

**Minutes of the
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization
CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, March 6, 2024, at 2:30 p.m.**

Organization	Present	Represented by	Absent
AARP	X	Elizabeth Chinn	
American Planning Association		Jared Chang	X
American Society of Civil Engineers	X	Tony Gaston	
Citizens for a Fair ADA ride	X	Donald Sakamoto	
Hawaii Association of the Blind	X	Sean Akita	
Hawaii Bicycling League	X	Travis Counsell	
Hawaii Teamsters / Allied Workers, Local 996	X	David Aki	
Institute of Transportation Engineers	X	Jasmine Teramae-Kaehuaea	
Kaaawa Community Association	X	Andrea Anixt	
Palehua Townhouses		Michael Golojuch	X
Ulupono Initiative	X	Kathleen Rooney	
Waikiki Residents' Association	X	Daisy Murai	
NB#01 Hawaii Kai	X	Roberta Mayor	
NB#05 Diamond Head-Kapahulu		Bert Narita	X
NB#09 Waikiki	X	Ken Jacob	
NB#10 Makiki-Lower Punchbowl-Tantalus		Fred Nakahara	X
NB#11 Ala Moana-Kakaako	X	Lynn Mariano	
NB#13 Downtown/Chinatown		Ernest Caravalho	X
NB#14 Liliha-Puunui- Alewa - Kamehameha Hts	X	Darren Cantrill	
NB#15 Kalihi- Palama		Kendrick Farm	X
NB#18 Aliamanu – Salt Lake	X	Lorene Godfrey	
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	X	Skyler Ross	
NB#26 Wahiawa-Whitmore Village		Joe Francher	X
NB #27 North Shore	X	Robert Leinau	
NB#29 Kahaluu	X	Ken LeVasseur	
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 Nanakuli-Mail	Richard Landford	X
OahuMPO staff: Mark Garrity Samantha Lara Nicole Smith Danelle Miyahara Dallas Ige Lily Zheng Kiana Otsuka Chelsea Dau	Guests: Laura Ruby Eduardo Hernandez Todd Boulanger Rae Gee, NB#12	

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 FEBRUARY 7, 2024 MINUTES

Frank Genadio requested amendments to the minutes to reflect a grammatical error and a missing comment from the February presenter. Samantha Lara stated she would review the recording and make changes as appropriate. Donald Sakamoto motioned to approve the minutes with corrections. Andrea Anixt seconded the motion. There were no objections or abstentions, and the minutes were approved.

4. REPORTS OF POLICY BOARD AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Executive Director Mark Garrity provided a report of updates that included Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) presentations on the Transportation Improvement Program, Revision #17, and the proposed update to the Transportation Improvement Program Policies and Procedures. The TAC voted to recommend Policy Board approval. The Policy Board heard both of these presentations, as well, and voted to approve both the revision and the proposed update.

5. OLD BUSINESS

None.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Charley's Taxi Presentation

Ryan Naka from Charley's Taxi presented information regarding the authority of the Department of Customer Service Director to establish and regulate taxicab rates, of which transportation network companies (TNC's) are exempt from. Ryan expressed the difficulties this poses for taxicab drivers, affecting

their pay and ultimately causing driver shortage for taxicab companies. He emphasized that other services such as the bus, skyline, and Handivan are able to charge what they need, which limits taxicab companies to operate competitively. Ryan explained that Taxicabs offer services that TNC's are unable to offer, such as medical transport services. He stated that TNC's do not have rigorous background checks, insurance policies, or driving tests, which is a safety concern. He emphasized the need for taxicab companies to set their own rates by explaining that custom vehicles for wheelchair access are costly, and current regulations limit the ability of taxi drivers to update their vehicles. Ryan also stated that TNC's often will not take customers to the North Shore, which causes issues for tourists and kupuna. He explained that these reasonings show the need for support for a bill to repeal rate control, prioritize taxis, and maintain their vital role in the community. Ryan substantiated this claim by showing charts that provided information regarding wait times, the deregulation of TNC's coinciding with demand and outgrowth of taxi service, data collected from other cities and countries, and an image of a complaint received by someone who did not receive timely service due to driver shortage.

David Aki of Hawaii Teamsters' offered support for the taxicab industry, stating the community will always be in need of cab service.

