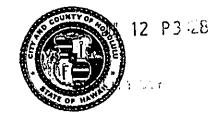
BUILDING DEPARTMENT

## CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

HONOLULU MUNICIPAL BUILDING 650 SOUTH KING STREET .... HONOLULU, MAWAII 96513

FRANK F. FASI Mayor



HERBERT K. MURAOKA DIRECTOR AND BUILDING SUPERINTENDENT

> WILLIAM F. REMULAR DEPUTY PB 94-775

July 12, 1994

Dr. Bruce S. Anderson, PhD., Acting Director Office of Environmental Quality Control 220 South King Street, 4th Floor Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Dr. Anderson:

Subject: Blaisdell Center Workshop and Storage Facility Negative Declaration TMK: 2-3-08:1, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii

The Building Department has reviewed the comments received during the 30-day public comment period which began on June 8, 1994 and has determined that this project will not have significant environmental effects.

We are filing a <u>negative declaration</u> for this project. Please publish this notice in the July 23, 1994 OEQC Bulletin.

We have attached a completed OEQC Bulletin Publication Form and four copies of the Final Environmental Assessment.

Should there be any questions, please have your staff contact Clifford Lau at 527-6373.

Very truly yours,

Howwith

HERBERT K. MURAOKA Director and Building Superintendent

Attach.

1994-07-23-0A-FEA-Blaisdell Center JUL 23 1994 Workshop & storage Facility

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

# BLAISDELL CENTER WORKSHOP AND STORAGE FACILITY Makiki, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii

Prepared in Fulfillment of the Requirements of Chapter, 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes and Title 11, Chapter 200, Administrative Rules Department of Health, State of Hawaii

Prepared for

Building Department City and County of Honolulu 650 South King Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Responsible tringe Date: July 12, 1994 Official: ~ Herbert K. Muraoka

Director and Building Superintendent

Prepared By

Design Partners Incorporated 1580 Makaloa Street Suite 1100 Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

and

Gerald Park Urban Planner 1245 Young Street, Suite 201 Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

## PROJECT SUMMARY

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PROPOSED ACTION:	Blaisdell Center Workshop and Storage Facility
PROPOSING AGENCY:	Building Department City and County of Honolulu
DETERMINING AGENCY:	Building Department City and County of Honolulu
LOCATION:	777 Ward Avenue
TAX MAP KEY:	2-3-08: 01
LAND AREA: Area of Proposed Use:	626,393 square feet 17,920 square feet
LANDOWNER:	City and County of Honolulu
STATE LAND USE DISTRICT:	Urban
GENERAL PLAN:	Primary Urban Center
DEVELOPMENT PLAN AREA: Land Use Designation: Public Facilities Designation:	Primary Urban Center Public Facility Improvement W/in 6 Years
ZONING:	Kakaako Community Development District
EXISTING USE:	Uncovered Storage, Open Space, Service Area, and Parking
CONTACT PERSON:	Clifford Lau Project Coordinator Building Department City and County of Honolulu 650 South King Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Telephone: 527-6373

Note: Revisions to the Draft Environmental Assessment are shown in bold type. Deleted text is enclosed by brackets [].

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# SECTION 1 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

The Building Department, City and County of Honolulu, proposes to construct a workshop and storage facility on the grounds of the Blaisdell Center located in Makiki, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii. The project site is identified as Tax Map Key: 2-1-08: 1. A Location Map is shown in Figure 1.

A. Purpose of the Project

The Blaisdell Center, formerly the Honolulu International Center, was constructed in 1964 to "provide the community with facilities which would accommodate a variety of activities. These would include large conventions, various cultural events and indoor sporting activities." The primary facilities built at that time were the Arena, Exhibition Hall, and Concert Hall.

For the past 30 years, the Blaisdell Center has been the principal indoor meeting facility in the City and County of Honolulu. The Blaisdell Center has been (and continues to be) home for cultural events, theatrical and symphonic productions, concerts, trade shows and exhibitions, wedding receptions, anniversary celebrations, and high school, college, and professional sporting events.

Over the same period of time, the City and County of Honolulu has implemented significant improvements to the facility to better serve Blaisdell Center users. In 1988, a three level parking structure was added on the Diamond Head side of the property to alleviate a parking deficit (Dashiell, 1988). In 199[2]3, construction was started to expand and improve the Exhibition Hall. The project include[d]s constructing new meeting rooms, [a new] box office, [relocating] public restrooms, and administrative offices; [adding a second floor,] refurbishing the Exhibition Hall and Pikake Room[,]; [and] upgrading the utility systems[.] and air-conditioning all facilities. [Expansion and renovations to the Exhibition Hall are continuing and should] The project will be completed in 1995.

Capital improvements thus far have focused on public areas. There are, however, deficiencies in back-of-house functions. Equipment has been purchased over the past 30 years to support the myriad of events held annually at the Blaisdell Center. This large inventory cannot be stored in secure[d lockers] areas because of a shortage of warehouse space. The result has been to store the majority of equipment outside the arena either in an open, uncovered section of the parking lot where it is exposed to the elements or around the exterior concourse where it is partially protected from the elements. This solution to the storage problem is unsatisfactory, presents a safety problem, hastens the deterioration of expensive equipment, and is extremely unsightly.

There is a pressing need to provide workshop facilities for trades personnel. Currently, there simply is not enough room to provide [separate] adequate work spaces for all of the tradesmen. Some trades do not have a work area and some share the same space with other trades.

#### **B.** Technical Characteristics

A building site on the makai side of the Arena has been designated (See Figure 2). Portions of the building site are currently used as a parking lot, uncovered outdoor storage, service yard with a covered storage shed, and landscaped open space.

The layout of the triangular shaped building (which actually has seven sides) is due to the configuration of the building site. Despite its shape, it will have a linear appearance when viewed from different directions.

Approximately 24,852 square feet of needed workshop and storage space will be provided. The foundation, floor, and exterior walls of the storage facility will be constructed of concrete and concrete masonry units. Steel girders bolted on top of reinforced concrete columns will support the upper level storage floor and rigid metal roof framing. The upper level flooring consists of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch metal decking with 4 inches of concrete topping. The structure will be topped by a flat, built-up roof. Most of the building is one floor in height with an upper level built on the Diamond Head half of the building.

Workshops for the various trades, a supervisor's office, generator room, and storage space are located on the lower level. Storage space, men and women locker[s] rooms, and a lunch area are on the upper level. Two stairways and an elevator will provide access between levels. The allocation of space is shown in Table 1 and floor plans are shown in Figures 3 and 4.

