

RECEIVED
MAR 24 2016

OMPO



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

FORD N. FUCHIGAMI
DIRECTOR

Deputy Director
JADE T. BUTAY
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:
DIR 0338
HWY-PS 2.1884

March 23, 2016

Mr. Brian Gibson
Executive Director
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization
Ocean View Center
707 Richards Street, Suite 200
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-4623

Dear Mr. Gibson:

Subject: Oahu Regional Transportation Plan Update to 2040
HDOT Feedback on Project Listing

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to comments that you have received from the United States Department of Transportation and other stakeholders regarding Oahu Regional Transportation Plan (ORTP) 2040 projects. The following are our responses.

1. Interstate Route H-1, Corridor Study Short Term Improvements (Project #5)

The H-1 Corridor Study is not projected to be completed until this summer. We will not be able to provide more guidance on this project until then. The intent of including OahuMPO in the H-1 Corridor Study H-1 Corridor Advisory Group is to provide opportunity to gather information and guidance to assist in the integration of this plan into the ORTP.

2. Farrington Highway Widening, Hakimo Road to Kalaeloa Boulevard (Project #351)

To help accommodate consistency between the ongoing efforts and the ORTP, we recommend editing the language you suggest to read, "To improve congestion and safety operations, contra-flow, intersection improvements, traffic calming and other types of scope may be pursued in the short range."

3. Farrington Highway Realignment Feasibility Study (Not specifically identified in the draft ORTP)

Mr. Brian Gibson
March 23, 2016
Page 2

HWY-PS 2.1884

The HDOT does not support this project since we have questioned the validity of performing a feasibility study on a preferred alternative that has no clear objectives, and purpose and need; and the completion of an alternatives analysis. It is not practical to pursue this preliminary engineering work without performing a transportation needs study, Planning and Environmental Linkages Study or National Environmental Policy Act document.

If you have any questions, please contact Ken Tatsuguchi, Engineering Program Manager, Highways Planning Division, at (808) 587-1830.

Sincerely,



FORD N. FUCHIGAMI
Director of Transportation