

**Comprehensive Exemption List  
for the  
City and County of Honolulu  
Department of Design and Construction**

*Reviewed and Concurred Upon by  
the Environmental Council on  
September 1, 2020.*

GENERAL NOTE

Section 343-6 (a) (2), HRS authorizes the Environmental Council to establish procedures to exempt specific types of action from the need to prepare an environmental assessment because the action will have minimal or no significant effect on the environment.

The following types of projects will not be exempt:

1. Project requiring detailed analysis as provided in an environmental assessment under §343-5. These include, but are not limited to places listed on the Federal or State registers of historic places.
2. Project in statutorily defined areas, including but not limited to: critical habitats, special management areas, special design districts, registered view planes or scenic corridors, wet lands, sanctuaries, special habitats, shoreline areas, tsunami inundation areas, or other designations; except where the work is eligible for exemption and there is no negative impact on the conditions that define these areas.
3. Major projects without an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS); an Environmental Assessment with a Finding of No Significant Impact (EA/FONSI); or major projects that were never presented at a public meeting concerning site selection, master plan report, or any phase of incremental construction.
4. Major projects without a program to encourage public input into the design or siting of the project.

Part 1 Exemptions

Pursuant to HAR §11-200.1-16 (a) (1), the Department of Design and Construction has determined that the following types of actions by their nature do not have the potential to individually or cumulatively adversely affect the environment more than negligibly and are considered to not rise to the level of requiring chapter 343, HRS, environmental review.

General Type of Action 1

Operations, repairs, or maintenance of existing structures, facilities, equipment, or topographical features, involving minor expansion or minor change of use beyond that previously existing, including, but not limited to the following:

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1. Accessible ramps and handrails
2. Air conditioning enclosures
3. Appurtenant equipment and facilities for outdoor sports, including but not limited to soccer, football, volleyball, sand volleyball, basketball, baseball, softball, golf, and tennis
4. Arbors
5. Archery ranges
6. Ball barriers
7. Ball fields
8. Batting cages
9. Benches and picnic tables
10. Bike racks
11. Bleachers and public seating areas
12. Bollards and vehicular access barriers
13. Bridges, including pedestrian bridges, within parks and public facility properties
14. Bus shelters
15. Canoe storage and launching facilities (e.g., canoe halau)
16. Cathodic protection of pipelines and equipment
17. Charcoal disposals
18. Children's play equipment
19. Community gardens
20. Construction field offices
21. Covered walkways
22. Drinking fountains
23. Earth berms and drainage swales
24. Equipment, including but not limited to pumps; motors; electrical transformers, cabinets, panels, and vaults; power, light, and telephone pole systems; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC); irrigation controllers; telephone stations; emergency electrical generators; elevators; and lifts provided for handicapped accessibility
25. Essential utilities, including but not limited to wastewater systems, drainage systems, water systems, electrical systems, communication systems, irrigation systems, and fuel systems, except where a State Department of Health permit is required
26. Fencing, curbing, walls, and gates
27. Fitness exercise stations
28. Glare screens, safety barriers, guardrails, energy attenuators, and other appurtenances designed to protect the motoring public
29. Fuel tanks, above ground or underground
30. Fumigation and treatment of buildings for termites, cockroaches, ants, vermin, and other pests using pesticides registered by the State Department of Agriculture and the EPA

