

OahuMPO Public Participation Plan Summary Comments

The following information is a compilation of comments received on the OahuMPO Public Participation plan from August 2019-October 2021. The PPP has been in circulation for comments for this lengthy time period due to setbacks caused by COVID-19 and staff turnover, along with revisions. Although major revisions were not made, the time lapse in the PPP discussion has warranted the need for the document to be reviewed and comments solicited.

2021 Citizens Advisory Committee Comments

OahuMPO solicited feedback from the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) on the PPP from October 6, 2021- October 22, 2021. No comments were received.

Comment No.	Page Number & Section	Comment	OahuMPO Staff Response
NO COMMENTS RECEIVED			

2021 Working Group Comments

OahuMPO requested feedback from the PPP Working Group to review the substantial changes made to the PPP from August 25-September 8, 2021.

Comment No.	Page Number & Section	Comment	OahuMPO Staff Response
1	Pgs 26-27, VI. Evaluation & Reporting	HDOT-OCR: May be good to include commentary about the handling of virtual public involvement (VPI) in light of COVID-19 and the impact social distancing measures have had on hosting in-person public meeting events. Could also be noted in an addendum separately, such that it could be rescinded if/when COVID-19 pandemic ends.	Thank you for this suggestion. A brief COVID-19 Protocol section has been added to page 29 of the draft.
2	Pg 31, Appendix I	HDOT-OCR: HHS Poverty Guidelines should be updated to reflect 2021 numbers?: https://www.hib.uscourts.gov/sites/hib/files/documents/HHSPovertyGuidelines.pdf	Thank you for this suggestion. The section has been updated with the table from the link you provided.
3	Pg 32, Appendix I	HDOT-OCR: 2016 Population and T6/EJ Stats - Did OMPO plan to update these numbers and/or the Title VI/EJ Block Group Oahu Map in light of (presumably) forthcoming 2020 Census information in September 2021?	Yes, the plan is to update our Title VI/EJ Block Group map with the 2020 Census information.
4	Pg 32, Appendix I	HDOT-OCR: Suggest to change language noting proposed Title VI Implementation Plan is now effective.	Thank you for this suggestion. The change has been made.
5	Pg 32, Appendix I	HDOT-OCR: Was EPA's EJSCREEN considered to be used/referenced as part of the overall geographical analysis for this part as well?	No, the EPA's EJSCREEN was not used or referenced as part of the overall geographical analysis for this plan. We will make a note to refer to this reference for the next iteration of the plan.

6	Various Locations	FHWA: I'm not sure I clearly saw the requirement addressed: Holding any public meetings at convenient and accessible locations and times	Thank you for this suggestion. OahuMPO has added this verbiage to the road graphics of each of the required work products (ORTP, pg. 6, OWP, pg. 10, TIP, pg.14, and PPP, pg. 18), along with the detailed descriptions of the work products (ORTP, pg. 8, OWP, pg. 12, TIP, pg. 16, and PPP, pg. 20).
7	Various Locations	FHWA: I'm not sure I clearly saw the requirement addressed: Seeking out and considering the needs of those traditionally underserved by existing transportation systems, such as low-income and minority households, who may face challenges accessing employment and other services	Thank you for this suggestion. OahuMPO has added this verbiage to page 22 of the document.
8	Various Locations	FHWA: I'm not sure I clearly saw the requirement addressed: Coordinating with the statewide transportation planning public involvement and consultation processes under subpart B of this part	Thank you for this suggestion. Verbiage related to this suggestion has been included on page 2 of the document.
9	Various Locations	FHWA: I'm not sure I clearly saw the requirement addressed: Periodically reviewing the effectiveness of the procedures and strategies contained in the participation plan to ensure a full and open participation process	Thank you for this suggestion. OahuMPO has added this verbiage to page 26 of the document.

