



**Maui Metropolitan
Planning Organization**

DEPT. COMM. NO. 361

200 South High Street
Wailuku, HI 96793
www.mauimpo.org

December 14, 2023

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi, President and
Members of the Senate
Hawai'i State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki, Speaker and
Members of the House of Representatives
Hawai'i State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

FY2023 and FY2024 (July – December) Annual Report to the Maui County Council

In accordance with HRS 279D and the Comprehensive Agreement between the County of Maui and State of Hawai'i, please find enclosed Maui MPO's annual report on activities conducted from November 2022 to November 2023.

Sincerely,

Pam Eaton

Pamela Eaton
Executive Director

Enclosure

Cc: Maui MPO Policy Board (by email)

Cc: Richelle Takara, Federal Highway Administration Hawai'i Division (by email)

Amy Ford-Wagner, Federal Highway Administration Hawai'i Division (by email)

Ryan Fujii, Federal Transit Administration Hawai'i Division (by email)



Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization

FY 2023 and 2024

(November 2022 to
November 2023)

Annual Report to the
Hawai`i State Legislature &
Maui County Council

December 2023

Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization
200 S. High Street
Wailuku, HI 96793
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Introduction

The Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization (Maui MPO) formed in 2016, operates under a Comprehensive Agreement between the Maui MPO, State of Hawai'i and County of Maui, pursuant to federal requirements of 23 USC 134 and 49 USC 5303. Maui MPO coordinates a comprehensive, cooperative, and continuing (3-C) transportation planning process for federally funded or regional transportation systems on the island of Maui.

Our vision is for Maui communities to be connected by a safe, efficient, and sustainable transportation system. Using a data-driven approach, the MPO strives to direct federal funds toward projects that increase access to opportunity and prosperity, while promoting the health and wellness of Maui's people and environment through improved multimodal pedestrian, bicycle and transit options.



Act 132, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2015, codified as HRS § 279D-5(c), requires Maui MPO to submit an annual report to the legislature of all activities conducted by the organization during the year immediately preceding the submission of the report.

This progress report details the activities conducted by Maui MPO in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 and the first six (6) months of FY2024. Regular financial updates are provided to the Maui MPO Policy Board at their regularly scheduled meetings.

Program Administration

The Maui MPO Policy Board is the decision-maker on the use of federal-aid transportation funds on Maui. The Policy Board is served by an Executive Director and a Financial Specialist, as well as a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). The Policy Board consists of representatives from the Maui County Council, a State of Hawai'i Senator and Representative, the Directors of the County of Maui Departments of Transportation, Planning, Public Works (DPW), and the State of Hawai'i Department of Transportation (HDOT). The TAC consists of representatives from Public Works (three members), Planning (two members), and one from representative from the County of Maui Departments of Transportation (MDOT), Housing and Human Concerns, Parks and Recreation, the HDOT Maui District Engineer, and HDOT Planning staff.

Maui MPO Staff

- Pamela Eaton, Executive Director
- Karen Tamaki, Financial Specialist (until May 2023)
- Wendy Nathan, (started August 2023)

Maui MPO Policy Board

- Troy Hashimoto, Chair - Representative, Hawai`i State Legislature *
- Marc Takamori, Vice Chair - Director, Maui County Department of Transportation
- Kathleen Aoki - Director, Maui County Planning Department *
- Jordan Molina - Director, Maui County Department of Public Works
- Angus McKelvey - Senator, Hawai`i State Legislature
- Yuki Lei Sugimura - Councilmember, Maui County Council
- Gabriel Johnson - Councilmember, Maui County Council
- Tom Cook - Councilmember, Maui County Council
- Edwin Sniffen - Director, State of Hawai`i Department of Transportation

** Member Hashimoto left the Policy Board in November 2023. Member Aoki left the Policy Board in December 2023.*

Maui MPO Technical Advisory Committee

- Rachel Roper-Noonan, Chair - Highways Division, State of Hawai`i Department of Transportation
- John Smith, Vice Chair - Chief of Field Operations, Maui County Department of Public Works *
- Ty Takeno - Civil Engineer VI, Maui County Department of Public Works **
- Annette Matsuda - Maui District Engineer, State of Hawai`i Department of Transportation
- Kelson Batangan, - Deputy Director, Maui County Department of Transportation
- Chico Rabara - Engineering Program Manager, Maui County Department of Public Works
- Nolly Yagin - Civil Engineer VI, Maui County Department of Public Works
- David Yamashita - Supervising Planner, Maui County Department of Parks and Recreation
- Linda Munsell - Program Manager, Maui County Department of Housing & Human Services *
- Phillip Anderson - Program Manager, Maui County Department of Housing & Human Services **
- Scott Forsythe - Planner, Maui County Department of Planning
- Jacky Takakura - Planning Program Administrator, Maui County Department of Planning

** Members Munsell and Smith left the Technical Advisory Committee in August 2023.*

*** Member Anderson was appointed to the Technical Advisory Committee in September 2023.*

For the first time, an orientation was provided and delivered to the Maui MPO Policy Board and Technical Advisory Committee. This orientation will be repeated each year for the members.

The Maui MPO is administratively tied to the County Department of Transportation through an Administrative Planning Agreement. Federal planning grants from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) account for 80% of Maui MPO's annual budget. The remaining 20% of funds come from the State of Hawai`i and County of Maui highway funds.

Maui MPO Executive Director and the Financial Specialist administer the MPO to facilitate a comprehensive planning process for federal-aid transportation projects on Maui. MPO staff prepare agendas, financial reports, reimbursement requests and supporting memoranda to inform Policy Board decisions, and to ensure timely expenditure and reimbursement of planning funds as approved in the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

Summary of Finances (Programmed Expenses)

Table 1.

