



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

September 13, 2022

Mr. Curt T. Otaguro
Comptroller
Department of Accounting and General Services
P.O. Box 119
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96810-0119

Dear Mr. Otaguro:

I hereby accept the Programmatic Final Environmental Impact Statement for the New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District, dated April 2022 (the Final EIS), as satisfactory fulfillment of the requirements of Chapter 343, Hawai'i Revised Statutes. The economic, social, and environmental impacts will likely occur, should this project be implemented, are adequately described in the statement for both the Option A design configuration and the Option B design configuration. The analysis, together with the comments made by reviewers, provide useful information to policy makers and the public.

My acceptance of the statement is an affirmation of the adequacy of that statement under the applicable laws. I find that the mitigation measures proposed in the environmental impact statement will minimize the negative impacts of the project. Further, I find the discussion of unresolved issues and potential for subsequent environmental review to be sufficient.

In accepting the Final EIS, I would also note the following:

- The Option A design configuration, in which the new stadium would be built generally on the same footprint as the existing Aloha stadium, largely corresponds to Hawai'i Administrative Rules §11-200.1-15(c)(2), which provides that the "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;..." An action such as Option A is generally exempt from HRS Chapter 343, and the Final EIS analyzes the impacts of demolition and construction of a stadium.
- The Final EIS states that "The Option A design configuration, in which the new stadium would be built on the same footprint as the existing Aloha stadium,

presents the greatest construction phasing and logistical challenge as development would require phasing construction with major events (such as fall football seasons for the duration of construction).” Phasing construction with major events (such as football) should no longer be an issue since the existing Aloha Stadium is closed, the Final EIS states that it is “condemned” and “no longer safe to operate,” and football has been relocated to the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa campus for the duration.

- The Final EIS further states that “Option B is not considered to be the ‘correct’ answer for the New Aloha Stadium location or mixed-use development location.”
- Act 220, SLH 2022, transferred the administrative attachment of the Stadium Authority from the Department of Accounting and General Services to the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) and made the DBEDT Director an *ex-officio* voting member of the Stadium Authority Board of Directors, effective as of July 1, 2022.
- Act 248, SLH 2022, appropriated \$49,500,000 of general funds to the Stadium Authority’s stadium development special fund for operations, maintenance, and contract costs to developers of the stadium, effective July 7, 2022.
- Act 248, SLH 2022, also appropriated \$350,000,000 of general obligation bond funds to DBEDT for “Plans, design, construction, and equipment for a new stadium in Hālawā including renovation, renewal, refurbishment, replacement, and new construction; ground and site improvements; equipment and appurtenances; and all project related costs.”

In implementing this project, I therefore direct the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism and/or its agents to perform the best management practices and implement the mitigation measures identified in the final environmental impact statement, or comparable mitigation measures at the discretion of the relevant agencies.

With warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Y. Ige", with a stylized flourish at the end.

David Y. Ige
Governor, State of Hawai‘i

c: Mike McCartney, DBEDT

From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT OPSD Environmental Review Program](#)
Subject: New online submission for The Environmental Notice
Date: Friday, September 16, 2022 11:09:27 AM

Action Name
Gubernatorial Acceptance of New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District Final Programmatic EIS
Type of Document/Determination
Final environmental impact statement (FEIS) acceptance or non-acceptance
HRS §343-5(a) Trigger(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">(1) Propose the use of state or county lands or the use of state or county funds
Judicial district
‘Ewa, O‘ahu
Tax Map Key(s) (TMK(s))
(1) 9-9-003: 061 and neighboring TMKs (1) 9-9-003: 055, 070, and 071
Action type
Agency
Other required permits and approvals
Many
Proposing/determining agency
Department of Accounting and General Services
Agency contact name
Otaguro Curt
Agency contact email (for info about the action)
curt.t.otaguro@hawaii.gov
Agency contact phone
(808) 586-0400
Agency address
1151 Punchbowl Street Honolulu, HI 96813 United States Map It
Accepting authority
Governor, State of Hawaii
Accepting authority contact name
David Ige

Accepting authority contact email or URL

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[Map It](#)

Was this submittal prepared by a consultant?

No

Action summary

The Governor has accepted the Final Programmatic EIS for the New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District.

Attached documents (signed agency letter & EA/EIS)

- [2022-09-13-EIS-Memo-to-Comptroller-Signed.pdf](#)

Action location map

- [StateGISLogoRevised.zip](#)

Authorized individual

Leslie Segundo

Authorization

- The above named authorized individual hereby certifies that he/she has the authority to make this submission.