# Table 1. Space Allocation

Lower Level

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Storage Area	11,367 sf
Supervisor	600 sf
Workshops	<u>5,953 sf</u>
Upper Level	17,920 sf
Storage Locker Rooms Lunch Area	5,440 sf 880 sf <u>612 sf</u> 6,932 sf

Large bulky items such as basketball flooring, scoreboard, boxing ring, and pianos will be stored on the lower level on the mauka half of the building. Overhead storage doors facing the arena open onto an existing concrete walkway. This arrangement of space and access will allow large and bulky items to be moved quickly by forklift or on rollers directly to and from storage to the arena and exhibition hall. Less bulky items such as blackboards, boxing tables, drapery, and clothes racks will be stored on the upper level.

Workshops are grouped in linear fashion along the makai side of the building. Space for ten trades are provided ranging in size from 420 sf to 700 sf. Workshops are separated by masonry and steel walls and all shops will be equipped with fire sprinklers. Exhaust vents for ventilation will be provided in the workshops. Each space is accessible to the interior of the building and will have exterior roll up metal doors open to a service road for loading materials. The service road will be screened off from Kapiolani Boulevard by a 6'0" high cmu fence and a landscaped buffer strip.

An emergency generator room will be located on the Ewa end of the workshops. Space is allocated for a 500 KW generator, emergency switchboard, and a future 500 KW generator. The generator

room will be acoustically treated to attenuate operating noise. On the exterior of the generator room in the service yard, space has been provided for a 3,000 gallon above ground diesel fuel tank. The tank site will be screened from view by a 7'0" high cmu fence.

Approximately 27 existing ground level parking stalls will be lost. Water, sewer, and drainage systems are available and adequate to service the new building. A 20' wide service road/fire lane will be constructed on the makai side of the building. The service road and workshops fronting the service road will be partially concealed from view by new 6'0" cement masonry fencing and landscaping.

The supervisor's office and lunch room will be air conditioned. Lower and upper level storage areas will be naturally ventilated by the prevailing winds. Each workshop will be mechanically vented.

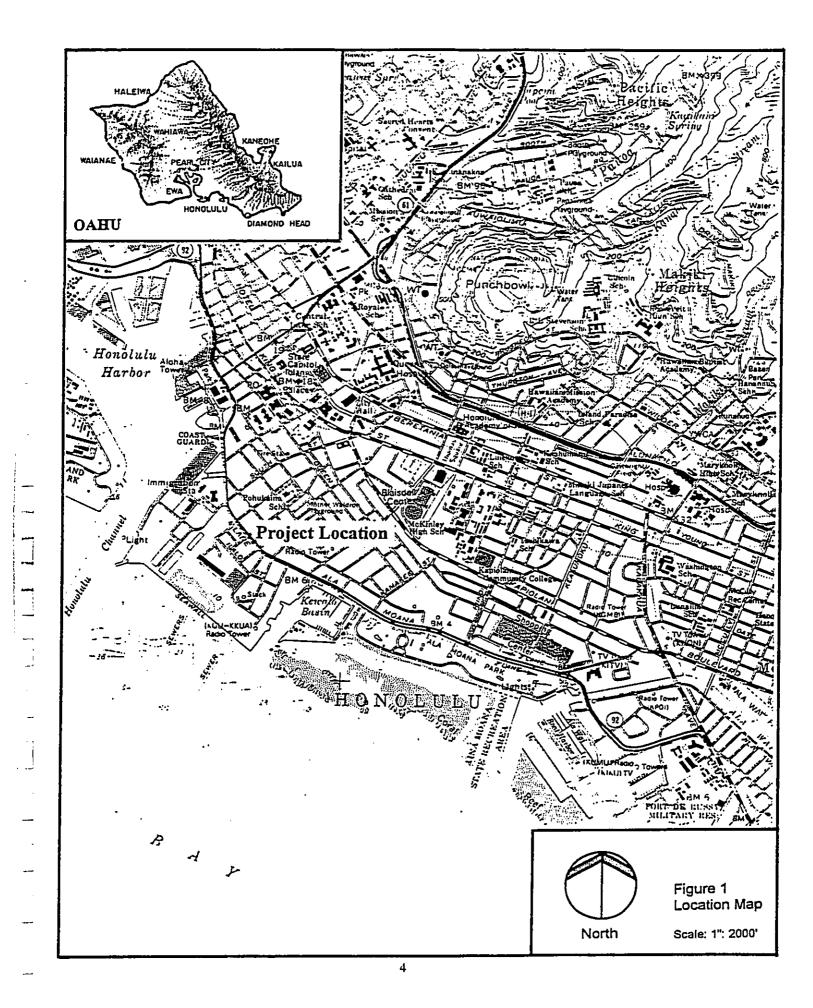
## **C.** Economic Characteristics

The cost of the project is estimated at \$3.7 million for planning, design, engineering, and construction. Monies for the project were appropriated by the Honolulu City Council in 1993-94.

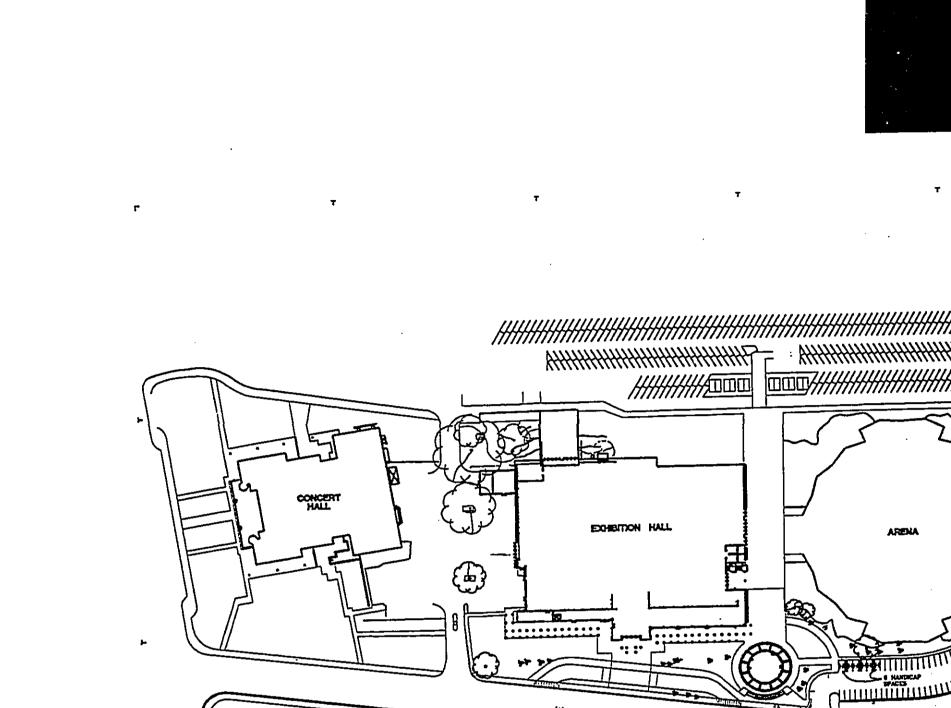
Construction will commence after all necessary approvals are received. The project will be constructed in one phase and should be completed in one year.

