

## **APPENDIX H**

### **Public Involvement Policy**

**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
POLICY ON PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

The Hawaii Department of Transportation recognizes, encourages and solicits pro-active public involvement that can be fully integrated into the planning process and incorporated in the various planning activities by Hawaii's transportation agencies. TEA-21 provides specific guidelines for the public involvement program that reflect this policy and the objectives enumerated below:

*"The public involvement processes are open and proactive providing complete information, timely public notice, full public access to decisions, and opportunities for early and continuing involvement by its residents".*

The objectives are to:

- Provide early and continuing public involvement opportunities will be provided throughout the transportation planning and programming process;
- Provide timely information about transportation issues and processes will be provided to the public, affected public agencies, representatives of transportation agencies, private providers of transportation, freight shippers, users of public transportation and other interested parties and segments of the community affected by transportation plan, programs, and projects;
- Provide adequate public notice of public involvement activities and time for public review and comment at key decisions points, including, but not limited to, action on planning activities;
- Provide reasonable public access to technical and policy information used in the development of plans;
- Conduct a process for demonstrating explicit consideration and response to public input during the planning and program development process, including responses to input received from persons with disabilities and minority, elderly, and low-income populations;
- Implement a process for seeking out and considering the needs of those traditionally under served by existing transportation systems, including, but not limited to low-income and minority populations which may face challenges accessing employment and other opportunities; and
- Encourage and assist all divisions of the Department of Transportation, the OMPO, county agencies, transportation providers, and other participants in the transportation planning process to identify and involve the affected and interested public.
- Sponsor outreach, training, and technical assistance and provide information for State, regional and county transportation agencies on effective public involvement procedures.
- Provide review at least once every three years of the effectiveness of the public

involvement process to ensure that it continues to provide full and open access to all and allows for modifications to the process as necessary, with specific attention to the effectiveness of efforts to engage persons with disabilities, minority individuals, and elderly and low-income populations.

The State of Hawaii Department of Transportation affirms that public involvement is an integral component of its planning activities and is committed to maintaining the public's involvement in these activities.