

Minutes of the
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
April 9th, 2021
Virtual Meeting hosted on Microsoft Teams

Members Present:

Name	Agency	Voting Rights	Present
Ken Tatsuguchi (Chair)	HDOT	Yes	X
Masatomo Murata	HDOT	Yes	X
Ryan Tam	HART	Yes	X
Adele Balderston	HART	Yes	X
Marian Yasuda	DTS	Yes	X
Virginia Sosh	DTS	Yes	X
Noelle Cole	DPP	Yes	X
Andy Yamaguchi	DPP	Yes	X
Joseph Roos	DBEDT	Yes	X
Ruby Edwards	OP	Yes	X
Kimberly Evans	FAA	No	X
Ted Matley	FTA	No	
Kyle Oyasato	DFM	No	
Gareth Sakakida	HTA	No	
Tim Trang	DDC	No	
Amy Ford-Wagner	FHWA	No	X

Guests Present: Shaun Ueda (DTS), Susan Uejo (HDOT), Rachel Roper (HDOT), Dean Matsui (HDOT), Honglong Li (DTS), Kelly Akasaki (DTS), Meredith Soniat (DTS), Chris Clark (DTS), Yoko Tomita (DTS)

OahuMPO Staff Present: Alvin Au, Roni Schack, Nicki Smith, Tori Treviño, Samantha Lara, Kiana Otsuka, Nicole Cernohorsky, Joel Vincent, Randolph Sykes, and Zakari Mumuni

The meeting was properly noticed in accordance with State law.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tatsuguchi called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

II. ROLL CALL

Chair Tatsuguchi took roll call by reading out the list of attendees in the meeting as noted in the Teams program.

III. APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 5TH MEETING MINUTES

Chair Tatsuguchi requested members review the minutes which were emailed to the members in advance of the meeting. Ruby Edwards noted that in Section III of the February minutes, it said there were no abstentions, but she had voted to abstain.

A motion was made by Marian Yasuda and seconded by Virginia Sosh to approve the minutes as corrected. Voting proceeded with a roll call vote. Result of voting noted in the table below. Noelle Cole abstained. There were no further discussions, or objections and the minutes were approved as corrected.

Member	Roll Call Vote
Ken Tatsuguchi	Aye
Tomo Murata	Aye
Adele Balderston	Aye
Ryan Tam	Aye
Noelle Cole	Abstain
Marian Yasuda	Aye
Andy Yamaguchi	Aye
Virginia Sosh	Aye
Joseph Roos	Aye
Ruby Edwards	Aye

IV. REPORTS

A. Executive Director

Director Au shared that OahuMPO concluded its public and intergovernmental review period for the 2045 Oahu Regional Transportation Plan (ORTP) which was held from March 1 to March 29, 2021.

OahuMPO also concluded its public and intergovernmental review period for the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TA) for FFYs 2021-2025. It was held from March 16, 2021 through April 2, 2021.

The FY 2022 Overall Work Program (OWP) is now out for public and intergovernmental review. Please submit any comments or questions by April 16th, 2021 to OahuMPO 707 Richards St. Suite 200, Honolulu, HI 96813 or via email to OahuMPO@OahuMPO.org.

In March, OahuMPO conducted Phase 3 of public involvement for the ORTP 2045. The objective was to inform the community of the transportation planning process and solicit feedback of the proposed list of projects and programs. A total of seven community meetings were held,

Community Planner, Samantha Lara, has created a newsletter highlighting MPO updates and various transportation announcements which is distributed monthly. To view the archived newsletters and to sign up to receive future newsletters, please visit <https://www.oahumpo.org/newsletters/>

The Policy Board did not meet in March 2021. The CAC met on March 3, 2021 and received the presentation on OahuMPO Citizens Advisory Committee Informational Briefing, the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Revision #16 and #17 and held a preliminary discussion of Transportation Planning Initiatives. The CAC also met on April 7, 2021 and received a presentation on the 2045 Oahu Regional Transportation Plan, Mahoe Street Reclassification, and the Transportation Alternatives FFYs 2021-2025.

The Executive Director's Report can be viewed at: https://www.oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=2190

V. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to conduct.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Transportation Alternatives FFYs 2021-2025

Nicole Cernohorsky provided an introduction to the Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set-Aside program and reviewed the process for selecting projects to receive TA funding. Two projects are requesting funding in the FFYs 2021- 2025 cycle.

