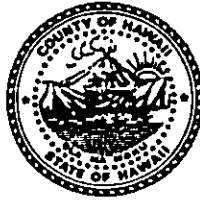


Lincoln Park Imp.

Stephen K. Yamashiro
Mayor



George Yoshida
Director

Juliette M. Tulang
Deputy Director

RECEIVED

County of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
25 Aupuni Street, Room 210 • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4252
(808) 961-8311

'97 FEB 14 P3:04
OFC. OF ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY CONTROL

February 12, 1997

Mr. Gary Gill, Director
Office of Environmental Quality Control
State Office Tower
235 South Beretania St., Room 702
Honolulu, HI 96813-2437

Re: Finding of No Significant Impact
Lincoln Park Improvement Project, South Hilo, Hawaii
TMK: (3) 2-3-10:01

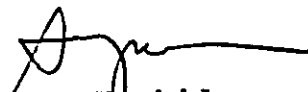
Dear Mr. Gill:

The Department of Parks and Recreation, County of Hawaii, has reviewed comments received during the 30-day public comment period, which began on January 8, 1997. The Department has determined that this project will not have a significant environmental effect and has issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). Please publish a notice of this FONSI in the March 8, 1997 OEQC Bulletin.

Enclosed is a completed OEQC Bulletin Publication Form and four copies of the final environmental assessment.

Please contact Glenn Miyao at (808) 961-8311, if any questions arise.

Sincerely,


George Yoshida
Director

encl

15

1997-03-08-HI-FEA-Lincoln Park
Improvement

MAR 8 1997

FILE COPY

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

LINCOLN PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

HILO, HAWAII TMK: (3) 2-3-10: 1

APPROVING AGENCY: COUNTY OF HAWAII,
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

25 AUPUNI STREET ROOM 210
HILO, HAWAII 96720

FEBRUARY, 1997

PREPARED BY:
BRIAN T. NISHIMURA, PLANNING
CONSULTANT
101 AUPUNI ST. SUITE 217,
HILO, HAWAII 96720

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APPENDIX A RESPONSES RECEIVED FROM CONSULTED AGENCIES

APPENDIX B COMMENTS AND RESPONSES MADE DURING THE DRAFT
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REVIEW PERIOD

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this Environmental Assessment is to comply with Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS"), and United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requirements utilizing form HO-EA86. The Department of Parks and Recreation, County of Hawaii is proposing improvements to their existing Lincoln Park facility utilizing Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. The use of CDBG funds triggers the federal requirements and the use of County property triggers the environmental review process as required by Chapter 343, (HRS).

1.2 Identification of Applicant

Mr. George Yoshida is the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation for the County of Hawaii. The mailing address for the Department of Parks and Recreation is 25 Aupuni Street, Room 210, Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4252.

1.3 Identification of Approving Agency

Chapter 343, HRS, requires that an environmental review process be initiated whenever one of eight actions or activities is proposed in the State of Hawaii. The use of County land is one of the triggering activities for the environmental review process.

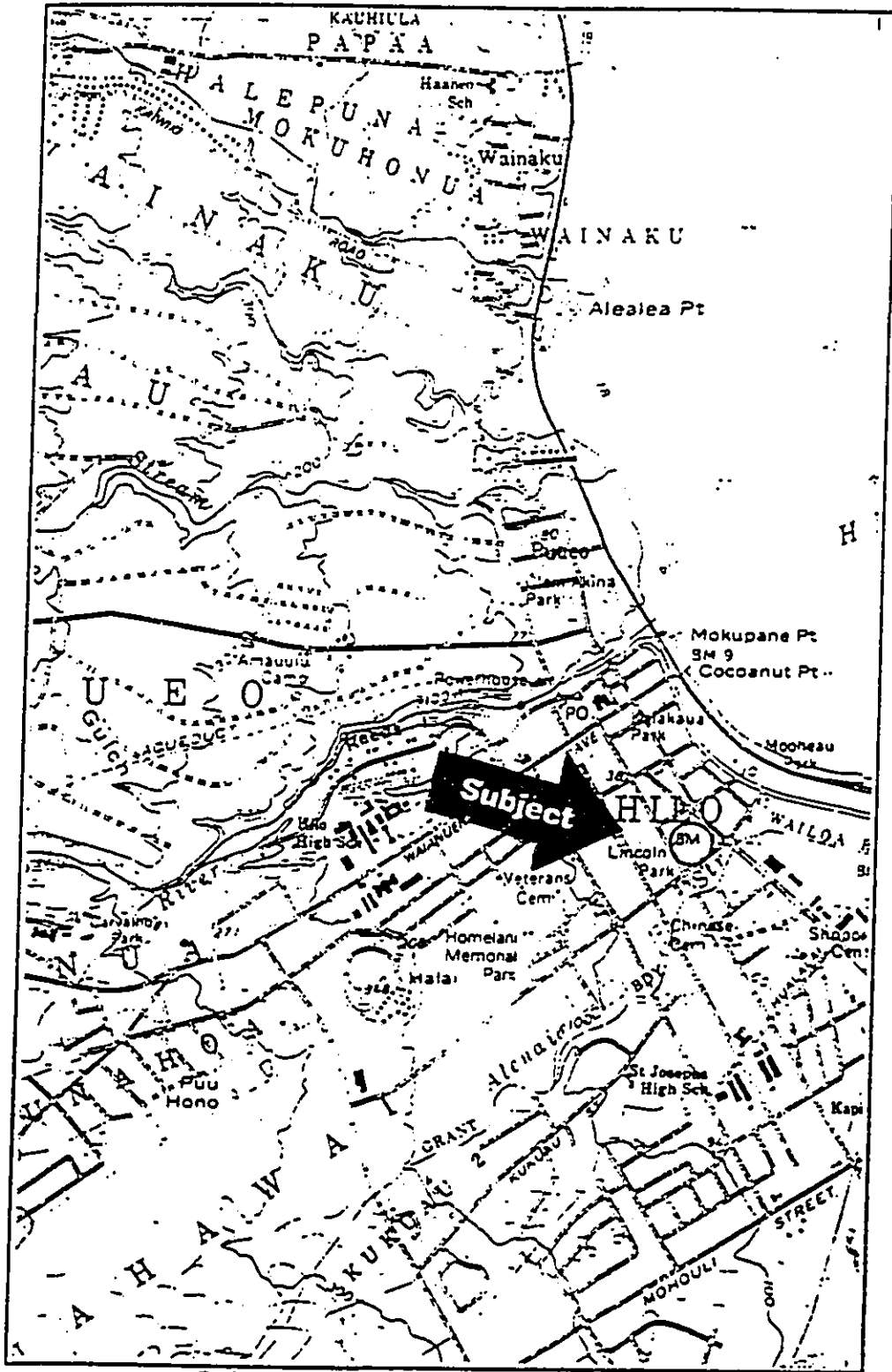
In accordance with Chapter 343, HRS, the Mayor, or an authorized representative of the County of Hawaii is the appropriate accepting authority of the Environmental Assessment.