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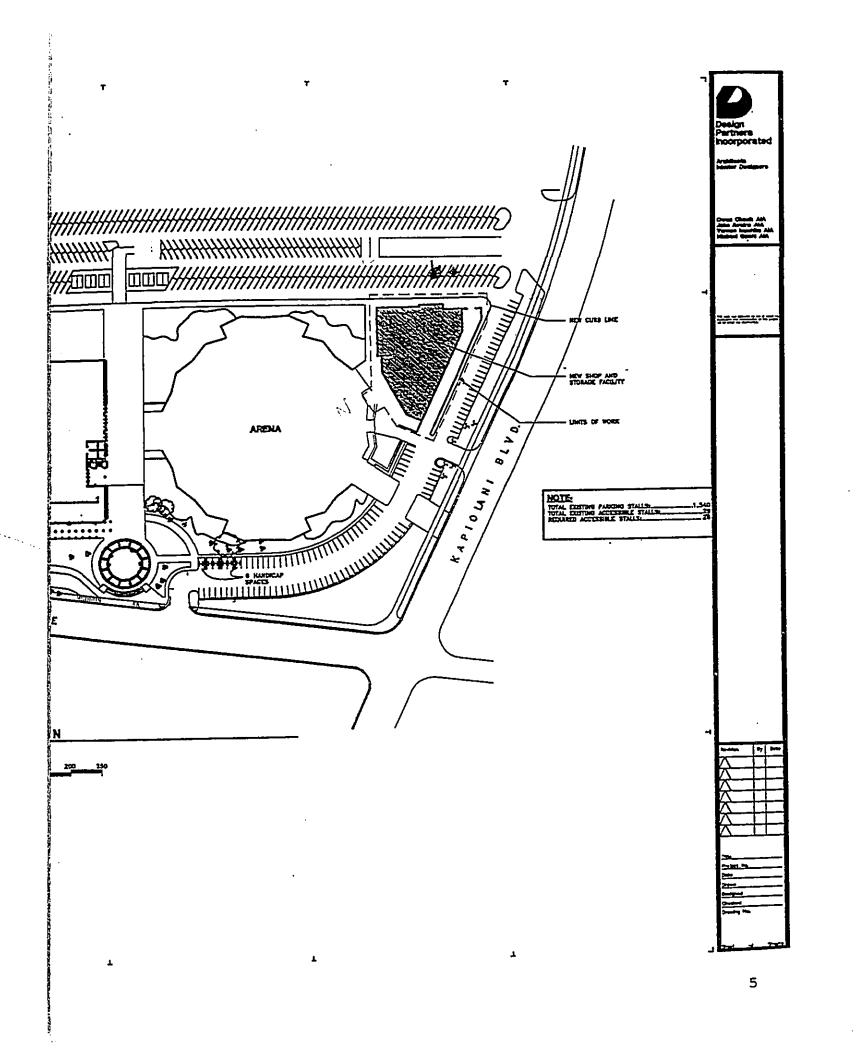
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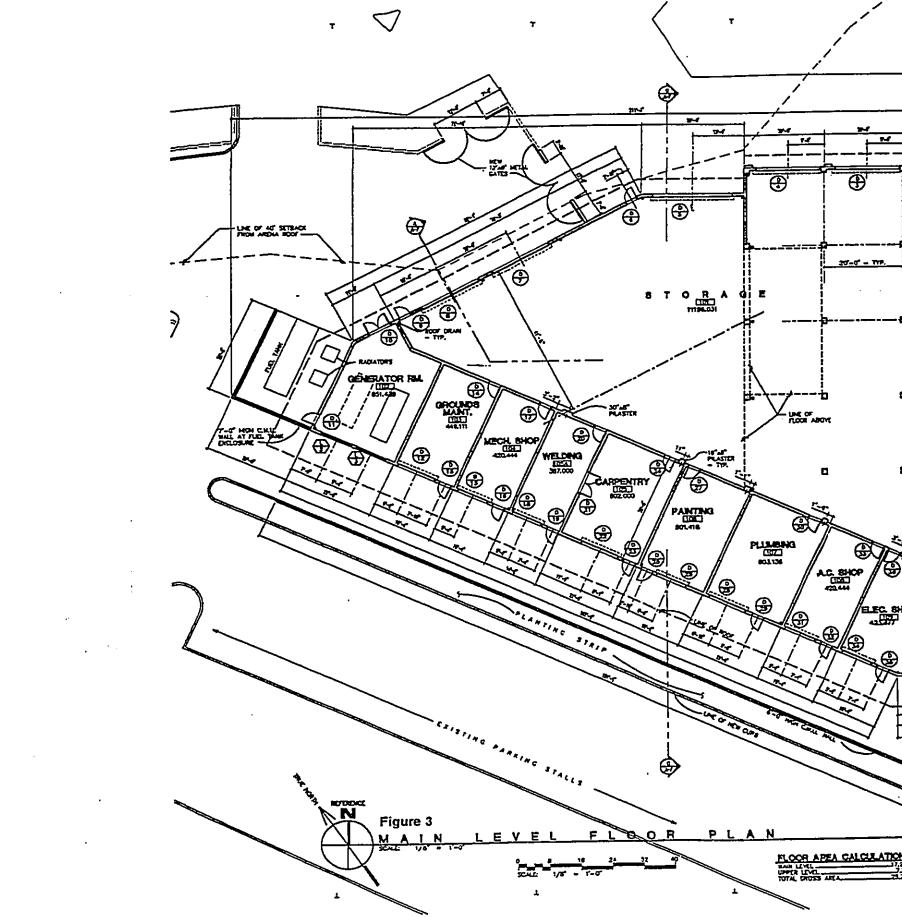
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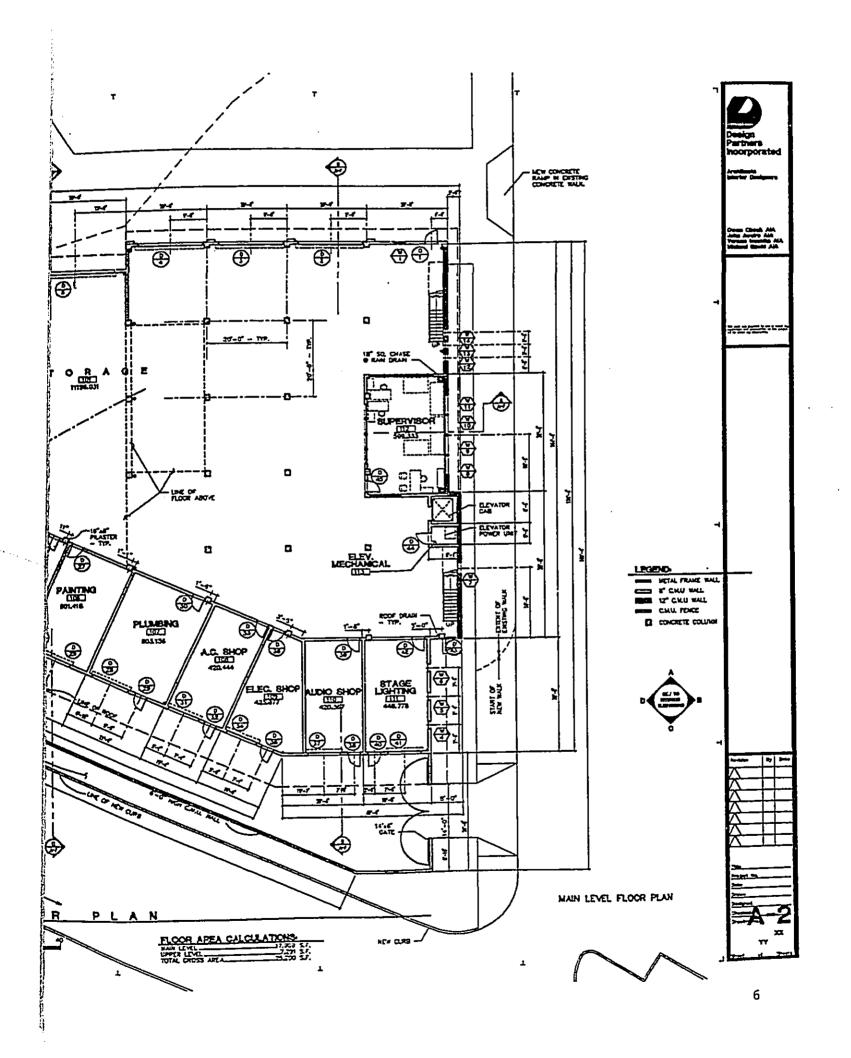
