

**Minutes of the
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization
CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, October 7, 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		Kyle Laconsay	x
Hawaii Bicycling League		Eduardo Hernandez	x
Hawaii Teamsters / Allied Workers, Local 996	x	David Aki	
Institute of Transportation Engineers	x	Jasmine Teramae-Kaehuaea	
Kaaawa Community Association		Andrea Anixt	x
Palehua Townhouses		Michael Golojuch	x
Ulupono Initiative		Kathleen Rooney	x
Waikiki Residents' Association		Daisy Murai	x
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		Jeanne Rice	x
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	x	Joe Francher	
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-Maili		Richard Landford	x

OahuMPO staff: Mark Garrity Danelle Miyahara Nicole Smith Lily Zheng Dallas Ige Emily Cristobal Kiana Otsuka	Guests: Doug Pyle – NB 13 Nicole Shintani – NB 13 Scott Brady – DTS Daniel Alexander – DTS Brent Tapat
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1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Adriel Lam 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 SEPTEMBER 2, 2026

Donald Sakamoto motioned to approve the September 2nd Minutes, and Rae Gee seconded the motion. There were no objections or abstentions, and the motion was carried out.

4. REPORTS OF POLICY BOARD AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

OahuMPO Executive Director Mark Garrity reported on September community outreach, including events at the Library for the Blind and Print Disabled for the Urban Honolulu Mobility Hub Study. Participants identified public restrooms, food and drink options, wayfinding, outdoor dining, and a visitor information center as desired amenities. They also emphasized accessible features, such as audio indicators or staff assistance for blind transit users.

Executive Director Garrity also announced the launch of Kekoa, OahuMPO’s youth engagement mascot, intended to support transportation education and encourage keiki to view walking, biking, and transit as safe and accessible options. In September, staff also attended the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations’ annual conference in Sacramento and the Hawai’i Transportation Summit.

The Technical Advisory Committee met on September 11, 2026. DTS staff and consultants presented the closeout of the Transit Asset Management Plan update and discussed the FY 2026 Transportation Demand Management program.

The TAC’s next meeting is scheduled for November 13 at 9:00 AM.

At its September 28, 2026 meeting, the Policy Board approved the Transit Asset Management Plan, which is updated every four years.

The Policy Board is scheduled to meet on November 30 at 1:00 PM.

The Executive Director's Report can be viewed at https://oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=3792

Donald Sakamoto praised the Library for the Blind and Print Disabled outreach and highlighted pedestrian safety concerns, including the need for improved lighting in areas where people with visual impairments walk. David Aki thanked OahuMPO staff for their work and for developing transportation education materials.

5. OLD BUSINESS

None

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Planning Study Close Out Presentation: Traffic Signal Optimization and Demand Management Study

Greg Tsugawa from the City and County of Honolulu's Department of Transportation Services (DTS) presented on the islandwide transportation microsimulation model, developed by DTS with OahuMPO, Caliper Corporation, and local consultant support. The model is intended to assess individual project impacts in greater detail, simulate individual traveler route choices, and support more consistent analysis across agencies.

The model includes major roadways, traffic signals, and vehicle, transit, pedestrian, and bicycle travel. It can generate outputs such as speed, level of service, and delay, and can evaluate project-specific "carve-out" studies. A proof-of-concept study was conducted along the Keeaumoku Street corridor between Wilder Avenue and Kapiolani Boulevard. Scenarios included Vision Zero countermeasures, bicycle network improvements, and transit priority along Pali Highway. The final report, story map, and model files are available through DTS's Complete Streets Guidance webpage.

Committee members asked about accessibility of the maps and reports, model inputs and validation, congestion, traffic signal operations, and whether use of the model would be required for city projects or permit applications. Tsugawa said presentation graphics included alternate text and the final report should be usable with screen readers; the model itself is technically complex and primarily intended for transportation professionals. He explained that model results were checked against historical traffic-count data and could be recalibrated as more data becomes available.

Members also asked whether the model could evaluate specific intersections, proposed road connections, traffic circles, school-hour congestion, and signal

timing that prioritizes safety or transit. Tsugawa said new roads and different signal timing scenarios can be modeled, but whether a specific study is undertaken depends on the responsible agency or project team. He encouraged members to review the final report for additional details on calibration and model criteria.

Vice Chair Adriel Lam motioned to add an additional 15 minutes to the meeting as questions for this presentation ran long. There were no objections.

B. Oahu Transit Riders: Grassroots Public Transit Advocacy

Oahu Transit Riders (OTR) gave an introductory presentation of their organization, which works to organize and empower daily commuters, future riders, and transit supporters to shape a transportation system that is reliable, affordable, accessible, safe, and dignified. OTR explained they hope to amplify community voices and advocate for safe multimodal streets, affordable neighborhoods, and reliable service on TheBus, Skyline, and Biki. Representatives of OTR, Justin Menina and Dalen Kam presented on their efforts to gather feedback from current and prospective transit users and elevate riders' experiences in transportation planning.

The OTR representatives explained the organization is still developing and is working on a website. The group added that they intend to pursue 501(c)(3) status. They noted ongoing communication with some DTS leadership and other stakeholders, but said they had not yet established successful communication with Oahu's transit service operator.

Donald Sakamoto asked about the organization's structure and whether it represented all bus riders. The presenters clarified that they do not claim to be a bus rider union. Daniel Smith supported the concept of a community input channel for bus schedules and service adjustments and offered to follow up by email. Bob Leinau asked how the group would turn complaints into constructive recommendations and whether other public feedback channels feed into its work; the presenters said they aim to clarify concerns and translate them into actionable requests to agencies.

David Aki raised safety and education concerns, including reports of carbon monoxide incidents on buses, safety training and equipment for electric buses, and the time needed to return buses during emergencies. The presenters thanked members for their comments.

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

No additional public comments were recorded.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS & TENTATIVE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

No additional public comments were recorded.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Lam adjourned the meeting at 3:50 PM.

The PowerPoint for this meeting may be viewed at:

https://oahumpo.org/?wpfb_dl=3793

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