



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
**HWY-P 2.5647**

April 1, 2021

Mr. Alvin Au  
Executive Director  
Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization  
707 Richards Street, Suite 200  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Au:

**Subject: Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021  
Oahu Sub-Allocation**

Hawaii received \$41,970,789.00 of Highway Infrastructure funds from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA). Of this amount, \$6,155,308.00 has been sub-allocated to large urbanized areas with a population over 200,000. The CRRSAA allows funds to be used for Special Authority. This means that non-traditional uses, such as paying for Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) routine maintenance, operations, personnel costs, debt service, loss of revenues, and other things, are eligible.

Pursuant to Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) February 24, 2021 Implementation Guidance, Special Authority projects are not required to be included in a metropolitan transportation plan, a long-range statewide transportation plan, a statewide transportation improvement program, or a transportation improvement program under Sections 134 or 135 of Title 23 USC. However, when a metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for a Transportation Management Area (TMA) is responsible for selecting non-National Highway System projects in the TMA, the selection is done in consultation with the state and any affected public transportation operator per 23 USC 134 (k)(4)(A).

To assist with pandemic related shortfalls in the State Highway Fund, HDOT proposes to utilize the \$6,155,308.00 sub-allocated federal funding to pay for direct labor costs incurred by HDOT's Oahu District maintenance personnel for the time period from February 1, 2020 to January 31, 2021. HDOT's roadway maintenance during the pandemic is a priority in providing the public a safe and operational State Highway System.

After the HDOT is reimbursed for its maintenance labor costs these funds will then be dedicated for the construction of a left-turn lane from the Pearl Highlands Rail Station on Kamehameha Highway to Kuala Street. This use of funds has been consulted with the administrations of

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Hawaii FHWA, Honolulu Authority of Rapid Transportation, Department of Transportation Services and HDOT, and it supports each of these implementing agencies transportation system.

Please respond with Oahu MPO's concurrence regarding the use of the subject sub-allocated funds, or your questions and concerns for further discussion.

If you have any questions, please contact Ken Tatsuguchi, Engineering Program Manager, Highways Division, Planning Branch at (808) 587-1830 or by email at [ken.tatsuguchi@hawaii.gov](mailto:ken.tatsuguchi@hawaii.gov)

Sincerely,



JADE T. BUTAY  
Director of Transportation