Mr. Brian J. J. Choy, Director
Office of Environmental Quality Control
State of Hawaii
Central Pacific Plaza
220 South King Street, Fourth Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Choy:

Subject: Final Environmental Assessment and Negative Declaration for Various Improvements at Ala Moana Regional Park and Safety Improvements at Koko-Head-Regional-Park-(Koko-Head-Rifle-Range)

We are forwarding for your review and publication in the OEQC Bulletin the negative declaration and four copies of the final environmental assessments for improvements at Ala Moana Regional Park and safety improvements at Koko-Head-Regional-Park-(Koko-Head-Rifle-Range).

Sincerely,

[Signature]

WALTER M. OZAWA, Director

WMO:ei

Attachments
1992-10-23-04-FEA-Ala Moana Regional Park Improvements

FINAL
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ALA MOANA REGIONAL PARK IMPROVEMENTS

HONOLULU, OAHU, HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

PREPARED BY
ENGINEERS SURVEYORS HAWAII, INC.

AND
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
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FIGURE

1. Project Location Map

2. Project Site Plan
I. SUMMARY

CHAPTER 343, HRS
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA)

Action: Agency
Department of Parks and Recreation
City and County of Honolulu

Project Name: Ala Moana Regional Park Master Design Plan

Project Description: The proposed project will consist of several landscaping and facility improvements to the heavily used Ala Moana Beach Park. These improvements are scheduled to be done in five phases and include:

Phase I:
Replace 8’ Water Service Main
Design/Install Jogging Pathways with Maintenance
Roadway and service cart roadway
Tennis Court Re-construction
Bridge Replacement
Outdoor Showers (Renovation)

Phase II:
Consolidated Concessions/Comfort Stations
a) Diamond Head Concession/Comfort Station
b) Ewa Concession/Comfort Station
c) Central Concession/Comfort Station
Supplemental Sewer Line
Jogging Path Lighting

Phase III:
Interior Roadway Revisions
Roadway re-surfacing (entire Park)
Promenade Improvements (grading/re-surfacing)
Sidewalks - widening, new curbs, Miscellaneous
Wheel Chair Pathways

Phase IV:
Irrigation System Upgrading
Tree Thinning and Transplanting
Picnic Tables and Benches
Barbecue Facilities with Charcoal Disposal
Trash Receptacles
Children's Play Equipment
Maintenance Building Modifications

Phase V:
Roosevelt Portals restoration
Pergolas restoration

Project Location: The project is located off Ala Moana Boulevard Ewa of the Ala Wai Bridge and Waikiki in Honolulu, Hawaii. (See Figure 1)

Tax Map Key: 2-3-37: 01
Acreage: Approximately 76 acres
State Land Use Designation: Urban
Development Plan Designation: Parks and Recreation
Public Facility: Park
Zoning: P-1
Landowner: City and County of Honolulu
Agent: Engineers Surveyors Hawaii, Inc.
Contact: F. J. Rodriguez c/o Parametrix, Inc.
Telephone: 524-0594
II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. Project Location

The Ala Moana Beach Park is the most popular beach park in urban Honolulu. The seventy-six-acre park is located on 1201 Ala Moana Boulevard makai of Ala Moana Shopping Center and Ward Centre. The park is bounded by Kewalo Basin on the Ewa or westerly end and the Ala Wai Channel and Yacht Harbor on the Diamond Head or eastern end.

Ala Moana Beach Park is identified as TMK:2-3-37: 01 and is owned by the City and County of Honolulu and administered by the Department of Parks and Recreation. The entire project area is within the Special Management Area.

B. Technical Characteristics

The Ala Moana Regional Park Master Design Plan (Plan) provides for major improvements to bring this valuable asset up to a use capacity consistent with the heavy volume of Park traffic. Unlike previous plans, this Project leaves the entire park layout intact and is best described as both a facilities and landscape improvement plan. It addresses the need for upgrading existing facilities, revisions to traffic circulation, landscape improvements, irrigation lines/replacement, bridge replacement, new concession/comfort stations, and improvements to recreation facilities, i.e. children's playground areas, and a defined jogging pathway.

