

Downtown Station to Ala Moana Center Stations Rail Design Community Informational Meeting

Date and Time: **Wednesday, October 8, 2014, 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.**

Location: **Neal Blaisdell Center, Maui Suite**

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 Downtown to Ala Moana Center stations.

There were an estimated 120 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. HART Board Chair Ivan Lui-Kwan gave welcoming comments. Dan Grabauskas and Nicole Higa gave a PowerPoint presentation providing an overview of the project and detailing the Art-in-Transit programs. Following their presentations, Dan Grabauskas opened it up for audience Q&A.

Following the full group Q&A, there were breakout sessions for one-on-one time with subject matter experts.

Full Group Questions/Comments

- Will there be restrooms at all stations?
- Will they (restrooms) be open at all times? When are the stations going to be open?
- Will the station manager need to be there to open them for you?
- The procurement for the flower program... does that mean money hasn't been appropriated yet?
- Was that in the overall budget?
- Will there be security in rail stations, especially at night?
- The cost of the rail stations was under-budgeted. Can you build them well at a lower cost?
- How are you going to pay for operating costs? I see only two choices: raise property taxes or raise the GET? Have you talked about how you'll pay for it all?
- That \$300M was money you (HART) didn't have.
- Rail will cost \$100M per year to operate, and one-third is supposed to be paid by transit, are you raising the bus fare? You should talk about that. Encourage HART to share that with people.
- You didn't answer the question - will it be property tax or GET tax? Every person who lives on Oahu will pay for rail forever.
- Majority of riders will come from bus. The Parsons plan eliminates or shortens 20 buses. Encourage HART to be transparent about that - if you're moving 30,000 people to/from buses, we need to hear about it.
- Will there be elevators at the stations?

Breakout Groups: Questions/Comments Summary

1. Downtown Station

Moderator: Tim Newberry

Scribe: Bill Brennan

Questions/Comments discussed:

- Does it have escalators?
- How much clearance do they have?
- How do you access it from the HECO side?
- Walking concerns for elderly and disabled
- Are there passenger drop off areas?
- Can you bring your bike on board?
- How many rail cars will be running at any given time?
- Are there elevators for both sides?
- Will there be enough lighting?
- What will be the impact to the Dillingham Transportation Building?
- What kind of bike racks will there be?
- How do I get to the other side of the platform?
- There's not enough landscaping.

2. Ala Moana Station

Moderator: Ken Caswell

Scribe: Klara Crocco

Questions/Comments discussed:

- How many meetings will we have?
- Where is security located in station?
- Can you get into station at any hour if you are not a paying customer?
- Are there elevators?
- What will the cost of operations be?
- What is the fare price?
- Do you contract out maintenance?
- Will cameras be along the rail line?
- Can people ride the train all day?
- Will the same people who ride the bus ride the rail?
- When will public know how buses will be rerouted?
- Community would like to see bus rail integration plan
- Public would like to see the system maintained
- How many people will be monitoring the security cameras?
- What will the canopy be made of?
- Will buses and rail have concurrent schedules?
- How big are the elevators?
- Where is it located?
- Have we thought about signage?

- Will questions from tonight be in Q&A on website?
- Will graphics and signage be different at each station?
- How will signage be executed and by who?
- Public would like additional renderings to depict exact locations in neighborhoods
- Station is airy.
- Will the buses from Hawai'i Kai come into Ala Moana station?

3. Civic Center Station

Moderator: Tim Man

Scribe: Meg Fingert

Questions/Comments discussed:

- What design elements are used?
- What is the exact location?
- How do you get there if you don't live nearby?
- Use The Bus to connect.
- How do you purchase fare cards?
- Put vending at entrance.
- What are the fare costs?
- One fare system.
- Will there be advertising?
- Advertising not allowed outside by law.
- What impact will the construction have on surrounding projects and area?
- Will the space integrate with the design off other developments in the area?
- Is the other side of the platform accessible?
- Are the restrooms accessible?
- Are restrooms ADA compliant?
- Are there enough seats in each car?
- What is the wheel chair accessibility like in the train cars?
- We should use smart cards for fare charging, not the paper ones with magnetic strips.
- Need more restrooms.
- Large stations with high traffic should have ramps instead of stairs.
- We should charge for restroom use.

