

JOHN WAIHEE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097
August 29, 1994

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REX D. JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

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GLENN M. OKIMOTO
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CALVIN M. TSUDA

IN REPLY REFER TO:

HWY-DD
2.2511

Bruce S. Anderson, Ph.D.
Interim Director
Office of Environmental Quality Control
220 South King Street, 4th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Dr. Anderson:

Subject: Negative Declaration for Kuhio Highway
Waikaea Bridge Widening, Federal-Aid Project
No. BR-056-1(35), District of Kawaihau
Island of Kauai, TMK: 4-5-05, 06, 07, 09

The State Department of Transportation has reviewed the comments received during the 30-day public comment period which began on May 8, 1994. The agency has determined that this project will not have significant environmental effect and has issued a negative declaration. Please publish this notice in the September 23, 1994, OEQC Bulletin.

We have enclosed a completed OEQC Bulletin Publication Form and four (4) copies of the final EA. Please contact Sean Hiraoka or Ross Hironaka at 587-2243 if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

Stirling H. Monahan
for T HARANO
Chief
Highways Division

Encs.

1994-09-23 KA-FEA- Kuhio Highway Waikaea Bridge
Widening

**NOTICE OF DETERMINATION
NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE PROPOSED
KUHIO HIGHWAY, WAIKAEA BRIDGE WIDENING
FEDERAL-AID PROJ. NO. BR-056-1(35)
KAWAIHAU, KAUAI
AUGUST 24, 1994**

Proposing Agency: Department of Transportation, Highways
Division

Description of the Proposed Action:

The State Department of Transportation, Highways Division, proposes to widen Waikaea Bridge within the existing State right-of-way to relieve traffic congestion on Kuhio Highway in the vicinity of Kapaa, Kauai, Hawaii. Waikaea Bridge is located on Kuhio Highway between Akia Street and Ohia Street at approximately mile post 8.06.

The proposed project will primarily widen the East and West sides of Waikaea Bridge to provide for two (2) lanes of traffic in each direction. The existing bridge consists of 3-10' lanes, 2-5' concrete sidewalks, and 2-1' bridge rails for a total width of 42'. The proposed bridge widening will provide 4-11' lanes, 2-6' shoulders, 2-5' concrete sidewalks, and 2-1' bridge rails for a total width of 68'. The 6' shoulders may be used to accommodate bicycle traffic, as part of a future bicycle route.

Both sides of Kuhio Highway, from Waikaea Bridge to Inia Street, will also be widened to provide 4-11' thru lanes and 10' left-turn storage lanes for Ohia Street and the Pono Kai Subdivision entrance. A 100' taper will be constructed toward Akia Street to match the South end of Waikaea Bridge with the existing 30' traveled way.

The widening of Waikaea Bridge and its approaches is the second phase in the plan to eventually have a four lane highway (two thru lanes in each direction) between Lihue and Kapaa. The widening of Uhelekawawa Bridge in 1993 was part of the first phase. Uhelekawawa Bridge was widened under State Department of Transportation, Highways Division, Project Number 56A-01-92.

Determination:

The "Significance Criteria" of the Environmental Impact Statement Rules Title 11, Chapter 200 were reviewed to determine if the proposed project may have a significant effect on the environment. The proposed project was determined to have no significant effect on the environment based on the following:

1. there would be no irrevocable commitment to loss or destruction of any natural or cultural resource;
2. the proposed action would not curtail the range of beneficial uses of the environment;
3. the proposed project does not conflict with the State's long-term environmental policies or goals and guidelines;
4. the proposed action would not substantially affect the economic or social welfare of the community or State.
5. the proposed action would not substantially affect public health;
6. substantial secondary impacts, such as population changes or effects on public facilities is not anticipated;
7. the proposed project would not involve substantial degradation of environmental quality;
8. cumulative impacts of this action would not result in considerable effects on the environment, nor would any commitment to larger actions arise.
9. no rare, threatened or endangered species, or their habitats would be substantially affected;
10. the proposed action would not substantially affect air or water quality or ambient noise levels;
11. the action would not affect environmentally sensitive areas such as flood plains, tsunami zones, erosion-prone areas, geologically hazardous lands, estuaries, fresh waters or coastal waters.

