

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 21, 2019

Hyperlink to [Meeting Video](#)

Community Plan Advisory Committee

Attending: Chair Kai Nishiki, Vice-Chair Jeri Dean, Hans Michel, Karen J. Comcowich, Donald Robert Gerbig, Leilani Pulmano, Ravi Bugga, Dawn Hegger-Nordblom, Aina Kohler, Joseph D. Pluta, Dylan Payne (arrived at 7:36 p.m.)

Absent: Yvette Joyce Celiz

County of Maui – Planning Department

Pam Eaton, Long Range Planning Division

Kate Blystone, Long Range Planning Division

Tiffany Bostwick, Long Range Planning Division

Call to order at 6:39 p.m.

Public Testimony (00:00 to 00:40 in Meeting Video)

There were no testifiers.

Policies and Actions Related to Goal 2.2: A Complete, Balanced and Connected Transportation Network (00:40 to 35:25)

Chair Nishiki thanked the Planning staff for an excellent, comprehensive Transportation & Mobility Technical Resource Paper.

POLICIES

1. Improve West Maui's active transportation network by increasing multimodal transportation options and incorporating Complete Streets, and adding new and improving existing sidewalks and other pedestrian and bicycle facilities.
 - Discussion: None
 - Consensus Decision(s): **Adopt/Keep as is**

2. Support County Council in consideration of an ordinance to increase the general excise tax for Maui County, and assign some portion of revenue from the increase to transportation improvements and projects. **(2:15 to 9:00)**
 - Discussion:
 - Chair Nishiki acknowledged that this policy was previously removed by consensus, but asked members to instead consider removing certain items (seniors, food and medicine) so it won't be applicable to them.
 - Members discussed the merits of a GE Tax, concerns with taxes going up and never decreasing, and the taxes collected not funding the things they were supposed to fund. Karen Comcowich suggested utilizing the rental car surcharge instead, as it will apply to those who can afford it (tourists). Members were not in support of raising the GE Tax and kept the removal as is.
 - Consensus Decision(s): **Maintain removal**

3. Support adoption of mechanisms to fund transportation improvements such as special improvement districts, transponders, toll roads and traffic impact fee ordinances so that new projects pay their fair share of transportation system improvements. **(9:00 to 15:21)**
 - Discussion
 - **Karen Comcowich suggested that this would be where members could add an increase in rental car surcharge.** Pam Eaton noted that the Community Plan doesn't have the power to increase rental car surcharges, but that she can work with the Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization to put that forward with the Legislature.
 - Consensus Decision(s): **Adopt with amended language**

4. Require implementation of Safe Routes to Schools and parks for pedestrians and bicyclists in existing and future neighborhoods within Lahaina Town and the urban growth boundaries in West Maui.

Alternative Language: Establish "safe routes" in each community. "Safe routes" are primarily street networks that safely accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists to get from homes to schools, parks, shops, jobs, and services. **(15:21 to 18:50)**

 - Discussion
 - Members discussed the two options presented and the benefit to schools wanting to be a part of the Safe Routes to Schools program.
 - Consensus Decision(s): **Adopt alternative language**

Policies 5 and 6 were previously adopted by consensus.

7. Support construction of the planned Lahaina Bypass Road in such a way as to promote safe, efficient travel across the region without encouraging further urbanization or impeding agricultural operations. (Carried over from 1996 West Maui Community Plan) **(18:55 to 21:30)**
 - Discussion
 - Members discussed whether the policy should clearly state north or south.
 - Consensus Decision(s): **Adopt/Keep as is**

8. Support improvements for the safe and convenient movement of all users and modes in the Lahaina region, particularly along Honoapi'ilani Highway, Front Street, Lahainaluna Road, Waine'e Street and Lower Honoapi'ilani Road. **(21:35 to 30:13)**
 - Discussion
 - Members discussed ensuring that bicycles are included in the policy; specific language encouraging non-motorized transportation; and the possibility of making Front Street pedestrian-only.
 - Leilani Pulmano suggested changing "modes" to "alternative modes." **Chair Nishiki suggested "non-motorized vehicles."**
 - Consensus Decision(s): **Adopt with amended language**

9. Require new development, redevelopment and 201H and Chapter 2.97 housing projects to include facilities and programs that support biking, walking and public transit.
 - Discussion: None
 - Consensus Decision(s): **Adopt/Keep as is**

10. Protect and enhance natural and cultural resources during implementation of transportation projects through early consultation with resource management agencies, residents and cultural practitioners. **(30:41 to 34:25)**
 - Discussion
 - Leilani Pulmano suggested replacing "early consultation" with "community engagement," or **changing to "early consultation and community engagement."** **Members decided on the latter.**
 - Consensus Decision(s): **Adopt with amended language**

