

Minutes of the
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Friday, October 13, 2006, 1:00 p.m.
Department of Transportation Fifth Floor Conference Room
869 Punchbowl Street, Honolulu, Hawaii

Members Present:

Glenn Yasui, Chair	DOT	Kathy Sokugawa	DPP
Toru Hamayasu, Vice Chair	DTS	Alvina Kubo	DTS
Eugene X. Tian (Alternate)	DBEDT	Elizabeth Fischer (ex-officio)	FHWA
Abe Mitsuda (Alternate)	DBEDT-OP	Gareth Sakakida (ex-officio)	HTA
Dean Nakagawa	DOT	Karl Kim(ex-officio)	UH
Randolph Hara	DPP		

Members Absent:

Steve Wong FAA

Guests Present:

Ken Tatsuguchi	DOT	Phyllis Kurio	DTS
Pat Tom	DOT	Brian Suzuki	DTS
Mark Au	DTS	Rich Kane	Pacific Resources Partnership (CAC)

Staff Present: Gordon Lum, Lori Arakaki, Lauren Brennan, Marian Yasuda, and Pamela Toyooka.

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m. by Vice Chair Toru Hamayasu. A quorum was present.

I. MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 17, 2006 MEETING

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the August 17, 2006 meeting be approved as circulated. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Glen Yasui arrived and assumed the position of Chair.

II. RECOMMENDATION TO THE POLICY COMMITTEE ON ESTABLISHING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU AS THE DESIGNATED RECIPIENT FOR JOB ACCESS REVERSE COMMUTE (JARC) PROGRAM AND NEW FREEDOM PROGRAM FUNDS

Handout(s):

- *FTA Authorization Fact Sheet*

Gordon Lum said that the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) had requested the establishment of the City and County of Honolulu as the designated recipient of JARC and

New Freedom Program funds for the Honolulu urbanized area (UZA).

Phyllis Kurio reported that the City's designation request applies to the JARC and New Freedom funds apportioned to the Honolulu UZA. The law requires that the recipient of Sections 5316 and 5317 funds apportioned to the Honolulu UZA be designated through the planning process under 49 USC Sections 5303, 5304, and 5306, by the chief executive officer of a State, responsible local officials, and publicly owned operators of public transportation. The designation will remain in effect until changed by the governor by official notice of redesignation to the appropriate Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Regional Administrator. She also explained the goals and funding sources of the two programs.

Ms. Kurio said that the designated recipient of JARC and New Freedom funds apportioned to the Honolulu UZA will be responsible for the following actions:

- Conducting the competitive selection process and awarding grants to subrecipients in cooperation with OahuMPO;
- Certifying to FTA that a fair and equitable distribution of funds results from the competitive selection process;
- Certifying to FTA that each project selected was derived from a locally-developed human service transportation coordinated plan;
- Certifying to FTA that local plans are developed through a process that included representatives of public, private, and non-profit transportation and human services providers and participation by the public;
- Applying to FTA for funding on behalf of itself and/or eligible subrecipients for projects within the Honolulu UZA;
- Managing all aspects of grant distribution and oversight for subrecipients receiving funds under this program; and
- Submitting reports as required by FTA.

Discussion Highlights:

- Mr. Lum reiterated that this designation is for the urbanized area of Honolulu funds. He asked who would be the recipient of the urbanized area of Kailua-Kaneohe and rural funds, and how the coordination would be done to avoid duplicative efforts. Ms. Kurio said that the State of Hawaii would be the recipient for the funds apportioned to the urbanized area of Kailua-Kaneohe and the rural areas. As for the locally-developed human service transportation coordinated plan, DTS was developing a plan for the Honolulu urbanized area; the State would be doing one for the other areas. DTS would coordinate with the Hawaii Department of

- Transportation (DOT), but the State would be responsible for its own plan.
- Elizabeth Fischer asked if the coordination process would be included in the document. Ms. Kurio said that, with the designation of the City and County, DTS would prepare an OWP work element for the development of the plan.
 - Ms. Fischer asked if the plan would include the Section 5307, 5309, 5310, New Freedoms funding as well as all of the existing programs under the human services transportation coordinated plan. Ms. Kurio said that DTS would make sure that they comply with the FTA requirements.
 - Ms. Fischer asked if the United We Ride (UWR) program would be included. Ms. Kurio said that UWR was not a statutory requirement. DTS would be addressing the statutory requirements first. They would incorporate other processes as they are able.
 - Ms. Fischer asked what the time-frame for the development of the plan was. Ms. Kurio said that DTS was drafting a work element for either an amendment to the FY 2007 OWP or for inclusion in the FY 2008 OWP.
 - Dean Nakagawa said that the State DOT was working with DTS to ensure that the related work efforts were coordinated. What was on the table now was the designation of the City as a recipient of the urbanized Honolulu funds. He would recommend to the DOT Director that the Governor appoint DTS as the recipient of these funds.
 - Mr. Lum said that, because this would be a recommendation to the Policy Committee, OahuMPO would be soliciting public comments. Private transportation providers and human service organizations providing transportation services might be interested in DTS being the designated recipient of these funds. He asked if the TAC members were aware of other parties that might be interested in the recommendation. Ms. Fischer suggested adding non-government organizations such as Easter Seals.