2021 OahuMPO Staff Comments

Comment No.	Page Number & Section	OahuMPO Staff Comment	OahuMPO Staff Response
1	Cover Page	Cover page needs a place for the date for Policy Board approval.	Added.
2	Acknowledgement page	I think this PPP supersedes the 2015 document, not the 2013 document.	Changed.
3	Acknowledgement page	Correct Adriana's last name to "Windham"	Changed.
4	Acronyms and Abbreviations page	Correct 3C to continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive	Changed.
5	Acronyms and Abbreviations page	Correct ADA to Americans with Disabilities Act 1990	Changed.
6	P. 1, Introduction	Change goal 3 to be include verbiage about educational opportunities	Changed.
7	p.2, The OahuMPO	Replace "A professional staff" with "OahuMPO staff"	Changed.
8	p.2, The OahuMPO	Delete "The OahuMPO staff works with participating agencies."	Changed.
9	p.2, The OahuMPO	Replace the following sentence "The current partners are the HDOT, the City Department of Transportation Services ("DTS"), and the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation ("HART")." with "OahuMPO also works closely with it's implementing agencies, the Hawai'i Department of Transportation (HDOT), the City Department of Transportation Services (DTS), and the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation"	Changed.

10	p.2, The OahuMPO	Replace "OahuMPO also reaches out to a broader group of entities to address the many technical components of planning, where interagency efforts include task forces and working groups." with "When further coordination is needed, OahuMPO staff create working groups that include other agencies to seek feedback on complex planning issues."	Changed.
11	p.3, Chart 1	Use consistent language around things like Department, Representative,Hawai'i, etc. and the PB is missing members	Changed.
12	p.3, Technical Advisory Committee	Add the number of representatives to the TAC for HDOT, DTS. I believe it's two, can you confirm.	Changed.
13	p.3, Technical Advisory Committee	Separate the representatives from DBEDT and OP into separate rows. I think we have one representative each, can you confirm?	Changed.
14	p.3, Citizen Advisory Committee	Would prefer that the CAC text be more general, so something like, "The CAC is made up of a number of stakeholders including for example: neighborhood boards, users of the different modes of surface transportation facilities, private transportation operators, professional associations for planning and engineering, etc." Thoughts?	Changed.
15	p.4, How the Public Can Get Involved	Add the web address where they can request to be on our mailing list	Changed.
16	p.4, How the Public Can Get Involved	Delete the dates/times for committee meetings, and replace with "Check the News and Announcements section of the OahuMPO website for meeting announcements: https://www.oahumpo.org/about-mpo/news-and-announcements/ "	Changed.
17	p.5, 1. Oahu Regional Transportation Plan	Replace "The ORTP document includes policies that clarify values and goals and the projects that reflect these values and goals." with "The ORTP document identifies the island's transportation vision and goals, and projects and programs that will help us to achieve that vision and related goals."	Changed.
18	p.5, 1. Oahu Regional Transportation Plan	Page 10: Replace "four" with "five"	Changed.
19	p.5, 1. Oahu Regional Transportation Plan	Replace "Chart 3.2 and the discussion that follows sheds further light on how public involvement looks like and what to expect." with "Chart 3.2 and the discussion that follows shed further light on what public involvement looks like and what to expect."	Changed.
20	p.6, Opportunities for Public Participation	Delete "generally" in the OahuMPO regular meetings section.	Changed.
21	p.6, Opportunities for Public Participation	Change "Public Comment Period and Intergovernmental Review Period" to "Public and Intergovernmental Review Period"	Changed.
22	p.6, Opportunities for Public Participation	Change "20 year" to "25 year"	Changed.
23	p.7, Chart 3.2 Key Public Participation Elements under ORTP	Replace "These include pubic notices via State and City calendars, mail out to committee members and members of the public in a mailing list, and website." with "These include public notices via State and City calendars, mail out to committee members and members of the public on a mailing list, and website."	Changed.

