

Minutes of the
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization

POLICY BOARD

Tuesday, February 22, 2022
via Microsoft Teams

Members Present:

Councilmember Radiant Cordero, Chair	Representative Henry Aquino, Vice Chair
Councilmember Brandon Elefante	Representative Ryan Yamane
HDOT Deputy Director Edwin Sniffen	DPP Director Dean Uchida
HART Govt Relations & Public Involvement Director Joey Manahan	DOH Primary Prevention Branch Manager Heidi Hansen-Smith
DTS Director Roger Morton	FHWA Division Administrator Richelle Takara
Councilmember Augie Tulba	OP Planning Program Administrator Rodney Funakoshi

Member(s) Absent: Senator Sharon Moriwaki, Senator Chris Lee

Known Guests Present:

Kaleo Chang (CM Cordero's Office)	Dion Mesta (CM Elefante's office)
Robert Sato (CM Cordero's Office)	Ryan Tam (HART – TAC Chair)
Chris Clark (DTS)	Ken Farm (CAC Vice Chair)
Marian Yasuda (DTS)	Larie Manutai (CM Tulba's Office)
Congressman Ed Case	Marcia Taravella (CM Tulsa's office)
Nestor Garcia (Congressman Case's office)	Kiana Otsuka (Hawaii State Energy Office)
Kainan Miranda (Congressman Case's office)	Yoko Tomita (DTS)
Chad Wolke	DreanaLee Kalila (DTS)
Todd Boulanger (Bike)	Sharon Brooks (OCS)
Christopher Johnson	Kathleen Rooney (Ulupono Initiative)

OahuMPO Staff Present: Mark Garrity, Roni Schack, Tori Trevino, Samantha Lara, Joel Vincent, Nicole Cernohorsky, Nicki Smith, and Lily Zheng

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Cordero 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. Chair and staff confirmed that at least six members had their cameras on at all times during the meeting.

III. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 30, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

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

A motion was made by Ed Sniffen and seconded by Joey Manahan. There were no discussions, objections, or abstentions and the minutes were accepted as presented.

IV. Reports

A. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Mark Garrity advised the Policy Board that the OahuMPO Quarterly Review Report was included with their copies of the Executive Director Report, noted that OahuMPO received 10 responses to the Strategic Plan survey, had hired a new intern, Lily Zheng, and established a working group for the development of the Oahu Regional Transportation Plan (ORTP) 2050. Members of the working group included representatives from Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT), the City Department of Transportation (DTS), the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Department of Permitting and Planning (DPP) and others.

Executive Director Garrity summarized the business transacted at the February meetings of the Technical Advisory Committee and the Citizen Advisory Committee meeting. The complete Executive Director's Report can be viewed at: https://www.oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=2583

B. Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

TAC Chair Ryan Tam indicated he had nothing to add to Director Garrity's comments.

C. Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)

The CAC Vice Chair Ken Farm reported members of the CAC felt they don't have enough time to review documents, bring it to their communities, and return back to the full CAC meeting with their community comments. He noted that the CAC's broadband resolution could use help from, that is considering reactivating the CAC Traffic Safety Subcommittee. Chair Cordero asked Vice Chair Farm if he could send the Policy Board his report

Councilmember Elefante noted that the CAC may be interested in having a presentation on the pedestrian master plan, formulated by the Department of Transportation, that the City Council had adopted.

Mr. Farm remarked that the group was working on a resolution with the former Executive Director and included how the CAC viewed Complete Streets, connectivity problems when bus routes are discontinued and cuts off parts of the community, and the timing of pedestrian lighting. He expressed his hope to collaborate with Executive Director Garrity on some of these issues.

V. Old Business

A. Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Presentation by Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT)

Deputy Director Ed Sniffen requested that this agenda item be moved to after Congressman Case's presentation on IIJA (New Business VI. D) because it would be more appropriate for the Congressional presentation which will give a broader overview be prior to the State's presentation.

A motion was made by Mr. Sniffen and seconded by Director Manahan to move Old Business to after New Business. There were no objections or abstentions and the motion passed unanimously.

VI. New Business

A. Transportation Improvement Program FFYs 2022-2025 Revision #2

OahuMPO's Transportation Impact Analyst Nicole Cernohorsky provided background on what the TIP is, the requirements for projects included in the TIP, and the three types of revisions that may be made to the TIP. Ms. Cernohorsky noted that Revision #2 is an expedited Administrative Modification. She detailed the six projects included in the TIP Revision #2, and what changes were requested for these projects.

Chair Cordero asked if anyone from the public would like to comment. There were no comments. She asked the Policy Board members if they had any questions or anything to discuss regarding this topic. There was none.

A motion to approve the Revision #2 to the FFY 2022-12025 Transportation Improvement Program as presented was made by Roger Morton and seconded by Joey Manahan. There were no objections or abstentions and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Transportation Improvement Program FFYs 2022-2025 Revision #3

OahuMPO's Transportation Impact Analyst Nicole Cernohorsky indicated TIP Revision #3 is an Amendment. She noted it had gone out for public and intergovernmental review, was presented to the Technical Advisory Committee for their consideration, must demonstrate fiscal constraint, and added that OahuMPO must also perform the Title VI and environmental justice analysis.