Vice Chair Hamayasu moved and Kathy Sokugawa seconded that the TAC recommend that the Policy Committee establish the City and County of Honolulu as the recipient of the JARC and New Freedom program funds for the urbanized area of Honolulu. The motion passed unanimously.

III. BRIEFING ON THE FYS 2008-2011 STATEWIDE AND METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS' SCHEDULE AND STATUS

Mr. Lum introduced Lori Arakaki, OahuMPO Project Manager for the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and Pat Tom of the State DOT, Project Manager for the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

Ms. Arakaki went over the schedule for the TIP and highlighted the requirement that the

TIP must be Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) compliant after July 1, 2007. Since the current FYs 2006-2008 TIP is not SAFETEA-LU compliant, major amendments to this TIP will not be allowed after July 1, 2007. The FYs 2008-2011 TIP will be SAFETEA-LU compliant, and, based on the current schedule, should be submitted for TAC and Policy Committee action in July 2007. This will enable DOT to submit the STIP to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and FTA for approval by September 2007. Ms. Arakaki reiterated that there will be a three-month gap when no non-administrative amendments (adding or deleting projects) will be allowed to the TIP.

The last non-administrative amendment to the current TIP will have to be approved by June, 2007. This means that all non-administrative amendment requests will have to be submitted to the OahuMPO by March, 2007. In April, the public review draft of the amendment will be circulated. At the same time, the OahuMPO will be doing the Environmental Justice/Title VI analysis, Congestion Management Process analysis, technical analysis of the projects, ITS conformity analysis, and consistency with the ORTP 2030 analysis. In May, the amendment will be submitted to the Policy Committee and the Governor for their approvals. The amendment will then be included in the STIP for action by FHWA and FTA in June.

Pat Tom said that the next STIP will be a four-year document (FYs 2008-2011). In addition, there will be two years of projects for informational purposes. Only the first four years will be financially constrained and officially approved by FHWA and FTA. It will be updated every three years. The OahuMPO has started their TIP early public involvement process; the CAC and freight task force have developed a list of recommended projects for the Policy Committee's consideration.

DOT will be sending out their call for projects in early November 2006. The deadline for submittal will be in January. This will allow DOT enough time to submit the list to the OahuMPO by March 2007.

SAFETEA-LU requires more detailed financial plans and a more detailed annual report of committed projects. This will require an agreement between DOT, the City and County, and the OahuMPO that will detail this information. An initial estimate of funds available for Oahu, based on a historic trend, was presented. This will be the target for the draft TIP.

Discussion Highlights:

- Chair Yasui requested that the FYs 2008-2011 STIP schedule be sent to TAC members. He added that, if within the TIP, DOT finds that there are not enough funds available for the projects, they would be looking for General Funds to complete some of the projects. This would affect the financial constraint.

- Mr. Tom said that the STIP/TIP was a programming document that had estimates of the costs and were subject to change due to cost increases and other factors. DOT was working to get more accurate estimates.

IV. PUBLIC REVIEW NOTIFICATION OF THE DRAFT OAHU MPO PARTICIPATION PLAN (OPP)

Mr. Lum introduced Marian Yasuda, OahuMPO Community Planner. Ms. Yasuda said that the OPP was developed in response to SAFETEA-LU. It incorporates the current Guide to Public Involvement, which documents opportunities for public participation in the OahuMPO transportation planning process and includes other considerations required under SAFETEA-LU. These considerations include utilizing electronically accessible formats and visualization techniques and adding affected public agencies to the list of interested parties.

The review draft of the OPP was sent to a mailing list of 305 people and organizations.

The 45-day review period will end on November 17, 2006. A presentation will be given to the CAC on October 18, 2006. The Policy Committee is expected to act on the OPP at their December meeting. If significant changes are made as a result of comments received as part of the public review, the OPP will be revised and sent out for further review.

Ms. Fischer asked if the TAC could get a copy of the list of interested parties. Ms. Yasuda said she would send it to the members.

Mr. Lum added that the list of interested parties is a dynamic list. It will be periodically reviewed and updated.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:44 p.m.