Budget Item		Description	FY2023	FY2024
Staff Costs		Regular wages and fringe for Executive Director and Financial Specialist	\$ 302,577	\$ 320,953
Travel		Includes 2 mainland trips and 4 inter-island meetings per year	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000
Utility		Includes cell phone, internet and electricity	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800
Materials and Supplies		Office supplies	\$ 750	\$ 750
Rent		2145 Wells St. Suite 102A	\$ 14,760	\$ 15,498
Other		Includes conference fees, printing, subscriptions, web hosting, social media, and photocopier lease.	\$ 29,000	\$ 33,700
Consultant			\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL			\$ 357,887	\$ 381,701

Maui MPO UPWP FY 2023 & 2024 programs \$500,000 per year to conduct transportation planning on the island of Maui. Maui MPO continues to maintain compliance with federal regulations and ensure the continued availability of federal transportation funds for Maui. Cost categories follow federal standard budget information for non-construction programs. Work elements include Program Administration, Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and Planning Studies. Details for each work element are provided in the following section.

Table 2.

Cost Category	FY2023	FY2024
Staff Costs	\$ 302,577	\$ 320,953
Travel	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000
Utility	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800
Materials and Supplies	\$ 750	\$ 750
Consultant Contracts	\$ 142,113	\$ 118,299
Rent	\$ 14,760	\$ 15,498
Other*	\$ 29,000	\$ 33,700
TOTAL	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000

* Includes conference fees, printing, subscriptions, web hosting, social media, and photocopier lease.

Table 1 and Table 2 summarize Expenditures Programmed, by federal Cost Category and UPWP Work Element, respectively.

Work Element	Match*		Federal Funds**	
	FY2023	FY2024	FY2023	FY2024
1. Program Administration	\$ 71,577	\$ 76,340	\$ 286,309	\$ 305,361
2. Long Range Transportation Plan	\$ 28,423	\$ 23,660	\$ 113,691	\$ 94,639
3. Transportation Improvement Program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
4. Planning Studies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 400,000	\$ 400,000
* Federal Funds 80% of costs with the State and County each funding 10% of costs.				
** Federal Funds are from FTA and FHWA.				

Maui MPO Work Elements

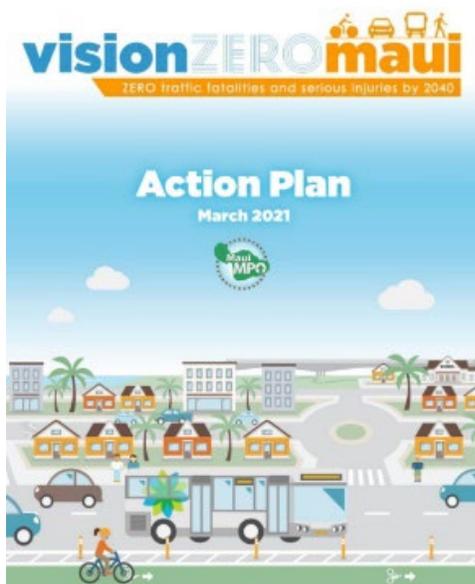
Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

The Unified Planning Work Program lists the transportation studies and tasks that MPO staff and member agencies will perform to support the metropolitan transportation planning process. It must identify the funding source for each project, the schedule of activities, and the agency or agencies responsible for each task or study. UPWPs reflect issues and strategic priorities unique to each metropolitan area and will differ by MPO. Once approved by the Maui MPO Policy Board and the FHWA and FTA, the UPWP enables Maui MPO to encumber federal planning funds provided under 23 U.S.C and 49 U.S.C. 53. The UPWP is updated annually in anticipation for the upcoming fiscal year. Additionally, UPWP work elements conducted by Maui MPO including the TIP and the LRTP enable Maui to receive federal transportation funds for bus transit, highways, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

Amending the Maui MPO FY 2023 & 2024 UPWP

The existing Maui MPO UPWP needs to be amended for a number of reasons. The budget listed in the UPWP FY2023 & 2024 is incorrect. Changes need to reflect the current salaries of the Executive Director and the Financial Specialist. Additionally, the funding received from the August federal Distribution Agreement has changed and now needs to be accurately reflected in the Maui MPO financial budget for FY2024.

Two planning studies will also be added to the UPWP for FY24 and those studies – the Hana Greenway Master Plan and the Maui Complete Streets project are described below. In addition, the *Hele Mai Maui 2040* Reaffirmation Process and resulting Action Plan will be included as a phased planning process to update *Hele Mai Maui 2040*. Also reflected in the UPWP amendment will be the ongoing implementation of Maui’s Vision Zero Action Plan in the preparation of the South Maui Vision Zero Safety Week and the South Maui Vision Zero Quick Build project as described below in more detail.



Vision Zero Maui

In October 2019, the Vision Zero Maui Initiative was launched to eliminate fatalities and serious injuries caused by traffic crashes on Maui by 2040. March 2019 marked the completion of the Vision Zero Maui Action Plan. The Vision Zero Action Plan outlines the specific steps that the Maui MPO and its partner agencies will take to achieve safe streets. The Plan was developed with input from community members and partners. Based on analysis and input, the Vision Zero Action Plan identifies strategies that lower speeds, design streets to be more forgiving for human error, and prioritize safety for everyone, no matter their age, ability, background, race, income, or socioeconomic status. The Maui County Council adopted the Vision Zero Maui Action Plan in July 2021 through resolution. The [Vision Zero Action Plan](#) and numerous presentations and information from public meetings can be found on the Maui MPO website mauimpo.org.

In February 2023, Maui MPO met with the Board of the Kihei Community Association and the Co-chairs of the Transportation Subcommittee to discuss concerns regarding ongoing traffic accidents and fatalities in South Maui. It was decided that in order to address and improve traffic safety in South Maui, a day long summit would be held, in addition to walking and biking tours to occur over the week throughout various locations within the community. Maui MPO coordinated with the County of Maui DPW, Maui DOT and representatives from the State Department of Health’s Hawai’i Public Health Institute (HIPHI), Maui’s Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) and the Ulu Pono Initiative, to host a week-long public awareness and transportation safety events in South Maui highlighting Maui MPO’s Vision Zero Action Plan’s goals. Specifically, Goal 4 “Create a Safety Culture” and Goal 5 “Build Safe Streets for Everyone” have been the focus for collective efforts by State and county agencies, partners and subject matter experts from around the country, state and County of Maui.

