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GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands
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FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

REF:OCCL:SS

CDUA OA-3858

Sea Engineering, Inc.
c/o David Smith, Ph.D., P.E.
41-306 Kalaniana'ole Hwy.
Makai Research Pier
Waimānalo, HI 96795

JAN 28 2021

SUBJECT: Conservation District Use Application OA-3858 for the Ala Moana Park Beach Restoration Project Located in Honolulu, O'ahu;
TMKs: (1) 2-3-037:001, and (1) 2-3-037:025 and makai of both parcels

Dear Mr. Smith,

This is to inform you that the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board) will be asked to consider this matter at its regularly scheduled meeting on Friday, February 12, 2021 at 9:00 AM. The matter will be included on the agenda as Item K-4. During the current COVID-19 pandemic, all Board meetings are currently being held remotely via Zoom.

To participate in the meeting and provide live oral/video testimony during the online meeting, email your request to blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov at least 24 hours in advance, with your name, phone number, email address, computer identification name (check your device settings), and the agenda item on which you would like to testify. Once your request has been received, you will receive an email with the Zoom link via which to testify. You will need a computer with internet access, video camera and microphone to participate. If you require access by phone only, please indicate that in your email request. On the day of the meeting prior to your agenda item, via Zoom, you will be placed in a 'waiting room' until your item comes up.

A copy of the Staff Report for agenda Item K-4 that was submitted to the Board is attached for your information. Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Salvatore Saluga of our office at (808) 798-6147 or via email at salvatore.j.saluga@hawaii.gov.

Sincerely,
Sam Lemmo

Samuel J. Lemmo, Administrator
Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands

CC: CCH, DDC

Attachment

STATE OF Hawai'i
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
Honolulu, Hawai'i

180-Day Exp. Date: July 28, 2020¹

February 12, 2021

**Board of Land and
Natural Resources
State of Hawai'i
Honolulu, Hawai'i**

REGARDING: Conservation District Use Application (CDUA) OA-3858 for the Ala Moana Regional Park Beach Nourishment Project

**APPLICANT/
LANDOWNER:** City & County of Honolulu, Department of Design & Construction (Applicant)

AGENT: David A. Smith, Ph.D., P.E., Sea Engineering, Inc.

LOCATION: Ala Moana Regional Park, urban Honolulu, Island of O'ahu
TMKs: (1) 2-3-037:001, and (1) 2-3-037:025 and makai of both parcels

AREA OF PARCELS: Approximately (≈) 117.87 acres; Work area roughly 13.9 acres

SUBZONE: Resource

DESCRIPTION OF AREA AND CURRENT USE:

The proposed work is a beach nourishment and berm enhancement project intended to mitigate the ongoing erosion problem at the beach within Ala Moana Regional Park in Honolulu, O'ahu on lands within TMKs (1) 2-3-037:001, and (1) 2-3-037:025 and makai of both parcels. The nourishment work proposed in this project would consist of the dredging of offshore sand to be placed in the beach area of Ala Moana Regional Park. Approximately 65,700 cubic yards of dredged sand would be used in the beach nourishment portion of the project while roughly 2,500 cubic yards of dredged sand would be provided for the berm enhancement for every 1-foot elevation increase above +6 feet mean sea level (MSL), which would take place in the eastern beach area of the park adjacent to the Magic Island parking lots. The application states that this enhanced berm

¹ In a response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, on April 16, 2020 Governor David Ige signed Executive Order 20-04, invoking the following: The suspension of the following laws, as allowed by federal law, pursuant to section 127A-13(a)(3), Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), in order for county and state agencies to engage in emergency management functions as defined in section 127A-2, HRS: Section 183C-6, HRS, permits and site plan approvals, to the extent necessary to enable the Department of Land and Natural Resources to administer the permitting program for conservation district use permits without the application of provisions providing for automatic approval of permit requests that are not acted upon within 180 days.

would sit roughly +6 feet above MSL, meaning roughly 2,500 cubic yards of dredged sand are intended for this portion of the project. This beach nourishment project would use a total of approximately 68,200 cubic yards of dredged sand to cover roughly 4,500 feet of linear shoreline and a cross-shore beach width of 130 to 270 feet in which the dry beach would be increased by 10 to 80 ft. This beach nourishment project is a part of a master plan to produce improvements to all of Ala Moana Regional Park. The application states that the sand would be obtained from one or more offshore sand resources in which the means and methods will be provided by the contractor. Clamshell dredging is the most likely method of extraction to be used, which would involve mechanically scooping and lifting sand from the sea floor onto a barge system, such as a hopper barge. The most efficient delivery would be through the Ala Wai Small Boat Harbor, although again, means and methods will be provided by the contractor.

Ala Moana Regional Park is a heavily used park in urban Honolulu utilized by both residents and tourists alike. The roughly 119-acre park was dedicated in 1934 and features large grassed areas for public use along with amenities such as tennis and croquet courts, concessions, and McCoy Pavilion, as well as some areas for parking. The site of proposed work is mainly situated in the beach area within Ala Moana Regional Park (**Figure 1, provided by applicant**). Additionally, portions of the Magic Island parking lots would be used for staging and construction activities, as well as waters within the Kahanamoku Lagoon in the Ala Wai Small Boat Harbor in order to situate the barge containing the dredged offshore sand to be placed within the shoreline area.



Figure 1 – Location Map of Project, Provided by Applicant

Ala Moana Regional Park is manmade, as is its beach. To this effect, the beach must be periodically maintained in order to sustain its overall footprint and profile. It has been some time since a beach maintenance project has been conducted here, resulting in exposure of rock/rubble substrate in the central area of the beach profile due to sand loss and other factors. Additionally, during high tide and wave events, the loss of sand and subsequent deflation of the beach profile along Ala Moana Regional Park has led to periodic backshore flooding. The proposed project is intended to mitigate these issues and restore the beach at Ala Moana Regional Park back to a healthy state.

A draft environmental assessment was published for this proposed project in the Office of Environmental Quality Control's (OEQC) publication *The Environmental Notice* on July 8, 2018 and was republished with updated information as a second draft environmental assessment on February 8, 2019. The Final Environmental Impact Statement was published in the August 23, 2019 edition of *The Environmental Notice*.

Natural Resources

The sandy beach area that is the subject of this proposed project extends roughly 4,000 lineal feet between Kewalo Basin (and its Harbor) and Magic Island. Directly mauka of the beach area is Ala Moana Park Drive, which separates the beach area from the large grassy areas that comprise the majority of the regional park itself. The Magic Island parking lots lies directly east of the beach area, separating it from the Ala Wai Small Boat Harbor.