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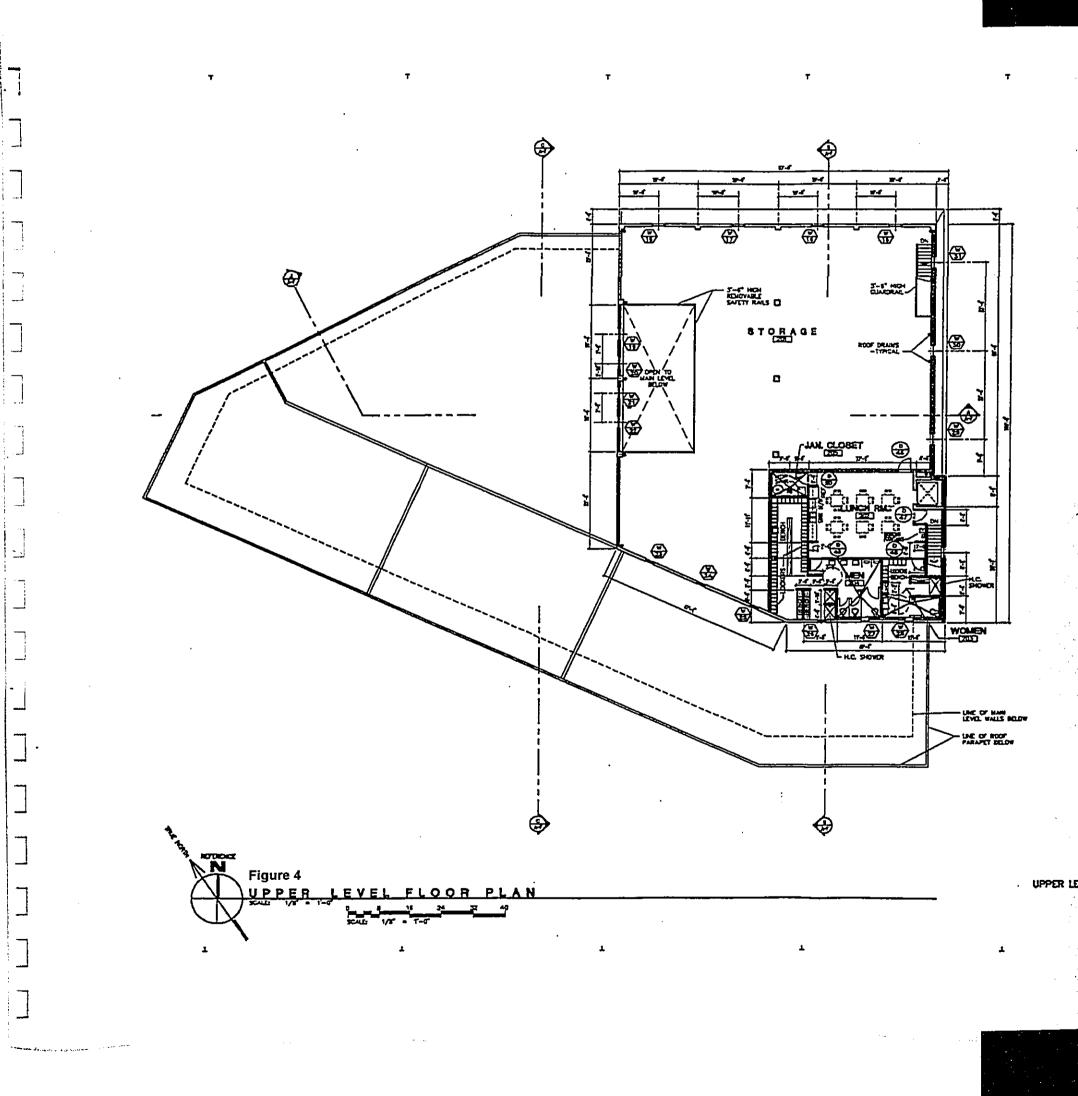
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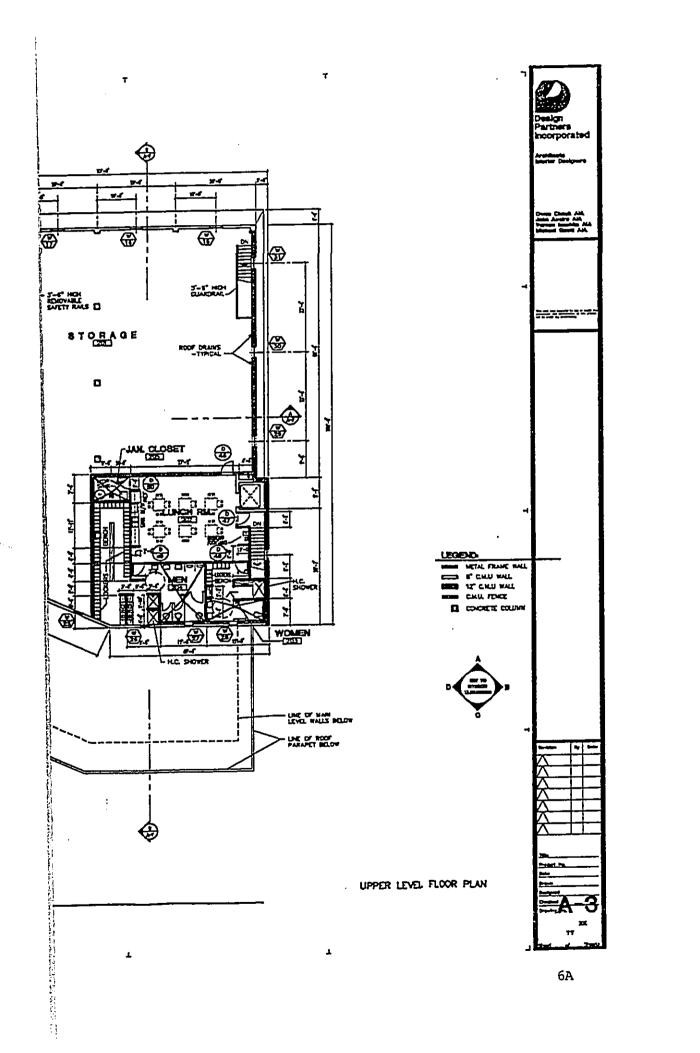
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# SECTION 2 DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

