



HONOLULU AUTHORITY for RAPID TRANSPORTATION

## MINUTES

**Board of Directors Meeting  
September 16, 2011, 8:00 A.M.  
Mission Memorial Annex Conference Room  
550 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii**

PRESENT:	Carrie Okinaga Ivan Lui-Kwan William "Buzz" Hong Glenn Okimoto	Keslie Hui Wayne Yoshioka Robert Bunda (sworn in at 8:35 A.M.) Don Horner (arrived 8:43 A.M)
ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:	Toru Hamayasu Gary Takeuchi Joyce Oliveira Paul Romaine William Spiegelberg Matt Robertson	Councilmember Nestor Garcia State Sen. Cal Kawamoto (ret.) Joe Magaldi Paul Migliorato Russell Honma Michael Levine
EXCUSED:	Damien Kim	David Tanoue

### I. Call to Order by Committee Chair

At 8:07 A.M., the meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by Board Chair Carrie Okinaga.

### II. Public Testimony

Written testimony in support of Senator Robert Bunda's nomination to serve as the 9<sup>th</sup> Voting Member of the HART Board was received from Board Member David Tanoue, Board Member Damien Kim, Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Gregg Nobuo Hirata, Lynn Kinney, and Kathleen Pahinui.

Retired State Senator Cal Kawamoto submitted written testimony and delivered oral remarks in support of Mr. Bunda's nomination to serve as the 9<sup>th</sup> Voting Member of the HART Board.

City Councilmember Nestor Garcia submitted written testimony and delivered oral remarks in support of Mr. Bunda's nomination to serve as the 9<sup>th</sup> Voting Member of the HART Board.

All written testimonies received by the Board are attached hereto as Attachment A of these minutes.

III. Approval of Minutes of September 1, 2011 Board Meeting

Board Vice Chair Ivan Lui-Kwan moved that the minutes of the September 1, 2011 Board Meeting be approved. Board Member William "Buzz" Hong seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried and the minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. Report of Joint Meeting of Finance Committee and Project Oversight Committee

Finance Committee Vice Chair Keslie Hui reported that the Finance Committee and Project Oversight Committee held a joint meeting on September 8, 2011 to discuss the financial capacity of Ansaldo Honolulu JV. He stated that the Finance Committee is currently in the process of reviewing the documents presented by Ansaldo Honolulu JV to determine if there have been any material changes to financial condition of Ansaldo Honolulu JV or its parent companies. He further stated that the Finance Committee is in the process of completing a report on its findings and conclusions on the financial condition of Ansaldo Honolulu JV.

Ms. Okinaga stated that the report of the Finance Committee on Ansaldo Honolulu JV will be placed on the agenda of the next Board meeting.

V. Action on the Report of Permitted Interaction Group on the Selection of the 9<sup>th</sup> Voting Board Member

Mr. Lui-Kwan, speaking as an individual member of the Board, stated that two weeks had passed since the report of the Permitted Interaction Group was submitted to the full Board on September 1, 2011, and noted that several pieces of written testimony were received in support of Mr. Bunda's nomination to the HART Board, and none were received in opposition.

Mr. Bunda was invited to offer testimony on his nomination, and delivered brief remarks, which are attached hereto as Attachment B of these minutes. Mr. Hong thanked Mr. Bunda for his remarks and his commitment to deliver the project on-time and on-budget.

Mr. Lui-Kwan and Mr. Hong moved that Mr. Bunda be selected as the 9<sup>th</sup> Voting Member of the HART Board. Board Member Wayne Yoshioka seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, with six votes in favor, and none in opposition.

Speaking as an individual member of the Board, Mr. Lui-Kwan observed that the report of the Permitted Interaction Group recommended that names of unsuccessful applicants should not be publicly disclosed, and quoted from Article 1(6) of the State Constitution and from OIP opinion 91-8, dated June 24, 1991. Mr. Lui-Kwan noted that the unsuccessful applicants were contacted by HART staff and nine elected to waive their right to keep their names private.

Mr. Lui-Kwan moved that the names of the applicants who waived their right to keep their names private be disclosed upon request. Mr. Hui seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion was unanimously approved with six votes in favor and none in opposition.

The Board recessed at 8:35 A.M. to permit Mr. Bunda to be officially sworn in. The Board reconvened at 8:40 A.M. Board Member Don Horner arrived at 8:43 A.M.

