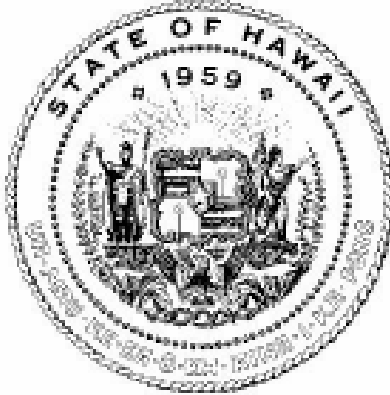


REPORT TO THE THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
2021 REGULAR SESSION
ON
THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020



PREPARED BY:

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
IN RESPONSE TO
SECTION 6E-3, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES

HONOLULU, HAWAII
DECEMBER 2020

THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020

BACKGROUND

Section 6E-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), directs the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to submit to the Governor and the Legislature an annual report detailing the accomplishments of the year, recommendations for changes in the state plan or future programs relating to historic preservation, and an accounting of all income, expenditures, and the fund balance of the Hawaii Historic Preservation Special Fund.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2019-2020, the Department's State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) worked with the vendor (VHB, Inc.), under a multi-term contract, to complete the design phase of the Hawaii Cultural Resource Information System (HICRIS), and is working on finalizing its development and implementation by December 31, 2020. The new system will enable SHPD to become more proactive and efficient by streamlining workflow, along with making its extensive library of cultural resource data more widely available and usable to professionals and the public via internet access. It will incorporate all legacy data from hardcopy files, stand-alone databases, as well as various applications, enabling SHPD to leverage its substantial historic preservation inventory. In addition, it will enhance SHPD's existing capabilities, including improving data entry, retrieval, maintenance, accessibility, and reporting functionality. Moreover, the design and development of the HICRIS will enable SHPD to complete the final element of the National Park Service (NPS) Corrective Action Plan (CAP).

SHPD has also filled several vacant positions with qualified staff including the Architecture Branch Chief (100380), Hawaii Archaeologist IV (102055), Hawaii Archaeologist III (102393), Maui Archaeologist IV (101037), Oahu Archaeologist IV (100379), Architectural Historian (100377), Office Assistant III (26603) and the Hawaii Island Archaeologist IV (102055), Oahu Archaeologist III (122799), two Burial Specialists for Hawaii (122800) and Oahu (122801), GIS Technical Assistant (122938), and two Office Assistant III(s) for Hawaii (122469) and Oahu (122902), respectively.

Also noteworthy is that due to the COVID-19 emergency and proposed budget reductions, SHPD has been unable to fill the remaining six vacant positions authorized by the 2019 Legislature including: Office Assistant IV (43185), two Archaeologist IVs (100379 and 122489), Archaeologist III (102064), and two Architectural Historians (112243 and 100378), respectively.

Project reviews in the Archaeology branch currently reflect a 1-year backlog, as SHPD experienced increases in permit and project submissions, coupled with on-going challenges in filling position vacancies in large part due to private and federal sector competition along with lower compensation offered by the State. Thus, SHPD continues to work on increasing compensation for technical staff positions, diligently filling the vacant archaeologist, and using temporary hires and professional service consultants as a stop gap measure in meeting mandated project review requirements and due dates.

FUTURE PROGRAMS

During FY 2020-2021 and once the proposed budget reductions have been lifted, SHPD will continue to work at filling vacant positions.

Due to the approval of funding by the 2018 Legislature, SHPD has contracted a legal fellow through the University of Hawaii (Law School) to assist in revising its Administrative Rules and issue a revised fee schedule by September 2022 to more accurately reflect the true costs incurred in the review process and to offset a larger portion of those costs. It is estimated that this will increase revenue to Hawaii Historic Preservation Special Fund three-fold.

HAWAII HISTORIC PRESERVATION SPECIAL FUND

The Hawaii Historic Preservation Special Fund (Fund) was established in Section 6E-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), by way of Act 388, Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH) 1989, to enhance and preserve elements of our past that should be integrated into our daily living. Allowable deposits into the Fund include:

- (1) Appropriations by the Legislature to the special fund;
- (2) Gifts, donations, and grants from public agencies and private persons;
- (3) All proceeds collected by the Department derived from historic preserve user fees, historic preserve leases or concession fees, fees charged to carry out the purposes of Chapter 6E, HRS, or the sale of goods; and
- (4) Civil, criminal, and administrative penalties, fines, and other charges collected under Chapter 6E, HRS, or any rule adopted pursuant to Chapter 6E, HRS.

All interest earned or accrued on moneys deposited in the Fund shall become part of the Fund. The Fund shall be administered by the Department; provided that the Department may contract with a public or private agency to provide the day-to-day management of the Fund.

Subject to legislative authorization, the Department may expend moneys from the Fund:

- (1) For permanent and temporary staff positions;
- (2) To replenish goods;
- (3) To produce public information materials;
- (4) To provide financial assistance to public agencies and private agencies in accordance with Chapter 42F, HRS, involved in historic preservation activities other than those covered by Section 6E-9, HRS; and
- (5) To cover administrative and operational costs of SHPD.

Appropriation Account Number: S-321-C

Beginning Cash Balance	(7/01/19)	\$	0.00
Revenues		\$	132,239.01
Cash Transfers			75,835.72
Expenditures			(92,417.71)
Ending Cash Balance	(6/30/20)	\$	115,657.02
Ending Encumbrances	(6/30/20)	\$	22,007.97
Net Cash Balance		\$	93,649.05

The revenues were derived from user fees, professional fees, and interest income. Moneys were used in large part to pay for utilities (\$28,107.64), office supplies (\$4,740.61), rental of electronic data processing equipment and multi-purpose copiers (10,856.56), respectively.