Ala Moana Park's beach and adjacent swim channel were constructed over several decades in which the beach was artificially added in the mid-1950's. Following initial construction of the beach, sand has been eroded and artificially replenished, although evidence for artificial replenishment is largely anecdotal. The erosion history of Ala Moana beach has been analyzed as part of a study by the University of Hawai'i Coastal Geology Group that reported an erosional trend of 2.4 ft/yr in the project area over a study period spanning from 1927 to 2005. In recent years increased erosion has been observed, which is likely a result of anomalously high water levels. Obvious sand loss has occurred along the shoreline across from the tennis courts extending 1,400 feet to the east, resulting in narrowing of the beach and exposure of rocky material in nearshore waters. Ala Moana Beach does not have a natural source of sand, thus any sand that moves toward shore over the reef flat is blocked from reaching the beach by the deeper swimming channel.

The sandy beach is a heavily utilized natural resource by both residents and tourists, and the park features multiple amenities and concessions that are also heavily utilized and trafficked. Additionally, the area's marine environment is utilized for a variety of water activities including but not limited to, swimming, fishing, and surfing.

The US Department of Agriculture classifies the land within the project area as "mixed fill land" and "beaches". Mixed fill lands are classified as lands with materials dredged from the ocean or hauled from nearby areas, garbage, and general material from other sources. This type of soil classification is common in urban areas, and the entirety of Ala Moana Regional Park outside of the beaches and water areas are classified as mixed fill.

The application received by our office provides that the sandy beach within the project area currently sits atop what used to be a reef that was filled in with marine dredge during the creation of the park. The beach section of the project area consists of unconsolidated marine calcareous sediments. The application states that this material was originally imported from Waianae or Bellows Field and consists largely of “chiefly cream-colors and light-tan, very permeable beach sand consisting of grains of worn coral, coralline algae, and shells with appreciable amounts of foraminifers and other calcareous marine organisms.”

The sandy beach in the park varies in width throughout the entirety of the beach area, the mitigation of which is the main subject of this project proposal. There is a swim channel that extends parallel to the shoreline throughout the length of the beach area, including where the beach turns south towards Magic Island at the eastern end of the project site.

There are five lifeguard towers located along the entire stretch of beach within Ala Moana Park and one beach comfort station in the vicinity of the project area. A low landscaping wall separates the beach area from Ala Moana Park Drive and the rest of the park area for most of the linear section of the beach, while a seawall exists on the very eastern edge of the beach area. As stated in the Existing Conditions section of the FEIS, it is believed that water and wastewater lines run buried in the vicinity of the beach area near the low landscaping wall. The application received by our office states that this is evident due to the manhole covering on the beach in the vicinity of the tennis court area. Other utilities such as water supply, electricity, and telecommunications, among others, are known to run through the park, but not within the vicinity of the beach and thus the proposed project.

The Ala Moana Regional Park Area, along with Magic Island, contains three different flood zone designations: Flood Zone AE (most of the park and mauka areas of Magic Island), Flood Zone X (makai portion of Magic Island), and Flood Zone VE (the beach and Magic Island Lagoon). The majority of the proposed project will take place within the Flood Zone VE, with some portions of the project, such as sand transport and equipment staging, located in the Flood Zone AE.

The subject area is located in an area that would be vulnerable to tsunamis, earthquakes, hurricanes, wave action, and sea level rise. Potential impacts to the project area from impending sea level rise was analyzed for the project and is discussed later in this report.

Flora/Fauna

A variety of studies and surveys were conducted in the subject location for the proposed project. This includes, but is not limited to, biological resource surveys (both terrestrial and aquatic) conducted by SWCA Environmental Consultants in 2017, and subsequent marine and coral reef surveys conducted by Marine Research Consultants, Inc. in 2018.

Flora in the area consists of common plant species; the only endangered or threatened plant species noted was the critically endangered *Polyscias racemose*, although it was noted as being cultivated and not growing wild. At least 25 ornamental trees in the area

are designated as 'Exceptional Trees', although none will be affected by the proposed beach restoration project.

The terrestrial survey conducted noted 20 different bird species, including 7 protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). The white tern was the only bird species listed as threatened noted in the survey, as it is listed as threatened on the island of O'ahu. The survey noted that while the environment and habitat would be suitable for the endangered Hawaiian Hoary Bat, no Hawaiian Hoary Bats were noted during the subject survey. While no fauna outside of birds were detected during surveys, it is possible that there may be common species that have adapted to human activity, such as rats, mice, and mongoose, within the vicinity of Ala Moana Regional Park. No threatened or endangered terrestrial species were encountered during the terrestrial survey.

The near-shore marine survey noted that coral cover in the area was less than one percent, although some corals were present in the very eastern edge of the channel near Magic Island. The swim survey noted "copious" amounts of Hawaiian seagrass and several species of common fish.

The marine survey noted several threatened green sea turtles in the waters near to the project area, as they are common in south shore waters and feed on Hawaiian seagrass. No other threatened or endangered species were encountered during the marine surveys.

The only endangered or threatened species of flora or fauna inhabiting the project area are the white tern and the green sea turtle. The biological surveys conducted noted that the effects of the beach restoration project on these species can be mitigated by following suggested and proper Best Management Practices (BMPs), which are analyzed later in this report.

Historic/Cultural

Part of the CDUA process requires that the applicant submit an HRS, 6E form developed by the State Historic Preservation Division. Pursuant to HRS, §6E-42, prior to any agency or officer of the State [in this case, the Board] approving any project involving a permit, license, certificate, land use change, subdivision, or other entitlement for use, which may affect historic property, artifacts, or a burial site, the agency or office shall advise SHPD prior to any approval and allow SHPD an opportunity to review and comment on the effect of the proposed project on historic properties.

An archaeological assessment was completed by Cultural Surveys Hawai'i (CSH) in January 2017 that included evaluation of potential historical and cultural resources in the project area. Cultural Surveys Hawai'i completed both a field inspection and literature review within Ala Moana Regional Park. Belt Collins, LLC then conducted a 'Historic Feature Review and Retrofit Assessment' in May 2018. Additionally, Cultural Surveys Hawai'i also completed a Cultural Impact Assessment in January 2019.

The assessments done for archaeological, historical, and cultural artifacts in the project area also included an outreach program to gain community feedback on the proposed

action. The applicant states that they reached out to cultural practitioners, lineal and cultural descendants, kūpuna (elders), kama'āina (native born), Native Hawaiian organizations (NHOs; includes Hawaiian Civic Clubs and those listed on the Department of Interior's NHO list), community groups and community members including descendants of the area, as well as agencies such as SHPD, OHA, and the appropriate Island Burial Council where the proposed project is located for their response on the project and to identify lineal and cultural descendants. CSH initiated its outreach effort in October 2018 through letters, email, telephone calls, and in-person contact, and concluded its outreach effort in January 2019. Over 100 responses were received by this outreach program from a variety of people and groups; they are included within Appendix D-3 of the CDUA.

