

PPD



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

REGION IX
Arizona, California,
Hawaii, Nevada, Guam
American Samoa,
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DEC 11 2008

The Honorable Dirk Kempthorne
Secretary of the Interior
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

RE: Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor
Project

Dear Secretary Kempthorne:

The purpose of this letter is to notify you, pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 800.10(c), of a consultation involving the Pearl Harbor National Historic Landmark (NHL) and to invite you to participate.

The City and County of Honolulu, Department of Transportation Services (DIS), is proposing to construct an approximately 20-mile elevated guideway transit system in Honolulu. The environmental study area is the travel corridor between Kapolei and the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and Waikīkī. This corridor includes the majority of housing and employment on O'ahu

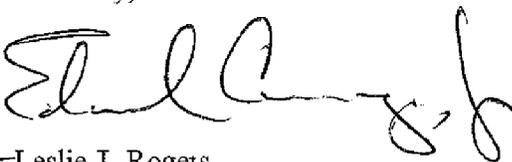
Implementation of the project may have an adverse effect on the Pearl Harbor NHL, a large parcel of land in some of the most densely populated areas in Honolulu. Despite measures to minimize harm, if the project is to serve these population areas, it would impact the Pearl Harbor NHL, although the locally preferred alternative under consideration would only impact approximately 0.6 acres of the more than 12,600-acre Park. There would be no impact to any buildings or structures, and the impact would not harm the historical, archaeological and cultural qualities of Pearl Harbor NHL. A map of the study corridor and a map of the potentially impacted area are enclosed.

It may be possible that impacts to the Park qualify for a *de minimis* finding. See 23 C.F.R. § 774.17(4) and (5), 73 Fed. Reg. 13368, 13400 (2008). In this case, a *de minimis* impact finding may be made by FTA only in consultation with DIS, the Hawaii State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Department of the Interior, National Park Service as the official agency with jurisdiction over the protected resource. In the context of the consultation process, the conferees would have to agree upon measures necessary to eliminate any adverse effect on activities, features, and attributes of the resource and engage in all possible planning to minimize harm. Should the conferees agree that impacts are *de minimis*, the National Park Service would concur in writing, after which a *de minimis* impact determination could be made.

AR00061424

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Ted Matley, Community Planner in Region IX at 415-744-2590.

Sincerely,



For Leslie I. Rogers
Regional Administrator

Enclosures:

Map of Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project Study Area
3 Plan/Profile Maps of Potential Impacts to Pearl Harbor National Historic Landmark

cc: Elaine Jackson-Retondo, U S Department of Interior, National Park Service
Willie R. Taylor, U.S. Department of Interior
Blythe Semmer, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Elizabeth Merritt, National Trust for Historic Preservation
Brian R. Turner, National Trust for Historic Preservation
Peter T. Young, State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources
Captain Rick Kitchens, Commanding Officer, Naval Station Pearl Harbor
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