24	p.8, ORTP	Replace "Significant comments. When significant written or oral comments are received on the public review draft, summary analysis and report on the disposition of comments shall be added to the ORTP document. Additional opportunities for public comment need to be provided if the final ORTP document differs significantly from the version that was made available for public comments and, consequently, raises new material issues that interested parties could not have foreseen from public involvement efforts." with "Significant Changes. When significant changes are made to the plan due to comments received on the public review draft, additional opportunities for public comment need to be provided if the final ORTP differs significantly from the version that was made available during the public comment period."	Changed.
25	p.8, ORTP	Change "four" to "five"	Changed.
26	p.9, TIP	<p>Replace "The TIP Plan represents an overall capital expenditure program for O'ahu's multi-modal transportation system in a four-year frame (e.g., TIP for Federal Fiscal Years 2019-2022). The programming refers to the assignment of transportation investment by phase (e.g., design, engineering, right-of-way, construction). The TIP Plan includes the amount and type of federal funding being allocated to a project, the amount of local funding as a match, and how much is estimated to be spent each year. The TIP Plan includes a financial plan that describes the sources of funding that would reasonably be expected to be available to support the programmed projects. The TIP Plan is O'ahu's component of the State Transportation Improvement Program ("STIP") Plan. The STIP is approved by the Governor of Hawai'i or his or her designee before funds can be used." with "The TIP represents an overall capital expenditure program for O'ahu's multi-modal transportation system in a short time frame (e.g., TIP for Federal Fiscal Years 2019-2022).</p> <p>In the document, programming refers to the assignment of transportation investment by phase (e.g., design, engineering, right-of-way, construction). The TIP includes the amount and type of federal funding being allocated to a project or program, the amount of local funding provided as a match, and how much is estimated to be spent each year. The TIP includes a financial plan that describes the sources of funding that are available or expected to be reasonably available to support the programmed projects and programs. The TIP is O'ahu's component of the State Transportation Improvement Program ("STIP"). The STIP is approved by the Governor of Hawai'i or their designee, the FHWA, and the FTA before funds can be used."</p>	Changed.
27	p.9, TIP	Replace "Chart 4.1 summarizes public participation in the context of the development of the TIP Plan and its revision process. A TIP Plan may be revised from time to time. Chart 4.2 highlights the public participation elements that can be expected during TIP planning or revising." with "Chart 4.1 summarizes public participation in the context of the development of the TIP and its revision process. A TIP may be revised from time to time. Chart 4.2 highlights the public participation elements that can be expected during TIP development and revision process."	Changed.
28	p.12, TIP	CAC's Early Public Involvement bullet point is not a useful exercise.	This has been deleted.
29	p.11, TIP	Replace "Key Public Participation Elements under TIP Plan and Plan Revision" to "Key TIP and TIP Revisions Public Participation Opportunities"	Changed.