Ms. Cernohorsky noted that Revision #3 contains changes pertaining to 12 HDOT projects, three of which are new projects, and one HART project. She discussed the changes pertaining to these thirteen projects, noting the ORTP goals they align with. She discussed the OS59 Interstate Route H1 eastbound improvements from Waikele interchange project which will be using only local funds from the rental car surcharge so is will be removed from the TIP.

She demonstrated the project scoring on the new projects and how they compared to other projects included in the TIP, detailed the Title VI environmental justice analysis results, the two comments received during the public and intergovernmental review, and the responses to those comments received from the implementing agencies.

A motion to approve the Revision #3 to the FFY 2022-12025 Transportation Improvement Program as presented was made by Ed Sniffen and seconded by Joey Manahan. There were no objections or abstentions and the motion passed unanimously.

C. Strategic Plan Policy Board Survey Results

Chair Cordero noted that an updated status on the results received from the Policy Board members on the Strategic Plan Survey Results will be presented at the March Policy Board meeting. She encouraged those members who had not yet done so to please responded. OahuMPO's Executive Director Mark Garrity thanked Chair Cordero for taking this item up and confirmed the topic will be discussed at the March meeting.

D. Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Presentation by Congressman Ed Case

Nestor Garcia of Congressman Case's office provided an overview of the IIJA, summarized elements included in the law, noted the projected funds for Hawaii, and funding that has already been allocated to Hawaii in FY2022. He discussed the different programs that are receiving funding and the amount allocated for each. Mr. Garcia discussed the five preparatory actions for mayors and noted that the White House Infrastructure Implementation Coordinator had sent governors a letter recommending these preparatory actions. In closing, he provided links to additional, helpful resources available online; contact information for various agencies; and the contact information for Congressman Case's Deputy Chief of Staff Jackie Conant and Transportation Policy staffer Kainan Miranda who can answer questions the Policy Board members may have on this topic.

There was no further discussion and Chair Cordero moved on to Old Business which, earlier in the meeting, the members had voted to hear after New Business agenda items.

VII. Old Business

B. Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Presentation by Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT)

Hawaii Department of Transportation's Deputy Director Ed Sniffen expressed his thanks to Congressman Case and all of the Hawaii delegation for pushing for additional funding for Hawaii.

Mr. Sniffen noted that, as mentioned in the prior presentation, Hawaii would receive \$1.5 billion over five years which is a 21% increase in Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funds for FY 2022-2026. This amounts to an additional \$40 million in the first year up to a \$60 million increase in year five. He provided a breakdown of how the funding would be allocated by county and by programs, demonstrated the existing seven programs and the three new programs IIJA will fund, and noted that IIJA replaces the FAST Act which has expired making IIJA the current federal funding for surface transportation in Hawaii.

Mr. Sniffen also discussed the available \$50+ billion in competitive discretionary grants, noting that HDOT is working cooperatively with the counties in this area. He discussed HDOT's Act 100 Annual Report; HDOT's priority projects; and HDOT's five 2022 goals, emphasizing that safety is always at the top of HDOT's goals.

Councilmember Elefante thanked Deputy Director Sniffen for the presentation and the Highway Division for their hard work. To Councilmember Elefante's questions regarding what friction surface mentioned in the presentation is and where it will be used, Deputy Director Sniffen responded it is a coating that will be used on seven freeway on-ramps that have tight turns and where there have been vehicle slide-outs. It will give vehicles more control and also protects the pavement. He will send the list of where this coating will be used to the Policy Board Chair for distribution to members.

CAC Vice Chair Ken Farm asked if he may contact Deputy Director Sniffen to discuss new pavement types of materials. Mr. Sniffen consented and added that HDOT no longer uses remix because it must be replaced every 7 years. Instead, HDOT uses a stone matrix asphalt or PMA which last 20-30 years.

To Todd Boulanger's comment that HDOT may need to determine how plastics in asphalt wears away and is released as microplastics into the ocean, Mr. Sniffen responded that before HDOT pilot's any new material, they work with the University of Hawaii (UH). UH performs the study to test the new material. After the pilot installation, UH then follows up with another study to capture long-term use of the materials.

Kathleen Rooney remarked she is interested in a report showing the results regarding the safety assessment of poly crosswalks. Mr. Sniffen indicated the HDOT is currently working on this report, is expected to finish it by the end of March, and will make it available upon completion.

To Ms. Rooney question if HDOT has discontinued investing in mode shift, Mr. Sniffen confirmed that is true.

Chair Cordero thanked Deputy Director for his presentation.

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

There were no comments.

VIII. Announcements

OahuMPO Secretary Tori Trevino announced that the Policy Board members will be receiving a Zoom link rather than an MS TEAMS link for the March 29, 2022 Policy Board meeting.

Chair Cordero requested that Policy Board members who have not yet completed the Strategic Plan survey to please complete it soon. Executive Director Garrity indicated the survey will remain open to accept responses over the next couple of weeks and that he plans to present the results at the March Policy Board meeting.

Chair Cordero announced that the next Policy Board meeting is scheduled for March 29, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

IX. Adjournment

Chair Cordero adjourned the meeting at 2:06p.

The PowerPoint for this meeting may be viewed at: https://www.oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=2585