The Department of Health has pledged financial support to bring two nationally renowned experts in active transportation and safety: Mark Fenton Built Environment and Public Health Safety Consultant and Peter Koonce from the Oregon Department of Transportation. These individuals are well known to the transportation, transit and planning staff as Mark and Peter have led past active transportation safety efforts within the County of Maui.

Additionally, staff from the Honolulu Complete Streets and Vision Zero programs, and the Chief Transportation Safety Engineer from Kauai will also be attending to speak on panels and lead walking tours specifically addressing how to make the streets in South Maui safe.

In addition to the Vision Zero Safety summit, walking, biking and bus tours, there will also be a Quick Build project installed at the intersection of Kenolio and Aulike Streets. This site was selected because the engineering design was completed, reviewed and approved and ready to be built. By selecting this project, it is estimated that one to two years' time was saved and at least \$20,000 in design and review costs covered, and therefore not needing to be funded by the Maui MPO.



In October 2023, DPW prepped the site and then completed the striping to allow for wider pedestrian buffers and a safer intersection to cross. Members from the South Maui community, the Maui MPO, HEAL and the Ulu Pono Initiative are collaborating with the community to raise the funding needed to paint a street mural at this site. A local artist will be selected, and the design selected based on comprehensive and widespread community engagement and leadership. The Vision Zero South Maui Safety Summit was set for October 2023, but because of the West Maui and Upcountry wildfires, this week-long event has been moved to the week of February 12, 2024. It is planned for the kickoff for the street mural painting to occur during the Vision Zero South Maui Safety week in February 2024.

Maui County Complete Streets Implementation Project

While Maui County adopted a Complete Street ordinance in 2017, implementation of actual Complete Street projects has not followed as quickly as intended. Complete Streets projects programmed on the Maui MPO TIP have been repeatedly deferred to later years and TIP cycles. Additionally, Complete Street elements (such as sidewalks and connections, multiuse lanes and paths, transit stops adjacent to affordable housing) are repeatedly exempted when affordable or workforce housing (201(H) and 2.96) developments are proposed.

There is a dire need for the Complete Streets program to be institutionalized within the planning and development processes for the County of Maui. During June to October 2023, Maui MPO worked with DPW, Planning, Maui DOT and FHWA to create the goals, objectives, outcomes and a scope of work for the Maui Complete Streets Planning Study.

This will be supported through 100% federal (FHWA) funds, with an approach to:

- update the existing County standards, ordinances and policies;
- create a Complete Streets checklist, update the standard details for construction to support the County's Street Design Guide;
- develop an outreach and communications toolbox and a training program targeted to those individuals responsible for land use and future development decisions; and
- complete a Maui Complete Streets Prioritization Plan and a County Complete Streets Ordinance.

The full scope of work, timeline and budget have been completed. The Maui MPO UPWP must be amended to include this Planning Study. It is expected that a consultant will be selected in early 2024 and work will begin shortly thereafter.

Hana Greenway Plan

Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization is requesting \$100,000 in funding from the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) to develop the Hana Greenway Plan. The Hana Greenway Plan will bring

together the Hana community to envision a 5.5-mile multimodal greenway connecting Hana School through Hana Town for residents and visitors of all ages and abilities to safely walk, bike, or roll. This Plan aims to not only enhance the current travel experience in Hana, but also to allow users to connect with the inherently cultural and aesthetic aspects of the rural and historic highway.

The Hana Greenway Master Plan has been a vision and need of the Hana community for decades. Two years ago, Hana Ranch approached the community about donating easements for the community to use to develop a multi-modal trail safely along Hana Highway. Hana Ranch, Hana Business Council, Maui MPO, and others are working together to ensure these easements are used specifically for this purpose. The Hana Highway is the only road that connects the daily services and destinations of Hana residents and visitors. This 2-lane highway is narrow, curvy, and has a speed limit of 25 mph, but anecdotally, people are driving much faster and more dangerously. Along a 2.5-mile section, there is Hana High and Elementary School (Hana's only school), Hana Health (Hana's only health center), teacher housing units, police department housing, neighborhood subdivision and park. There is a sidewalk from Hana School to Hana Health, but it is narrow and directly alongside Hana Highway. In other areas without a sidewalk, pedestrians walk alongside the road or bicycle in the road because of close proximity of destinations.

The Hana Greenway plan will allow Maui MPO to synthesize public support to secure federal funding for design and construction of the greenway. The plan will also help identify strategies for implementation and maintenance to expedite project delivery. The scope of this application includes procurement of a consultant to complete the plan. The consultant will lead public engagement initiatives within the community, support MPO outreach to key stakeholders, update a mapped inventory of land ownership and other pertinent planning information along the corridor, evaluate potential alignments, advance promising alignments into environmental review, create conceptual design visualizations, identify segments and phasing, and develop an environmental clearance and permitting matrix to assist with prioritization and project implementation.

The Hana Greenway Plan will investigate maximizing the use of existing ROW. Maui MPO, alongside partners at the Hana Business Council and the County, have been approached by Hana Ranch about their desire to donate easements along Hana Ranch for the sole purpose of a developed greenway for the community to use. This opportunity for dedicated land to be used for a trail is another example of the Hana community's enthusiasm and eagerness for safe and active transportation connections within Hana.

