

Meeting Summary of the  
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization

**CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, August 20, 2008, 3:30 p.m.  
Mayor's Conference Room  
Honolulu Hale, Room 301  
530 South King Street, Honolulu, Hawaii

***Members Present:***

Land Use Research Foundation  
NB #34 Makakilo-Kapolei-Honokai Hale  
American Society of Civil Engineers  
Castle & Cooke Homes Hawaii  
Citizens for a Fair ADA Ride  
Committee for Balanced Transportation  
E Noa Corporation  
Eye of the Pacific  
Federal Rental Assisted Tenants Agency  
Hawaii Teamsters and Allied Workers, Local 996  
Honolulu Community Action Program  
Hui Kupuna VIP  
Interagency COORDINATION Councils  
League of Women Voters  
Leeward Oahu Transportation Management Association  
NB #03 Waialae-Kahala  
NB #05 Diamond Head-Kapahulu-Saint Louis Heights  
NB #09 Waikiki  
NB #10 Makiki-Lower Punchbowl-Tantalus  
NB #13 Downtown  
NB #18 Aliamanu-Salt Lake-Foster Village  
NB #22 Waipahu  
NB #25 Mililani-Waipio-Melemanu  
NB #26 Wahiawa  
NB #29 Kahaluu  
NB #30 Kaneohe  
NB #35 Mililani Mauka-Launani Valley  
Waikiki Residents Association

David Arakawa, Chair  
Michael Golojuch, Vice Chair  
Tiffany Hamada  
Dean Minakami  
Ronald Pike  
Joe Magaldi  
Tom Dinell  
Howard Murai  
David Yaw  
Michael Costa  
Darin Olson  
Louise Horio  
CC Curry  
Jacqueline Parnell  
Darwin Hamamoto  
Lester Fukuda  
Bert Narita  
Robert Finley  
Charles Carole  
Tom Smyth  
Lorene Godfrey  
Robert Kakalia  
Dick Poirier  
Joseph Francher  
Elwin Spray  
Wendell Lum  
Pamela Young  
Daisy Murai

***Members Absent (Reps):***

AARP  
American Planning Association  
American Society of Landscape Architects  
Charley's Taxi  
Hawaii Bicycling League

Mary Protheroe  
John Valera  
Chris Dacus  
Dale Evans  
Mitchell Nakagawa

|   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| Hawaii Highway Users Alliance                 | Darcianne Evans   |
| Hawaii Transportation Association             | Gareth Sakakida   |
| Institute of Transportation Engineers         | Pete Pascua       |
| 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 #14 Liliha-Alewa-Puunui-Kamehameha Heights | Dale White        |
| NB #20 Aiea                                   | Carl Jacobs       |
| NB #21 Pearl City                             | Cruz J. Vina, Jr. |
| NB #23 Ewa                                    | R. Scott Belford  |
| NB #24 Waianae Coast                          | David Brown       |
| NB #27 North Shore                            | Antya Miller      |
| North Shore Chamber of Commerce               | Gil Riviere       |
| Pacific Resource Partnership                  | Kyle Chock        |
| Sierra Club Hawaii Chapter                    | Randy Ching       |
| Tax Foundation of Hawaii                      | Lowell Kalapa     |
| Waianae Coast Transportation Concerns Group   | Dick Boddy        |

***Guests Present:***

|                   |                                       |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Ray Kunishige     | Castle & Cooke Homes Hawaii           |
| Elizabeth Kreuger | Department of Transportation Services |
| Joanne Shin       | Hawaii Department of Transportation   |
| Rose Pou          | Hui Kupuna VIP                        |
| James Marn        | NB #12 Nuuanu-Punchbowl               |
| Shane Yaw         | NB #15 Kalihi-Palama                  |
| Stevenson Samuelu | Representative Karen Awana            |

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

Vice Chair Michael Golojuch called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. A quorum was present.

Chair David Arakawa arrived at 3:32 p.m.

**1. New Business**

**1.A. “Transportation Financing - Highways Division”**

Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) Director Brennon Morioka provided information about the status, both current and projected, of the State and Federal Highway Trust Funds (HTF), based on what was previously presented at the Highway Transportation Investment Forum. Highway needs are outpacing revenue, both at the State and Federal level – necessitating tough decisions regarding the prioritization of projects and creative revenue generation. The two largest sources of revenue for the State are the fuel tax and the car rental vehicle surcharge. HDOT’s Capital Improvement Program (CIP), which funds construction of roads and bridges, is primarily federally-funded. HDOT’s Operations and Maintenance (O & M) program is primarily funded with State monies.

