

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 3RD FLOOR
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
Phone: (808) 768-8305 • Fax: (808) 768-4730 • Internet: www.honolulu.gov

MUFI HANNEMANN
MAYOR



WAYNE Y. YOSHIOKA
DIRECTOR

SHARON ANN THOM
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

April 28, 2010

RT4/10-364057

Colonel Matthew Margotta
Directorate of Public Works
U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii
947 Wright Avenue
Schofield Barracks, Hawaii 96857-5001

Dear Colonel Margotta:

Subject: Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project

Enclosed please find three (3) compact disk copies of the Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project Final EIS (Pre-Decisional Review Copy). This document addresses comments previously received by the City from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the cooperating agencies. With the exception of Chapter 5, blue highlight has been used throughout the document to denote most of the changes made since the October 2009 version of the Administrative Final EIS that was reviewed by FTA. FTA and the City respectfully request an expedited review by the cooperating agencies on this document.

This version of the Final EIS is being sent to you to review the revisions made to the June 2009 Administrative Final EIS that was issued to the cooperating agencies. Changes include additional documentation of the effects of the Project to Waters of the U.S., a summary of common comments received on the Draft EIS and responses to those comments (Chapter 8), design refinements for access between H-2 and the Pearl Highlands Station, and in the vicinity of the Pearl Harbor National Historic Landmark to remove project features within the boundary of the landmark and design refinements in the vicinity of Honolulu International Airport. These refinements are summarized in Section 2.4.1 of the Final EIS. The environmental effects and mitigation of the refinements are incorporated into Chapters 3 and 4 of the enclosed Final EIS.

In coordination with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and HDOT Airports Division, the alignment design described in the Draft EIS in the vicinity of Honolulu International Airport was refined to minimize impact to the runway protection zone (RPZ). The FAA's evaluation of design options to avoid conflicts within the RPZ is included in Appendix K of this Final EIS, but the conditional approval of the Airport Layout Plan (ALP) is not included as yet. It will be added to Appendix K prior to issuance of the Final EIS.

Colonel Matthew Margotta
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Chapter 5 of this Final EIS [Section 4(f) Evaluation] was revised in response to FTA's review comments to the October 2009 version of the Administrative Final EIS. The revised text includes a Section 4(f) evaluation of the refined alignment near the Airport. The findings presented in the determination of Section 4(f) use remain consistent with the October 2009 version.

Please review this document and submit final comments to FTA and the City by May 10, 2010. Should you have any questions regarding this matter or would like to meet and discuss the revisions, please contact Ms. Faith Miyamoto of the Rapid Transit Division at (808) 768-8350.

Very truly yours,


WAYNE Y. YOSHIOKA
Director

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Ted Matley, Federal Transit Administration,
Region IX