



Meeting Minutes of the
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization
POLICY BOARD

October 28, 2024, 11:00 AM
Virtual Meeting hosted on Zoom
and in person at
707 Richards Street, Suite 200, Honolulu, HI 96813

Members Present:

Representative Darius Kila (Chair)	Councilmember Tyler Dos Santos-Tam
Councilmember Val Okimoto (Vice Chair)	DTS Director Roger Morton
Senator Chris Lee	FHWA Richelle Takara
Senator Sharon Moriwaki	DOH Heidi Hansen Smith

Members Absent:

Councilmember Radiant Cordero, Representative Lisa Kitagawa,
HART Executive Director Lori Kahikina, HDOT Director Edwin Sniffen, DPP Director Dawn
Takeuchi-Apuna, OPSD Mary Alice Evans

Known Guests Present:

Amy Ford-Wagner	Ian Crittenden
Chris Clark	Jame Schaedel
Daniel Alexander	Malcolm Iwami
Dinna Schwiering	Nicole Cernohorsky
Germaine Salim	

OahuMPO Staff Present: Executive Director Mark Garrity, Chelsea Dau,
Danelle Miyahara, Joel Vincent, Kiana Otsuka, Landon Lee, Maile Greenhill, Nicole Smith,
Samantha Lara, Zakari Mumuni

I. INTRODUCTIONS / ROLL CALL

Chair Kila called the meeting to order at 11:14 a.m. Chair Kila 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 six 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 Kila and the Oahu MPO staff monitored cameras to ensure at least six members had their cameras on at all times during the meeting.

II. APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 30, 2024, POLICY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The Policy Board members reviewed the meeting minutes of the September 30, 2024, meeting which were sent to them in advance of the meeting.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Okimoto and seconded by Senator Moriwaki to approve the amended September 30, 2024, meeting minutes as presented. There were no discussions, objections, or abstentions and the minutes were accepted.

III. REPORTS

A. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

OahuMPO Executive Director Mark Garrity provided a summary of recent activities at OahuMPO, including the Project Management Training Program Mobile Workshop and a summary of the latest Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meetings.

A copy of Executive Director Garrity's report is available on the OahuMPO webpage: https://oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=3392

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) FY2026-2027 FIRST DRAFT LIST OF PROJECTS

Nicole Smith, OahuMPO Planning Program Manager, presented the calendar for development of the OWP FY2026-2027 and summarized the planning priorities approved by the Policy Board in August that provides an evaluation framework for potential planning activities.

Ms. Smith then described the OWP work elements that meets federal requirements and are conducted by OahuMPO staff in coordination with agency partners. Ms. Smith noted that the list of seven potential planning activities is subject to change, with funding levels to be determined. Ms. Smith mentioned that OahuMPO is exploring the option of procuring consultant services using an indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity contract.

B. VISION ZERO SAFETY LEGISLATION UPDATES

Mark Garrity, OahuMPO Executive Director (ED), reported that the OahuMPO staff conducted research of other locations and recommends legislation to improve traffic safety, emphasizing increased fines for speeding, implementation of speed cameras, and expanded pedestrian rights. The proposal is based on research indicating that Hawaii's current speeding fines tend to be low compared to some other states where fines can exceed \$250.00. OahuMPO staff have proposed several ideas for legislation to improve traffic safety, such as raising speeding fines and establishing a driver's license point

system. It was noted that a driver's license point system could help deter dangerous driving behaviors.

Senator Moriwaki inquired about the effectiveness of point systems in other states, while Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam highlighted the need to reassess transportation fees. Chair Kila supported these initiatives and encouraged further exploration of the proposals.

OahuMPO presented a plan to enhance speed camera enforcement in areas identified as high injury locations as part of the Vision Zero Action Plan. The discussion highlighted the transition from a pilot program to a permanent program, with the implementation of speed enforcement cameras set to begin in January 2025. Chair Kila expressed support for the initiative, noting that legislative action would be necessary for expansion.

The discussion highlighted the need for other changes in the traffic code to promote pedestrian safety and equity. Senator Moriwaki proposed allowing pedestrians to possibly indicate their intent to cross by raising their arms and to start crossing during countdown signals, which would align with practices in states like Connecticut and California. Chair Kila expressed support for these ideas, emphasizing the importance of increased awareness among both drivers and pedestrians.

ED Garrity concluded that the OahuMPO recommend conducting further research on other items, noting the importance of tracking major crash report criteria and mentioned that they would wait for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to establish new rules before making any other recommendations.

C. OVERALL WORK PROGRAM – STATE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE TDM STUDY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Kiana Otsuka, OahuMPO Senior Transportation Planner, along with Nicole Cernohorsky, State of Hawaii Energy Specialist, presented the study's context, noting that half of Oahu's greenhouse gas emissions stem from transportation. They stressed the need for travel demand management strategies to reduce vehicle miles traveled, especially given the increasing vacancy rates in State of Hawaii government employee positions.

Ms. Otsuka presented the objectives of enhancing transportation benefits for state employees, focusing on reducing vehicle miles traveled and improving employee retention. Ms. Otsuka emphasized the need for stakeholder collaboration and shared insights from a recent State of Hawaii government employee survey which indicated a strong desire for fully subsidized transit passes as a key incentive for behavior change.

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

There were no comments.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Kila reminded Policy Board members about the Wednesday, December 16, 2024, 11:00 AM, *in-person* Policy Board meeting, to be held at the State Capitol.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Kila at 12:07 PM.

The PowerPoint for this meeting may be viewed at:

https://oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=3393