

Kamehameha Highway Station Group Rail Station Design Community Informational Meeting

Date and Time: **October 8, 2013, 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.**

Location: **Pearl Ridge Elementary School**

Purpose

The purpose of this meeting, a requirement of Stipulation IV of the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement (PA) was to update the community/neighborhood on the design status for the Pearl Highlands, Pearlridge and Aloha Stadium stations.

There were an estimated 109 attendees (includes project staff and representatives from the City's Department of Planning and Permitting).

Introductions

HART Executive Director and CEO Dan Grabauskas opened the meeting. Mayor Kirk Caldwell, HART Board Chair Ivan Lui-Kwan, and Councilman Breene Harimoto also gave welcoming comments. Dan Grabauskas and HART's Transit Arts Program Administrator Lisa Yoshihara gave a PowerPoint presentation providing an overview of the project and detailing the Station Naming and Art-in-Transit programs. Following their presentations there were breakout sessions for one-on-one time with subject matter experts.

Breakout Groups: Questions/Comments Summary

1. Pearlridge Station

Moderator: Tim Newberry

Scribe: John Williamson

Questions/Comments discussed:

- We went through this exercise two years ago and it looks like none of our input from those sessions was used. The last plan we saw with our input didn't look like this.
- You guys are coming out here and asking our opinions, but you're going to do what you had planned all along, regardless of what we say.
- Are there going to be escalators at the Pearlridge station? How about the other stations?
- You need stairs and escalators from the Kamehameha Hwy. side.
- This rendering is confusing. You cannot tell where you are. Are there entrances on both sides?
- Last time we said you should put parking on the makai side, but now we can see you didn't. There's plenty of room for parking there.
- You condemned the little shopping mall and drove all of the stores out of business. There was a restaurant there that was popular but you guys closed it down. Now, you've got the land from where the strip mall was. Why don't you use it for parking?
- If you don't provide parking at the stadium, people will park in the neighborhoods near the station. We don't want people parking in front of our houses and have strangers coming and going at all hours.
- This station is closest to my house. I don't want to drive to Aloha Stadium or Pearl Highlands to use the park and ride lot. You should build one at the Pearlridge station.
- Where will the circulator buses go? Which neighborhoods and streets will they service?
- How often will the circulator buses come? Every 30 minutes? That's not often enough.

- How high do the designs extend up on the columns?
- What are you doing to protect the art work from graffiti?

2. Pearl Highlands Station

Moderator: Ken Caswell

Scribe: Pat Lee

Questions/Comments discussed:

- Will there be a charge for parking in the park and ride lot?
- Will you have restrooms in the facility?
- What about traffic flow around the station? There will be lots of traffic.
- Was a traffic study done?
- How will Mililani residents access the station?
- When will the design be completed?
- How are you phasing construction?
- How long will construction of the station take?
- Will there be any night work?
- Will there be a connection to the Pearl Highlands shopping center?
- Wouldn't there be traffic conflicts on H-2 as cars merge onto the access ramp?
- If demand grows for the park and ride, can you add more decks and more spaces to the facility? And what about aesthetics?
- Where are the entrances and exits to the station coming from Pearl City or Waipahu if you don't use the freeway?
- Will you have security measures like video surveillance in the park and ride lot?
- Why aren't you providing more stalls in the Kapolei area? Did you do a study to determine what the demand would be in the future?
- With the opening to Aloha Stadium in 2017, would you provide express buses and shuttles into town from there to make it more useful to commuters?
- Are the stalls regular or compact? Compact stalls are too tight and many in the Leeward area drive big SUV's and trucks.
- Will the park and ride be in easy walking distance of the station?
- Will the elevators be sturdy enough to last? The people mover at the airport is always broken.
- How many restrooms are planned for this station, and how many stalls in the restrooms?
- You will need to maintain the restrooms; public restrooms are often dirty and damaged.
- Are you planning bicycle access to the station?
- How about bike lockers?
- Any parking underground?
- Will you allow overnight parking
- Why not have round the clock service?
- With a driverless train and a system new to people, you should have an educational program to tell people how to buy tickets, board the train, etc. Will you also have bulletin boards and audible announcements for riders to let them know when a train is coming, for instance?
- Will you have designated areas for wheelchairs and are these strapped down?
- Why not have PV panels power the stations?
- Will you need safety barriers around the columns to protect vehicles?
- Note: Additional comments turned in to Councilman Harimoto: Culture: It's nice to celebrate the culture although I think the focus will be on travel time. There is a concern about graffiti. Why \$5 Million for public art? Security: Cameras are wonderful! Response time is my concern. No 911 calls; should be connected directly with security; no down time to evacuate whether it be for vanadium or emergency.