## VI. Report of the Interim Executive Director

Interim Executive Director Toru Hamayasu presented a written report to the Board members, attached hereto as Attachment C of these minutes. Mr. Hamayasu also reported that two rail-related resolutions, Resolution 11-248 and Resolution 11-252, were introduced at the City Council, and acknowledged that Councilmember Ann Kobayashi sent Board members a letter dated September 12, 2011 regarding subcontractors for the Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project.

Mr. Horner requested that the Board receive a list of the current subcontractors working on the project, and further requested that the Board receive updated lists of subcontractors on a regular basis.

Mr. Hong requested that information and materials be presented to the Board members in a timely way, and further requested that any communications that go from HART staff to the City Council be copied to the HART Board as well.

Mr. Hamayasu also reported that several "town hall meetings" will be held around the island to provide updates on the project. Meetings will be held in West Oahu on Tuesday, September 27 from 6:00-8:00 P.M. at Kapolei Hale; in East Oahu on Wednesday, September 28 from 6:00-8:00 P.M. at Kalani High School; in Central Oahu on Thursday, September 29 from 6:00-8:00 P.M. at Highlands Intermediate School; in Windward Oahu on Tuesday, October 4 from 6:00-8:00 P.M. at Castle High School; and in Urban Honolulu on Wednesday, October 5 from 6:00-8:00 P.M. at Blaisdell Center.

Ms. Okinaga reported that she traveled to Washington, D.C. to meet with Peter Rogoff, the Administrator of the Federal Transit Administration from September 6 to September 9, 2011. Ms. Okinaga circulated a report to the Board members, which is attached hereto as Attachment D of these minutes.

Mr. Hong noted that one of the purposes of the trip was to discuss the FFGA schedule with the FTA Administrator. Mr. Hong asked if any changes had been made to the FFGA schedule. Mr. Hamayasu replied that the current schedule envisions an FFGA to be achieved in September or October 2012. Mr. Hamayasu indicated that the FTA Administrator wanted improvements to the Financial Plan to be implemented first before discussions are held on advancing the FFGA schedule.

Mr. Hong noted that in his September 8 speech to Congress, President Obama specifically mentioned his support for infrastructure projects like rail, and asked what impact that might have on the project. Mr. Hamayasu replied that the President proposed \$50B to improve transportation, and hopes that as more details emerge, more funding will be available for transit projects.

## VII. Presentation on FY2013 Budget

Mr. Hamayasu presented the Board with proposed CIP and Operating Budgets for FY2013. Mr. Hamayasu stated that the FY2013 Operating Budget is larger than the FY2012 Budget, due to the leasing of a third floor in Ali'i Place for HART office space; repairs to acquired properties for safety purposes; greater reimbursements to other departments for professional services; an increased number of employees as required by Charter and requested by the PMOC; and the inclusion of finance charges from the CIP budget as reasons for the increase.

Mr. Hamayasu stated that the proposed FY2013 CIP Budget, which was prepared in conjunction with the master schedule, would be a little more than \$490M, as compared to the \$350M for FY2012. Mr. Hamayasu noted that the FY2013 Budget contains approximately \$73M for design work, \$211M for construction work, \$55M for core systems and vehicles, and \$37M for land acquisition.

Mr. Horner stated that the budget must be flexible enough to hire an experienced CEO and that since the budget envisions the issuance of bonds, the Board must work closely with the City Council.

XII. Adjournment

Ms. Okinaga congratulated Mr. Bunda again on his nomination to the HART Board, and noted that with the addition of a 9<sup>th</sup> Voting Board Member, there will be an opportunity to revisit membership in the committees of the HART Board.

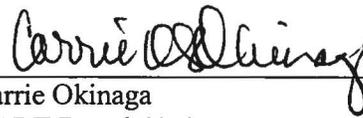
Having no other pending business, Mr. Hong called for the meeting to be adjourned. Mr. Lui-Kwan seconded the motion. There being no objections, the meeting was adjourned by Ms. Okinaga at 9:05 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Tyler Dos Santos-Tam  
Board Administrator

Approved:



Carrie Okinaga  
HART Board Chair

OCT - 6 2011

Date

[ATTACHMENT A]

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 7<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
PHONE: (808) 768-8000 • FAX: (808) 768-6041  
DEPT. WEB SITE: [www.honolulu.gov](http://www.honolulu.gov) • CITY WEB SITE: [www.honolulu.gov](http://www.honolulu.gov)

PETER B. CARLISLE  
MAYOR



DAVID K. TANOUE  
DIRECTOR

JIRO A. SUMADA  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

September 13, 2011

Ms. Carrie Okinaga, Chair  
Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation  
City and County of Honolulu  
Alii Place, Suit 1700  
1099 Alakea Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Okinaga:

Due to a previous commitment, I will not be able to attend the HART Board of Directors' meeting scheduled for Friday, September 16, 2011. However, I would like to submit my comments for one of the Agenda items, specifically, the Ninth Voting Member to the Board of Directors.

