

Minutes of the
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization

POLICY BOARD

Tuesday, June 29, 2021
via Microsoft Teams

Members Present:

Senator Sharon Moriwaki, Chair	HDOT Deputy Director Edwin Sniffen
Councilmember Brandon Elefante, Vice Chair	DTS Director Roger Morton
Senator Chris Lee	FHWA Division Administrator Ralph Rizzo
Councilmember Augie Tulba	DPP Director Dean Uchida
Councilmember Radiant Cordero	OP Planning Program Administrator Rodney Funakoshi
DOH Primary Prevention Branch Manager Heidi Hansen-Smith	HART Govt Relations & Public Involvement Director Joey Manahan

Member(s) Absent: Representative Ryan Yamane, Representative Henry Aquino

Known Guests Present:

Dion Mesta (Clmbr Elefante's office)	Ryan Tam (HART)
Robert Sato (Clmbr Cordero's office)	Chris Clark (DTS)
Marcia Tagavilla (Clmbr Tulba's Office)	Andy Yamaguchi (DPP)
Marian Yasuda (DTS)	Doug Chun (OCS)
Sharon Brooks	Kathleen Rooney (Ulupono)
Laurie Manutai	John Rogers (NB #23)

OahuMPO Staff Present: Alvin Au, Roni Schack, Zakari Mumuni, Kiana Otsuka, Tori Trevino, Nicki Smith, Nicole Cernohorsky, and Samantha Lara.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Moriwaki called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken of Policy Board members present and quorum was established.

III. APPROVAL OF MAY 25, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

The Policy Board members reviewed the May 25, 2021 meeting minutes which were emailed to them in advance of the meeting.

A motion was made by Councilmember Elefante and seconded by Joey Manahan to adopt the May 25, 2021 meeting minutes, as presented. There were no further discussions, objections, or abstentions and the minutes were adopted, as presented.

IV. Reports

A. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Alvin Au reported that the comments received for the FFYs 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) will be presented to the Committees and Policy Board at their July meetings. He also reported on the three FFYs 2022-2025 TIP public Open Houses, announced the recruitment for the OahuMPO Executive Director, and provided a summary of business covered at the June Citizen Advisory and Technical Advisory Committee meetings.

The Executive Director's Report may be viewed at: https://www.oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=2366

B. Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

There was no report given.

C. Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)

There was no report given.

V. Old Business

There was no old business.

VI. New Business

A. FFYs 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) revision #19

OahuMPO's Transportation Impact Analyst Nicole Cernohorsky provided background on the TIP process and discussed the modifications being made to the two State of Hawaii and one City and County of Honolulu project included in this modification.

Councilmember Cordero asked if *the OS82 Interstate Route H-1 Improvements, Eastbound, Ola Lane Overpass to Vineyard Boulevard* widening and bridge repair can be separated into different projects because of concern that widening had been done recently and would not help with congestion, but instead would serve to incentivize more vehicle traffic. Ed Sniffen responded that recent widening had stopped at the Ola Lane point and this project would continue that widening effort which would provide relief to the congestion that routinely occurs all the way to Fort Shafter. He noted that the two aspects cannot be separated because doing the widening simultaneously with the bridge adjustment makes the most sense and added that the widening scope of the project is the smaller cost versus the structural improvements.

Senator Lee remarked that there needs to be a broader discussion on what the opportunity cost to address safety and congestion, that isn't addressed in the traditional TIP list. He requested deferring voting on FFYs 2019-2022 Rev #19 and #20 until the discussion regarding the testimony on the TIP process submitted for agenda item **VII. Invitation to interested members of the public to be heard on matters not included on the agenda** has been discussed.

Roger Morton asked if OS82 is within the right of way and Ed Sniffen indicated it is within the State's right of way.

Ed Sniffen commented that the Hawaii Department of Transportation is always looking at other options to decrease congestion without widening. He noted that Oahu has an aged transportation system and many areas are over capacity. He added that ultimately congestion must be addressed in order to keep highways dependable, the timeframes people assume it will take to get through these areas dependable, and to ensure there is capacity to move the economy forward. Mr. Sniffen remarked that OS82 is addressing one of these congestion points which has been a concern for the past 40 years.

Councilmember Elefante suggested that instead of deferring discussion of the agenda item VII to later in the meeting, it could be addressed at this time.

A motion was made by Senator Lee and seconded by Councilmember Cordero to amend the order of the agenda to allow item VII. *Invitation to interested members of the public to be heard on matters not included on the agenda* and the testimony submitted for that agenda item be heard before continuing with and voting on agenda items VI. A. and B. *FFYs 2019-2022 TIP Revisions #19 and #20.*

A roll call vote was taken:

Senator Sharon Moriwaki	– No
Senator Chris Lee	– Aye
HART Joey Manahan	– Aye, with Reservations
DPP Director Dean Uchida	– No
DTS Director Roger Morton	– No
HDOT Deputy Dir Edwin Sniffen	– No
Councilmember Augie Tulba	– No
Councilmember Radiant Cordero	– Aye
Councilmember Brandon Elefante	– No

There were no further discussions, abstentions, reservations, or objections and the motion was not passed.

