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QUALITY CONTROL

April 29, 1993

HAR-ED 9801.93

To: Brian J. J. Choy, Director
Office of Environmental Quality Control

From: *for* Rex D. Johnson
Director of Transportation 

Subject: NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO STORAGE YARD
AT KAHULUI HARBOR, KAHULUI, MAUI, HAWAII
JOB H. C. 3227

In accordance with Act 241, SLH 1992, we have completed the formal environmental assessment (EA) 30-day review period for the subject project. No comments were received from the public and we have determined that the project will not have significant impacts on the environment. Based on the foregoing, we are filing a Negative Declaration.

Enclosed are the original and four copies of the Negative Declaration and a completed OEQC Form for publication in the OEQC Bulletin.

Should you have any question, please contact Vernon Nakamura of our Design Section at 587-1958.

Enc.: Negative Declaration
OEQC Publication Form

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1993-05-23-MA-FEA - Kahului Harbor Storage yard Improvements MAY 23 1993

NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR
FOR
IMPROVEMENTS TO STORAGE YARD AT KAHULUI HARBOR
KAHULUI, MAUI, HAWAII
JOB H. C. 3227

A. APPLICANT

Harbors Division, Department of Transportation

B. APPROVING AGENCY

Department of Transportation

C. AGENCIES CONSULTED

Shipping and trucking companies, American Hawaii Cruises, and other companies and businesses requiring storage space at the Kahului Harbor overwhelmingly support the proposed project.

The Outdoor Circle, Maui Arborist Committee and Community Workday Office have been consulted. Comments and recommendations are addressed in Section H, Mitigation Measures.

The State Historic Preservation Division was consulted because the Maui County Cultural Resources Commission indicated that the site is listed on the Hawaii Register of Historic Places. Some of the existing structures on adjacent properties (remnants of the Kahului Railroad, i.e., round house, shop, and office buildings) are listed on the inventory of historic places, but not on the Hawaii Register of Historic Places. There are no structures within the project limits listed on their inventory of historic places.

D. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION'S CHARACTERISTICS

1. Technical (See attached map)

Improvements for the larger parcel of 4.669 acres consist of clearing, grubbing, grading, and fencing. Clearing includes removal of trees that would hinder safe and efficient operations on the site and removal and disposal of abandoned vehicles and equipment.

Improvements to the smaller parcel of 5,567 square feet include relocating portion of the existing chain link fence and installing additional chain link fence on the new boundary along land owned by A & B Properties, Inc.

2. Economic - Social

The project will provide land needed for harbor expansion to accommodate increasing amounts of cargo processed at Kahului Harbor and is a part of an overall plan to improve and expand the cargo handling capabilities of Maui's only commercial seaport. The increase in cargo shipment and operations can be related to the dramatic upsurge in population on the island of Maui. A portion of the unimproved parcel is already being used for trailer and container storage due to unavailable space elsewhere on the Harbor facilities.

The project is deemed consistent with Section A, Transportation Infrastructure, Chapter III, of the State Transportation Functional Plan and 2010 Master Plan for Kahului Harbor.

3. Environmental

A short distance from the smaller parcel is the Maui District Harbors Manager's office. Uses surrounding this parcel are a one (1) story commercial/office building to the south, three (3) bulk sugar structures to the east, and, to the west, container yards and piers. The larger parcel is surrounded by bulk sugar structures to the north, Tropical Rent-a-Car and the Maui Shopping Center.

Both sites are generally level, but lie 1 to 2 feet below road grade of Kaahumanu Avenue although elevation is 5 to 6 feet above mean sea level. Soil is composed of dredged soil, garbage, and bagasse and slurry from sugar mills. Because of the soil composition, there are no known endemic plants unique to the area. The Flood Insurance Rate Map published by the Federal Emergency Agency for the National Flood Insurance Program, indicate both properties are flood prone and possibly subject to tsunami inundation and hurricane wave wash.

Two (2) wood frame structures occupy a portion of the larger parcel. These include a Lindal house built during 1983 covering 1,092 sq. ft. of enclosed space with 416 sq. ft. of deck, and a smaller building, erected in 1980, covering 300 sq. ft. of enclosed space and a lanai of 250 sq. ft. The Lindal house serves as a model home and business offices while the smaller building houses a secretarial service. All were tenants of the former landowner and are in the process of vacating the premises.

Vegetation on site consists of palm trees, coconut trees, ironwood trees, a banyan tree, shrubs and weeds. No threatened or endangered species of animal, bird or insect are known to inhabit both sites.

E. SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

Paragraphs G and H describe the adverse environmental impacts which are expected to be of brief duration and associated with the clearing and grubbing work. Since the sites are onshore, no pollution of the marine environment is foreseen. Because various trees are scheduled for removal, the Maui Hotel Association, various nurseries, the Maui Outdoor Circle, and Arborist Committee were contacted for replanting of these trees elsewhere on the Island. Because of the public interest in the banyan tree on the main parcel, it is to be relocated at the expense of the Harbors Division. We are also planning to include shrubs and trees to provide a landscape/screen along Kaahumanu Avenue and are currently working with the Arborists Committee.

F. DISCUSSION OF THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Evaluation of the effects of the proposed project on the environment indicate that there will be no significant adverse effects on the environment. The proposed project will not:

1. Involve an irrevocable commitment to loss or destruction of any natural or cultural resources, except for the labor and materials related to the construction of this project;
2. Curtail the beneficial uses of the environment;
3. Conflict with the State's long-term environmental policies, goals, or guidelines;
4. Substantially affect the economic or social welfare of the community or State;
5. Involve substantial secondary impacts, such as population changes or effects on public facilities;
6. Involve a substantial degradation of environmental quality;
7. Substantially affect any rare, threatened or endangered species of flora or fauna or habitat. No endangered species of flora or fauna are known to exist in the project site; and

8. Detrimentially affect air or water quality or ambient noise levels.

Rather, the implementation of this project will have a beneficial effect on the general public and its environment by providing an adequate and efficient storage yard for more efficient port and harbor operations.