The proposed project consists of park improvements which will include new traffic circulation plans, concessions/restroom facilities, recreation/jogging paths, utility lines, landscaping, tennis court restoration, bridge realignments, beach promenade resurfacing, and sundry repairs. This Plan will be phased in five units, with Phase I the most critical in terms of need. The balance of the phasing will be done as funding is made available. The Department of Parks and Recreation Summary Report is made an exhibit to this Environmental Assessment. (Exhibit A).
C. Social and Economic Characteristics

The proposed project is expected to contribute significantly to the overall accessibility, safety and service of the park and its facilities. Ala Moana Park is intensively used for recreational purposes. Passive uses include picnicking and beach activities while active uses include jogging, beach volleyball and tennis. The proposed improvements have been planned to be user oriented and should benefit all of the above uses.

The proposed improvements will also contribute to the handling capacity of urban Honolulu's most popular beach park. The park will also play an important part in the development of Kakaako and the Honolulu waterfront.

The project is not expected to have any economic impacts on park users or surrounding areas. The cost of the subject improvements are considered well invested for the resulting benefits of the improved park.

D. Funding and Phasing

The entire project costs will be borne by the City and County of Honolulu. The subject improvements are expected to be constructed over individual phases as funding is provided.
III. AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

A. Project Location

Ala Moana Beach Park is the most popular beach park in urban Honolulu. The seventy-six-acre park is located on 1201 Ala Moana Boulevard makai of Ala Moana Shopping Center and Ward Centre. The park is bounded by Kewalo Basin on the Ewa or westerly end and the Ala Wai Channel and Yacht Harbor on the Diamond Head or Eastern end. Aina Moana State Recreation Area (Magic Island) is located on the Diamond Head side of the Park and is accessed by the Ala Moana Park Drive.

B. Topographic Characteristics

The project site is located on flat fill lands created from 1931 to 1934. The park contains a lagoon and canal located adjacent to the makai side of Ala Moana Boulevard, and a park road is aligned along the perimeter of the park. Magic Island which is located on the Diamond Head side of the park, is actually a fill land peninsula accessed through the park site. Beach areas consisting of imported sand are found along the entire makai shoreline except for armor rock walls on the east and west sides of Magic Island (Aina Moana State Recreation Area). The Ala Moana Park site is grassed and features a number of palm and shade trees. Several structures and paved parking areas are also located on site.

1. Soils

   According to the Soil Survey of Islands of Kauai, Oahu, Maui, Molokai, and Lanai, State of Hawaii by the United States Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service, August 1972, the project site is located on FL or "fill land, mixed" while beach lands line the makai perimeter. The fill mix is largely material from the old boat channel, which now the swimming area along the front of the park, and dredged material from the Ala Wai channel.

2. Land Classification

   The Detailed Land Classification - Island of Oahu, L.S.B. Bulletin No. 11, December 1972 by the University of Hawaii Land Study Bureau identifies the primary park site as urban while the beaches are classified as E10, coarse,
non-stony, non-expanding ustipsamment utilized for recreation uses.

C. Hydrological Characteristics

The project site is generally bounded by water with Kewalo Basin to the west, the beach front to the south, the Ala Wai Yacht Harbor to the east, and a drainage canal makai of Ala Moana Boulevard to the north.

1. Drainage

As a man-made landfill, the underlying conditions of the park site consist of boulders, course coral fill, sedimentary deposits, topsoil and beach sand. Drainage on the park is via sheet flow to the interior roadway system which connects to the main along Ala Moana Boulevard.

2. Flood Hazard

The general park area mauka of the interior road has been designated as Zone A, a special flood hazard area inundated by 100-year floods in which no base flood elevations has been determined by other Federal Emergency Management Agency FIRM Flood Insurance Rate Map.

3. Tsunami Inundation

The Ala Moana Beach Park is located within the tsunami inundation zone as indicated by the Civil Defense Tsunami Inundation Maps, Map 1: Keeaumoku to Kahala.

