County of Kaua’i Police Station Improvements Exemption Notice

Pursuant to Hawai’i Revised Statutes (HRS) § 343(a)(2) and Hawai’i Administrative Rules (HAR) § 11-200.1-15

AGENCY ACTION:

This is a County of Kaua’i, Kaua’i Police Department action as defined by Section 343-5(b), HRS, and Section 11-200.1-8, HAR.

EXEMPTION TYPE:

The Kaua’i Police Department does not have a Comprehensive Exemption List on file for the County of Kaua’i, Kaua’i Police Department, but is providing this Exemption Notice in compliance with Chapter 343, HRS.

The Exemption Notice for this action is based on the general, non-exhaustive types enumerated in HAR Section 11-200.1-15(c) and listed below:

(1) Operations, repairs, or maintenance of existing structures, facilities, equipment, or topographical features, involving minor expansion or minor change of use beyond that previously existing.

(2) 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 to be replaced.

(3) Construction and location of single, new, small facilities or structures and the alteration and modification of the facilities or structures; and installation of new, small equipment or facilities and the alteration and modification of the equipment or facilities.

PROJECT INFORMATION:

Proposing Agency or Applicant: County of Kaua’i, Kaua’i Police Department

Project Name & Address/Location: Installation of Hydraulic Auto-Lift Parking System on current paved area of Kaua’i Police Department, 3990 Kaana Street, Līhu‘e, Hawai‘i 96766

Anticipated Start Date: December 1, 2022

Anticipated End Date: February 28, 2022

Island and District: Island of Kaua’i, District of Puna
Tax Map Key: 

TMK (4) 3-6-002-018

All Necessary Permits and Approvals: 

Applicant is requesting an amendment to a Class IV Zoning Permit Z-IV-2000-27 in order to permit the installation of the hydraulic auto-lift parking system.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION NARRATIVE:

The attached plans (POLICE DEPARTMENT AUTO LIFT – BP21-1521) more fully describe the system and the installation. A new concrete slab will measure approximately 17′ X 90' and will accommodate a total of ten (10) auto lift racks (30 cars total). The location of this new lift will be situated in a secured area between the existing evidence storage building and tensile structure for the mobile command center that is situated on the southern portion of the parcel. The total height is approximately 22′ 2 1/8″. There are taller structures in the vicinity including the adjacent existing evidence storage building, Ke Hale Makai Police Station, police training tower, State Judiciary, and Vidinha Stadium. We do not anticipate any negative impacts as a result of the installation and operation of the lift system.

The property is zoned General Commercial (C-G)/Special Treatment - Public (ST-P). In addition to the police station, other municipal uses in the area include the State of Hawaii Judiciary, the Kauai Emergency Management Agency (KEMA), County of Kauai Transportation department, and Vidinha Stadium.

While such modifications do not require a Zoning Permit (Ord. No. 935, November 12, 2012; Ord. No. 1085, December 3, 2020); Section 8-11.3 of the Kauai County Code (1987) as amended, states that no uses, structures, or development shall be allowed in the Special Treatment- Open Space Districts without express provision to the contrary. As such, the Applicant has submitted the requisite request for a zoning amendment to the County of Kaua‘i, Planning Commission to allow for this project.

RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT:

The Kaua‘i Police Department is proposing to create a new concrete slab in an already paved portion of the Kaua‘i Police Department complex. On this slab will be built a hydraulic auto-lift structure with an approximate height of 22′ 2 1/8″. There exist taller structures in the immediate vicinity including the adjacent evidence storage building, Ke Hale Makai Police Station, police training tower, State Judiciary, and Vidinha Stadium.
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:
I have considered the potential effects of the proposed project and all related activities against the criteria checked below:

- Land Use and Zoning Conformance
- Traffic (Vehicles, Bicycles, Pedestrian)
- Infrastructure (Roads, Buildings, Utilities)
- Air Quality Pollutant Emissions
- Noise Emissions
- Solid, Hazardous, and Liquid Waste Management
- Social
- Economic
- Health and Safety
- Recreation
- Public Beach Access
- Cultural Resources and Practices
- Visual/Aesthetic
- Environmental Justice
- Rare, Threatened, and/or Endangered Species
- Surface and Ground Water Resources
- Wetlands
- Floodplains
- Riparian/Coastal Resources
- Other

MITIGATION

Describe all mitigation measures and best management practices planned to address impacts during the project activities and after project completion:

The intent of the project’s design efforts is to construct an improvement to vehicle storage which will be built on an already-existing paved lot within the Kaua‘i Police Department complex. Although a new concrete slab will be created in this area, it will be located between existing structures and storage on the property. As such, the effects on the environment will be minimal, and best management practices (BMPs) will be used by all involved to mitigate any potential negative effects.

