



MEETING NOTES

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DATE: November 28, 2018

MEETING DATE: November 19, 2018

PRESENT: See sign in sheet

DISTRIBUTION: HDOT, Community

SUBJECT: Waiāhole Bridge Public Information Meeting

The Waiāhole Bridge Public Information Meeting held on Monday, November 19th represents the first of a series of meetings to inform the public regarding the proposed Waiāhole Bridge replacement project and to solicit feedback on community concerns and preferred alternatives.

About 30 people attended the meeting (27 sign-ins on the attached sign in sheet). A handful of attendees completed Title IX questionnaires (attached), and one written comment was collected at the end of the night (attached).

A welcome was provided by Ed Sniffen, DOT Deputy Director - Highways, and a presentation was given by Mike Hunnemann of KAI HAWAII (consulting structural engineer) that outlined project goals and objectives and five alternative design concepts:

1. Replacement bridge with detour road, widen stream
2. Phased construction of a replacement bridge
3. Rehabilitate and widen existing bridge
4. Construct a new bridge makai of existing bridge
5. Do nothing

Participants were then asked to provide feedback on the proposed project and to discuss the preferred alternative for the bridge replacement. Approximately 30 meeting participants attended. Comments and questions are listed below. Most responses were provided by Ed Sniffen, they are listed as "Response" following the "Comment" or "Question".

Community Comments & Questions

Comment: Support for Alternative 4. Traffic at the poi factory is becoming dangerous; community has asked poi factory owners to make the parking situation safer.

Comment: Concerned about culverts under the highway as they are an extension of the ‘auwai and their purpose is to facilitate community re-introduction of taro patches on the makai side of the highway.

Comment: Commenter said this meeting and project presents an opportunity for the community and requests time to give further input.

Response: Meeting notes will be posted on-line.

Comment: If Alternative 4 resulted in wetland losses makai of the Highway, there should be opportunities mauka for replacement at even a 2:1 ratio if needed.

Comment: The large banyan tree on the Kāne‘ohe side of the bridge is special. The “Sweet Lady of Waiāhole” sold her fruit there.

Comment/Question: Suggestion to harden more stream bank than widening. Question: why not deepen the channel rather than widen the stream.

Response: Due to the proximity to the ocean, dredging the stream deeper will not alleviate flooding.

Question: Why is this project prioritized over Waikāne when Waikāne experiences so much more flooding?

Response: DOT prioritizes bridge rehabilitation/replacements based on their structural need. When DOT can, they now also seek to make related improvements to the site, such as to try to address some of the flooding concerns at Waiāhole. But this site is prioritized because it ranks higher in its need, structurally, than Waikāne.

Question: How far up the stream does DOT plan to widen the channel?

Response: Not determined at this time.

Comment: Alternative 4 makes the most sense for a couple of reasons: First, the community would like to see the stream flowing as naturally as possible. Second, the Waiāhole Poi Factory and other small businesses in the area are the community’s economic zone. A safer intersection at Waiāhole Valley Road is important to the community

Comment: The stream substrate should also be maintained, Waiāhole stream is in a better state than most streams because it has its water volumes back. It will be important to maintain the substrate in a natural condition during and after construction. Eric Guinther and James Parnham prepared a comprehensive study of the stream.

Question: Could the DOT provide the relative rankings (need for improvements) for Waiāhole and Waikāne to those communities to help them understand the priority?

Comment/Question: Would it make sense to rehabilitate both Waiāhole and Waikāne bridges at the same time, to find savings in traffic control, construction mobilization, etc.?

Response: At this time, the DOT does not have adequate budget to do both bridges at the same time when that would mean moving Waikāne Bridge ahead of other projects around the state that have a higher structural priority.

Comment: As it relates to Alternative 4, the DOT will need to address NEPA and the “taking” of park land. It is important to know the history of the City and County ownership of the land that is now Waiāhole Beach Park. At one time, development was proposed on the makai side of the bridge; the community strongly opposed the development and was successful with the help from The Trust for Public Land to secure the property and place it in public hands so that it could be preserved. This information could strengthen DOT’s position for pursuit of Alternative 4.

Comment: Support for Alternative 4; suggestion for riprap or similar material at a 45-degree angle bank than a 90-degree channel.

Comment: Traffic speeds are much faster than the posted limit of 35 miles per hour.

Response: The DOT could look at different treatments to help slow speeding traffic down to the posted limit. Some examples of treatments done for beach communities on the west side of O‘ahu were provided.

