

West O'ahu Station Group (WOSG) Rail Station Design Community Informational Meeting

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

Location: **Kapolei Hale, Conference Rooms A, B, and C**

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 East Kapolei and University of Hawai'i-West O'ahu Stations.

There were an estimated 115 attendees (includes project staff, Mayor Kirk Caldwell, and staff from the City's Department of Planning and Permitting)

Introductions

HART Executive Director and CEO Dan Grabauskas opened the meeting. Mayor Kirk Caldwell and HART Board Chair Ivan Lui-Kwan also gave welcoming comments. HART Chief Architect Ken Caswell and HART Transit Art Administrator Lisa Yoshihara provided a powerpoint presentation focusing on the WOSG. Following the presentation was a full-group Q&A, which was then followed by breakout sessions for one-on-one time with subject matter experts.

Full Group Questions/Comments Summary

1. My concern is the naming of stations. Where I grew up, on Hawaiian property there was always a name and it had a meaning (i.e., Waipahu High School). Note: He went on to cite the school's motto. When you name the station it shouldn't just be given a numerical number but a name deeply rooted in our culture.
2. Is there a charge for parking? What about security and safety measures for cars parked at the station?
3. What about landscaping around the stations? What types of indigenous plants will you have?
4. Is there a policy about bringing pets on board the trains?
5. Where are the parking spaces going to be at UH West O'ahu and East Kapolei stations?
6. Comment from Thad: I want to go on record that I oppose the rail.
7. Concern about the entrance on Kapolei Parkway and that there's enough space for cars to pull in on the street. I'm also concerned about parking and safety as well.
8. There should be enough parking across the street so it's wise to build a walkway above.
9. How do you prevent cars, trucks, etc. from crashing into the column pillars?
10. How do you prevent graffiti?
11. Are there art opportunities for artists....even the ones who don't get picked to do the work.

12. Comment from Kioni Dudley: You guys shouldn't have come out to the community because you have an incomplete parking plan. Why did you come out if the presentation is incomplete?
13. Have you considered digital advertising as a revenue stream?

Breakout Groups: Questions/Comments Summary

1. East Kapolei Station

Moderator: Ken Caswell
Scribe: Lois Hamaguchi

Questions/Comments discussed:

- Will the HECO line remain in place at each station?
- What are the operation times? What time will the rail system be running? Is it a driverless system?
- How many cars/trains will there be and how many people can each car hold?
- There needs to be convenient access from the rail station to bus stations especially at the Kroc Center.
- Is there any solar component? Does the C&C mandate energy efficiency measures?
- You should think about adding turnstiles to each entrance.
- How loud will the trains be? Does it run on steel wheels?
- I think the East Kapolei station should be moved further down the street nearer to the shopping center?
- How fast will the trains go? Is there flexibility to adjust the number of cars (i.e., during rush hours more cars versus non-rush hours). Just like they do in Japan. You should consider doing a thru-put analysis (i.e., number of people who get on and off the trains, and how much time it will take).
- Do we have to wait until all of the 21 stations are finished to begin using the system?
- Are the trains and station ADA compliant?
- You should have a flat rate fare for people who want to jump off and on the train on a given day....make it free.
- There should be drop off areas for easy access.
- Can I print my boarding pass for rail at home?
- What kind of materials are you using for the canopy?
- Because it's a dual-train track, will the columns support all that weight?

2. University of Hawai'i West O'ahu Station

Moderator: Tim Newberry
Scribe: Lena Kamae

Questions/Comments discussed:

- Concerned citizen thinks rail should run all the way to the new Mall at Kapolei and Kualakai Parkway.
- Will there be other screens to keep riders dry while waiting for the trains?
- Comment from Kapolei resident expressing his concerns regarding persons parking in neighborhoods close to stations when park-n-ride is full.

3. Art/Culture Station

Moderator: Lisa Yoshihara

Scribe: Nicole Higa

Questions/Comments discussed:

- How will the Station Naming process work?
- It's important that the cultural and historical resources and information is site-specific to each station for the Station Art.
- For East Kapolei Station: The Hala grove in the landscaping needs further research. The concept of Hala/Hinano (male/female) and type/color of hala to be incorporated is important. Variegated Hala may not be suitable for this specific station.
- Is HART part of TOD? Does HART oversee both bus and rail, or just rail?
- It's important that TOD/HART rail is not just for commuting, but promotes lifestyle changes for residents in this area.
- How can non-profits participate in this TOD rail discussion? Is there some kind of TOD/non-profit dialogue?
- If you are a private developer, would you consider working with TOD to build private concourse access from property directly to the rail station(s)?
- Can we still submit applications to CaFÉ™ for the station art program?
- The historical context of specific sites should be reflected in the stations (WWII, plantation days, etc.)
- Will the materials for the windscreens be glass? Can the lei designs be scraped off? There are concerns with durability.

4. TOD Station

Moderator: Bonnie Arakawa

Scribe: Renee Espiau

Questions/Comments discussed:

- Where is Fruitvale Station photo from? (Response: Oakland, CA)
- What is TOD Planning? (Response: Community planning around the stations)
- When will the train be operational to town?
- Will bus/train fare cost more than single bus fare? Will it be one rate regardless of distance traveled?
- When will Ka Makani Commercial Development (DeBartolo) be built? Will there be a rail station there?
- Will City provide development incentives if projects include space for non-profit/social service uses?
- When are the TOD workshops for Kapolei?
- Why not build the extension to Ka Makana first?
- Plan for eventual cessation of the endangered species lot.
- Higher densities near stations and in Kapolei.
- Concerns over maintaining cleanliness of train car interiors. Use seats that are easy to clean – not upholstered.
- Make transit travel convenient, not restrictive. Encourage broader demographics to ride. Current bus riders are disrespectful, swearing, and odorous
- When is HART going to have these kinds of meetings in Kalihi?

Appendix A

Agenda

Appendix B

PowerPoint Presentation

Appendix C

Postcard/Direct Mail Invite