ADDITIONAL POLICIES (34:25 to 1:00:33)

Karen Comcowich's suggestions:

New streets shall be through streets. Cul-de-sacs and gated communities shall be prohibited to enhance the connectedness and the multimodal transportation network on Maui. **(34:45 to 43:28)**

- Discussion
 - Members discussed existing neighborhoods and how to not carry the problems from the past into the future, as well as fire access roads for emergencies. Staff will draft new policies based on CPAC input and share with members at future meetings, and will run this policy by the Department of Public Works to ensure no conflict with Title 18.
 - Ravi Bugga voiced his concern with the list of actions and policies getting too long and asked the group to consider trimming their lists. Chair Nishiki explained that members will have opportunities later on in the CPAC process for prioritization and cutting.
 - Chair Nishiki suggested changing “Maui” to “West Maui.”
- Consensus Decision(s): **Staff to follow up with the Department of Public Works; revisit.**

Permeable surfaces and other LID standards shall be used in new or redeveloped parking lots and streets to mitigate runoff and help with groundwater storage. **(43:32 to 52:49)**

- Discussion
 - Members discussed potential conflicts with parking code, and how to change the language to best address this. Several amendment suggestions were discussed, including instituting parking maximums and standard size parking lots for non-compact cars. Members decided to let staff revise the language and share at a future meeting.
- Consensus Decision(s): **Revisit**

Leilani Pulmano's suggestions:

1. Acquire and protect cane haul roads and sugarcane train ROW for roadways and trails. **(53:02 to 56:01)**

- Discussion
 - Staff noted that this is an action item.
 - Members briefly discussed the language of the policy.
- Consensus Decision(s): **Address in Actions discussion**

2. Provide shore-side facilities to support boating activities at Mala Wharf and Lahaina Harbor. **(56:07 to 59:02)**
 - Discussion
 - Staff explained that this is not the responsibility of the County, but is within the purview of the State Department of Land and Natural Resources. They agreed to work on language to address Leilani’s concerns and as well as reserving land for this type of facility when reviewing the community plan map.
 - Consensus Decision(s): **Revisit**
3. Support continued use at the Kapalua Airport. **(59:07 to 1:00:21)**
 - Discussion
 - Members noted the critical need of Kapalua Airport in case of a disaster, and agreed to move it to Goal 2.1: Ready and Resilient Systems.
 - Consensus Decision(s): **Move to Goal 2.1 and adopt**

ACTIONS (1:00:33 to END)

Action 1 previously adopted by consensus.

2. Retrofit existing streets with pedestrian and bike facilities, where appropriate, throughout West Maui neighborhoods and commercial areas, including along Lower Honoapiʻilani Highway from Kahana to Nāpili. (Department of Public Works) **(1:00:43 to 1:04:16)**
 - Discussion:
 - Members discussed the meaning of “where appropriate” and the possibility of incorporating a list into the action.
 - Consensus Decision(s): **Adopt/Keep as is**
3. Provide multiple convenient and safe pedestrian crossings on Keawe Street ma uka of Honoapiʻilani Highway. (Department of Public Works)
 - Discussion: None
 - Consensus Decision(s): **Adopt/Keep as is**
4. Create a marketing program aimed at visitors to use multimodal transportation options to West Maui visitors, including bus, shuttles, taxi, rideshare, bicycling and walking to encourage a “car-free stay”. (Office of Economic Development)
 - Discussion: None
 - Consensus Decision(s): **Adopt/Keep as is**

5. Develop a Lahaina Town Master Plan to integrate land use and multimodal transportation planning that includes a mobility and circulation study, considerations for relocation of the transit hub, and creation of a bus transit corridor on Honoapiʻilani Highway through Lahaina Town. Implement the master plan. (Department of Public Works) **(1:04:55 to 1:10:00)**
 - Discussion:
 - Pam Eaton explained the merits of this action, the role of the Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization, and transit corridors.
 - Consensus Decision(s): **Adopt/Keep as is**

6. Install pedestrian and bicycle wayfinding signage that reflect the host culture incorporating ‘Ōlelo Hawaiʻi, including maps, directional signs, moku signage, smartphone applications and public art, in Lahaina Town. (Department of Public Works)
 - Discussion: None
 - Consensus Decision(s): **Adopt/Keep as is**

7. Promote travel demand management strategies such as staggered start times and Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) message signs to reduce congestion on Honoapiʻilani Highway and the Lahaina Bypass. (Department of Public Works, State Department of Transportation & Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization)
 - Discussion: None
 - Consensus Decision(s): **Adopt/Keep as is**

