

Minutes of the
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, June 9, 2011, 10:30 a.m.
Department of Transportation 5th Floor Conference Room
869 Punchbowl Street, Honolulu, Hawaii

Members Present:

Mark Au, Vice Chair	DTS	Kathy Sokugawa	DPP
Eugene Tian	DBEDT	Eileen Mark (alternate)	DTS
Mary Lou Kobayashi	DBEDT-OP	Elizabeth Fischer (ex officio)	FHWA
Dean Nakagawa	DOT	Gareth Sakakida (ex officio)	HTA
Randolph Hara	DPP		

Members Absent: Ed Sniffen (DOT, Chair), Steve Wong (FAA, ex officio), (vacant, FTA, ex officio), A. Ricardo Archilla (UH, ex officio)

Guests Present:

Charles Carole (Honolulu League of Women Voters, CAC)	Peter Flachsbart (UHM)
Bob Schieve (North Shore Chamber of Commerce, CAC)	Kevin Killeen (resident)

OahuMPO Staff Present: Brian Gibson, Randolph Sykes, and Pamela Toyooka

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m. by Vice Chair Mark Au. A quorum was present. Everyone introduced themselves.

I. APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 8, 2011 MEETING MINUTES

Dean Nakagawa moved and Kathy Sokugawa seconded that the April 8, 2011 meeting minutes be approved as circulated. The motion was unanimously carried.

II. CONSIDER FY 2012 OVERALL WORK PROGRAM

Handout(s): Draft FY 2012 Overall Work Program (OWP)

Brian Gibson gave a presentation on the draft FY 2012 OWP.

Ms. Sokugawa stated that the rates for the Ewa Impact Fees being proposed are much higher than what they currently are. Most of the money collected goes to the State to pay for State projects. Ms. Sokugawa asked if that money is reflected in the Department of Transportation's (DOT) match shown in the presentation. Mr. Gibson responded that DOT does not identify sources of funds in their local match; that's internal. Mr. Nakagawa stated that Ms. Sokugawa would need to follow-up with the DOT Highways Division.

Mr. Nakagawa stated that, for the Waianae Coast Access Alternatives Study, the DOT Highways Division and Department of Transportation Services (DTS) need to be intimately involved in scoping the work and the implementation end of it, because, ultimately, whatever the findings are, they will fall to DOT and DTS to implement a project. Mr. Gibson stated that the OahuMPO wants a very cooperative process. Elizabeth Fischer stated that she encourages the involvement of the land use and permitting agencies, because it can't just be a transportation decision.

Dr. Eugene Tian asked if the \$400,000 in earmarked funds for the Waianae Coast Access Alternatives study was already available, since the federal government has suspended earmarks for two years, starting from this federal fiscal year. Mr. Gibson responded that when SAFETEA-LU was approved, it was identified as an earmark; like all earmarks, it was doled out over a 7-year period. These federal funds were not used, so they would be used for this study. Vice Chair Au stated that, since local funds were available, the City decided to use local funds for their project, rather than use federal funds. The City was able to deobligate the remaining federal funds and give them to OahuMPO to use.

Vice Chair Au asked if there were any significant changes to the document from what was discussed at a prior TAC meeting. Mr. Gibson responded that there were no significant changes; there were changes on how things are done, rather than what is done.

Vice Chair Au asked if there were any significant comments received. Mr. Gibson responded that there were a total of six comments. A couple of public comments were generally supportive. DTS was supportive of the Traffic Signal Prioritization Methodology study. For planning priorities, University of Hawaii at Manoa (UHM) suggested more alternative transportation options, such as pedestrian and bicycle improvements. UHM also questioned the allocation of such a large portion (1/3) of limited program funds specifically to the Waianae Coast Access Alternatives Study without studying intermodal alternative travel options and maximizing existing infrastructure.

Vice Chair Au noted that there are work elements in FY 2012 and proposed work elements for FY 2013 that will affect the participating agencies. He encouraged OahuMPO to work very, very closely with the agencies in the development and implementation of those work elements that will affect the agencies. Mr. Gibson stated that there will absolutely be cooperative planning. Vice Chair Au asked the members for their comments.

Randolph Hara moved and Dr. Tian seconded that the TAC recommend approval of the draft FY 2012 OWP to the Policy Committee.

Ms. Sokugawa stated that she wanted to underscore managing expectations on some of these projects. At the end of the project, what is the product and will we accept the product. For example, for the Waianae Coast Access Alternatives Study, will it come down to "you're in charge of this segment and this is the construction drawings;" or will it be something broader than that. Those kinds of things need to be worked out for the projects. Vice Chair Au stated that he had the same concerns. Ms. Sokugawa noted that, unfortunately, most of the project managers were not at the meeting today.

A vote was taken. The motion was unanimously carried.

III. PRESENT RESULTS OF THE “STRATEGIES FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN TRANSPORTATION” PROJECT

Dr. Peter Flachsbart, UHM Department of Urban and Regional Planning, presented the results of the Strategies for Energy Efficiency in Transportation project.

Vice Chair Au asked if the results were distributed. Dr. Flachsbart responded that he knows that HDOT, OahuMPO, and Hawaii Energy Policy Forum were given the results. Sharon Moriwaki (formerly, Miyashiro) knows exactly who received the results; he will ask her to get back to Vice Chair Au.

Vice Chair Au requested that a copy of Dr. Flachsbart’s presentation be distributed to the members. Pamela Toyooka stated that she would e-mail it to the members.

Vice Chair Au also asked for a copy of the Oahu report. Randolph Sykes stated that he had an electronic copy of the report that he could e-mail it to Vice Chair Au. Dr. Flachsbart stated that he also had a Statewide report, done after the Oahu report.

Ms. Sokugawa stated that, if there were a follow-up study done, she would be interested in a few questions regarding the 80% of the people who are not paying for parking. They’re either parking on public streets for free all day long or their employers are paying for their parking.

In reponse to Dr. Tian’s request, Dr. Flachsbart stated that he would be willing to give the presentation to other groups. Dr. Flachsbart stated that he also has a presentation that compares results of the telephone survey with the results of the web survey.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS (Announcements Only)

There being no other business, Ms. Sokugawa moved and Dr. Tian seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was unanimously carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:46 a.m.