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31. Guard shacks
32. Horseshoe pitching pits and courts
33. Hose bibs
34. Hula mounds
35. Interior alterations and renovations to park and other public facility buildings, including but not limited to partitions, doors, counters, cabinets, shelving, flooring, plumbing, electrical systems, heating ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems, and electrical conveyances
36. Landscaping and irrigation systems
37. Lath houses (as used at nurseries and gardens)
38. Lighting of ball fields, play courts, and similar recreational facilities
39. Lighting of streets and roadways
40. Alterations, repairs, or renovations for compliance with OSHA requirements
41. Ornamental pools, fountains, irrigation ponds, and related equipment
42. Outdoor cooking grills
43. Outdoor exhibit walls
44. Outdoor showers
45. Painting of existing buildings and improvements
46. Pavements (and striping, as needed), including but not limited to, roadways, driveways, parking lots, walkways, bikeways, golf cart paths, jogging paths, or multi-use pathways
47. Phone booths
48. Photovoltaic systems
49. Planter boxes
50. Plaques on existing structures
51. Play courts and play courts practice walls
52. Public facility structures, equipment, and topographical features involving negligible or no expansion or change of use beyond that previously existing
53. Repairs to facilities or structures for compliance with OSHA requirements
54. Retaining walls and slope retaining structures, except in shoreline areas
55. Roofs
56. Scorekeeper booths and scoreboards
57. Sculptures and statues (exterior)
58. Security lighting of facilities, including but not limited to park grounds, structures, and parking lots
59. Shooting ranges
60. Signs, posts, flag/banner poles
61. Skating and skateboard rinks and related facilities
62. Slopes and embankments
63. Solar water heating systems, including exterior solar collectors, storage tanks, and related equipment
64. Steps, stairways, walkways, and ramps (exterior)
65. Swimming pools and related equipment

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66. Traffic calming devices
67. Trash compactors
68. Trash enclosures and litter containers
69. Tree/plant nursery facilities
70. Underpinning an existing structure
71. Visitor information kiosks
72. Water tanks that serve individual public facility, such as a park
73. Zoo animal enclosures

General Type of Action 2

Replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located generally on the same site and will have substantially the same purpose, capacity, density, height, and dimensions as the structure replaced, including, but not limited to the following:

1. Accessible ramps and handrails
2. Air conditioning enclosures
3. Appurtenant equipment and facilities for outdoor sports, including but not limited to soccer, football, volleyball, sand volleyball, basketball, baseball, softball, golf, and tennis
4. Arbors
5. Archery ranges
6. Ball barriers
7. Ball fields
8. Batting cages
9. Benches and picnic tables
10. Bike racks
11. Bleachers and public seating areas
12. Bollards and vehicular access barriers
13. Bridges, including pedestrian bridges, within parks and public facility properties
14. Bus shelters
15. Canoe storage and launching facilities (e.g., canoe halau)
16. Cathodic protection of pipelines and equipment
17. Charcoal disposals
18. Children's play equipment
19. Community gardens
20. Construction field offices
21. Covered walkways
22. Drinking fountains
23. Earth berms and drainage swales

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24. Equipment, including but not limited to pumps; motors; electrical transformers, cabinets, panels, and vaults; power, light, and telephone pole systems; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC); irrigation controllers; telephone stations; emergency electrical generators; elevators; and lifts provided for handicapped accessibility
25. Essential utilities, including but not limited to wastewater systems, drainage systems, water systems, electrical systems, communication systems, irrigation systems, and fuel systems, except where a State Department of Health permit is required
26. Fencing, curbing, walls, and gates
27. Fitness exercise stations
28. Glare screens, safety barriers, guardrails, energy attenuators, and other appurtenances designed to protect the motoring public
29. Fuel tanks, above ground or underground
30. Guard sheds
31. Horseshoe pitching pits and courts
32. Hose bibs
33. Hula mounds
34. Landscaping and irrigation systems
35. Lath houses (as used at nurseries and gardens)
36. Lighting of ball fields, play courts, and similar recreational facilities (Outdoor light fixtures above 16 feet should be shielded such that no light is emitted above the horizontal plane of the fixture.)
37. Lighting of streets and roadways (Outdoor light fixtures above 16 feet should be shielded such that no light is emitted above the horizontal plane of the fixture.)
38. Ornamental pools, fountains, irrigation ponds, and related equipment
39. Outdoor cooking grills
40. Outdoor exhibit walls
41. Outdoor showers
42. Pavements (and striping, as needed), including but not limited to, roadways, driveways, parking lots, walkways, bikeways, golf cart paths, jogging paths, or multi-use pathways
43. Phone booths
44. Photovoltaic systems
45. Planter boxes
46. Plaques on existing structures
47. Play courts and play courts practice walls
48. Public facility structures, equipment, and topographical features involving negligible or no expansion or change of use beyond that previously existing
49. Retaining walls and slope retaining structures, except in shoreline areas
50. Roofs
51. Scorekeeper booths and scoreboards
52. Sculptures and statues (exterior)