The Hana Greenway will bring additional community benefits to Hana including health benefits, aesthetic benefits, and economic benefits. With more people choosing to use the greenway instead of driving to their destination, there will be inherent health benefits associated with walking or biking. The Hana Greenway Plan will also focus on how to design the greenway in relation to the cultural and natural environment of Hana so that it feels a part of the community's vision. Economic benefits will naturally follow when people feel comfortable stopping along Hana Highway on route to their destination. Tourists will also seek out stops along the Hana Greenway while staying at the Hyatt in Hana or passing through and wanting to see all Hana has to offer.

The Hana Greenway Plan will prioritize promoting access and reconnecting community gathering places, the school and health center, parks, the police station and post office, and other critical community locations for alternative travel. All of these key features of the Hana community are located within the 5.5-mile stretch of the proposed Greenway, which will make non-vehicle travel more accessible to the people of Hana.

The Maui MPO will be the agency sponsor for the TAP grant and hopes to have an answer on the grant application in early 2024.

Long Range Transportation Plan Update

The *Hele Mai Maui 2040* Long Range Transportation Plan is a vision for Maui's transportation needs and opportunities over the next 20 years. Transportation projects must be identified in *Hele Mai Maui* to be eligible for federal funding. *Hele Mai Maui 2040* was developed using data and public input, and adopted by the Maui MPO Policy Board on December 12, 2019. *Hele Mai Maui 2040*, is set to expire December 2024. In light of the August 8, 2023 wildfire devastation caused to the West Maui community, including the destruction of existing land use in Lāhainā Town and surrounding areas, the Maui MPO Policy Board will lead a planning process to “reaffirm” the existing Maui MPO Long Range Transportation Plan, *Hele Mai Maui 2040*.



Hele Mai Maui 2040 Reaffirmation Action Plan

The purpose of the Reaffirmation Action Plan (RAP) is to update all factual information, maps, data, land uses provided in 2019, and complete a status update on the 88 projects identified in *Hele Mai Maui 2040* (from both Maui TIP cycles FY2019-2022, FY2022-2025). Additionally, progress will be reported for all transportation related policies and programs identified in *Hele Mai Maui 2040*. The work described in the Maui MPO Reaffirmation Action Plan will not need, nor require public engagement until after the data and information has been updated.

Once updated, the public will have ample opportunities to provide input on the identification and prioritization of future transportation projects. The consultants selected to complete the work will provide a comprehensive public engagement plan based on the recently updated Maui MPO Public Participation Plan ((PPP). The consultants, Maui MPO and County of Maui Office of Recovery will work collaboratively to fully engage the community throughout the full and comprehensive update of Hele Mai Maui 2040 and as appropriate to meet the needs of the West Maui community and the rest of Maui's communities.

Reaffirming the existing plan will allow the time needed to coordinate with the County of Maui's Office of Recovery efforts (in particular, the Recovery Support Functions addressing Community Planning and Infrastructure). As important, due to the magnitude of the wildfires, the response and immediate recovery efforts such as debris removal and interim housing are of utmost priority at this time. It is not possible, nor appropriate, to expect full community engagement and identification of transportation projects by the West Maui, and other communities of Maui during the next year.

As next steps, Maui MPO will seek Policy Board approval of the Reaffirmation Action Plan (RAP). Upon Policy Board approval, the MPO will continue to receive federal funds for TIP projects from the Federal Highways Administration. Maui MPO anticipates completing the RAP by December 2024, providing sufficient time to update data, maps, land use designations and other information that will provide a meaningful starting point for the comprehensive update and full community engagement of *Hele Mai Maui 2040*.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

The Maui MPO Transportation Improvement Program identifies how investments are prioritized to improve the transportation systems and infrastructure within the planning area. The TIP identifies transportation projects and strategies planned for a four-year cycle. TIPs list the immediate program of investments that, once implemented, will go toward achieving the performance targets established by the MPO and documented in the LRTP. The TIP is the County's means of allocating its transportation resources among the various capital, management, and operating investment needs of the planning area, based on a clear set of short-term transportation priorities prepared through a performance-driven process. All projects receiving Federal funding must be in the TIP. Goals of the projects included in the TIP must be consistent with the goals of *Hele Mai Maui 2040*, which used public input to establish the goals and measures that should guide public transportation decisions.



In FY 2023 and the first six months of FY 2024, Maui MPO made six (6) revisions to the FFY 2022 – 2025 (+2) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Three (3) of the of the FY2022 TIP revisions were administrative modifications, which are minor changes in project timeline or scope, and require coordination with the County and State agencies responsible for implementation of the projects. The remaining three (3) FY 2022 TIP revisions were amendments, which involved removing a project or substantially changing the cost or scope of a project. Amendments go through a full public review process and require approval by the Maui MPO Policy Board. Information about the Maui TIP, TIP policies and the latest TIP Report is available online at mauimpo.org/transportation-improvement-program-tip.

Public Participation Plan

In September 2023, the Maui MPO Policy Board approved the update of the 2017 Public Participation Plan (PPP). This version of the PPP provides recommendations and strategies to engage the public throughout the transportation planning process. It emphasizes reaching underserved and underrepresented communities, utilizing visuals to enhance accessibility, encouraging continuous engagement and dialogue, and incorporating performance measures for evaluation.

To inform the PPP update, the Maui MPO used two major community engagement techniques. It collected comments through an online survey, with 91 respondents providing their experiences and insights. Key findings from the survey include the lack of name recognition for the Maui MPO, reliance on traditional news sources for information, a preference for online meetings, and a desire for regular communication between the MPO and the public. Based on these findings, recommendations include building awareness of the Maui MPO, utilizing traditional news media, offering online engagement options, and maintaining regular communication through multiple channels.

