

Greetings!

Kindly consider this a public input to the Public Participation Plan that is posted as part of the Oahu MPO CAC meeting 6 agenda.

Many factors come into play in crafting documents such as the Public Participation Plan. Practical relevance to CAC members and the public was a major consideration in the 2019 version of the PPP. Crafting it reminded me of the tale, "Goldilocks and the Three Bears." It had to be just right as a broad guide for anyone needing to understand how to participate in Oahu MPO-style planning. I recall how appreciative a new CAC meeting attendee was at the PPP draft then.

My main comment is this: T

The current draft made a cleaner version of the 2019 PPP but has kept its essence and substance. **The current response of the MPO to the COVID-19 pandemic should not be relegated to the end of the PPP document. It is the most relevant and valuable change to the 2019 version. The CAC might want to recommend that this subject be covered after page 4 (making the current page 5 to page 6, and so forth). It should contain specifics for the interested public.** To avoid disrupting the flow of the PPP as drafted, the response can be presented as an "inbox (a one-page inbox)" Then the "Table of Contents" should clearly point out this pandemic response (e.g., p. 5.. COVID-19 Pandemic...).

The "inbox" or page 5 then should communicate the MPO's response (mitigation, adaptation) under a heading like "Update: Mitigation and Adaptation to the Pandemic." It should briefly point out that the pandemic changed the ways the public can participate. For over a year now, MPO adapted and changed what it meant to "participate in person." The page should mention how participation, such as meetings, have been conducted. Any member of the interested public should be able to read how to connect and attend meetings virtually. The page should also address ADA concerns relevant to the current mode of meetings. Finally, it should assume the impermanence of current arrangements and provide a link to future innovations/changes.

My side comment is this:

The capacity to meet virtually offers additional opportunities for CAC and public participation. I see its opportunity to be an equalizer and knowledge-builder.

1. Equalizer - Participants from far away no longer need to plan their entire afternoon around a one-hour CAC meeting. Meetings can be as accessible to them as they are to CAC members who live near Downtown Honolulu. Ditto with participants who can be great CAC members but could not because the CAC meetings fall on work days or in a location that requires so much time to reach. The situation lends itself to the opportunity to further diversify the CAC membership (e.g., home-based and community-based folks becoming members).
2. Stand-alone on-demand educational presentations. The forced shift to virtual spaces during this pandemic is creating all kinds of spaces for education. The mini-presentations at CAC that are educational in nature need not be jammed in CAC meetings. They can be stringed together

as part of a CAC academy (Ike building). In 2019, CAC mini-presentations by the likes of Dr. Fletcher (Climate Change) was included in CAC meetings.

Mahalo.

Carolyn Weygan-Hildebrand

Oahu resident, former Oahu MPO acting community planner

September 1, 2021

Laura Ruby—a resident of Moiliili for over 40 years.

Testimony Against the proposal and funding for the Ala Wai Canal Bridge and associated pedestrian and bicycle pathways.

This testimony registers my and 100 other Mo'i'i'ili/mauka of the Ala Wai Canal community members. We wish that no more C&C funds be allocated for the design or planning stages for the bridge over the Ala Wai Canal—and no future allocations for the construction of a bridge.

--To our knowledge, no community members were asked about the design or planning stage of this bridge.

--The State Historical Preservation Division (SHPD within the DLNR) has not submitted either a 6E or 106 assessment at the outset of this project;

--In this time of fiscal challenges this bridge proposal is neither necessary nor urgent. There were no additional major maintenance or security costs spelled out in the EA.

Some of the hidden and on-going expenses that the C&C will have to bear are:

1—relocation of University Avenue storm drain and box culvert with its outflow into the Canal;

2—the additional police forces on both sides of the Canal that will need to patrol the bridge and park area for miscreants and mo-ped drivers;

3—the police or other enforcement that will need to issue citations for cars parked in the Ala Wai Park parking lot using it as a cheap way to get to Waikiki so that the parking can be used by the Waikiki Surf Club for canoe and kayak practice and events, community gardeners, Makule team players, tai chi groups and general park users;

4—the additional security detail that will need to be on duty for the safe passages of the students at Ala Wai School;

5—the security detail that will need to lock and open chainlink gates at both ends of the bridge each night as the Ala Wai Park closes at 10 pm;

6—the additional fencing surrounding the bridge to keep out the houseless population and the maintenance crew to clean the area; and I'm sure many more hidden costs that will become burdensome to the C&C budget.

7—many park trees lost

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
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