Comment: Support for Alternative 4, especially if it can improve the “bad turn” in the highway that results in people hitting the telephone pole.

Comment: It is really important to locate the bus stop in a safe location. A shelter would be helpful as well.

Comment: Support for Alternative 4; expressed a concern for the bend in the road at Waiāhole Homestead Road.

Comment: Appreciation for DOT’s installation of the radar speed sign. It really helps to slow people down to more appropriate speeds.

Comment: The project should not forget native Hawaiians and our offspring.

Question: Why do projects take so long? The community is anxious for improvements

Response: Time is needed to develop the projects and to get through the environmental approvals.

Question: Who should the community speak to about flooding in Waikāne?

Discussion: General discussion ensued about means to pursue additional funding through

legislative representatives to deal with both bridges and flooding at the highway.

Comment: There is also significant flooding at “no name bridge” between Waiāhole and Waikāne bridges. At one time, there was a project to dredge or make stream channel improvements but it was never completed.

Response: Closing responses included a commitment to post meeting notes and information about Waikāne Stream on the DOT website; and, an acknowledgement that Alternative 4 was the preferred alternative expressed at the community meeting this evening.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]



SIGN-IN SHEET

Public Informational Meeting
KEY Project • 47-200 Waihee Rd, Kaneohe, HI 96744
November 19, 2018 at 6:00pm

Kamehameha Highway, Route 83
Replacement of Waiāhole Stream Bridge
Federal-Aid Project No. BR-083-1(37)

Name	Affiliation	Phone	E-mail	Confidential Consultation
Cavanne Abama	HHPV	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Liko Hoe	Waihole Poi Factory	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Ken LeVasseur	Kahala U.B. #29			
Norman Sadayen	Waihole Res.	[REDACTED]		
Lawrence Uyemura	Waihole Res	[REDACTED]		
Caplan Hoe	Waihole Poi Factory	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Gerald Taera	Waihole Res			
Daniel Torres	Waihole Valley	[REDACTED]		
Kalae Kuniyoshi		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Rick Town	WAIHEE RESIDENT	[REDACTED]		



Hawai'i Department of Transportation Voluntary Title VI Public Involvement Data Card

As a recipient of federal funds, the Hawai'i Department of Transportation (HDOT) is required to gather statistical data on participants and beneficiaries of HDOT programs and activities. Accordingly, this Voluntary Title VI Public Involvement Data Card collects information on race, color, national origin, and sex of the attendees of this public meeting. The requested information is to help HDOT improve its services to the community and ensure that all segments of the population are served equitably. **COMPLETING THIS FORM IS STRICTLY VOLUNTARY.** You are not required to disclose the information requested in order to participate in this meeting.

The completed forms will be kept **confidential**. For further information regarding this process, please contact the HDOT Office of Civil Rights at:

Hawai'i Department of Transportation
Office of Civil Rights
200 Rodgers Boulevard
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819
(808) 831-7912
Email: hdot-titlevi@hawaii.gov

Ethnicity (mark one or more):

- ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native
- ☐ Asian (circle one or more)
Chinese, Filipino, Japanese,
Korean, Vietnamese
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ Hispanic or Latino
- ☒ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific
Islander (circle one or more)
Native Hawaiian, Samoan,
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- ☒ White
- ☐ Other _____

Sex

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 - ☐ Male
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PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

**Kamehameha Highway, Route 83
Replacement of Waiāhole Stream Bridge
Federal-Aid Project No. BR-083-1(37)**

The State of Hawaii Department of Transportation, Highways Division (DOT-H), and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) encourage all interested individuals and organizations to comment on the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Consultation and proposed project. Your comments and suggestions will assist in the responsible development of the proposed project being discussed at this public meeting. Space is provided below to write any comment you may wish to make. Please hand in your comments during this meeting, or if you prefer, mail it to the address printed below.

COMMENT: _____

Alte 4
1. Softer road alignment with sharp
turn south of bridge.
2. Least economical impact on existing
businesses during construction
3. Increase flow thru under bridge

NOTE: Copies of all comments provided will be available to the public under the Freedom of Information Act and will be included in the Final EA. This will include name, address, and other personal information provided with the comments. Your comments will be considered with or without the following optional information (please print):

Name Benson Ho
Address [REDACTED]
Phone [REDACTED]
E-mail [REDACTED]
Representing _____

DOT-H Mailing Address: State of Hawaii Department of Transportation
Highways Division, Design Branch
601 Kamokila Blvd., Room 688
Kapolei, Hawaii 96707
Attn: Sharen Cho-Ibanez
(808) 692-7551