The Permitted Interaction Group (Group) has made a recommendation that the ninth member be Mr. Robert Bunda. After review and careful consideration of Mr. Bunda's background and record, I concur with the Group on their recommendation and support the selection of Mr. Bunda as the tenth member of the Board of Directors.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this important issue.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David K. Tanoue".

David K. Tanoue, Director  
Department of Planning and Permitting

Chairperson Okinaga and all HART Board members,

I unfortunately can not make the September 16, 2011, 8:00am Board meeting as I am away on business. I would like to express my feelings that I concur with the nomination of Robert Bunda for the 9th voting member of our HART Board. As a member of the Permitted Interaction Group, I know we did a great job in the process of how we chose Mr. Bunda. He will be a great asset to our group. I therefore encourage you to select Robert Bunda as the 9th voting member.

Damien T.K. Kim  
Business Manager/Financial Secretary  
IBEW 1186



HART

'11 SEP -8 P2:43

## The Senate

STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

**SENATOR DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ**

September 6, 2011

Ms. Carrie Okinaga, Chair  
and Members  
Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transit  
1099 Alakea Street, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Ms. Okinaga and Members:

I am pleased to support former Senator Robert Bunda to be a member of the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transit. Senator Bunda has always been a supporter of rail and as a resident of Central Oahu, understands the necessity of having rail to help to improve the traffic situation for Central and North Shore Oahu.

Senator Bunda, as President of the Senate, led the Senate in passing many important pieces of legislation. He understands the needs and what it takes to move the state in a progressing direction. I believe he will be an important contributing member of HART with his experience and knowledge.

In addition to his qualifications, more importantly, he has a desire to continue serving in the best interests of people of this state. He has actively been involved in various matters and entities that work to improving conditions and benefitting our residents. I have no reservations in recommending Senator Bunda for a position on HART.

Any consideration you could give Senator Bunda would be most appreciated.

Sincerely,

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz

HART

'11 SEP -6 P3:38

September 2, 2011

Ms. Carrie Okinaga, Chairwoman  
and Members  
Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation  
1099 Alakea Street, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairwoman Okinaga and Members:

I offer my unequivocal support for the appointment of Robert Bunda to the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation.

Mr. Bunda should be credited with resurrecting the long-dormant proposal for a light-rail system serving Oahu. A simple chronology of public statements and actions should suffice to demonstrate his influence in shaping public policy on transit during the past decade. In his opening-day speech to the Senate on January 15, 2003, then-President Bunda said to his colleagues, "As a commuter from Wahiawa who finds endless frustration in our traffic gridlock, I believe it's time we dusted off our plans for a light-rail, mass-transit system. It could link central points on Oahu with the City's proposed plans for urban Honolulu. Not only will mass transit speed the movement of people and ease traffic, but it will create construction jobs, develop new business centers at key terminals, and provoke us into rethinking the way we live and work, much like the people of great cities around the world."

Later that same year, newly elected Governor Linda Lingle would take President Bunda's lead by proposing the construction of a light-rail system between Kapolei and Iwilei. She backed off her proposal in the wake of opposition from Republicans in the Legislature, but President Bunda stayed the course. The following year, again in his opening-day speech to the Senate in January, he stated, "On this occasion last year, I expressed my frustration over our mounting traffic problems. With the number of registered vehicles on Oahu reportedly reaching one for just about every man, woman, and child, I am restating my support for a light-rail, mass-transit system linking our major urban centers. Senator Inouye and Congressman Abercrombie have both expressed their willingness to go to bat for us in securing the money to underwrite such a system, and those of us in the Legislature must be willing to revisit this proposal to break the gridlock of indecision. If we fail, we will surely choke on the mounting traffic problems of a growing population."

Ms. Carrie Okinaga, Chairwoman  
and Members  
September 2, 2011  
Page 2

It wasn't until Governor Lingle again raised the issue in 2006, when she said in her state-of-the-state address that she looked forward to working with newly elected Honolulu Mayor Mufi Hannemann on mass transit, did the proposal regain traction and begin the journey that has brought us to this point.

