Summary:

The Department of Health (DOH) initiated Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) consultation with the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800. In 1990, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) designated the DOH to act on EPA’s behalf, pursuant to 36 CFR §800.2 (c) (4), when initiating Section 106 of the NHPA process in connection with projects funded under the Hawaii Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF).

The DOH is providing funding under the CWSRF to the City and County of Honolulu, Department of Facility Maintenance for the Ala Wai Golf Course Access Road and Parking Lot Improvements – NPDES Small MS4 Permit Program Project. The proposed project will utilize federal funding and is considered an undertaking, as defined by Section 106 of the NHPA, 54 U.S.C. §306101 et seq., and 36 CFR Part 800.

The proposed improvement project will entail a redesign of the golf course access road, parking lots, and chipping green, as well as the installation of temporary erosion control measures, creation of multiple bio-retention basins, installation of utility lines and a new chain link fence along the Kapahulu Avenue. Excavations will range from 0.6-0.9 m (2-3 ft.) below surface, the deepest and largest excavations required will be for the bioretention basins. The existing footprint of the access road and parking lot will be generally maintained. Portions of the parking lot will be raised to divert drainage to the bioretention basins.

The DOH has engaged SHPD to determine the presence of potential sites of historic importance within the vicinity of the project area as well as the potential impact of the project on such sites, if present.
Dr. Alan Downer, Administrator
Hawai‘i State Historic Preservation Division
Department of Land and Natural Resources
Kakuhihewa Building
601 Kamokila Blvd., Suite 555
Kapolei, Hawaii 96707

Subject: Initiation of Consultation under Section 106 of National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 36 CFR Part 800
Ala Wai Golf Course Access Road & Parking Lot Improvements
Waikiki Ahupua‘a, Honolulu (Kona) District, Island of O‘ahu
TMK: (1) 2-7-036:002
Clean Water Station Revolving Fund Project No. NPS0048-01

Dear Dr. Downer:

The City and County of Honolulu, Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM) proposes improvements to the existing Ala Wai golf course access road and parking lots; landscaping; relocation of the fire hydrants and miscellaneous site utilities including water, electrical, irrigation, and drain lines; installation of new concrete sidewalks, curbs, and chain link fencing with gates; and installation of storm water retention basins. The proposed improvement project will entail a redesign of the golf course access road, parking lots, and chipping green, as well as the installation of temporary erosion control measures, creation of multiple bio-retention basins, installation of utility lines and a new chain link fence along the Kapahulu Avenue. Excavations will range from 0.6-0.9 m (2-3 ft.) below surface, the deepest and largest excavations required will be for the bioretention basins. The existing footprint of the access road and parking lot will be generally maintained. Portions of the parking lot will be raised to divert drainage to the bioretention basins.

The EPA awards capitalization grants to States to establish State Revolving Fund (SRF) programs within State Agencies (SRF Agency) that was authorized under the Clean Water Act (CWA) (33 u.s.c. 1251 et. seq., as amended). As the proposed project will be funded through SRF assistance, and as SRF assistance is made available to States by federal capitalization funds, the proposed project is considered a Federal undertaking as defined by §800.16(y) and therefore subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 36 CFR Part 800. In compliance with the 1990 Programmatic Agreement on Historic Preservation for the State Revolving Fund, whereby the EPA authorized the SRF Agency or other designated State agency to carry out the requirements and responsibilities of NHPA as a condition of its award of any capitalization grants, the Department of Health (DOH) is initiating consultation pursuant to Section 106 §800.3 for the proposed project.
The purposes of this letter are as follows:

1) Introduce and provide background on the proposed undertaking;
2) Initiate consultation with the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) pursuant to Section 106 Sub Part 800.3 as stated above;
3) Advise SHPD that the City and County of Honolulu initiated consultation with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and others to be named or identified by SHPD or other means; and,
4) Invite public involvement in Section 106 consultation through the Office of Environmental Quality Control website.

Project Site Location

The 10.7-acre project area includes the existing access road and parking lots along the southern boundary of the golf course, the chipping green, and the southern half of the fence line along Kapahulu Avenue. Figure 1 shows the location of the Ala Wai Golf Course access and parking lots improvements project.

Area of Potential Effect (APE)

The project excavations will range from 0.6-0.9 m (2-3 ft.) below surface, the deepest and largest excavations required will be for the bioretention basins. Figure 2 shows the Bioretention basins in the area of the Ala Wai Golf Course Road and Parking Lots.

Previous Archaeological Studies and Documentation

The following documents were submitted to SHPD, as pursuant to Section 106, 36 CFR 800.3 of NHPA.

1. The Final From Farm to Fair to Fairway: An Archaeological Inventory Survey for the Ala Wai Golf Course Access Road, Parking Lots, Chipping Green, and Fence Line Improvements Project, Waikiki Ahupua’a, Honolulu District, O’ahu: TMK (1) 2-7-036:002 (Portion)
2. An Archaeological Monitoring Plan For The Ala Wai Golf Course Access Road And Parking Improvements Project Waikiki Ahupua’a, Honolulu District, O’ahu Island, Hawai’i [TMK: (1) 2-7-036:002 por.]
3. Final Burial Treatment Plan for Site 50-80-14-7959, Waikiki Ahupua’a, Honolulu District, O’ahu TMK (1) 2-7-036-002 (Portion)

The following approval letters were received from SHPD, as pursuant to Section 106, 36 CFR 800.3 of NHPA.

2. Chapter 6E-8 Historic Preservation Review - Archaeological Inventory Survey for the Ala Wai Golf Course Access Road and Parking, dated 2/3/2017;
4. Chapter 6E-8 Historic Preservation Review - Archaeological Monitoring Plan for the Ala Wai Golf Course Access Road, Parking Lots, Chipping Green, and Fence Line Improvements Project Waikiki Ahupua’a, Honolulu (Kona) District, Island of O’ahu TMK: (1) 2-7-036:002 por., dated 4/21/2017; and


SHPD accepted the Archaeological Inventory Survey report, which meets the requirement of HAR Chapter 13-276-5. Following the recommendation of the O’ahu Island Burial Council, the DRAFT Burial Treatment Plan for the project and SIHP 50-80-14-7959 was accepted by the SHPD. SHPD accepted the AMP and requested to be notified at the start of archaeological monitoring.

Consultation

In addition to consulting with the SHPD office, the DFM consulted with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) in October and December of 2016. OHA provided comments on February 16, 2017. On December 9, 2016, a consultation letter was sent to individuals previously recognized by the O’ahu Island Burial Council (OIBC) as cultural descendants for Waikiki (the consultant list was provided by the SHPD). No responses were received. During December 2016, multiple attempts were made to contact Kumu Karen Carrol to obtain additional information regarding her designation of the Site 7960 boulders as culturally significant stones. No responses were received.

We ask that you review the information provided in this letter and respond with formal comment within 30 days of receipt. Please address any written comments you may have to the following:

Sue S. Liu, Environmental Engineer
State of Hawaii
Department of Health, Wastewater Branch
919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 309
Honolulu, Hawai’i  96814

We appreciate your assistance with this request. Should you have any questions, please contact Ms. Sue Liu of our office at 586-4294. We look forward to your continued participation and guidance in this Section 106 consultation process.

Sincerely,

SINA PRUDE, P.E., CHIEF
Wastewater Branch

Enclosures

c: Mr. Randall Wakumoto, DFM, CCH, (via email at rwakumoto@honolulu.gov)
Figure 1. Location of the Ala Wai Golf Course Access Road and Parking Lots Improvements Project.
Figure 2. Bioretention basins in the area of the Ala Wai Golf Course Access Road and Parking Lots.