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

January 27, 2017

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

Hawaii

Consent to Sublease General Lease No. S-5844, WHR, LLC, Lessee, to Hawaii Performance Partners LLC, and Neighborhood GP LLC, Sub-lessees, Waiakea, South Hilo, Hawaii, Tax Map Key: (3) 2-1-01:12 and 2-1-05:13, 16, 17, 27, 32, 46.

## APPLICANT:

WHR, LLC, a Hawaii Limited Liability Company, as Sublessor, to:

- 1. Hawaii Performance Partners, LLC
- 2. Neighborhood GP LLC

As Sub-lessees.

## **LEGAL REFERENCE:**

Section 171-36(a)(6), Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended.

# **LOCATION AND AREA:**

Portion of Government lands situated at Waiakea, South Hilo, Hawaii, identified by Tax Map Key: (3) 2-1-001:012 and 2-1-005:013, 016, 017, 027, 032, 046, as shown on the attached map labeled Exhibit A.

1. Hawaii Performance Partners LLC

Lease area,

1,508 sq. ft.

2. Neighborhood GP LLC

Lease area

56,502 sq. ft.

As shown on the attached maps labeled Exhibit B-1 & B-2.

# TRUST LAND STATUS:

Section 5(b) lands of the Hawaii Admission Act

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

## LEASE CHARACTER OF USE:

Hotel and golf course purposes.

# SUBLEASE CHARACTER OF USE:

Hawaii Performance Partners LLC Tourist activity sales purposes

2. Neighborhood GP LLC Solar panel (photovoltaic) generating

system purposes

## TERM OF LEASE:

65 years, commencing on February 1, 2006 and expiring on January 31, 2070. Next rental reopening is scheduled for February 1, 2036.

## TERM OF SUBLEASE:

		<u>Begin Date</u>	End Date
1.	Hawaii Performance Partners LLC	08/15/16	08/14/2021
2.	Neighborhood GP LLC	08/24/16	08/23/2041

# ANNUAL RENTAL:

\$580,270.44 minimum base rent, or 2% of gross revenues, whichever is greater, due in semi-annual payments.

# **ANNUAL SUBLEASE RENTAL:**

1. Hawaii Performance Partners LLC \$40,200.00 base rent<sup>1</sup>

2. Neighborhood GP LLC \$1.00

# RECOMMENDED ADJUSTMENT TO LEASE RENTAL:

As determined by the Board's sublease rent participation policy, most recently amended on August 24, 2012, agenda Item D-14, the subject subleases are for improved property only and the improvements are not owned by the State and the Lessee pays fair market rent. In part, the policy states:

If the lessee subleases improvements not owned by the State, the Board shall not receive any portion of sublease rents from subleasing improved space unless: (i) that right and method of calculation are specifically stated in the lease, or (ii) participation in sublease rents is warranted considering the age of the improvements, lessee's expenditures to maintain the same in relation to sublease revenues, and the extent to which the lessee actually occupies and uses the lease premises for its own business.

In this case, WHR LLC is subleasing improvements not owned by the State. Further, General Lease No. S-5844 does not specifically state the method of sublease rent participation in the lease. Although the buildings on the lease premises are approximately 46 years old, at least \$5,000,000 was invested in hotel renovations under the prior lessee, Hawaii Outdoor Tours, Inc., and at least \$10,000,000 has been invested in renovations by the current lessee, WHR LLC, with at least another \$4,000,000-5,000,000 anticipated in the near future. WHR LLC has not yet amortized these investments. The standard depreciation for commercial property is 39 years.

<sup>1</sup> Sublease rental agreement also includes a percentage rent of 6% above Gross Receipts of \$700,000

WHR LLC's expenditures to renovate the hotel far exceed the amount of revenues generated by the subleases, even when considered over the full terms of the subleases. Additionally, WHR LLC does occupy the majority of the premises for its hotel operation.

Accordingly, under the Board's current rent participation policy, the State does not share in the rents WHR LLC will collect from its two proposed sublease tenants.