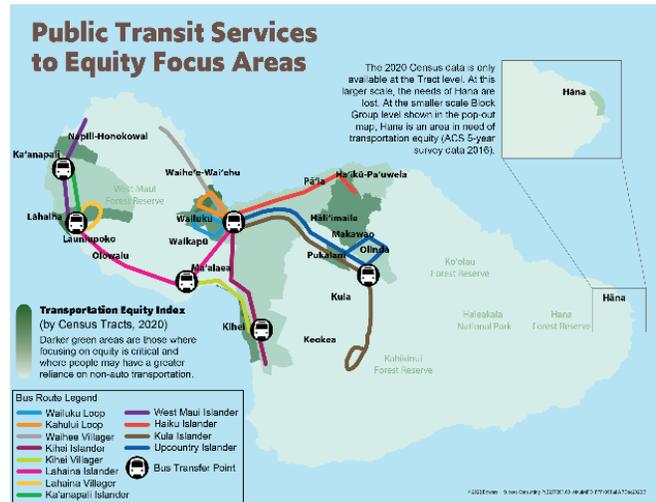


In addition to the online surveys, virtual public informational meetings were also conducted to present the public review draft and gather feedback. Two virtual public meetings were advertised and held on June 13 in the evening, and June 14 during the lunch hour, to allow for varying schedules. The disposition of all public comment received is available for review in the *2023 Public Participation Plan* Appendix C. The draft PPP was available on the MPO website and disseminated through press releases, social media and email notices. The public review period extended for 45 days.

Summary of Changes

The Maui MPO revised the existing PPP to reflect the findings of the online survey and the informational meetings. These changes are to:

- Increase the use of visuals and graphics so the plan is easier to use;
- Provide a more complete overview of the Maui MPO including context and core functions;
- Separate specific direction and actions from technical language;
- Monitor the effectiveness of public participation through the monitoring of measurable evaluation metrics for goals and strategies; and
- Expand the importance of responding to underserved and historically excluded populations and identify enhanced outreach methods for these communities.



The 2023 PPP can be found on the Maui MPO website at mauimpo.org/public-participation-plan.

Public Engagement Metrics

Maui MPO has maintained a strong presence online as a source of education and information with engaging infographics on various Maui MPO programs. The agency maintained a low profile after the Aug. 8 events to allow life-preserving information to saturate the internet. With the new year ahead, and a renewed sense of purpose, Maui MPO's online public engagement will be stronger than ever.



- 724 contacts on Mailchimp email marketing, compared to 623 from the same time last year
- 1,395 Followers on Facebook, up 94 from last year
- 734 Followers on Instagram, up 141 from last year

Planning Studies

West Maui Greenway Master Plan

The West Maui Greenway is a proposed 25-mile, multi-use trail that will one day connect Ukumehame to Lipoa Point. The project vision is to create a safe, comfortable, and joyful greenway path through West Maui that serves as both a recreational ribbon and a new transportation facility, connecting people to destinations while highlighting the diverse history, landscape, and culture of the region.



**WEST MAUI
GREENWAY**

The Master Plan was completed in September 2023 and it provides a preferred route alignment, proposed trail types, and a general overview of possible implementation strategies for the greenway.

The next step for the Master Plan is for design and construction to occur for each of the segments. However, the Maui MPO is not (by law) an implementing agency. Therefore, the Executive Director pursued the furtherance of the Greenway Master Plan by working with the Bissen administration, including the County of Maui Departments of Parks and Recreation, Public Works and the Managing Director to establish a working group whose purpose is to identify resources needed to construct and maintain the full Greenway, and to designate a County Department would oversee this project. Mayor Bissen allocated funding to develop a detailed work plan on resources needed and next steps to undertake the Greenway design and construction. Parks and Recreation is overseeing the study. The consulting firm SSFM was hired and the expected date of completion of the feasibility analysis is February 2024.

The West Maui Greenway Master Plan can be viewed at mauimpo.org/west-maui-greenway-plan.

Street Tree Inventory

A Street Tree Inventory study was completed in March 2023 and built upon previous mapping work that collected data for Central Maui and portions of South Maui. This project collected data from West Maui and Upcountry. The tree inventory was based on the collection of approximately 10,000 public right-of-way trees. The Tree Inventory also includes recommendations for street tree maintenance and potential new plantings.



This project supported two of the following Hele Mai Maui 2040 goals:

Goal 1: Improve safety and promote health

- Measures: Increase amount of safe facilities for people walking and biking; and increase physical activity by making walking and biking preferred mode of travel.
- Metrics: Key corridor project bicycle and pedestrian volumes; and level of traffic stress.

Goal 2: Enhance cultural and natural resources, climate resilience and sustainability

- Measures: Improve climate resilience and adaptability of infrastructure.
- Metrics: Amount of vegetation and green infrastructure in projects.

The final deliverables are a summary report and a geographic dataset of trees within the public right of way, including:

- Street Address
- Street Type
- Botanical name
- Common name
- Number of trunks
- Diameter at Breast Height
- Height
- Crown
- Condition
- Maintenance recommendation
- Hardscape damage
- Clearance
- Observations
- Latitude
- Longitude

The summary report includes a summary of the methodology, baseline data for existing assets (*i.e.* total number of trees), training manual for ongoing data input and management, and recommended next steps for use of the data collected.

The Tree Inventory Summary Report, March 2023, can be viewed at mauimpo.org/tree-inventory-summary-march-2023.

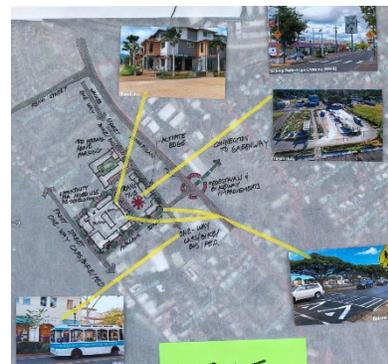
Other Long-Range Transportation Planning Initiatives

West Maui Community Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Corridor Action Plan

The West Maui Community Plan, adopted in 2022 outlined the vision for the future of West Maui and highlighted the need for a West Maui Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Corridor Action Plan. Shaped by thousands of West Maui residents and hundreds of community conversations, the West Maui Community Plan describes how we'll grow in a more sustainable way. It identifies new land use designations and important transportation connections and serves as the backdrop for the West Maui Community Corridor TOD Action Plan.