3. Aloha Stadium

Moderator: Tim Man

Scribe: Lena Kamae

Questions/Comments discussed:

- Are all stations different?
- Where is the parking?
- What street is in front of the station?
- Are you using existing streets for access to station?
- Will there be security? If so what form?
- Will there be bike lockers and bike racks at the stations?
- Suggest partner with tour companies for Pearl Harbor.
- How many seats per car?
- Explain the column program.
- What about “game day”, you should consider frequency of trains.
- What about overflow of people on “game day”
- How many bathrooms?
- Will there be crossing gates and barriers?

4. Art/Culture Station

Moderator: Lisa Yoshihara

Scribe: Nicole Higa

Questions/Comments discussed:

- Do all of the stations have restrooms?
- Where are the H-1 and H-2 onramps for Pearl Highlands Station?
- Will there be Hawaiian language names on trains? Also audio? Will the audio in stations be in Hawaiian and English?
- For audio announcements on trains and platforms, should Hawaiian names be announced first, then English?
- Have area kupuna been asked about each area and given their blessing for each area to be developed and built? What is/was the protocol?
- Audio could be used as an educational component. Will there be QR codes and headphone jacks on trains for audio guides for each station/area?
- Audio on train should reflect Hawaiian first, then English.
- If Tiki sculptures are incorporated into the art program, they should be anatomically correct with genitalia.
- Where exactly will the Pearlridge station location be?
- Heiau in Aiea Heights should be researched for the cultural program and art theme opportunity.
- Stations should be painted to incorporate Hawaiian culture and surroundings- blue and green colors should be used.
- Concrete is hard to look at. Is there a way to soften the look of the stations to physically blend in or integrate the stations and guideway into the landscape?
- Will the sound be quieter than older, traditional rail systems?
- Can you beautify the concrete columns with mural art instead of solid concrete?
- The audio tour is another way to incorporate Mo‘olelo and Wahi Pana into the educational component of the project.
- The history of the specific locations and areas are hubs for the community to gather (i.e. Arakawa’s in Waipahu).
- Will there be special coatings on the surface of the art to prevent graffiti? Is there a plan in place to mitigate graffiti?

- Where can you park bicycles in stations? What kind of provisions will be made to park bikes in stations and park and ride lots?

5. TOD Station

Moderator: Bonnie Arakawa

Scribe: Renee Espiau

Questions/Comments discussed:

- Will there be access for the disabled, both at the stations and in the areas around the stations?
- Is there a connection from the Pearl Highlands station to the area mauka of Kamehameha Highway?
- What changes must City Council make in land use to facilitate TOD?
- Is this like what is being planned in Kakaako?
- It would be great to have convenience retail at the stations.
- Are you going to impact single-family areas?
- What is the vision for the parcels around the Pearlridge station?
- Is it really a good idea to add a bike lane up Kaonohi Street given the steep grade?
- What is the status of the TOD Plans?
- What is the topic of the TOD Symposium on November 16?
- These are exciting opportunities for how the island grows.
- When will the community workshop for TOD at Aloha Stadium be held?
- Are developers going to develop Neal Blaisdell Park?
- Can we rename Neal Blaisdell Park and repurpose it with more active uses and cultural and children's' activities?

Appendix A

Meeting Flyer

Appendix B

PowerPoint presentation

Appendix C

Handouts