Because this area has already been developed, there is a very low risk of the discovery of cultural resources or human remains. However, in the event of inadvertent discovery of cultural resources or human remains, all work will immediately stop in the vicinity of the find and the County will
contact the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD).

All U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)-recommended mitigation measures for endangered species that could be present will be employed.

Per the DLNR Division of Forestry and Wildlife, deleterious impacts to transiting seabirds can be avoided if construction occurs during daylight hours and all outdoor lighting installed is fully “dark sky compliant” (DLNR, 2016).

BMPs and relevant permit conditions will mitigate minimal impacts from fugitive dust, stormwater runoff, erosion, foreign object and debris (FOD), noise, and relevant construction impacts.

TRAFFIC:

The project area is already part of the existing Kaua‘i Police Department complex. There will be no significant traffic increase, level of service degradation, or expected road closures resulting from the project. Although the project will generate some traffic, work activity will be coordinated with regular operations and therefore no adverse traffic impact is anticipated.

ECONOMIC:

There may be short-term positive impact to the economy in the form of construction-related employment, but the extent of the impact is limited and is not considered to be significant. The proposed project is limited to the construction of the auto-lift parking system on the existing, developed Kaua‘i Police Department complex and will not affect or require the relocation of residents or businesses within the area.

AIR QUALITY POLLUTANT EMISSIONS:

With the implementation of mitigation measures, such as use of dust control measures, the construction activities would not be expected to impair air quality standards set by state or federal air quality standards. The existing conditions for air quality are generally good near the project area due to its location on the island and prevailing winds. Construction emissions such as fugitive dust will not be long-term due to the limited duration of the project. All construction activities will comply with HAR Chapter 11-59, Ambient Air Quality Standards, and Chapter 11-60, Air Pollution Control, to mitigate against construction-related emissions.

NOISE EMISSIONS:

Construction-related noise is expected to be created from the proposed activity. Although noise will be generated, it will not be expected to exceed or change existing noise exposure levels. Noise generated would not be anticipated to impact noise sensitive areas such as residential, educational, or park areas. Noise sensitive areas are not within the project area and are not likely to be impacted due to the distance. For context, the Līhuʻe Airport is located less than one mile from the proposed project site. Generated noise from construction activities will be mitigated.
SOLID, HAZARDOUS, AND LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT:

The project is not expected to generate significant levels of solid waste. The proposed project will be compliant with HAR Chapter 11-58, Solid Waste Management, for proper disposal and handling of construction and demolition debris waste. All waste will be properly disposed of at a state or federal permitted facility.

HEALTH AND SAFETY:

The proposed project will comply with all safety standards to ensure the safety of workers, public, and the environment. The contractor will implement safety devices and follow rules and regulations as required. There are no expected increase demands for medical, fire, or protective services. Preparations for potential accidental spills or injuries would be arranged prior to construction activities.

CULTURAL RESOURCES AND PRACTICES:

The proposed project area does not include any historical structures or registered places, so there should be no impact. Additionally, the new concrete slab and auto-lift structure to be built on it will be placed in an already paved portion of the Kaua‘i Police Department complex. As such, there is low risk for the discovery of human remains or cultural artifacts. Despite this, in the event of inadvertent discovery of cultural resources or human remains, all work will immediately stop in the vicinity of the find and the County will contact the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD).

RARE, THREATENED, AND/OR ENDANGERED SPECIES:

No impacts to any species listed or considered rare, threatened, or endangered under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act are anticipated. There are no designated critical habitats in or near the project area. Federally delineated Critical Habitat is not present in the project areas (USFWS, n.d.). No equivalent designation exists under state law. Conservation Zoning in Hawaii is promulgated at the state level by state Conservation Districts. No Conservation Districts occur near the project sites. The proposed project will involve the implementation of recommendations that will minimize impacts to protected species to the maximum extent practicable.

SURFACE OR GROUNDWATER RESOURCES:

BMPs will address minimal drainage impacts during the project construction phase. The overall project impact to groundwater, hydrology, and surface water will be minimal and will improve water quality.

FLOODPLAINS:

The construction of the concrete slab and auto-lift atop it will not have any significant impact to floodplains, and minimal adverse impact to life and property is anticipated.
EXEMPT DECLARATION:

The direct, cumulative, and potential impacts of the action described above have been considered pursuant to Chapter 343, Hawai‘i Revised Statutes and Chapter 11-200.1, Hawai‘i Administrative Rules. I declare that the action described above will have minimal or no significant impact on the environment and is therefore exempt from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment.

Signature of Director or Delegate
Todd Raybuck
Chief of Police

Mar 23, 2022
Date

☒ This document is on file in our office and is available for public review.
☒ This document has been submitted to the Office of Environmental Quality Control for publication in The Environmental Notice.