The report done by CSH noted that Ala Moana Regional Park was nominated for the National Register of Historic Places in 1988, as well as registered for the Hawai'i Register of Historic Places that same year. Human skeletal remains and pre-contact artifacts may be found within a secondary context in the sand at Ala Moana, as it was mined from other beaches around O'ahu to create Ala Moana Beach (particularly on the western side of the island). Additionally, objects of significance such as pre-contact burials, historic burials, subsurface cultural layers, and subsurface trash layers have been recorded near Ala Moana Blvd. However, none of the noted objects of significance that have been previously identified are within the vicinity of the proposed beach restoration project (**Figure 2**).

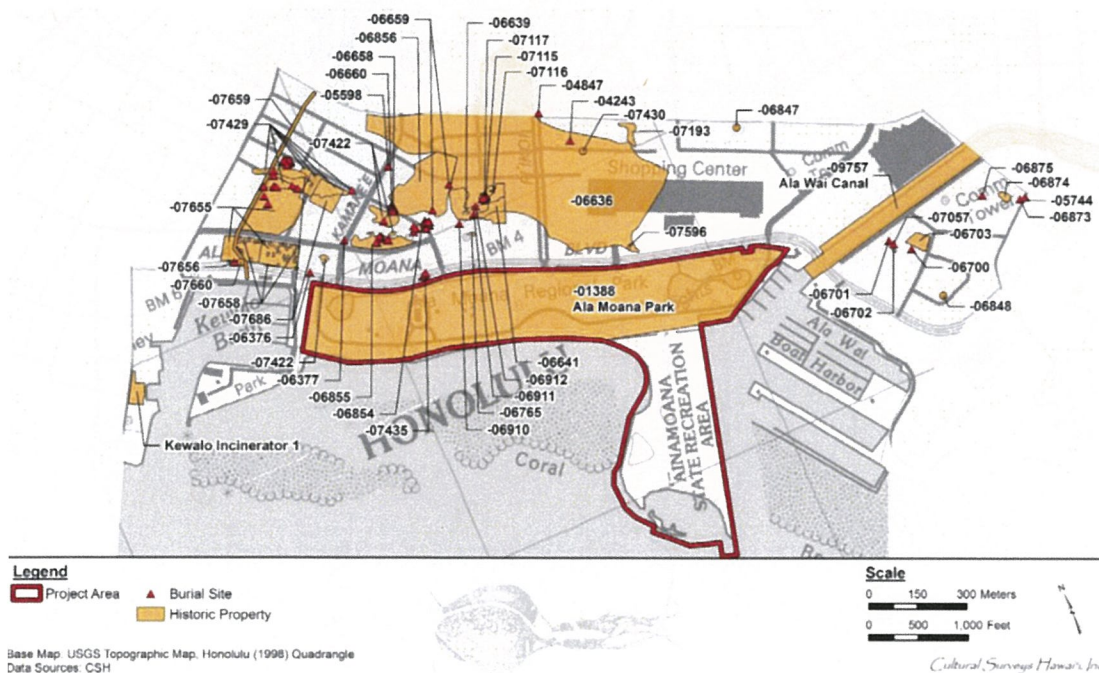


Figure 2 – Historical Sites Map, Provided by Applicant

A letter from SHPD to the applicant dated June 18, 2018 acknowledged the receipt of the Chapter 6E-8 submittal form and pertinent supplemental documents for the proposed project (**Exhibit A**). It is important to note that this letter from SHPD was pertinent to the entirety of the improvements that are a part of the Ala Moana Regional Park Master Plan and not solely the beach nourishment project. Within the June 18, 2018 letter from SHPD, multiple specific portions of the Master Plan are mentioned, but not the beach nourishment project. The **SHPD agreed with the applicant's determination of "effect, with proposed mitigation commitments" for the proposed project. This letter from SHPD also states that the C&C, DDC's proposed mitigation commitments are acceptable.**

Additionally, a May 15, 2019 letter from SHPD to the applicant noted the acceptance of a 'large-format photos-only addendum' to the mitigation commitments, among others. It should be noted that this May 15, 2019 letter was not directly pertinent to the beach restoration project within the Ala Moana Regional Park Master Plan as a whole. A further letter from SHPD dated June 3, 2020 states that the HRS §6E historic preservation review process is ended and that the permitting and/or project initiation process may continue (**Exhibit B**).

Both the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) were sent a copy of this CDUA, along with relevant environmental and historical documents, for comments in February 2020. No response was received by OHA or other cultural agencies. However, it appears from interactions with SHPD, two letters of which are attached to the end of this report as **Exhibit A** and **Exhibit B**, that SHPD is in concurrence with the action provided as long as proper mitigation commitments are adhered to.

PROPOSED USE

The work proposed involves a beach nourishment and berm enhancement project to be completed in the shoreline area of Ala Moana Regional Park in Honolulu, O'ahu. This project is one part of a larger master plan to improve the park as a whole, but it is important to note that this report and CDUA are relevant only to the beach nourishment project and not the master plan in its entirety. The beach area within Ala Moana Regional Park has experienced chronic erosion since its creation, as the beach is artificial and has no natural sand source. Thus, periodic maintenance and care are necessary in order to maintain a healthy beach environment in the area. This project would replenish the beach with approximately 70,000 cubic yards of sand across approximately 4,500 feet of the beach area in order to mitigate the ongoing erosion problem. The sand used for the project will be retrieved from one or more offshore sites and transported to the shoreline area of Ala Moana Regional Park where the sand will be placed along the beach in order to extend the shoreline seaward across the beach's entire length and simultaneously raise the berm elevation in the eastern area of the beach. (**Figure 3, shown on next page**). Ala Moana has not received a sand nourishment project since 1976, when roughly 30,000 cubic yards of sand from an inland fossil dune source in Mokulē'ia was placed in the shoreline area. The proposed action is intended to restore the beach to its 1957 shoreline position. The 1957 position is chosen due to the substantial beach volumes observed in historical

aerial photographs from that year. No enlargement of the beach beyond its historical size are proposed.