30	p.13, OWP	Replace "The OWP Plan provides a listing of all surface-transportation planning studies and programs being undertaken on O'ahu to government officials, local communities, and the public. It provides complete budget information about the expenditure of funds for those projects and programs being carried out by the OahuMPO and its participating agencies." with "The OWP provides a listing of all transportation planning studies and programs being funded by the OahuMPO to government agencies and officials, local communities, and the public. It provides complete budget information about the expenditure of funds for planning studies and programs being carried out by the OahuMPO and partner agencies."	Changed.
31	p.14, OWP	Delete "generally" in the OahuMPO regular meetings section.	Changed.
32	p.14, OWP	In chart 5.1 on page 19, I think the use of the loudspeaker icon for Submission to FHWA/FTA for approval is confusing. It suggests that there is an opportunity for public involvement in that step in the process and there isn't. Am I missing something?	Changed.
33	p.15, Chart 5.2 Key Public Participant Elements of the OWP	I think the target population for review of OWP draft for public review is the TAC, CAC, and PB, not the general public? Nicki, what do you think?	Edited table to reflect the sentiment of the comment based on Nicki's suggestions.
34	p.16, OWP	Replace "Significant comments. When significant written or oral comments are received on the public review draft, summary analysis and report on the disposition of comments will added to the OWP. document" with "Significant Changes. When significant changes are made to the OWP due to comments received on the public review draft, additional opportunities for public comment need to be provided if the final OWP differs significantly from the version that was made available during the public comment period."	Changed.
35	p.19, PPP	Delete "Technical Evaluation and financial review"? Confirm this in the P&P of the PPP. Check to see if this chart is correct.	Revised chart to be consistent with PPP Development Procedures.
36	p.19, PPP	Delete "generally" in the OahuMPO regular meetings section.	Changed.
37	p.18-19, PPP	Check to see Chart 6.1 and Chart 6.2 (pages 23 and 24) are consistent with P&P	Revised chart to be consistent
38	p.19, PPP	Replace "Standard notification methods including TAC and PB mailing lists/ Others as specified in the PIP" with "Standard notification methods including CAC, TAC and PB mailing lists, and others as specified in the PIP"	Changed.
39	p.19, PPP	Replace "Significant comments. When significant written or oral comments are received on the public review draft, summary analysis and report on the disposition of comments will be added to the PPP document." with "Significant Changes. When significant changes are made to the PPP due to comments received on the public review draft, additional opportunities for public comment need to be provided if the final PPP differs significantly from the version that was made available during the public comment period."	Changed.
40	no page	Change photo to somewhere on O'ahu.	Photo has been removed.
41	p.21, Special Planning Studies	Replace "handled" with "managed"	Changed.

42	p.21, Special Planning Studies	Replace "Each plan of study will articulate a plan for public involvement." with "Each study will articulate a plan for public involvement."	Changed.
43	p.21, Special Planning Studies	Delete the number 9 before web address in the footnote for 14	Changed.
44	p.22, Public Involvement Plans for ORTP, TIP, PPP, and Special Studies	Replace "Not all methods and techniques of public participation can be specified in detail in this PPP. A customized Public Involvement Plan ("PIP") will be required for ORTP, TIP, and special studies to ensure that meaningful and context-specific participation will be carried out in a reasonable way." with "Not all methods and techniques of public participation can be specified in detail in this PPP. A customized Public Involvement Plan ("PIP") will be required for ORTP, TIP, PPP, and special studies to ensure that meaningful and context-specific participation will be carried out in a reasonable way."	Changed.
45	p.23, Public Involvement Plans for ORTP, TIP, PPP, and Special Studies	Delete space before "Following" bullet point	Changed.
46	p.22, Public Involvement Plans for ORTP, TIP, PPP, and Special Studies	The Title VI definition is incorrect as written.	This section was rewritten to be reflective of Title VI populations in the context of public participation, rather than the the analysis OahuMPO conducts.
47	p.23-24, Public Involvement Plans for ORTP, TIP, PPP, and Special Studies	Delete space in O'ahu's, and change the 'okina to an apostrophe before the "s"	Changed.
48	p.23-24, Public Involvement Plans for ORTP, TIP, PPP, and Special Studies	The Title VI/EJ stakeholder section is not consistent with federal definitions.	Rewrote section to reflect language from the EPA's website.
49	p.28, Public Involvement Plans for ORTP, TIP, PPP, and Special Studies	Replace "T6/EJ Accomplishment or Compliance Report will especially continue to report on the following output measures. It will report data as required by HDOT which oversees OahuMPO's T6/EJ program." with "T6/EJ Accomplishment or Compliance Report. Continue to report on output measures. It will report data as required by HDOT which oversees OahuMPO's T6/EJ program."	Changed.
50	p.29, Evaluating and Reporting, #4 Reporting	Delete "Special Reports" section, as I am not sure what this is referring to.	Deleted.
51	p.30, Appendix I	Delete Appendix I	Deleted.

