

Minutes of the
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 1, 2007, 10:00 a.m.
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Multi-Purpose Room 310 & 313
830 Punchbowl Street, Honolulu, Hawaii

Members Present:

Toru Hamayasu, Vice Chair	DTS	Kathy Sokugawa	DPP
Eugene X. Tian (alternate)	DBEDT	James Burke	DTS
Abe Mitsuda	DBEDT-OP	Carissa Unpingco (alternate)	FAA
Ronald Tsuzuki (alternate)	DOT	(ex officio)	
Randolph Hara	DPP	Gareth Sakakida (ex officio)	HTA

Members Absent: Dean Nakagawa (DOT), Elizabeth Fischer (FHWA, ex-officio), Karl Kim (UH, ex-officio)

Guests Present:

Ann Shimatsu	DDC	J. Ikaika Anderson	Council Chair Marshall
Patrick Tom	DOT	Charles Carole	Neighborhood Board #10 (CAC)
Mark Au	DTS	Richard Kane	Pacific Resource Partnership (CAC)
Ty Fukumitsu	DTS	Johnny Grannon	Honolulu Advertiser
Mark Kikuchi	DTS	Mark Scheibe	Parsons Brinckerhoff
Claude Matsuo	DTS	Kevin Killeen	
Brian Suzuki	DTS		

Staff Present: Gordon Lum, Shevaun Low, Lori Arakaki, Marian Yasuda, and Pamela Toyooka.

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. by Vice Chair Toru Hamayasu. A quorum was present.

I. MINUTES OF THE APRIL 19, 2007 MEETING

James Burke moved and Ronald Tsuzuki seconded that the minutes of the April 19, 2007 meeting be approved as circulated. The minutes were unanimously approved.

II. RECOMMENDATION TO THE POLICY COMMITTEE ON A PRIORITIZED LISTING OF TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT (TE) PROJECTS

Handout: Public Review Draft of the Prioritized List of Eligible Oahu Proposals Requesting TE Funds

Shevaun Low, OahuMPO TE Project Manager, presented a description of the TE program, and an overview of the process leading up to development and following the approval of a prioritized listing of transportation enhancement projects.

In describing the prioritized listing of TE projects, Ms. Low noted that, of the 16 proposals submitted, 12 projects were prioritized, two were combined, and one withdrawn.

Mr. Burke and Mr. Tsuzuki commended the OahuMPO staff for their excellent work on this effort. Kathy Sokugawa highlighted the facilitating skills of Ms. Low in conducting the associated meetings in an efficient manner.

Mr. Burke moved and Mr. Tsuzuki seconded that the TAC recommend that the Policy Committee approve the Prioritized List of Eligible Oahu Proposals Requesting TE Funds. The motion was unanimously approved.

III. RECOMMENDATION TO THE POLICY COMMITTEE ON AMENDMENT #1 TO THE OAHU REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (ORTP) 2030

Handout: ORTP 2030 Amendment #1 (“Amendment #1”)

Ms. Low, OahuMPO ORTP Project Manager, presented an overview of the request to amend the ORTP 2030. Ms. Low began with the rationale and cited federal regulations on the need of the metropolitan planning organization to adopt the proposed major capital investment project into its metropolitan transportation plan, in order for that project to be considered for preliminary engineering.

Mark Scheibe, OahuMPO ORTP consultant, went over the transportation service effectiveness portion of the presentation – comparing 2005 to Baseline 2030 to Amendment #1– and an overview of the financial plan.

Ms. Low went over the results of the Intergovernmental Review – noting agency support and non-support of the amendment.

Ms. Low identified the following components to the proposed Amendment #1:

- Modify description and associated costs of ORTP 2030 Project #31 (Rail Transit, Kapolei to Manoa/Waikiki) and other related projects
- Amend the ORTP 2030 Financial Plan to include additional firmly-established revenues

- Add fixed guideway project sections to the Illustrative Project List

Discussion:

Mr. Tsuzuki asked if the Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) had comments on Amendment #1. Ms. Low responded that no formal comment was received from HDOT. Mr. Tsuzuki stated that he did not recall receiving the request from the OahuMPO. Ms. Low stated that the HDOT was sent four requests to review and comment on draft Amendment #1 – one to each of the two HDOT TAC members; one to the HDOT director, as a member of the Policy Committee; and one to the HDOT director, as a department head.

In response to Mr. Tsuzuki, Mr. Scheibe confirmed that the financial plan presented was for the entire ORTP 2030.

In response to Mr. Tsuzuki, Ms. Low stated that the alignment for the fixed guideway project is from East Kapolei to Ala Moana, as shown in Figure 16 of the draft Amendment #1. Ms. Low noted that this alignment is very broad, and does not specify actual roads upon which the alignment will travel. In response to Mr. Tsuzuki, Ms. Low reconfirmed that the ORTP 2030 fixed guideway alignment was broad enough to encompass both the Salt Lake Boulevard and airport alignments.

Charles Carole asked if the capital cost of \$3.6 billion for the fixed guideway includes inflation for the period between 2005 and when the contract is let in 2009. Chair Hamayasu stated that \$3.6 billion does not include inflation; it is in constant 2005 dollars.

Ms. Low noted that the ORTP is updated every five years, to take into consideration things like inflation and project costs. So, around 2008/2009, OahuMPO will start looking at the ORTP in its entirety again and update the entire plan.

In response to Carissa Unpingco, Ms. Low stated that the alignment is determined by the City under their draft environmental impact statement process.

Mr. Tsuzuki asked if there was a change made to the federal highway and State highway funds in the draft financial plan. Mr. Scheibe responded that there was no change.

Mr. Burke moved and Ms. Sokugawa seconded that the TAC recommend that the Policy Committee approve ORTP 2030 Amendment #1 to:

- *Modify description and associated costs of ORTP 2030 Project #31 (Rail Transit, Kapolei to Manoa/Waikiki) and other related projects*
- *Amend the ORTP 2030 Financial Plan to include additional firmly-established revenues*
- *Add fixed guideway project sections to the Illustrative Project List*

No one offered testimony on this agenda item.

A vote was taken. The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. STATUS OF THE DRAFT OAHU TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) FYS 2008 TO 2011

Handouts: FYS 2008-2011 TIP Draft Financial Plan; FYS 2008-2011 TIP Draft Project Listing

Lori Arakaki, OahuMPO TIP Project Manager, presented an overview of the draft *Oahu TIP FYS 2008-2011* (“TIP”). Ms. Arakaki noted that the TIP is SAFETEA-LU (Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users) compliant – including the use of visual techniques and inclusion of a financial plan.

Ms. Arakaki noted that, per HDOT’s request, project S67 (Kamehameha Highway, Improvements, Waipahu Street to Ka Uka Boulevard) was deleted from the initial draft project listing. Revisions to the draft will be posted on the OahuMPO website throughout the public comment period.

Ms. Arakaki stated that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) program of projects is not financially constrained. If no additional funds are made available, then the Policy Committee would need to do the following to constrain the project listing: delete projects, defer projects, and/or implement large projects in phases. The resources that would be available to the Policy Committee to assist in the constraint of the project listing include: HDOT recommendations, City and County of Honolulu Department of Transportation Services (DTS) recommendations, public comments, and agency comments. HDOT’s recommendation could include savings found elsewhere in the Statewide TIP – thereby increasing the estimate of FHWA funds available on Oahu.

OahuMPO Executive Director Gordon Lum emphasized that, because the Policy Committee will have to constrain the FHWA program of projects, input from the HDOT and DTS would be helpful.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

Mr. Burke moved and Ms. Sokugawa seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.