Senator Bunda must be credited with having the courage and foresight to introduce the transit idea to the public arena after elected officials had given up, with taking what was a controversial position at the time, and with using his decisive leadership skills to support the Legislature's eventual passage of the transit tax surcharge. Senator Bunda's key allies in the Senate, complemented by his strong relations with colleagues in the House of Representatives, were instrumental in the approval of this essential piece of the transit process.

Robert Bunda will bring this same commitment, insight, and resolve to his responsibilities as an authority member, and I hope you will give his nomination your favorable consideration. Having served him during his term in the Legislature, I can't think of a better or more deserving candidate for this post.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregg Nobuo Hirata". The signature is stylized and cursive, with the first name "Gregg" being the most prominent.

Gregg Nobuo Hirata



**International Union of Painters and Allied Trades  
District Council 50**

September 14, 2011

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Honolulu, HI 96826

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AND SOFT TILE  
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DRYWALL TAPERS  
FINISHERS  
808.848.7766

**Ms. Carrie Okinaga, Chairwoman  
and Members**  
Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation  
1099 Alakea Street, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairwoman Okinaga and Members:

I would like to thank the members of the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation, for the opportunity to submit my humble comments in support of Robert Bunda's appointment.

Having known Senator Bunda for well over twenty years, I have found him to possess the greatest degree of character, integrity and commitment to public service that I have ever known in a person. He served with great distinction for almost thirty years in the Hawaii State Legislature and in addition to his many achievements, his integrity has never been questioned.

In fact, it was during Senator Bunda's tenure as Senate President, that he, during his Opening Day Speech of 2003, asked his fellow colleagues to once again, revisit the idea of a light rail system for the island of Oahu. I truly believe that it is because of his tremendous foresight, that we stand at the threshold of an extremely exciting and enlightening time for the citizens of our island.

It is my belief that someone like Robert Bunda would not only be an extremely important resource for the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation, but his keen sense of commitment and dedication to public service, would insure that this project is done on time and within budget.

Once again, thank you very much for allowing me this opportunity to present my comments in strong support of Mr. Robert Bunda.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Lynn Kinney  
Business Manager  
Secretary/Treasurer

## Dos Santos-Tam, Tyler

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**From:** Kathleen Pahinui [pahinuik001@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 05, 2011 5:58 PM  
**To:** Dos Santos-Tam, Tyler  
**Subject:** Appointment of Robert Bunda to HART

Aloha -

I have know Mr. Bunda for over 10 years and know him to be honest, straight forward and a problem solver capable of bringing parties together for the good of the whole. As our Senator he was a strong proponent of preserving lands for agriculture and making sure that development was kept in appropriate areas. I believe his inclusion on the HART board will ensure that the rail development will be focused and that the money is well spent.

He will be a great addition to the board and is a proven leader.

Mahalo,

Kathleen M. Pahinui  
Resident, North Shore Neighborhood Board

TESTIMONY FOR ROBERT "BOBBY" BUNDA TO FILL  
THE SEAT ON THE HONOLULU AUTHORITY FOR RAPID TRANSPORTATION BOARD

GOOD MORNING, MY NAME IS CALVIN KAWAMOTO, RETIRED STATE SENATOR FROM WAIPAHAU/PEARL CITY DURING THE YEARS OF 1994-2004. SERVED UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF SENATE PRESIDENT NORMAN MIZUGUCHI AND SENATE PRESIDENT ROBERT "BOBBY" BUNDA. I SERVED AS CHAIR OF THE TRANSPORTATION, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE FROM 1996-2004. AT SOME TIME DURING THIS PERIOD SENATOR BUNDA SHARED THE LEADERSHIP OF THIS COMMITTEE WITH ME AND WE WERE PART OF THE GROUND SWELL FOR SOME KIND OF RAIL SYSTEM TO ADDRESS THE TRAFFIC FROM THE LEEWARD AND CENTRAL OAHU CORRIDORS.

