Minutes of the
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization
CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, September 2, 2026, at 2:30 p.m.

Organization	Present	Represented by	Absent
AARP	x	Elizabeth Chinn	
American Planning Association	x	Mike Motoki	
American Society of Civil Engineers		Tony Gaston	x
Citizens for a Fair ADA ride	x	Donald Sakamoto	
Hawaii Association of the Blind	x	Kyle Laconsay	
Hawaii Bicycling League	x	Eduardo Hernandez	
Hawaii Teamsters / Allied Workers, Local 996		David Aki	x
Institute of Transportation Engineers	x	Jasmine Teramae-Kaehuaea	
Kaaawa Community Association		Andrea Anixt	x
Palehua Townhouses	x	Michael Golojuch	
Ulupono Initiative	x	Kathleen Rooney	
Waikiki Residents' Association	x	Daisy Murai	
NB#01 Hawaii Kai	x	Roberta Mayor	
NB#8 McCully–Mo'ili'ili		Matthew Prellberg	x
NB#09 Waikiki		Kenneth Jacob	x
NB#10 Makiki-Lower Punchbowl-Tantalus	x	Adam Kirchmann	
NB #11 Ala Moana-Kaka'ako	x	Jeanne Rice	
NB#12 Nuuanu Punchbowl	x	Rae Gee	
NB#14 Liliha-Puunui- Alewa -Kamehameha Hts	x	Cora Yamamoto	
NB#18 Aliamanu – Salt Lake		James Gauer	x
NB#21 Pearl City	x	Daniel Smith	
NB#23 Ewa		John Rogers	x
NB#25 Mililani-Waipio-Melemanu		Ed Flores	x
NB#26 Wahiawa-Whitmore Village		Joe Francher	x
NB #27 North Shore		Robert Leinau	x
NB#29 Kahaluu		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 Nanakuli-Maili		Richard Landford	x

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OahuMPO staff:	**Guests:**
Mark Garrity Alan Tong Nicole Smith Lily Zheng Dallas Ige Maile Greenhill Emily Cristobal Kiana Otsuka	Scott Brady - DTS

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
   Chair Katie Rooney called the meeting to order at 2:30PM.

2. **ROLL CALL**
   OahuMPO Community Planner Emily Cristobal, took roll call by reading out the list of attendees in the meeting as noted in the Teams program.

3. **APPROVAL OF THE JULY 1, 2026**
   Rae Gee asked for a correction, noting that she was in attendance at the July 1st CAC Meeting. Donald Sakamoto motioned to approve the July 1st Minutes with corrections, and Rae Gee seconded the motion.

4. **REPORTS OF POLICY BOARD AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

   OahuMPO Executive Director Mark Garrity shared updates regarding community outreach. On July 14, OahuMPO staff participated in the Punahou Sustainability Fellowship's Climate Career Café, engaging with public and private high school students to discuss the organization's role in regional planning and sharing their own personal career paths. On July 30, OahuMPO hosted an #ImagineThis Speaker Series event featuring Celeste Gilman, a nationally recognized Complete Streets Changemaker and WSDOT Strategic Policy Administrator. The event included a presentation followed by Q&A and an interactive Impact vs. Effort activity that gathered community priorities.

   In August, OahuMPO staff presented the proposed planning priorities for the UPWP FY2028- 2029 to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on August 14, 2026 and the Policy Board on August 31, 2026 for discussion and approval. The Policy Board approved the priorities as presented and directed OahuMPO staff to use these to guide the programming of funds for planning activities in the new work program.

   The TAC's next meeting is scheduled for September 11 at 9:00 AM.

   The Policy Board is scheduled to meet on September 28 at 1:00 PM.

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The Executive Director's Report can be viewed at https://oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=3773

Daisy Murai asked if there was a synopsis of the #ImagineThis Event for CAC members to view online. OahuMPO staff said that a summary was posted on our website and that Celeste Gilman's slides would also be included in that online post.