The proposed workshop and storage facility will be located on the makai side of the Blaisdell Arena between the existing three story parking garage to the south, a service and storage yard adjoining the west concourse to the north, a broad pedestrian walkway to the east, and a parking lot to the west. The site has been substantially improved and the natural environment consists of manmade features and introduced landscape plantings (See Photographs 1, 2, and 3). An existing single-story masonry building within the service yard serves as office space and for storing small equipment and materials. [small items.]

Ground elevation is 8 feet above sea level and has been graded to slope in the direction of Kapiolani Boulevard to the west and the parking garage to the south both of which are one foot lower in elevation. Flood Insurance Rate Maps designate the site Zone X which is defined as "area determined to be outside 500 year flood plain" (Federal Emergency Management Agency, 1987).

The Soil Conservation Service (1972) identifies a single soil type---Makiki clay loam---covering the Blaisdell Center grounds. However, we suspect that much of this material has been removed and replaced with imported borrow used for backfill and top soil used for landscaping.

There are no recorded archaeological or historical features on the portion of the parcel that will be improved. The Kakaako Community Develoment District Plan (1990), however, designates the Blaisdell Center Complex and the Victoria Ward Coconut Grove a cultural and aesthetic resource to be protected (by the Plan).

The setting is landscaped with a single monkey pod tree (Samanea saman), several coconut palms (Cocos nucifera), and grass. The large, open grassy area invites passive activities and the monkey pod provides ample shade. Several areca palms on the northern edge of the site screen a brick wall enclosing the outdoor storage area.

Aside from the visible man-made improvements to include the Blaisdell Arena, the water pond, parking structure, light fixtures, walkways, driveways and parking lots, much infrastructure has been installed beneath the site. This includes a landscape irrigation system and appurtenant valves, controllers, and sprinkler heads, electrical conduits, gas lines of varying size, and a 30" drain line. No major water distribution or sewer collection lines cross the site.

The building site is classified Urban by the State Land Use Commission. Usually, urban district lands are under the jurisdiction of the various counties and their land use controls. The Blaisdell Center Complex, however, is part of the Kakaako Community Development District, a state mandated planning district. The district was established by the State Legislature in 1976 by authority of Chapter 206E, HRS. Projects in the district are reviewed and approved by the Hawaii Community Development Authority, who administers the Kakaako Community Development District Plan.

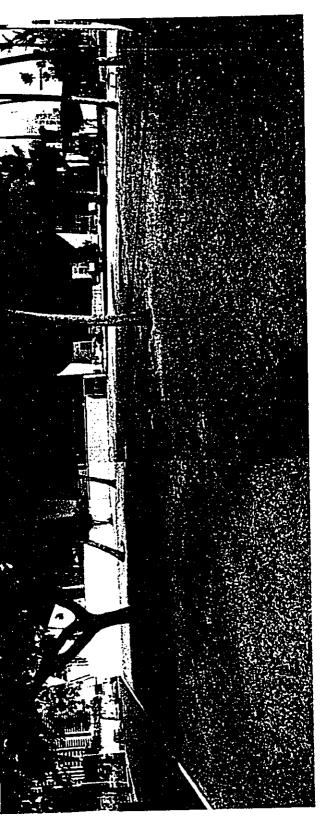


Figure 1. Diamond Head View of Site

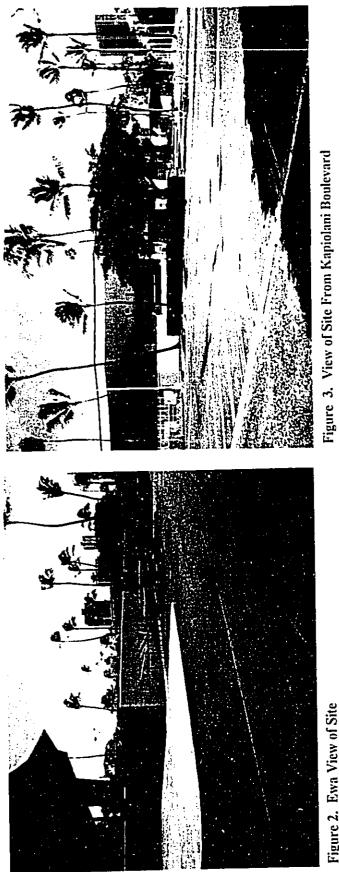


Figure 2. Ewa View of Site

#### SECTION 3 SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MEASURES TO MITIGATE ADVERSE EFFECTS

#### A. Assessment Process

The scope of the project was discussed with staff of the Building Department, the consulting architect, and others comprising the design team. State and County agencies were contacted for information relative to their areas of expertise. Time was spent in the field noting site conditions and conditions in the vicinity of the Blaisdell Arena. The discussions and field investigations allowed us to identify existing conditions and features which could affect or be affected by the project. These conditions are:

- o The workshop and storage facility will be constructed at a location that has been extensively modified by landscaping, asphalt pavement, and walkways;
- o No change in public use of the Blaisdell Arena is considered by the proposed action;
- o There are no threatened or endangered flora or fauna on the premises;
- o The site is not in a flood hazard area;
- There are no historic resources on the premises; however, the Blaisdell Center is considered a cultural resource by the Kakaako Community Development District Plan; and
- o Public utilities are available and adequate to service the new addition.

#### **B. Short-term Impacts**

Prior to construction, utility service will be discontinued, irrigation lines cut and plugged, coconut palms and monkeypod tree removed, and the single-story office/maintenance building demolished. These activities should take approximately two months and will raise fugitive dust, create noise, and increase traffic slightly on Kapiolani Boulevard and Ward Avenue as debris is hauled away from the site.

Fugitive dust can and will be controlled by sprinkling water over exposed areas or by the application of other dust suppression measures stipulated in Chapter 60 (Air Pollution Control) of Title 11, Administrative Rules of the State Department of Health.

Construction noises will persist for the projected 12 month construction period. Noise will be most pronounced during the early stages of development (demolition) to erection of the structure. Noise will diminish as interior work commences as most noise should be confined to inside the building.

To support the proposed structure, the building foundation will be erected on piles. Pile driving is estimated to take approximately 2-3 weeks. Sound pressure levels on the order of 87-102 dB(A) at 50 feet are expected. Pile driving noise is both deafening and irritating regardless of methods to mitigate this adverse sound. According to the consulting structural

engineers it is not structurally feasible to avoid the use of piles. Hence pile driving and its concomitant noise cannot be avoided.

Allowable daytime noise levels for residential zoning districts set by the State Department of Health is 55 dBA measured at the property line. Construction work will temporarily exceed this standard and, per Administrative Rules (Chapter 43) of the Department of Health, the Contractor will obtain a noise permit prior to construction. Construction will be limited to normal working hours of between 7:00 am and 3:30 pm five days a week. If required, pile driving will be confined to certain hours of the workday.

The coconut palms and monkey pod tree to be removed will be relocated elsewhere on the grounds or used for landscaping another County sponsored project.

The movement of men and materials to the site may create some traffic congestion on nearby streets. The Contractor will schedule material deliveries for non-peak traffic hours and if warranted post flagmen to marshal[1] traffic.

## C. Long-term Impacts

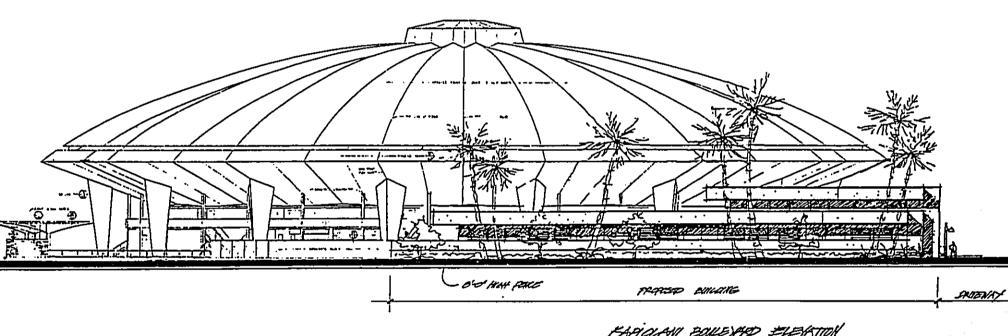
The completed project will alleviate the current deficiency in storage and workspace at the Blaisdell Center. The permanent structure will replace the current solution to the storage situation in which equipment and material are stored around the outside of the arena or in the parking lot where it is exposed to the elements. This practice poses a safety problem, hastens the deterioration of expensive equipment, and is unsightly. The new facility will correct this situation.

The addition of shop facilities will improve working conditions for the various trades. Craftsmen will be provided needed room for storing raw materials, supplies, and tools. The shop facilities also provide work space for craftsmen to fabricate (or maintain and service) pieces of equipment used in all facilities and for functions held at the Blaisdell Center.

Twenty-seven parking stalls will be lost when the storage facility is constructed. The Blaisdell Center [currently as a surplus of parking stalls to accommodate oth the lost parking and required] has parking stalls to accommodate required parking for the new facility.

Adverse visual impacts are not anticipated. The low-rise structure will not interfere with views of the cone-shaped arena. Most of the building's roofline is about 18 feet above grade (measured from finish elevation to top of fascia) and the upper level storage area is about 30 feet high which is slightly higher than the upper level of the adjoining parking structure (See Figure 5). The building will have a linear appearance when seen from different ground level areas. Its linear form complements and blends with the architectural character of the parking structure and the lower arena level.





