STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
Land Division  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  

November 30, 2012  

Board of Land and Natural Resources  
State of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii  

ESF No: 970D-159  
OAHU  

Amend Prior Board Action of March 24, 1988, Item F-9,  
Acquisition of Land for Kukaniloko Birth Site Situate at  
Wahiawa, Oahu, TMK: (1) 7-1-001:004, as previously amended,  
by Changing the Recipient Agency of Set Aside by Governor’s  
Executive Order from Division of State Parks to Office of  
Hawaiian Affairs.  

BACKGROUND:  

The Kukaniloko Birth Site (Kūkaniloko Birthstones site) is considered  
one of the most significant Hawaiian cultural sites on O'ahu, and is  
listed on both the National and Hawai'i Registers of Historic Places.  
Acquisition of the subject property together with access thereto, and  
issuance of an Executive Order setting aside the acquired property to  
the Division of State Parks (State Parks), pursuant to §171-11, HRS,  
were both approved by the Land Board on March 24, 1988, under Item F-9  
of the Board meeting Agenda, attached hereto for reference as Exhibit  
A. A 5-acre parcel encompassing the original 0.585 acre Birthstones  
site and a buffer zone and parking area, together with a perpetual  
non-exclusive access easement, was acquired by the State of Hawai'i in  
1992 by friendly condemnation for the purpose of preservation and  
maintenance of the historically significant site, for just  
compensation of $249,500. A recent aerial photo, and a map of the  
subject property are attached for reference as Exhibits B and C,  
respectively.  

Soon after acquisition, State Parks began developing plans for  
interpretation and management of the historic property consistent with  
the public purpose for which the land was acquired. A curator  
agreement between State Parks and the Hawaiian Civic Club of Wahiawa  
washed approved by the Land Board on February 14, 1997, under its meeting  
Agenda Item E-1, for a period of five years with an option to extend.  
The agreement was subsequently extended for an additional five years  
through March 2008.  

In May of 1999, State Parks, in cooperation with both the Hawaiian  
Civic Club of Wahiawa and the Friends of Kukaniloko, completed an  
interpretive plan which focused on cultural history, resource  
management and the preservation of view corridors. Although the  
curator agreement with the Hawaiian Civic Club of Wahiawa has expired,  
the Civic Club remains an active partner in the preservation of the  
subject property.
The Twentieth Legislative Session of 1999 passed House Resolution 188 which urged State Parks to conduct a feasibility study to improve the potential of the subject property as a possible cultural tourism site and to consider the kinds of improvements that would need to be made. In December 1999, State Parks responded by submitting a feasibility study for the subject property, but, while State Parks was eager to make the recommended improvements, funding was unavailable at the time.

Management plans for the historic site were implemented soon after acquisition, however, documentation for the executive order to formally set it aside to State Parks was delayed by a lengthy lot consolidation and resubdivision process. In 2012, approval of a petition to Land Court for lot consolidation and resubdivision of the subject property and the surrounding parcels was finally obtained, clearing the way for processing of the Executive Order.

REMARKS:

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA), in a letter to DLNR dated July 31, 2012, and attached hereto as Exhibit D, has requested that the subject property be placed under its management and care via set aside by Executive Order, and also expressed an interest in eventual transfer of title. OHA’s request letter is attached hereto as Exhibit D. While cooperative partnerships between State Parks, the Hawaiian Civic Club of Wahiawa, and Friends of Kūkaniloko have provided management and maintenance of the historic site in the past, State Parks concurs that OHA is an appropriate agency to manage and preserve this culturally important site for the future, in keeping with the original public purpose of the State’s acquisition by condemnation.

OHA also recently confirmed that it is working towards the acquisition of roughly 511 acres surrounding the subject property from the private landowner. With this acquisition, OHA will be able to continue the work started by State Parks by implementing a program of integrated management and care to benefit both these lands and the subject property.

OHA’s interest in acquiring title for the subject property will be addressed under a separate Board agenda item.

