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

September 13, 2013

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

PSF No.: 13HD-072
HAWAI‘I

Approval in Concept, Withdrawal of Approximately 2 Acres from General Lease No. S-5570, Michael C. Tulang, Lessee, Set Aside to the County of Hawaii for the Kawaihale Fire Station and Issuance of a Right-of-Entry, Waiakea Homesteads, Waiakea, South Hilo, Hawaii, Tax Map Key: (3) 2-4-51: portion of 01.

APPLICANT:

County of Hawaii, for withdrawal and set aside of approximately 2 acres of land from General Lease No. S-5570 and set aside to the Fire Department for the relocation of the Kawaihale Street Fire Station:

LEGAL REFERENCE:

Section 171-11, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), as amended.

LOCATION:

Portion of Government lands situated at Waiakea Homesteads, Waiakea, South Hilo, Hawaii, Tax Map Key: (3) 2-4-51: 01, as shown on the attached maps labeled Exhibit A.

AREA:

2 acres, more or less.

ZONING:

State Land Use District: Urban
County of Hawaii CZO: RS-15/open
TRUST LAND STATUS:

Section 5(b) lands of the Hawaii Admission Act

DHIIL 30% entitlement lands pursuant to the Hawaii State Constitution: NO

CURRENT USE STATUS:


PURPOSE:

Public safety purposes.

CHAPTER 343 - ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

Applicant will conduct an environmental assessment and publish a FONSI before proceeding with the construction of the fire station.

APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS:

Applicant shall be required to:

1. Complete a survey of the proposed boundary alignment for the withdrawn area at its own cost;
2. Provide survey maps and descriptions according to State DAGS standards at Applicant's own cost;
3. Process and obtain subdivision of the withdrawn area at Applicant's own cost;
4. Fence off the withdrawn area at its own cost along the agreed alignment; and
5. Pay to the Lessee under General Lease No. S-5570 the fair market value of any improvements made by the Lessee in the withdrawn area that have been approved by the State, in accordance with the terms of the lease.

REMARKS:

General Lease No. S-5570 was sold at public auction on December 9, 1998 to Michael C. Tulang for a period of 20 years for pasture purposes. The effective date of the lease was December 9, 1998 for a period of 20 years ending on December 8, 2018.

The County of Hawaii is requesting approximately two (2) acres of land be withdrawn from General Lease No. S-5570 (Exhibit B), to be set aside for the Waiakea Uka fire station as the Hawaii Fire Department has outgrown the existing station located on Kawai St. In addition, emergency services provided by the Hawaii Fire Department from the Kawai St. Station now include Emergency Medical Services
and the required personnel, vehicles and equipment can no longer be accommodated at the current location. Furthermore, an ongoing Kawaihali Street widening project will bring the working area of the station driveway and building closer to the active roadway which may lead to a dangerous situation.

The proposed set aside location is most favorable due to it being centrally located and able to serve the same population that the existing Kawaihali Street Station serves, inclusive of the area from Panaewa makai up to Waiakea Uka and will provide the additional space required for the Emergency Medical Services personnel.

The County of Hawaii is also requesting an early right-of-entry onto the lease land so that it may begin the process of surveying the proposed land to be set aside and initiate the environmental assessment study.

Staff is recommending that the requested withdrawal be granted. Under HRS 171-37, the withdrawal of land from a lease requires a rent reduction. The statute provides in relevant part as follows:

upon the taking which causes any portion of the land originally demised to become unusable for the specific use or uses for which it was demised, the rent shall be reduced in proportion to the value of the land withdrawn or made unusable, and if any permanent improvement constructed upon the land by the lessee is destroyed or made unusable in the process of the withdrawal or taking, the proportionate value thereof shall be paid based upon the unexpired term of the lease; . . . and provided further that upon withdrawal any person with a long-term lease shall be compensated for the present value of all permanent improvements in place at the time of withdrawal that were legally constructed upon the land by the lessee to the leased land being withdrawn. . . .

The withdrawal of the 2 acres from the premises will require General Lease No. S-5570 to be amended to reflect the decreased acreage of the premises and to adjust the rent amount accordingly.

Also under HRS Section 171-37, when the State withdraws lands from a lease, the State is required to compensate the lessee for any improvements taken as a result of the withdrawal. In this case, the only improvements taken are a section of stock-proof fencing on the southern boundary of the withdrawn parcel. Staff is including an applicant requirement above that County of Hawaii installs stock-proof fencing on the west and south boundaries of the withdrawn parcel at its expense before County of Hawaii breaches any existing fencing.

1 Section 45 of General Lease No. S-5570 contains a similar provision regarding withdrawal.
RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board, subject to Applicant fulfilling the Applicant Requirements above:

1. Approve in concept the withdrawal of approximately 2 acres from General Lease No. 5570, Michael C. Tulang, Lessee, and the set-aside of such lands to the County of Hawaii, under the terms and conditions cited above, which are by this reference incorporated herein. The approval in concept shall not be deemed to be an approval of set-aside at the present time, as the County of Hawaii will need to return to the Board at a later date with the results of the Environmental Assessment.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]

Gordon C. Heit
District Land Agent

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:

[Signature]

William J. Alla, Jr., Chairperson