

Kalihi Station to Chinatown Stations Rail Design Community Informational Meeting

Date and Time: **Thursday, October 9, 2014, 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.**

Location: **Kalihi Kai 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 Kalihi Station to Chinatown Station.

There were an estimated 44 attendees (includes project staff and representatives from the City's Department of Planning and Permitting).

Introductions

Jeanne Belding opened the meeting and HART Board Chair Ivan Lui-Kwan gave welcoming comments. Jeanne Belding and Nicole Higa gave a PowerPoint presentation providing an overview of the project and detailing the Art-in-Transit programs. Following their presentations, Jeanne Belding 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

- Who owns the land that the stations will be built on?
- Do you have to buy them or do we already own them? So you do have acquisition of all the land?
- I live in Kaneohe. I was one of the individuals who was against the consultant to put a station on Kaawa Street....Aala Street would be better. Vancouver transit built a rail system under budget. Seems like it's over budget for some of the stations.
- Do you have right of way for all Nimitz properties and who's checking on HART's finances?
- I saw the fact ad that HART puts out...\$13 million dollars is a lot of money...we should have someone checking on that and how you spend your money. It goes up every month.
- Will the rail station manager need to be there to open them (restrooms)?
- Kaneohe resident commented regarding transit centers does not know where the project is going, referenced the Vancouver project that came in under budget.
- Are you on schedule as far as spending? Is the planning we see here an extra expense?
- The cost of the rail stations was under-budgeted. Can you build them well at a lower cost?

Breakout Groups: Questions/Comments Summary

1. Kalihi Station

Moderator: Roland Libby

Scribe: Klara Crocco

Questions/Comments discussed:

- Where is the station located?
- It's nice!
- Do stations have restrooms?
- Will the 7-11 be moved?
- What is the next stop on the rail from here?
- Is there an elevator? Where are they located?
- Will there be a park and ride here?
- Can I use my bus pass on the train?
- When will it be open?

2. Chinatown Station

Moderator: Ken Caswell

Scribe: Lena Kamae

Questions/Comments discussed:

- Suggesting bike share/car share.
- Suggesting redeveloping River Street.
- Suggesting Kekaulike Mall extension.
- Suggesting nearby commercial amenities.
- Easy access to bathrooms.
- Luggage lockers.
- Red, gold, green color scheme.
- Ramps.
- Who owns Holau Market?
- Where is the Chinatown station entrance?
- How loud will noise be during construction and when is rail operational?
- How will human noise be mitigated when station is operational?
- Should develop 902 Kekaulike into a store.
- Make entrance to Chinatown Station similar to entrance into Chinatown.
- Chinese characters on station name plate.

3. Iwilei Station

Moderator: Nancy Tornatore

Scribe: Lois Hamaguchi

Questions/Comments discussed:

- Where is the guideway located exactly? Is it by the senior high rise building by City Mill?
- Is the noise going to affect nearby communities? What are you (HART) doing about this?
- I am concerned about the noise near the senior housing.
- Where is the HECO station and senior housing location in relation to the rail station.
- Will there be drinking fountains at the station?
- Are people going to be able to sit on the rail trains or will most people be standing? No one likes to stand. Will there be fewer seats?
- Can you acquire the pineapple logo from Dole? Iwilei area was a historical landmark area for the pineapples....everyone worked there. You should incorporate a pineapple theme into the (Iwilei) station.
- Chinatown area was also a Japanese cultural and historical area. In fact, Japanese published two books on the “aalarengo” and the area held shopping centers, theatres, etc. Don’t only focus on “Chinese” but make it multi-cultural when you think about design and other station elements.
- You need more parking.
- Holau Market is still going to be restored...I like that.

4. Kapalama Station

Moderator: Tim Newberry

Scribe: Meg Fingert

Questions/Comments discussed:

- Which station has only one entrance?
- Why is there only one entrance?
- Will you integrate with the bus fare system?
- Will the schedules be coordinated?
- Will there be monitors displaying schedule?
- How will announcements be relayed?
- ADA compliant across the board?
- Where are the parking stations?
- Staircase is an emergency exit
- Are the trains electric or fuel powered?
- What happens in the power outage?
- They are driverless
- How will you deal with graffiti?
- How would you compare this proposal to the “L” in Chicago?

5. Art/Culture Station

Moderator: Nicole Higa
Scribe: Megan Tsuchida

Questions/Comments discussed:

- Where is the location of the Chinatown station column?
- Concerned about the right-of-way issue for Nimitz highway and structural stability in regards to the concourse.
- Concern about professional consulting budgets.
- How much are you budgeting for the artwork at each station?
- Are different stations limited to different budget amounts?
- How are they going to stop homeless problems in stations?
- Acquire pineapple from Dole for the Iwilei station.
- Consider the Japanese businesses which are prominent in the community prior to influence of Chinese businesses.
- guideway located exactly? Is it by the senior high rise building by City Mill?
- Be inclusive of all Asian cultures on the island.
- Use bloom energy solid oxide fuel cell technology.
- What are some examples of the Hawaiian station names?
- Could the artwork for Iwilei station include history of the pineapple cannery?

6. TOD Station

Moderator: Kathy Sokugawa
Scribe: Raymond Young

Questions/Comments discussed:

- Catalytic project by extending Kekaulike Mall to station.
- Development opportunity for Chinatown.
- New commercial mall desired.
- What's the status of the sewers at Iwilei?
- Station design seems overdone.
- How much does the art and design cost?
- Not likely that there will be boating or fishing in Kapalama town canal.
- Redeveloping OCCC. Would be a great opportunity, but where would it go?