Bob Leinau of NB#27 expressed that while he can see the difficulty of the taxicab company, perhaps TNC's are acting in response to the market in terms of their model. He encouraged the presenters to be clearer about what their recommendations for the best direction forward would be. Dale Evans of Charley's Taxi responded that the company would like to have rate regulations repealed in efforts to support the economic vitality of the taxicab companies and protect the consumer.

Todd Boulanger asked Charley's Taxi to revisit their information regarding TheBus not having fare regulation and cited the municipal code which outlines the public process for fares. He also asked how Charley's Taxi would set rates if deregulated and if they have an app for consumers. Dale Evans responded that Charley's Taxi does indeed have a multi-language app for consumer use and would base rates off of quality, convenience, and preference of customers.

Donald Sakamoto of Citizens For A Fair ADA Ride offered support for Charley's Taxi, saying the company should have more ability to receive subsidies for ADA vehicles. He then asked Dale how many ADA vehicles are in the Charley's Taxi fleet. Dale Evans responded that the company does not have any wheelchair accessible vans at this time.

Daisy Murai of the Waikiki Residents' Association offered support of Charley's Taxi's endeavor to repeal rate regulation of taxis. She expressed safety

concerns regarding Uber and Lyft drivers not having background checks. Daisy stated that she has experienced having to utilize a cab because the City does not have enough vehicles for service. She emphasized the need for the City to work with taxi companies to address needs.

Adriel Lam of NB#30 offered support of Charley's Taxi's endeavor to repeal rate regulation of taxis and encouraged Charley's to remain competitive by offering specialized services.

Ken LeVasseur of NB#29 encouraged Charley's Taxi to create a document that shows the categories outlined in the presentation in efforts to put together a task force that can address each category and show crossovers. He emphasized the effectiveness of this approach to assist with writing a bill and gathering support from legislatures.

Bob Leinau of NB#27 suggested Charley's Taxi to provide information on the profitability of the taxi cabs. He recommended an approach to highlight what the company does want instead of what they do not want. Dale Evans responded by expressing concern and frustration for the underpaid drivers.

Chair Rooney recommended Charley's Taxi be more explicit in what they want, suggesting being clear on what the request is from the city and county and state legislation. She encouraged Charley's Taxi to simplify their presentation in efforts to focus on what their actual request is in efforts to maybe get more traction and support.

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

David Aki stated that he had submitted three documentations regarding toxic chemicals being used on the City bus without safety precautions to OSHA to which OSHA responded with fines and shut down to the City. He expressed desire for safety education regarding proper procedures of using chemicals and offered a recommendation to have this as an agenda item for the CAC. Chair Rooney said she would discuss with MPO staff this potential agenda item and Samantha Lara stated she would send the documentation provided by Mr. Aki to the CAC members for review.

Ken LeVasseur of NB#29 informed the CAC that a Kahaluu community member recently was killed in an area the community has identified as in need of a multiuse pathway, and stated the community is working on getting more members involved in writing a resolution to address this urgent matter.

Laura Ruby requested to share photos of low, modest bridges that should be considered in the planning of the Ala Pono bridge. She expressed concern for the width of the bridge and emphasized the need for the McCulley bridge

maintenance be addressed first. Laura stated she is looking into becoming the NB#8 representative.

Larry Veray of NB#21 stated that he has two bills that are going through the legislature at the moment, SB2445 and HB2015, which request an emergency egress road to be built for Pacific Palisades.

Donald Sakamoto requested a presentation from Ryan Fujii of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS & TENTATIVE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2024.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Rooney at 3:02PM

The PowerPoint for this meeting may be viewed at:

https://oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=3228

Minutes of the
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
March 8, 2024
Virtual Meeting hosted on Microsoft Teams

Members Present:

Name	Agency	Voting Rights	Present
Ian Crittenden (Chair)	DTS	Yes	x
Masatomo Murata (Vice Chair)	HDOT	Yes	x
Ken Tatsuguchi	HDOT	Yes	x
Dennis Lovello	HART	Yes	
Joey Manahan	HART	Yes	
Eileen Mark	DTS	Yes	x
Dina Wong	DPP	Yes	x
Noelle Cole	DPP	Yes	x
Joseph Roos	DBEDT	Yes	x
Aaron Setogawa	OPSD	Yes	x
Kimberly Evans	FAA	No	x
Mary Nguyen	FTA	No	
Richard Yoneda	DFM	No	
Kelvin Kohatsu	HTA	No	
Tim Trang	DDC	No	
Amy Ford-Wagner	FHWA	No	x