5. OLD BUSINESS

None

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Honolulu TDM Plan Implementation Update - HNL Connect

Max Kalhammer from the City's Department of Transportation Services provided an overview of FY 2026 program successes, measurable outcomes, and future initiatives supporting sustainable and multimodal transportation. In his presentation, he emphasized efforts through HNL Connect, including key program achievements, community engagement efforts, and initiatives that encourage alternatives to driving alone.

The presentation highlighted progress on several TDM strategies, including the HNL Connect public-facing app, community outreach, social media campaigns, the Restricted Parking Zone (RPZ) program, City employee transportation programs, and van pooling. HNL Connect allows users to plan trips, connect with other DTS mobility apps, and track their transportation and environmental impacts, including calories burned, fuel savings, and emissions reductions.

As of the end of June 2026, HNL Connect had nearly 3,000 users, with users collectively recording more than 2 million calories burned and approximately $500,000 in fuel savings. DTS noted that it plans to further evaluate whether the app is contributing to increased transit ridership.

DTS also discussed its outreach and marketing efforts associated with the October 2025 Skyline opening. The campaign generated approximately 13 million views and impressions and 35,000–36,000 clicks/conversions. During that period, bus ridership increased by approximately 3.24%, while rail ridership increased by approximately 50%, with rail ridership continuing to grow afterward.

The presentation also highlighted the launch of the City's first official paid Restricted Parking Zone (RPZ) in Kealoha Valley in 2026. As of June 26, DTS had sold 231 permits. DTS is maintaining an interest list for potential future RPZ locations and encouraged neighborhood boards to identify areas for consideration.

For City employees, DTS is promoting the City Holo badge program, which allows employees to use their City ID badge for free transit on buses and Skyline. Other TDM benefits include pre-tax transportation benefits, carpool matching, telecommuting, and flexible work schedules. DTS also plans to

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resume an annual City employee travel survey using standardized questions to better track transportation choices and travel behavior over time.

Looking ahead, DTS identified several priorities, including establishing another potential RPZ, relaunching the Honolulu Public Van Pool Program, repeating the annual travel challenge, pursuing parking-pricing legislative reforms, and expanding developer-focused TDM strategies. The van pool program will include incentives for participants to connect to Skyline and other transit rather than driving directly to their final destinations.

Overall, DTS emphasized that the goal of the TDM program is to reduce vehicle miles traveled by encouraging alternatives to driving alone, including transit, carpooling, van pooling, and other mobility options, while using data and community feedback to evaluate and improve the program.

Donald Sakamoto asked how many City employees are currently using the free transit benefit. Mr. Kalhammer indicated that DTS would obtain the current number and report back to the committee. Concerns were also raised about employees sharing their Holo cards with family members. Mr. Kalhammer said the current system relies largely on an honor system. Mr. Sakamoto added that that he would like to see payment options expand to include smartphone wallets and credit cards, to which Mr. Kalhammer said DTS is working on.

Frank Genadio highlighted the potential for Makakilo Drive to reduce daily vehicle travel for residents in the area. He also requested that a screen-line traffic counter be installed in an appropriate location near the H-1 exit to better measure traffic volumes. Mr. Kalhammer agreed to pass the request along to Director Morton.

Adam Kirchmann raised ongoing parking problems associated with the bike lane on Pensacola Street. He suggested using a nearby city-owned vacant lot at 1421 Pensacola Street for community parking. DTS expressed support for exploring opportunities to increase off-street parking and on-street parking turnover and agreed to look into the property's ownership and potential use.

Cora Yamamoto asked whether the metrics shown on the “How We Measure Progress” slide—such as non-drive-alone trips and tons of CO_2 reduced—represented the previous fiscal year. Mr. Kalhammer clarified that the metrics apply only to users of the HNL Connect app.

Daniel Smith raised concerns about inadequate bus service to Pearl City High School, noting that students currently have to walk approximately half a mile from the bus stop to campus. He asked how the community could provide input on potential bus route changes. Mr. Kalhammer offered to connect the neighborhood board with DTS staff involved in bus network planning.

Adriel Lam provided feedback after testing the transit app. He found that traveling between Kaneohe and Mililani could take approximately two hours each way, making transit less practical than driving for occasional trips. He noted that the bus-to-Skyline connections worked well in some portions of the

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trip but that the overall travel time remains a barrier.