A motion was made by Ed Sniffen and seconded by Sharon Moriwaki to approve the FFYs 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program Revision #19, as presented.

A roll call vote was taken:

Senator Sharon Moriwaki	– Aye
Senator Chris Lee	– No
HART Joey Manahan	– Aye
DPP Director Dean Uchida	– Aye
DTS Director Roger Morton	– Aye
HDOT Deputy Dir Edwin Sniffen	– Aye
Councilmember Augie Tulba	– Aye
Councilmember Radiant Cordero	– Aye with Reservations
Councilmember Brandon Elefante	– Aye

There were no further discussions, abstentions, reservations, or objections and the motion was passed.

B. FFYs 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program Revision #20

OahuMPO’s Transportation Impact Analyst Nicole Cernohorsky provided background on the criteria and process for a TIP Amendment and noted that this Amendment consists of one City and County of Honolulu and two State of Hawaii projects. She provided details on the changes to these projects, the public comments received during the public and intergovernmental review period, and the Title VI and Environmental Justice (T6 EJ) spending analysis.

Councilmember Cordero asked about the funding and how much federal funds are spent in the T6 EJ block groups. Ms. Cernohorsky did not have that number at the meeting but said she can provide it later to the Councilmember.

A motion was made by Roger Morton and seconded by Councilmember Cordero to approve the FFYs 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program Revision #20, as presented.

A roll call vote was taken:

Senator Sharon Moriwaki	– Aye	HDOT Deputy Dir Edwin Sniffen	– Aye
Senator Chris Lee	– No	Councilmember Augie Tulba	– Aye
HART Joey Manahan	– Aye	Councilmember Radiant Cordero	– Aye
DPP Director Dean Uchida	– Aye	Councilmember Brandon Elefante	– Aye
DTS Director Roger Morton	– Aye		

There were no further discussions, abstentions, reservations, or objections and the motion passed.

C. Report from the Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) for the Evaluation of the OahuMPO Executive Director

The Policy Board had heard the PIG’s report at the May 25, 2021 meeting. Chair Moriwaki noted that the evaluation procedure for the Executive Director and called for testimony, questions or comments. There were no testimony, questions, or comments.

Councilmember Elefante made a motion and Councilmember Cordero seconded to accept the Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) for the Evaluation of the OahuMPO Executive Director report and the procedure they developed for the evaluation of the Executive Director.

A roll call vote was taken:

Senator Sharon Moriwaki	– Aye	HDOT Deputy Dir Edwin Sniffen	– Aye
Senator Chris Lee	– Aye	Councilmember Augie Tulba	– Aye
Joey Manahan	– Aye	Councilmember Radiant Cordero	– Aye
DPP Director Dean Uchida	– Aye	Councilmember Brandon Elefante	– Aye
DTS Director Roger Morton	– Aye		

There were no further discussions, abstentions, reservations, or objections and the motion was passed unanimous.

D. Policy Board Annual Orientation Refresher

Executive Director Alvin Au presented the history of MPOs; the responsibilities of the organization, its committees, and its Policy Board; the federally required products the

OahuMPO is charged to produce; the transportation planning process; and the federal certification review.

Executive Director Au responded to Councilmember Cordero's question about the Citizen Advisory Committee's role regarding public participation input by describing the OahuMPO process. Chair Moriwaki added that the Chair and Vice Chair of the CAC and TAC also have the opportunity on every Policy Board meeting agenda for dialog between their Committees and the Policy Board.

E. Looking Toward the Future for OahuMPO

Because the presenter was not able to attend today's meeting, Chair Moriwaki postponed this agenda item to the July meeting.

VII. Invitation to interested members of the public to be heard on matters not included on the agenda

John Rogers of Neighborhood Board #23 and member of the Citizen Advisory Committee commented he is in agreement with Ulupono's written testimony. He added that there is only vague information on Complete Streets and the State Department of Transportation and the City's Department of Transportation Services needs to be more open about what Complete Streets features have been considered and will be included in roadway designs. He also commented that roundabouts which should be the first traffic control option as prescribed in the Honolulu Transportation Manual, are not indicated in the Complete Streets checklist document except for new developments.

There was discussion on holding an additional Policy Board meeting in July prior to the regularly scheduled July 27th Policy Board meeting to discuss the issue of comments received for the FFYs 2022–2025 TIP, the public input process regarding the TIP, and the agenda item VI.B Looking Toward the Future for OahuMPO which is being postponed because the presenter was unable to attend the June 29th meeting. OahuMPO staff will send out a poll to Policy Board members to determine a suitable date and time for the additional Policy Board meeting.

VIII. Announcements

There were no announcements.

IX. Adjournment

A motion was made by Senator Lee and seconded Mr. Manahan to adjourn the meeting. There were no further discussion or objections, and Chair Moriwaki adjourned the meeting at 2:23 p.m.

The PowerPoint for this meeting may be viewed at: https://www.oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=2367