
From: Day, Elizabeth (FTA)
To: Borinsky, Susan (FTA); Sinuefield, Robyn (FTA); Bausch, Carl (FTA); Riklin, Sherry (FTA); Zelasko, Elizabeth (FTA)
Sent: 8/19/2010 2:41:41 AM
Subject: RE: Honolulu Response

I have an edit to the last sentence in the following paragraph. As written, it implied that all funding must be committed for entry into final design, which is not correct.

With respect to the request to share financial data, please be assured that the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) is committed to conducting a thorough review of the proposed Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor Project's benefits, costs and financial plan before considering the project for entry into final design. This review will be conducted in accordance with the methodology that the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) applies to all projects seeking New Starts funding.

I thought the last financial plan we got from Honolulu was dated August 2009, not September.

I think the following paragraph is a bit too detailed and "down in the weeds" in our process for a letter from S-1. My changes are below:

At this time, the most recent financial plan FTA received from the City data that FTA has for the project is from August? September-2009, when the project was seeking prior to the project's approval into preliminary engineering. This information will be shared FTA will share this information with the State's independent financial consultant. FTA will obtain an updated financial plan from the City when it requests entry of the project into final design, which is not expected until February or March 2011.

In the meantime, FTA is asking the City and County of Honolulu (the City) to provide an updated cost and schedule that addresses project alignment changes and all mitigation measures included in the FEIS. FTA understands that the City will provide this information in November, which will enable FTA to conduct a risk assessment of the project. At the conclusion of the risk assessment, in the spring of 2011, the City will provide FTA with updated financial data so that the project may be considered for entry into final design. Thus, FTA anticipates that it will be able to share updated financial information with the State's independent financial consultant in February or March of 2011.—

-
-

From: Borinsky, Susan (FTA)
Sent: Wednesday, August 18, 2010 9:54 PM
To: Sinuefield, Robyn (FTA); Bausch, Carl (FTA); Day, Elizabeth (FTA); Riklin, Sherry (FTA); Zelasko, Elizabeth (FTA)
Subject: RE: Honolulu Response

Robyn, here are a couple minor suggestions for tweaks:

With respect to the request to share financial data, please be assured that the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) is committed to conducting a thorough review of the proposed Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor Project's benefits, costs and financial plan before considering the project for entry into final design. This review will be conducted in accordance with the methodology that the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) applies to all projects seeking New Starts funding and will include an examination of the funding proposed for the project to ensure that it is available and committed.

With respect to your inquiry regarding the status of the two letters sent to the USDOT Region 9 office, I sincerely regret that the Regional Office has no record of having received letters from the State Office of Environmental Quality Control. When we find the cause of this issue we will let you know and provide an immediate response. To expedite this process, it would be very helpful if the State Office of Environmental Quality Control could fax copies of the letters to the attention of FTA Regional Administrator Leslie Rogers, at fax number (415) 744-2726. In the . . .

I agree that we should run this by the Administrator before further distribution for review in FTA. Susan

From: Siquefield, Robyn (FTA)

Sent: Wed 8/18/2010 4:07 PM

To: Bausch, Carl (FTA); Borinsky, Susan (FTA); Day, Elizabeth (FTA); Riklin, Sherry (FTA); Zelasko, Elizabeth (FTA)

Subject: Honolulu Response

Hi everyone,

Here's a proposed response to the Governor. Also attached is the incoming in case you want to review it again.

Also, in terms of procedure, I feel that we should send this to Peter before sharing with Region 9. Please let me know if you feel otherwise. We could let Peter know in the transmittal email that Region 9 has not yet seen it and ask him if he would like us to coordinate with them?

Thanks,
Robyn