



Meeting Minutes of the
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization
POLICY BOARD

August 29, 2023, 1:00 PM
at Honolulu Hale, 530 S. King Street, Mayor's Conference Room
including Virtual Meeting hosted on Webex

Members Present:

Councilmember Radiant Cordero, Chair	DTS Director Roger Morton
Representative Darius Kila, Vice-Chair	HART Director Joey Manahan
Representative Lisa Kitagawa	DPP Deputy Director Jiro Sumada
Senator Chris Lee	OPSD Katia Balassiano
Councilmember Val Okimoto	DOH Lola Irvin
Councilmember Tyler Dos Santos Tam	

Members Absent: Senator Sharon Moriwaki, DOT Director Ed Sniffen

Known Guests Present:

Amy Ford-Wagner	Kayla Palmer
Chris Clark	Kiana Otsuka
Danny de Gracia	Leah
Faith Rex	Max Kalhammer
Gavin Kennedy	Pamela Bailey-Campbell
Graeme Masterton	Robert Sato
Jame Schaedel	Sharon Brooks
Justin Menina	Todd Boulanger
Katie Rooney	

OahuMPO Staff Present: Mark Garrity, Zakari Mumuni, Samantha Lara, Lily Zheng, Dallas Ige, Joel Temple, Chelsea Dau, Nicole Smith, Ken Schmidt, Danelle Miyahara

I. INTRODUCTIONS / ROLL CALL

Chair Cordero called the meeting to order at Honolulu Hale, 3rd floor, Mayor's Conference Room at 1:04 p.m. Chair mentioned the meeting is being recorded and reminded members to mute their mics when not speaking and to keep their cameras on as a quorum of 6 members must be visible for the duration of the meeting as required by Sunshine Law.

Roll call was taken of Policy Board members present and quorum was established. Chair Cordero and staff monitored cameras to ensure at least six members had their cameras on at all times during the meeting.

II. APPROVAL OF THE JULY 29, 2023 POLICY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The Policy Board members reviewed the meeting minutes of the July 29, 2023 meeting which were sent to them in advance of the meeting.

A motion was made by Director Morton of Department of Transportation Services (DTS) and seconded by Senator Chris Lee to approve the July 29, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. There were no discussions, objections, or abstentions and the minutes were accepted.

III. REPORTS

A. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Mark Garrity summarized his Report including brief descriptions of the business transacted at the August 2, 2023 meeting of the Citizens Advisory Committee and the August 11, 2023 Technical Advisory Committee meeting.

A copy of Executive Director Garrity's report is available on the OahuMPO webpage:
https://oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=3109

B. TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

There was no report from the TAC.

C. CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)

There was no report from the CAC.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. OVERALL WORK PROGRAM (OWP) PLANNING STUDY PRESENTATION - TRANSIT RIDER SURVEY I

Max Kalhammer with DTS provided a presentation reviewing the survey methodologies, surveys results, analysis and discussion regarding the Transit Rider Survey. The key activities/deliverables included a Market Research Study, Stated Preference Survey, Onboard Survey and Honolulu Enriched Ridership Data dashboard. Mr. Kalhammer noted when the survey was done and its main objectives.

For the Stated Preference Survey results, user experience and cost are the major contributing factors that lead existing Transit users to continue using TheBus, while user experience and travel time are the leading factors that lead people to not use Transit.

For the Onboard Survey done between October 2021 and January 2022, key findings included that ridership was driven by residents, most transit purposes were home-based, over 80% of Transit trips were one-seat rides, and travel was not concentrated to a specific time period.

The Honolulu Enriched Ridership Dashboard analyzed data from October 2021 to December 2021 and identified transfer frequency, routes and stops with the most transfers, and the top thirty routes.

Mr. Kalhammer provided an analysis of the next steps that could be taken by the Transit system to gain new ridership and retain existing ridership based on the survey results. The survey is a subset of the Comprehensive Operations Analysis contract, and addresses customer experience and other ways that the respondents might be willing to take transit more often.

A motion to enter Executive Session was proposed by Vice-Chair Kila and seconded by DTS Director Morton regarding clarification and details of the Transit Rider Survey agenda item to discuss what the Transit Survey contract entailed and the focus of the survey. There were no objections or abstentions.

