

Meeting Summary of the
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 16, 2008, 3:30 p.m.
Council Committee Room
Honolulu Hale, Room 205
530 South King Street, Honolulu, Hawaii

Members Present:

NB #10 Makiki-Lower Punchbowl-Tantalus
Committee for Balanced Transportation
American Planning Association
American Society of Landscape Architects
E Noa Corporation
Hawaii Bicycling League
Hawaii Teamsters and Allied Workers, Local 996
Hawaii Transportation Association
Interagency COORDINATION Councils
Land Use Research Foundation
NB #03 Waialae-Kahala
NB #05 Diamond Head-Kapahulu-Saint Louis Heights
NB #09 Waikiki
NB #18 Aliamanu-Salt Lake-Foster Village
NB #21 Pearl City
NB #22 Waipahu
NB #23 Ewa
NB #24 Waianae Coast
NB #25 Mililani-Waipio-Melemanu
NB #26 Wahiawa
NB #30 Kaneohe
NB #34 Makakilo-Kapolei-Honokai Hale
NB #35 Mililani Mauka-Launani Valley
Tax Foundation of Hawaii
Waianae Coast Transportation Concerns Group
Waikiki Residents Association

Charles Carole, Chair
Joe Magaldi, Jr., Vice Chair
John Valera
Chris Dacus
Tom Dinell
Mitchell Nakagawa
Michael Costa
Alan Okimoto
CC Curry
David Arakawa
Lester Fukuda
Bert Narita
Robert Finley
Lorene Godfrey
Cruz J. Vina, Jr.
Thomas Maus
R. Scott Belford
David Brown
Dick Poirier
Joseph Francher
Wendell Lum
Michael Golojuch
Teresa Lau
Randall Hiu
Dick Boddy
Daisy Murai

Members Absent (Reps):

AARP
American Society of Civil Engineers
Castle & Cooke Homes Hawaii
Charley's Taxi
Eye of the Pacific
Hawaii Highway Users Alliance
Honolulu Community Action Program

Mary Protheroe
Tiffany Hamada
Dean Minakami
Dale Evans
Twila Lai
Darcianne Evans
Val Tavai

Institute of Transportation Engineers	Pete Pascua
League of Women Voters	Jacqueline Parnell
Leeward Oahu Transportation Management Association	David Arakawa
NB #01 Hawaii Kai	Greg Knudsen
NB #02 Kuliouou-Kalani Iki	Linda Starr
NB #08 McCully-Moilili	Ron Lockwood
NB #12 Nuuanu-Punchbowl	Jay Fidell
NB #13 Downtown	Burton White
NB #14 Liliha-Alewa-Puunui-Kamehameha Heights	Dale White
NB #22 Waipahu	Thomas Maus
NB #27 North Shore	Antya Miller
North Shore Chamber of Commerce	Gil Riviere
Pacific Resource Partnership	Kyle Chock
Sierra Club Hawaii Chapter	Randy Ching

Guests Present:

Ronald W. Pike	Citizens for a Fair ADA Ride
Ben Gorospe	Department of Transportation
Rachel Roper	DOT
Adrian Chee	Department of Transportation Services
Mark Kikuchi	DTS
Richard Torres	DTS
Mike Oshiro	DTS
David Yaw	Federal Rental Assisted Tenant Agency
Natalie Iwasa	Hawaii Bicycling League
Rose Pou	Hui Kupuna VIP
Shane Yaw	NB #15 Kalihi-Palama
Ken LeVasseur	NB #29 Kahaluu
Elwin Spray	NB #29 Kahaluu

OahuMPO Consultant: Ron Mobley, PRP, Hawaii State Association of Parliamentarians

OahuMPO Staff Present: Gordon Lum (Executive Director), Randolph Sykes, and Marian Yasuda

Chair Charles Carole called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. A quorum was present.

1. Approval of the March 19, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Cruz Vina, Jr. moved and Bert Narita seconded that the March 19, 2008 meeting minutes be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Unfinished Business

Mr. Mobley reviewed some key procedures under Robert's Rules of Order:

- A motion is not always required for actions such as approval of minutes or adjournment of the meeting. Those actions can be achieved by unanimous consent.

- When an item is “tabled”, that means that more important business is taking precedence, and the item being tabled will be discussed later in the same meeting. Alternatives to tabling an item are either giving that item to a subcommittee or postponing that item to a given time at the same meeting.

CC Curry commented that, previously, she moved that an item be tabled with the understanding that the presenters of that item would soon be arriving at the meeting.

3. New Business

3.A. Waianae Coast Emergency Access Road

Mike Oshiro, Acting Traffic Engineering Division Chief, Department of Transportation Services (DTS), presented an update on the Waianae Coast Emergency Access Road. Mr. Oshiro explained that this project was initiated in the year 2000 in response to pleas from the Waianae Coast community. DTS conducted workshops in the Waianae Coast community to assist in determining four sub-districts that would help to identify routes that would be included in the project.

The project includes existing roads, two roads currently under construction, and one road planned for future construction. Together, these roads allow for travel bypassing Farrington Highway in the event of an emergency.

