Board of Land and Natural Resources
State of Hawai‘i
Honolulu, Hawai‘i

SUBJECT: Request for Permission for the Diamond Head State Monument Foundation to Construct an Exercise Park along the Fort Ruger Pathway, Diamond Head State Monument, O‘ahu

The Diamond Head State Monument Foundation (Foundation) requests permission to construct an exercise park along the Fort Ruger Pathway on the exterior slopes of Diamond Head State Monument (SM). The exercise park will include 4 concrete pads, each about 23 feet by 12 feet in size, with outdoor exercise equipment and a new sign identifying the "Bryan Clay Exercise Park," (Attachment 1). This name was selected by the Foundation to recognize and honor Bryan Clay, the World Decathlon Champion and Olympic Gold Medalist (Beijing Olympics 2008) from Hawai‘i. The 9 types of exercise equipment selected are designed by Triactive America for an outdoor setting (Attachment 2). The Foundation’s goal with this exercise park is to encourage and enable people of all ages to exercise in a free, outdoor environment.

The Fort Ruger Pathway is under construction along the exterior slopes of Diamond Head SM from the site of the former Cannon Club to 22nd Avenue and roughly parallel to Diamond Head Road. The Fort Ruger Pathway is a one mile long, 12-foot wide paved and ADA accessible multi-use path with three (3) rest areas with benches and an additional three (3) rest areas with picnic tables. The pathway will provide a safer environment for visitors walking to Diamond Head SM and will provide a venue for residents and visitors to exercise and experience the natural and cultural history of the crater through interpretive signs.

The Diamond Head State Monument Foundation was established in 2005 for the purpose of preserving and protecting the natural setting of Diamond Head State Monument through educational, interpretive, and site improvement projects. The Foundation has had a Kōkua Partnership Agreement with the Department since January 1, 2009, to continue their efforts and develop new projects for other areas in the park. The Foundation conducts projects in the portion of the Monument under the jurisdiction of the Division of State Parks, such as the planting of naupaka on the exterior of the crater along Diamond Head Road, repair of the irrigation system in the area, and other landscaping improvements at Muriel Flanders Rest Stop.

With a generous donation from Mr. Clark Hatch, the Foundation is providing the exercise equipment and will cover the costs for the installation. Work will be conducted

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in accordance with the approved design standards for the Fort Ruger Pathway. In addition, the Foundation will utilize the State Parks sign standards for the new “Bryan Clay Exercise Park” name sign. State Parks will work with the Engineering Division to insure that the construction of the exercise park meets the required design and construction standards. State Parks will eventually take responsibility for the maintenance of these structures as part of the Fort Ruger Pathway. However, the Foundation has agreed to maintain the “Bryan Clay Exercise Park,” equipment, surrounding area, and signs, for a period of 10 years and will repair these structures as needed. State Parks and the Foundation will develop a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to reflect this 10-year commitment.

The Fort Ruger Pathway was proposed in the 2003 Diamond Head SM Master Plan and represents the first phase of park improvements to be implemented from this master plan. The Final Environmental Impact Statement (2000) addressed the construction of the path and as a small-scale addition to this path, the exercise park does not trigger any additional Chapter 343 compliance. An archaeological inventory survey and monitoring plan were prepared for the construction of the Fort Ruger Pathway. Buffers were established to protect the historic properties in the project area, such as the rock and mortar retaining walls on both sides of the pathway that were built in the 1920s as part of the Fort Ruger infrastructure. The construction of the concrete pads for the exercise equipment will retain a 20-foot buffer from the upper rock wall. Archaeological monitoring for the pathway did not locate any significant historic remains and State Parks believes a determination of “no historic properties affected” is warranted.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board grant approval to the Diamond Head State Monument Foundation to construct an exercise park along the Fort Ruger Pathway and within the designated exterior slopes at Diamond Head State Monument under the following conditions:

1. The construction of the four (4) concrete pads adjacent to the concrete Fort Ruger Pathway as a foundation for the exercise equipment will be done in conformance with a design approved by State Parks and which preserves the buffers established for the historic rock and mortar walls,

2. Install a sign identifying the "Bryan Clay Exercise Park,” with a design approved by State Parks in conformance with the State Parks sign standards,

3. Upon completion of the construction, return the areas adjacent to the construction location to dressed park conditions, and

4. Construction will not begin until approval has been obtained from SHPD and an MOA has been executed between State Parks and the Diamond Head SM Foundation for the maintenance of the exercise park for a 10-year period.
5. This approval will be subject to conditions as may be imposed by the Department, the Board of Land and Natural Resources, and/or the Chairperson.

That the Board approve delegating to the Chairperson approval to enter into an MOA with the Diamond Head State Monument Foundation for the Foundation's maintenance of the exercise park for a 10-year period and any other requests related to the construct "Bryan Clay Exercise Park" in accordance with the DLNR approved design for the Fort Ruger Pathway.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

DANIEL S. QUINN
State Parks Administrator

APPROVE FOR SUBMITTAL:

[Signature]

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR., Chairperson

Attachments
ATTACHMENT 2

Early rendering of the exercise park (above) that has been modified to link the concrete pads to the Fort Ruger Pathway and examples of some of the outdoor exercise equipment proposed for the park.