Reasons Supporting Determination:

The final EA, which has been revised to reflect the suggestions and recommendations of the affected agencies and interested parties, is attached to support the determination of a Negative Declaration.

The proposed project primarily involves actions that are included under Exemption Class #2 of the Comprehensive List for the State of Hawaii Department of Transportation. Under Exemption Class #2, projects are generally exempt from requirements regarding the preparation of an EA if actions involve "Replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located generally on the same site and will have substantially the same purpose, capacity, density, height and dimensions as the structure replaced.

Final Environmental Assessment
for
Kuhio Highway
Waikaea Bridge Widening
Federal-Aid Project No. BR-056-1(35)
District of Kawaihau
Island of Kauai
1995

KUHIO HIGHWAY
WAIKAEA BRIDGE WIDENING
FEDERAL-AID PROJ. NO. BR-056-1(35)
KAWAIHAU, KAUAI
AUGUST 24, 1994

Proposing Agency: Department of Transportation, Highways
Division

Agencies Consulted: The proposed project will be coordinated
with the following agencies and permits
will be secured if required.

Federal: Department of the Army - Planning Division
U.S. Department of the Interior - Fish and Wildlife
Service

State: Department of Business, Economic Development and
Tourism - Land Use Commission

Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) -
Division of Aquatic Resources

DLNR - Commission on Water Resource Management

DLNR - Historic Preservation Division

Department of Health - Kauai District

Office of Environmental Quality Control

County: County of Kauai - Planning Department

County of Kauai - Department of Water

County of Kauai - Office of Economic Development

Project Characteristics:

General: The State of Hawaii, Department of
Transportation, Highways Division is
proposing to widen Waikaea Bridge to relieve
traffic congestion on Kuhio Highway in the
vicinity of Kapaa Town. Waikaea Bridge is

located on Kuhio Highway between Akia Street and Ohia Street at approximately mile post 8.06. Figure 1 shows the project location.

Technical:

The proposed project will primarily widen the East and West sides of Waikaea Bridge to provide for two (2) lanes of traffic in each direction. The existing bridge consists of 3-10' lanes, 2-5' concrete sidewalks, and 2-1' bridge rails for a total width of 42'. The proposed bridge widening will provide 4-11' lanes, 2-6' shoulders, 2-5' concrete sidewalks, and 2-1' bridge rails for a total width of 68'. The 6' shoulders may be used to accommodate bicycle traffic as part of a future bicycle route.

Both sides of Kuhio Highway, from Waikaea Bridge to Inia Street, will also be widened to provide 4-11' thru lanes and 10' left-turn storage lanes for Ohia Street and the Pono Kai Subdivision entrance. A 100' taper will be constructed toward Akia Street to match the South end of Waikaea Bridge with the existing 30' traveled way. Figures 2 and 3 show the proposed work.

Economic:

The estimated construction breakdown costs for the proposed project will be \$235,000.00 for the State of Hawaii and \$865,000.00 for the Federal Government.

Social:

Waikaea Bridge is located on a portion of Kuhio Highway well traveled by residents and visitors. This section of Kuhio Highway is on the major route that links the two largest towns in Kauai, Lihue and Kapaa. Many resorts and businesses line this corridor, and this highway is the principal roadway used by residents commuting to jobs in Lihue and Kapaa. The proposed project will benefit motorists by providing more efficient traffic movement between Lihue and Kapaa. The added capacity of the widened roadway will reduce travel time, fuel consumption, and driver fatigue and discomfort. In addition, the improved traffic flow will promote traffic safety and good driving habits.

Local businesses will benefit with the increased flow of patrons along their frontages and the Kauai tourist industry will not suffer the adverse affects of being labeled a place with heavily congested roadways.

