

Mr. Reid Nelson, Director  
Office of Federal Agency Programs  
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 803  
Washington, DC 20004

Re: Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project, Honolulu, Hawaii

Dear Mr. Nelson:

This letter serves to notify the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation that the Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project will have an adverse effect on historic resources within the City and County of Honolulu.

The City and County of Honolulu, Department of Transportation Services (DTS), in cooperation with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), is proposing the project, which will construct an approximately 20-mile elevated guideway transit system between East Kapolei and Ala Moana Center in Honolulu, Hawaii.

At this time, the FTA has determined that the project will have an adverse effect on historic resources. Twenty-two resources of the 81 within the Area of Potential Effect that are eligible for or listed in the National Register of Historic Places will be adversely affected. The Hawaii State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) has concurred with the adverse effect determinations on all 22 resources. However, SHPD also responded to the effects determinations by stating it believes 13 additional resources are adversely impacted. Of these 13 resources, one previously was determined to be not eligible by SHPD and another is approximately one mile away from the project vicinity and is well outside the Area of Potential Effect. Therefore, the effects determinations on 11 resources remain unresolved. The project team is currently consulting with SHPD and considering comments from other consulting parties to resolve these effects determinations.

Last month, SHPD invited project team members to an informal meeting with Ms. Charlene Dwin Vaughn from your office. Ms. Vaughn questioned the need for the scrutiny of individual resources since the project team has determined that the project will have an adverse effect on historic resources. However, this is necessary to evaluate concerns relating to Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966.

At that time, Ms. Vaughn advised the City and FTA to schedule a consulting parties meeting to discuss the draft Programmatic Agreement, which contains mitigation for adverse effects as well as information relating to archaeological and Native Hawaiian concerns. We have scheduled this meeting for July 28, 2009 and would be pleased to have you join us should you choose to participate. Additional details and an invitation have been sent by the DTS.

We look forward to resolving the outstanding effects determinations and continuing coordination with the consulting parties as we finalize the Programmatic Agreement.

We are enclosing copies of the *Historic Resources Technical Report* (which contains eligibility determinations), the *Addendum to the Historic Resources Technical Report*, and the *Historic Effects Report* (errata sheet forthcoming), and a copy of the draft Programmatic Agreement for your review should your office decide to participate in this project.

Thank you for your interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Leslie T. Rogers  
Regional Administrator

Enclosures