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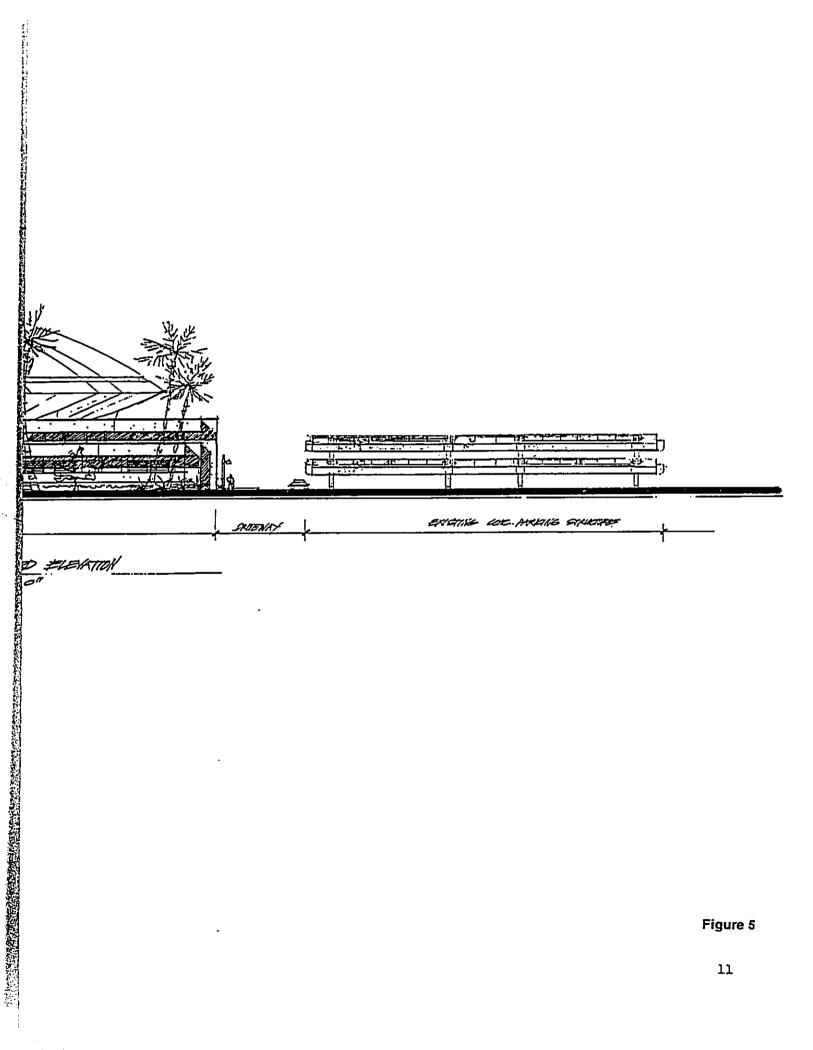
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## SECTION 4 ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED ACTION

## A. No Action

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A no action or delaying the action alternative will not achieve the objectives of the project. Equipment and material will continue to be stored outdoors either in the parking lot or around the exterior concourse. This is not a desirable solution because of safety, economic, and aesthetic reasons. Maintaining the status quo of the site precludes the occurrence of all environmental impacts--- beneficial and adverse, short and long-term---described in this Assessment.

# SECTION 5 AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS TO BE CONSULTED

### State

\*Department of Education Department of Health \*\*Hawaii Community Development Authority

City and County of Honolulu

\*Department of Auditoriums

\*Department of Public Works

\*Department of Transportation Services

\*Department of Wastewater Management

\*Fire Department

#### Others

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\*Hawaiian Electric Company \*GTE Hawaiian Telephone Company Ala Moana Neighborhood Board

\* Identifies agencies and organizations that responded in writing. Comment letters are found in Appendix A.

\*\* Telephone Response. No comment on project.

### SECTION 6 DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

Chapter 200 (Environmental Impact Statement Rules) of Title 11, Administrative Rules of the State Department of Health, establishes criteria for determining whether an action may have significant effects on the environment (11-200-12). The relationship of the proposed project to these criteria is discussed below.

1) Involves an irrevocable commitment to loss or destruction of any natural or cultural resource;

There are no natural or cultural resources on the premises.

2) Curtails the range of beneficial uses of the environment;

The project does not curtail the beneficial uses of the environment. The proposed project will provide a needed facility for storing equipment and material used for public purposes at the Blaisdell Center.

 Conflicts with the state's long-term environmental policies or goals and guidelines as expressed in chapter 344, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and any revisions thereof and amendments thereto, court decisions or executive orders;

The project does not conflict with long-term environmental policies, goals, and guidelines of the State of Hawaii.

4) Substantially affects the economic or social welfare of the community or State;

The project will not substantially affect the economic or social welfare of the State.

5) Substantially affects public health;

Public health will not be adversely affected by the proposed project[.]; conversely, public safety will be enhanced.

6) Involves substantial secondary impacts, such as population changes or effects on public facilities;

Substantial secondary impacts are not anticipated.

7) Involves a substantial degradation of environmental quality;

The proposed project will not degrade environmental quality of the site and the surrounding environment.

8) Is individually limited but cumulatively has considerable effect upon the environment or involves a commitment for larger actions;

The project is not the precursor for a larger action. It is, however, part of an on-going municipal improvement program to improve public facilities throughout the City and County of Honolulu.

9) Substantially affects a rare, threatened or endangered species, or its habitat;

There are no rare, threatened or endangered flora or fauna on the premises.

10) Detrimentally affects air or water quality or ambient noise levels; or

Ambient air quality will be affected by fugitive dust and combustion emissions but can be controlled by measures stipulated in this Assessment. Construction noise will be pronounced during site preparation work but should diminish once the building is erected. Pile driving is necessary and noise from this piece of construction equipment cannot be avoided. All construction activities will comply with air quality and noise pollution regulations of the State Department of Health.

11) Affects an environmentally sensitive area such as a flood plain, tsunami zone, erosion prone area, geologically hazardous land, estuary, fresh water, or coastal waters.

The project is not proposed in an environmentally sensitive area.

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Based on the above criteria, the Blaisdell Center Workshop and Storage Facility project will not result in significant adverse environmental impacts and an Environmental Impact Statement should not be required.