1.4 Technical Description

The Department of Parks and Recreation, County of Hawaii, is proposing improvements to Lincoln Park which will increase recreational opportunities for the public. This existing public facility is located in downtown Hilo, Hawaii, tax map key number (3)-2-3-10: 1. The 1.346 acre parcel is situated on the northeastern corner of the Ponahawai Street-Kinoole Street intersection. (See Figure 1 - Location Map)

The proposed improvements will include the construction of a new courtyard entry which will include planters, walls and seats; an ornamental/security fence along Kinoole and Ponahawai streets; new play equipment with a covered pavilion, a new bandstand pavilion, 2 gateball and 2 horseshoe courts within the central lawn area; extensive plantings of flowering groundcover, palms and flowering accent trees; a meandering walking path around the perimeter of the park with benches and picnic tables; night lighting and an upgrade of the existing pavilion/restroom facility to meet handicap accessibility requirements. (See Figure 2 - Site Plan.)

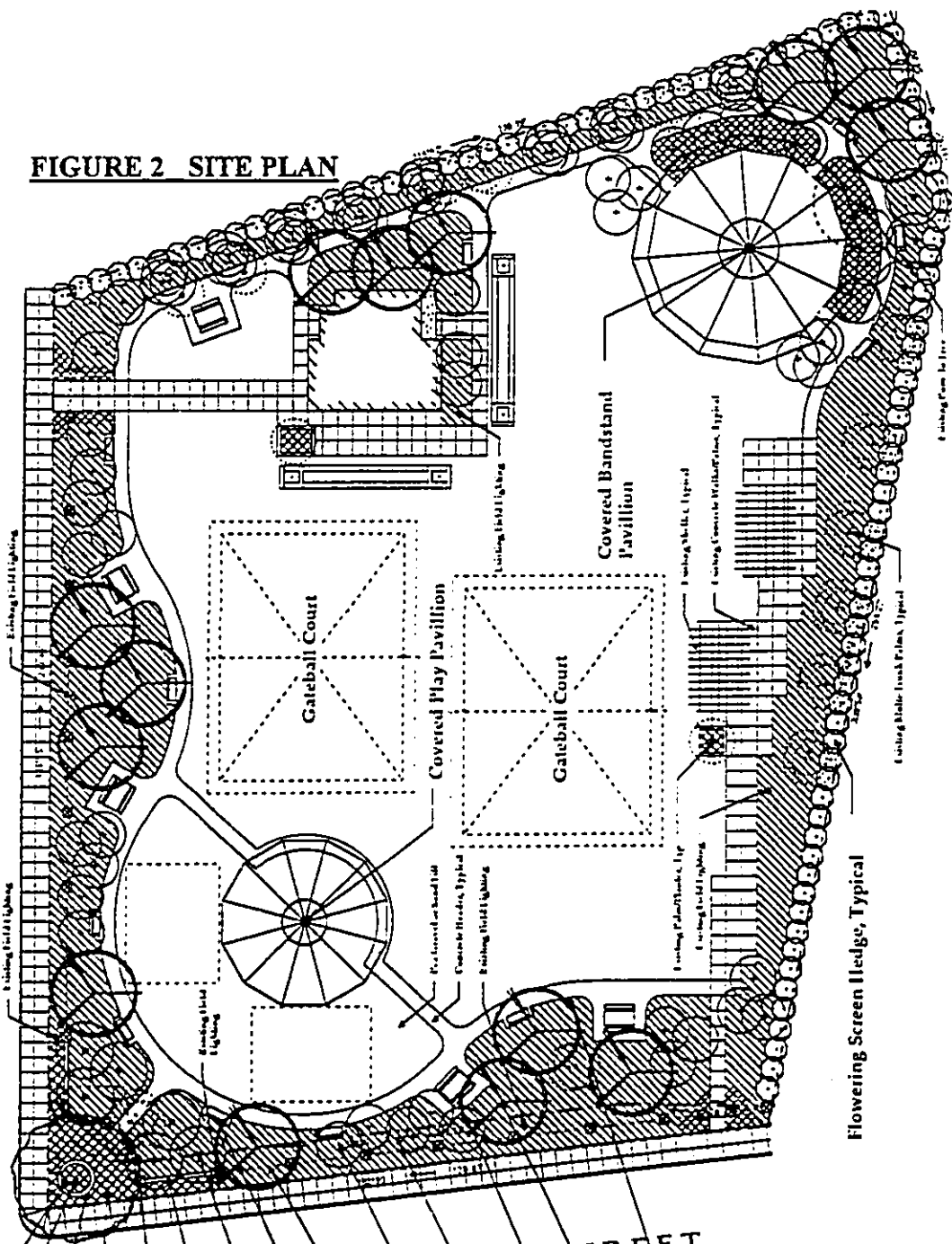
FIGURE 1 LOCATION MAP



Reference: USGS Quadrangle Maps

FIGURE 2 SITE PLAN

KINOOLE STREET



PONAHAWAII STREET

- Low Accent Planting, Typical
- Accent Tree
- 18" Tall Seatwall/Planter
- Enhanced Paving
- 4'-0" Tall Column, Typical
- 18" High Seatwall, Typical
- Medium Height Palm, Typical
- 6' Long Park Bench, Typical
- 4'-0" Tall Accent/Security Fencing, Typical
- Small-Scale Palm, Typical
- Low Growing/Colorful Groundcover, Typical
- Picnic Table, Typical
- Small-Scale/Flowering Accent Tree, Typical
- 4' Wide Concrete Pathway, Typical

3

Flowering Screen Hedge, Typical

Covered Bandstand Pavilion

Covered Play Pavilion

Gateball Court

Gateball Court

Construction of the proposed project is scheduled to begin in August, 1997 and is scheduled for completion in December, 1997. The proposed improvements have an estimated construction cost of \$400,000 and will be funded by a grant from the Community Development Block Grant Program as well as contributions from the community.

