



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Transit
Administration**

REGION IX
Arizona, California,
Hawaii, Nevada, Guam
American Samoa,
Northern Mariana Islands

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January 18, 2011

Mr. xxxxxxx
Executive Director
City and County of Honolulu
Honolulu, Hawaii 07105-2246

Subject: Environmental Record of Decision for the
Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project

Dear Mr. cccccc:

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has completed its review of the public and interagency comments on the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project. FTA has issued the enclosed environmental Record of Decision (ROD) for the Project.

As stated in the ROD, the Project must incorporate all the mitigations of adverse effects presented in the Final EIS, the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement, and the ROD. These mitigation actions include, but are not limited to, all commitments to further consultation on specific issues. If the City and County of Honolulu or its successor agency contemplates any change to the Project, you must notify FTA immediately and refrain from taking any action related to the proposed change until FTA has determined what, if any, additional environmental analysis is necessary, and that analysis has been completed and approved by FTA.

The City and County of Honolulu must immediately notify FTA of any proposed change to the Project that would differ in any way from what the Final EIS states. For example, if the City and County of Honolulu wishes to make a change to the mitigation measures in the Final EIS, the Section 106 Agreement, or the ROD, or a change to the Project that would cause new or changed environmental or community impacts not presented in the Final EIS, then you must notify FTA in writing of the desire to make a change. Any such change will be reviewed in accordance with FTA environmental procedures (23 C.F.R. 771.130) on supplemental documentation.

The FTA will determine the appropriate level of environmental review for this or any other proposed change (i.e., a written re-evaluation of the Final EIS, an environmental assessment of the change, or a supplemental environmental impact statement), and the NEPA process for this supplemental environmental review will conclude with a separate NEPA determination, or, if necessary, with an amendment to this ROD. FTA will notify the City and County of Honolulu within 15 days of receiving a complete description of the proposed change what level of environmental review is needed.

Upon FTA's approval of the Real Estate Acquisition Management Plan (RAMP), the City and County of Honolulu is authorized to take the following Project actions without prejudice to FTA's future financial assistance for these actions:

- the acquisition of any real property or real projecty rights identified in the Final EIS or ROD as needed for the Project;
- the relocation of persons and businesses on that property;
- the relocation of the Banana Patch community, if it so desires, in accordance with the ROD;
- the relocation of utilities affected by the Project; and
- the acquisition of rail vehicles for the Project.

This pre-award authorization is not a real or implied commitment by FTA to provide any funding for the Project or any element of the Project. However, if FTA were to provide grant funding for the Project, the cost of the actions listed above, performed after RAMP approval, would be eligible expenses. No other Project action has pre-award authorization at this time. To maintain the Project's eligibility for FTA assistance, all real property acquisitions, and the relocation of persons and businesses thereon, must be conducted in accordance with the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act and its implementing regulation (49 CFR part 24) and any other applicable Federal law or regulation.

Please post this ROD and its attachments prominently on your Project website at <http://www.honolulustransit.org/> right away. This posting will allow FTA to publish the limitation-on-claims notice in the *Federal Register* that will start the 180-day clock.

We look forward to continuing to work with you to bring this important Project to fruition. Should you have any questions on the ROD, please contact Ted Matley at (415) 744-xxx.

Sincerely,

Leslie Rogers
Regional Administrator