4. Water Quality

Near shore coastal waters fronting the park are designated Class A by the State Department of Health. Class A waters are to be protected for recreational uses, aesthetic enjoyment and propagation of marine life. The Department of Health monitors bacterial concentration at three stations along the park.
5. Special Management Area

Ala Moana Beach Park is within the Special Management Area (SMA) under Ordinance No. 84-4, City and County of Honolulu. An SMA permit application will be submitted to the Department of Land Utilization, City and County of Honolulu.

D. Biological Characteristics

As a highly utilized urban park site on man-made, fill lands, no rare, threatened, or endangered species of flora or fauna are found onsite. The park is heavily landscaped and well vegetated with many mature trees and shrubs. An inventory of trees will be conducted and any exceptional trees will be noted. A landscape plan will be developed for the park.

Fauna on-site consists of typical urban avifauna while land animals include feral cats, rodents, and exotic reptiles. No threatened or endangered seabirds have been observed nor is it likely that any habitats for any endangered species exist onsite due to the lack of undisturbed areas.

E. Historic and Archaeological Resources

1. Historic Overview


"Before it is developed, the area now called Ala Moana Park was a vast swamp, a mixture of bulrushes and duck ponds, with scattered patches of land bearing kiawe trees and coconut palms. The entire shoreline was coral wasteland bordered by mud flats. In time, this stretch of coast between Kewalo Basin and Waikiki became the site of the Honolulu garbage dump, which burned continually. In 1931, the entire area was officially designated as Moana Park by the City and County Parks Board, but the actual beach and park complex was not finished until 1934. In the summer of that year the dedication was made by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who participated in the opening ceremonies during a visit to Honolulu. After World War II, many other uses were
suggested for the land, including a housing development, a rest camp for military personnel, and a quarantine station, but fortunately none of these plans was ever realized, and the area remained a park. In 1947, it's name was changed officially to Ala Moana, “the path to the sea.”

The entire swimming area along the front of the park is an old boat channel that was cut through the coral reef to join Kewalo Basin with the Ala Wai Canal. When the Ala Wai channel was dredged, the long channel parallel with the park became unnecessary for commercial boat traffic, but it continued to attract sailors of pleasure craft. With the development of the park, conflicts arose between swimmers and boating enthusiasts. Finally, in 1955, Hawaiian Dredging Company completed a contract to grade and close off the old channel at the Ewa end. Sand was brought in from Yokohama Bay in Keawa’ula of Wai’anae to cover the coral fill. Still later, the construction of “Magic Island” closed off the Waikiki end of the channel."

The Ewa entry of Ala Moana Park is distinctively landscaped with mounds of lava rock placements. These features, originally designed by Richard C. Tongg (FASLA), may be 50 years old and thereby eligible for the Hawaii Register of Historic Places; however no nomination has been made to date. The arch bridge over the lagoon area at the Diamond Head side of the park is considered to have historic value* and will be restored as part of the park improvement plan.

*"Listed on Hawaii Register of Historic Places as one of the City & County of Honolulu Art Deco Parks Thematic Group."(See DLNR Historic Sites Division comment.

Coastal views will not be impaired due to the project design.

As described in Section I Summary, the bulk of the Project consists of utilities renovation, landscaping, and certain structural improvements to replace existing facilities, i.e. bridges, comfort stations, and concession stands.
F. Infrastructure and Public Facilities

1. Vehicular Circulation

Primary ingress and egress is available from Ala Moana Boulevard. The Ewa entrance allows traffic from the Diamond Head and Ewa directions. The Diamond Head gate also allows traffic from both directions as well as from Atkinson Drive. Both intersections are signalized.

The internal road Ala Moana Park Drive, follows the perimeter of the park and provides access to Aina Moana State Recreation Area (Magic Island). The McCoy Pavilion loop is also connected to the Park Drive.

Vehicular circulation consists of a paved asphaltic concrete surface. Traffic lanes through the parking lot is generally two-way, with minimum travel lane width of 12 feet. Concrete curbs, striping and painted directionals are used exclusively to control and direct traffic within the park.