1.5 Project Background

1.5.1 Need for the Project

Downtown Hilo, which is defined as the area bounded by Hilo Bay to the east, Ponahawai Street to the south, Ululani Street to the west and Wailuku River to the north was once the traditional center of commercial activity for Hawaii County. Through natural forces such as the tsunamis of 1946 and 1960, as well as other social and economic factors, Downtown Hilo has been in decline and determined to be a "blighted" area by the County Council in 1985. The County Council adopted the Downtown Hilo Redevelopment Plan which recommended improvements to Lincoln Park to serve the elderly and other residents of the area.

Lincoln Park was established in 1909 at its present location. It has served the Hilo community and the downtown area in particular with active recreational opportunities for many generations. Unfortunately, utilization of the park has steadily decreased over the last 20 years to the degree that no organized recreational activities take place there today. In fact, Lincoln Park can now be characterized as a facility frequented primarily by derelicts, drug dealers and drug abusers.

A group of concerned citizens have initiated action to reclaim and improve Lincoln Park so that it can again become a highly utilized facility by the general public with particular emphasis on youth and senior citizens. A working group including representatives from the Police Department, Department of Education, American Lung Association, Hilo Downtown Improvement Association, Bank of Hawaii, Hawaii Community Correctional Center, Lehua Jaycees and a landscape architect developed design plans which have been presented to the County Administration and County Council.

1.5.2 Land Use Designations

The subject property is situated within the State Land Use Urban District. The County General Plan Land Use Pattern Allocation Guide Map (LUPAG) designates this area for High Density Urban uses. The Hilo Community Development Plan recommends that Lincoln Park maintain its current Open (O)-zoned designation. The subject property is also located within the boundaries of lands managed by the Hawaii Redevelopment Agency (HRA).

The proposed improvements to Lincoln Park are consistent with all of the land use designations and regulations of the County of Hawaii. All proposed structures and

facilities must be reviewed and approved by the HRA and receive final plan approval from the County Planning Department prior to the start of construction.

1.6 Agency and Public Consultation

The following public and private organizations were consulted during the preparation of this environmental assessment:

Federal Government

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Division of Ecological Services

State of Hawaii

Department of Land and Natural Resources
Historic Preservation Division
Division of Land Management
Department of Health

County of Hawaii

Planning Department
Department of Public Works
Department of Water Supply
Police Department
Fire Department

Organizations

Hilo Main Street Program
Lincoln Wreckers Athletic Association
American Lung Association

The comments provided during the pre-assessment consultation period have been included in Appendix A.

2. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS AND PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES

2.1 Physical Environment Characteristics

2.1.1 Geology and Hazards

Environmental Setting

The subject property is located on the lower slopes of Mauna Loa which is still considered to be a young, active volcano. Approximately 40% of Mauna Loa's surface is covered by lava flows less than 1,000 years old and since 1900, Mauna Loa has erupted 15 times. The most recent eruption occurred in 1984, originated at the summit and migrated to the northeast rift zone. The eruption in 1984 continued for three weeks and the resulting lava flow extended to within 4 miles of the city of Hilo. Four additional Mauna Loa flows, observed since 1800, have come close to or penetrated the present boundaries of Hilo. These include the northeast rift zone eruptions of 1852, 1855, 1881 and 1942.

The volcanic hazard as assessed by the United States Geological Survey is "3" on a scale of ascending risk 9 to 1 (Heliker 1990). Zone "3" includes all of the city of Hilo south of the Wailuku River. The Zone "3" areas are less affected by the rift activities than the Zone "2" designated areas. Less than 20% of the Zone "3" designation on Mauna Loa has been covered by lava in the last 750 years.

The entire island of Hawaii is in earthquake zone 3 of the Uniform Building Code which establishes structural design standards for earthquake resistance for certain types of buildings. This zone is prone to major damages from potential earthquake activity.

Impacts and Mitigation Measures

The proposed project will not expose park users to any severe volcanic hazard. The entire city of Hilo, south of the Wailuku River, shares the identical volcanic hazard risk of the project site.

The proposed Lincoln Park improvement project will be constructed to current Building Code standards which includes measures to reduce seismic damage.

2.1.2 Soils and Agricultural Resources

Environmental Setting

The soil type found on the project site is described as Hilo silty clay loam with 0-10% slopes. The Hilo series consists of well-drained, silty clay loams formed in volcanic ash. Permeability is rapid, runoff is slow, and the erosion hazard is slight. This soil has been used for sugar cane, truck crops, orchards and pasture. The Hilo soils have a capability

subclass rating of IIIe, nonirrigated which indicates severe limitations that reduce the choice of plants, require special conservation practices, or both. (U. S. Soil Conservation Service 1973).

Impacts

Given the location of the project site within the urban boundaries of the city of Hilo and the established park use of the property since 1909, no adverse impact on agricultural soils or uses are anticipated as a result of the proposed project.

2.1.3 Rainfall, Hydrology and Drainage

The annual rainfall for the subject area is approximately 130 inches. The city of Hilo is exposed to the northeast trade winds producing a rainy climate which prevail for most of the year. Rain falls on approximately 300 days of the year with the wettest months being December and March..

Currently, the subject property is situated within Flood Zone "AE" and "AE-floodway" with a base flood elevation determined to be 28 feet by the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency dated September 18, 1988. However, the Alenaio Stream Flood Control Project, currently under construction and scheduled for completion in March, 1997, will remove the flood hazard and result in a reclassification of this area to a Flood Zone "X" (areas determined to be outside the 500 year flood plain).

Impacts and Mitigation Measures

The proposed project will adhere to County and State requirements for disposing of runoff and addressing drainage concerns. In addition, all existing flooding concerns are being addressed by the Alenaio Stream Flood Control Project which is scheduled for completion prior to the start of construction for the Lincoln Park improvement project. As such, no adverse drainage impacts are anticipated as a result of the proposed project.

