

**Minutes of the
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization
CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
Wednesday, January 3, 2024, at 2:30 p.m.
via Microsoft Teams

Organization	Present	Represented by	Absent
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	
Hawai'i Association of the Blind	X	Sean Akita	
Hawai'i Bicycling League	X	Travis Counsell	
Hawai'i Teamsters / Allied Workers, Local 996	X	David Aki	
Institute of Transportation Engineers	X	Jasmine Teramae-Kaehuaea	
Ka'a'awa Community Association	X	Andrea Anixt	
Palehua Townhouses	X	Michael Golojuch	
Ulupono Initiative	X	Kathleen Rooney	
Waikiki Residents' Association	X	Daisy Murai	
NB#01 Hawai'i Kai		Roberta Mayor	X
NB#05 Diamond Head-Kapahulu		Bert Narita	X
NB#09 Waikiki		Ken Jacob	X
NB#10 Makiki-Lower Punchbowl-Tantalus		Fred Nakahara	X
NB#11 Ala Moana-Kaka'ako	X	Lynn Mariano	
NB#13 Downtown/Chinatown		Ernest Carvalho	X
NB#14 Liliha-Pu'unui- 'Alewa - Kamehameha Hts	X	Cora Yamamoto	
NB#15 Kalihi- Pālama		Kendrick Farm	X
NB#18 Āliamanu – Salt Lake		Doreen Godfrey	X
NB#21 Pearl City	X	Larry Veray	
NB#22 Waipahu	X	Danny de Gracia	
NB#23 'Ewa	X	John Rogers	
NB#25 Mililani-Waipio-Melemanu		Skyler Ross	X
NB#26 Wahiawā-Whitmore Village	X	Joe Francher	
NB #27 North Shore	X	Robert Leinau	
NB#29 Kahalu'u		Ken LeVasseur	X
NB#30 Kaneohe	X	Adriel Lam	
NB#34 Makakilo-Kapolei Honokai Hale	X	Frank Genadio	

NB#35 Mililani Mauka-Launani Valley	X	Dean Hazama	
NB#36 Nānākuli-Ma'ili		Richard Landford	X
OahuMPO staff: Mark Garrity Samantha Lara Nicole Smith Danelle Miyahara Dallas Ige Lily Zheng Kiana Otsuka Chelsea Dau	Guests: Laura Ruby		

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 DECEMBER 6, 2023 MINUTES

Andrea Anixt motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Donald Sakamoto second. There were no objections or abstentions and the minutes were approved.

4. REPORTS OF POLICY BOARD AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Executive Director Garrity provided a report that included notice of the publishing of the OahuMPO FFY 2023 Annual Listing of Obligated Projects, the completion of the Transportation Improvement Program Federal Fiscal Years 2022-2025 Revision 16 (administrative modifications) (TIP FFYs 2022-2025 Revision 16), notice of the comment period for the Transportation Improvement Program Federal Fiscal Years 2022-2025 Revision 17 (major changes) being opened, a change in personnel at the OahuMPO, and acknowledgement that both the Technical Advisory Committee and Policy Board did not meet in December 2023. The full ED report can be found here: https://oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=3189

Daisy Murai from Waikiki Residents Association raised concerns about the complete streets projects that are focused on pedestrian and bike safety which may affect the flow of traffic. Mark Garrity explained that the projects she is referring to are supported by Safe Streets for All federal grants which the City won. Bob Leinau from NB #27 pointed out a sign on the North Shore that indicates a project to be started in 2001 and asked what the process is for leaving such a sign up. He also requested clarity on what the MPO, the State, and the City are responsible for in terms of projects. ED Garrity explained that the CAC forum is an appropriate space to discuss both state and city projects and emphasized that the MPO is not an implementing agency.

Cora Yamamoto of NB #14 requested information regarding the procedure for community members to express concern regarding implemented projects that may be intended to increase safety but have resulted in unsafe conditions. ED Garrity encouraged Cora to contact the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) at 808-768-8303 or reach out to the Safe Streets Coordinator, Renee Espiau.

Travis Counsell of Hawaii Bicycling League (HBL) pointed out the Oahu Bike Plan that plans for the expansion of bike lanes along with outreach associated with such projects. He emphasized that the bike lanes on Ala Wai Blvd do not reduce an entire lane but rather expand bike infrastructure in some places for safety.

Danny de Gracia of NB #22 asked if a summary of safety reports is available to the public to review. Chair Rooney said the Department of Transportation provides a useful summary to address this question. ED Garrity stated that there is not a single source for this information, although it would be useful, and this would be taken under advisement.

Lynn Mariano of NB#11 stated he agreed with the implementation of bike lanes but stressed the importance of coordination to create seamless infrastructure. He also expressed concern that there is a need for better enforcement of the bike lanes for bike purposes.

5. OLD BUSINESS

None.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Samantha Lara conducted the election for the 2024 CAC Chair and Vice Chair. Travis Counsell of Hawaii Bicycling League nominated Katie Rooney of Ulupono. Chair Rooney accepted the nomination for Chair for 2024. There were no objections or abstentions and the election for Chair was closed.

Chair Rooney nominated Adriel Lam to continue his role as Vice Chair for 2024. Adriel Lam accepted the nomination. There were no objections or abstentions and the election for Vice Chair was closed.

Chair Rooney and Vice Chair Lam will continue their roles into 2024. Chair Rooney noted that per the bylaws, the Chair and Vice Chair are in their last year in regard to the term limits.