There are approximately 580 parking stalls within the park. An additional 40 parking stalls will be added as a result of the proposed traffic circulation plan.

2. Drainage and Sewers

The park site is drained via surface flow into the Ala Moana Park roadway which subsequently connects to the City and County’s 36” gravity main in Ala Moana Boulevard. The drainage channel located makai of Ala Moana Boulevard serves as the drainage catchment for the mauka side of the park. Sewerage will continue to be disposed of via the Sand Island Sewage Treatment Plant. The new Diamond Head and Ewa comfort station buildings together with a new toilet facility near the middle of the of the Park, will require connections to the existing system. This will require a new line of approximately 400’ of six inch or eight inch pipe, with manholes, appurtenances, and trenching across the interior roadway.
3. Water

A Board of Water Supply 12" water main in Ala Moana Boulevard presently connects to the park's 8" system. The existing system is in need of repairs, having been installed in the early 1900s. Frequent breaks have been experienced and the new proposed installation will relieve this recurring problem. The existing irrigation system will also benefit significantly from the installation of an expanded water system, and previously hand-watered areas will be more efficiently managed. Separation of the potable water system from the irrigation system will also provide improved control over water consumption and potential waste through inefficient irrigation.

4. Electricity and Telephone

Both electrical and telephone services are available in the park. Electrical service improvements are included in the proposed plan. This will probably involve increasing the number of lights within the park for safety and security. Additional electrical service may be included in areas used by craft fairs, special events, and along jogging paths. Design aesthetics will be emphasized together with functional efficiency, with glare and light intrusion towards adjacent landowners as a prime consideration.

5. Fire and Police Protection

Fire protection is presently provided by the Pawaa Fire Station located at 1610 Makaloa Street. No increased demand for fire protection is expected to result from the proposed improvements. Fire hydrants are located on-site.

The park is routinely patrolled by the Honolulu Police Department. State Parks officials also provide additional security within the park.

6. Water Safety

City and County lifeguards provide daily service within the park. Fire/lifeguard stations are located throughout the park.
IV. SUMMARY OF MAJOR IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Short-term impacts, beneficial and adverse, generally result from construction related activities. Consequently, these impacts are of short duration and should not last longer than the duration of the construction. Long term impacts, beneficial and adverse, generally result from implementation of the proposed action.

Construction of the improvements will correct deficiencies and will also have beneficial long term impacts. The degree of short-term impact will be determined by largely by the construction method to be utilized and the time of day and days of the week construction is performed.

Some minor grading will be required to accommodate the construction on the proposed new structures and for the demolition of the old bathhouse/concessions. This grading should not have any significant impacts and minor impacts such as dust and runoff will be mitigated with standard construction mitigation measures. All construction equipment and practices will be subject to all applicable pollution, safety, and health standards.

Traffic patterns will be impacted during roadway improvements and bridge restoration and relocation. These temporary construction related impacts will however, result in improved vehicular and pedestrian circulation patterns in the long term. Most of the proposed improvements will have some impact on park traffic and user accessibility but most work will be conducted during weekdays when park use is much lower.

Some trees may be relocated where new structures will be placed. An inventory of trees and plants on the park will be evaluated and all exceptional trees will be noted.

It is the intent of the proposed improvements to comply with the objectives of the Honolulu Waterfront Master Plan prepared by the Office of State Planning. Goals which specifically relate to the subject project include:

Provide recreational (active, passive, social, and cultural) to meet the needs of Honolulu's growing residential population.

Promote safe public access to the ocean and along the water's edge.
Provide adequate water, sewer, drainage, power and communication systems to meet the needs of existing and future waterfront activities in a timely fashion.

The proposed park improvements will increase convenience, safety and provide better accessibility and subsequently will do so with minimal, if any, long-term adverse impacts. As such an improvement project, the subject improvement actually serve as mitigation measure to existing adverse impacts and deficiencies.

