



FILE COPY

DEC - 8 2016

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

November 4, 2016

Aedward Los Banos  
Acting Executive Director  
Hawai'i Community Development Authority  
547 Queen Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
QUALITY CONTROL

16 NOV 15 12:04

RECEIVED

Dear Mr. Los Banos:

Subject: Acceptance of the Kaka'ako Makai Parks Active Use Facilities Master Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement

I hereby accept the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Kaka'ako Makai Parks Active Use Facilities Master Plan, as satisfactory fulfillment of the requirements of Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The economic, social, and environmental impacts that will likely occur, should this project be implemented, are adequately described in the statement. The analysis, together with the comments made by reviewers, provide useful information to policy makers and the public.

My acceptance of the statement is an affirmation of the adequacy of that statement under the applicable laws. I find that the mitigation measures proposed in the environmental impact statement will minimize the negative impacts of the project. Further, I find the discussion of unresolved issues and potential for subsequent environmental review to be sufficient.

In implementing this project, I direct the Hawai'i Community Development District and/or its agent to perform these or comparable mitigation measures at the discretion of the relevant agencies. The mitigation measures identified in the environmental impact statement are summarized in the attached document.

With warmest regards,

David Y. Ige  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

Attachment: Mitigation Measures Summary

c: Office of Environmental Quality Control

#17-219

**SUMMARY OF MITIGATION MEASURES  
IDENTIFIED IN THE  
KAKA'AKO MAKAI PARKS ACTIVE USE FACILITIES MASTER PLAN  
FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**Attachment to the Governor's Acceptance**

Mitigation measures for the Kaka'ako Makai Parks Active Use Facilities Master Plan are summarized below. Full details of the entire range of mitigation measures are included in the project's Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and should be referred to as appropriate when direction and guidance is sought for implementation:

**Climate** – The proposed Master Plan is not expected to have an impact on climatic conditions and no mitigation measures are anticipated.

**Geology and Topography** – The proposed Master Plan will maintain the majority of the existing topography of the Parks. Elements requiring re-contouring of park mounds and contours seek to improve panoramic views, address drainage, and reconfigure and decentralized parking to promote open and accessible green space. These elements include a biergarten and amphitheater, as well as the removal of the existing Waterfront Park main parking lot (parking will be relocated) and adjacent mound to expand the Great lawn. Any construction upon mounds will require geotechnical study to ensure stability of soils.

Master Plan improvements that involve grading or re-contouring of the mounds will require: testing (characterization of solids and gases); feasibility study (cost/benefit analysis of making changes to the mounds); and hazard planning (to avoid risk to health and safety of workers and the public during construction). HCDA will prepare all required studies before proceeding with design of Master Plan improvements that involve site redevelopment (e.g., grading or recontouring of the landfill mounds). Section 4.34 (Landfill Soils) and Appendix C (Landfill Assessment) provide additional information about the landfill mound and studies recommended before proceeding with any grading or re-contouring of the mounds.

All grading will conform to the City and County of Honolulu's grading ordinance and section 11- 60.133, HAR Fugitive Dust and Section 11-54-1.1, HAR, Anti-degradation policy.

**Soils** – Impacts to soils, such as soil erosion can occur during construction and over the life of a development due to rainwater runoff. During construction, best management practices for soil and erosion control will be implemented to contain and/or filter any runoff and to control sedimentation, erosion, and dust. Given the Kaka'ako Makai Parks are within the Special Management Area (SMA), proposed improvements will comply with the requirements of the SMA use under Chapter 15-150, HAR.

**Ground and Surface Water** – The improvements to the Kaka'ako Makai Parks are not anticipated to have any significant adverse impact on groundwater or surface water resources. The Master Plan proposes the installation of bioswales around the parking lot to filter stormwater before it is conveyed to drainage ways to ensure that Park elements do not contribute to the degradation of surface water resources. During construction, best management practices to control sediment, erosion, dust, or polluting runoff from flowing into waterways will be employed to the maximum extent practicable.

- **Tsunami** – Given the proximity of the Kaka'ako Makai Parks to the shoreline and location within the SMA, HCDA will adhere to appropriate civil defense evacuation procedures to mitigate impacts of tsunamis.
- **Sea Level Rise** – The Center for Island Climate Adaptation and Policy (ICAP) and UH Sea Grant note that sea level is expected to rise one foot by 2050 and three feet by 2100, as a result of global climate changes (ICAP, 2011). No new structures are planned in low-lying areas that could potentially be impacted by a sea level rise. Mitigation measures in low-lying areas susceptible to sea level rise could include re-designating uses and/or relocating critical infrastructure. It is important to note that parks and open spaces contribute to resiliency of urban neighborhoods through acceptance of flood waters and storm surge, however long-term solutions to stem sea level rise are beyond the scope of the proposed park improvements and may best be handled through national and global policy changes to mitigate climate change.

**Archaeological and Historic Resources** – Section 6E-8 HRS is applicable to proposed development in the Parks. Therefore, prior to design of Park elements, HCDA will provide the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) with an opportunity for review of the effect of the Park elements on any historic property, ground disturbing activities, and/or any federal permits, consistent with section 6E-43, HRS. In the event that historic resources, including human skeletal remains, cultural layers, cultural deposits, features artifacts, or sink holes, lava tubes, or lava blisters/bubbles are identified during construction and/or other activities, all work in the immediate vicinity of the find will cease, the find will be protected, and SHPD will be contacted immediately.

