
From: Carranza, Edward <FTA>
To: Ryan, James <FTA>
CC: Sukys, Raymond <FTA>; Luu, Catherine <FTA>; Matley, Ted <FTA>; Rogers, Leslie <FTA>; Marler, Renee <FTA>; Nguyen, Kim <FTA>; Day, Elizabeth <FTA>; Tahir, Nadeem <FTA>
Sent: 4/24/2009 5:01:42 AM
Subject: RE: Briefing Today of Honolulu Visitors in DC this week

Thank you Jim. We will try to keep it short, but a briefing would be of benefit to the group, particularly for Ray and Ted who will be on the island next Friday. All – if available, please, at 10 AM PDST today, call the Region IX conference call number at 877-960-0440, 704828#. Thanks.

From: Ryan, James <FTA>
Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2009 6:06 PM
To: Carranza, Edward <FTA>
Cc: Sukys, Raymond <FTA>; Luu, Catherine <FTA>; Matley, Ted <FTA>
Subject: RE: PE checklist for Honolulu

OK, 1pm is good for me. Not sure what else I have to report. The meeting was about two hours with Bill Davidson from PB to review a draft case for the project and a summary of findings from the ongoing uncertainty analysis on the ridership forecasts. He and other PB travel forecasters were here for two days to talk about New Starts forecasting that PB is doing in Baltimore, DC, Atlanta, and Honolulu, and a research contract we are kicking off with them (and AECOM) on ridership forecasting. And then we chatted with Toru and Mark for a bit late yesterday morning -- getting the not-very-enlightening responses I outlined earlier that we'd be getting stuff soon. We sure didn't have any outcomes, other than that they seemed to get it that a revised financial plan is a top priority. The roadmap discussion will presumably encourage them to give us some specific dates for that and whatever else is still outstanding.

How will we connect at 1pm EDT?

From: Carranza, Edward <FTA>
Sent: Thu 4/23/2009 5:40 PM
To: Ryan, James <FTA>
Cc: Sukys, Raymond <FTA>; Luu, Catherine <FTA>; Matley, Ted <FTA>
Subject: RE: PE checklist for Honolulu

Jim: Can we maybe first have a call with the NS say tomorrow (1 PM EDST) for a briefing from you on your conversations with the Honolulu group this week? You're right to suggest that we weren't aware of our grantee in DC this week, and a chat on any outcomes would be timely for Ray and Ted. We can also then touch on a "roadmap" internal FTA discussion. Thank you.

From: Ryan, James <FTA>
Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2009 12:49 PM
To: Carranza, Edward <FTA>; Sukys, Raymond <FTA>; Luu, Catherine <FTA>
Subject: PE checklist for Honolulu

I guess I'm not sure what the plan is now for a conversation between Matt Welbes and Mayor Hannemann, but maybe we can engage the Honolulu staffers on the PE checklist on a separate track. Or maybe not, if you think that we should hold off pending conversation with the mayor, or a revised financial plan, or something else.

The PB travel forecasting folks were here for the last three days to talk about various projects, including the last three items on the Honolulu rail forecasts (revised forecasts for the revised alignment through the airport, the ridership uncertainty analysis, and the forecast related insights needed for the case for the project.) Those things are underway and are apparently under control, but the deadlines are still just "really soon."

I've been working (slowly) to figure out what we have on land use and other things not engineering/costing related. (Having a timeframe for a checklist discussion with the Honolulu folks would no doubt get me better focused on that task; so that's another reason to think about doing this.)

Toru and Mark Scheibe stopped by on their way to the Hill (to talk to some staffer on the Senate side, not sure who). Both were in suits; first time I've seen Toru in a suit! I got 10 ounces of Lion coffee out of their visit and I think that Susan Borinsky ended up with macadamia nuts. I asked them if they were available for a call to get the checklist on the table and see where they think they are on items still outstanding. They said yes, although we didn't actually talk about a specific timeframe. I told them that a revised financial plan would be really helpful ASAP and they said "real soon now" in response. That means a few weeks, apparently.

So, can we have an FTA call early next week (so I can finish getting up to speed on several of the checklist items this week)? It would be helpful (to me, anyway) if we could do this even if we aren't going to contact Honolulu about this until some later time. And if we're going to step 2, then I'm almost completely open so far during the week of May 4.

How's that sound? Thanks.

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