A Special Management Area (SMA) permit will be required to implement the project.
V. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

No alternatives other than the "no action" alternative were considered. No action would result in the continued wear, decline, marginal safety, inadequate service, and accessibility of the park and facilities. This has been deemed unacceptable, and possibly hazardous in some instances. Therefore, the expeditious implementation of the proposed project is required.
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 determinations are as follows, using as the criteria, the policy, guidelines, and provisions of Chapters 342, 343, and 344, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

1. The proposed improvements at Ala Moana Beach Park will not result in significant environmental impacts in terms of negative impacts due to the physical parameters of Noise, Air Quality, and Surface Runoff. Permanent degradation to ambient standards for Air Quality and Noise will not occur. All anticipated impacts will be temporary in nature and will not be significant in the long term.

2. The proposed improvements will result in the ability of the Park to meet the increasing demand for urban recreational facilities. Existing utility systems will be refurbished and upgraded, comfort stations and concession stands will be improved in terms of design and capacity, traffic patterns will be designed to improve circulation and safety, and improved facilities will be provided for joggers and handicapped park users.

3. There are no known endangered plant or animal species on the proposed project site. All species are introduced or exotic species.

4. The historic or archaeological sites within the project limits are listed on the Hawaii Register of Historic Places as one of the City & County of Honolulu Art Deco Parks Thematic Group. The Park proper was built from dredge spoil when the channel fronting the Park was built. If during excavation for the utilities, sites are uncovered, the State Historic Preservation Division, State Department of Land and Natural Resources will be contacted immediately.

5. Construction work will be conducted during hours when park usage is lower and impacts on park users will be minimized. Onsite grading will be limited to site preparation for the relocation of the comfort stations/concession stands; the trenching of the utility lines, and the actual structural improvements, i.e. buildings, and bridges.
VII. LIST OF PREPARERS AND AGENCIES CONSULTED

Engineers Surveyors Hawaii, Inc.

Environmental Communications, Inc.

Department of Park and Recreation
City and County of Honolulu

Melvin Lau and Associates
Dr. Paul Weissich
VIII. LIST OF AGENCIES CONSULTED DURING THE PREPARATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT.

**ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES**

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MEMORANDUM:

TO: Donald S. M. Chang  
Deputy Fire Chief

FROM: F. J. Rodriguez  
Consultant for Engineers Surveyors Hawaii, Inc.

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE ALAMOANA REGIONAL PARK MASTER DESIGN PLAN

We have received your Department’s comments dated July 22, 1992 on the above project and acknowledge the two stated conditions. The engineering design consultant, Engineers Surveyors Hawaii, Inc. will incorporate these conditions so that the final construction drawings will reflect the compliance with Article 10 of the Uniform Fire Code.

Thank you for your prompt attention to our document and should additional information be required, please call me at 524-0594. Your continuing attention to these matters is appreciated.

cc: Mr. Walter M. Ozawa, Director  
Department of Parks & Recreation

Engineers Surveyors Hawaii, Inc.
TO: ENGINEERS SURVEYORS HAWAII, INC.
SUITE NO. 1, BUILDING NO. 6
1020 AUAHI STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814

FROM: DONALD S. M. CHANG, FIRE DEPUTY CHIEF

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE ALA MOANA REGIONAL PARK
MASTER DESIGN PLAN
Location: Off Ala Moana Boulevard Ewa of the
        Ala Wai Bridge and Waikiki in Honolulu
Tax Map Key: 2-3-37: 01

We have reviewed the application and made an on-site assessment of the above
subject request, and have no objections to the proposal providing the
following conditions are compiled with prior to approval. Compliance with
Article 10 of the Uniform Fire Code should also be made, but not limited to
the following:

1. Provide a private water system where all appurtenances, hydrant
   spacing and fire flow requirements meet Board of Water Supply
   standards.

2. Submit construction plans to the building and fire departments
   for permit review and approval prior to commencement of the
   project.

Should additional information or assistance be required, please call Fire
Inspector Stephen Kishida of our Fire Prevention Bureau at 523-4186.