## DCCA VERIFICATION:

SUBLESSOR: Place of business registration confirmed: Registered business name confirmed: Good standing confirmed:	YES X YES X YES X	NO NO NO
SUBLESSEE: Hawaii Performance Partners, LLC. Place of business registration confirmed: Registered business name confirmed: Good standing confirmed:	YES X YES X YES X	NO NO NO
SUBLESSEE: Neighborhood GP LLC Place of business registration confirmed: Registered business name confirmed: Good standing confirmed:	YES X YES X YES X	NO NO NO

# **BACKGROUND:**

General Lease No. S-5844 (Lease) was issued at public auction on September 30, 2005 to Hawaii Outdoor Tours, Inc. (Lessee) for a term of 65 years commencing on February 1, 2006. The Lease character of use is for hotel and golf course purposes.

In November, 2012, the Lessee filed for bankruptcy protection and initially managed the lease as a debtor in possession. Later, a bankruptcy trustee was appointed to manage the assets, including the lease. In September, 2013, the bankruptcy trustee filed a motion with the court for an order authorizing the assumption of lease.

The lease was then sold through the bankruptcy court by sealed bid to WHR, LLC (WHR) and closing occurred on December 17, 2013. The bankruptcy court confirmed the sale based solely on high bid, without requiring all defaults to be cured or at least requiring reasonable assurances by the proposed buyer it would cure with a reasonable period of time the outstanding defaults under the lease.

The Lessee is compliant with all lease terms and conditions. The Lessee is current with the lease rent, insurance and performance bond. However, there are several outstanding violations with the County of Hawaii Department of Public Works (DPW) from the previous Lessee that have been either corrected or are currently being resolved to the satisfaction of the County building inspectors and the State.

#### SUBLEASES

## Sublease 1. Performance Partners, LLC

By letter dated July 25, 2016, the Lessee submitted a request to sublease a portion of the main structure to Hawaii Performance Partners, LLC, dba KapohoKine Adventures (HPP). HPP intends to operate a retail outlet promoting their tourist activities business. HPP will be occupying a portion of the common area just off from the hallway leading from the main lobby to the elevators.

In addition to the retail outlet and booking desk, HPP will also be managing the Made Market store adjacent to their business. The Made Market store will provide hotel guests with convenience items and sundry goods.

# Sublease 2. Neighborhood GP LLC

By letter dated August 30, 2016, the Lessee submitted a request to sublease portions of the roof tops on the main structures to Neighborhood GP LLC (NGP). NGP intends to install and operate a solar photovoltaic (PV) generating facility. NGP will then enter into an agreement to sell energy produced by the PV system to the Sublessor through a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA).

The PPA will have an initial term of twenty-five (25) years effective upon completion of the installation. There will be up to two (2) additional terms of five (5) years each. All environmental incentives and attributes will accrue to the Sublessee.<sup>3</sup> The contract price for the system will be at the rate of \$0.19 /kwh.

The PV system will involve the mounting and installation of 1,074 solar panels (Phono Solar 325 Watt Modules) on the Grand Naniloa Hotel structures. The proposal is to install most of the panels on the rooftops of the existing buildings with additional panels to be mounted on a covered parking structure to be constructed. The total area required for the solar panels is approximately 56,502 square feet and is shown on Exhibit B-2.

The system is anticipated to generate 349 kilowatts of energy. It is projected that the installation of the PV system will reduce a portion of the energy cost of the hotel's current monthly expense.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board consent to the sublease under General Lease No. S-5844 between WHR, LLC, as Sublessor, and Performance Partners, LLC and Neighborhood GP, LLC, as Sub-lessees, subject to any applicable conditions cited above which are by this reference incorporated herein and further subject to the following terms and conditions:

<sup>2</sup> Activities include guided tours, zip line rides and kayak rentals from the hotel. A separate permit has been issued by the Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation for the kayak launching site from the hotel.

<sup>3</sup> These include rebates and/or federal and state tax incentives.

<sup>4</sup> The proposed location is the parking area adjacent to the multi-purpose building known as the Crown Room.