The widening of Waikaea Bridge and its approaches is the second phase in the plan to have a four lane highway (two thru lanes in each direction) between Lihue and Kapaa. The widening of Uhelekawawa Bridge in 1993 was part of the first phase. Uhelekawawa Bridge was widened under State Department of Transportation, Highways Division, Project Number 56A-01-92.

Environmental: The proposed project is planned to be constructed within the existing State right-of-way. No rare or unusual flora or fauna inhabit the area within the project limits. There will be no significant adverse affects on air quality or noise due to the increased traffic flow. All improvements will be constructed to resemble existing conditions so as not to adversely affect visual impacts. Due to the moderate to high permeability of the existing soil, there will be no significant adverse affects on water quality in the canal or the ocean resulting from soil erosion. Appropriate mitigation measures will be utilized to minimize adverse environmental impacts during construction of the project.

Summary of the Affected Environment:

The proposed bridge widening will produce a positive effect on the vehicular traffic flow in the vicinity of the project while having practically no long term adverse impacts. There are no endangered flora, fauna, critical habitats, historical/archaeological or cultural sites at the location of the proposed project.

Summary of Major Impacts:

Short Term:

During construction, the following minor adverse impacts are anticipated:

1. Some dust and noise
2. Traffic slow down
3. Minor erosion
4. Minor water quality problems from sedimentation and demolition debris

Long Term:

No significant long term adverse impact is anticipated in the following conditions due to construction of the proposed project.

1. Air Quality
2. Noise
3. Traffic
4. Historical/Archaeological
5. Flora
6. Fauna
7. Visual
8. Water Quality

Alternatives Considered:

The "No Action" alternative was considered but determined to be unacceptable because the benefits of providing the motoring public with a higher volume traveled way far outweigh the minor adverse impacts of constructing this project.

Proposed Mitigation Measures During Construction:

1. Appropriate pollution control measures will be utilized for noise and dust.
2. Appropriate pedestrian and traffic control measures will be utilized.
3. Appropriate sediment control measures will be utilized to avoid turbidity in the ocean.
4. Appropriate measures will be utilized to minimize significant drainage flow impacts.
5. Appropriate measures will be used to dispose of demolition debris.
6. Appropriate measures will be utilized to prevent excessive sediments and potential contaminants from falling, flowing, or leaching into nearby aquatic systems and coastal waters.
7. A qualified archaeologist will monitor subsurface construction activities and determine if any significant historic sites or burials are present.