Discussion Highlights:

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

- In response to questions by Tom Smythe: The proposal to transfer the fuel excise tax, which amounts to \$40 - 90 million per year, from the General Fund to the HTF was discussed during the last legislative session; however, it went nowhere. The benefit of the weight tax exemption that was afforded to the military by the State outweighed the impact of decreasing revenue for the highways program.
- In response to a question by Wendell Lum: Although the rail transit project is a City project, HDOT supports alternative modes of transportation and the process that is being undertaken. Should the Environmental Impact Statement show that the project will provide some level of relief for Oahu, then it should move forward. Currently, HDOT has not taken an official position of support or non-support.
- In response to questions by Charles Carole: The average vehicle miles traveled trends displayed in the presentation were shown for illustrative and comparative purposes. Fiscal Year 2009 federal funding for the State highway program is unknown at this time. However, fund obligations for Hawaii are set by legislation and cannot be reduced without Congressional action.
- In response to a question by Joseph Francher: HDOT has a prioritized list of O & M projects and will address those projects in order as funding allows. CIP projects go through a vigorous and transparent public involvement procedure, as required by federal statute, in the Transportation Improvement Program and the State Transportation Improvement Program process.
- In response to a question by Tom Dinell: HDOT has begun a highways program modernization plan looking at restructuring revenue plans. They will look at current revenue sources and how to maximize and diversify sources of revenue beyond fuel taxation. Taxation based on vehicle miles traveled, regardless of the method of travel or type of fuel used, may be studied as a possible source of revenue.
- In response to a question by Darin Olson: The cost of building a viaduct system over the H-1 freeway is astronomical. HDOT's cost estimate for building a 15-mile, 2-lane flyover is closer to \$2-\$4 billion, rather than the often quoted \$900 million. HDOT developed a construction cost estimate of \$225 million per mile. Hawaii's construction costs are 2 to 3 times higher than in locations such as Tampa, Florida. Asphalt materials are improving and the quality of what is being used now is better than what was used just 5 years ago.
- In response to a question by Stevenson Samuelu: Pothole patching is a temporary fix; strip resurfacing is the preferred repair method. Labor and equipment availability has become a constraint for pothole repairs.

**1.B. FY 2010 Overall Work Program (OWP) Subcommittee**

Chair Arakawa announced that the CAC subcommittee for the FY 2010 OWP met on August 4, 2008. The subcommittee developed a listing of transportation-related planning studies, included with the meeting materials, which they would like to see implemented.

*Mr. Francher moved and Robert Finley seconded that the CAC accept the CAC FY 2010 Overall Work Program Subcommittee - Suggested Work Element Proposals.*

Discussion Highlights:

- Two friendly amendments were offered by Mr. Carole:
  - Change the congestion pricing work element to include the collection of fees, and
  - Change the Planned Growth Moratoriums to study the benefits and the negatives the “controlled-growth” policy has on a community.
- Mr. Dinell offered a friendly amendment to expand upon the residential parking permits work element by adding a study into the potential benefits and costs of such permitting.
- Elizabeth Krueger offered an additional change to the congestion pricing work element to include times of day for implementation.
- Mr. Francher and Mr. Finley agreed to the all of the amendments.

*The CAC FY 2010 Overall Work Program Subcommittee - Suggested Work Element Proposals was approved by unanimous consent.*

**2. Approval of the July 16, 2008 Meeting Minutes**

*Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.*

**3. Other Business**

Chair Arakawa thanked the CAC for their contributions to the presentation topic suggestions working draft that was distributed with the meeting materials. Additional suggestions may be sent to the OahuMPO office no later than Friday, September 5, 2008. After the list has been finalized, it will be re-distributed to the membership for their prioritization.

Chair Arakawa opened up the floor to issues that may be of importance to the CAC membership:

- CC Curry stated that she would like the sidewalk improvement on Fort Weaver Road to be implemented rather than studied. In addition, Ms. Curry shared her concern regarding the Shadow Program being implemented by DTS.
- Louise Horio shared a concern about disabled bus riders being bypassed at bus stops.
- Rose Pou shared a concern about the length of crossing signals at intersections.
- Mr. Smyth expressed interest in receiving information about the release of funds by the Governor for pedestrian safety.

Chair Arakawa requested that these concerns be directed to the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) representative, Elizabeth Kreuger. Ms. Kreuger agreed to record the concerns and forward them to the appropriate divisions within DTS.

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

- Ms. Yasuda announced that the Policy Committee last met on Tuesday, July 22, 2008 at 1:30 p.m. in the City Council Committee Room #205 in Honolulu Hale. At that meeting, they:
  - Elected Councilmember Nestor Garcia as Chair and Representative Marilyn Lee as Vice Chair for Fiscal Year 2009;
  - Approved the FYs 2008-2011 TIP revisions #4, #5, and #6;

- Approved the updated Comprehensive Agreement, with corrections;
  - Presented Certificates of Appreciation to 11 CAC member organizations:
    - American Planning Association
    - Committee for Balanced Transportation
    - E Noa Corporation
    - Interagency Coordination Councils Organization
    - NB #3 Waiālae-Kahala
    - NB #5 Diamond Head-Kapahulu-Saint Louis Heights
    - NB #10 Makiki-Lower Punchbowl-Tantalus
    - NB #23 Ewa
    - NB #34 Makakilo-Kapolei-Honokai Hale
    - NB #35 Mililani Mauka-Launani Valley
    - Waikiki Residents Association
  - Heard the CAC Chair's Report.
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- Ms. Yasuda announced that there has been no meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee since the CAC last met on July 16, 2008. No future meeting is scheduled at this time.

## **6. Announcements**

Chair Arakawa announced that the next CAC meeting will be Wednesday, September 17, 2008 at 3:30 p.m. in the Council Committee Room, #205, in Honolulu Hale.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:38 p.m.