

The Pacific Resource
PARTNERSHIP



Testimony of:
Kyle Chock, Executive Director
The Pacific Resource Partnership

City & County of Honolulu
Members of the City Council

Wednesday, July 14, 2010
City Council Chamber
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Aloha Chair Apo and Members of the City Council:

My name is Kyle Chock, Executive Director of the Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP). PRP is a joint partnership of the Hawaii Carpenters Union and their 240 signatory contractors. Our goal is to provide economic growth and jobs for our contractors and members of the Hawai'i Carpenters Union.

The Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) discusses employment during the construction period, and we are pleased to see that the Honolulu Rail Transit project is estimated to create approximately 10,000 direct and indirect jobs per year. This project comes at a critical time for our construction industry, when many of our members are on the bench and in need of work. Rail will put our members back to work and help stimulate the economy.

For the long term, rail will benefit all of us, not just the construction industry. In order to solve our transportation woes and help us become a world-class city, Honolulu needs world-class transportation solutions. Traffic delays and commute times are intolerable and only getting worse. This is a problem that diminishes our quality of life. The cost of living for the average local family is based on many factors with the most significant being housing and transportation costs. Ultimately, Honolulu's rail system and resulting transit oriented development (TOD) would provide the keys to reducing the price of paradise for all local residents. In effect, we're building the new and desired infrastructure for the city of Honolulu.

Thank you for allowing us to share our reasons for support of the Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project – Final Environmental Impact Statement, June 2010.

