



To: Technical Advisory Committee Members

From: Mark Garrity, Executive Director

Date: June 14, 2024

Executive Director's Report

Workforce Development and Training

Senior Transportation Planner Kiana Otsuka attended the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) annual conference in Miami. She attended sessions related to safety, climate, equity, sustainable growth, and regional collaboration, and will incorporate lessons learned into her work related to regional planning studies and on other MPO work products.

Community Outreach and Volunteering

May was Bike Month on Oahu, and MPO staff participated in various events to celebrate.

On May 14 and 15, OahuMPO staff Samantha Lara, Maile Greenhill, and Lily Zheng joined the Hawaii Bicycling League (HBL) at bike energizer stations at Thomas Square Park and along the Civic Center Bike Path. OahuMPO staff members collected feedback from cyclists about their biking experiences, including what they love and what could be improved, and distributed participation prizes. The insights gathered will be incorporated into our upcoming 2050 Oahu Regional Transportation Plan.



Samantha Lara and Maile Greenhill also volunteered for the “Bike Lane Menehune Project” on Saturday, May 11, hosted by HBL. During this event, Samantha and Maile, along with other volunteers, replaced broken delineators on the Ward Avenue protected bike lane.

Legislation Update

During the 2024 State legislative session, OahuMPO staff tracked and followed 140 bills that had some relationship to our planning efforts or the long-range transportation plan. We submitted supporting testimony for 27 bills that were consistent with the adopted Vision, Goals, or Objectives of the Oahu Regional Transportation Plan. Three of the bills for which we submitted testimony made it all the way through and have been sent to the governor for signing. Two bills are related to highway safety (SB2443, and SB3242) and one is related to urban development (SB3202).

Research related to MPO expenditures on Safety

At the April Policy Board meeting, the Board requested staff to conduct research on how other MPOs are addressing safety through budgeting and policy. To follow up, Transportation Planner Chelsea Dau has begun investigating budgets and policies pertaining to safety in various approved long-range plans and Transportation Improvement Programs.

Chelsea is focusing her research on MPOs of a similar population size, MPOs that are geographically or culturally like Oahu, and other MPOs that have been effective at improving safety. For example, she is reaching out to the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority for more information as it contains the city of Hoboken, New Jersey, which is the first U.S. city to aspire to, and achieve zero transportation-related fatalities. Chelsea will present her findings at the July 2024 TAC and Policy Board meetings.

Policy Board

The Policy Board met on May 28. They received a presentation on proposed Overall Work Program (OWP) FY2024-2025 Revision 1 Final Draft and voted to approve. They also received a presentation on the Overall Work Program Energy Conservation and Emissions Reduction Plan and voted to approve the report.

Their next meeting is currently scheduled for June 24 at 11:00 AM.

Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)

The CAC met on June 5. They received a presentation on the Transportation Improvement Program Federal Fiscal Years 2025-2028 (TIP FFYs 2025-2028) and voted to recommend the Policy Board approve. They also received a presentation on the Overall Work Program (OWP) Presentation – Oahu Mobility Hub Study (State Facilities) and voted to recommend the Policy Board approve.

Their next meeting is scheduled for July 3 at 2:30 PM.