

**Minutes of the  
O‘ahu Metropolitan Planning Organization  
CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
Wednesday, August 2, 2023, at 2:30 p.m.  
via Microsoft Teams

**Attendance**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Represented by</b>	<b>Absent</b>
AARP	X	Elizabeth Chinn	
American Planning Association	X	Jared Chang	
American Society of Civil Engineers	X	Tony Gaston	
Citizens for a Fair ADA ride	X	Donald Sakamoto	
Gentry Homes, Ltd.		Deb Luling	X
Hawai‘i Association of the Blind		Anthony Akamaine	X
Hawai‘i Bicycling League	X	Travis Counsell	
Hawai‘i Teamsters / Allied Workers, Local 996		Wayne Kaululaau	X
Institute of Transportation Engineers	X	Robert Nehmad	
Ka‘a‘awa Community Association	X	Andrea Anixt	
Land Use Research Foundation of Hawai‘i		David Arakawa	X
League of Women Voters		Marcia Linville	X
North Shore Chamber of Commerce		Roxana Jimenez	X
Palehua Townhouses	X	Michael Golojuch	
Ulupono Initiative	X	Kathleen Rooney	
Waikīkī Residents’ Association	X	Daisy Murai	
NB#01 Hawai‘i Kai		Roberta Mayor	X
NB#02 Kuliouou-Kalani Iki		Linda Starr	X
NB#03 Wai‘alae-Kahala		Les Fukuda	X
NB#05 Diamond Head-Kapahulu		Bert Narita	X
NB#07 Mānoa		Tom Hopkins	X
NB#08 McCully-Mo‘ili‘ili		VACANT	
NB#09 Waikiki	X	Robert Finley	
NB#10 Makiki-Lower Punchbowl-Tantalus		Fred Nakahara	X
NB#11 Ala Moana-Kaka‘ako		Lynn Mariano	X
NB#12 Nu‘uanu-Punchbowl		Zack Stoddard	X
NB#13 Downtown/Chinatown	X	Ernest Carvalho	
NB#14 Liliha-Pu‘unui- ‘Ālewa -Kamehameha Hts	X	Cora Yamamoto	
NB#15 Kalihi- Pālama		Kendrick Farm	X
NB#18 Āliamanu – Salt Lake		Chace Shigemasa	X
NB#21 Pearl City		Charmaine Doran	X
NB#22 Waipahu		Matthew Weyer	X
NB#23 ‘Ewa	X	John Rogers	

NB#24 Wai‘anae Coast		Jo Jordan	X
NB#25 Mililani-Waipio-Melemanu		Elise Carmody	X
NB#26 Wahiawā-Whitmore Village	X	Joe Francher	
NB #27 North Shore	X	Robert Leinau	
NB#29 Kahalu‘u	X	Ken LeVasseur	
NB#30 Kaneohe	X	Adriel Lam	
NB#34 Makakilo-Kapolei Honokai Hale	X	Frank Genadio	
NB#35 Mililani Mauka-Launani Valley		Dean Hazama	X
NB#36 Nānākuli-Ma‘ili		Richard Landford	X
<b>OahuMPO staff:</b> Mark Garrity Dallas Ige Samantha Lara Nicole Smith Danelle Miyahara Chelsea Dau Lily Zheng Kenneth Schmidt Joel Temple	<b>Guests:</b> Pamela Bailey-Campbell, DTS Max Kalhammer, DTS Graeme Masterson, DTS		

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Rooney called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM.

**2. ROLL CALL**

OahuMPO staff member, Samantha Lara, took roll call by reading out the list of attendees in the meeting as noted in the Teams program.

**3. APPROVAL OF THE JULY 7, 2023 MINUTES**

A motion was made by Joe Francher NB#26 and seconded by Robert Nehmad of the Institute of Transportation Engineers. Cora Yamamoto offered a correction listing her as having made a motion to approve last month’s minutes. There were no objections or abstentions, and the minutes were approved as amended.

