

# HART

HONOLULU AUTHORITY for RAPID TRANSPORTATION

## **eBLAST NEWSLETTER**

MARCH 6, 2013

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### **LEGISLATIVE WATCH**



State lawmakers are considering a number of bills related to the Honolulu Rail Transit Project.

The Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART) and its Board of Directors support several measures:

SB571 SD2 Relating to County Surcharge on State Tax would change the State's automatic deduction of ten per cent of the gross proceeds of a county's surcharge on state tax to an unspecified deduction to reimburse the State for costs associated with handling the assessments, collection, and disposition of the county surcharge on state tax.

HB689 HD1 and SB479 SD2 Relating to the Membership of a Metropolitan Planning Organization adds the county director for rapid or mass transportation to the Metropolitan Planning Organization's Policy Committee. Updating OMPO's membership to include an

official from the public agency that administers or operates a public transportation system would comply with the new federal Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21).

HB364 HD2 Relating to Transportation is similar to SB571 SD2 in that it would reduce the amount the state deducts from the county surcharge on the GET and would provide additional county surcharge dollars to build the rail project.

You can track the bills and committee hearings online at [www.capitol.hawaii.gov](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov). and voice your opinion to your legislative representatives and members of the committees hearing these measures.

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## **NEW HART BOARD MEMBERS**

The HART Board of Directors has two new members.

Michael Formby is the Director of the Department of Transportation Services, and as such, serves on the board as a voting ex-officio member.

Formby was the deputy director of the state Department of Transportation Harbors Division, where he worked extensively on project planning and implementation, and with the state's environmental assessment and environmental impact statement process.

Formby is an attorney; he has been a litigator for the past 20 years, and has taught at the William S. Richardson School of Law and Hawaii Pacific University .

George Atta now heads up the Department of Planning and Permitting. The DPP Director serves as a non-voting ex-officio member of the HART Board.

Atta is a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners and is LEED AP certified. He has more than 30 years of professional experience in urban and regional planning with public agencies as a planning consultant, and in processing land use entitlements in the State of Hawai'i . As a Principal at Group 70 International Inc., he oversaw urban design plans, environmental documents, and various land use permit applications. He also coordinated community advisory groups, public meetings, project scheduling, budgets and consulting.

Atta has a Masters Degree from Harvard University .

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## **UPCOMING HART BOARD MEETINGS**

**HART Finance/Project Oversight Committees**

March 7, 2013 at 8:30 a.m.

Mission Memorial Annex Conference Room | 550 S. King Street , Honolulu

### HART Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Committee

March 21, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.

Mission Memorial Annex Conference Room | 550 S. King Street , Honolulu

### HART Board of Directors

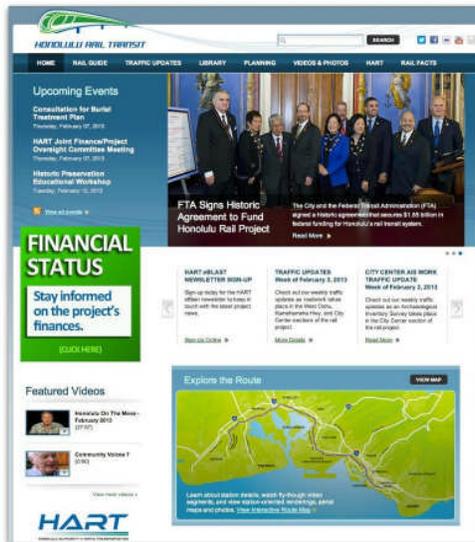
March 21, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

Mission Memorial Annex Conference Room | 550 S. King Street , Honolulu

*Note: Meetings are subject to change. For more information on these meetings, please visit [www.HonoluluTransit.org](http://www.HonoluluTransit.org).*

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## STAY CONNECTED



Project Website | [www.HonoluluTransit.org](http://www.HonoluluTransit.org)



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## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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