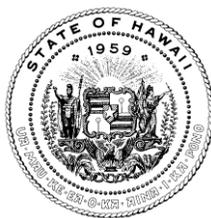


**Report to the Twenty-Eighth Legislature
Regular Session of 2016**

**REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO
WORK WITH ROYAL HAWAIIAN GOLF CLUB TO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR THE
MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF OLD GOVERNMENT ROAD**



**Prepared by
State of Hawaii
Department of Land and Natural Resources
Division of Forestry and Wildlife**

**In response to
House Concurrent Resolution 130
Regular Session of 2015**

December 2015

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO WORK WITH ROYAL HAWAIIAN GOLF CLUB TO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR THE MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF OLD GOVERNMENT ROAD

PURPOSE

House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 130, adopted during the Regular Session of 2015, requested the Department of Land and Natural Resources to work with Royal Hawaiian Golf Club to develop a plan for the management and maintenance of Old Government Road, Maunawili, Oahu. This measure also requested the Department of Land and Natural Resources to submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the Legislature before the Regular Session of 2016.

BACKGROUND

The Old Government Road (OGR) once connected the Old Pali Road to Waimanalo, but has since been discontinued from such use due to the construction of Kalaniana'ole Highway. The OGR is owned by the State in fee and is still used by various landowners, agencies, and organizations as an access road.

In June 1968 the Department of Land Utilization, City and County of Honolulu, approved a request by the Royal Hawaiian Golf Club (RHGC) for a conditional use permit to develop a recreational facility within the AG-1 restricted agricultural district within Maunawili Valley. As a condition of the permit, RHGC was required to provide and indicate on the approved grading plan, a pedestrian trail for public use over the project site leading from the Maunawili Estates Subdivision to Maunawili Falls. In meeting the requirements of the use permit, RHGC provided a pedestrian trail to Maunawili Falls that appears to traverse a portion of the OGR. As part of the pedestrian trail plans, RHGC originally indicated they would provide a seven-car parking area for those visiting Maunawili Falls, but the parking area construction was canceled due to objections from the community. Since the construction of the RHGC, various portions of the OGR appear to be within the boundaries of the golf course.

HCR 130 requested that the Department of Land and Natural Resources work with RHGC to locate and delineate the portions of the OGR that are within the golf course development and to develop a plan for the management and maintenance of the road alignment, including:

- 1) The location and ownership status of all portions of OGR;
- 2) Whether any access easement over OGR was granted to RHGC for any portion of the pedestrian trail to Maunawili Falls; and
- 3) Whether, if no easement exists, it would be in the best interests of the State to grant an access easement with the condition of providing a parking lot in order to provide safer access to Maunawili Falls.

FINDINGS

The Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Forestry and Wildlife has investigated the ownership of the OGR through Maunawili Valley. The road appears to traverse HRT, Inc., property from the intersection of Kelewina Street and Maunawili Road and travel through HRT, Inc., property to Waimanalo. This was the original road to Waimanalo prior to the construction of Kalaniana'ole Highway, and as such is the property of the State of Hawaii. No access easement over OGR was granted to RHGC for any portion of the pedestrian trail to Maunawili Falls. Resolution of this issue has languished for years, and completion of a metes and bounds survey and quit claim for the road is needed.

This road alignment would provide a logical access route to the Maunawili Falls access trail through HRT, Inc., property. It would also provide access to a possible off-street parking and staging area that would get a majority of the parking out of the adjacent neighborhood. It would also clarify access rights for public recreational users who are currently using the OGR route, primarily as a mountain bike egress route from Waimanalo.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) That the State survey and record ownership of the OGR in the Bureau of Conveyances, which would entail:
 - a. Contracting a metes and bounds survey of the OGR route; and
 - b. Obtaining a quit claim deed from HRT, Inc.; and
- 2) That the State work with HRT, Inc., to see if the OGR alignment may provide a more efficient route to Maunawili Falls and if the potential exists for the construction of an unimproved parking area on HRT, Inc., land to serve as the trailhead for the Maunawili Falls access trail, perhaps by renting the property or other conveyance.