OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL
220 South King Street, Fourth Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813

Gentlemen:

RE: NOTICE OF DETERMINATION
WAIMEA POLICE SUBSTATION
WAIMEA, KAUA'I, HAWAII

The County of Kauai has determined that an EIS is not required and files a Negative Declaration for the Waimea Police Substation project.

Enclosed are four sets of an Environmental Assessment and the Notice of Determination.

Very truly yours,

STEVE OLIVER
County Engineer

GY:eo
Attachment
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND
NOTICE OF DETERMINATION
FOR THE PROPOSED
* WAIMEA POLICE SUBSTATION
ON TMK 1-6-7:48
AT WAIMEA, KAUAI, HAWAII

PREPARED FOR
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
COUNTY OF KAUAI

BY
PROJECT DESIGN INC.
680 Iwilei Road Suite 410
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

JUNE 1991
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I. PROPOSING AGENCY

Police Department  
County of Kauai  
3060 Umi Street  
Lihue, Kauai, Hawaii 96766  
Police Chief: Calvin Fujita

II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project involves the renovation and expansion of the County of Kauai’s existing Police Substation in Waimea, Kauai.

The Waimea Police and Fire Building on Kaumuali‘i Highway was constructed over fifteen years ago. At the time of construction the police portion of the building provided enough room to accommodate their limited needs. However, since that time, the operational area and personnel assigned to the district has significantly increased. The Police portion of the building is now considered obsolete because it is too small to accommodate the growth in manpower, and an increase in their geographic area of responsibility. In addition, employee union contract agreements have placed additional demands on space requirements. This is due to the fact that under the terms of the contract, certain types of equipment must be made available to personnel.

At present, space is so critical, that personnel must hold inspections outside of the building. Not only is this arrangement inconvenient and inefficient, but the crowded conditions have caused the general public and police personnel to develop a negative perception of the interior of the building.

The intent of the project is two-fold:

A. Renovate the existing facility to provide for:
   1. Locker Room and Showers
   2. Briefing Room (Squadroom)
   3. Equipment Room

B. Construct a new expansion to the existing facility to provide for:
   1. Receiving Area
   2. Public Area (Lobby and Restrooms)
3. Commander's Office
4. Sergeant's Office
5. Interview Room (C.I.D. Room)
6. Conference Room
7. Holding Cell and Booking Room

This renovation and expansion of the present building will provide the space required for current operational demands as well as expected future growth demands as well as expected future growth demands. The objective of the project is to improve and expand the existing cramped facilities to create an atmosphere that would allow the Police Department to efficiently provide the needed services to the community.

III. DESCRIPTION OF AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

The project site is located in Waimea Town on the northwest corner of Kaumuali‘i Highway and Menehune Road. The interior renovations will take place on the existing police portion of the building. The proposed expansion will occur on the existing lawn between the paved parking area and the existing building.

The project site is located at an elevation of 10 to 12 feet above sea level. The Atlas of Hawaii describes the Waimea area as being located at the southeastern edge of the Mana plain. This plain is characterized as an uncliffed sedimentary coast with little or no cliff along the shoreline.

The project site appears to straddle two different soil series identified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. The northwest half of the property may contain soils within the Makaweli series (MgB). This soil is identified as a silty clay loam with 0 to 6 percent slope and having the following characteristics: "In a representative profile the surface layer is dusky-red silty clay loam about 12 inches thick. The subsoil, 48 inches thick, is dusky-red, friable silt loam and silty clay loam that has prismatic and subangular blocky structure. The substratum is soft weathered basic igneous rock. The soil is slightly acid in the surface layer and slightly acid to neutral in the subsoil. Permeability is moderate. Runoff is slow and erosion hazard is slight. The available water capacity is about 1.6 inches per foot of soil. In places roots penetrate to a depth of 5 feet or more." (pg. 90)

The southeast half of the property is comprised of soils in the Jaucas series (JkB). This series consists of excessively drained, calcareous soils that occur on narrow strips on coastal plains, adjacent to the ocean. The soil at the project site is described as loamy fine sand, dark
variant with 0 to 8 percent slope. However, "unlike other soils of the Jaucas series, sand and coral sand are mixed throughout the profile. The basaltic sand gives this soil a dark-brown to black color. This soil is used for sugarcane, pasture, and homesites." (pg. 49)

IV. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF PROJECTS ENVIRONMENTAL, TECHNICAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

A. Environmental Characteristics

1. Physical Features

The project will occur on lands that were previously disturbed during the construction of the existing facilities. Subsurface work is expected, at most, to be minimal. Major clearing in the area of the proposed expansion is not anticipated because the area of the proposed expansion is not anticipated because the area is presently being used as a lawn. The proposed expansion will be built at or slightly below grade. The 48 by 28 foot expansion will encompass an area of approximately 1500 square feet. The proposed expansion will be constructed of hollow tile, and stud walls, with a metal roof.

Temporary arrangements will be made to accommodate the users of the existing building where renovation is to occur. Most of the renovation work will be within the existing building and work to the exterior will be minimal.

