

Minutes of the  
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization

**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Friday, December 5, 2008, 10:00 a.m.  
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations Multi-Agency Conference Room 314  
830 Punchbowl Street, Honolulu, Hawaii

**Members Present:**

Glenn Yasui, Chair	DOT	Randolph Hara	DPP
Mark Au, Vice Chair	DTS	Steve Young (alternate)	DPP
Eugene Tian (alternate)	DBEDT	James Burke	DTS
Abe Mitsuda	DBEDT-OP	Elizabeth Fischer (ex officio)	FHWA
Glenn Soma	DOT	A. Ricardo Archilla (ex officio)	UH

**Members Absent:** Steve Wong (FAA, ex officio), (vacant, FTA, ex officio), Gareth Sakakida (HTA, ex officio)

**Guests Present:**

Yang-Seon Kim	DBEDT	Wendell Lum	NB #30 (CAC)
Charles Carole	Neighborhood Board #10 (CAC)	Steve Hogan	PB Americas
Tom Smyth	NB # 13 (CAC)		

**OahuMPO Staff Present:** Gordon Lum (Executive Director), Lori Arakaki, Clement Chan, and Pamela Toyooka

*The meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m. by Chair Glenn Yasui. A quorum was present.*

**I. APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 28, 2008 MEETING MINUTES**

*The October 28, 2008 meeting minutes were approved as circulated.*

*[James Burke arrived at 10:11 a.m.]*

**II. OAHU REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (ORTP) 2035 UPDATE**

**II.A. Action on the State of Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism's (DBEDT) Year 2035 Socio-Economic Transportation Scenario Forecasts**

Dr. Yang-Seon Kim made a presentation on the DBEDT's Year 2035 Socio-Economic Transportation Scenario Forecasts population and employment projections for the specific use of the ORTP 2035 effort.

In answer to Tom Smythe, Dr. Kim responded in the affirmative that the working population includes the self-employed.

Steve Young asked if the labor force participation rate includes workers only up to the age of 64. Dr. Kim responded that it includes workers of all ages.

In answer to Mr. Burke, Dr. Kim responded that volunteers, family workers, and stay-at-home moms and dads are not included in the labor force participation rate.

*Mr. Soma moved and Mr. Burke seconded that DBEDT's Year 2035 forecasts for the ORTP 2035 effort be accepted.*

### Discussion

In response to Abe Mitsuda, Dr. Kim answered in the affirmative, that the PowerPoint presentation was available to the members.

Elizabeth Fischer stated that, though the forecasters have their own language and the data is good and appreciated, the members would like the explanation of the forecast translated into non-technical language. Dr. Eugene Tian stated that a glossary could be provided.

Mr. Soma asked if DPP had any comments on the projections. Mr. Young responded that he will be making a presentation after this agenda item.

In response to Chair Yasui, Dr. Tian stated that the tourism forecast is shown in 5-year intervals. Visitor arrival projections are down 2.3% during the years 2005 through 2010.

It was decided that action on DBEDT's forecast would be held off until after DPP's presentation.

*Mr. Soma withdrew his motion and Mr. Burke withdrew his second.*

### **II.B. Action on the Distribution of Year 2035 Socio-Economic Forecasts to Traffic Analysis Zones by the City and County of Honolulu Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP)**

*Handouts: DBEDT Population Projections for Oahu, Actual and Projected Wage and Salary Jobs, Average Annual Growth of Wage and Salary Jobs, Actual and Projected Visitor Accommodation Units, DPP Year 2000 (Actual) Socioeconomic Projections, and DPP Year 2035 Socioeconomic Projections*

Mr. Young presented a set of socio-economic forecasts distributed to traffic analysis zones (TAZs) based upon a revised DBEDT forecast, which will be used as the foundation for the ORTP 2035 effort.

### Questions & Answers / Comments

In response to Chair Yasui, Mr. Young explained that the original DBEDT projections for the Year 2035 were based on the U.S. Department of Commerce Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) data. In the past, DBEDT used data from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR). The BEA has a more robust database and takes into account multiple jobs per person. The DLIR data, on the other hand, includes information on each person's primary job. Because a number of people have multiple jobs, the difference between the BEA counts and the DLIR counts is often large. The OahuMPO travel demand forecasting model is calibrated to accept employment data that includes a person's main occupation. After the last TAC meeting,

DBEDT developed a forecast, for specific use of the ORTP 2035, **that is more in line with the DLIR data.** DPP then distributed this forecast to Oahu's traffic analysis zones.

In response to Vice Chair Au, Mr. Young responded that there will be more jobs projected in the ORTP 2035 than in the ORTP 2030; the reason being, there are more senior citizens participating in the work force.

Ms. Fischer, in a comment to the OahuMPO, stated that technical ORTP documents should be written in plain 5<sup>th</sup> grade English. Chair Yasui requested that Mr. Young provide a glossary for his presentation.

*Mr. Soma moved and Mr. Burke seconded that the DBEDT's Year 2035 Socio-Economic Transportation Scenario Forecasts and DPP's Distribution of Year 2035 Socio-Economic Forecasts to Traffic Analysis Zones be accepted. The motion was unanimously approved.*

### **III. HONOLULU HIGH-CAPACITY TRANSIT CORRIDOR PROJECT (HHCTCP) DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (DEIS) PRESENTATION**

Steve Hogan of PB Americas gave a presentation on the HHCTCP DEIS.

#### Questions and Answers

Mr. Mitsuda asked why the starting segment is from East Kapolei to Pearl Highlands. Mr. Hogan responded that it is easier to build on the west end of the island, since there is less to get in the way, and the maintenance center and control center are in the Leeward Community College area and the Hoopili area (Ewa).

Randolph Hara asked how they expected to get people to ride that first segment. Mr. Hogan responded that the bus system will be adjusted to accommodate each phase of the project. They don't expect a large ridership in the first phases.

Mr. Yasui reminded everyone that DTS has a formal process established to receive comments on the DEIS. Any questions or comments made at the TAC meeting will not be included as a comment to the DEIS.

### **IV. FYs 2008-2011 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) PROJECT STATUS DISCUSSION**

Gordon Lum explained that the Policy Committee Chair has requested to have a presentation in January, 2009 on the semi-annual TIP status report for projects programmed in FY 2008. Mr. G. Lum identified some of the projects that the Policy Committee Chair was concerned about.

Chair Yasui stated that implementing projects is a continued challenge. Due to the revenue shortfalls, as well as other factors, projects will be deferred.

### **V. OTHER BUSINESS (ANNOUNCEMENTS ONLY)**

Mr. G. Lum announced that the TAC rules of procedures will be revised per the revised Comprehensive Agreement (CA). As a result of the CA revisions, civil service deputy directors will be able to serve as members of the TAC. Also, OahuMPO is awaiting legal advice from the

Attorney General's office regarding the number of members needed for a quorum and the number needed to pass a motion.

Mr. Burke stated that he is a member of the City and County of Honolulu's Security Network. He cautioned everyone to be on the lookout for suspicious activities, such as taking photos of non-tourist sites such as waste facilities. If you see something suspicious, call 911.

*There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:47 a.m.*