4. Kaka`ako Station

Moderator: Nancy Tornatore

Scribe: Rachel Ross

Questions/Comments discussed:

- Are there escalators?
- It's too big, I heard it was the size of a football field.
- Where is it located?
- Have guardrails on track.

- Bathroom amounts at this station should be reconsidered, at least two.
- Nice to see design bringing it to life and showing interface with the area.
- What is the awning made of?
- How long is the station?
- Concerned that there will be someone/staff available to unlock the restrooms from 4 a.m. to midnight.
- What's going to happen to Ross?

5. Art/Culture Station

Moderator: Nicole Higa

Scribe: Megan Tsuchida

Questions/Comments discussed:

- Will each station have its own artwork?
- Are you connecting with community at each station?
- Use knowledge and resources to reach out past the stations into the surrounding community about landscaping and design.
- Will there be opportunities to submit signage?
- Are you working with one artist for each station?
- Are you using cultural practitioners?
- Preserve views.
- Concern for historic preservation.
- Concern that design will affect tourism dollars.
- Will the CCTV system be connecting to traffic management center?
- How will the issue of homelessness impact these stations?

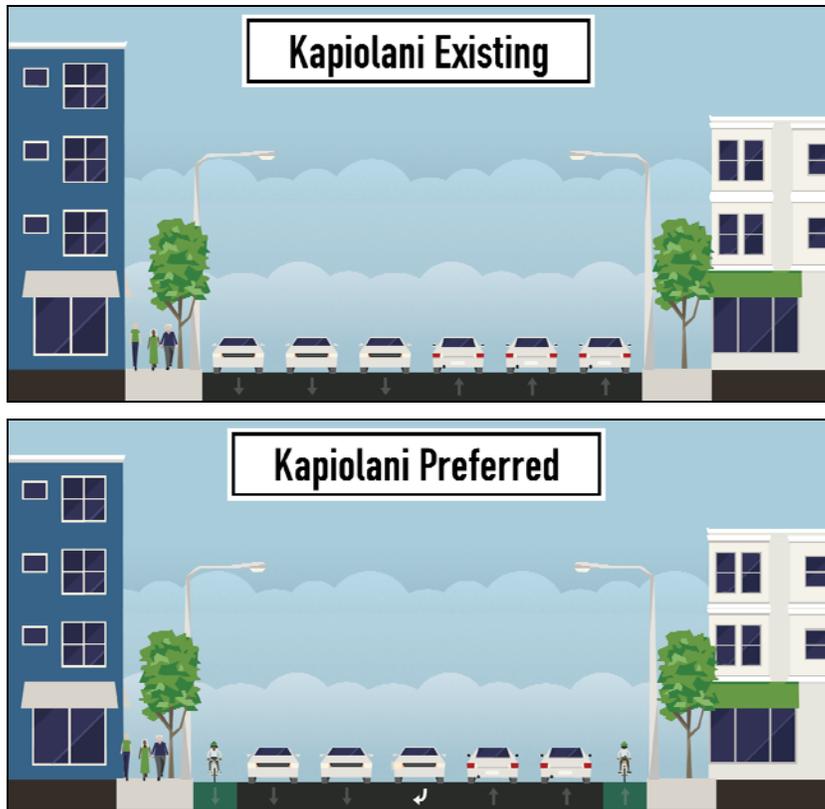
6. TOD Station

Moderator: Renee Espiau

Scribe: Shem Lawlor

Questions/Comments discussed:

- How are you going to handle Wi-Fi? (on train & in station area) – filtered/family friendly best (like KS).
- What is the vision for Makiki Stream?
- What is the TOD plan around the Ward Avenue Station?
- City, State, private development should be coordinated.
- How are you planning to pay for rail operations and maintenance?
- What elements of TOD will require public funding? Where will that funding come from?
- There should be bike lanes (cycle track) on Kapiolani Blvd – it is the core/spine of the TOD district.



- Tax breaks for elderly, low-income property owners.
- Will the station elevators be large enough for stretchers (in case of emergency)?
- How affordable will housing units be?
- If Mayor Wright Homes gets redeveloped, what will happen to the low-income families living there? What will be the new mix of affordable and market rates units?
- Is there enough sewer/water capacity in the TOD areas to support infill development?
- Why is HART not planning for vendors/concessions on the rail platforms or within the stations?
- What changes to zoning rules will the City be making in TOD areas?
- Space for bike parking on public sidewalks is very limited in many areas. What can the City do to incentivize businesses to install more bike parking on private property?