Discussion Highlights:

[Note: Unless otherwise specified, questions were answered by Mr. Oshiro.]

- In response to a question by David Brown: An Environmental Impact Study for this project was conducted by DTS. Emergency service agencies were involved in the project after the initial community meetings. DTS is providing this alternate route with the understanding that this is not the answer to all of the issues, but it provides some options in emergency situations.
- Dick Boddy commented that this route is confusing due to lack of signage and police guidance. An alternate route utilizing roads other than Farrington Highway is necessary in the event of a tsunami.
- In response to a question by David Yaw: The route between Waianae and Makaha is not included in this project.
- In response to a question by Mr. Brown: DTS is aware of the \$400,000 congressional earmark for DOT. DTS conducted their EIS using City monies prior to the earmark becoming available.
- In response to a question by Randolph Sykes: The two roads that are currently under construction are accessible only in the event of an emergency, under the control of the police or emergency management officials. This stipulation was a part of an agreement with the property owners in exchange for easements during construction of the roads and access during an emergency.
- In response to a question by Wendell Lum: The positive aspects of this project outweigh concerns about liability. Although this project is not the ideal solution, it is preferable to no action.

3.B. “Bicycle Safety Presentation and Request for Action on Resolution”

Natalie Iwasa, Hawaii Bicycling League volunteer, presented the following bicycle safety tips: 1) Cyclists should always wear a helmet, 2) Cyclists should obey traffic laws, 3) Drivers should be aware and considerate of cyclists, and 4) Everyone should be aware that cyclists have the same rights on the roadway as motor vehicles. Ms. Iwasa asked for the consideration of a resolution requesting the OahuMPO to help improve bicycle safety.

Discussion:

[Note: Unless otherwise specified, questions were answered by Ms. Iwasa.]

- In response to a question by Shane Yaw: Item number 9 of the resolution addresses the sensor loops at intersections that are embedded in the asphalt. With the repaving of roads, sometimes the sensor loops get buried deep enough so that a bicycle cannot trigger the sensor. The resolution requests that those sensor loops be re-cut after repaving. Item number 10 of the resolution requests more bicycle-related questions be placed in the pool of questions for the state driver’s licensing exam.
- John Valera suggested that item number 12 of the resolution be amended to read, “*Help non-profit organizations in implementing Bike and Walk School Buses under the federal Safe Routes to School program.*”

Ms. Iwasa agreed to the friendly amendment to the resolution as suggested.

- In response to a question by Mr. W. Lum: The resolution includes the repainting of roads to better designate bike paths and routes.

A motion to accept the resolution was made by Mitchell Nakagawa and seconded by Mr. Narita.

Discussion:

- In response to a question by Joe Francher: The \$1 million that is referenced in the resolution is from the City’s proposed budget currently being considered. That money is for projects identified in the City and County’s transportation improvement projects for bikeways. Gordon Lum explained that the Oahu Regional Transportation Plan includes bicycle projects that are part of the City and State bike plans; projects in these plans would be eligible for federal funding.
- In response to a question by Mr. W. Lum: The State has its own bicycle projects.
- In response to a question by Mr. S. Yaw: This resolution does not deal with pedestrian safety.

The motion passed unanimously.

3.C. Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) Subcommittee Findings

Chair Carole asked for the CAC to accept the PPP subcommittee findings.

A motion to accept the findings was made by Vice Chair Magaldi and seconded by Mr. Nakagawa. The motion passed with three abstentions.

4. Other Business

- Tom Dinell expressed his desire for a better meeting room.

Chair Carole relinquished the gavel to the Vice Chair.

- Chair Carole suggested that the CAC discuss at the next meeting the possibility of producing a newsletter.
- In response to a question by David Arakawa: Chair Carole stated that he felt the current process of distribution of the agenda and minutes to neighborhood boards is not as meaningful to them as a newsletter would be.

Chair Carole resumed his position as Chair.

5. OahuMPO Meeting Highlights - Policy Committee & Technical Advisory Committee

Marian Yasuda announced that there were no meetings of either the Policy Committee or the Technical Advisory Committee since the CAC last met in February. A Technical Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 16 at 10:00 a.m. in the DOT 5th floor conference room.

6. Announcements

Ms. Yasuda announced the following:

- The OahuMPO is embarking on an update of the Oahu Regional Transportation Plan to the year 2035. For this effort, we are asking for participants in a working group to brainstorm on methods and strategies for public participation in the update process. A sign-up sheet was made available for the working group, which is limited to 12 CAC member volunteers. One meeting of this working group should occur at noon at the OahuMPO office sometime during the last two weeks of April. Additional brainstorming sessions may be requested once the contract with the consultant has been executed in early 2009.
- The CAC will be electing a Chair and Vice Chair during the June 18, 2008 meeting. A sign-up sheet for a nomination subcommittee was made available. The subcommittee will be tasked with developing a slate of candidates for those the Chair and Vice Chair positions. This subcommittee should meet sometime during the first two weeks of May.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.