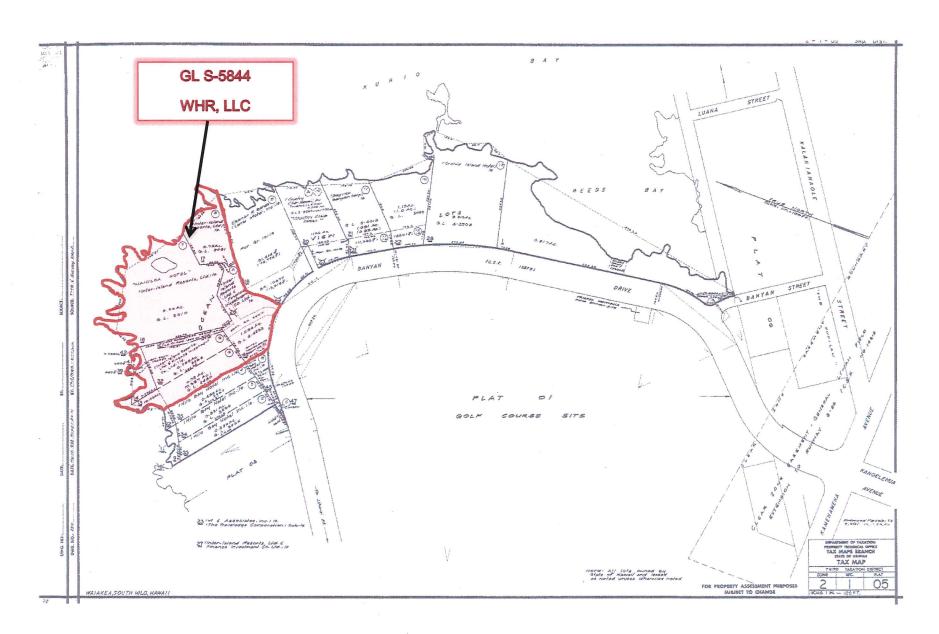
- 1. The Lessee shall submit construction plans for both Sublessees' improvements to the Land Division for the Chairperson's approval prior to constructing any improvements on the demised premises;
- 2. The standard terms and conditions of the most current consent to sublease form, as may be amended from time to time;
- 3. Review and approval by the Department of the Attorney General; and
- 4. Such other terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Chairperson to best serve the interests of the State.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gordon C. Heit District Land Agent

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:

Suzanne D. Case, Chairperson



**EXHIBIT A** 

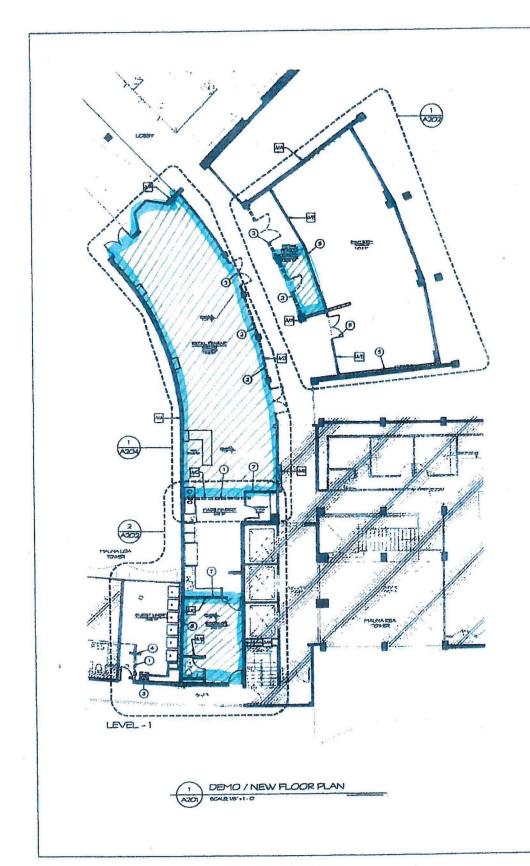


EXHIBIT B-1

