



Minutes of the
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization
POLICY BOARD
March 28, 2023
Virtual Meeting hosted on Zoom

Members Present:

Members Absent:

Councilmember Radiant Cordero, Chair	Councilmember Tyler Dos Santos-Tam
Representative Darius Kila, Vice-Chair	Senator Chris Lee
Councilmember Val Okimoto	
Representative Lisa Kitagawa	
Senator Sharon Moriwaki	
HDOT Director Ed Sniffen	
DTS Director Roger Morton	
HART Director Joey Manahan	
DPP Deputy Director Jiro Sumada	
FHWA Richelle Takara	
OPSD Katia Balassiano	
DOH Heidi Hansen-Smith	

Known Guests Present:

Chris Clark	Rori Kirkpatrick
Katie Rooney	Richard Oshiro
Jo Jordan	Jill Tanabe
Robert Sato	Pat Tom
Justin Menina	I.oamilda
Richard Duran	Jame Schaedel
Blaine Williams	Amy Ford-Wagner
Yoko Tomita	Nicole Cernohorsky
Kiana Otsuka	Sasha Sivan

OahuMPO Staff Present: Mark Garrity, Zakari Mumuni, Samantha Lara, Lily Zheng, Joel Vincent, Joel Temple, Dallas Ige, Chelsea Dau, Nicole Smith, Danelle Miyahara

I. INTRODUCTIONS / ROLL CALL

Chair Cordero called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. Chair reminded members to mute their mics when not speaking and to keep their cameras on as a quorum of 6 members must be visible for the duration of the meeting as required by Sunshine Law.

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

II. APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 28, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

The Policy Board members reviewed the meeting minutes of the February 28, 2023 Policy Board meeting which were sent to them in advance of the meeting.

A motion was made by Director Morton of DTS and seconded by Vice Chair Kila to approve the February 28, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. There were no discussions, objections, or abstentions and the minutes were accepted.

III. REPORTS

A. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director (ED) Mark Garrity summarized his ED Report including brief descriptions of the business transacted at the March 1, 2023 meeting of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) and the March 10, 2023, Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting. Chair Cordero asked ED Garrity if there are any OahuMPO committee/board meetings that currently meet in person. ED Garrity said all OahuMPO committee/board meetings (CAC, TAC and the Policy Board) meet remotely, however all committee meetings clearly mention in the meeting notices that the in-person option to attend at the OahuMPO office on Richards Street is always open to the public and committee members.

A copy of ED Garrity's report is available on the OahuMPO Policy Board webpage:
https://www.oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=2872

B. TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

There was no report from the TAC.

C. CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)

CAC Chair Jordan reported the next CAC meeting will be held on April 5, 2023, at 2:30pm. Chair Jordan mentioned the CAC members have requested a future presentation regarding rail.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAM PRESENTATION

OahuMPO ED Garrity provided a presentation on the requirements and opportunities of the new Carbon Reduction Program (CRP). ED Garrity provided an overview of the program's purpose, the amount of available funds for Hawaii, how funds are suballocated, the criteria for project eligibility, coordination requirements, and the purpose of a carbon reduction strategy. Director Morton asked where this program is administratively structured. ED Garrity stated this program is under FHWA. Chair Cordero requested clarification regarding suballocation of funds relative to the state's population. ED Garrity said 65% of the state's CRP funds must be spent in Oahu's urbanized area, and the remaining 35% may be spent in any area of the state.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) FFYS 2022-2025 REVISIONS 10 & 11

OahuMPO Transportation Impact Analyst, Dallas Ige, provided a presentation on Revisions 10 and 11 of the FFYs 2022-2025 TIP. Revision 10 contains expedited administrative modifications and minor changes to funding for two existing projects. Revision 11 includes changes to five existing projects and 10 new projects. Mr. Ige provided an overview of the TIP requirements, including the results of the Title VI/Environmental Justice Analysis, the comments that were received during the Intergovernmental Governmental Review period,

and the financial plan. Mr. Ige described the five existing projects in Revision 11, including the estimated cost changes. Mr. Ige then provided an overview of the 10 new projects and shared the evaluation scores of each project. Mr. Ige described each new project, including the estimated total project cost and sources of funding. Mr. Ige concluded his presentation by requesting that the Policy Board approve TIP FFYs 2022-2025 Revision 11 as presented.

A motion was made by Director Sniffen of HDOT and seconded by Vice Director Manahan of HART that the Policy Board approve Revision 10 and 11 of the FFYs 2022-2025 TIP as presented. There were no abstentions or objections, and the motion was passed unanimously.