The first project is the Ala Wai Bridge, a bicycle and pedestrian crossing of the Ala Wai canal. DTS is requesting TA funds to fund part of the construction of the bridge. The second project is Rail Station Multimodal Access Improvements. This project will provide multimodal access to two rail stations, the Halawa and Waiawa rail stations. TA funds would also fund part of the total cost of this project. Ms. Cernohorsky then reviewed the public and intergovernmental review comments received regarding the two TA proposals.

Ms. Cernohorsky explained the funding status of the TA program, noting that 2-3 million in TA funds is at risk of lapsing and must be obligated as soon as possible. Because the Ala Wai Bridge project is not ready to obligate funds, it is recommended that 100% of the soon-to-lapse funds go to the Rail Station Multimodal Access Improvements Project.

Ms. Cernohorsky then presented three options for distributing the new funds which are not at risk of lapsing, between the two proposed projects. Option A would allocate 100% of the funds for the Ala Wai Bridge project. Option B would split the TA funds equally between the two projects. Option C would award 100% of the funds to both projects contingent on the availability of grant funds. Option C allows the funds to be moved between the two projects if needed. For example, if project delays occur, moving the funds from the delayed project to the other project minimizes the risk of funds lapsing.

General discussion ensued about the three options presented with a focus on the projects' readiness to obligate the funds.

A motion was made by Marian Yasuda and seconded by Ryan Tam to recommend that the Policy Board approve the two candidate projects presented and to recommend Option C to the Policy Board for their approval.

The Chair proceeded with a roll call vote:

Member	Roll Call Vote
Ken Tatsuguchi	Aye
Tomo Murata	Aye
Adele Balderston	Aye
Ryan Tam	Aye
Noelle Cole	Abstain
Marian Yasuda	Aye
Andy Yamaguchi	Aye
Virginia Sosh	Aye
Joseph Roos	Aye
Ruby Edwards	Aye

B. 2045 Oahu Regional Transportation Plan

Zakari Mumuni, Senior Transportation Planner, introduced the ORTP, reviewed each of the chapters, noting when they were each previewed by the TAC. He reviewed each of the steps of the ORTP Development Process and the ORTP vision & goals.

Mr. Mumuni noted that one hundred and five projects and programs were proposed for the ORTP and displayed the projects by project type.

Mr. Mumuni shared the expected transportation revenue by funding period (short, mid and long-term) and noted that a total of \$33.967 billion is expected to be available to fund projects and programs. Mr. Mumuni invited the TAC to review Appendix C for details of the Revenue Forecast.

To demonstrate fiscal constraint, Mr. Mumuni indicated the amount the ORTP 2045 anticipates expending by project type (safety, bike/ped, transit operations and maintenance, etc). Proposed projects and programs expenditures (\$26.924 billion) are less than the total projected revenue (\$33.967 billion) with a difference of \$7.043 billion.

Mr. Mumuni then presented data related to plan performance, noting changes to Vehicle Miles Traveled (+6%), Vehicle Hours Delay (-20%) and Transit Boardings (+62%).

For plan performance related to Title VI and Environmental Justice (T6/EJ), the percentages and amounts of investment made in T6/EJ block groups were displayed. The 2045 ORTP will outperform the 2040 ORTP in per capita investing in Title VI/Environmental Justice census block group areas.

Mr. Mumuni noted that 88 total comments were received during the Public & Intergovernmental Review period, and noted the projects to which those comments applied.

During Phase 3 of public involvement’s virtual community meetings, 141 total comments/questions were received.

Ruby Edwards expressed disappointment with the Vehicle Miles Traveled increase, noting that it’s inconsistent with State goals. Marian Yasuda requested that the MPO provide DTS technical staff additional time to review and comment on the model outputs. DTS has concerns related to the 2020 Existing Conditions being used as a baseline, rather than a 2045 no-build scenario.

OahuMPO staff will follow up with DTS after the meeting. Zakari Mumuni noted that the changes to the model being requested by DTS will affect the model output and how the plan is expected to perform per the model given the proposed project list.

Chair Tatsuguchi noted that the ORTP 2045’s points allocations in the project and program prioritization process did not allocate enough points to safety and preservation.

General discussion ensued on the proper language for the motion on the floor.

A motion was made by Marian Yasuda and seconded by Ryan Tam to recommend Policy Board approval of the 2045 Oahu Regional Transportation Plan, with the understanding that the scenarios will be updated in the Plan Performance section. The Chair proceeded with a roll call vote.