2. Climate

Average annual rainfall is 20 inches. Temperature in the area range from a high of near 90 degrees in the summer months of June and July to a low of near 60 degrees in the winter months of December and January. Surface winds are usually light to variable.

3. Water Resources

There is no surface water at the location. Ground water resources are basal water floating on the salt water.

4. Flooding

The Federal Emergency Management Agency, Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) classifies the area as "Zone X". These are areas of 500-year flood; areas of 100-year flood with average depths of less than 1 foot or with drainage areas less than 1 square mile; and areas protected by levees from 100-year flood.
5. Biota

Flora. The area for the proposed expansion is covered with grass. There are no known native or endangered species at the site.

Fauna. There are no known native or endangered species at the project site.

6. Historical and Archaeological Resources

Previous excavation on a sewer line in Waimea area has uncovered historic deposits. However, no known historic deposits or resources exist on the project site.

No major excavation is planned for the proposed site, only minor grading and grubbing will be done. However, if any unanticipated sites or remains of historic or prehistoric interest (such as shell, bone, or charcoal deposits, human burials, rock or coral alignments, paving, or walls) are encountered during construction, work will stop immediately and the State Historic Preservation Office will be consulted, and if necessary, all work be monitored by a qualified archeologist at the site.

7. Land Tenure/Zoning

The parcel is owned by the State of Hawaii but set aside through an Executive Order (No. 2387) to the County of Kauai for a Police Substation and Fire Station Site. The proposed activity is consistent with the purpose and intent of the Executive Order.

The project site is within the State of Hawaii’s Urban Land Use District, and is zoned R-1, STP by the County of Kauai. The parcel is also outside of the County’s Special Management Area.

B. Technical Characteristics

Electrical power, telephone, water, and sewer services are available at this site. The site is easily accessible.

C. Social/Economic Characteristics

The immediate short term economic benefits of this project will be in the construction industry because this project will provide an additional source of revenue for the industry. Long term socio/economic benefits should not be viewed as quantitative but rather qualitative in nature. Improved working conditions should allow for increased
efficiency in the day-to-day operations at the police substation.

V. IMPACTS/MITIGATION MEASURES

This location has already been physically impacted by the construction and operation of the existing facilities. The renovation of any existing building and construction of the addition are not expected to create any adverse impact on the physical environment.

There are no native flora or fauna at the project site so there will be no adverse impact on the biological environment.

Adverse impact could result from the construction activities but it will be of a short term. The impact of these activities will be limited due to close control by existing regulations. Furthermore, because there are no residents in the immediate area, there should be no adverse impact on the human environment.

The contractor will be instructed to stop work immediately in the event that historic/archaeological deposits are discovered. The State Historic Preservation Office will be consulted for their recommendation on the need to have an archaeologist on site before any type of deep excavation work in the project area is initiated.

Although located within the Zone X area of the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), the proposed renovation and expansion activity will be done in conformance with all applicable building codes and ordinances.

Another adverse impact could be the perceived aesthetic impact of building an extension on an existing open area. To mitigate these concerns, the extension will be designed to conform with the existing structures on the property as much as possible. Furthermore, the one story expansion would be contiguous with the existing structure and consistent with the existing uses on the property.

The County of Kauai Ordinance No. 262 relating to grading and erosion will be complied with. Other regulations that specify mitigating measures to be observed for rubbish disposal, dust abatement, noise, erosion and other environmental concerns will also be complied with. All efforts will be made to minimize disturbance to foliage and cleared areas will be re-vegetated where necessary.

VI. ALTERNATIVE TO THE PROPOSED ACTION

A. Do Nothing

If the existing substation is not renovated and expanded, the County will not be able to provide the needed facilities for the additional staff and responsibilities. The existing cramped conditions will persist and probably get worse. This would certainly
result in decreased efficiencies in day-to-day operations.

B. Alternative sites

Alternative sites and designs have also been considered; however the present proposal is the most cost effective and reasonable way to alleviate the immediate problem of providing additional space at the Waimea Substation.

VII. ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

It is the finding of this study that the potential impacts resulting from the renovation and expansion of the County of Kauai’s Police Substation at Waimea, Kauai have been identified and adequately analyzed and mitigated. A full environmental impact statement, therefore is not warranted, and a negative declaration has been filed for the proposed agency action in accordance with Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended.

There will be short-term adverse effects during the construction phase of the project that will be minimized by prudent controls. Nevertheless, the long-term public benefits resulting from this project will more than outweigh the limited short-term adverse impacts.
VIII. REFERENCES CITED


IX. AGENCIES CONSULTED

County of Kauai, Planning Department

State of Hawaii, Department of Land and Natural Resources
Division of Water and Land Development
Division of Land Management
Historic Sites Section

State of Hawaii, Department of Health
Office of Environmental Quality Control
ISLAND OF KAUAI

WAIHEA POLICE SUBSTATION (TMK 1-6-7:48)
RENOVATION AND EXPANSION