**4. REPORTS OF POLICY BOARD AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Executive Director Garrity shared updates on recent activities and initiatives at the OahuMPO, including the “Multimodal Marathon”, the Oahu Regional Transportation Plan 2050, the Project Management Training Program, the launch of the new website, and Personnel and Training. He summarized the business conducted at the July 14, 2023, meeting of the TAC and that of the Policy Board at the July 25, 2023 meeting. He also shared that the next TAC meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 11 at 9:00 a.m. and that the next Policy Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 29 at 1:00 p.m.

The Executive Director’s Report can be viewed at: [https://oahumpo.org/?wpfb\\_dl=3078](https://oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=3078).

John Rogers NB#23 asked if the ORTP survey was still open. Sam Lara replied that it will be open until August 25, 2023. John encouraged everyone to take the survey.

Chair Kathleen Rooney encouraged everyone to also sign up to participate in the Multimodal Challenge.

## **5. OLD BUSINESS**

None.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. OWP WORK ELEMENT PRESENTATION: TRANSIT RIDER SURVEY I**

Pamela Bailey-Campbell, Max Kalhammer, and Graeme Masterson from DTS presented findings from the Transit Rider Survey. This included an Onboard Survey that provided meaningful transit rider activity data for travel forecast modeling and analysis. Survey results indicate that improvements associated with a better experience are extremely important to transit riders. From analysis, the most important next steps are maximizing transit competitiveness with other modes and improving coverage and customer experience.

Tony Gaston of Institute of Transportation Engineers asked what the survey was based on, and how many responses were gathered. Graeme replied that there were about 2000 responses across all three surveys.

Robert Leinau NB#27 suggested in his experience that North Shore bus stops often are littered with trash and feels this hygiene is an important factor to be considered in improving the customer experience.

Daisy Murai of Waikiki Residents' Association asked for clarification about travel time if it also included time waiting at the stop. Graeme responded that it's referring to the speed of the transit system and that the attempt is to make the travel time consistent regardless of time of day.

Samantha Lara asked if there was any demographic data gathered. Pamela responded that it was collected. Samantha followed up asking if future public engagement is planned and how the MPO can support. Max Kalhammer replied that DTS is open to collaborating and integrating any suggestions the MPO has. They want to prioritize having follow up data that can be meaningfully compared to the last surveys.

Adriel Lam NB #30 commented that if the reliability of the system led to a 10 or 20 minute longer travel time than driving, he would use it, but it often adds an hour or more to the travel time. He also asked how this data is being compared to traffic flow data to prioritize high volume routes. Graeme replied that some of the data collected allows those movement patterns and flow to be captured. Pete Durino from the City and County of Honolulu also added that the travel demand forecast model is specifically being designed to make such considerations.

Frank Genadio NB #34 asked if there will be any changes to the fare structure. Pamela replied that as of now, there is no intention to change the existing fee structure.

Donald Sakamoto of Citizens for a Fair ADA Ride asked if there would be changes to the system to accommodate the needs of the visually impaired. For example, when the buses stack up at a station, they don't wait before departing and those users can't see that the bus is passing because of the way that the technology currently works. Pamela thanked Donald for his question and made a note to incorporate that feedback. Graeme also commented that it would be useful to draw from other examples of best practices in regard to ADA users.

Ernest Carvalho NB #13 mentioned that with the opening of the rail, some bus lines have been discontinued or routes were altered which greatly impacts the Kalihi area, especially for school users. He also asked how workers are supposed to utilize the train if the last train departs at 6:00 PM but workers are often working later than that or need to catch a transfer bus to the train station. As a result of these changes, the A bus has been changed from a double bus to a single bus which is resulting in significant overcrowding. Sam Lara thanked Ernest for his comments and documented them so as to relay them to the proper person.