DONALD S. M. CHANG
Fire Deputy Chief

DSMC/SK:kc
August 12, 1992

MEMORANDUM:

TO: Mr. C. Michael Street, Director and Chief Engineer
Department of Public Works

FROM: F. J. Rodriguez
Consultant for Engineers Surveyors Hawaii, Inc.

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE ALA
MOANA REGIONAL PARK MASTER PLAN
DESIGN PLAN

We have received your Department's comments dated August 3,
1992 on the above project and acknowledge the two stated
comments. The Application for Sewer Connection form will be
prepared and filed with the Division of Wastewater Management
when those drawings are completed.

Thank you for your prompt attention to our document; If there is
anything further, please call me at 524-0594.

cc: Mr. Walter M. Ozawa, Director
Department of Parks and Recreation

Mr. Eric Hee, Project Manager
Engineers Surveyors Hawaii, Inc.
August 3, 1992

Mr. Fred Rodriguez
C/o Engineers Surveyors Hawaii, Inc.
Suite No. 1, Building No. 6
1020 Auahi Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Dear Mr. Rodriguez:

Subject: Environmental Assessment (EA)
Ala Moana Boulevard Park Master Design Plan
THK:2-3-37:01

We have reviewed the subject EA and have the following comments:

1. The proposed addition of 40 parking stalls may not be adequate to accommodate the heavy vehicle traffic in the park.

2. A form of "Application for Sewer Connection," which will determine the adequacy of the existing municipal sewer system is required to be submitted to the Division of Wastewater Management for review and approval.

Very truly yours,

C. Michael Street
Director and Chief Engineer
ENVIROMENTAL
COMMUNICATIONS
INC.

F. J. RODRIGUEZ,
PRESIDENT

August 12, 1992

MEMORANDUM:

TO: Mr. Don Hibbard, Administrator
   Department of Land and Natural Resources
   State Historic Preservation Division

FROM: F. J. Rodriguez
   Consultant for Engineers Surveyors Hawaii, Inc.

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE ALA
   MOANA REGIONAL PARK MASTER PLAN
   DESIGN PLAN

We have received your Department's comments dated August 9,
1992 on the above project and acknowledge the designation of Ala
Moana Park on the Hawaii Register of Historic Places. The
acknowledgement is indicated on pages 8 and 14 of the revised
narrative, and also by the inclusion of your comment. The plans for
your agency's review will be provided as required.

Thank you for your prompt attention to our document; if there is
anything further, please call me at 524-0594.

cc: Mr. Walter M. Ozawa, Director
   Department of Parks and Recreation

   Mr. Eric Hee, Project Manager
   Engineers Surveyors Hawaii, Inc.
Mr. William B. C. Hee  
Engineering Surveyors Hawaii, Inc.  
Suite No.1, Building No.6  
1020 Auahi Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Dear Mr. Hee:

**SUBJECT: Ala Moana Regional Park Master Design Plan, Honolulu**

Thank you for sending our office a copy of the Ala Moana Regional Park Master Plan. Your Environmental Assessment notes that the architectural and landscape features of the park may be eligible for the Hawaii Register. The park is listed on the Hawaii Register of Historic Places as one of the City and County of Honolulu Art Deco Parks Thematic Group. The park was placed on the register in 1988. You should, therefore, also correct IV.4. of the EA that states that there are no historic sites within the project limits. While we have no concerns at this time, you should note that the final permits will have to come through our office for concurrence.

If you have any questions, please call Daina Penkiunas at 587-0005.

Sincerely,

DON HIBBARD, Administrator  
State Historic Preservation Division  

DP:aal
September 28, 1992

Bruce S. Anderson, Ph.D.
Department of Health
P.O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801

Dear Dr. Anderson,

Subject: Ala Moana Regional Master Plan Environmental Assessment

We have received your agency's comments dated September 11, 1992 and respond in the following:

1. We have discussed this subject with Mr. Akazawa and we have reached consensus that the department's concerns on drainage and fresh water flows should be addressed. We however, cannot address these concerns in this E.A. document since the project scope of work is not on the general subject of drainage. The Parks & Recreation staff planners will be made aware of your concerns and when the budgetary constraints are relieved and directives towards mitigating drainage impacts are at hand, we will look forward to your comments.

