BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO GOVERNOR



SAM CALLEJO

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STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SESSICARY 13 A1 :57 ETTER NO. (P) 1773.5
P. O. 80X 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 98810

UFC. OF ENVIRONMENT QUALITY CONTRES

NOV 8 1995

Mr. Gary Gill
Director
Office of Environmental
Quality Control
Central Pacific Plaza
220 South King Street, 4th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Gill:

Subject:

Negative Declaration for Kapiolani Elementary School

Vehicle and Pedestrian Access Improvements

TMK 2-2-20:01

The Department of Accounting and General Services has reviewed the comments received during the 30-day public comment period. We conclude that this project will not have any significant environmental effect and have issued a negative declaration.

We have enclosed a completed OEQC Bulletin Publication Form and four copies of the final EA. If there are any questions, please have your staff call Mr. Brian Isa of the Planning Branch at 586-0484.

gordon matsuoka

Very truly

State Public Works Engineer

BI:jk Attachments

1995-11-23-141. FED- Kapislani Elenentary School Vehicle NOV 23 1995 and Pedestrian access Improvements FILE COPY

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

(NEGATIVE DECLARATION)

KAPIOLANI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

VEHICLE AND PEDESTRIAN ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS

HILO, HAWAII

NOVEMBER 6, 1995

- A. <u>PROPOSING AGENCY</u>: Department of Accounting and General Services for the Department of Education.
- B. APPROVING AGENCY: Not applicable.
- C. AGENCY CONSULTED: Department of Education.
- D. GENERAL DESCRIPTION TECHNICAL, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS:

1. Technical:

- a. The Department of Education is proposing to construct the following improvements within the school site: widen the existing (interior) vehicle access road, construct a new one-way vehicle exit on to Mohouli Street, and construct other site improvements such as parking stalls and roof covering over a pedestrian walkway.
- b. Road signs are included in the work and will allow vehicle ingress from Kilauea Avenue and egress onto Mohouli Street. All cars exiting the site will be required to turn right onto Mohouli Street.
- c. An evaluation of the existing Kapiolani Elementary School site indicates the following:
 - (1) The existing two-way vehicle entrance/exit road is narrow and causes vehicles to leave the paved surface to allow other vehicles to pass. The tight space situation creates a hazard pedestrians walking next to the roadway.
 - (2) During the rainy season, the side of the interior roadway gets muddy and hazardous for pedestrians and vehicles.
 - (3) The passenger loading area next to the administration building needs an overhang to shield pedestrians from the rain. The passenger loading area is not the designated handicapped drop-off area. The designated handicapped drop-off is located on the Mohouli Street side of the school.

- (4) The school needs additional parking stalls.
- (5) The school is located off of Kilauea Avenue which is a busy four-lane thoroughfare. Business and retail establishments are located across the street from the school.
- (6) The school is also located off of Mohouli Street which is a two-lane side street. Business establishments and residential homes are located across the street from the school.
- (7) During school mornings and afternoons, there is a traffic bottle-neck at the Kilauea Avenue which causes vehicle queuing in both directions.
- d. The school is located in Hilo, Hawaii (TMK 2-2-20:01).
- e. The Kapiolani Elementary School houses kindergarten through 6th grades and has a design enrollment of 460 students.
- f. The planning guidelines for the school is from the DOE's Educational Specifications and Standards for Facilities, Volume I: The Elementary School. The guideline allows for covered walkways, parking stalls, etc.
- g. The project will comply with the governing handicapped accessibility code.

2. Socio-Economic:

- a. The proposed project will not substantially impact the economy and welfare of the community and State.
- b. The construction cost of the entire project (including inspections, construction contingency, and works-of-art) is estimated to be \$157,000 in 1995 dollars.
- c. Since the project will be constructed within the existing school campus, no land will be removed from the tax base.

d. The project will provide the school with improved safety for students, parents and teachers.