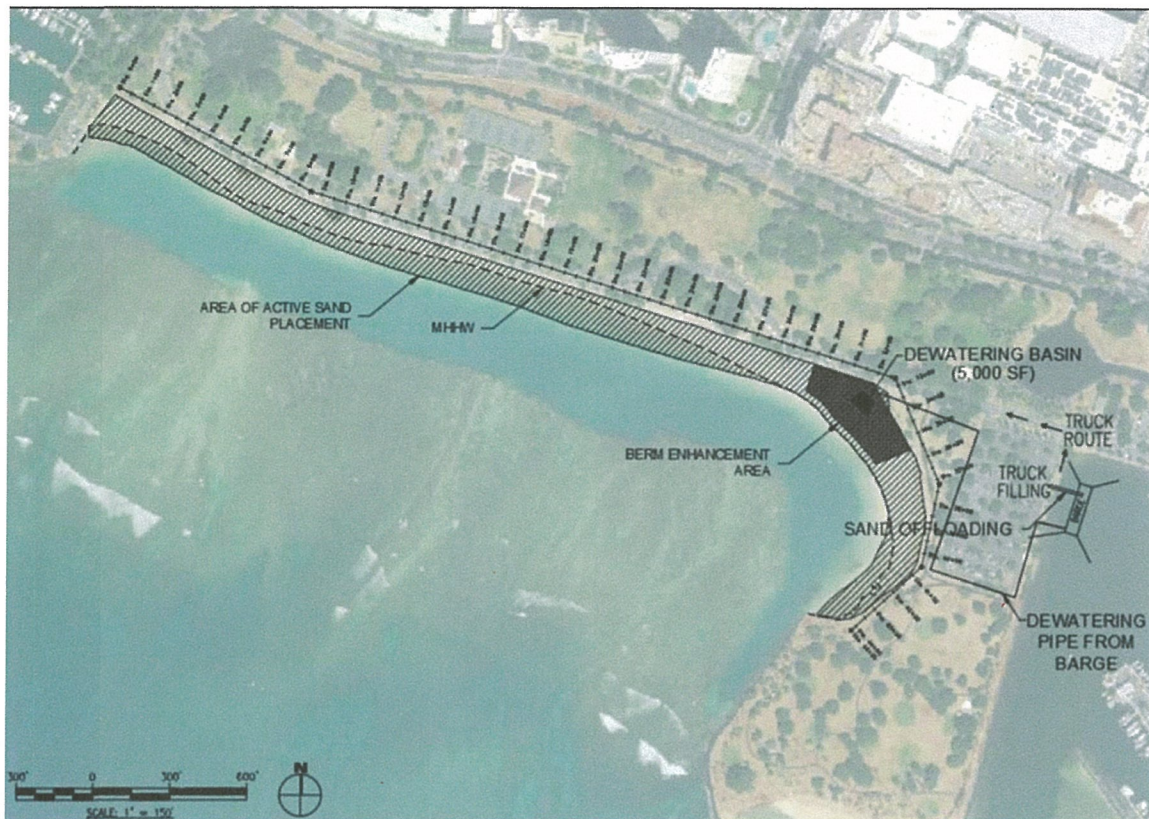


Figure 3 – Map of Project Plans, Provided by Applicant

Site Access

The information provided in the application states that while the means and methods of construction will be left up to the contractor, the applicant analyzed the feasibility of multiple options in order to determine the most efficient and effective means of site access for the proposed project. The sand would be retrieved from one or more offshore sand fields, likely via clamshell dredging, and then transported on a barge to the unloading area. Upon reaching the unloading area, the sand would then be transported to the shoreline area of Ala Moana Regional Park where it would be placed along the beach.

The application names the Ala Wai Small Boat Harbor as the most efficient means of delivery for the proposed project. The information provided suggests that the barge would moor on the western side of the harbor with two lines on shore and two anchors within the harbor, adjacent to the Magic Island parking lots, where the sand could then be offloaded using a conveyor belt system. The two suggested means of transporting the sand once it has reached land are either via trucking or transport directly to the beach via a conveyor belt system. The conveyor belt system would transverse the Magic Island

parking lots to directly access the beach area from the Ala Wai Small Boat Harbor. These suggestions within the application were made as it appears to be the most efficient means of delivery, with minimal distance between the unloading of the sand from the barge and the placement of the sand on the beach area of Ala Moana Regional Park.

Sand Source

According to the application, sand would be borrowed from a primary offshore sand source located approximately 4,500 feet offshore of the project site, and potentially from a secondary sand source located approximately 5,000 feet southeast of the project site. These two sand source sites are referred to in the EIS as the *Ala Moana – Offshore* and *Hilton* sites, respectively. **Figure 4** below is an image of the three sand sources considered for this project as well as a sample of current Ala Moana beach sand:

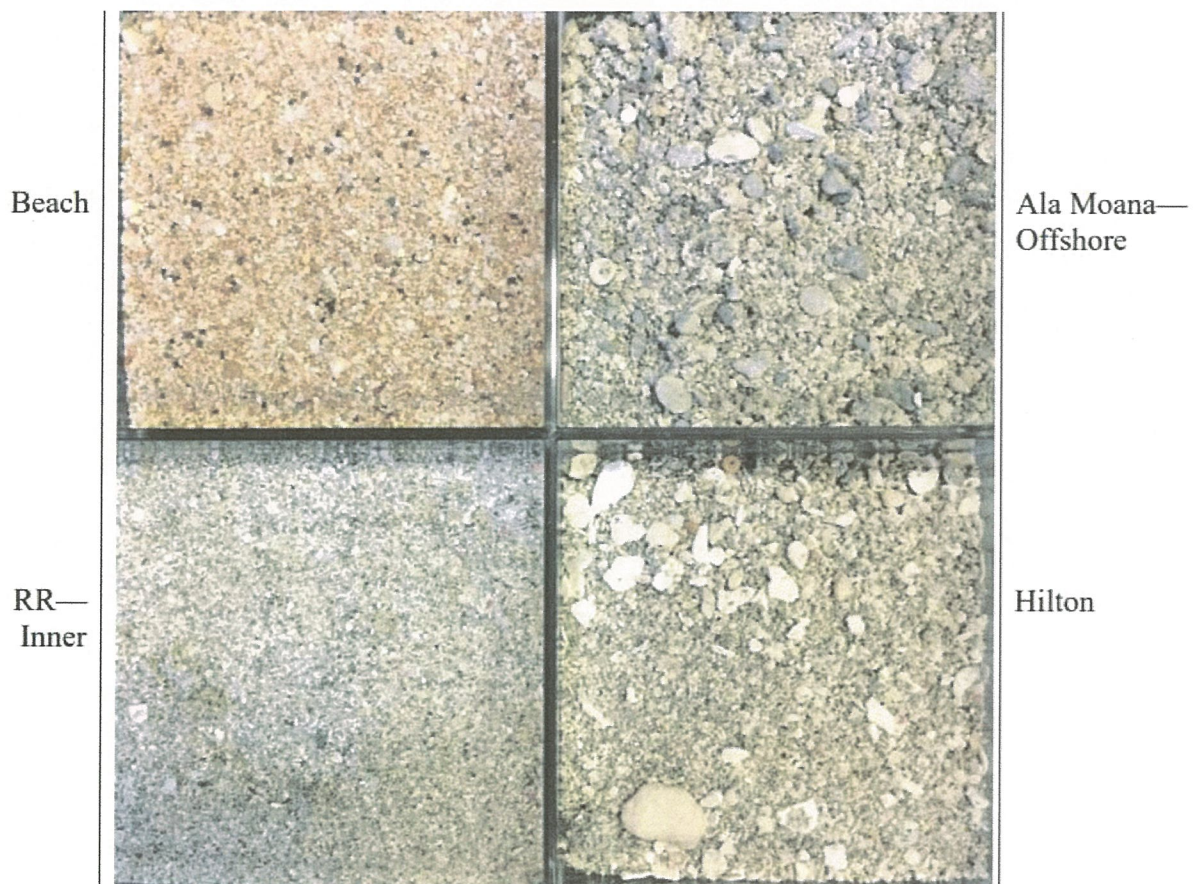
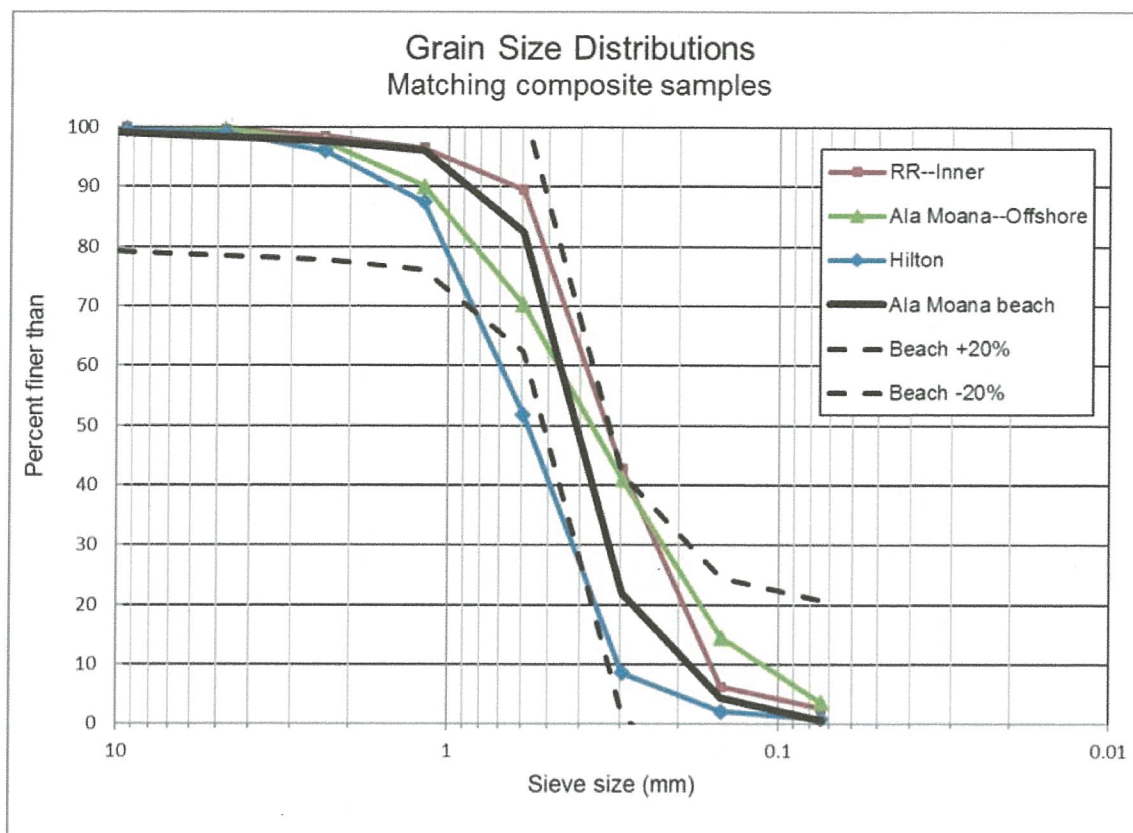


Figure 4 – Samples of Sand From Potential Sources



contractor. However, they provided analysis for the most efficient process to complete the proposed project.

As offshore sand would be used for this beach restoration project, dredging the sand from offshore sand fields will be the first major construction activity that takes place. The applicant states that clamshell dredging is the most likely means of excavating the sand. A clamshell dredge is a jawed bucket that would be lowered from a crane on a barge and mechanically scoop sand from an offshore sand field as controlled by a crane operator. After securing the sand inside the clamshell bucket, the crane operator would then maneuver the crane into a position where it can be placed onto a waiting barge to be transported to shore.

The application states that the most efficient means of delivery for the barge containing the sand would be through the Ala Wai Small Boat Harbor by mooring on the western side alongside the parking lot on Magic Island. The Division of Boating and Recreation (DOBOR) stated in their comment letter to the applicant that, "DOBOR has no objections to the CDUA for the beach restoration project. Please be advised that Sea Engineering will be required to obtain a Right-of-Entry Permit from DOBOR to moor its barge within the Ala Wai Small Boat Harbor, at a rate to be determined." The information provided states that the barge would be moored using two anchors within the harbor itself and two lines attached to shore.

Upon reaching the shoreline, the sand would be offloaded from the barge using a conveyor belt system. The sand would be placed into waiting dump trucks that would bring the sand across the parking lot to the beach area. The applicant states that this method would have the shortest barge and truck routes and would also be the fastest and least expensive of the sand delivery options.

The information provided in the application states that the method of transporting the sand from the barge to the beach area could be performed during evening or nighttime hours in order to limit its effects on park users. It also notes that the Magic Island parking lot could stay open during the day, with one area closed for equipment staging. Roughly 50-100 linear feet of shoreline would be closed at any given time for active sand placement activities. The remaining areas of the beach will remain open to the public. The applicant states that work areas will be clearly demarcated and barricaded in order to maintain safety for the public. Signage will be used to direct park users to the open areas of the beach on any given day, and construction workers will also be asked to help the public safely navigate the area, if needed.

An area of the eastern section of the beach will be excavated to provide a dewatering basin for the dredged sand to drain through the beach. The excavation will be a single basin approximately 90 feet wide (along shore), 70 feet long (cross shore), and 2-3 feet deep. This area of the beach is one of the widest sections of Ala Moana Beach in which sand has been redistributed as part of a past sand pushing project conducted by the City and County in 2016.

Expected Mitigative Actions and Practices

Best Management Plans (BMPs), General and Site Specific

The proposed project has been designed to be compatible with standard construction and NOAA BMPs as well as site-specific BMPs, including, but not limited to:

- Prior to the beginning of construction, geographical boundaries for the proposed project (as well as all logistical aspects such as equipment staging and storage) will be clearly delineated;
- All equipment and material shall be free of contaminants of any kind including: excessive silt, sludge, anoxic or decaying organic matter, clay, dirt, oil, floating debris, grease or foam or any other pollutant that would produce an undesirable condition to the shoreline or water quality. The equipment will be brought to the site in clean condition;
- All materials shall be free from any objectionable sludge, oil, grease, scum, excessive silt, organic material or other floating material;
- Only a minimum quantity of materials necessary for the work will be stored on site;
- All flammable and reactive liquids will be kept in sealed and clearly labeled original or compatible containers and stored under cover more than fifty (50) feet from the edge of the property and away from the nearest drain and receiving waters;
- Storage and stockpiling area on land or onboard boats will be kept clean and well organized to prevent spills or run out. The Contractor shall confine all project activities to areas defined by the drawings and specifications. No materials shall be stockpiled in the marine environment;
- Fueling operations will be monitored to prevent spills, leaks, and overflows. Equipment will be fueled away from any drain or shoreline. A spill pan will be used to catch spill/leaks. Equipment will not be "topped off." Spill cleanup materials will be readily accessible;
- Construction equipment (except small tools, generators, etc.) shall be maintained off-site. If emergency repairs or maintenance on large equipment must be performed, drip pans or drop cloth will be placed under the vehicle or equipment to catch any spills/leaks;
- No contamination (trash or debris disposal, alien species introductions, etc.) of marine (reef flats, lagoons, open ocean, etc.) environments adjacent to the project site should result from project-related activities; Particular care must be taken to ensure that no petroleum products, trash or other debris enter near-shore and open ocean waters. When such material is found within the project area, the Contractor, or his designated construction agent, shall collect and dispose of this material at an approved upland disposal site.

