
From: Rogers, Leslie (TRO-09)
To: Vozzolo, David (TPE); Fisher, Ron (TPE); Libberton, Sean (TPE); Weeks, Dwayne (TPE)
CC: Ossi, Joseph (TPE); Marler, Renee (TRO-09); Sukys, Raymond (TRO-09); Turchie, Donna (TRO-09); Biehl, Scott (TCC)
Sent: 6/7/2005 2:13:35 PM
Subject: FW: Request for comments on Hawaii legislation
Attachments: HB1309- RC.doc

Dear TPE Staff:

You will recall that during our discussion on June 3, 2005, regarding the City of Honolulu's proposed AA/DEIS approach, I mentioned that I would forward to you a submission I'd received the preceding day from the Governor of Hawaii's Policy Office requesting FTA's interpretation of the term "locally preferred alternative." The Policy Office staffer had contacted me at the suggestion of Rod Hiraga, Director of the Hawaii Department of Transportation, and her general question is set out below.

In my conversation with Ms. Haws of the Governor's Policy staff, while not committing FTA to a definite response, I mentioned that I would forward her request to HQs for review and response, if appropriate. If TPE is inclined to respond with comments, you should be aware that state law requires that the Governor must notify the Legislature by June 27 of her plans to veto this and other bills passed in the recently ended session. The Governor then has until July 12 to actually veto bills.

Your review and consideration of this request is appreciated. We are available to discuss this matter. Thanks!

Regards,
Leslie

-----Original Message-----

From: Elizabeth.Haws@hawaii.gov [mailto:Elizabeth.Haws@hawaii.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 4:10 PM
To: Rogers, Leslie (TRO-09)
Subject: Request for comments

Leslie:

As I mentioned to you during our telephone conversation, the Gov's office would greatly appreciate some guidance from the FTA regarding it's interpretation of the phrase "locally preferred alternative" which was inserted into HB1308 - the bill which was passed by the HI legislature to grant counties the authority to increase the general excise tax for public transportation systems.

I have attached our standardized comment sheet for your review as well as links to the bill and committee report.

The Governor is concerned that the phrase "locally preferred alternative" would restrict use of the funds to one project instead of a holistic transportation solution. I would appreciate any guidance your office can provide regarding the meaning and use of this phrase by the FTA.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Thank you for your assistance.

http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessioncurrent/bills/hb1309_cd1_.htm

AR00151655

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