B. TMA CERTIFICATION REVIEW 2022

Richelle Takara, Division Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Hawaii Division, provided a presentation on the OahuMPO TMA Certification Review 2022. Ms. Takara advised the Policy Board of the purpose of the certification review and went over the process, which included input from stakeholders and staff, and the review of various documents to inform the production of a final report. Ms. Takara shared that the report was reviewed by the MPO for factual accuracy before being finalized. Ms. Takara advised the Policy Board that the OahuMPO was re-certified in 2022 with four Commendations, 11 Corrective Actions, and 13 Recommendations. Ms. Takara concluded with the Commendations, Corrective Actions, Recommendations and shared the next steps that OahuMPO should take. She added there were a lot of positive comments regarding the current OahuMPO staff and FHWA feels they are in a good place and should be able to address the issues.

Chair Cordero asked what are some examples of an MTP realistic fiscal constraint analysis? Amy Ford-Wagner, Community Transportation Planner with the FHWA Hawaii Division, replied that in the past, there was a substantial overage of funding, over the life of the 20-year plan. The forecasting of available revenue should be realistic, and the plan should be ambitious. FHWA Hawaii is also looking for best practices around fiscal constraint with long-term plans.

Chair Cordero asked what is the current process to close out projects? Ms. Ford-Wagner said in the past FHWA would allow work programs to last up to four years or longer and there would be multiple overlapping work programs at the same time. FHWA and OahuMPO are working to close out the old projects so when the new OWP starts in July 2023, work programs will be scheduled for two years, but will simultaneously work on closing out the old projects.

Senator Moriwaki asked about open projects and timing of the reviews. Ms. Ford-Wagner said MPOs are reviewed every four years and there should be continuing improvements, as there has been with OahuMPO. FHWA will continue to monitor the progress of OahuMPO.

The final 2022 TMA Certification Review document may be viewed at:
https://www.oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=2868

C. OAHUMPO PROJECT MANAGEMENT TRAINING PROGRAM

ED Garrity presented an update to the OahuMPO Project Management Training Program for City and State employees. The program was developed to enhance the knowledge and

skills of staff involved in managing federally funded small-scale transportation projects. The goal is to increase skills and knowledge that will help them more effectively use federal funds, comply with applicable regulations, and complete projects on-time and on-budget. The program started in January and meets once a month through September. The program includes a potential mobile workshop to be held in October, which would include travel.

A robust discussion commenced with positive feedback from the Policy Board members. Many members endorsed the mobile workshop idea. Comments regarding the two cities (Seattle and Portland) mentioned that they were great selections due to the cutting-edge complete streets projects, pedestrian safety treatments, and their investments in transit. The idea of a mobile workshop would allow our city and state employees who are currently working in purchasing, fiscal, project managers, and aspiring project managers in various stages of project completion to visit different sites in Seattle and Portland. That would allow this Hawaii capstone training class to network and brainstorm ideas, visit projects there that are already built that we would like to do here in Hawaii using federal funds, ask questions regarding successes and challenges they faced and lessons learned so we can gain knowledge from our mainland counterparts, and network and build valuable relationships with those who already worked on federally funded projects in Seattle and Portland. The intention of this mobile study is to create a cohort to be able to understand, use and feel more comfortable using and managing the full amount of federal funds more efficiently and effectively. Investing in project managers and future project managers could motivate staff with career broadening to stay with the city and state.

Some possible challenges were brought up regarding the cost and use of federal and taxpayer funds. What is the cost of possibly bringing the mainland teams here for a presentation? How can those here benefit from their capstone mobile workshop once the class returns from Seattle and Portland? Should this mobile workshop be approved, suggested ideas were brought up regarding post presentations on successes and lessons learned, reports and training sessions on how to possibly incorporate, change, amend that into our processes and policies here in Hawaii. A more detailed discussion regarding why we chose Seattle and Portland, and what we will be discussing should be mentioned.

Chair Cordero stated the discussion will continue. ED Garrity welcomes any questions or concerns and will be reaching out to the Policy Board members.

VI. INVITATION TO INTERESTED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON MATTERS NOT INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA

There were no comments.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Introduced Representative Lisa Kitagawa who is joining the Policy Board.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Cordero thanked everyone who attended and adjourned the meeting at 2:34 p.m.

The PowerPoint for this meeting may be viewed at:

https://www.oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=2879