Public Access

The beach will be nourished in sections, and the applicant states that the sections of the beach that are not being nourished at the time will be open to the public. The applicant also states that the drainage improvements may have temporary adverse impacts on the parking lots of Magic Island, but that large portions of them would likely be able to remain open during the day for public use. The application received by OCCL contained mitigation measures for maintaining public access to the shoreline and ocean during the

construction activity. The applicant listed these site-specific BMPs regarding shoreline access for the public:

- Operational bounds on land will be marked with and patrolled by project staff as needed to ensure that members of the public do not enter the project area;
- A project representative will be available at the project site to answer questions the public may have;
- Crossing guards will be placed at designated crossings along the shoreline to assist the public in transiting across the access route while trucks are operating;
- Project implementation will not interfere with the public's right to reasonable navigation;
- Materials stored or stockpiled shall not interfere with public beach access;
- Signs will be posted at the project site to educate the public of project activities;

For a full list of the BMPs for the proposed project, see pages 145-173 of Part 1 of the CDUA as found on the OCCL website. This section includes in depth detail on BMPs specific to material management, waste management, environmental management, vehicle and equipment management, noise control, dust control, public safety, air pollution control, the Department of Army NWP requirements, sea level rise, and erosion control, among others. The erosion control and sea level rise BMPs are analyzed below as they are of direct concern for OCCL.

Erosion Control Plan

The applicant submitted an erosion and sediment control plan in order to contain any potential runoff into the marine or coastal environment. The erosion control plan's site-specific BMPs are listed below:

- Silt curtains will be individually anchored between five-feet and ten-feet from the sand fill placement area. The length of the silt curtain will be adequate to completely contain the area where work is taking place. On the ends of the project site, sandbags may be used to help anchor the curtain above the MHHW line;
- Silt curtains will be left in place each night;
- The contractor shall keep project activities under surveillance, management and control to avoid pollution of surface or marine waters. Daily visual inspection of the project site and its environs will be conducted by a designated individual, or his representative, to verify that the permitted activities do not result in uncontrolled adverse environmental impacts;
- Visual inspections will include monitoring of the effectiveness of the silt curtains to ensure proper function;
- Visual inspections will be documented with photographs, a photo-orientation map, and written descriptions;
- Sand fill placement shall not be done during storms or periods of high surf;
- Visual monitoring will include ongoing inspections for turbidity outside of the confines of the silt curtain(s). In the event that turbidity is observed outside of the silt curtains, work shall stop, and the silt curtains shall remain in place until the

turbidity dissipates. Silt curtains shall be inspected after dissipation and prior to returning to project operations;

- Wherever equipment and/or vehicles leave the site and enter surrounding paved streets, the contractor shall prevent any material from being carried onto the pavement. There will be no washing of equipment on the beach or near the shoreline;
- Should excessive siltation or turbidity, as defined in HAR Title 11 Chapter 54.4 and HAR Title 11 Chapter 54.6, result from the contractor's method of operation, the contractor shall install additional silt curtains or other silt contaminant devices as required to correct the problem.

Additionally, the applicant included a Contingency Plan as well as an Emergency Spill Response Plan in order to best maintain a high quality of work during the different phases of construction.

Mitigative Actions for Sea Level Rise

The proposed project considered 3.2 feet of projected global sea level rise when designing the beach restoration project and in discussing future periodic projects (not included as part of this proposal) that will be necessary towards maintaining a recreational beach in this area. As the project area is a beach, it lies fully within the sea level rise exposure area (SLR-XA) shown on the Hawai'i Sea Level Rise Viewer (**Figure 6**).

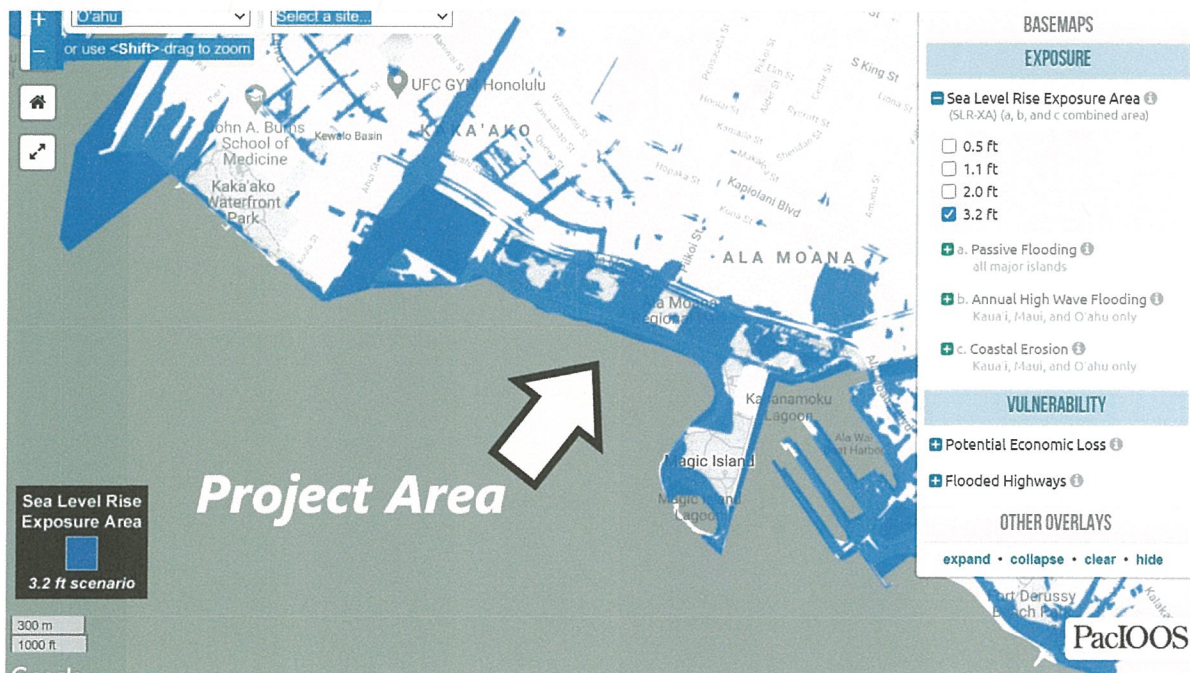


Figure 6 – Sea Level Rise Exposure Area of Project Site Showing 3.2 Feet of Sea Level Rise

While the project area lies directly within the SLR-XA, a main objective of the project is to restore and enhance recreational and aesthetic enjoyment of the project area while managing the effects of sea level rise and coastal inundation. The project would expand Ala Moana's beach width, providing an erodible buffer in which such action represents implementation of mid-range sea level rise adaptation to manage exacerbated coastal hazards. As Ala Moana's beach is artificial and hosts a relatively deep offshore swim channel that generally prevents sand from being transported onshore, it has no natural sand source and thus requires sand replenishment over time as various phenomena erode the beach area.