8. Identify opportunities to partner with larger employers such as hotels, to sponsor bus passes, shuttles, ride-share, or other shared ride programs to connect employees to jobs. (Office of Economic Development)
 - Discussion: None
 - Consensus Decision(s): **Adopt/Keep as is**

9. Work with the West Maui community to identify locations where Maui Bus shelters and park and rides are needed, and provide covered shelters, lighting, benches, trash receptacles, bike racks, and ADA compliant waiting areas at all bus stops. (Department of Transportation).
 - Discussion: None
 - Consensus Decision(s): **Adopt/Keep as is**

10. Provide a frequent direct Maui Bus route from Kahului Airport to West Maui hotels. Increase baggage allowances on these buses and provide appropriate storage to ensure safety. (Department of Transportation) (1:12:12 to 1:22:53)

- Discussion:
 - Members discussed adding “exploring public-private partnerships” to this action and adding language about providing local service for the same purpose. Members also discussed an additional action item.
 - **Members agreed to change “from” to “between” and change “West Maui hotels” to “West Maui and hotels” to include locals in the service.**
- Consensus Decision(s): **Adopt with amended language**

11. Increase bus service frequency with a priority given to service for high-ridership routes and between low-to-moderate-income neighborhoods in West Maui and community services like shopping, education, health care, and recreation. (Department of Transportation) (1:22:53 to 1:24:05)

- Discussion:
 - **Joseph Pluta suggested adding “and hours of operation” after “bus service frequency.”**
- Consensus Decision(s): **Adopt with amended language**

12. Complete the West Maui Greenway Multiuse Path project to provide a safe, off-road path for walking and bicycling between parks, neighborhoods and businesses. (Department of Public Works)

- Discussion: None
- Consensus Decision(s): **Adopt/Keep as is**

13. Implement Safe-Routes-to-Schools and Safe-Routes-to-Parks projects throughout West Maui. (Department of Public Works)

- Discussion: None
- Consensus Decision(s): **Adopt/Keep as is**

14. Redesign mauka-makai streets in Lahaina town to enhance pedestrian and bicycle movement to include enhanced sidewalk facilities, bicycle lanes, and street furniture with particular attention to Lahainaluna Road. (Department of Public Works) (Carried over from 1996 West Maui Community Plan) **(1:24:33 to 1:34:10)**

- Discussion:
 - Karen Comcowich proposed alternative language from her suggestions handout (see final action suggestion). Pam Eaton suggested requesting a feasibility study for one-way streets.
 - Members discussed whether Action 5 covers this action and if this action should be deleted, as well as the extent of the plantings along Lahainaluna Road.
 - **Members agreed to add “ma uka of Honoapi‘ilani Highway” after “Lahainaluna Road” and “shade trees or planters” to the list.**
- Consensus Decision(s): **Adopt with amended language**

15. Discourage at-grade intersections along the planned Lahaina Bypass Road, in order to maintain safe and efficient traffic flow without traffic signals. Consideration should be given to safe passage of agricultural equipment and vehicles, where appropriate. (Department of Public Works, State Department of Transportation) (Carried over from 1996 West Maui Community Plan, with amendments for clarity) **(1:34:10 to 1:43:55)**

- Discussion:
 - Members discussed the necessity of the second sentence, the purpose of the action and the value of not having fast highways through West Maui, and whether to delete the action.
 - Chair Nishiki suggested adding language regarding kuleana access to the second sentence.
- Consensus Decision(s): **Revisit**

16. Update the Traffic Impact Fee Study and proposed ordinances. (Department of Planning) **(1:43:55 to 1:44:21)**

- Discussion:
 - **Joseph Pluta suggested adding “and implement.”**
- Consensus Decision(s): **Adopt with amended language**

17. Update the existing subdivision and zoning code to expand the types of multimodal facilities associated with new development and to require roadway and multimodal connectivity among existing and future developments. Updates to include different types of sidewalks or walkways to provide flexibility in building the pedestrian network. (Department of Public Works, Department of Planning)

- Discussion: None
- Consensus Decision(s): **Adopt/Keep as is**

18. Amend to improve the County's Chapter 2.97 fast-track process to include sidewalks, multi-use paths, and access to public transit for affordable housing. (Department of Housing and Human Concerns, Department of Planning) **(1:44:47 to 1:54:13)**

- Discussion:
 - Members discussed the effects of affordability by requiring the listed items, and the merits of providing these amenities for the community.
- Consensus Decision(s): **Adopt/Keep as is**

Actions 19-23 and Additional Action suggestions deferred due to time constraints.

NEXT MEETING IS ON DECEMBER 3, 2019. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:34 P.M.

