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OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY CONTROL

JUN 06 1991

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Brian Choy, Director
Office Of Environmental Quality Control

FROM: Edward Y. Hirata
Director Of Transportation *E. Hirata*

SUBJECT: NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE KANEOHE BASEYARD
PROJECT NO. HWY-0-06-91

We are transmitting a completed "Document for Publication in the OEQC Bulletin", together with six (6) copies of the Environmental Assessment/Negative Declaration dated June 1991 for your further processing.

Enc.

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1991-06-23-0A-FAA

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
AND
NOTICE OF NEGATIVE DECLARATION
FOR THE
* KANEOHE BASE YARD PHASE I
GRADING AND PAVING *

Project No. HWY -0-06-91

PREPARED FOR
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HIGHWAYS DIVISION
STATE OF HAWAII

PREPARED BY
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

JUNE, 1991

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I. SUMMARY

**CHAPTER 343, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES (HRS)
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

Proposing Agency: Department of Transportation
Highways Division
State of Hawaii

Accepting Agency: Department of Transportation
Highways Division
State of Hawaii

Project Name: Kaneohe Base Yard, Phase I, Grading and Paving
Project No. HWY-0-06-91

Project Description: The proposed project involves the design and construction of a Base Yard for heavy equipment storage. The proposed project is located on the windward side of Oahu on State lands below the State Mental Hospital. (See Figure 1). The Po'okela Street extension to connect with Keaahala Road will be built initially to provide access and ingress for the Castle Hills Subdivision. This phase I work will address the site preparation portion only to tie-in with the Po'okela Street extension.

Project Location: Planned Po'okela Street Extension, Kaneohe, Oahu,
Hawaii (See Figure 2)

Tax Map Key: 4-5-23: 02

State Land Use: Urban

**County Development
Plan Designation:** Urban; Public Facilities

County Zoning: AG-2 General Agriculture District

Contact: Environmental Communications, Inc.
P.O. Box 536
Honolulu, HI 96809
Telephone: (808) 521-8391

II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. Project Location

The proposed project is located in Kaneohe, Oahu in the Koolaupoko District. As planned, this project will involve the site preparation, grading and paving of 3.618 acres for the Base Yard at the time the Po'okela Street extension is built. This project will serve as the Highways Division windward Oahu baseyard for the operation and maintenance of the State Highway system.

The Soils on the Site consist of "Lolekaa (LoB) silty clay 3 to 8% slope; this series consists of well drained soils on fans and terraces on windward Oahu. They are gently sloping to very steep. Elevations range from sea level to 500'. Annual rainfall is 70-90". Traditional use has been for pasture, homesites, orchards, and truck crops. Natural vegetation consists of guava, Christmas Berry, California Grass, Hilo Grass, and Ricegrass." (*Soil Survey of Islands of Kauai, Oahu, Maui, Molokai and Lanai, State of Hawaii by United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, August, 1972*).

B. Environmental Characteristics

The project Site is on a sloping plain and will require site preparation that will consist of clearing, grubbing, cutting, and grading. Backfill of approximately 8 feet of selected fill material will be placed and compacted to support the baseyard. Required underground utilities will also be installed at the time of the sitework, and these utilities will be tied in from the Po'okela Street extension project. Existing drainage patterns flow presently in a makai (seaward) direction, and these patterns will not be altered as a result of this project. The site is in Zone X, "Areas to be determined outside 500 year flood plain." (*Panel 90 of 135, 150001-0090B, 9-4-87 FIRM*).

There are no known archaeological or historical sites on the project parcel. In the event that historic remains are uncovered during the site preparation phase of work, work will be halted and the State Historic Preservation Division, State Department of Land and Natural Resources will be notified for evaluation and action.

Most of the terrestrial fauna that would be found on the site are found on lands mauka (towards the mountains). Avifauna seen on the subject parcel are typical of the those species located in the windward, less populated areas of Oahu. They are for the most part introduced species and as such, are not endangered or threatened.

III. SUMMARY OF MAJOR IMPACTS AND PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES

As planned, this initial phase of the Kaneohe Base Yard will consist only of grading and paving the subject parcel. Basic controls on site work will consist of clearing and grading areas in the stated acreage permitted that will not require mulching and soil retention practices to prevent runoff and erosion. There will be temporary air quality impacts, during construction, and the ambient noise levels may temporarily be exceeded. Work hours will be limited to normal construction hours of 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and all efforts will be made to insure compliance with the provisions of Title 11, Administrative Rules, Chapter 43, Community Noise Control for Oahu. Contractors will be required to have all heavy machinery equipped with mufflers and sound/air pollution abatement devices.

The project will not affect any existing State or County Land Use Plans, and the Coastal Zone Management Act and County Special Management Area (SMA) ordinance are not affected.

Traffic may be temporarily impacted on occasion, but access to the project site will be via a temporary access road from Kealahala Road.

IV. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

No alternatives other than the "Do-Nothing" alternative were considered. The absence of the proposed project would result in the lack of a baseyard necessary to safely store and maintain valuable highway maintenance machinery and equipment.

V. FUNDING AND PHASING

The estimated construction costs for this initial phase will consist of \$660,000.00 dollars and is budgeted with the second phase of the design and construction of the administration building, maintenance shed for the periodic maintenance and repair of the heavy roads and highway machinery, and the parking stalls for the maintenance vehicles. Total budgeted costs are estimated at approximately \$1.5 million dollars; construction time schedules call for a total construction period of 12 months.