Sheri Rand asked about the relaunch of the van share/van pool initiative. Mr. Kalhammer explained that users would be able to initiate a van pool through HNL Connect, with Commute with Enterprise anticipated as the vendor, although negotiations were still underway. DTS was hoping to launch the public subsidy program around October or November. Individuals could also establish a van pool through the vendor before the subsidy launches and potentially enroll in the subsidy program later.

B. Parking for the People: A New Toolkit for Parking Policy Reform in Hawai'i

Chair Katie Rooney from the Ulupono Initiative presented on Parking for the People. She shared a new online resource focused on parking reform and public parking options. In her walkthrough of the website, she showcased current understandings of parking in Hawaii, such as parking trade-offs, advocacy tools, and other ways people can learn more on the topic.

Chair Rooney, especially emphasized the Parking Trade-offs section of the website, which includes helpful infographics which show case parking's impact on ʻāina, cost of living, limiting parking access, and maintaining unsafe streets. One infographic explained that Hawaii has 4.5 million total parking spaces statewide, which is a lot of land dedicated to housing vehicles rather than actual homes for people. In some cases, parking overtakes a larger portion of land compared to that of the actual business or housing structure. For example, in Kailua, a map showed that 33% of land is used for parking. In some ways this data shows that it may be less about the supply but rather how it gets managed. Parking can also impact the cost of living and how it can impact housing, adding about $400 a month in expenses, and how it can impact businesses. Another data point showed that Honolulu actually loses $4-5 million annually operating public parking garages and street meters. It also goes into the cost of building and maintaining parking structures. Chair Rooney also added that parking also contributes to congestion, especially in neighborhoods and urban areas.

View the website here: https://www.parkingforthepeople.com/

Adriel Lam said he appreciated the presentation and wanted to add that it's still important to have parking at the origin and destination for people who want to commute and ensuring people have options. He added that it might be helpful to think of ways to implement parking at the bottom of businesses to have some sort of elevation in the case of natural disasters like tsunamis. He said this could also limit the need for off-street parking. Chair Rooney added that if parking is added to the first floor, this could also impact pedestrian safety. Furthermore, she said the data also showed that in some places, parked cars were found to be abandoned or even used for long-term stalls. It's mainly to bring some additional thoughts on how we can address land scarcity.

Frank Genadio asked how many of the 4.5 million parking spaces are on Oahu. Chair Rooney explained there is no clear inventory of parking spaces, rather the

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number comes from a methodology in which there are 3 to 4 parking spaces for every car. Oahu has about 66% of vehicles, so 66% of 4.5 million is roughly about how many parking stalls are on the island. She added that the website breaks down these numbers more specifically. Nationwide, there are about 3 to 10 spaces per vehicle, so Hawaii is on the lower end.

Donald Sakamoto mentioned that during a meeting with the Disability Commission Access Board, a Kaneohe resident shared that there's not enough room in handi-cap parking stalls, especially if the car next to it is not parked properly. He added that on the mainland they have larger stalls.

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

Eduardo Hernandez announced an upcoming event hosted by the Hawaii Bicycling Leage on Sunday, September 27, 2026. Thousands of riders will be gathering at Kapi'olani Park for the Honolulu Century Ride. This event is a ride and not a race, and welcomes riders of all skill level with options of riding 25, 50, 75, or the full 100 mile routes.

Donald Sakamoto shared a concern brought up during a recent meeting with the Citizens for a Fair ADA Ride. He said that folks were reporting issues of rear-lift paratransit vans pulling up to sidewalks with no curb cut. He asked that county and state facilities ensure there are adequate curb cuts for these vans to properly drop off riders.

Chair Rooney asked if there has been an update to the ADA transition plan. She suggested that this could be a topic at a future CAC meeting.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS & TENTATIVE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

OahuMPO staff announced that the summary of the #ImagineThis event has been posted online and was shared in the meeting chat. Staff said a link to the presentation is also included.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Rooney adjourned the meeting at 3:28 PM.

The PowerPoint for this meeting may be viewed at:
https://oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=3768

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