Member	Roll Call Vote
Ken Tatsuguchi	Aye
Tomo Murata	Aye
Adele Balderston	Aye
Ryan Tam	Aye
Noelle Cole	Aye
Marian Yasuda	Aye
Andy Yamaguchi	Aye
Virginia Sosh	Aye
Joseph Roos	Aye
Ruby Edwards	Aye

C. Mahoe Street Reclassification

Shaun Ueda provided a history of the classification of Mahoe Street from a major collector in 1993 to a local road in 2013. Mr. Ueda then provided a list of justifications for upgrading Mahoe Street, including numbers of bus routes, traffic from the local neighborhood, and connections to higher volume collector roads. Mr. Ueda explained that DTS is requesting this reclassification so that planned improvements to Mahoe Street, such as bulb-outs and speed tables, will be eligible for federal funding.

A general discussion ensued on the reclassification process, and OahuMPO Policy Board's role.

A motion was made by Ryan Tam and seconded by Marian Yasuda to recommend that the Policy Board concur with DTS' request to reclassify Mahoe Street from a local road to a minor collector. The Chair proceeded with a roll call vote.

Member	Roll Call Vote
Ken Tatsuguchi	Aye
Masatomo Murata	Aye
Adele Balderston	Aye
Ryan Tam	Aye
Noelle Cole	Aye
Marian Yasuda	Aye
Andy Yamaguchi	Aye
Virginia Sosh	Aye
Joseph Roos	Aye
Ruby Edwards	Aye

D. Election of Vice Chair

Ryan Tam nominated Marian Yasuda as Vice Chair and Marian Yasuda nominated Ryan Tam, noting that the Vice Chair office should remain with HART. Marian Yasuda withdrew her nomination. The Chair proceeded with a vote by general or unanimous consent, asking the committee if any were opposed to Ryan Tam as Vice Chair for the remainder of the term, and gave members an opportunity to speak. As none were opposed, the TAC confirmed Ryan Tam as the Vice Chair for the remainder of the term.

E. Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) Funding

Chair Tatsuguchi stated that the State received \$42 million from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act. Of that amount, \$6.1 million was sub-allocated to Oahu as a Transportation Management Area. The funding does not require a local match

and does not need to be on the long-range plan or the TIP, in order to receive the federal funds. The OahuMPO Policy Board’s approval of the use of the funds is required.

Amy Ford-Wagner of FHWA added that there was not much guidance given on how to show evidence of coordination for these sub-allocated funds. FHWA’s conclusion was that they needed to see Policy Board recommendation of the use of the funds.

Ryan Tam asked whether federal guidance would have to be followed for the CRRSAA funds.

Chair Tatsuguchi noted that the purpose of the funds is response and relief for the pandemic. HDOT looked for projects that support the transportation system and could expend funds as soon as possible to benefit the economy. HDOT coordinated with HART and DTS to identify these parameters and a project that would support each agency’s initiatives.

HDOT’s proposal for the CRRSAA funds is the construction of a left turn lane from east bound Kamehameha Highway to Kuala Street at the Pearl Highlands Station. This project supports HART because it will enable motorists to exit the station and make a left turn on Kuala Street. This left turn supports the City’s transportation system because Kuala is a busy street. For the State, the left turn lane will enable motorists to turn off Kamehameha Highway sooner which provides some congestion relief. Chair Tatsuguchi emphasized that there was coordination with agency administrations in the identification of criteria and the selection of this project for the CRRSAA relief funds.

Amy Ford-Wagner added that the CRRSSA funding can be used for non-traditional activities or projects, like reimbursing DOT for maintenance staff. This enables DOTs to use creative funding solutions, like swapping out federal funds for state funds to cover projects that might not otherwise get funded.

A motion was made by Ryan Tam and seconded by Marian Yasuda to recommend that the Policy Board approve the use of the CRRSA funds for the left turn lane from east bound Kamehameha Highway onto Kuala Street. The Chair proceeded with a roll call vote.

Member	Roll Call Vote
Ken Tatsuguchi	Aye
Masatomo Murata	Aye
Ryan Tam	Aye
Adele Balderston	No vote
Marian Yasuda	Aye
Andy Yamaguchi	Aye
Noelle Cole	No vote
Virginia Sosh	Aye
Joseph Roos	Aye
Ruby Edwards	Aye

VII. INVITATION TO INTERESTED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON MATTERS NOT INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Tatsuguchi adjourned the meeting at 11:08 am.

The meeting's presentation may be viewed at: https://www.oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=2189