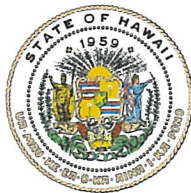


JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO  
P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804



OFFICE OF FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS

May 18, 2026

Ms. Emily Murai  
Pioneer Design Group Hawaii  
711 Kapiolani Boulevard, Suite 1450  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Hoonani Village Mixed-Use  
Development Project, Puunene, Maui, Hawaii

Dear Ms. Murai:

Thank you for your letter dated March 20, 2026. The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) has reviewed the information provided and offers the following comments for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Hoonani Village Mixed-Use Development Project (Project).

As noted in the EIS, the August 2023 wildfires in West Maui and parts of Upcountry Maui have significantly impacted the entire population of Maui. These unfortunate events exacerbated an already challenging housing situation, presented tremendous social and economic challenges for residents, and dispersed families to other parts of the island and beyond. The proposed 1,608 rental housing units within the Project will go a long way to address much needed housing, it will certainly have a direct impact on existing public school capacity and future student enrollment for nearby schools.

Based on the Project's proposed location, the Department has determined that the students generated by the Project will be served by Kahului Elementary School, Maui Waena Intermediate School, and Maui High School, all of which are currently operating below their design capacity. The Department has also estimated that the Project will generate approximately 353 public school students, 209 elementary school students, 64 middle school students, and 80 high school students. Together with future residential projects in the queue, the Department will need to consider how this infusion of students will fold into the cumulative impact on existing public school capacity.

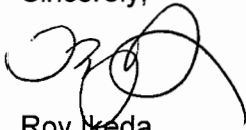
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Ms. Emily Murai  
May 18, 2026  
Page 2

To better understand and plan for the near term impacts, the Department requests a meeting with its Facilities Development Branch in Honolulu to identify and mitigate the expected increase in student enrollment and to develop a plan to address expected impacts.

Should you have any questions and to schedule the requested meeting, please contact Holly Fujishige, Work Program Specialist of the Facilities Development Branch, Planning Section, at (808) 784-5081 or via email at [holly.fujishige@k12.hi.us](mailto:holly.fujishige@k12.hi.us).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roy Ikeda', written over a white background.

Roy Ikeda  
Acting Public Works Manager  
Planning Section

RI:hf

c: Lori Yatsushiro, Complex Area Superintendent, Baldwin-Kekaulike-Kulanihakoi-Maui  
Complex Area  
Facilities Development Branch