Ridership Model Forecast Notes

June 2021

- The latest output from travel demand forecasting model estimates about 100,610 daily boardings for the full rail system from Kualaka'i (East Kapolei) to Kālia (Ala Moana) during the opening year (2030-2031), as shown in Table 1.
- As in previous forecasts, the model continues to use 2030 as a target horizon year.
 Since project construction is currently expected to be completed at around that time,
 however, the new forecast is more conservative than previous estimates and represents
 an opening year projection. In contrast, previous estimates were based on a full opening
 in 2025 and incorporated five years of annual ridership growth until the forecast year of
 2030.
- The model continues to rely on the travel patterns developed using 2012 household and visitor surveys conducted by the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization as well as data from an on-board survey of bus passengers also conducted at that time. The new forecast also incorporates bus ridership data between 2012 and 2019. On Oahu, transit ridership has declined from 225,000 daily unlinked boardings in 2012 to 190,000 boardings in 2019, or an approximate 15% decline.
- Finally, the new forecast also incorporates more current assumptions by the City and County of Honolulu Department of Transportation Services (DTS) to set the time between arriving trains, or headways, of every 6 minutes during peak periods and 10 minutes during off-peak periods. Previous forecasts used an assumption that trains would run every 4.7 minutes during peak periods and every 9 minutes during off-peak periods. Due to the slightly longer wait times, the travel demand forecasting model is predicting slightly lower estimated ridership. Actual headways for rail service could be different from these assumptions.

Table 1: Estimated Weekday Boardings by Station – Full Opening 15 June 2021

Station	Average	Location
Station	Weekday	Location
	Boardings	
Kualakaʻi		East Kapolei
Keone'ae	2,440	UH-West Oahu
Honouliuli	3,110	Hoʻopili
Hōʻaeʻae	4,690	West Loch
Pouhala	•	Waipahu TC
Hālaulani	1,450	Leeward Community College
Waiawa	9,680	Pearl Highlands
Kalauao	6,290	Pearlridge
Hālawa	4,500	Aloha Stadium
Makalapa	1,800	Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam
Lelepaua	3,530	Daniel K. Inouye International Airport
Āhua	4,180	Lagoon Drive
Kahauiki	3,020	Middle Street - Kalihi Transit Center
Mokauea	3,490	Kalihi
Niuhelewai	2,170	Honolulu Community College - Kapālama
Kūwili	4,580	Iwilei
Hōlau	3,460	Chinatown
Kuloloia	9,780	Downtown
Ka'ākaukukui	3,240	Civic Center
Kukuluae'o	4,670	Kaka'ako
Kālia	17,330	Ala Moana Center
Total Average Weekday Boardings	100,610	

Source: Travel Demand Forecasting Model, 5/3/21