2.1.4. Flora, Fauna and Ecosystems

Environmental Setting

The project site has been utilized as a park facility since 1909. The major feature of the 1.346 acre park is a large grassed lawn which was previously utilized for baseball, softball and football games during it's earlier years. A number of Manila Palms, Solitare Palms and Chinese Fan Palms have been planted along the perimeter of the park during more recent times. No known candidate or endangered plant species are present on the project site.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service commented as follows:

"We have reviewed the maps prepared by The Nature Conservancy's Hawaii Natural Heritage Program and the Service's National Wetland Inventory Program. Based on this information, our records indicate the federally listed endangered Hawaiian hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus semotus*) or 'ope'ape'a was last observed in this area in 1975. The bat is a wide-ranging species and does not roost in the immediate vicinity of the construction site. Therefore, the Service believes that it is unlikely that this species will be directly impacted by the proposed project at the Lincoln Park site."

Impacts

No listed, candidate or proposed endangered animal or plant species are found on the subject property. In terms of conservation value, no botanical or zoological resources requiring special protection are present.

2.1.5. Air Quality, Noise and Scenic Resources

Environmental Setting

The air quality of the subject area is affected by pollutants derived from the volcanic emissions from the ongoing Kilauea eruption. Other sources of air pollutants include vehicle emissions and dust from construction activities.

Ambient noise levels in the area are moderate due to the residential and commercial activities along Kinoole and Ponahawai Street.

The Lincoln Park facility provides open area green space within the Hilo urban center which provides a Scenic resource for the project area.

Impacts and Mitigation Measures

The proposed project will entail only negligible increases in air pollution and noise while having a positive impact on the scenic views of the subject area. Short term air and noise impacts generated by construction activity for the project will be mitigated through standard construction practices in compliance with State regulations. The scenic views of the subject area will be enhanced by additional landscaping and planting of trees.

2.2 Social, Cultural and Economic Setting

2.2.1 Socio-Economic Characteristics

Setting

The 1990 census data indicates that there were 7,025 persons living in Census Tracts 203 and 204 which encompasses the service area of the Lincoln Park facility. Approximately 58% of the residents in Census Tract 203 and 60% of the residents in Census Tract 204

had incomes levels that were in the low and moderate income category (earning less than 80% of the area median household income.) In 1996, the low and moderate income category ranged from a single person household earning up to \$26,400 to a eight person household earning up to \$49,750.

Through natural forces such as the tsunamis of 1946 and 1960, as well as other social and economic factors, Downtown Hilo has been in decline and determined to be a "blighted" area by the County Council in 1985. The County Council adopted the Downtown Hilo Redevelopment Plan which recommended improvements to Lincoln Park to serve the elderly and other residents of the area. Lincoln Park was established in 1909 at its present location. It has served the Hilo community and the downtown area in particular with active recreational opportunities for many generations. Unfortunately, utilization of the park has steadily decreased over the last 20 years to the degree that no organized recreational activities take place there today. In fact, Lincoln Park can now be characterized as a facility frequented primarily by derelicts, drug dealers and drug abusers.

Impacts and Mitigation Measures

The proposed improvements to the Lincoln park facility will have a beneficial socio-economic impact by addressing the need for additional recreational opportunities for the elderly and young children in the Hilo community and the downtown area in particular. The physical improvements will allow greater public utilization of the park facilities which is currently frequented primarily by derelicts, drug dealers and drug abusers.

Members of the Lincoln Wreckers Athletic Association, the Hilo Main Street Program and the Police Department have raised concerns regarding park security. Of particular concern is nighttime safety for park users and the elimination of illegal activities within the park. A number of mitigation measures have been discussed and are still under consideration. These include the provision of perimeter fencing, the placement of lighting, and the establishment of a police sub-station within the park. The Department of Parks and Recreation will continue to address these issues as the plans are being developed.

2.2.2 Adjacent Land Uses

Setting

The Lincoln Park facility is situated on the southern fringe of the downtown Hilo commercial core. Surrounding land uses include a mixture of commercial, office and residential uses. Land uses within close proximity range from single family residences, restaurants, residential apartments, professional offices, Hilo's Central Fire Station and the Salvation Army.

Impacts

The proposed project will complement the land uses within the surrounding area by providing recreational opportunities for the residents and improving the scenic qualities with additional landscaping and the planting of trees. The proposed project will have little or no impact on the existing land use pattern of the surrounding properties.

2.3 Public Facilities and Services

2.3.1 Roads, Traffic and Parking

Setting

The project site is bounded on two sides by County roadways, Kinoole Street and Ponahawai Street. Both streets are improved with two traffic lanes, on-street parking and sidewalks. Kinoole Street has a one way traffic pattern in a southerly direction while Ponahawai Street provides two way traffic flow. The Ponahawai Street-Kinoole Street intersection is a signalized intersection.

The existing Lincoln Park facility does not have any off-street parking for park users. There are 25 parking stalls along Ponahawai Street and Kinoole Street in the vicinity of the park.

Impacts and Mitigation Measures

The Lincoln Park improvement project will generate additional traffic by increasing the number of persons utilizing the park facilities. However, this increase will not over burden Ponahawai Street or Kinoole Street which are major collector streets serving the downtown area and broader Hilo community.

Increased utilization of the Lincoln Park facility will also increase the demand for parking spaces. Although there are no immediate plans for providing additional parking spaces, the County is concerned about the shortage of parking for the entire downtown business district. Plans to address this problem will have to incorporate the needs of the Lincoln Park facility as well.

2.3.2 Water Supply

Existing Setting

The existing park facility is serviced by a 1-inch meter from the Department of Water Supply. The anticipated peak-hour and maximum daily water demand for the proposed improvements will be determined by a professional engineer and submitted to the Department of Water Supply for their review and approval.

Impacts

The proposed Lincoln Park improvement project will not have a significant adverse impact on the existing Department of Water Supply sources. Plans will be reviewed and approved by the Department of Water Supply.

2.3.3 Wastewater

Existing Setting

The existing park facility is served by the County's sewerage system. There is a manhole in the northeastern corner of the park and the proposed improvements will be able to utilize the existing connection.

Impacts

The proposed Lincoln Park improvement project will not have a significant adverse impact on the County sewerage system. Plans for the proposed improvements will be reviewed and approved by the Department of Health and the Department of Public Works.