2. Solid waste and litter control will be addressed at the appropriate time when the subject scope of work is directed in that direction. The comments have been provided to the Parks & Recreation staff and they are aware and concerned over the situation.

Thank you for your comments and continuing concerns.

Very truly yours,

F. J. Rodriguez

cc: Engineers Surveyors Hawaii, Inc.
September 11, 1992

Engineers Surveyors Hawaii, Inc.
Building No. 6, Suite No. 1
1020 Auahi Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Attention: Mr. Fred Rodriguez

Dear Mr. Rodriguez:

Subject: Environmental Assessment (EA) for the 
Ala Moana Regional Park Master Design Plan

We have reviewed the subject project's EA and master design plan dated May 1992. We support the 
plan to enhance the use of the park and upgrade the amenities and have the following comments to 
offer:

Water Pollution

1. The EA fails to adequately describe the present condition of the project area, primarily 
regarding the potential impairment to water quality.

   a. There is considerable evidence of fresh water flows contributed to waters off Ala 
Moana Beach Park. This fresh water could bring with it pollutants that have 
originated on land. Cold spots, as evidenced in the water by swimmers, apparently 
reflect groundwater movement across Ala Moana Park and seepage into the sea.

   b. The park lagoons and drainage canal function as collection ponds and a sink for street 
pollutants in surface runoff water. Because of hydraulic connection to the 
groundwater, storm drain contaminants and dissolved organic components eventually 
flow into the receiving waters. Anoxic conditions in the ground could extend into the 
beach sand and water along this shoreline.

2. Improvement to the park drainage system is mentioned only briefly, and there is no 
description of the excess storm water and flooding that occurs on the street.

The flood prone condition at the park often causes ponding that creates a major impediment to 
traffic and recreational enjoyment of the park long after storm events have past. It is unlikely 
that the proposed remediation will effectively correct the drainage problem.
If you should have any questions on this matter, please contact Mr. Eugene Akazawa of the Clean Water Branch at 586-4309.

Litter

Our comments for this project involve the solid waste management practices by the users and by the operations crew -- i.e., the use of well-placed, visible, easy-to-use trash containers. The attention given to this area will have an impact on how littered the park is on a daily basis. A littered park, which exists today, particularly on weekends and holidays, takes away from the enjoyment of this great rest and recreational area.

The minimization of litter should be considered when looking at the number of receptacles to be purchased and used, and the design/style of the containers themselves.

It has been our experience that when receptacles are easily seen and convenient to get to and use, people will place their waste material in them. If they are few and far between or not emptied often enough, people will leave their waste where they are or at best in the vicinity of other waste (which may be near an overflowing receptacle).

We recommend that adequate numbers of receptacles be strategically placed so that the use of them is encouraged, perhaps several in clusters near those picnic areas that get high usage, and throughout the parking lots on all Island areas.

Also, we recommend choosing a design that is user-friendly, i.e., a style that is easy to deposit waste in, and that would prevent wind from blowing waste out of the receptacle.

Finally, we strongly recommend, as a result of our personal observation and complaints from others, that sufficient park staff be budgeted so that these receptacles can be emptied on a timely basis, particularly during the weekends and holidays.

If you should have any questions on this matter, please contact Dale Hoffmann of the Litter Control Office at 586-8400.

Very truly yours,

JOHN C. LEWIN, M.D.
Director of Health

c: Clean Water Branch
Litter Control Office
CORRECTION

THE PRECEDING DOCUMENT(S) HAS BEEN REPHOTOGRAPHED TO ASSURE LEGIBILITY
SEE FRAME(S) IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING
Engineering Surveyors Hawaii, Inc.
September 11, 1992
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Very truly yours,

JOHN C. LEWIN, M.D.
Director of Health

Cc: Clean Water Branch
Litter Control Office