The rate of erosion has increased in recent years, as evidenced by the shrinking of Ala Moana's beach profile as well as by the periodic exposure of the rock/rubble substrate beneath the sand. Sea level rise is expected to continue impacting low-lying coastal areas, such as Ala Moana Regional Park. Such impacts within the area are currently evidenced by the deflated state of the sandy beach and increased erosion issues observed in recent years resulting in part from anomalously high coastal water levels. The proposed action would simultaneously mitigate some of the effects that sea level rise will continue to have on the beach area while providing a more extensive area for the public to use and enjoy. As sea level continues to rise, the beach will require periodic re-nourishment to maintain subaerial beach, in which this project represents one of those periodic efforts. In the longer term (30-40+ years), portions of the park will likely become regularly submerged, particularly during periods of high tide. The land surface will require refilling and/or elevation to allow for continued use as a public park.

Mitigative actions for endangered species and other flora and fauna:

Although unlikely, it is possible that endangered or threatened species such as Hawaiian monk seals, green sea turtles, Hawksbill sea turtles, or Hawaiian hoary bats could transverse through the project area. Green sea turtles are the primary concern regarding endangered or threatened species as the marine environment within the area contains calm waters and large amounts of seagrass, an ideal habitat for the green sea turtle. The application noted that there will be both standard and site-specific mitigation measures to reduce impacts to protected species would be followed, including, but not limited to:

- Conduct a survey for marine protected species before any work in the water starts, and if a marine protected species is in the area a 150-foot buffer must be observed between the protected species and the work zone;
- Establish a safety zone around the project area whereby observers will visually monitor this zone for marine protected species 30 minutes prior to, during, and 30 minutes post project in-water activity. Record information on the species, numbers, behavior, time of observation, location, start and end times of project activity, sex or age class (when possible) and any other disturbances (visual or acoustic);
- Conduct activities only if the safety zone is clear of turtles or other endangered species. If there is an endangered species in the area, construction will only begin after the animal voluntarily leaves the area;
- Upon sighting of a turtle within the safety zone during project activity, immediately halt the activity until the animal has left the zone. In the event a marine protected

species enters the safety zone and the project activity cannot be halted, conduct observations and immediately contact NMFS staff in Honolulu to facilitate agency assessment of collected data;

- For on-site project personnel that may interact with a protected species potentially present in the project area, provide education on the status of any listed species and the protections afforded to those species under Federal laws.
- Any construction-related debris that may impose an entanglement threat to monk seals and sea turtles would be removed from the construction area at the end of each day and at the conclusion of construction;
- Workers would not attempt to feed, touch, ride, or otherwise intentionally interact with any listed species;

Mitigative actions for Cultural and Historic Resources:

The archeological assessments done for the project were accepted by the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) in a letter dated June 18, 2018 following field inspections, literature reviews, and cultural impact assessment work conducted by Cultural Surveys Hawai'i and Belt Collins, LLC. These assessments also included a large outreach program to a variety of individuals and groups including cultural practitioners, lineal and cultural descendants of the project area, and both government and non-government offices and organizations in order to fully gauge the potential impacts on cultural and historic resources. Within the June 18, 2018 acceptance letter, the **SHPD agreed with the applicant's determination of "effect, with proposed mitigation commitments", and the letter also states that the applicant's proposed mitigation commitments are acceptable.**

It is important to note that in the June 18, 2018 acceptance letter from SHPD, none the archaeological or cultural resources that were noted during the cultural assessments are located within the project area. The determination of "effect, with proposed mitigation commitments", is related to other aspects of the Ala Moana Regional Park's Master Plan, as there were no artifacts or resources noted in the beach area during past surveys and studies. Thus, it is not expected that there will be disturbances to historic, archaeological, or cultural resources during the proposed beach restoration project.

Per standard best management practices (BMPs) for cultural and historic resources in Hawai'i, should subsurface archaeological resources or burials be uncovered during construction, all work will cease and the SHPD will be contacted to determine what appropriate mitigation measures are needed.

Alternatives

A variety of alternative methods and strategies for beach nourishment were explored for the project area within the Final Environmental Impact Statement, with the primary difference between them being the quantity of sand to be placed in the beach area. This is largely due to the fact that Ala Moana's beach is artificial, has no natural sand source, hosts a relatively deep offshore swim channel that prevents offshore sand from moving onshore, and thus must be regularly maintained in order to retain a substantial beach

width. There were three different nourishment alternatives explored, as well as a 'No Action' option:

- Option 1 consisted of placing roughly 37,600 cubic yards of sand within the beach area at Ala Moana. The majority of this sand would be placed within the central portion of the beach area, which is the most eroded section of the park, widening it up to roughly 60 feet. Under this option, the entire beach would increase up to +6 MSL, which would meet the crest of the low landscaping wall separating the beach from the rest of the park area on the northern side.
- Option 2 consisted of placing roughly 50,600 cubic yards of sand within the beach area. The majority of this sand would be placed in the central and eastern areas of the beach and move the beach in the central area seaward roughly 78 feet. This figure was intended to meet the 1957 shoreline of Ala Moana, which, according to the information provided, was when the beach was at its widest.
- Option 3 consisted of placing roughly 65,700 cubic yards of sand within the beach area, which would place sand across all areas of the beach within the park. This would widen the beach in both the western and central areas of the beach to the aforementioned 1957 shoreline and widen the beach in the central area roughly 78 feet.
- There was a 'No Action' alternative considered for this proposed project. However, the fact that the beach at Ala Moana is artificial and has no natural sand source deemed this option inefficient.

The alternatives section of the FEIS also explored the berm enhancement portion of the project, which is a portion of the proposed action. The application states that the applicant took sea level rise into consideration when making the decision among the given alternatives and noted that options two and three represented the most effective alternatives in terms of providing a relatively long term management solution for sea level rise related impacts. Higher quantities of sand and the inclusion of a berm enhancement section of the project were thus chosen as the proposed action to mitigate ongoing and projected erosion in the project area.

