

29 December, 2008

To:
Mr. Wayne Yoshioka
Director Department of Transportation Services
City and County of Honolulu
650 South King St. 3rd Floor
Honolulu
HI 96813
FAX: (808) 587-6080

Subject: Comment on Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) “Honolulu High-capacity transit corridor Project”, Issue : The purpose and needs statement of the project in the DEIS is flawed because it does not comply with the Notice of Intent (NOI) dated 7 Nov 2005.

Discussion: DEIS page 1-19 states” The purpose of the Honolulu High Capacity transit Corridor Project is to provide high capacity rapid transit in the highly congested east-west transportation corridor between Kapolei and UH Manoa.”

The NOI states that the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the City and County of Honolulu, Department of Transportation Services (DTS) intend to prepare an EIS (and Alternative Analysis (AA)) on a proposal by the City and County of Honolulu to implement transit improvements that potentially include high-capacity transit service in a 25-mile travel corridor between Kapolei and the University of Hawaii at Manoa and Waikiki.

The DEIS does not comply with the purpose because the DEIS does not include a route assessment to Waikiki and to UH Manoa.

Conclusion: The purpose and needs statement of the project in the DEIS is flawed because **the DEIS does not include a route assessment to Waikiki and to UH Manoa consistent with** Notice of Intent (NOI) dated 7 Nov 2005.

Recommendation: Include an environmental impact statement for the full route to include all environmental impacts from Kaelaeloa to UH Manoa, to Ala Moana Shopping Center and to Waikiki.

Respectfully,

Ben Ramelb P.E.
1148 Ala Lilikoi St
Honolulu, HI
96818

Copy to:

1) Mr. Ted Matley
FTA Region IX
201 Mission St. Suite 1650
San Francisco, CA 94105
FAX 415-744-2726

2) Governor Linda Lingle
Hawaii State Capitol
415 S Beretania St. 5th Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813
FAX (808) 586-0006

3) Honolulu City Council Members
FAX (808) 867-5011