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**STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA**

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REF:OCCL:MK

CDUA OA-3974

Acceptance Date: June 3, 2025

180-Day Expiration Date: November 30, 2025

Jun 3, 2025

Kevin Uejio
AECOM Technical Services, Inc.
1001 Bishop Street, Suite 1600
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Kevin Uejio:

**NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE AND PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION
Conservation District Use Application (CDUA) OA-3974
(Departmental Permit)**

This acknowledges the receipt and acceptance for the processing of the City and County of Honolulu Department of Design and Construction (DDC) CDUA for the Nu'uuanu Erosion Control project located off Nu'uuanu Pali Drive, Upper Nu'uuanu, Honolulu, Island of O'ahu, Tax Map Key (TMK): (1) 2-2-054:001. The project lies within the Resource subzone of the State Land Use Conservation District.

Approximately 55 feet of the existing 1.5-foot-tall CRM wall has been damaged due to erosion from a collapsed banyan tree and continuous erosion of the southeast side and shoulder of the roadway. The proposed project intends to repair the exposed section of roadway by constructing a new wall in place of the damaged portions, stabilize the slope of the southeastern side of the road within a shotcrete soil nail wall, and remove ten existing trees that are causing damage to the existing wall or are within the footprint of the soil nail wall to be constructed.

A new 2.5-foot-tall concrete barrier will be installed over the main sections of collapsed CRM wall fronting the shotcrete soil nail wall matching the original wall in form, color, and texture. The other three damaged sections of rock wall will remain in place, with a new, approximately 80-foot-long section of rock wall being installed in front of the existing CRM rock wall.

The slope below the edge of the roadway will be excavated approximately 15 feet in depth, and an approximately 5-15-foot-tall reinforced concrete sill nail wall will be constructed. To support the wall, 15-foot-long soil nails will be drilled into the slope and embedded in 8-inch diameter holes. The area behind the wall will be regraded and stabilized with hydroseed and turf

reinforcement matting. The soil nail wall will be colored to match the surrounding environments. A new concrete barrier with rock veneer will sit on top of the soil nail wall.

A total of 10 trees will be removed including two mango trees, four ironwood trees, one Alexander palm, one mulberry, and two Chinese banyan trees.

After reviewing the application, the Department finds that:

1. The project is an identified land use in the Resource subzone of the Conservation District, pursuant to Hawai'i Administrative Rules (HAR) §13-5-22 P-13 LAND AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (C-2) *Erosion Control, including replanting of trees and groundcover, placement of biodegradable or synthetic materials for slope stabilization, construction of minor swales and check dams, not to include shoreline erosion control structures*. Please be advised, however, that this finding does not constitute approval of the proposal. The Chairperson has the final authority to grant, modify, or deny the proposal;
2. Pursuant to §13-5-40 of the HAR, a Public Hearing will not be required;
3. In conformance with Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), Chapter 343, as amended, HAR Chapter 11-200.1 and the City and County of Honolulu's Department of Design and Construction Exemption List dated September 1, 2020, the proposed project falls under the following:
 - a. Part 1 Exemptions, General Type of Action 2- *Replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located generally on the same site and will have substantially the same purpose, capacity, density, height, and dimensions as the structure replaced*, Exempt Item Number 26: *Fencing, curbing, walls and gates*, Exempt Item Number 42: *Limited to, roadways, driveways, parking lots, and multi-use pathways*;
 - b. In part, Part 2 Exemptions, General Type of Action 3- *Construction and location of single, new, small facilities or structures and the alteration and modification of the same and installation of new, small, equipment and facilities and the alteration and modification of same, including but not limited to: d. Water, sewage, electrical, gas, telephone, and other essential public utility services extensions to serve such structures or facilities; accessory or appurtenant structures, including garages, carports, patios, swimming pools, and fences; and acquisition of utility easements*, Exempt Item Number: 19: *Fencing, curbing, walls and gates*, Exempt Item Number 33: *Retaining walls and slope retaining structures, except in shoreline areas*;
 - c. Part 2 Exemptions, General Type of Action 4- *Minor alterations in the conditions of land, water, or vegetation*, Exempt Item Number 5: *Removal of trees that endanger life or property and of nonsignificant trees*, Exempt Item Number 6: *Slopes and embankments*.

An Environmental Assessment will not be required; and

4. The subject area appears to be outside of the Special Management Area.

The OCCL offers the following questions and comments to be addressed in your response following the public comment period:

- Please elaborate on natural hazards within the project area (erosion?);
- Please provide evidence of consultation with the Nuʻuanu-Punchbowl Neighborhood community regarding the project;
- Please elaborate on how the landscaping required will be appropriate to the Conservation District; and
- What species of grass will be used in the hydroseeding?

Additionally, staff notes that the applicant should continue to work with the Land Division to obtain the required authorization for proposed land uses under State jurisdiction.

Upon completion of the application review process, your client's CDUA will be presented to the Chair for consideration. Should you have any questions, contact Mari Kurosawa of our Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands at (808) 587-0381 or at mari.i.kurosawa@hawaii.gov.

Sincerely,



mc

Dawn N.S. Chang, Chairperson
Board of Land and Natural Resources

CC: Oʻahu Board Member
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