A TOD Corridor is a place that makes it easy to take the bus and to walk, bike, and roll. It's also a place with many different types of affordable and workforce housing options. The corridor will provide many opportunities for connecting schools, services, jobs, and great community spaces that are welcoming and fun.

The West Maui Community Corridor TOD Action Plan is led by the Maui MPO in partnership with the County's Departments of Planning, Housing and Human Concerns, Parks and Recreation, Public Works, and Transportation, as well as the Hawai'i Department of Transportation. The work started in July 2022 and will have been extended to February 2024. The Action Plan will help to advance strategies for a more walkable, bikeable, transit-oriented community in West Maui. The TOD Corridor is 3.6 miles in length running along Honoapi'ilani Highway and connects Lāhainā and Kā'anapali, and the areas within a half-mile of the corridor. It also includes the neighborhoods along Lahainaluna Road,



connecting Lāhainā’s schools to its center. Other important connections include: neighborhoods, businesses, parks, and community facilities, such as schools, medical facilities, and churches.

A website has been established and contains all technical papers, input received from all community engagement, online surveys, townhalls, community meetings and numerous walk audits. The web site is westmauicommunitycorridor.org.

Impact of the West Maui Wildfires August 8, 2023

As a result of the wildfires, previously drafted TOD Corridor action plans were put on hold. Attempts have been made to communicate with the Administration and Office of Recovery in order to complete a West Maui TOD Action Plan that could best be transitioned to the ongoing recovery efforts. The framework that has been established for the Maui Office of Recovery includes two Recovery Support Functions (RSFs) that the Maui MPO is planning to coordinate with for completion of the final West Maui Community Corridor Action Plan. These are the Community Planning RSF led by the Planning Department Deputy Director, and the Infrastructure RSF is led by the DPW Director and Chief of Infrastructure Operations. Maui MPO also plans to coordinate with the Housing RSF as it relates to transit and access to affordable housing. The Housing RSF is led by the Deputy Director of Maui DOT.

Presentations on the final Action plan will be delivered in January 2024 to the following groups:

- West Maui Community Corridor Technical Advisory Committee
- Maui County Council Committee on Disaster, Resilience, International and Planning (DRIP)
- State Interagency Transit Oriented Development Council
- Maui MPO Policy Board and TAC

MPO Coordination with the Community Planning and Infrastructure Recovery Support Functions (RSFs)

A critical component of the West Maui Community Corridor TOD Action Plan was diverse, robust and continuous engagement with the community. As such, it is crucially important that the Maui MPO consistently collaborate and coordinate community engagement efforts with the Office of Recovery’s Community Planning RSF team particularly as they address community planning land use and transportation efforts.

As the recovery and rebuilding efforts evolve, it is important for the Maui MPO to work alongside the Infrastructure RSF to align community interests, the Long Range Transportation Plan update and project identification with various sources of funding to ensure fiscal constraint. The Maui TIP Cycle update is due next year (FY2025-2028+2). While arrangements are being made to allow flexibility for Maui to provide updates to the FY2022-2025+2 TIP Program given the impacts of the wildfires, it is essential that Maui MPO coordinate with the Infrastructure RSF as needed recovery projects are identified. All federal funded transportation projects must be on an approved TIP in order for Maui to receive funding.

Hawai`i 2023 Legislative Session

The Maui MPO tracked legislation and provided written testimony when possible. Because Legislative Committees typically provided 48-hours’ notice, and the Maui MPO Policy Board meets monthly, Policy Board members were updated at the meeting following with legislative updates. Listed below are the legislative items, and a brief summary of Maui MPO Testimony.

Overall, 27 bills were tracked, nine (9) letters of written testimony were sent by the Maui MPO.

Topic	Measure Title	Maui MPO Summary of Written Testimony
Reducing the need for Special Management Area (SMA) permits for active transportation such as bicycle paths, transit stops, sidewalks	Relating to SMAs	The Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization supports HB 365 HD 1. By eliminating the need for Special Management Area (SMA) permits for safety improvements to bicycle and pedestrian routes and infrastructure, this measure will facilitate and streamline more timely approval of Complete Streets and other multi-modal transportation projects. Further, by reducing the need for SMA permitting, a more streamlined process will enable access to important recreation activities that will enhance pedestrian/bicycle access to recreational areas within the SMA. The Maui metropolitan Planning Organization supports HB 365 HD 1.
Makes an appropriation to the department of health to implement the recommendations of the statewide mobility management task force, established pursuant to Act 214, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2013.	Appropriation to implement task for recommendations on mobility management	The Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization supports HB415 HD1. This measure will increase access to transportation services for elders and individuals with disabilities, especially those in rural areas. The state can further assist the community by leveraging federal funds, establishing a statewide purchasing cooperative to procure new vehicles, technologies and equipment and data-sharing across a network of different transportation providers. It is paramount that Hawai'i has a comprehensive transportation network that can offer the underrepresented population of elders and individuals with disabilities efficient, safe, and affordable transportation options and gives them full access to the economic, health and social aspects of their communities.
Establishes the safe routes to school advisory committee within the planning branch of the highway's division of the department of transportation. Appropriates moneys.	Relating to Safe Routes to School	The Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization supports HB600, SD1. This measure will establish a statewide Safe Routes to School (SRTS) committee and coordinator within the Hawai'i Department of Transportation, and is responsible for developing a Safe Routes to School strategic plan. Moving people around with safer and sustainable transportation options that integrate walking, bicycling, rolling, transit, and wheelchair use while connecting routes to all of a region's geographic areas can also improve community development, foster economic revitalization, link people to the health care system, schools, and jobs, improve air quality and help address climate change. Establishing the safe routes to school advisory committee, coordinator position and an implementable strategic plan is a good first step in achieving this.
Extends the period within which a county may adopt a surcharge on state tax, under certain conditions, from 3/31/2019 to 12/31/2023. Authorizes the use of county surcharge revenues for housing infrastructure in counties having a population of five hundred thousand or less. Temporarily authorizes counties that have previously adopted a surcharge on state tax to amend the uses of the surcharge	Relating to taxation	Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1363, H.D. 3. The purpose of this bill is threefold: extending the period of time for a County to adopt a surcharge on state tax; authorizing the use of county surcharge revenues for housing infrastructure in counties having a population of five hundred thousand or less (Neighbor counties); and temporarily allowing those counties that have adopted a surcharge on state tax to amend the uses of the surcharge. The costs of providing off site infrastructure for housing often prohibits the development of workforce and affordable housing. These costs, typically borne by private housing developers, are passed on resulting in much higher home prices for home buyers, and higher rents for renters. This bill will offer another source of much-needed revenue for Maui County to address its affordable-housing crisis by helping to pay for infrastructure upfront in order to buy down the costs of infrastructure resulting in those costs being passed on to homebuyers and renters. This will result in lower housing prices, making home ownership attainable for more residents. It may also allow many of Maui's skilled workforce to buy or rent a home in Maui, rather than be forced to leave in order to find more affordable home prices elsewhere.
Repeals the electric bicycle and electric moped rebate program and electric bicycle and	Relating to transportation	The Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization supports SB 809 SD2. This measure will expand the scope of the program to include electric micro-mobility devices and an additional rebate type. The purpose of this bill aligns with Maui MPO's efforts to improve mobility choices to reduce traffic congestion and to reduce transportation-related emissions, as outlined under