AS SENATE PRESIDENT IN 2004 HE AUTHORIZED ME TO DRAW UP THE 1/2% TAX BILL AS WE CURRENTLY USING IT TODAY. HE UNDERSTOOD THE NEED FOR JOBS IN THE STATE OF HAWAII AND THE CONCERN OF TRAFFIC WITH THE GROWTH IN THE CENTRAL AND LEEWARD CORRIDORS. THIS BILL WAS PASSED IN OUR COMMITTEE AND WAS STALLED IN COMMITTEES WHICH WAS PASSED THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

SENATE PRESIDENT BUNDA'S GRASS-ROOTS BACKGROUND OF A RAIL SYSTEM, UNDERSTANDING OF THE BUDGETARY AND LEGISLATIVE PROCESS, MANAGERIAL EXPERIENCE WILL BE INVALUABLE ASSETS TO THE HART BOARD. I HUMBLLY ASK THE BOARD TO STRONGLY ENDORSE ROBERT "BOBBY" BUNDA TO THE HART BOARD, YOU COULD NOT ASK FOR A BETTER MAN.

SINCERELY



CALVIN K. KAWAMOTO  
STATE SENATOR (RET)

11 SEP 15 AM 05:58

HART



# CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3065

September 16, 2011

**NESTOR R. GARCIA**

Councilmember  
(808) 768-5009 {Voice}  
(808) 768-5011 {Fax}  
e-mail: [ngarcia@honolulu.gov](mailto:ngarcia@honolulu.gov)

Ms. Carrie Okinaga, Chair  
Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transit  
Alii Place, Suite 1700  
1099 Alakea Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Selection of the 9th Voting Board Member

Dear Ms. Okinaga and members of the Board,

I would like to take this opportunity to offer my wholehearted support of Robert Bunda as the 9th Voting Member of your esteemed Board.

I have known Bobby, both professionally and personally for more that 20 years and can think of no one better to serve the people of Oahu in this capacity. Throughout his career as a business man and public official, he has always fought for and defended the underserved and those most vulnerable in our society.

As one of the initial proponents of a mass transit system for Oahu, I helped move this project forward as the Transportation Chair and later as the Budget Chair of the City Council. Many of you here may have heard my persistent concerns that whatever system we build must not forget about keeping the transit fares and housing opportunities around the transit line affordable for our citizens. My concerns derive from my personal background growing up in the tough Pupu and Aniani Street areas of Waipahu, one of the first areas to be impacted by our rail transit line. Let us not throw people out in order to build our City up.

With Bobby and the rest of you at the helm, I am much more comfortable that my concerns will be seriously addressed and that the easy-to-forget among us will not be neglected as this project moves forward to completion.

In closing, I encourage you to select Robert Bunda as your final member of your Board and I look forward to working with all of you in finally bringing this exciting and much-needed transportation alternative to fruition in our lifetimes.

Alpha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nestor R. Garcia".

Nestor R. Garcia  
Councilmember  
District 9 – Makakilo, Mililani, Waipahu

[ATTACHMENT B]

ROBERT BUNDA  
REMARKS TO THE HART BOARD  
SEPTEMBER 16, 2011

Good Morning Chair Okinaga and members of the Board. Thank you for this opportunity to speak on my own behalf.

First let me say that I am truly honored to be among the distinguished individuals who have been considered for service on the HART board. As the one who has received the nomination to fill the remaining vacancy on the Board, I want to assure you all that I view this as an enormously important responsibility.

The current composition of the HART Board represents a diversity of experience from both the private and public sectors and I feel fortunate to be considered for the opportunity to serve with all of you. If confirmed today, I intend to devote my full attention to the successful construction and operation of the rail project.

All across the nation, transit authorities are faced with the three main issues of funding, management, and safety. Here in Hawaii, we are no different. Funding is the primary concern for us at this stage of the project.

Revenues to complete the project are derived mainly from state and federal funding. Links forged between the county, state, and federal government are vital to the project. In this regard, I feel that my 28 years of experience in government can make a contribution to the mission of HART.

I would like to reassure you that my service on the recently enacted Public Lands Development Corporation is not considered to be a conflict of interest by both the Office of the State Attorney General and the State Ethics Commission.

Nearly a decade ago, as President of the Senate, I stated that a mass transit system would serve Oahu residents well into the future. Today, I am even more convinced of this fact. I want to assure you that I will not be a person "cheerleading from the sidelines" as stated in a Star Advertiser editorial a couple of weeks ago. I intend to be fully engaged in the process, in cooperation with all of you.

I would be honored to join you in the oversight of the most important public works project in the history of our state. This is a project I firmly believe in and support totally. It truly represents a critical turning point in the future development of the City and County of Honolulu.

Mahalo.

