



## HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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TO: 1. HCDA-Maintained Public Files for Chapter 343 HRS Exemption Determinations  
2. Environmental Review Program, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development

FROM: Craig K. Nakamoto, Executive Director, HCDA

SUBJECT: Exemption Notice for Grant of Non-Exclusive Easement for a Portion of Cooke Street (TMK: [1] 2-1-052:055)

DATE: October 23, 2024

### AGENCY OR APPLICANT ACTION

Check applicable box

- This exempted action is an agency action as defined by Section 343-5(b), Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), and Section 11-200.1-8, Hawai'i Administrative Rules (HAR)
- This exempted action is an applicant action as defined by Section 343-5(e), HRS, and Section 11-200.1-9, HAR

### EXEMPTION TYPE

- The Exemption Notice for the action described below is based on the general types enumerated in Section 11-200.1-15(c), Hawai'i Administrative Rules (HAR), Exemption Type **8, Continuing administrative activities.**
- As applicable, the exemption for the action described below is also supported by the Exemption List for the [name of agency], reviewed and concurred to by the Environmental Council on [date of concurrence].
- Exemption List Class \_\_\_\_.
  - Item Number \_\_\_\_.
  - Applicable language from the exemption list:

### DESCRIPTION OF ACTION

Proposing Agency or Applicant: Hawaii Community Development Authority

Project Name & Address/Location: Grant of Non-Exclusive Easement for a Portion of Cooke Street (TMK: [1] 2-1-052:055), Kaka'ako, Honolulu, HI 96813

Anticipated Start Date: 10/23/2024

Anticipated End Date: N/A

Island and District: O‘ahu, Honolulu

Tax Map Key(s) and other geolocation means: [1] 2-1-052: 055

All Necessary Permits and Approvals:

### **NARRATIVE**

Describe the action and why it qualifies for the exemption: The HCDA is granting a non-exclusive and perpetual easement to Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. (HE) for an easement area approximately 353 square feet in size. Two parcels make up the easement area, both of which are located on the southeast side of Cooke Street and between 150 and 190 feet from the intersection of Cooke and Pohukaina Streets. The easement will allow HE to use, operate, maintain, and repair one or more public road accesses and to access, enter, and cross in, over, under and across the easement area by vehicle or by foot. At the same time, it will not change public use of Cooke Street. Granting of such easements is consistent with the duties of the HCDA as owner and manager of land assets within the Kaka‘ako Community Development District and where this power is authorized by HRS 206E-4(17).

### **RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT**

Describe the site, including any impacts on the receiving environment: The HCDA-owned easement area resulted from the realignment of Cooke Street and is not readily distinguishable from the roadway itself. The easement area is a narrow strip along the Diamond Head side of Cooke Street that comes to a point at the northeast end. The point touches the parcel at 531 Cooke Street which is owned by HE. The strip extends down Cooke Street in the makai direction and wraps around Pohukaina Street. The easement area is partially located within the Cooke Street roadway and also includes the concrete sidewalk and private driveways. Industrial buildings line the Diamond Head of Cooke Street, while Mother Waldron Park is located on the Ewa side. In the block between Pohukaina Street and Halekauwila Street, Cooke Street is primarily a two-lane road with one travel lane in each direction and on-street, metered parking on both sides.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS**

I have considered the potential effects of the proposed project and all related activities against the criteria checked below:

	Not Applicable
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Use and Zoning Conformance	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Traffic (Vehicles, Bicycles, Pedestrian)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure (Roads, Buildings, Utilities)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality Pollutant Emissions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Noise Emissions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Solid, Hazardous, and Liquid Waste Management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Social	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Economic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Health and Safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- 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

Comments/summary of impact analysis:

- The grant of easement notwithstanding, the agreement provides for access to current and future development on parcels adjacent to the easement area.
- Road operations and capacity for vehicles and pedestrians will not be affected by the easement. There is no designated bicycle facility on Cooke Street.
- As the grantee, HE, is allowed to construct improvements in or upon the easement area, such as infrastructure, and is responsible for its maintenance and repair.
- There are no natural, historic, or cultural resources on or surrounding the easement area. The grant of easement will not harm Native Hawaiian traditional or customary practices.

**MITIGATION**

Describe all mitigation measures and best management practices planned to address impacts during the project activities and after project completion: This action is not anticipated to have effects warranting mitigation.

**CONSULTATION**

The following parties have been consulted about this declaration exemption:

**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.

*Craig Nakamoto*

Signature of Director or Delegate

10/23/2024

Date

This document is to be kept on file in the agency’s records and made available for public review

- Please check here if this document is being submitted to the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development for voluntary publication in *The Environmental Notice*