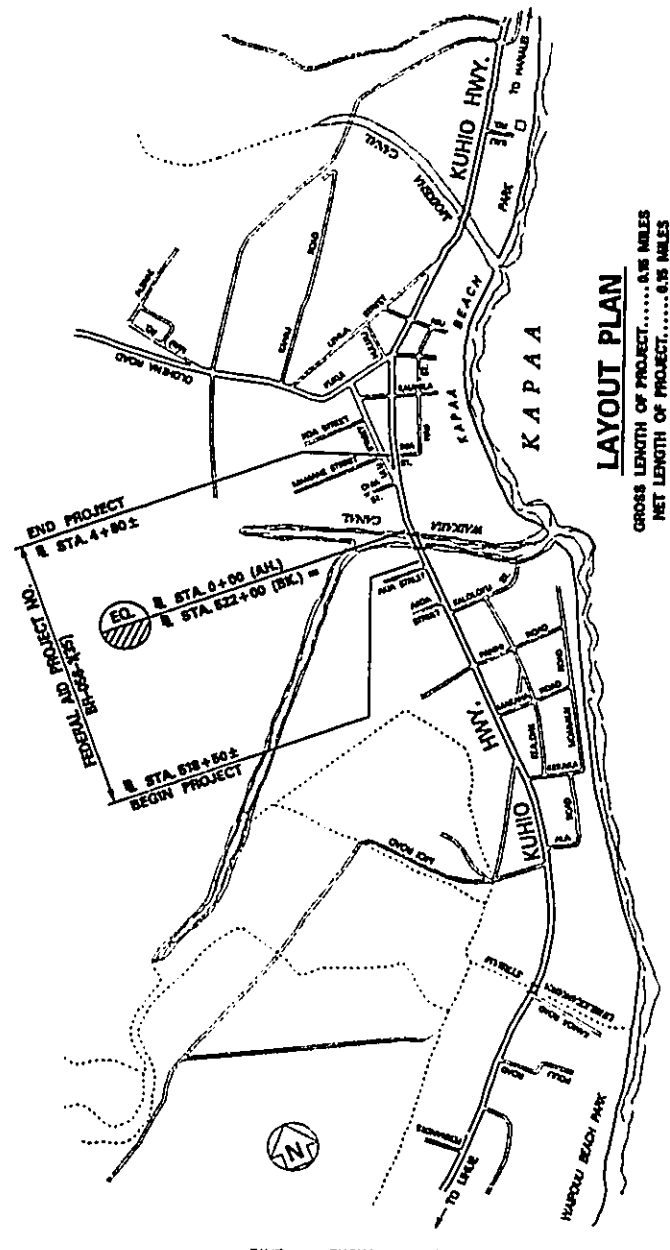
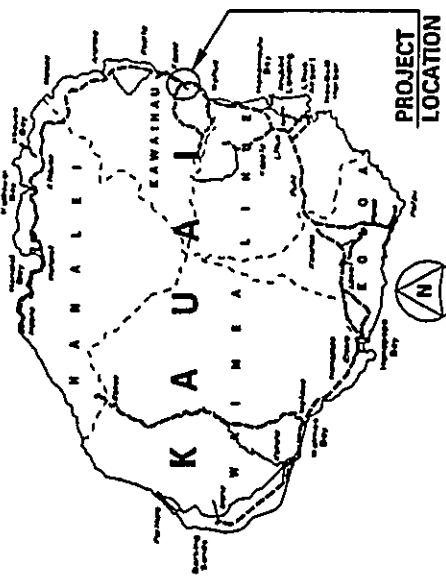
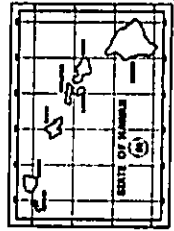
Permits Required Prior To Start Of Construction:

1. Stream Channel Alteration Permit (SCAP)
DLNR Commission on Water Resource Management
2. Department of the Army Permit (DA)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
3. Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC)
DOH Environmental Management Division
4. Coastal Zone Management Certification (CZM)
Office of State Planning
5. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit (NPDES)
DOH Environmental Management Division

STATE OF HAWAII
 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 HIGHWAYS DIVISION
 HONOLULU, HAWAII

KUHIO HIGHWAY
 WAIKAEA BRIDGE WIDENING
 FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. BR-056-1(35)
 DISTRICT OF KAWAIHAU
 ISLAND OF KAUAI

