children's Hospital.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:31 p.m.