

Minutes of the  
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization

**POLICY COMMITTEE**

Monday, October 19, 2009, 2:00 p.m.  
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 309  
415 South Beretania Street, Honolulu, Hawaii

**OPEN SESSION**

**Members Present:**

Senator Will Espero, Chair  
Councilmember Nestor Garcia  
Councilmember Rod Tam  
Representative Karen Awana

Representative Marilyn Lee  
Senator Carol Fukunaga  
DOT Director Brennon Morioka  
DTS Director Wayne Yoshioka

**Member(s) Absent:** Councilmembers Todd Apo, Romy Cachola, and Gary Okino (Vice Chair); Representative Joseph Souki; and Senator J. Kalani English

**Guests Present:**

Dennis Galolo (CM Cachola)  
Robert Sato (CM Okino)  
Glenn Soma (DOT, TAC)  
Phyllis Kurio (DTS)  
Elizabeth Fischer (FHWA, TAC)  
Sam Fisk (Eye of the Pacific, CAC)  
Arvid Youngquist (Mestizo Assn., CAC)  
Charles Carole (NB #10, CAC)

Tom Smyth (NB #13, CAC)  
Coby Lynn (NB #23, CAC)  
Mike Golojuch (NB # 34, CAC Vice Chair)  
Michael Costa (Teamsters Local 996, CAC)  
Nick Roach (Parsons Brinckerhoff)  
Mark Scheibe (PB)  
Kevin Killeen (resident)

**OahuMPO Staff Present:** Gordon Lum, Lori Arakaki, Randolph Sykes, Marian Yasuda, and Pamela Toyooka

*Chair Will Espero called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. A quorum was present.*

**I. EVALUATION OF EXEMPT-EXCLUDED EMPLOYEES (OAHUMPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND OFFICE MANAGER) RELATING TO FURLOUGHS**

Chair Espero stated that the members would take a vote to go into Executive Session in order to discuss whether to implement a furlough program for the OahuMPO exempt-excluded employees – OahuMPO Executive Director and Office Manager.

*The members unanimously voted to go into Executive Session.*

*[Senator Carol Fukunaga arrived]*

At 2:06 p.m., the room was cleared of all staff and the public, with the exception of the Executive Director Gordon Lum.

At 2:28 p.m., the staff and public were invited back into the room. At 2:30 p.m., Chair Espero reconvened the Open Session portion of the meeting.

*Representative Marilyn Lee moved and Representative Karen Awana seconded that Option #2 be accepted – OahuMPO Executive Director and Office Manager be placed on a two-day-a-month furlough from October 2009 through December 2009 and from July 2010 through June 2011. The motion carried with seven in favor and one opposed (Garcia).*

## **II. MINUTES OF THE JULY 7, 2009 MEETING**

*Councilmember Nestor Garcia moved and Department of Transportation Services (DTS) Director Wayne Yoshioka seconded that the July 7, 2009 minutes be accepted as circulated. The motion was unanimously carried.*

## **III. ORTP 2035 DISCUSSION ON REVENUE**

*Handout(s): PowerPoint slides from ORTP 2035 Revenue Sources and Projections presentation*

Mark Scheibe, OahuMPO Oahu Regional Transportation Plan (ORTP) 2035 consultant, gave a presentation on the ORTP 2035 Revenue Sources and Projections.

### Questions and Answers

Referring to slide #30, Director Yoshioka asked if Job Access Reverse Commute and New Freedom funds were included in the list. Mr. Scheibe responded that it was included. Director Yoshioka acknowledged that DTS is currently accessing those funds.

Referring to slide #31, Mr. Scheibe noted that the transit fares in 2035 should be \$2.2 billion, rather than \$2.8 billion.

In response to Councilmember Rod Tam, Mr. Scheibe stated that it is expected that the reauthorization bill may put more monies into transportation, thus the expected 2% increase in federal funds. However, he emphasized that the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) authorization has expired and Congress is currently funding transportation projects through continuing resolutions. Guidance from the U.S. Department of Transportation is, in the short term, to assume constant funding levels for Federal fiscal years 2009 and 2010.

In response to Senator Carol Fukunaga, Department of Transportation (DOT) Director Brennon Morioka stated that the Highway Modernization Plan allows the State to float \$2 billion in bonds over 30 years, approximately \$180 million per year. The bonds have to be used for capital improvements, not operations and maintenance.

In response to Councilmember Nestor Garcia, Director Morioka stated that the 50-to-55% share of Federal funding for Oahu would be a safe estimate at this point. Director Morioka noted that, for Oahu, more funds are used for maintenance; whereas, more funds are used for capital for the neighbor islands.

Executive Director Lum asked the members how important maintenance is for them and their constituents.

In response to Chair Espero, Director Morioka stated that there are two very large maintenance projects that will last for two or three years. DOT would like to increase funds used for maintenance, as funding levels for maintenance are significantly lower than what is necessary to keep up with the need for repairs and rehabilitation of roadways.

Councilmember Tam stated that the techniques for maintaining the roads, and the criteria and standards for roads need to be looked at.

Director Yoshioka noted that capital does not only involve roadway construction. It also includes projects such as the Joint Traffic Management Center and Intelligent Transportation Systems projects.

Executive Director Lum noted that this presentation was given in order to get feedback from the members on what's important to them and their constituents with regard to issues such as safety, maintenance, and capacity-building. In subsequent meetings, the members would be given more information and provided more opportunity to give feedback.

Representative Awana stated that she concurred with many of the prior comments made by the members. She also added that roadways need to be coordinated with the level of growth in communities and how that affects the need for continued and improved maintenance, as well as the need for new access roadways.

#### **IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR POSITION SEARCH**

*Handouts: Executive Director Gordon Lum's retirement letter; draft ads (newspaper and online)*

Chair Espero announced that Executive Director Lum would be retiring at the end of the year. Chair Espero stated that a national search, as well as a local search, should take place.

The formation of an investigative subcommittee was discussed. There would be three members (Chair Espero, and Directors Morioka and Yoshioka). Their duties would be to review applications, interview applicants, and make a recommendation.

Two Policy Committee meetings would need to be held – one to present the recommendation and one to act on the recommendation.

*Senator Fukunaga moved and Director Morioka seconded that an investigative subcommittee be formed to review applications, interview applicants, and make a recommendation to the Policy Committee.*

Representative Lee requested that a press release be sent to the media.

**V. CAC MEMBERSHIP REQUEST**

Chair Espero stated that Mestizo Association had attended the required number of Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) meetings and had requested membership in the CAC.

*Councilmember Garcia moved and Councilmember Tam seconded that the Mestizo Association be appointed to the CAC. The motion was unanimously carried.*

**VI. CAC MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

CAC Vice Chair Michael Golojuch gave the highlights of the three last CAC meetings.

**VII. OTHER BUSINESS (ANNOUNCEMENTS ONLY)**

*There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:39 p.m.*