2.3.4 Electricity and Telephone

Setting

Electricity and telephone service are available to the subject property from existing service lines along Kinoole and Ponahawai Streets.

Impacts

The proposed project will not have any significant adverse impact on the existing capacity of these services.

2.3.5 Solid Waste

Existing Setting

The County Department of Parks and Recreation maintains the existing park facility including the pick up and removal of solid waste. The proposed improvements are not anticipated to significantly increase the amount of waste generated from the park facility.

Impacts

The proposed Lincoln Park improvement project will not have a significant adverse impact on park maintenance or the generation of additional solid waste.

2.3.6 Protective Services

Existing Setting

Protective services including fire, police, rescue and medical services are all available to downtown Hilo and are situated within a three mile radius of the project site. These facilities and services adequately meet the needs that would be generated by the proposed project.

Impacts

The proposed project is not likely to create an additional burden on the existing service providers.

2.4 Archaeology and Historic Sites

Setting

The existing pavilion/restroom facility is over fifty years old and is therefore considered "historic property" as defined by Chapter 6E, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The three smaller open sided pavilion structures are of more recent construction and are not considered historic property. The State Historic Preservation Division of the Department of Land and Natural Resources provided the following comments:

"Because Lincoln Park, a 1.346 acre parcel located at the northeastern corner of the Ponahawai Street -Kinoole Street intersection in downtown Hilo, is already developed it is unlikely that any significant historic sites would remain on this property. We thus believe that the proposed improvements to the park will have 'no effect' on significant historic sites."

Impacts

The Lincoln Park improvement project includes the renovation of the existing pavilion/restroom facility which is considered a historic property. The State Historic Preservation Division of the Department of Land and Natural Resources commented that, "We believe the project will have 'no effect' on the historic character of the structure."

3. SUMMARY OF ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES

3.1 Short Term Impacts

Construction:

Impacts: Short term impacts will result from the construction of the Lincoln Park improvement project. Impacts will consist of temporary noise, dust and exhaust from machinery along with minor traffic disruption. In addition, runoff may be a problem during construction and until landscaping is established

Mitigation: Dust, noise and runoff control measures will be utilized as necessary. Best management practice requirements will be imposed on the contractor during the construction of the project.

3.2 Long Term Impacts

Geologic Hazard:

Impacts: The project will be exposed to damage from earthquake activity.

Mitigation: All of the structures included in the Lincoln Park improvement project will be constructed to current Building Code standards which includes measures to reduce seismic damage.

Drainage:

Impacts: Development of the proposed project has the potential to increase surface runoff in the area.

Mitigation: The proposed project will adhere to County and State requirements for disposing of runoff and addressing drainage concerns. As such, no adverse drainage impacts are anticipated as a result of the proposed project.

Parking:

Impacts: The proposed project has the potential to increase the need for parking in the area.

Mitigation: Although there are no immediate plans to add parking improvements as part of the proposed project, the County will continue to monitor this issue and should incorporate the needs of the Lincoln Park facility as it addresses the parking needs of the downtown business district.

4. ALTERNATIVES

4.1 No Action

If the proposed project is not developed, the Lincoln Park facility will remain under utilized and will continue to be frequented primarily by derelicts, drug dealers and drug abusers. The existing restrooms will not be repaired and will not conform to current handicap accessibility requirements.

5. ANTICIPATED DETERMINATION

5.1 Findings

Based on the foregoing information presented, it is determined that the proposed Lincoln Park improvement project will not have a significant effect. As such, a determination of a Finding of No Significant Impact for the proposed action is appropriate.

5.2 Reasons Supporting Determination

The nature and scale of the proposed action is such that no significant environmental effects are anticipated. Potential impacts, if any, can be mitigated through careful construction methods and compliance with all governmental requirements including those of the State Department of Health, Historic Preservation Division, Department of Public Works, Department of Water Supply, Planning Department and the Hawaii Redevelopment Agency.

REFERENCES

- County of Hawaii. February 20, 1985. *Council Resolution No. 563*. Hilo, Hawaii
- Hawaii Redevelopment Agency. 1985. *Downtown Hilo Redevelopment Plan*. Hilo, Hawaii
- Heliker, C. 1990. *Vocanic and Seismic Hazards on the Island of Hawaii*. Washington: GPO
- The Michie Company, Law Publishers. 1996. *Hawaii Revised Statutes Annotated, 1996 Cumulative Supplement*. Charlottesville, Virginia
- U.S. Soil Conservation Service. 1973. *Soil Survey of the Island of Hawaii, State of Hawaii*. Washington: U.S.D.A.
- University of Hawaii at Manoa, Dept. of Geography. 1983. *Atlas of Hawaii*. 2nd ed. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.

APPENDIX A

Responses Received From Consulted Agencies

BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



LAWRENCE MIKE
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. BOX 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801

In reply, please refer to

October 29, 1996

96-162/epo

Mr. Brian T. Nishimura
Planning Consultant
101 Aupuni Street, Suite 217
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

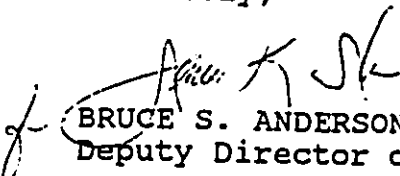
Dear Mr. Nishimura:

Subject: Preparation of Environmental Assessment
Improvements to Lincoln Park
County of Hawaii
TMK: (3) 2-3-10:01

Thank you for notifying us of the proposed project and for allowing us to provide comments on your preparation of an Environmental Assessment.

We have no objections to the proposed project and will review the details as future plans are submitted for approval. The applicant is required to hook up to the county sewerage system, if they are not already, as a condition of the proposed expansion and renovation.

Sincerely,


BRUCE S. ANDERSON, Ph.D.
Deputy Director of Environmental Health

c: DHO, Hawaii



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
PACIFIC ISLANDS ECOREGION
300 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 3108
BOX 50088
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96850
PHONE: (808) 541-3441 FAX: (808) 541-3470

In Reply Refer To: KF

OCT 13 1996

Brian T. Nishimura
Planning Consultant
101 Aupuni Street
Suite 217
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Dear Mr. Nishimura:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) received your September 24, 1996, request to comment on the Lincoln Park Improvement Project. The proposed improvement project would expand recreational opportunities for the citizens that frequent Lincoln Park, Hilo, Hawaii. Comments submitted by the Service will be incorporated into an environmental assessment (EA) for the proposed project. The Service will also have an opportunity to comment on the draft EA, upon its completion.