3. Environmental:

The project will not create any major environmental impact. However, during construction periods:

- a. The air quality may be affected by dust and exhaust emissions and it is anticipated there will be a temporary increase in noise levels. The extent possible, the dust problem will be mitigated by watering and limiting dry sweeping and the exhaust emissions and noise will be addressed by requiring the contractor to use equipment with mufflers.
- b. There may be some runoff anticipated from the construction area. The contractor will mitigate the construction runoff by taking necessary actions since the Wailoa Stream is in close proximity to the work area.

The above impacts are expected to be minimal since State and Federal regulations need to be met.

E. SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT, INCLUDING SITE MAPS:

- The island map and location map of the elementary school site are shown on Figures 1 and 2. The proposed improvements are shown on Figure 3.
- No habitat of endangered species, flora or fauna are known to exist at the elementary school site.
- No significant historical, archaeological or cultural sites are known to exist at the elementary school site.
- 4. The school site is in a Special Management Area (SMA). An SMA Use Permit Assessment Application has been submitted to the County. The County has determined that the action requires an SMA Minor Permit. The County has deferred processing the SMA Minor Permit until a written determination is submitted which addresses Chapter 343 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes.

5. The school site borders Wailoa Stream to the north and east, Mohouli Street to the south and Kilauea Avenue to the west. The construction area is about 150 feet from the edge of the Wailoa Stream boundary.

F. IDENTIFICATION AND SUMMARY OF MAJOR IMPACTS AND ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

1. Major Impacts:

- a. The proposed project will not:
 - (1) Involve an irrevocable commitment to loss or destruction of any natural or cultural resources.
 - (2) Curtail the range of beneficial uses of the environment.
 - (3) Conflict with the State's long-term environmental policies.
 - (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) Detrimentally affect air or water quality or ambient noise levels.
- b. The proposed project will:
 - (1) Improve the interior vehicle road system through the school site.
 - (2) Provide better safety for student and adult pedestrians.

- (3) Have slight impact to traffic flow in the general area. Generally, the traffic will be decreased along Kilauea Avenue and increased along Mohouli Street (a side street) at the start and end of school days.
- (4) Cause a temporary loss of parking during construction.

2. Alternatives to the Proposed Project:

- a. Continue to use the site "as-is."
- b. Disallow parking on the grass area.

G. PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES:

- Short term impacts on air and noise quality during construction will be controlled by application of appropriate pollution and noise control measures.
- Short term impacts from construction runoff will be controlled by application of appropriate pollution control measures.
- 3. Advance notice will be given to parking lot users before the start of construction. The temporary loss of parking during construction will require cars to park on the street or on the grass if allowed by the school.

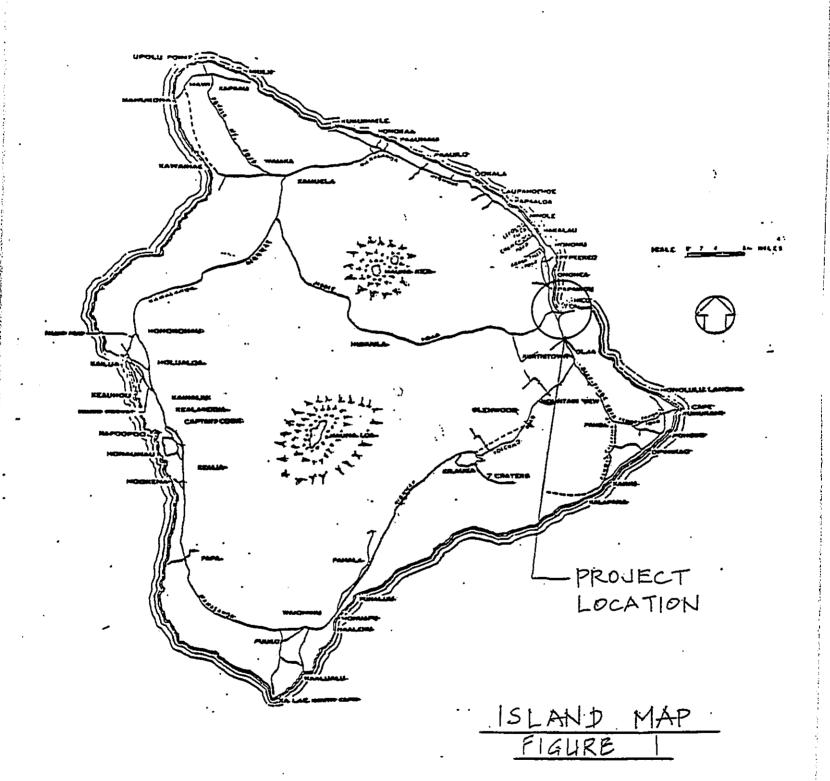
H. FINDINGS AND REASONS SUPPORTING DETERMINATION:

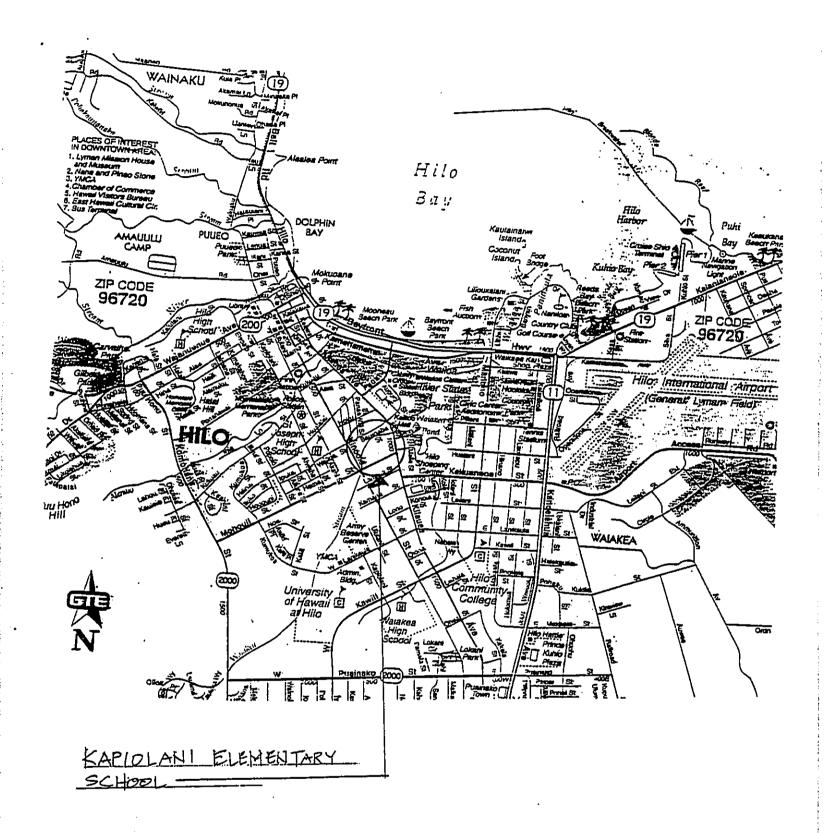
- 1. The project site is generally free of flood, tsunami, erosion, and landslide hazards. No rare or endangered species of flora are known to exist at the site. No rare or endangered species of fauna are known to inhabit the site. There are no significant archaeological or historical sites within the existing site.
- The changes to the school interior road system will improve traffic flow into and out of the site resulting in better safety for student and adult pedestrians.

Page 6

- 3. The egress from the school site was placed 100 feet away from the existing intersection and meets the County Department of Public Works requirements for driveways.
- 4. Short term impacts during construction can be mitigated.