Guests Present: Chris Clark (DTS), Max Kalhammer (DTS), Greg Tsugawa (DTS), Rachel Roper-Noonan (HDOT), Kari Benes (HDOT), Jan Higaki (HDOT), Teka Iese (DTS)

OahuMPO Staff Present: Nicole Smith, Mark Garrity, Dallas Ige, Chelsea Dau, Zakari Mumuni, Kiana Otsuka, Danelle Miyahara, Joel Vincent, Lily Zheng

The meeting was properly noticed in accordance with State law.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Crittenden called the meeting to order at 9:01 am.

II. ROLL CALL

OahuMPO staff took roll call by reading out the list of attendees in the meeting as noted in the Teams program. Members confirmed their attendance verbally and indicated whether anyone else was present with them.

III. APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 9, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

Chair Crittenden requested members review the minutes which were emailed in advance of the meeting. The Chair asked if any members had edits to the minutes and none responded. Noelle Cole made a motion and Ken Tatsuguchi seconded to approve the February 9, 2024 minutes as distributed. The minutes were approved as distributed by unanimous consent.

IV. REPORTS

A. Executive Director

Executive Director Garrity provided updates on the business conducted at the Policy Board meeting on February 27 and the Citizen Advisory Committee meeting on March 6.

The Executive Director's Report can be viewed at:

https://oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=3230

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Oahu Regional Transportation Plan (ORTP) 2050 Objectives and Performance Measure Update

Transportation Planner Chelsea Dau summarized the ORTP 2050 Vision and Goals and described the guidelines that OahuMPO followed when setting plan objectives and performance measures.

Ms. Dau then reviewed each goal, its associated objectives and the performance measures that would be tracked to gauge progress. She noted that the federally required performance measures were indicated by (F) on the slides. There are 7 goals, 17 objectives and 51 performance measures, roughly half of which are federally required.

General discussion resulted in action items for OahuMPO staff to verify how the State and City plans define "bikeway" for Goal 7, and to change the bus fleet measurement to zero-emission rather than electric. These changes will be made prior to the March Policy Board meeting.

Dina Wong made a motion and Joe Roos seconded to recommend that the Policy Board approve the Oahu Regional Transportation Plan 2050 Objectives and Performance Measures.

B. Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) Update

Executive Director recapped the discussion on this topic in the February meeting, noting that TAC members agreed to prioritize bike/ped projects, transit and congestion management technologies, although a motion was not passed.

Director Garrity stated that OahuMPO staff had identified 32 projects and programs in the current TIP that are eligible for CRP funds, and displayed the highest scoring projects, ranked with bike/ped projects at the top.

Director Garrity noted that the CRP funding is a relatively small amount and must be assigned to projects that are ready to receive the funds. The recommendation is to allocate the full amount (~\$6 million over 3 years) to the Transportation Alternatives Program (MPO or State) and allow flexibility regarding the specific project to which the funds will be allocated.

Aaron Setogawa made a motion and Noelle Cole seconded to recommend the Policy Board approve the Project Prioritization and Selection Process and list of selected projects for the Carbon Reduction Program Suballocation of Funds for the Oahu Urbanized Area.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Statewide Safety Performance Targets

Hawaii DOT staff reviewed the federal regulations related to Highway Safety Performance Targets. In the form of line graphs, HDOT staff shared the actual annual data, five-year average and linear five-year average for fatalities, total serious injuries, total fatality rate and total serious injury rate.

Director Garrity informed the TAC that OahuMPO plans to respond to the statewide safety performance targets in the April meeting.

VII. INVITATION TO INTERESTED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON MATTERS NOT INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA

None.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Amy Ford-Wagner announced that there is a forthcoming grant opportunity for Active Transportation, and the FHWA Hawaii Division Office will announce when the Notice of Funding Opportunity is posted.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Ian Crittenden adjourned the meeting at 10:02am. The meeting presentation may be viewed at: https://oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=3231