The proposed project will enhance the recreational capacity of Lincoln Park by constructing new courtyards, play equipment, a bandstand pavilion, two gateball courts, field lights, a security fence, and other additions. Construction activity in the park will take place in the northeastern corner of the park, adjacent to the street intersection at Ponahawai Street and Kinoole Street. A construction schedule with starting date and project duration was not indicated in this communication.

We have reviewed the maps prepared by The Nature Conservancy's Hawaii Natural Heritage Program and the Service's National Wetland Inventory Program. Based on this information, our records indicate the federally listed endangered Hawaiian hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus semotus*) or 'ope'ape'a was last observed in this area in 1975. The bat is a wide-ranging species and does not roost in the immediate vicinity of the construction site. Therefore, the Service believes that it is unlikely that this species will be directly impacted by the proposed project at the Lincoln Park site.

The Service appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed project. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact Fish and Wildlife Biologist Kevin Foster at 808/541-3441 (fax:808/541-4370).

Sincerely,

Brooks Harper
Field Supervisor
Ecological Services

BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF LAND MANAGEMENT

P.O. BOX 938
HILO, HAWAII 96721-0938

AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAM
AQUATIC RESOURCES
CONSERVATION AND
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
CONSERVATION AND
RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
CONVEYANCES
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
LAND MANAGEMENT
STATE PARKS
WATER AND LAND DEVELOPMENT

October 18, 1996

Brian T. Nishimura
101 Aupuni Street, Suite 217
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Subject: Lincoln Park Improvement Project
Request for Comments

Dear Mr. Nishimura:

We have had the opportunity to review the proposed site improvement plan and design recommendations, and have no comments or objections to the proposal. We concur that the project will be of public benefit.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Very truly yours,

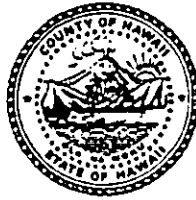
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Laureta".

MICHAEL LAURETA
Acting Hawaii District Land Agent

cc: Dean Uchida, Land Division Administrator
Chris Yuen, Hawaii Land Board Member

ML:ml

Stephen K. Yamashiro
Mayor



Virginia Goldstein
Director

Norman Olesen
Deputy Director

County of Hawaii

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

25 Aupuni Street, Room 109 • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4252
(808) 961-8238 • Fax (808) 961-9615

October 14, 1996

Mr. Brian T. Nishimura
101 Aupuni Street, Suite 217
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Mr. Nishimura:

Preliminary Comments Regarding Draft Preparation of Environmental Assessment
for Proposed Lincoln Park Improvement Project
TMK: 2-3-10: 1; Ponahawai, South Hilo, Hawaii

Thank you for your letter dated September 23, 1996, requesting our preliminary comments regarding the preparation of a draft environmental assessment for proposed improvements to Lincoln Park.

The subject property, consisting of approximately 1.346 acre, is situated within an area designated Urban by the State Land Use Commission. Lincoln Park is designated for High Density Urban uses by the Hawaii County General Plan. The Hilo Community Development Plan recommends that Lincoln Park maintain its current Open (O)-zoned designation. Lincoln Park is not situated within the County's Special Management Area (SMA); but it is located within the boundaries of lands managed by the Hawaii Redevelopment Agency (HRA).

In summary, the proposed improvements to Lincoln Park is consistent with all land use designations and regulations of the County of Hawaii.

Please note, however, that a 5-foot wide future road-widening setback has been established along the Kinoole and Ponahawai Street frontages. All structures and facilities to be established within the project site must be reviewed and approved by the Hawaii Redevelopment Agency (HRA) and issued Final Plan Approval by this office pursuant to the Zoning Code prior to construction.

Mr. Brian T. Nishimura
Page 2
October 14, 1996

Thank you for allowing our office the opportunity to comment. Please contact Daryn Arai of this office should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



VIRGINIA GOLDSTEIN
Planning Director

DSA:pak
f:\wpwin60\dsa\LNishi05.dsa

xc w/ltr: HRA
Land Use Controls Division

October 10, 1996

Mr. Brian Nishimura
Planning Consultant
101 Aupuni Street
Suite 217
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Subject: Lincoln Park Improvements Project

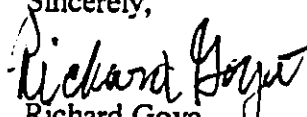
Dear Mr. Nishimura:


Thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment on the proposed improvements to the Lincoln Park. As former users of the park, we feel thankful that others in the community share our fond memories of the many events that were held there over the years. Our family went to the Church of the Holy Cross which adjoined the park prior to its relocation to Lanikaula Street. There were many baseball and softball games as well as barefoot football practices. It was a gathering place for our youth to simply just hang out. Unfortunately, we have watched our memories tarnished with the take over of the park by street people, drug addicts and loiterers. We are unable to share our memories with our youth as they look at the park with a vastly different outlook. Hilo needs its central city parks back. We need a gathering place for our seniors and youth so that our rich history can be perpetuated.

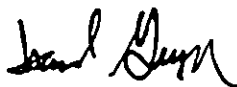
The proposed plans reflect a sensitivity of those that worked so hard to make it a peoples park and we thank them for their community spirit. We will pass this information on to other members of our organization and seek their support for the improvements to Lincoln Park. Our only recommendation at this time is that the perimeter fencing be raised from four feet to at least six feet tall to deter after hour use of the park. This would also provide a sense of security for park users.

We, as three generations of active members of the Lincoln Wreckers Athletic Association, again thank you for this opportunity to comment on the proposed improvements to our Lincoln Park.