52	p.31, Appendix II, Environmental Justice Populations	Replace "It is asserted that in O'ahu's lower-wage economy and higher cost of living/housing, the poverty threshold does not mean as much as other measures like living wage calculators." with "Because of O'ahu's predominantly low-wage economy and high cost of living/housing, the poverty threshold does not mean as much as other measures like living wage calculators."	Changed.
53	p.31, Appendix II, Environmental Justice Populations	Add ")" after the Partners-In-Care web address	Changed.
54	p.31, Appendix II, Environmental Justice Populations	Delete space in O'ahu's in third paragraph	Changed.
55	p.31, Appendix II, Environmental Justice Populations	Add an 'okina in Hawai'i	Changed.
56	p.31, Appendix II, Environmental Justice Populations	This sentence is incorrect: "Intertwined with the EJ population, Title VI population addresses solutions for people with limited English proficiency (LEP) or have disabilities." Title VI only covers discrimination based on race, color, and/or national origin.	Rewrote section to correct this.
57	p.33, Appendix III, Citizen Advisory Committee	Delete "A majority of its member organizations are neighborhood boards. As such, the OahuMPO will continue to leverage the existing City neighborhood board system as a means of encouraging and formally maintaining strong citizen participation in all parts of the island."	Changed.
58	p.33, Appendix III, Citizen Advisory Committee	Replace "The agenda of CAC, TAC, and Policy Board are set to always include opportunities for public comments. The Policy Board meeting agenda items always include a section for "Report from CAC." There is also detailed instruction on how the public can provide testimony." with "The agendas of the CAC, TAC, and Policy Board include opportunities for public testimony and comments, with the CAC given its own agenda item every month to provide a report to the Policy Board. Instructions on how the public can provide testimony are included at the end of each of the agendas."	Changed.
59	p.33, Appendix III, Citizen Advisory Committee	Replace "CAC orientation is provided annually for new representatives or as a refresher course for veteran representatives. The OahuMPO staff initiated a CAC mid-year self-assessment in 2017. This assessment will cover effectiveness in selected functions (e.g., effectiveness of CAC meetings, effectiveness in sharing information after meetings). An annual year-inreview was initiated in 2019 (e.g., to what extent has the CAC used PB meetings as an opportunity for reporting to the Policy Board?)." with "CAC orientation is provided for new representatives as requested and/or annually for all members (required by CAC Bylaws). The orientation covers what their roles and responsibilities are, relative to OahuMPO and its work products."	Changed.

60	p.33, Appendix III, Citizen Advisory Committee	Change the self-assessment paragraph to be more general, rather than specific assessments that have taken place in the past.	Changed.
61	p.33, Appendix III, Citizen Advisory Committee	Delete "Meetings are held at times and locations that are accessible and convenient to the public."	Changed.
62	p.33, Appendix III, Citizen Advisory Committee	Can you check the language around requesting interpretation, auxiliary aid or service, I think we say 6 days in our agendas. Please make note of this correction, if need be	Changed.
63	p.34, Appendix III, OahuMPO Website	Change the Plans and Programs section to say that it includes OahuMPO required work products.	Changed.
64	p.34, Appendix III, OahuMPO Website	Replace "Get Involved leads to different ways to be involved, from being on the mailing list to participate in any current survey." with "The Get Involved section provides information on different ways to be involved, from joining the mailing list to responding to a request for comments."	Changed.
65	p.43, Appendix V	Delete Appendix V	Deleted.

2020 Public and Intergovernmental Review Comments

OahuMPO conducted the first public and intergovernment review period from February 5, 2020 to March 31, 2020.