Chair Rooney asked for a motion to recommend the Policy Board approve the report as evidence that the work was carried out, submit the final report to the USDOT for approval, and incorporate study findings into the metropolitan transportation planning process. Robert Nehmad made the motion, seconded by Mike Golojuch. There were no objections or abstentions, so the motion was approved.

## **B. WAIAWA PEARL HIGHLANDS STATION/KAMEHAMEHA HIGHWAY PEDESTRIAN INFRASTRUCTURE**

Chair Rooney requested any comments from the CAC in regard to the Pearl Highlands Station crossing. Adriel Lam supported a resolution to fast track any solutions to make this crossing safer for blind individuals. Mike Golojuch made a motion, seconded by Donald Sakamoto to approve the draft resolution as presented for distribution to relevant parties. There were no objections or abstentions, so the motion was approved.

A motion was made by Donald Sakamoto of Citizens for a Fair ADA Ride, seconded by Robert Nehmad of Institute for Transportation Engineers to extend the meeting by ten minutes. There were no objections or abstentions, so the motion was approved.

## **C. CAC MEMBER ATTENDANCE**

Samantha Lara outlined the CAC bylaws which state that organizations that miss three or more meetings should be notified to ensure that the CAC has productive members attending all meetings.

Donald Sakamoto of Citizens for a Fair ADA Ride commented that the president of the Teamster's Union and representative from Hawaii Association for the Blind would be worth reminding of the CAC so they can be more actively involved.

Kevin Hall of Hawaii Teamster's Union asked if he could replace the past representative from Hawaii Teamster's as he is the current President of the Union. Samantha Lara replied that an email from the organization would be necessary to make that change but it can be made.

Robert Nehmad of Institute for Transportation Engineers commented that the policy should be enforced.

Cora Yamamoto NB #14 echoed Samantha's concern about meeting quorum with so many absent members. She also asked for clarification regarding the alternate designation process. Samantha replied that as long as the alternate is on file with her, they can represent the organization in any meeting.

Bob Finley NB #9 noted that neighborhood board elections were just held, and some members may not know about the CAC or that they can participate.

Mike Golojuch of Palehua Townhouses asked for clarification about how many absences. Samantha replied that it is three absences in one calendar year, not necessarily three in a row.

John Rogers NB #23 asked the obligation of neighborhood boards to attend the CAC. Samantha responded that it is not a requirement, but there is a formal invitation for any neighborhood board to attend and participate in the CAC.

Andrea Anixt of Ka'a'awa Community Association asked if she would be marked present on days that she was late. Samantha responded that due to Sunshine Law, she needs a verbal confirmation or a message in the chat that someone is in attendance. They can't just join the meeting and be marked as present.

Director Garrity expressed that the CAC has historically shown hesitations to remove members from the CAC, but perhaps issues of quorum can be resolved without removing members.

Samantha Lara indicated that she will create a report to address these questions and concerns for next month's CAC meeting.

A motion was made by Donald Sakamoto of Citizens for a Fair ADA Ride and seconded by Ken LeVasseur NB #29 to extend the meeting by two minutes. There were no objections or abstentions, so the motion was approved.

## **7. INVITATION TO INTERESTED MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON MATTERS NOT INCLUDED IN THE AGENDA**

Donald Sakamoto of Citizens for a Fair ADA Ride asked if the new Deputy Director for Transportation could come to the next meeting to introduce himself and do a Q and A. He also announced that there's a Honolulu Rate Commission meeting on August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2:30-4:30. The meeting is hybrid, so Zoom is an option. The Honolulu City Council Transportation Committee is holding a hybrid meeting to have a brief about the Handi-Van system on August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2:30 PM.

Samantha Lara encouraged everyone to sign up for the commute challenge either as a team or an individual.

## **8. ANNOUNCEMENTS & TENTATIVE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next CAC meeting is scheduled for September 6, 2023, at 2:30 PM.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Rooney at 3:45 PM.

The PowerPoint for this meeting may be viewed at: [https://oahumpo.org/?wpfb\\_dl=3061](https://oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=3061).