From: Barr, James (FTA)
To: Matley, Ted (FTA)
CC: Marler, Renee (FTA); Sukys, Raymond (FTA); VanWyk, Christopher (FTA)
Sent: 11/19/2009 4:13:07 AM
Subject: RE: Response to Condo assoc in Honolulu
Attachments: Hawaii AOAO response.doc; Hawaii letter.PDF

Attached are the original AOAO letter and the draft response.
Edits are requested by COB today since the due date is tomorrow.
Thank you for your assistance.
Jim

From: Matley, Ted (FTA)
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2009 10:37 PM
To: Barr, James (FTA)
Cc: Marler, Renee (FTA); Sukys, Raymond (FTA); VanWyk, Christopher (FTA)
Subject: RE: Response to Condo assoc in Honolulu

Jim, one more thing that may be relevant, the DTS staff met with residetns on 10/15/09 to discuss their concenrs, which were primarily noise and it's impacts on property values. The record of this discussion was in that email I sent you earlier. So they have had a chance to discuss their comments and get feedback, for what it is worth.

Ted

(FTA)
Sent: Wed 11/18/2009 3:52 PM
To: Barr, James (FTA)
Cc: Marler, Renee (FTA); Sukys, Raymond (FTA); VanWyk, Christopher (FTA)
Subject: Response to Condo assoc in Honolulu

Jim, based on my discussion with Renee and input from Chris, we're not going to add this letter to the DEIS pile as this would create precedent/problems with comment period rules, and we're not going to respond in detail as this would create an alternative administrative record to comments on the DEIS. Both approaches are problematic.

So our short letter should basically make 4 points, that:

- The DEIS was released on November, and the public comment period ran from November x to February x (sorry I don't have the dates handy).
- The official public comment period is now closed.
- FTA received extensive comments on the DEIS, many of which were similar in nature to those issues that they have raised.
- FTA's expectation is that their concerns will be addressed in the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

I'm not sure how much more we can add without starting to respond to their concerns in detail, while we do expect (and are putting the onus on) the FEIS to address these concerns. So here's a quick draft:

"Thank you for your letter of October 29, 2009 regarding the Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The DEIS was released for public comment on November 6(?), 2009. The public comment period ran from that date until February 6(?), 2009 and is now closed. Although we cannot officially consider your letter as part of the public comment on the DEIS, FTA did receive substantial comment on the document, many of which raised similar issues regarding the process and the identification and evaluation of impacts to communities adjacent to the proposed alignment. FTA's expectation is that the Final Environmental Impact Statement will address your concerns as it is developed in response to the comments received."

Thanks you for your interest in the project, etc.

Renee, Chris, please weight in if you don't like any of this.

Thanks,

Ted

Ted M Matley
FTA Region IX
201 Mission Street, Suite 1650
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 744-2590
fax (415) 744-2726
ted.matley@dot.gov