<p>electric moped subaccount of the highway development special fund. Establishes the electric mobility rebate program and electric mobility special fund. Appropriates moneys.</p>		<p>the goals of the <i>Hele Mai Maui 2040 Transportation Plan</i>. This program will offer lower cost and zero-emission travel and more affordable commuting alternatives to Hawai'i residents. This bill can reduce the cost of transportation for residents who need it the most. The costliest expenses in Hawai'i are housing, childcare, food and the cost of transportation. While these costs affect everyone, the low-income community struggling to get by, are hit especially hard. With the expansion of this program to provide more affordable and reliable transportation options, it will reach a much broader audience.</p> <p>Additionally, we support the suggested amendments and revisions offered by the HDOT that will provide flexibility and efficiency to successfully implement and manage this important program.</p>
<p>Establishes green infrastructure objectives and policies for transportation systems, infrastructure, and projects. Establishes the Green Transportation Infrastructure Task Force to examine, evaluate, and develop policies for the design, implementation, and maintenance of green transportation infrastructure.</p>	<p>Relating to Green Transportation Infrastructure</p>	<p>The Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization supports SB 965. This measure will support our efforts to reduce the impacts of climate change by incorporating green vegetation, foliage and trees into transportation infrastructure reducing the urban heat effect and carbon emissions. Incorporating green vegetation along our roads and highways will capture water to not only replenish the water table, but also help to mitigate stormwater flooding plaguing many of our community roadways in South, West and Central Maui. Creating a lush green environment will enhance shade and reduce heat providing a cooler transit for many of our pedestrians, bicycle users and micro-mobility users. The incorporation of green vegetation, foliage and trees also provide a sound and visual barrier between vehicles and surrounding communities to enhance a sense of safety, comfort and quality of life.</p>
<p>Appropriates funds to the Hawai'i Community Development Authority for statewide planning, designing, and constructing of various transit-oriented development projects identified in the state strategic plan for transit-oriented development.</p>	<p>Transit Oriented Development; HCDA Appropriation</p>	<p>The Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization supports SB 1191 S.D. 2. This bill will provide the funding that catalyzes public and private investments in healthy communities that are walkable, provide a range of transportation options, affordable housing and a network of connected parks and open spaces all of which bring tremendous benefit to our communities</p> <p>The County of Maui received approval for the Ka'ahumanu Community Corridor TOD Action Plan by the Hawai'i Interagency TOD Council last year. In 2022, after final approval of the West Maui Community Plan update, the County of Maui received funding for the West Maui Community TOD Corridor study of which the primary objective is to implement some of the transportation and housing actions from the community plan update including: better connectivity of sidewalks and multiuse paths, increasing the frequency and availability of transit routes, and locating a transit hub close to affordable housing, commercial centers and schools. The South Maui Community Plan is currently in the review and approval process. Once the Plan update is approved, the South Maui TOD Corridor Study would begin in order to implement the various elements of the Plan update calling for better sidewalk connectivity, a new transit hub and more public transit in close proximity to affordable and work force housing areas.</p> <p>The Maui experience has shown that these TOD planning efforts result in agencies and stakeholders working together to identify key actions to develop affordable housing, multi-modal transportation options, and economic vitality along the TOD corridor.</p>
<p>Establishes safe routes for people implementation program and safe routes for people implementation committee to develop strategies and facilitate transportation-related</p>	<p>Relating to transportation</p>	<p>The Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization supports SB 1506, S. D. 2 establishing a Safe Routes for People Implementation Program and Safe Routes for People Implementation Committee to develop strategies and facilitate transportation related projects that ensure the safety of keiki and kūpuna, using ground transportation facilities. This purpose aligns with the goals of the Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization's efforts as outlined under the goals of the Hele Mai Maui 2040 Transportation Plan and the Vision Zero Maui Action Plan.</p> <p>Moving people around with safer and sustainable transportation options that integrate walking, bicycling, rolling, transit, and wheelchair use while</p>

<p>projects that ensure the safety of keiki and kupuna using ground transportation facilities. Authorizes the safe routes for people implementation committee to develop the application process under the safe routes to school program. Renames the safe routes to school program special fund to the safe routes for people special fund and amends its purpose. Appropriates funds</p>		<p>connecting routes to all of a region’s geographic areas can also improve community development, foster economic revitalization, link people to the health care system, schools, and jobs, improve air quality and help address climate change. Additionally, improving safety for people to ride, walk or roll increases the opportunities for everyone to safely increase physical activity, which in turn positively impacts health and helps to address the root causes of many chronic diseases. When we prioritize road safety from keiki to kūpuna, everyone benefits.</p>
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Community and Stakeholder Engagement

This past year with the change in Maui MPO’s leadership, priority was given to community, stakeholder and agency engagement and collaboration. In the past year, the Executive Director attended many community organization meetings, Council Committees, and led focus groups on the topics of active transportation, the West Maui Community Corridor, South Maui transportation safety and Vision Zero implementing efforts, just to name a few examples. Please see the tables below listing the dates, topics, organizations and other relevant information pertaining to the outreach and engagement efforts of the Maui MPO.