[ATTACHMENT C]

Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation  
Weekly Report  
Period ending September 11, 2011

Current Events

1. Mayor Carlisle, HART Board Chair Okinaga and Interim Executive Director Hamayasu were in Washington DC to meet with the Federal Transit Administration and the Hawaii Congressional Delegation from 9/6/11 to 9/9/11 to discuss the Project and HART Board activities.
2. The monthly FTA Project Management Oversight Contractor (PMOC) meetings were held on 9/7-9/9/11. The progress meeting was held on 9/7/11; with individual meetings held on 9/8-9/9/11. The status of the Real Estate work and the Contract Resident Engineers Manual were the focus of the individual meetings. During the Real Estate meeting, the administrative settlements, environmental justice, and relocation files were discussed. The meeting regarding the Contract Resident Engineers Manual was to closeout the minor PMOC comments on the document.
3. The monthly General Services Administration meeting to discuss the Prince Kuhio Federal Building/U.S. Courthouse was held on 9/7/11. The results of the blast study contracted by the GSA were discussed and a response to the Federal Judges will be prepared by GSA. On 9/7/11, HART General Engineering Consultant staff conducted baseline measurements of the interior noise levels of the Courthouse facilities. The purpose of the baseline noise measurements is to establish the existing sound levels within the offices and to estimate the building attenuation level to calculate the effect of outdoor noise sources on indoor noise levels. A report on this assessment is expected next week.
4. The Kamehameha Highway Guideway contractor, Kiewit Infrastructure West, sent out notification cards to residents in Pearl City and Aiea (zip codes 96782 and 96701) informing them of the start of soil sampling work along Kamehameha Highway, between Pearl City and Aloha Stadium. Residents and businesses were told to expect lane closures between 8 pm and 10 am, but that at least one lane of traffic in each direction of Kamehameha Highway will remain open at all times in the designated work areas. This postcard should arrive in mailboxes of homes and businesses on 9/12/11. HART Project staff provided advance notice of this mailout to Councilmember Harimoto, the area Councilmember, and Council Chair Martin, as well as State Legislators who represent the Aiea and Pearl City areas.
5. The RCJ Corporation property in the Kamehameha Highway Guideway section near Aloha Stadium has been acquired. The occupants of the General Printing building (General Printing, Fischer Tile and Ken Abrams) at 537 Kaaahi Street have vacated the now City-owned property.

[ATTACHMENT D]

## HART BOARD MEMBER'S TRAVEL REPORT

TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C. – SEPTEMBER 6-9, 2011

The purpose of my attendance on this trip was to meet with Peter Rogoff, the Administrator of the Federal Transit Administration, and to convey to him on behalf of the Board of Directors the commitment of the Board to this rail project and to open lines of communication with all of our partners, federal, State and local. I accompanied Mayor Peter Carlisle and Interim Executive Director/CEO Toru Hamayasu, whose primary purpose on this trip was to discuss the schedule leading up to the Full Funding Grant Agreement and updates to the draft financial plan submitted to the FTA in April 2011.

Following meetings with Mr. Hamayasu and the Mayor in preparation, on September 8, I attended a meeting with Administrator Rogoff, members of his staff from the FTA (Beth Day, Henrika Buchanan-Smith, Carl Bausch, Richard Steinmann, and Joel Washington), the Mayor, Mr. Hamayasu, Mr. Denis Dwyer (subconsultant to Infraconsult), and Jennifer Sabas from Senator Daniel Inouye's office. Over the course of the meeting, which lasted over an hour and a half, we discussed the project specifically, including the Board's activities and the draft financial plan, as well as the budget discussions going on in Congress more generally. I was very impressed with Administrator Rogoff's knowledge about, not just the project, but the Board in particular. Mr. Rogoff, for example, knew that a ninth voting member had been nominated, and was pending Board approval. Mr. Rogoff emphasized that at each stage of approval, the FTA's scrutiny regarding project funding and management becomes that much tighter, so that at the time of approval of the Full Funding Grant Agreement, there really should be very little in question or left to speculation. At the end of the meeting, as well as throughout the meeting, Administrator Rogoff emphasized his support for moving the project forward to execution of the Full Funding Grant Agreement.

Following the meeting with the FTA, the Mayor, Mr. Hamayasu, and I met with Congressional officials, including Senator Inouye and Alex Keenan, Staff Director for the Senate Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, to update them regarding our meeting with the FTA, and regarding the project more generally. Again, all parties restated their commitment to moving the project forward.

Before leaving and upon our return to Hawaii, we briefed City Council Chair Ernest Martin's office regarding our trip and our discussions. The Board will be briefed about the trip through this report, and by Mr. Hamayasu at the September 16, 2011 Board meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie K. S. Okinaga, Chair