With respect to future use of the property, it shall continue to be restricted to the purpose for which the land was originally acquired by the State, which is for the preservation and maintenance of the historically significant Kūkaniloko Birthstone site.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board:

1) Amend its prior Board action of March 24, 1988, under agenda item P-9, as previously amended, by:
   a) replacing item 2 of the RECOMMENDATION section with the following item:
2. Approve of and recommend to the Governor the issuance of an executive order setting aside the subject lands to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs under the terms and conditions cited above, which are by this reference incorporated herein and subject further to the following:

A. The standard terms and conditions of the most current executive order form, as may be amended from time to time;

B. Disapproval by the Legislature by two-thirds vote of either the House of Representatives or the Senate or by a majority vote by both in any regular or special session next following the date of the setting aside;

C. Review and approval by the Department of the Attorney General; and

D. Such other terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Chairperson to best serve the interests of the State.

2) All other terms and conditions listed in its March 24, 1988 approval to remain the same.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]
Barbara J. Lee
Project Development Specialist

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:

[Signature]
William J. Aila, Jr.
Chairperson
March 24, 1988

Board of Land and Natural Resources
Honolulu, Hawaii

Gentlemen:

Subject: Acquisition of Land for the Kukaniloko Birth Site Situate at Wahiawa, Oahu


APPLICANT: Division of State Parks, Department of Land and Natural Resources

FOR: Tax Map Key: 7-1-1:4 together with access thereto
Area: .585 acres
Location: Wahiawa, Oahu

OWNER: George Galbraith Trust, Estate

ZONING: State Land Use Commission: Agriculture
City and County of Honolulu: Agriculture-1

MARKET VALUE: To be determined by an independent appraiser, same subject to the review and acceptance by the Chairperson.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT: To be completed by the Division of State Parks.

REMARKS: Kukaniloko is one of only two famous places in the State for the birth of children of high ranking Chieftesses, and the only such place located on Oahu. Tradition holds that it was first established in about the 12th century, A.D. and used continuously well into historic times. Birth at places such as Kukaniloko were held by the Hawaiians to add a special divine gift to the high rank held by the children of the Chiefs. Extensive legendary materials still exists in written form about the nature and process of childbirth at Kukaniloko. Kukaniloko is a hallowed and sacred place in the legends of Hawaii.
Board of Land and Natural Resources

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board:

1. Authorize the Chairperson to acquire the above-mentioned parcel together with access thereto by negotiations or if necessary, through condemnation proceedings.

2. Upon completion of the acquisition, authorize transmittal of a request to the Governor for the issuance of an Executive Order setting aside the acquired property under the control and management of the Division of State Parks, Department of Land and Natural Resources for State Park purposes.

Respectfully submitted,

MIKE SHIMABUKURO
Land Management Administrator

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:

WILLIAM W. PATY, Chairperson

ITEM F-9

Approved as amended. Amended to add under FOR: "and additional 15± acres surrounding parcel for buffer zone and parking area."
EXHIBIT B
Aerial View of Kukaniloko Birthstones Site
TMK: (1) 7-1-001:004
July 31, 2012

Honorable William J. Aila, Jr., Chairperson
Department of Land and Natural Resources
Kalanimoku Building
1151 Punchbowl Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Kūkaniloko Historic Site

Aloha Mr. Aila:

Pursuant to our formal discussions regarding the management of the Galbraith Estate and the sacred Hawaiian site Kūkaniloko, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) requests the Department of Land and Natural Resource’s consideration for an Executive Order for access as well as the land title transfer of the site to OHA.

Recognized by Native Hawaiians as one of the most significant cultural sites on O‘ahu, Kūkaniloko is recognized and is listed on the National and Hawai‘i Registers of Historic Places.

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs believes that the Kūkaniloko and surrounding properties would greatly benefit from OHA’s integrated management and care.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for questions on this request. I have designated Corporate Counsel, Ernest Kimoto as OHA’s staff contact who can be reached at 594-1954.

‘O wao iho nō,

Kamana‘opono M. Crabbe, Ph.D.
Ka Pouhana, Chief Executive Officer

KC:ek