From: Simon Zweighaft
To: Tahir, Nadeem <FTA>
CC: thamayasu@honolulu.gov; Harvey Berliner; Albert Baizas
Sent: 1/27/2009 7:11:20 AM
Subject: Review of Jacobs Spot Report
Attachments: Combined Comments on Jacobs Spot Report dated 12-08 R1 (2).xls

Hi Nadeem:

Sorry for the delay in getting this out, but I've been trying to reconcile several internal inconsistencies among the comments. As you will see in the review, I'm sure that there are still some inconsistencies that I've inadvertently not addressed. We'll just have to resolve those as we go along.

We do have a concern that Jacobs has written the report as if we have made serious omissions by not resolving all of these issues prior to preliminary engineering. It is the City's position that engineering design and project development is a process of more and more refined decision making and that all issues raised do not need to be resolved prior to preliminary engineering. I'm sure that, as highly experience transit engineers, both Jacobs and FTA agree with this position. That is why when the report highlights things that are missing from conceptual engineering, it should not imply that these were major omissions on the part of the City and its engineers. You will see that many of our responses address this point.

We have spent a bit of extra effort in analyzing the Jacobs position of fleet size with which we still disagree. We find, for example, no reason why we should require our train to have a 27 second dwell time just to have one passenger board and one alight through the peak door in the peak period. The absolute minimum 27 second dwell time is not consistent with standard transit practice in the industry. We are not complete with our analysis of the fleet size calculations and once we have more thoroughly reviewed the Jacobs analysis using TCRP #100 we will have additional comments on that specific part of the report. This should be completed within a week.

This report raises enough concerns for us, that we think a meeting is in order to address the disposition of our comments. We are prepared to meet in San Francisco as soon as you have had a chance to consider the issues we have raised.

Thanks for the opportunity to address this material.

Regards,

Simon