FED. ROAD DIST. NO.	START	AREA AND PROJ. NO.	FISCAL YEAR	SHEET NO.	TOTAL SHEETS
190	1968	BR-056-1(35)	1970	1	1



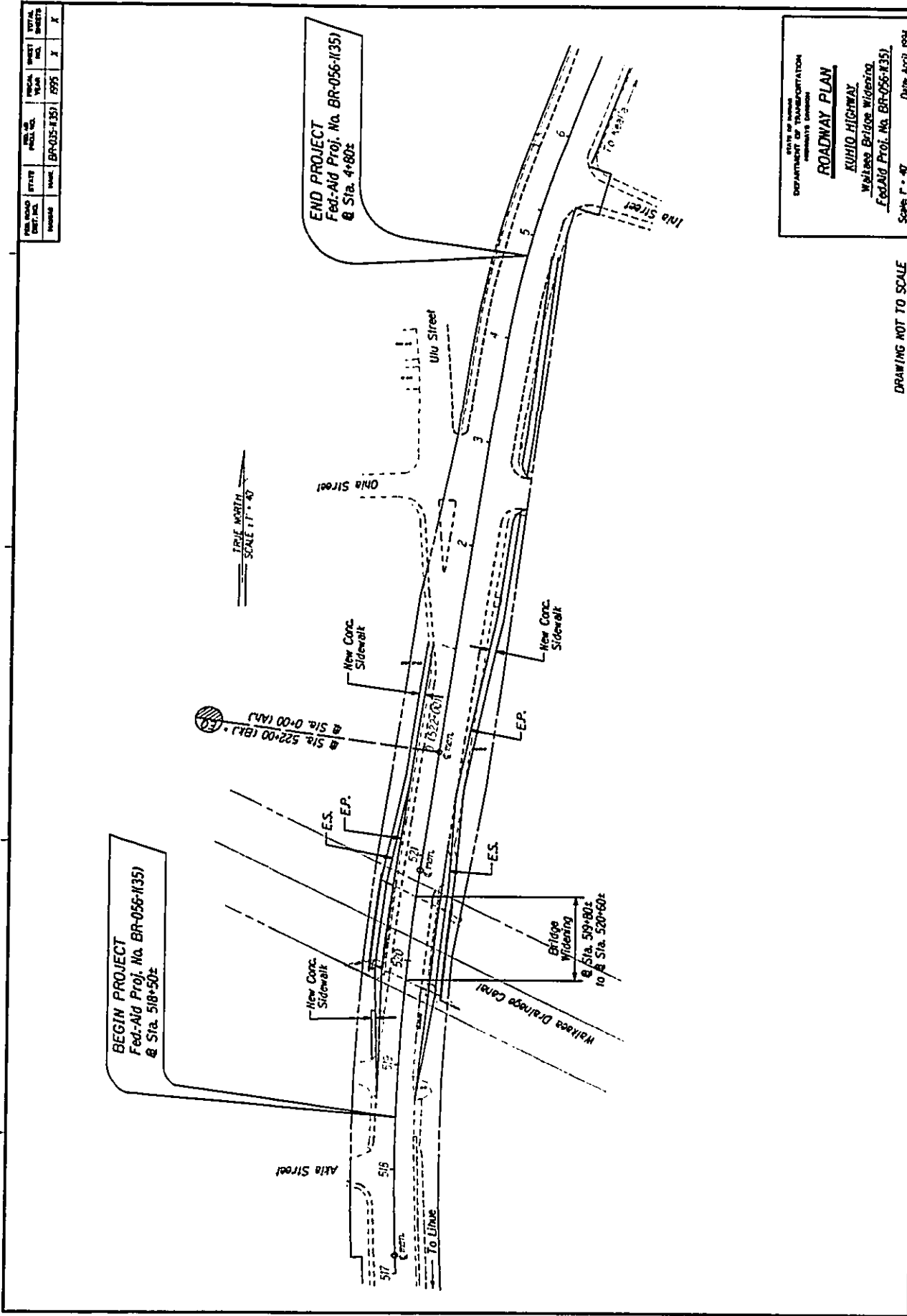
DESIGNED BY
 P. HONOLULU
 P.L.S. E. BY
 877-250
 PHONE
 DATE

LAYOUT PLAN
 GROSS LENGTH OF PROJECT.....0.45 MILES
 NET LENGTH OF PROJECT.....0.35 MILES
 SCALE IN HUNDREDS FEET

SCALE IN MILES
 FEDERAL AID PROJECTS PREVIOUSLY CONSTRUCTED
 OR UNDER CONSTRUCTION
 MILE POST _00_ TO MILE POST _10_

FIGURE 1

FED. ROAD DIST. NO.	STATE	FED. AID PROJ. NO.	FED. AID PROJ. YEAR	TOTAL SHEETS
BR-056-11351	HI	BR-056-11351	1995	1



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
ROADWAY PLAN
KUHIO HIGHWAY
Widening Bridge Widening
Fed. Aid Proj. No. BR-056-11351
Scale 1" = 40' Date APR 1994
SHEET NO. 1 OF 1 SHEETS

DRAWING NOT TO SCALE

FIGURE 3

DATE	BY	DESCRIPTION