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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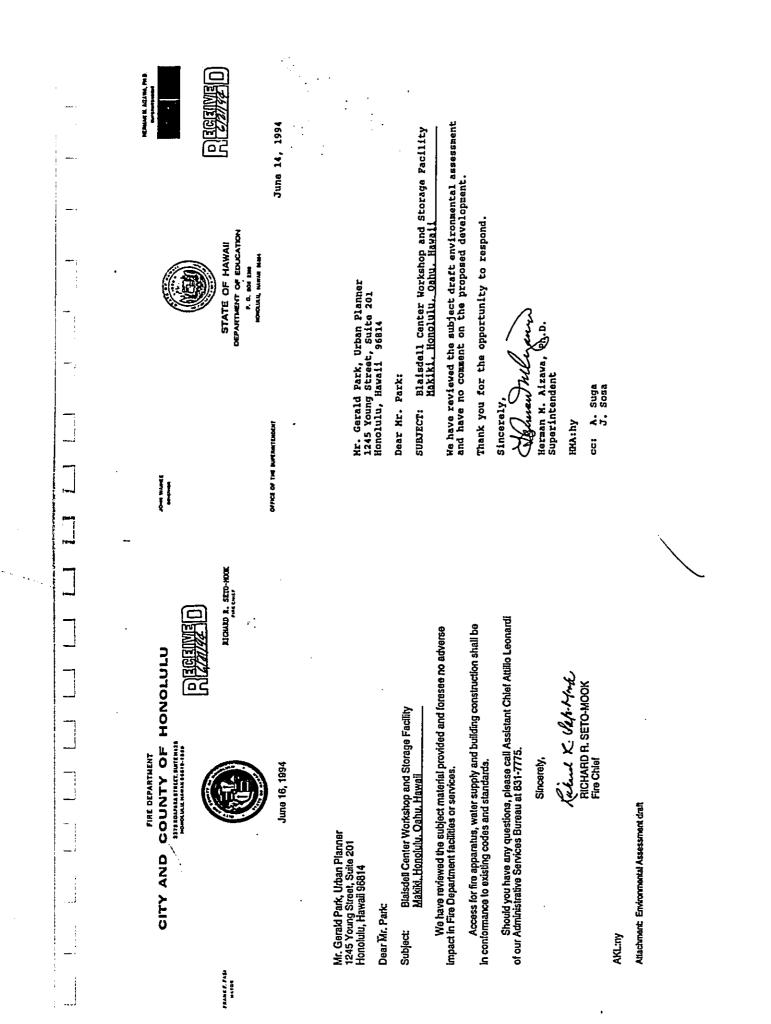
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- State of Hawaii, Hawaii Community Development Authority. 1990. Kakaako Community Development District Mauka Area Plan.

# APPENDIX A

# COMMENT LETTERS

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AN ASPRAMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

PRARTNER NAMAGNAT     CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU	<pre>Kr. Garaid Fark Geraid Fark Urban Planner Jose Young street, Suite 201 Honolulu, Havaii 96814 Dear Kr. Bark Dear Kr. Park: Subject: Blaisdell Center Horkshop and Storage Facility Draft Environmental Assessment. Hay 21. 1924 Thank you for the opportunity to review the subject draft myronmental assessment. Ha have no objection to the proposed anvironmental assessment. Ha have no objection to the proposed invironmental assessment. Ha have no objection to the proposed project. If you have any questions, please contact Tessa Yuen of the planning section at 527-6732.</pre>
TATALAT OF FUELD WORKS CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU COUNTERED TO COUNTERED TO COUNT	<pre>Kr. Garaid Park Garaid Park Urban 1245 Young Strast, Subman 1245 Young Strast, Subman 1245 Young Strast, Subman 1245 Hour Strast, Subman 1255 Dest Ravironaental Assessment (DRA) Dear Kr. Dark Dear Kr. Dark Subject: Drate Hourshop and Storage Facility Dear Kr. 2-3-081 01 Dear Kr. Alar Kr. Alar Hou Storad you have any questions, plases contact Kr. Alar Hou Evolution and planet the sanitary saver. Should you have any questions, plases contact Kr. Alar Hou Faringhan, a Strang Asset Mark Not Faringhan Array Planet Asset Mark Not Faringhan Array Saver Not have any questions, plases contact Kr. Alar Hou Faringhan Array Planet Array Saver Faringhan Array Planet Array Planet Faringhan Array Planet Array Planet Array Planet Faringhan Array Planet Array Plan</pre>

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CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU DEPARTMENT OF AUDITORIUMS TTT TARD AVENUE HONOLULU, NJELA DEGIA

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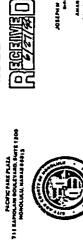
GEOMOR L. REALINA DEVICE DIRECTOR CARLA W CORAY BARETON

June 23, 1994

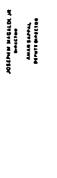
Mr. Gerald Park Gerald Park Urban Planner 1245 Young Streat Suite 201 Honolulu, Hawail 96814

Dear Mr. Park,

FRANG F. FAG



CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU



June 17, 1994

Mr. Gerald Park Gerald Park Urban Planner 1245 Young Street Honolulu, Havail 96014

Dear Mr. Park:

Subject: Blaisdell Center Workshop and Storage Facility Environmental Assessment THK: 2-3-8: 1

This is in response to your letter dated May 26, 1994 requesting our review and comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment for the subject project.

As requested by your letter of May 26, 1994, the attached draft Environmental Assessment for the Blaisdell Center Shop and Storage Facility project has been reviewed. Based on our knowledge of the project and other aspects of Blaisdell Center operations, we have recommended a few changes to the draft (please see red markings).

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on this Environmental Assessment document.

Perle ry. One CARLA W. CORAY Director

Sincerely,

Based on our reviev, it appears that the project will not significantly impact traffic on the surrounding streets. We, therefore, have no objections or comments to offer at this time.

Should you have any questions, please contact Wayne Nakamoto of my staff at 521-4190.

Sincerely,

JUSTERNAR, MICALDI, JR.

Hawaitan Electric Commons, inc. 2011.	Wan A lond Wan a lond Fullowing the state of	duite 2/1, 1994 Gerald Park Gerald Park Urban Planner 1245 Young Street, Suite 201 Honolulu, Hawaii 98314 Dear Mr. Park:	Subject: Blatedril Canter Wortshop and Storage Facility Makiki, Honolulu Thark you for the opportundy to comment on your May 29, 1994 Environmental Assessment report for the Blatedrif Center workshop and storage facility opportune and the Blatedrif Center workshop and storage facility posteriment of the Carly and County of Hospital, We have reviewed the abuilding Oppartment of the Carly and County of Hospital, We have reviewed the abuilding Oppartment of the Carly and County of Hospital as appead for the opportunity to commental Assessment. Blatery, the commental Assessment.	
	Git Hawaiian Tel Git Herean Technone Concert tectmone Concert tectmone   Beyonid the call P0 Ba 2200 Hereda, H 9661 (100) 544-611   Beyonid the call Digiting [0]	GENLD FAUX, Urban Flanner 1245 Young Street, Suite 201 Bonolulu, Hawail 96814 Attantion: Mr. Geraid Park Subject: Blaisdell Center Morkshop and Storage Facility Bubject: Blaisdell Center Morkshop and Storage Facility Dear Mr. Park, Me Appreciate being given the opportunity to resisted the sector	Assument for the mislafall carier Network and survey a survey of any expension facility. Upon raview of the proposed project, we do not attripted any problem and provident accounts are already interface and a project. New conduits and bar office and bar office and a project. New conduits and bar office and a project site. New Marground taisphone facilities within the project site.	

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