Sincerely,

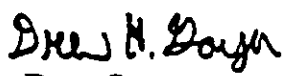

Richard Goya
Grandfather

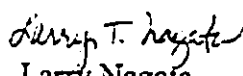

Tom Goya
Son

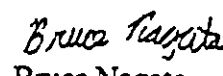

Isaac Goya
Grandson


Dana Goya
Granddaughter


Harold Goya
Son


Drew Goya
Grandson


Larry Nagata
Son-in-Law


Bruce Nagata
Grandson

Stephen K. Yamashiro
Mayor



Nelson M. Tsuji
Fire Chief

Edward Bumatay
Deputy Fire Chief

County of Hawaii

FIRE DEPARTMENT

777 Kilauea Avenue • Mail Lane, Room 6 • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4239
(808) 961-8297 • Fax (808) 961-8296

October 9, 1996

Mr. Brian T. Nishimura
Planning Consultant
101 Aupuni Street, Suite 217
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Mr. Nishimura:

Subject: Lincoln Park Improvement Project
Request for Comments

The Fire Department's requirements as stated in the Fire Code are:

"Portable Fire Extinguishers

"Sec. 10.303. (a) General. Portable fire extinguishers shall be installed in occupancies and locations as set forth in this code, or as may be determined by the chief.

"Portable fire extinguishers shall be in accordance with U.F.C. Standard No. 10-1.

"(b) Prohibited Types. Vaporizing liquid extinguishers containing carbon tetrachloride or chlorobromomethane shall not be installed or used in any location for fire-protection use.

"Soda-acid, foam, loaded stream, antifreeze and water fire extinguishers of the inverting types shall not be recharged or placed in service for fire-protection use.



Mr. Brian T. Nishimura
Page 2
October 9, 1996

"(c) Sale of Defective Fire Extinguishers. No person shall sell or trade any form, type or kind of fire extinguisher which is not approved or which is not in proper working order, or the contents of which do not meet the requirements of this code, provided, however, this shall not apply to the sale or trade of fire extinguishers to any person or firm engaged in the business of selling or handling of such extinguishers or the sale or exchange of obsolete or damaged equipment for junk.

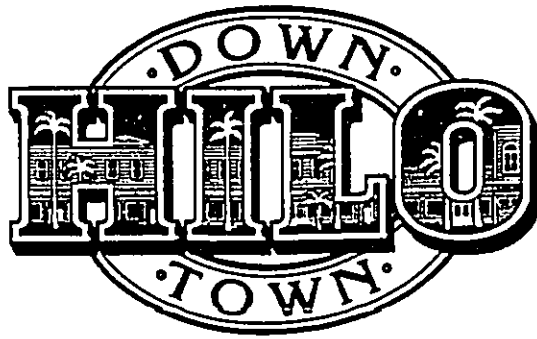
"(d) Six Year Maintenance. Stored pressure extinguishers that require a 12-year hydrostatic test shall be emptied and subjected to the applicable maintenance procedures every six years. It shall be tagged internally to indicate the month and year the maintenance was performed and shall identify the person performing the service."

Sincerely,



NELSON M. TSUJI
Fire Chief

NMT/mo



October 8, 1996

Brian T. Nishimura, Planning Consultant
101 Aupuni Street, Suite 217
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

Dear Mr. Nishimura:

Thank you for providing me an opportunity to comment on the Lincoln Park improvement project plans. There are a few areas of concern:

1. At initial planning meetings and DIA board meetings, the need for security was discussed at length. Concerns and/or suggestions included:

a) The possibility of having a Police Mini-Station located in or around the Bandstand. Have the nighttime safety and illegal activities concerns been sufficiently addressed? What happened to the Mini-Station idea?

b) Another security issue was lighting. Lighting is mentioned on the Design Recommendations #9, but exact information about increased lighting placement, intensity, etc. would be helpful.

c) Are there any plans for fencing along the borders of the park which adjoin private properties? There are currently problems with transients traveling through the park at night. Design Recommendations #7 notes plantings which will screen buildings and parking, but this does not address the problem. Could some kind of deterring foliage or fence be developed for the two borders which are not streets?

2. Parking is a major concern, especially for business people located in that area. There was some discussion about property of the Hawai'i Tribune Herald as being potentially available and also about developing a small parking lot across Kinoole next to the tennis courts.

Mahalo, again, for including the Hilo Downtown Improvement Association in this round of the process. You may contact me at 935-8850 if necessary.

Sincerely,

Alice L. Moon, Project Manager
Hilo Main Street Program

Hilo Main Street Program
A Project of the Downtown Improvement Association
in Historic Downtown Hilo
252 Kamehameha Avenue • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720
Telephone (808) 935-8850 • Fax (808) 935-3899

Stephen K. Yamashiro
Mayor



Wayne G. Carvalho
Police Chief

James S. Correa
Deputy Police Chief

County of Hawaii
POLICE DEPARTMENT

349 Kapiolani Street • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-3998
(808) 935-3311 • Fax (808) 961-2702

October 7, 1996

Mr. Brian T. Nishimura
Planning Consultant
101 Aupuni Street, Suite 217
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Mr. Nishimura:

SUBJECT: LINCOLN PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

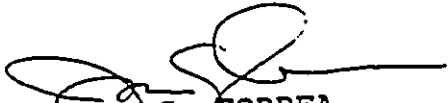
While we support the development and beautification of any public property, our concern in this instance is that the planned project will decrease visibility of the interior of the park from the street.

Although the proposed plantings may increase privacy and serenity for the park's patrons, they will prevent officers who drive by from quickly and completely observing activity within.

We would appreciate it if this concern could be addressed during the planning stages.

Sincerely,

WAYNE G. CARVALHO
POLICE CHIEF


JAMES S. CORREA
DEPUTY POLICE CHIEF
ACTING POLICE CHIEF

EO:1k

BENJAMIN J. CAYTAHO
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION
33 SOUTH KING STREET, 6TH FLOOR
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

MICHAEL D. WILSON, CHAIRPERSON
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STATE PARKS
WATER AND LAND DEVELOPMENT

October 4, 1996

Mr. Brian Nishimura
Brian T. Nishimura, Planning Consultant
101 Aupuni Street, Suite 217
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

LOG NO: 18199 ✓
DOC NO: 9609PM23

Dear Mr. Nishimura:

SUBJECT: Lincoln Park Improvement Project
Hilo, South Hilo, Hawaii Island
TMK: 2-3-10:1

Thank you for your letter of September 23, 1996, and the opportunity to review and comment on historic preservation concerns relating to the proposed project.