A video chat question was brought up regarding the registered HOLO card user percentage versus the unregistered HOLO card user percentage. Mr. Kalhammer stated the HOLO cards were used for the dashboard data collection Transit Rider study. DTS Director Morton stated both registered and unregistered cards were used in the HOLO card survey.

Katia Balassiano praised the great effort and comprehensive job of the study and mentioned she would be interested (for future study) in possibly knowing the amount of people with one car, no car, weekend, and evening service.

Chair Cordero asked how the study concluded increasing the number of potential riders? Mr. Kalhammer stated the survey focused on the infrequent riders and non-bus riders as those who have the most potential to change mode share and gain ridership, excluding other factors such as distance and accessibility.

Chair Cordero asked about the follow up after this Rider Survey 1. Mr. Kalhammer explained that Rider Survey 1 will be followed by the bus integration plan and network design, then followed by a short-range improvement program. This may be followed by improvements to amenities and services.

Vice-Chair Kila made a motion and Councilmember Okimoto seconded to 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. There were no abstentions or objections and the motion passed unanimously.

B. OAHU REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (ORTP) 2050 UPDATE ON VISION AND GOALS

Catie Cullison with PBR Hawaii, the lead consultant for the ORTP 2050, stated that OahuMPO and the consultant had shared the updated vision and goals in the July meeting and in this meeting would be asking the Policy Board to endorse the vision and goals of the ORTP. She stated that there was positive feedback to the vision and goals shared in July with no suggestions for changes or adjustments.

Ms. Cullison displayed the seven goals, noting that they are similar to the 2045 goals but with more active-tense language. In the July presentation, two options were provided for Goal 1 regarding safety. OahuMPO is moving forward with the goal in orange text on the slide that makes stronger commitment to developing a Vision Zero transportation system. Ms. Cullison stated that the next step will be to identify measurable objectives to support these goals.

Councilmember Dos Santos Tam noticed the 2045 ORTP Vision stated that “all people” can have access to quality transportation, versus the 2050 ORTP Vision, which states:

“...Oahu’s transportation system serves the health, economic, social, and cultural well-being of all people who live and visit the island with safe, reliable, and affordable multi-modal travel choices...”

Councilmember Dos Santos Tam asked if the vision statement can ensure that “all people” have access to quality transportation. Vice-chair Kila supported and reiterated Councilmember Dos Santos Tam’s comment and desired outcome. Ms. Cullison replied that Councilmember Dos Santos Tam’s comments will be implemented into the next phase of work which is developing the objectives and the supporting performance measures and they will then present it back to the Policy Board, so everyone is comfortable with the verbiage.

Councilmember Okimoto made a motion and DTS Director Morton seconded to approve the ORTP 2050 Vision and Goals as presented and direct the OahuMPO staff and consultants to develop measurable objectives that support the Vision and Goals. There were no abstentions or objections and the motion passed unanimously.

C. FEDERAL TRAINING, EDUCATION, AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FUNDS TO SUPPORT POLICY BOARD CHAIR TRAVEL AND ATTENDANCE AT UPCOMING CONFERENCE

Executive Director Garrity asked for the endorsement of the Policy Board to approve travel for Chair Cordero to attend the MPACT Transit + Community Conference (MPACT) on November 4-8, in Phoenix, Arizona. Per the approved FY2024-2025 OWP, funds are available at 100% federal share, to “support travel costs, workforce training, continuing education, and member association fees for relevant professional organizations, to build up technical capacity of the staff. It will also potentially fund various training opportunities for Policy Board members (with the prior written approval of FHWA).” FHWA has already provided written approval for the Chair to attend this conference.

Director Manahan made a motion and DTS Director Morton seconded to approve a resolution supporting the Policy Board Chair’s travel and attendance at the MPACT Transit + Community Conference in Phoenix on November 5-8, 2023. There were no abstentions or objections and the motion passed unanimously.

VI. INVITATION TO INTERESTED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON MATTERS

There were no comments.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Executive Director Garrity made an announcement that everyone is invited to attend the Hawaii Commute Challenge Celebration Event on Saturday, September 9, from 11 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Salt in Kakaako. Chair Cordero thanked the OahuMPO staff, the Mayor’s and MD’s offices for allowing the Policy Board to conduct this meeting here in the Mayor’s conference room today.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Cordero thanked everyone who attended and adjourned the meeting at 2:09 p.m.

The PowerPoint for this meeting may be viewed at:

https://oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=3110