Comment No.	Page Number & Section	Comment	OahuMPO Staff Response
1	pg. 4, How the Public Can Get Involved	DTS: Suggest removing. details about days and times of committee meetings. Simply direct the reader to the website for schedule.	This has been changed accordingly.
2	pg. 9, TIP	DTS: The TIP is not a Plan. Suggest deleting the word Plan.	This has been revised. Thank you for catching this error.
3	pg. 11, TIP	DTS: Table describes OWP and is supposed to describe the TIP.	This has been revised. Thank you for catching this error.
4	p.12, TIP	DTS: First bullet-- unclear about what result would "consideration by the Policy Board" bring? Shouldn't CAC recommendations be presented to partner implementing agencies?	This bullet point has been removed.
5	pg. 12, TIP	DTS: The City and County of Honolulu requests the following be included in the final PPP: The City and County of Honolulu is using the TIP public involvement process, as outlined in the Federal Highway Administration/ Federal Transit Administration metropolitan transportation planning regulations (23 CFR 450/49 CFR 613), to satisfy the public hearing requirements for the Federal Transit Administration's Urbanized Area Formual Program (49 USC Section 5307) program of projects	This has been added in the TIP section of the PPP.
6	pg. 13, OWP	DTS: The OWP is not a Plan. Suggest deleting the word Plan.	This has been revised. Thank you for catching this error.

7	pg. 21, Special Studies	DTS: Suggest deleting this section -- all of these studies are funded through the OWP and subject to the OWP public participation process.	OahuMPO Staff have decided to keep this section in there, to guide studies funded by the OWP, as this is different than the public participation process for the OWP.
8	p.30, Appendix I	Robert Nehmad (Institute for Transportation Engineers, Hawaii Chapter): On page 36, ORTP row includes date that seems incorrect. ORTP 2014 Vision and Goals. ORTP 20145 Call for projects and ideas.	This appendix has been deleted.
9	Various	DTS: Opportunities for public participation: "... committee meetings are held where public testimony is generally accepted on agenda items"	Deleted "generally" from all of the charts where it makes this reference.

2019 Committees and Policy Board First Draft Comments

OahuMPO reviewed the first draft of the PPP with the TAC, CAC, and Policy Board at their August 2019 meetings.

Comment No.	Page Number & Section	Comment	OahuMPO Staff Response
1	None	Policy Board: Idea to create brochures that provide a summarized version that would be beneficial to members of the public unfamiliar with this process, on the mechanics of the CAC and the public's roles and point of their involvement in each of the various MPO products	OahuMPO staff will consider doing this following the approval of the PPP.
2	Various parts of the plan	Policy Board: Recommendation to clarify that the product diagrams in the Plan document specifically refer to the public participation portion of each product's process	Thank you for your comment. The sentences prior to each of the charts indicates that the chart is for the public participation process for each of the required work products.
3	pg. 1, Introduction	Policy Board: Recommendation to add what the federal government requirements are for the public participation plan	Thank you for the suggestion. Information about the federal requirements with regard to a PPP has been added in the introduction (page 1).
4	p.29, Step 4 Integrate public involvement in the decision-making process	Policy Board: Recommendation to discuss the relevance of incorporating the IAP2 process into the public participation plan	References to the IAP2 have been deleted.
5	Various	Policy Board: Recommendation to discuss the relevance of incorporating press releases into the public participation plan	References to press releases have been deleted.
6	Various	Technical Advisory Committee: Graphics are useful and easy to understand, however, an accessible version of the document should be made available for those requiring screen readers	OahuMPO will provide a word version with no graphics for those requesting screen reader access.
7	pg. 1, Introduction	Technical Advisory Committee: Suggestion to add a 6th goal regarding managing expectations	Changed.

8	Various parts of the plan	Technical Advisory Committee: Make PPP more general, do not define number of days for public comment period	OahuMPO staff have revised this to delete the specific number of days for public comment periods, with the exception of the PPP, as the Development Procedures require at least a 45 day public comment period.
9	Cover page	Citizens Advisory Committee: Suggestion to change the cover to include a photo of the West side of the island, perhaps using four photos instead of one for the cover	OahuMPO staff have revised the cover of the plan to not be geography specific.