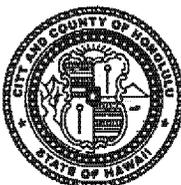


OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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MUFI HANNEMANN
MAYOR



August 27, 2009

Mr. Peter Rogoff, Administrator
Federal Transit Administration
East Building
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Aloha Peter:

Earlier I called to express our concern regarding a FOIA request by opponents of Honolulu's High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project.

As you know, the FTA did not apprise or consult with the City and County of Honolulu prior to releasing a copy of our draft financial plan regarding the project. Insofar as this plan was a draft and the work product of the City and County of Honolulu, I would like clarification as to whether Honolulu should have been given the opportunity to make whatever FOIA exemption claims it may have been entitled to, and/or make any necessary and allowable redactions.

I fully understand that the FTA has a high standard for transparency under the Obama Administration, and I share in this concern. However, it is important to understand that unwarranted disclosures can have negative consequences on municipal bond ratings and create other difficulties. We seek a prudent and appropriate balance between these concerns, while complying with FOIA requirements.

Noting all of the aforementioned concerns, I am pleased that you have agreed to apprise us in a timely manner of any future requests and notify us in advance of any disclosures FTA intends to make. In addition, we respectfully ask that you provide to us copies of any outstanding FOIA requests that pertain to this project.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mufi Hannemann", written over a horizontal line.

Mufi Hannemann
Mayor