**Cultural Resources** – Prior, extensive efforts by HCDA to engage and identify cultural and community groups has occurred and satisfy compliance with Section 343-2, HRS and protocols listed in the OEQC Guidelines for Assessing Cultural Impacts. No adverse effect on cultural resources and practices are expected to result from the Master Plan improvements. No mitigation measures are recommended or suggested.

The Parks occupy land that did not exist prior to the mid-20th Century. It is widely accepted and recognized that other than surfing and subsistence and sports fishing, few if any pre-contact cultural practices continue in the Parks or immediate area. Master Plan improvements will not restrict existing public access to the ocean available through the Parks. As such park improvements are not anticipated to affect the exercise of Native Hawaiian rights, or any ethnic group, related to gathering, access or other customary activities.

**Sound** –To help mitigate temporary construction noise, HCDA will work with contractors to ensure adherence to DOH regulations and the use of proper equipment and regular vehicle maintenance. Equipment mufflers or other noise attenuating equipment may also be employed as additional mitigation.

Should the amphitheater be relocated to the southwestern portion of the Kaka'ako Waterfront Park and re-oriented north as proposed in the Master Plan, sound mitigation methods and techniques can be integrated as part of amphitheater design and operations; sound impacts are probable if propagation and mitigation are not accounted for during design. Conditions including wind direction, location of listener, as well as amphitheater design and operation mitigation measures can result in either lower or

shoreline promenade extension between Kewalo Basin Park and neighboring Ala Moana Regional Park.

A bikeshare station is proposed in the Gateway Park at the intersection of Ohe and Ilalo Streets as suggested by the Honolulu Bikeshare Organizational Study. Further, additional bicycle parking facilities (such as racks and posts) are envisioned, although exact locations within the Parks have not been determined.

The Master Plan improvements will comply with Off-Street Parking and Loading requirements as set forth in §15-23-68 and §15-23-69, HAR, respectively. Through design of decentralized parking, on-site and off-site parking (planned by HCDA on neighboring properties), and use of loading and unloading areas, the Master Plan accommodates the increased public use anticipated by proposed Park elements.

- **Water** – The City and County of Honolulu's Board of Water Supply has determined that the existing water system is adequate to accommodate the proposed improvements in the Kaka'ako Makai Parks. For Kewalo Basin Park and Kaka'ako Gateway Park no increases in domestic maximum daily demand are anticipated, as only minimal on-site water system improvements are necessary. For Kaka'ako Waterfront Park the Master Plan improvements anticipate an additional domestic maximum daily demand of approximately 21,160 gal/day to accommodate required new fire hydrants and additional potable water demand for the food concessions and the biergarten. These facilities will be designed to be as efficient as possible, such that water consumption increases may be offset by installation of new, efficient comfort station fixtures.
- **Wastewater** – The Master Plan improvements anticipate minor on-site sewer improvements at Kewalo Basin Park and Kaka'ako Gateway Park as increases in sewer quantities are not anticipated. To accommodate additional wastewater generation resulting from the Kaka'ako Waterfront Park, proposed food concessions and biergarten elements, a new on-site sanitary sewer collection system is needed. This system will consist of gravity sewer lines, clean-out-to-grade, and sewer manholes, as well as grease interceptors for proposed food preparation facilities. The Honolulu's Department of Planning and Permitting - Wastewater Branch (WWB) approved a sewer connection application to accommodate the sewer improvements for the Kaka'ako Makai Parks, including the new on-site sanitary collection system of Kaka'ako Waterfront Park. Supplemental facilities such as portable toilets to manage wastewater generation will be necessary for special events within the park, such as festivals and concerts.
- **Drainage** – The Storm Water Management Program Plans (SWMPP) for Kewalo Basin Harbor and for Kaka'ako Community Development District outline procedures and directives for Kaka'ako Makai and also dictate the post-construction storm water management for new or redeveloped areas which would discharge into the municipal separate storm sewer system.

The Master Plan improvements and construction projects will comply with the respective SWMPP. Further, any increase in runoff due to the proposed improvements will be retained on-site to mitigate any significant adverse effects on the environment. The Master Plan improvements will comply with the CCH's Section II Standards for Storm Water Quality such that appropriate Low Impact Development (LID) site design strategies will be implemented to

picnicking, and nature enjoyment are proposed to continue. A number of Master Plan improvements are proposed to complement existing recreation facilities, including extending the existing promenade through Kewalo Basin Park and Ala Moana Regional Park. Additionally, some of the Master Plan improvements are proposed to augment active recreation, such as the installation of slides in the adventure zone and the provision of space for the construction of courts in the sports complex.

**Re-development of Landfill Mounds** – Should the Kaka'ako Makai Parks Active Use Facilities Master Plan be fully implemented, the primary unresolved issue relates to movement or re-contouring of the landfill ash mounds. As discussed in Appendix C, redevelopment of the park involving changes to the mounds will require: testing (characterization of solids and gasses); feasibility study (consider the cost/benefit of making changes to the mounds); and hazard planning (to avoid risk to health and safety of workers and the public).

**Supplemental EIS** – If there is a major or substantial change to the proposed activity or if different environmental impacts are anticipated, a further Supplemental EIS shall be prepared in addition to this Final EIS. Any further Supplemental EIS shall be reviewed in accordance with Chapter 343, HRS, and Chapter 200, of Title 11, HAR. Specifically, if a project-specific sports complex, such as enclosed gyms, or if moving the outdoor amphitheater is pursued, the potential for impacts from additional vehicular traffic and parking needs, sound, demand on public facilities and construction of structures in the shoreline area will require greater design development and consideration.