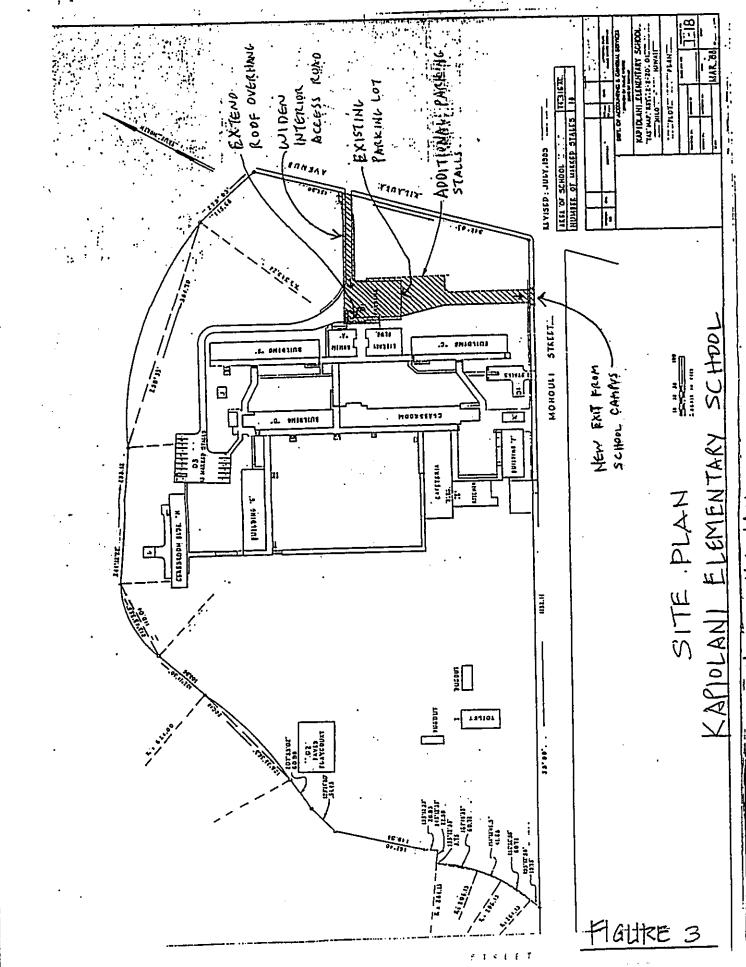
For the reasons above, the proposed action will not have any significant effect in the context of Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes and Section 11-200-12 of the State Administrative Rules and that an environmental impact statement should not be required for this project.





LOCATION MAP

FIGURE 2



HILD, HAWAII

Comptroller

State P.W. Ends
P.W. Secty
Staff Serv.

3 - I — Planning Br.
Proj. Mgmt. Br.
Design Br.
Inspec. Br.
Quality Control
Leasing Br.
Contracts
Fiscal Off.

(P) 1746.5

OCT 2 7 1995

Mr. Gary Gill
Director
Office of Environmental
Quality Control
Central Pacific Plaza
220 South King Street, 4th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Gill:

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for Kapiolani Elementary School Vehicle and Pedestrian Access Improvements, Hilo TMK 2-2-20:01

In response to your October 5, 1995 comment on the subject document, we provide the following status of the Special Management Area (SMA) permit:

- 1. An SMA Use Permit Assessment Application (SMAA 95-17) has been submitted to the County.
- 2. The County has determined that the action requires an SMA Minor Permit.
- 3. The County has deferred processing the SMA Minor Permit until a written determination is submitted which addresses Chapter 343 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes.

This information will be provided in the final EA. Should there be any questions, please have your staff call Mr. Brian Isa of the Planning Branch at 586-0484.

Very truly yours,

GORDON MATSUOKA

State Public Works Engineer

BI:jk

BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO

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GARY OIL

* DIV. OF PUBLIC WORKSTATE OF HAWAII OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL

> 220 SOUTH KING STREET FOURTH FLOOR HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 TELETHONE (8008 500-4105 FACSMALE (8008 500-2462

October 5, 1995

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Mr. Gordon Matsuoka State Public Works Engineer Department of Accounting and General Services P.O. Box 119 Honolulu, Hawaii 96810

Attention: Brian Isa

Dear Mr. Matsuoka:

Subject:

Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for Kapiolani Elementary School

Vehicle and Pedestrian Access Improvements, Hilo; TMK 2-2-20:01

After reviewing the subject project we recommend that you include the status of the Special Management Area permit in the final EA.

If you have any questions please call Nancy Heinrich at 586-4185.

Sincerely,

GARY GILL Director

GG/nh