

Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project - EIS Conference Call Summary Notes. February 19, 2009

Participants:

FTA: Ted Matley, Jim Barr

RTD: Judy Aranda, Faith Miyamoto, and Susan Robbins

PB: Lawrence Spurgeon, Mark Garriety, Amy Zaref

DEIS Comments Update

- RTD will send FTA a summary of comments (number, type of comments by topic)
- FTA will focus comment review on agency comments and substantive comments
- FTA concurs with including comments on DEIS to February 13, 2009; the EPA extension date.
- RTD will send transcript of Banana Patch community meeting to FTA.

Agency Coordination

- National Park Service Meeting scheduled for March 9, 2009 in Oakland, local meeting with NPS to be scheduled
- RTD has requested meeting with EPA in San Francisco on March 10, 2009, EPA has not responded yet
- FTA agreed that RTD can meet with other federal agencies to review comments on DEIS. FTA will attend if needed to resolve difficult issues. RTD will let FTA know of meetings when they will be on the mainland and/or agencies where coordination is needed to resolved issues.
- RTD is also meeting with State and local agencies as needed to address DEIS comments

Section 106 Process Summary

- Effects determination report will be completed mid March 2009. Effect determinations in the DEIS are being re-evaluated based on SHPD comments/concerns. This will result in additional adverse effects.
- Effects determination report will be submitted to FTA, SHPD for concurrence and Section 106 consulting parties.
- FTA requested RTD review previous responses to requests for Section 106 consulting party status, send follow up letters confirming status to agencies that have been actively participating, send letters to agencies that have not been participating to confirm that they are not interested in being a Section 106 consulting party.
- ACHP had questions regarding Section 106 consultation process and MOA. PB has prepared response and RTD will transit letter.
- MOA and PA will now be combined into one document in response to ACHP comment. FTA suggested that MOA be written so that adjustments can be made in the future (i.e. for those items that are more programmatic in nature)
- FTA will respond to ACHP regarding merge of NEPA and section 106 process.

FEIS Definition of Alternatives

- FTA confirmed that FEIS should only include Airport Alternative
- Chapter 2 will explain reason for choosing alternative, refer to City Council decision
- Rest of FEIS will be about impacts, mitigation, financing of the Preferred Alternative
- The Airport Alternative will be called the LPA in Chapter 2 (need to explain this for New Starts funding...LPA is the Airport Alternative from East Kapolei to Ala Moana..), include explanation as to how this relates to larger LPA, then can abbreviate in rest of document and call it the Project.