

Federal Transit Administration (FTA)

Document Review & Concurrence Form

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Subject: ACTION: Approval of Entry into Preliminary Engineering:
High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project in Honolulu, HI

Date:

From: The New Starts Team for Honolulu
HQ and TRO-09

Reply to
Attn of:

To: Leslie T. Rogers
Regional Administrator, TRO-09

Susan Borinsky
Associate Administrator for Planning and Environment, TPE-1

Susan Schruth
Associate Administrator for Program Management, TPM-1

Action Request

The Department of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu (the City) has submitted a request for approval to advance the Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project (the project) into preliminary engineering. This memorandum seeks approval of that request.

The New Starts Team for the Honolulu project recommends approval of the request because the project has met all requirements for entry into preliminary engineering: the project has received a *Medium* rating against the New Starts criteria; the project sponsor has demonstrated the technical capacity to undertake the project; and the project has been adopted into the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization's financially constrained long-range transportation plan.

The City submitted an initial PE request on May 5, 2009. On August 4, FTA directed the City to revise the cost estimate and financial plan submitted by adding \$116 million per the recommendation from the project management oversight contractor (PMOC). The City submitted a revised plan on August 12 at which time FTA determined the application to be complete.

Project Description

The project is an approximately 20-mile double-track rail line serving the south shore of Oahu from a western terminus in Kapolei, past Pearl Harbor and Honolulu International Airport, through downtown Honolulu to an eastern terminus at Ala Moana Center. The

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