Hawai'i Commute Challenge

Maui MPO participated in a statewide program this year launched by nonprofit Blue Planet Foundation, which encouraged residents to experience the variety of sustainable transportation options Hawai'i has to offer.

We interviewed and documented community members to help encourage others to take on the challenge, such as taking The Maui Bus and carpooling, biking, or walking. A promotional teaser was posted on our website: vimeo.com/847050475.

At the end of the challenge, Blue Planet reported hundreds of residents from across the state made over **7,000** sustainable trips, traveling **28,699** miles, and reducing their collective carbon footprint by **8** tons!



This challenge took place statewide for the entire month of August. For Maui MPO, we halted promotions immediately after the catastrophic Aug. 8 wildfires out of respect, but aim to share all the video material eventually at an appropriate time.

Public Presentations, Workshops, Town Halls

Maui MPO Attendance and/or Presentations to Local Community Organizations, Stakeholders

Organization	Event	Topic	Date
West Maui Taxpayers Association	Annual Meeting	PPP community engagement and review, West Maui TOD Corridor Action Plan, West Maui Greenway	January 12, 2023
Hulilau Foundation	Hulilau Leadership Group	PPP community engagement and review, West Maui Greenway, student involvement in the West Maui TOD Corridor walk tours and creation of a video	January 18, 2023
Lahaina Sunset Rotary	Annual Meeting	PPP community engagement and review, West Maui Greenway, West Maui TOD Corridor Action Plan	February 7, 2023
Kihei Community Association	Board of Directors monthly meeting	PPP community engagement and review, Traffic fatalities, transportation safety, driver and pedestrian/bicyclist need to follow “rules of the road”	February 10, 2023
Lahaina Sunrise Rotary	Monthly Meeting	PPP community engagement and review, West Maui Greenway, West Maui TOD Corridor Action Plan	March 21, 2023
Hana Business Council	Informational meeting about Hana Greenway	Obtaining FHWA funding (TAP grant) for Hana Greenway Master Plan	April 2023
Haiku Community Association	Annual Meeting	Role and purpose of the Maui MPO, PPP community engagement and review	May 18, 2023
Water and Infrastructure Council Committee	Monthly meeting	West Maui TOD Corridor Action Plan	May 8, 2023
Vision Impairment and Blindness Support Group	Monthly meeting	Role and Purpose of the Maui MPO, Transportation Equity, South Maui Vision Zero Summit	July 26, 2023

Maui MPO Presentations/Attendance at State and National Professional Conferences and Associations

Organization	Event	Topic	Location	Date
University of Hawai'i East/West Center	Climate Adaptation Policy Panel	Impacts of climate change and sea level rise on transportation infrastructure	Honolulu, Hawai'i	January 11, 2023
American Planning Association	Annual Meeting	Transportation and land use planning and examples, TOD Corridors and affordable housing, Bicycle greenways	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	April 2-6, 2023
Western Association of Transportation Highway Officials (WASHTO)	Annual Meeting	Hawai'i transportation planning programs, projects, transportation safety	Honolulu, Hawai'i	June 4-9, 2023
Hawai'i Congress of Planning Officials (HCPO)	Annual Meeting	Land use planning and transportation safety, Complete Streets programs and projects throughout Hawai'i	Honolulu, Hawai'i	September 4-7, 2023
Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO)	Annual Meeting	Meet and learn from over 350 MPO directors, transportation planners and officials from across the country. Maui MPO presentation delivered: West Maui TOD, Connecting land use and transportation infrastructure	Cleveland, Ohio	September 24-29, 2023
Department of Health	Hawai'i Healthy Strategic Plan 2030 Summit (HHSP)	Sector area stakeholders met to identify and support HHSP policies that need action, support health equity work and develop partnerships to move HHSP objectives forward	Oahu, Hawai'i	October 25 – 26, 2023
Walkability Action Institute (WAI)	Quarterly meeting	Maui MPO delivered a presentation on the West Maui TOD and impacts of the West Maui fires moving forward	Virtual ZOOM meeting	November 14, 2023

Maui MPO Serving on Boards, Councils, Committees

Organization	Purpose	Term
State Interagency Council on Transit Oriented Development	Coordinates and facilitates State agency planning and implementation of TOD projects; as a delegate Maui MPO coordinates state agency initiative with state TOD projects and programs, seeks funding support for Maui TOD projects	September 2014 - present
Healthy Eating + Active Living (HEAL) Steering Committee	Improve community health across Maui County. Collaborate and partner with community organizations to make streets safe for all.	January 2023 - present
Walkability Action Institute (WAI) Alumnae Network	Meet quarterly to discuss examples of successful active projects, policies and programs, national updates provided on various policies and programs	November 2022-present
West Maui Greenway Working Group	Collaborates with other County of Maui agencies to explore the feasibility and eventual implementation of the West Maui Greenway	February 2023 - present
Subcommittee to the State Transportation Advisory Committee (SubSTAC)	Assists HDOT in the development of the Statewide Transportation Plan and other matters pertaining to statewide transportation planning	October 2014 - present
Safe Routes to School Program, HDOT	Facilitate planning and construction of projects that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of schools.	November 2022 - present