



CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3065

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May 6, 2013

TO: Mr. Clayton Wong, Fiscal Officer
FROM: Councilmember Ernest Y. Martin
RE: Meeting with Federal Transit Administration Officials and members of Congress relating to the Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor Project

Attached is the report and findings of my trip to Washington, D.C., April 22-24, 2013 relating to meetings with the Federal Transit Administration officials and members of Congress to discuss the status the Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor Project.

If you have questions regarding the foregoing, please do not hesitate to call me directly.

Attachment

Monday, April 22, 2013

Briefing by Mr. Dennis Dwyer of Williams & Jensen, PLLC

- Mr. Dwyer reviewed schedule for Tuesday and Wednesday meetings with Federal Transit Administration Officials and Congress.

Meeting with Ms. Kate Hallahan, Minority Staff Director, House Transportation and HUD Appropriations Subcommittee

- Provided Ms. Hallahan an update on the transit project, including the history of federal funding for the City & County of Honolulu and highlighted the President's FY2014 budget which proposes \$250 million for the transit project

Tuesday, April 23, 2013

Meetings with Ms. Heideh Shahmoradi, Minority Clerk, Senate Transportation and HUD Appropriations Subcommittee and Ms. Dena Baron, Staff Director, House Transportation and HUD Appropriations Subcommittee

- Provided Ms. Shahmoradi and Ms. Baron an update on the transit project, including the history of federal funding for the City & County of Honolulu and highlighted the President's FY2014 budget which proposes \$250 million for the transit project

Meeting with Representative Colleen Hanabusa

- Provided Rep. Hanabusa an update on the transit project, including an update on construction delays, the status of the archaeological inventory survey (AIS), and the project delay cost impact to the overall project.
- Provided an update on other project related activities that continue while the State Historic Preservation Division reviews the revised AIS.

Meeting with U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood and Administrator Peter Rogoff, U.S. Federal Transit Administration

- Mayor Kirk Caldwell, HART Executive Director Dan Grabauskas, HART Chair Carrie Okinaga and I provided an update of the transit project.
- Provided FTA an update on the progress made on revising the AIS.
 - Explained that all of the trenching and analysis is complete and two reports were submitted to the State Historic Preservation Division.
 - Two reports consist of:
 - Airport Section
 - City Center Area
 - Explained that HART is in regular communication with the Oahu Island Burial Council as to how to address the sites where HART found human remains.
 - Analysis indicated that HART can leave the remains in place or relocate the remains without adversely affecting the project.
 - Provided the financial impact of the project delay but noted that the actual cost figures are 25 to 30 percent lower than the original estimates.
 - Provided update on the concerns HART has raised with the Hawaii Department of Taxation about the GET revenue collection, specifically the substantive fluctuations and lags in the processing of the 1/2% surcharge.

Meeting with FTA Officials and members of Congress

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- HART explained that it is optimistic that the project will receive its full share of the GET.
- HART also stated that they will need to work closely with the Department of Taxation on timing of GET revenue HART will receive in order to better manage cash flow of the project.
- Informed FTA officials of activities that continue to move the project forward despite the delay in construction:
 - Construction engineering
 - Station design
 - Rolling stock and acquisition of vehicle

Wednesday, April 24, 2013

Meeting with various members of Congress to provide them an update on the transit project.

- Met with the following Congressional members:
 - U.S. Senator Brian Schatz
 - U.S. Representative Bill Shuster from Pennsylvania, Chairman, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
 - U.S. Senator Mazie Hirono
 - U.S. Representative Tom Petri, Chairman, House Transportation and Infrastructure Highways and Transit Subcommittee
 - U.S. Representative Tulsi Gabbard
- Met with Mr. Alex Kennan, Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Clerk, Appropriations Subcommittee
- Provided members of Congress and staff background and historical information about the City's mass transit project, including the City Council's action to enact an ordinance that established the GET surcharge for 16 years.
 - Highlighted the fact that for the last five years, more than \$1 billion has been collected in advance of construction.
 - Notified members that the President's FY 2014 budget proposes \$250 million for the Honolulu transit project and explained that the project will be fully paid for 3 years after construction is complete.
- Informed members about the recent delays in the construction of the project due to the recent State court decision relating to the AIS.
 - Explained to members that the interruption is merely a procedural issue; the Court found that the EIS was "full" and "sufficient" under State law.
- Informed FTA officials of activities that continue to move the project forward despite the delay in construction:
 - Construction engineering
 - Station design
 - Rolling stock and acquisition of vehicle

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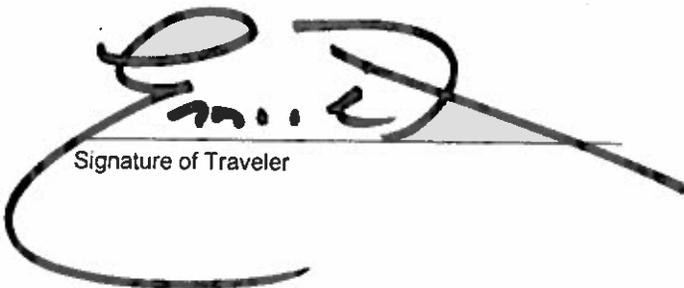
CLAIM FOR TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

Date: APRIL 29, 2013

Traveler: ERNEST Y. MARTIN
 Event: Meetings with federal government officials
 Location: WASHINGTON, D.C.
 Dates: From 04/21/13 To 04/25/13

Description	Amount	Notes:
1. Registration Fee		
2. Airfare	863.00	LV 4/21/13 8:05pm RTN 4/25/13 5:37pm
3. Hotel	1439.28	3 nights The George Kemp Hotel 3479 76 23
4. Meals	43.61	Receipts attached
5. Ground Transportation		
6. Tips		
7. Other	50.00	Baggage fees \$25 one way
Other	63.00	Parking fee at Honolulu International Airport
Other		
8. Adjustment		
TOTAL REIMBURSEMENT	2458.89	

This is to certify that the above data, based upon receipts submitted to Council Administrative Support Services via a CCLTRVL02 form, is accurate. Further, I am claiming reimbursement for expenses associated with a trip in which City business was conducted and personal funds were used to advance payment:


 Signature of Traveler

4/29/2013
 Date