

HONOLULU AUTHORITY for RAPID TRANSPORTATION

Daniel A. Grabauskas
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CEO

May 15, 2012

The Honorable Ann Kobayashi
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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Dear Councilmember Kobayashi:

In response to your letter dated May 4, 2012, regarding compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), we provide the following:

1. How many elevators will there be at each rail station? What will be the elevators' maximum capacity?

Response: The number of elevators depends on each station design and access to the ground level, but there will be at least one elevator at each of our 21 rail stations. Elevators will be available at the entry of each station and will provide access to all levels of the station, including the concourse and boarding platform levels. Side platform stations will have elevators on both the sides of the stations, with service to all levels as well. Each elevator will hold about 20 people.

2. Will elevator use be restricted to disabled persons only? (Wheelchair users will have to use elevators to access the elevated rail platforms.)

Response: No. Elevators will be available for all transit patrons to use, regardless of whether they have disabilities.

3. Will disabled persons be required to operate elevators on their own?

Response: Yes. Patrons will operate the elevators. The size, location, and operation of the elevator or call buttons or keypads will be in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) (407.2.1).

4. Escalators will be provided at most rail stations. At stations with no escalators, how will the elderly access the elevated rail platforms?

Response: At stations without escalators, patrons will have the option of using elevators or stairs. Elevators that are in compliance with the ADA will be available at every station. Patrons will also be able to access the station levels using stairs.

5. Will the rail cars have reserved space for disabled persons using wheelchairs?

Response: Yes. All rail cars will have designated space for wheelchairs and will be in compliance with the ADA.

6. Will there be separate and secured restrooms or restroom space for disabled persons?

Response: All restrooms will be secured. There will be a single, ADA compliant, secured restroom, so there will not be separate restrooms for men, women, or disabled persons. The station attendant will accommodate the access request.

7. Will ticket vending machines be conveniently located for disabled persons?

Response: Yes. All ticket vending machines will be conveniently located for disabled customers to access, and will be in compliance with the ADA.

8. Will there be station attendants responsible for assisting disabled persons?

Response: Yes, a station attendant will be available to assist disabled patrons with any task, including accessing restroom and purchasing tickets.

9. Has the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) issued a written determination that the rail station contract specifications are in compliance with ADA? If so, please provide. If a written determination was not required, please provide information detailing how the FTA determined that the 21 rail stations are being built in compliance with ADA requirements.

Response: A written determination regarding the ADA compliance is not specifically required. The United States Department of Transportation's regulations implementing the ADA are codified at 49 C.F.R. Part 37 Transportation Services for Individuals with Disabilities, which includes the ADAAG. As part of their operating procedures to evaluate all New Starts projects, FTA and their program management oversight contractor reviewed and accepted the project's engineering drawings and specifications of the 21 rail stations to ensure the transit facilities, including passenger stations, are compliant with 49 C.F.R. Part 37.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further questions.

Sincerely,



Daniel A. Grabauskas
Executive Director and CEO

cc: Douglas S. Chin, Managing Director
All Councilmembers
HART Board of Directors