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53. Security lighting of City facilities, including but not limited to park grounds, structures, and parking lots (Outdoor light fixtures above 16 feet should be shielded such that no light is emitted above the horizontal plane of the fixture.)
54. Shooting ranges
55. Signs, posts, flag/banner poles
56. Skating and skateboard rinks and related facilities
57. Slopes and embankments
58. Solar water heating systems, including exterior solar collectors, storage tanks, and related equipment
59. Steps, stairways, walkways, and ramps (exterior)
60. Swimming pools and related equipment
61. Traffic calming devices
62. Trash compactors
63. Trash enclosures and litter containers
64. Tree/plant nursery facilities
65. Visitor information kiosks
66. Water tanks that serve individual public facility, such as a park
67. Zoo animal enclosures

General Type of Action 3

Construction and location of single, new, small facilities or structures and the alteration and modification of the facilities or structures and installation of new, small, equipment or facilities and the alteration and modification of the equipment or facilities, including but not limited to:

1. Alterations or renovations of facilities or structures for compliance with OSHA requirements
2. Benches and picnic tables
3. Bike racks
4. Bollards and vehicular access barriers
5. Bus shelters
6. Cathodic protection of pipelines and equipment
7. Charcoal disposals
8. Drinking fountains
9. Equipment, including but not limited to pumps; motors; electrical transformers, cabinets, panels, and vaults; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC); irrigation controllers; telephone stations; emergency electrical generators; elevators; and lifts provided for handicapped accessibility
10. Horseshoe pitching pits and courts
11. Hose bibs

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12. Interior alterations and renovations to park and other public facility buildings, including but not limited to partitions, doors, counters, cabinets, shelving, flooring, plumbing, electrical systems, heating ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems, and electrical conveyances
13. Lath houses (as used at nurseries and gardens)
14. Outdoor cooking grills
15. Outdoor exhibit walls
16. Outdoor showers
17. Phone booths
18. Photovoltaic systems on existing structures
19. Planter boxes
20. Plaques on existing structures
21. Signs, posts, flag/banner poles
22. Solar water heating systems, including exterior solar collectors, storage tanks, and related equipment
23. Steps and stairways, interior or exterior
24. Trash compactors
25. Trash enclosures and litter containers
26. Tree/plant nursery facilities
27. Zoo animal enclosures

General Type of Action 5

Basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource and infrastructure testing and evaluation activities that do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource, including but not limited to:

1. Topographical, boundary, and location surveys
2. Archaeological surveys
3. Biological and ecological studies and surveys
4. Chemical and bacteriological laboratory analysis
5. Monitoring device installation
6. Storm water runoff sampling and analysis
7. Stream studies and surveys
8. Exploratory soil boring
9. Reconnaissance
10. Data recovery

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General Type of Action 8:

Continuing administrative activities, including but not limited to:

1. Transfer of title to real property
2. Acquisition, but not improvement of real property for public use
3. Creation or termination of easements, covenants, or other rights in real property
4. Disposal of remnant parcels
5. Subdivision or consolidation of real property
6. Purchase of supplies and personnel-related actions

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Part 2 Exemptions

Pursuant to HAR §11-200.1-15 (c), all exemptions under the following general types of actions in this section are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of planned, successive actions of the same type, in the same place, over time, is significant; or when an action that is normally insignificant in its impact on the environment may be significant in a particular sensitive environment, as expressed in #2 under General Note, above.

Pursuant to HAR §11-200.1-15 (c), the Department of Design and Construction has determined that the following types of actions, where they fall within the given classes of action, shall generally be exempt from the preparation of an environmental assessment.

