



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

Western-Pacific Region
Airports Division

Federal Aviation Administration
P.O. Box 92007
Los Angeles, CA 90009-2007

December 11, 2009

Mr. Raymond Sukys
Director, Planning and Development
Federal Transit Administration, Region IX
201 Mission Street, Suite 1650
San Francisco, California 94015-1839

Dear Mr. Sukys:

**Proposed Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
Request for Designation as a Cooperating Agency**

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requests designation as a cooperating agency for preparation of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) EIS for the proposed Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project under Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1501.6(a)(1).

This request is made in recognition of the National Environmental Policy Act, where the FAA is a Federal agency that has jurisdiction by law on that portion of the transit corridor project that the FTA proposes to build on Honolulu International Airport (HNL). The State of Hawaii owns HNL and the airport accommodates both general aviation and commercial aircraft operators. The FAA and State of Hawaii have continuing grant-in-aid assurance duties to ensure compatible land use around the airport. Specifically, FAA and the State must work to ensure new land uses do not create conflicts with the safe and efficient use of navigable airspace.

The FAA's federal action is the unconditional approval of the portion of the State of Hawaii's Airport Layout Plan for HNL that depicts the proposed transit corridor. The FAA believes that by participating as a cooperating agency it can better serve the FTA by providing the appropriate level of technical expertise and staff support for processing of the environmental review applicable to the portion of the transit project on HNL.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any further questions on this matter, please call Peter Ciesla at 310/725-3612 in my office, or Steve Wong in our Honolulu Airports District Office at 808/541-1225.

Sincerely,

Mark A. McClardy
Manager, Airports Division