B. TIP FFYs 2022-2025 Revision 17 Public Review

Dallas Ige of the OahuMPO notified the CAC that the OahuMPO is accepting comments to the Transportation Improvement Program Federal Fiscal Years

2022-2025 Revision 17 (TIP FFYs 2022-2025 Revision 17), which is an Amendment involving major changes to one existing project, the removal of two existing projects, and considerations for five new projects from the Oahu Regional Transportation Plan (ORTP). In his presentation, he noted the key requirements which include consistency with the long-range plan, a Title IV and Environmental Justice analysis, a financial plan, and a public and intergovernmental review period. He went on to show a table indicating the project, ranking, responsible agency, and estimated cost. He then explained a table showing the expenditures by T6/EJ and non T6/EJ areas. This helps to ensure there are no significant differences in investment between the areas. Dallas reviewed the financial plan which showed that Oahu does have the funding to cover expenses. He then went over the removed projects, addition of projects to existing projects, and new projects. Details can be found in the presentation found here: https://oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=3190. Dallas notified the CAC of the comment period that would end January 17, 2024 along with the process to submit comments.

Bob Leinau of NB#27 asked if the T6/EJ analysis factors in people who are on island but do not live on island. Dallas stated that visitors are not factored in. Vice Chair Lam of NB #30 asked a question in regard to OS21 rockfall mitigation, inquiring if this combination of scopes of work was in response to recent rockslides. Dallas stated that generally speaking, combining projects is a cost saving measure.

Chair Rooney asked if there is a process to help improve projects to raise the scores. Dallas encouraged the CAC members to provide comments on the projects and stated that the MPO is also inquiring about some project details that would help with the scoring.

Lynn Mariano of NB asked how the CAC and the MPO can work to alleviate any pushback to projects by sharing with the general public. Dallas stated that the slides can be shared with the CAC members various communities. Mark Garrity pointed out that the information is on the OahuMPO website to review the projects and submit comments. He referred to the concerns raised previously by the CAC about the timeline of the presentations and stated that the MPO is addressing this concern by presenting the projects to the CAC ahead of time. Lynn Mariano followed up with concern for the general public who may not get or understand this information. Samantha Lara of the OahuMPO addressed Lynn's question by offering that the MPO utilizes social media, newsletters, and the website to draw attention to the comment period. She emphasized that the MPO is looking into expanding outreach to the newspaper and radio.

Danny de Gracia requested that the newsletter listserv is reviewed to make sure the recipients are indeed getting the information. Samantha confirmed

she would review the statistics of those receiving the newsletter.

C. TIP FFYs 2025-2028 Project and Program Scoring Review

Dallas Ige of the OahuMPO provided an overview of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) development process. He reviewed the development schedule by month to provide better clarity. Dallas presented the project and program scoring guide to inform the members how projects are scored alongside the long-range plan goals. He explained that all 92 projects and programs were scored, and that the scores ranged from 4 to 58.5 points. Dallas pointed out that the top 3 goals between new and old projects and programs remain the same, emphasizing that the new projects focus even more on these goals. Dallas provided a link to a spreadsheet showing the detailed scores. The link is here: https://oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=3188

Frank Genadio of NB #34 asked if the Makakilo Drive Extension was scored. Dallas responded that that project had fallen off the TIP years ago and encouraged the members to submit comments to address that the extension is not on the TIP. Chair Rooney acknowledged that projects require a sponsor to be submitted. Donald Sakamoto of Citizens for a Fair ADA ride asked what the H3 lighting project consists of. Dallas stated he would need to follow up.

Bob Leinau of NB#27 asked what the variables are that get projects put on or removed from the plan. He pointed out the role of politics and asked how effective the interface with the politicians is. Dallas responded that the projects often are aligned with the funding that is available.

Frank Genadio of NB#34 asked how a project gets a sponsor. Mark Garrity stated that the administration has to assign a sponsor.

Donald Sakamoto Citizens for a Fair ADA Ride motioned to extend the meeting by ten minutes. Danny de Gracia seconded this motion.

Chair Lam of NB#30 asked if more alternative interchanges can be in the works in the future in efforts to reduce congestion and provide more routes. Chair Rooney asked the MPO staff to direct this comment to HDOT.

Chair Rooney asked what the plan would be to improve the scores considering that competition for funds is not a reality for Oahu. Mark Garrity stated that the MPO would like to see a more robust set of projects submitted that are in line with comments received from the public. Chair Rooney expressed concern that there is a reduction in projects dealing with equity, the protection of cultural assets, and active transportation. Mark Garrity responded that the projects are often in line with available types of funding. Chair Rooney emphasized that she is concerned that safety funds are often delegated to rumble strips when the vulnerable road user assessment points out safety concerns for pedestrians

and bicyclists.

Donald Sakamoto of Citizens for a Fair ADA ride motioned to extend the meeting by 5 minutes. Lynn Mariano of NB#11 seconded the motion.

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

Laura Ruby expressed need for raised crosswalks at Kuhio school and Ala Wai school. She pointed out major concern for the plans to build flood control walls around the Ala Wai which would be an eyesore and could impact tourism. Laura stressed opposition to the Ala Pono bridge and said the community is not being listened to. She said the NB is requesting a full EIS of the bridge plan.

Donald Sakamoto requested Roger Morton attend a CAC meeting to update the members. He also stated he requested an update from DeSantos on complete streets.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS & TENTATIVE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is February 7, 2024.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Rooney at 3:50pm

The PowerPoint for this meeting may be viewed at:

https://oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=3190