Because Lincoln Park, a 1.346 acre parcel located at the northeastern corner of the Ponahawai Street-Kinoole Street intersection in downtown Hilo, is already developed it is unlikely that any significant historic sites would remain on this property. We thus believe that the proposed improvements to the park will have "no effect" on significant historic sites.

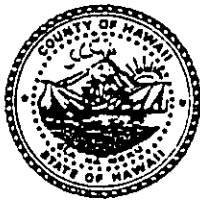
If you have any questions please contact Patrick McCoy (587-0006).

Sincerely,


DON HIBBARD, Administrator
State Historic Preservation Division

PM:jk

Stephen K. Yamashiro
Mayor



Donna Fay K. Kiyosaki
Chief Engineer

Jiro A. Sumada
Deputy Chief Engineer

County of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
25 Aupuni Street, Room 202 • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4252
(808) 961-8321 • Fax (808) 969-7138

September 27, 1996

BRIAN T NISHIMURA PLANNING CONSULTANT
101 AUPUNI STREET SUITE 217
HILO HAWAII 96720

SUBJECT : LINCOLN PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
for Preparation of the Environmental Assessment
Location: Ponahawai, South Hilo, Hawaii
TMK: 3 / 2-3-10: 01

To acknowledge your letter dated September 23, 1996, we provide our comments as follows:

1. Buildings shall conform to all requirements of code and statutes pertaining to building construction.
2. All development generated runoff shall be disposed on site and shall not be directed toward any adjacent properties.

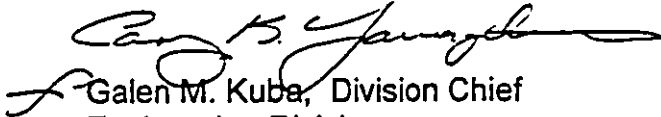
Drainage improvements may connect to the existing drainage culvert under Ponahawai Street.
3. All earthwork and grading shall conform to Chapter 10, Erosion and Sediment Control, of the Hawaii County Code.
4. All sidewalk improvements shall conform to Chapter 22, Streets and Sidewalks, of the Hawaii County Code, DPW Standard Details, and the State's ADA requirements.
5. The corner feature at the intersection of Kinoole Street and Ponahawai Street may not be allowed. Pursuant to Section 22-8 of Chapter 22, obstructions within a corner radius of thirty feet are not allowed.

Ltr. to Nishimura
September 27, 1996
Page 2 of 2

6. The existing right-of-way, property lines, and future road widening, should be laid-out, and all development features setback.
7. Consult with our Traffic Division for possible travel lane(s) and on-street parking realignments.
8. Wastewater disposal shall meet the rules and regulations of the DPW, Wastewater Division.
9. Flood Zone "AE" and "AE-floodway", affects the subject parcel as designated by the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), dated September 18, 1988. Any new construction or substantial improvements within this parcel will be subject to the requirements of Chapter 27 - Flood Control, of the Hawaii County Code.

However, the Alenaio Stream Flood Control Project will remove this flood zone designation and will reclassify this area as a Flood Zone "X". The County, with the Corps of Engineers, is in the process of applying for a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) to FEMA. Approval of this LOMR should be secured before any development.

Should there be any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact Casey Yanagihara in our Engineering Division at 961-8327.


Galen M. Kuba, Division Chief
Engineering Division

CKY

cc : Planning Department
Parks & Recreation



DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY • COUNTY OF HAWAII

25 AUPUNI STREET • HILO, HAWAII 96720
TELEPHONE (808) 969-1421 • FAX (808) 969-6996

September 26, 1996

Mr. Brian T. Nishimura
101 Aupuni Street, Suite 217
Hilo, HI 96720

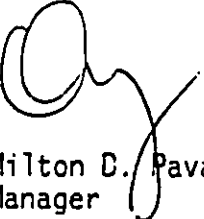
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT NOTICE FOR LINCOLN PARK IMPROVEMENTS
TAX MAP KEY 2-3-10:1

This is in response to the subject notice.

For your information, the subject property is serviced by an existing 1-inch meter.

We request that the anticipated peak-hour and maximum daily demand for the proposed improvements as recommended by a professional engineer, registered in the State of Hawaii, be submitted for our review and approval.

For your information, effective July 31, 1996, our new telephone number is 961-8660 and fax number is 961-8657.


Milton D. Pavao, P.E.
Manager

WA:cmk

copy - Department of Parks and Recreation

... Water brings progress...

APPENDIX B

Comments and responses made during the draft Environmental Assessment review period.

BENJAMIN J. CAYLTANO
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION
33 SOUTH KING STREET, 6TH FLOOR
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

January 23, 1997

MICHAEL D. WILSON, CHAIRPERSON
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FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DIVISION
LAND DIVISION
STATE PARKS
WATER AND LAND DEVELOPMENT

LOG NO: 18774
DOC NO: 9701coll
Architecture

Mr. Brian T. Nishimura
Planning Consultant
101 Aupuni Street, Suite 217
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Dear Mr. Nishimura:

SUBJECT: Lincoln Park Improvement Project
TMK 2-3-10:01, Hilo, Hawaii

Thank you for the opportunity to review the photographs of the pavilion/restroom facility at Lincoln Park. As described the work will be to provide accessibility at the restrooms and other work will be limited to structural and roof repair, retaining the decorative brackets and other character defining features. We believe the project will have 'no effect' on the historic character of the structure.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Should you have any questions please contact Carol Ogata at 587-0004.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don Hibbard".

DON HIBBARD, Administrator
State Historic Preservation Division

CO:jk

BRIAN T. NISHIMURA, PLANNING CONSULTANT

101 Aupuni Street
Suite 217
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Phone: (808) 935-7692 Fax: (808) 935-6126

February 10, 1997

Mr. Don Hibbard, Administrator
State Historic Preservation Division
Department of Land and Natural Resources
33 South King Street, 6th floor
Honolulu, HI. 96813

Subject: Lincoln Park Improvement Project
TMK: (3) 2-3-10: 1 Hilo, Hawaii

Dear Mr. Hibbard:

Thank you for the comments dated January 23, 1997, regarding the above-described project (LOG NO: 18774/DOC NO: 9701coll Architecture). The Department of Parks and Recreation agrees with your determination that the project will have "no effect" on the historic character of the pavilion/restroom facility at Lincoln Park.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,


BRIAN T. NISHIMURA
Planning Consultant