
From: Fisher, Ronald <FTA>
To: Rogers, Leslie <FTA>; Matley, Ted <FTA>; Sukys, Raymond <FTA>
CC: Borinsky, Susan <FTA>; Ossi, Joseph <FTA>
Sent: 10/31/2007 9:22:07 AM
Subject: RE: Information for sherry's meeting with Honolulu Mayor

I just talked to Jim Ryan about the Honolulu prior BRT project and the request by the council members to consider BRT on the elevated guideway. He said they are very different alternatives as the prior BRT project did not have nearly as much dedicated ROW as the current fixed guideway - it was at grade for its entire length in contrast to the elevated guideway that is currently being considered. So I think we have to revise the last bullet in the response below. I have revised it and taken out the reference to the board below.

From: Rogers, Leslie <FTA>
Sent: Wednesday, October 31, 2007 12:59 PM
To: Matley, Ted <FTA>; Sukys, Raymond <FTA>
Cc: Borinsky, Susan <FTA>; Fisher, Ronald <FTA>
Subject: FW: Information for sherry's meeting with Honolulu Mayor

Ted & Ray:

Since you all participated in the September 12th meeting in our office with Mayor Hannemann where he addressed the then upcoming start of the ferry demonstration project, do we have any updated information on how the ferry is operating? Do I recall correctly that there remains an unobligated earmark that permits the use of these funds to support (continued) ferry operations?

Leslie

From: Borinsky, Susan <FTA>
Sent: Wednesday, October 31, 2007 9:46 AM
To: Rogers, Leslie <FTA>; Fisher, Ronald <FTA>
Cc: Sukys, Raymond <FTA>
Subject: RE: Information for sherry's meeting with Honolulu Mayor

Leslie--should the Region provide an explanation for any ferry questions that may come up?

From: Rogers, Leslie <FTA>
Sent: Wednesday, October 31, 2007 12:37 PM
To: Fisher, Ronald <FTA>
Cc: Sukys, Raymond <FTA>; Borinsky, Susan <FTA>
Subject: RE: Information for sherry's meeting with Honolulu Mayor

Hi Ron:

Your points are fine (other than the color of the print). However, the reference to the nine-member board should be to the Honolulu City Council. Thanks.

Leslie

From: Fisher, Ronald <FTA>
Sent: Wednesday, October 31, 2007 8:42 AM
To: Rogers, Leslie <FTA>
Cc: Sukys, Raymond <FTA>; Borinsky, Susan <FTA>
Subject: Information for sherry's meeting with Honolulu Mayor

Here are some notes for sherry on Honolulu - let me know what you think:

Project Status

- The alternatives analysis considered two build alternatives: 1) HOT lanes having HOVs, tolled vehicles and buses; and 2) an elevated fixed guideway with trains, either rubber-tired or rail.
- The City council selected the train alternative as the locally preferred alternative (LPA) in December, 2006. A 20-mile section of the 28-mile LPA was selected as the project requested for entry into PE with a cost in today's dollars of \$3.5 B.
- Decisions regarding whether the technology is rail or rubber-tired are appropriately dealt with in PE
- Honolulu staff have told us they want to make a PE request before the end of the year, but the delay in getting FTA study products likely means that their request will occur after the end of the year.

Recent Issues

- Several members of the 9-member City council have sent FTA a letter asking if FTA requires that BRT be considered running on the elevated guideway.
- A requirement for both alternatives analysis and NEPA is that all reasonable alternatives are considered. We would look to the project sponsor to provide evidence that this new BRT alternative need not be analyzed. Ultimately we will have to review the project sponsor's response to ensure they are in compliance with NEPA.

Ron Fisher

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