G. IMPACTS AND ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

During the construction of the project, there will be a temporary increase in noise, dust and internal combustion engine emissions. However, these impacts will be minimal and intermittent in nature. Emissions from internal combustion engines will be readily dissipated in the open area.

Estimated construction time is 80 working days.

The alternative to the proposed project is no action. No action will deny efficient use of needed land for maritime purposes which is contrary to the State Transportation Functional Plan and 2010 Master Plan for Kahului Harbor.

H. MITIGATION MEASURES

Provisions will be made in the project specifications to control and minimize the temporary adverse effects of the construction.

Based on recommendations from the Maui Arborist Committee selected coconut, palm, and ironwood trees along the perimeter of the parcel will remain, however, other trees within the site will be removed to provide efficient and safe maneuverability of truck/trailers and eliminate obstructions which may be a liability. The large banyan will be removed and transplanted.

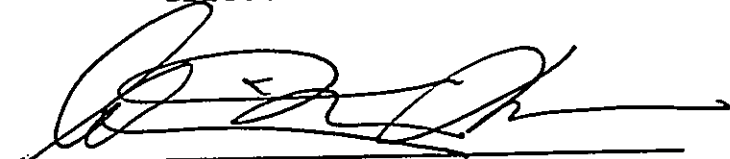
Future improvements will include planting of hedges along Kaahumanu and Hobron Avenues to buffer the site from the roadway.

I. DETERMINATION

Since no major or significant adverse impacts are anticipated, costly detailed studies were considered inappropriate. Consequently, a determination has been made that an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

J. REASONS

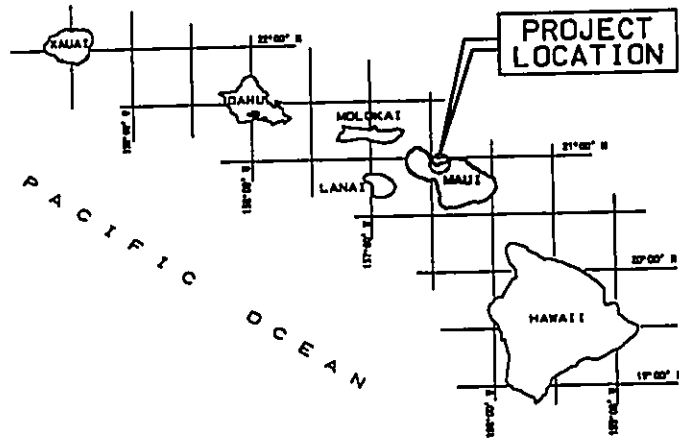
The reasons supporting the "no EIS" determination are outlined in Sections F and G of this Negative Declaration. Any adverse environmental impact resulting from this project has been determined temporary and insignificant. Past experience has shown that this type of construction within an established commercial harbor facility has no significant effect on the environment, both short and long term.



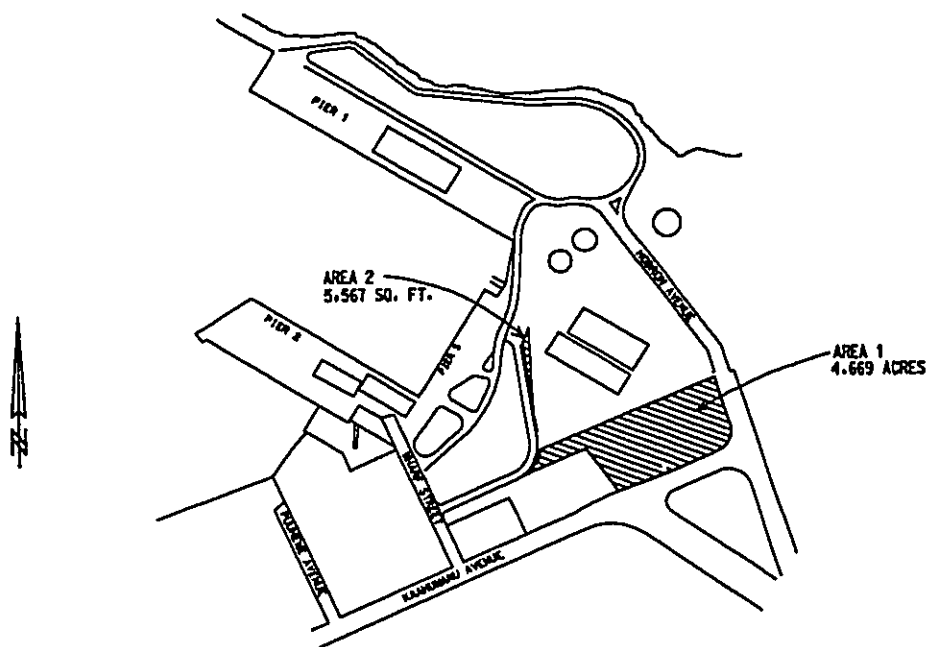
Rex D. Johnson
Director of Transportation

4/29/93
Date

Att.



HAWAIIAN ISLANDS



LOCATION PLAN

IMPROVEMENTS TO STORAGE YARD AT KAHULUI HARBOR, MAUI
 JOB H. C. 3227 - TMK 2nd Div. 3-7-10:portion 9