General Type of Action 3

Construction and location of single, new, small facilities or structures and the alteration and modification of the facilities or structures and installation of new, small, equipment or facilities and the alteration and modification of the equipment or facilities, including but not limited to:

- A. Single-family residences less than 3,500 square feet, as measured by the controlling law under which the proposed action is being considered, if not in conjunction with the building of two or more such units;
  - B. Multi-unit structures designed for not more than four dwelling units if not in conjunction with the building of two or more such structures;
  - C. Stores, offices, and restaurants designed for total occupant load of 20 individuals or fewer per structure, if not in conjunction with the building of two or more such structures; and
  - D. Water, sewage, electrical, gas, telephone, and other essential public utility services extensions to serve such structures or facilities; accessory or appurtenant structures, including garages, carports, patios, swimming pools, and fences; and acquisition of utility easements.
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- 1. Accessible ramps and handrails
  - 2. Air conditioning enclosures
  - 3. Appurtenant equipment and facilities for outdoor sports, including but not limited to soccer, football, volleyball, sand volleyball, basketball, baseball, softball, golf, and tennis
  - 4. Arbors
  - 5. Archery ranges
  - 6. Ball barriers
  - 7. Ball fields
  - 8. Batting cages

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9. Bleachers and public seating areas
10. Bridges, including pedestrian bridges, within parks and public facility properties
11. Canoe storage and launching facilities (e.g., canoe halau)
12. Children's play equipment
13. Community gardens
14. Construction field offices
15. Covered walkways
16. Earth berms and drainage swales
17. Essential utilities, including but not limited to wastewater systems, drainage systems, water systems, electrical systems, communication systems, irrigation systems, and fuel systems, except where a State Department of Health permit is required
18. Exterior steps and stairways
19. Fencing, curbing, walls, and gates
20. Fitness exercise stations
21. Glare screens, safety barriers, guardrails, energy attenuators, and other appurtenances designed to protect the motoring public
22. Fuel tank, above ground or underground
23. Guard sheds
24. Hula mounds
25. Lighting of ball fields, play courts, and similar recreational facilities (Outdoor light fixtures above 16 feet should be shielded such that no light is emitted above the horizontal plane of the fixture.)
26. Lighting of streets and roadways (Outdoor light fixtures above 16 feet should be shielded such that no light is emitted above the horizontal plane of the fixture.)
27. Ornamental pools, fountains, irrigation ponds, and related equipment
28. Pavements (and striping, as needed), including but not limited to, roadways, driveways, parking lots, walkways, bikeways, golf cart paths, jogging paths, or multi-use pathways, and minor street widening and improvements within existing or future City and County street rights-of-way
29. Photovoltaic systems that include a new support structure
30. Play courts and play courts practice walls
31. Portable buildings for temporary use
32. Relocation of buildings
33. Retaining walls and slope retaining structures, except in shoreline areas
34. Scorekeeper booths and scoreboards
35. Sculptures and statues (exterior)
36. Security lighting of City facilities, including but not limited to park grounds, structures, and parking lots (Outdoor light fixtures above 16 feet should be shielded such that no light is emitted above the horizontal plane of the fixture.)
37. Shooting ranges

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38. Single, small public facility structure, including but not limited to those intended for recreational, meeting, administration, maintenance, operations, and safety and protection (e.g., police, fire, and emergency medical) less than 3,500 square feet in floor area not in conjunction with the building of two or more such units
39. Skating and skateboard rinks and related facilities
40. Slopes and embankments
41. Swimming pools and related equipment
42. Traffic calming devices
43. Visitor information kiosks
44. Water tanks that serve individual public facility, such as a park

General Type of Action 4

Minor alterations in the conditions of land, water, or vegetation.

1. Clearing and grubbing within City & County of Honolulu property boundaries except for property within State Conservation District
2. Grading of less than 100 cubic feet within City and County of Honolulu property boundaries except for property within State Conservation District
3. Landscaping and irrigation systems
4. Lining short sections of stream banks for erosion control and slope stability
5. Removal of trees that endanger life or property and of non-significant trees
6. Slopes and embankments
7. Stream bank repair, stream bank reconstruction, or stream bank lining

General Type of Action 6:

Demolition of structures, except those structures that are listed on the national register or Hawaii Register of Historic Places.

1. Demolition of park and other structures on public property

General Type of Action 7:

Zoning variances except shoreline setback variances

1. Zoning variances of park and public facility properties, except shoreline setback variances