

Minutes of the  
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization

**POLICY BOARD**

Tuesday, July 26, 2022  
via Zoom

**Members Present:**

Councilmember Radiant Cordero, Chair	Senator Sharon Moriwaki
DPP Exec. Assistant Dane Wicker	Senator Chris Lee
HART Director/Joey Manahan	Deputy Director Ed Sniffen
DTS Director Roger Morton	DOH Heidi Hansen Smith

**Member(s) Absent:** Richelle Takara (FHWA), Mary Alice Evans (OP), Representative Ryan Yamane, Councilmember Brandon Elefante, Councilmember Augie Tulba, Representative Henry Aquino, Vice Chair

**Known Guests Present:**

Kaleo Chang (CM Cordero's Office)	Ryan Tam (HART)
Larie Manutai (Cmbr Tulba's office)	Yoko Tomita (DTS)
Katie Rooney (Ulupono Initiative)	S. Laiu (HNL OCS)

**OahuMPO Staff Present:** Mark Garrity, Roni Schack, Zakari Mumuni, Samantha Lara, Joel Vincent, and Dallas Ige.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Cordero called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. She reminded members to keep their cameras on as a quorum of members must be visible for the duration of the meeting as required by Sunshine Law.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Roll call was taken of Policy Board members present and quorum was established. Chair and staff monitored cameras to ensure at least six members had their cameras on at all times during the meeting.

**III. APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 28, 2022 MEETING MINUTES**

The Policy Board members reviewed the meeting minutes of the May 31, 2022 Policy Board meeting which were sent to them in advance of the meeting.

A motion was made by Ed Sniffen and seconded by Senator Moriwaki to approve the June 28, 2022 meeting minutes. 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 provided updates on the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Certification Team's visit during the week of July 11-15, 2022, the status of the procurement for Oahu Regional Transportation Plan (ORTP), training and public outreach activities by OahuMPO staff, and summaries of business at the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) July meetings.

View the complete Executive Director's Report at: [https://www.oahumpo.org/?wpfb\\_dl=2679](https://www.oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=2679)

##### **B. Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)**

TAC Chair Ryan Tam indicated he had nothing to add to what was reported by OahuMPO Executive Director Garrity in his report.

##### **C. Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)**

The CAC Chair and Vice Chair were not at this meeting and there was no report from the CAC.

To Chair Cordero's question if there is a new CAC Chair, Roni Schack responded that the CAC will be electing a new Chair and Vice Chair at their August 3, 2022 meeting.

#### **V. Old Business**

There was no Old Business.

#### **VI. New Business**

##### **A. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Revisions #7 FFYs 2022-2025**

OahuMPO's Assistant Transportation Planner Dallas Ige provided background on the TIP, noted the three types of TIP revisions adding that Revision #7 is an Expedited Administrative Modification which doesn't require public review or committee consideration only Policy Board approval. He noted the only change that is being requested to the TIP is to prioritize and federalize OS7 Interstate Route H-1, Kapolei Interchange Complex, Phase 3. There is no change to the cost of the project.

A motion was made by Senator Moriwaki and seconded by Joey Manahan to approve Revision #7 to the Transportation Improvement Program FFY2022-2025 as presented. There were no discussions, objections, or abstentions, and the motion was passed.

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

There were no comments.

#### **VIII. Announcements**

Executive Director Garrity reiterated that a new CAC Chair and Vice Chair will be elected at the next CAC meeting on August 3, 2022.

Ed Sniffen announced that HDOT will be sending out the discretionary grant application time frames to all counties and MPOs to give everyone the opportunity to apply for the \$50 billion in federal funding being offered over the next five years. He will be sharing the timelines with the Policy Board.

Roger Morton thanked Chair Cordero for her leadership on the City Council when she approved the 5-day suspension of TheBus & HandiVan fares for the period August 22-26, 2022, which is still subject to the full Council approval in August. He announced that the Hawaii State Department of Transportation (HDOT) and the City and County's Department of Transportation Services (DTS) are planning a public transportation promotion including a joint Governor/Mayor press conference on August 15<sup>th</sup>, are working on reinstatement of some of the suspended services, on a back-to-school campaign to help alleviate traffic congestion which will promote biking and telecommuting, and a promotion to waive the \$2 Holo card fee sometime in August. He also announced a first in-city Express Bus route planned to private schools, the University of Hawaii, and Kapiolani Community College which is being developed.

Senator Lee announced that he recently returned from a trip through Europe which included meetings with transportation counterparts in cities that have been successful in issues such as reducing fatalities, reducing cost of transit, and enhancing safety. He added that there was discussion on the possibility of partnerships or on beginning conversations to share data and best practices and asked the Board to think about who might be interested in following up on these possibilities.

Ed Sniffen announced that HDOT is working with DTS on the bus expansion announced by Director Morton to see how best to flex federal funds such as was done at the June meeting, how to potentially subsidize or provide free service for various communities beginning with students and if that free service or subsidy program and the holo card program can be expanded to be statewide. He advised that they are still studying all the federal requirements and may request approval from the Policy Board, on short notice, the expedition of an amendment to flex funds for some of these programs.

Executive Director Garrity announced that at the recent federal certification review FHWA and FTA emphasized peer exchanges and peer reviews as a way to study what other communities are doing, the lessons that can be learned from those communities, and programs that can be applied in Honolulu. They had also indicated they are happy to help with these types of programs.

Roger Morton announced that in addition to the statutory programs through FHWA and FTA, there have been additional Congressional earmarks such as the \$10m for the bus electrification program and \$4.8m in federal funds, which will be matched with \$1.2m of local funding, for a total of \$6m, on a joint City and State project to connect and improve the South Shore bike path from Nanakuli to the University of Hawaii at Manoa. He noted he is hopeful it can be further funded by one of the new discretionary federal grants, adding that there is a discretionary grant that is being tested. He also announced that funding levels for DTS are up 30% over the last fiscal year, that Ed Sniffen of HDOT has been successful in targeting redistributed discretionary funds that other states were not able to spend timely.

Heidi Hansen Smith announced that years ago Department of Health (DOH) used federal funds for peer-to-peer studies in the Pacific Northwest and there were many unexpected benefits from this partnership. She added that DOH would be happy to share those reports if the Policy Board is interested.

Chair Cordero thanked OahuMPO, the implementing agencies, FHWA, and FTA for the valuable discussions that took place during the certification review team's visit and for everyone's hard work.

## **IX. Adjournment**

Chair Cordero adjourned the meeting at 1:33 p.m.

The PowerPoint for this meeting may be viewed at: [https://www.oahumpo.org/?wpfb\\_dl=2680](https://www.oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=2680)