VI. DETERMINATION, FINDINGS, AND REASONS SUPPORTING DETERMINATION

After completing an assessment of the potential environmental effects of the proposed project and consulting with other government agencies, it has been determined that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required. Therefore, this document constitutes a Notice of Negative Declaration.

Reasons supporting the Negative Declaration determination are as follows, using as the criteria, the policy, guideline and provisions of Chapters 342, 343, and 344, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS).

1. The proposed action will not adversely affect the physical and social environment.
2. There will be no permanent degradation of the existing ambient air and noise levels. During the site preparation phase, there will be temporary impacts to the air quality and noise levels, but these effects will be temporary and minor in nature.
3. No residences or businesses will be displaced by the proposed project.
4. There are no known endangered species of animal or plant within the project limits.
5. There are no known natural, historic, or archaeological sites within the project limits.
6. The project site is compatible with State Land Use Boundary designations, and applicable County Development Plan and Zoning designations.
7. There are no secondary adverse effects on future development, population and public facilities.

This Notice of Negative Declaration shall serve to meet the requirements of Chapter 343, HRS.



EDWARD Y. HIRATA
DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION

6/6/91

DATE

VII. LIST OF AGENCIES CONSULTED DURING PREPARATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

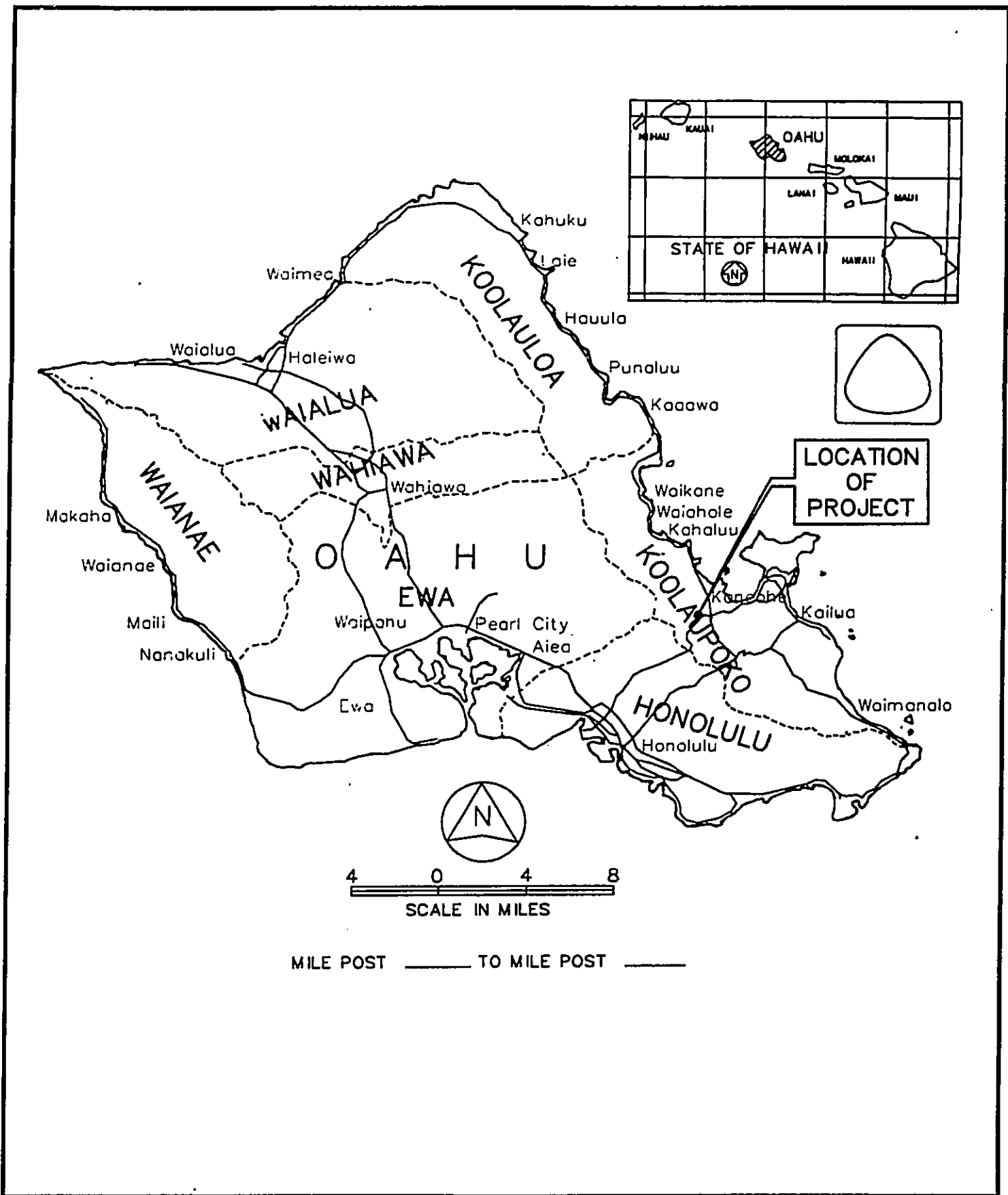
Department of Land and Natural Resources
Division of Historic Preservation

VIII. LIST OF PREPARERS

Paul T. Taniguchi, Ltd.
Civil Engineering Consultant

Department of Transportation
Highways Division
State of Hawaii

Environmental Communications, Inc.
Environmental Assessment



Kaneohe Base Yard, Phase I, Grading and Paving
Kaneohe, Oahu, Hawaii

LOCATION MAP
FIGURE 1