Public Hearing

A public hearing was held for this project pursuant to HAR §13-5-40 on November 24, 2020 to gauge community feedback on the project. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the public hearing was held remotely via Zoom. There was no public testimony on the project. The public hearing can be found on the OCCL YouTube channel at the following link:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JyAGLIEXGEE>

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS

The application was referred to the following agencies for their review and comment: the **State**: Department of Health; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Department of Transportation; Department of Land and Natural Resources Divisions of: Aquatic Resources, Forestry and Wildlife, Historic Preservation, O'ahu District Land Office, Conservation and Resource Enforcement, and State Parks; the **City & County of Honolulu**: Department of Parks & Recreation and Department of Planning; and the **Federal**: National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); the US Army Corps of Engineers; and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. In addition, this application was also sent to the nearest public library, the Hawai'i State Public Library, to make this information readily available to those who may wish to review it. The application was also transmitted to both the Ala Moana/Kakaako Neighborhood Board and the Waikiki Neighborhood Board for community and neighborhood feedback.

Responses were received and have been summarized from the following agencies:

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Boating and Recreation

DOBOR has no objections to the CDUA for the beach restoration project. Please be advised that Sea Engineering will be required to obtain a Right-of-Entry Permit from DOBOR to moor its barge within the Ala Wai Small Boat Harbor, at a rate to be determined.

Applicant's Response

Sea Engineering, Inc. acknowledged that there will be a Right-of-Entry Permit required to moor a barge within the Ala Wai Small Boat Harbor.

O'ahu District Land Office

The shoreline along Ala Moana beach was certified on May 21, 2019. Any physical activity (improvements, heavy equipment, sand pushing, etc.) makai of the certified shoreline would require a land disposition, i.e. a Right-of-Entry Permit.

Applicant Response

Sea Engineering, Inc. acknowledged that there will be a Right-of-Entry Permit required for any activity or improvement seaward of the certified shoreline.

State Parks

No comments, acknowledged by Sea Engineering, Inc.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

The DOT previously commented on the two Draft Environmental Impact Statements, and those prior comments remain applicable. Additionally, the following additional comments were offered:

- *Airports Division* – The Airports Division is supportive of the beach restoration project, however, is opposed to any alternative that would mine sand from sources near the reef runway at Daniel K. Inouye International Airport;
- *Highways Division* – The Highways Division anticipates no significant adverse impacts to State Highways during construction, provided that: (1) heavy construction equipment will be mobilized to the construction site once for use and storage; (2) the beach sand will not be conveyed on State Highways; and (3) Project-related waste and resupply trips using heavy equipment on State Highways will be scheduled to minimize the number of trips and avoid peak traffic hours. Additionally, an HDOT Permit is required to transport oversized equipment and overweight loads on HDOT roadways.
- *Harbors Division* – The project is outside the Harbor Division's jurisdiction and does not impact the commercial harbors. If commercial harbor facilities are needed to support future construction or project activities, please coordinate with the Harbor Division as appropriate.

Applicant Response

Sea Engineering, Inc. recognized that HDOT opposes mining sand from sources near the Reef Runway, stating that the sand sources identified in the vicinity of the Reef Runway are no longer proposed for this project and that the sand sources proposed for this project are more than three miles from the Reef Runway. The contractor is anticipated to only transport heavy equipment at the beginning and the end of the project, and they will be notified to minimize trips on State highways and to avoid peak traffic hours. The applicant also noted that they do not anticipate sand to be moved on State highways, nor do they expect to use any State harbor facilities. If this should change, Harbors Division will be contacted.

CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU

Department of Planning & Permitting

Portions of the Project are within the Special Management Area (SMA) and the shoreline setback area; therefore, the Project is subject to Chapters 23 and 25 of the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu (ROH), by obtaining approval of a Special Management Area Use Permit (SMP), File No. 2019/SMA 36. The City Council approved the SMP by adopting Resolution 20-21, CD1 on February 19, 2020, for various improvements at the Ala Moana Park. The SMP and Resolution include approval for the portion of the beach restoration project that is within the SMA. Pursuant to Chapter 23, ROH, embankment of natural beach sand within the shoreline setback is permitted as a minor shoreline structure. This must be reviewed and approved as a Minor Shoreline Structure Permit by the Director of the Department of Planning & Permitting (DPP). Condition E of the resolution is related to beach restoration project and additional City permit requirements.

Applicant Response

The applicant recognized that portions of the project are within the SMA and the shoreline setback area, and the project is subject to Chapters 23 and 25 of the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu (ROH).

The applicant also acknowledged that embankment of the natural beach sand within the shoreline setback requires a minor shoreline structure permit, as well as the additional requirements in Condition E. The response letter sent by the applicant also stated that permitting requirements of Chapter 25 were satisfied through approval of the SMP (2019/SMA-36 and Resolution 20-21, CD1).

ANALYSIS

After reviewing the application, by correspondence dated November 15, 2019, the Department has found that:

1. The proposed use is an identified land use in the Resource subzone of the Conservation District, pursuant to Hawai'i Administrative Rules (HAR) §13-5-22, P-16, BEACH RESTORATION, (D-1): Sand placement in excess of 10,000 cubic yards including structures necessary to contain sand, extraction of sand from submerged lands, and transportation of transmission of sand from an offshore extraction site to the replenishment site.
2. Pursuant to §13-5-40 of the HAR, a Public Hearing was not required for this project; however, out of good faith for the high level of public interest in the proposed project the OCCL attempted to perform a public hearing for the project on two separate occasions (March 30, 2020 and August 5, 2020) that were cancelled due to the effects of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. A public hearing was held for the project on November 24, 2020 to gauge community feedback. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the public hearing was held remotely via Zoom. There was no public testimony on the proposed project. The public hearing can be found on the OCCL YouTube channel at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JyAGLIEXGEE>. Additionally, the application states that the applicant held three previous public meetings to inform the public about the project and gather community input. These meetings were held on March 10, 2015, April 28, 2016, and January 29, 2018;
3. In conformance with Chapter 343, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), as amended, and Chapter 11-200, HAR, two separate Draft Environmental Impact Statements (DEIS) for this project were published in the OEQC's July 8, 2018 and the February 8, 2019 editions of The Environmental Notice, with the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) published in the August 23, 2019 edition. The Office of the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu was the approving agency of the Final Environmental Assessment and approved the mitigation measures for any potential negative effects that may arise from the project as stated within the FEIS (**Exhibit C**);
4. Since the project would occur within the shoreline setback area, the applicant will prepare and submit an application package to the City & County of Honolulu, Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) to obtain the necessary Shoreline Setback Variance in concurrence with the Special

Management Area Use Permit (SMP). Staff notes that an application for the SMP was submitted to the DPP in October 2019 and was included within the CDUA documents. It is the responsibility of the applicant to obtain all other necessary permits for this project.

CONSERVATION CRITERIA

The following discussion evaluates the merits of the proposed land use by applying the criteria established in Section 13-5-30, HAR.

1. *The proposed land use is consistent with the purpose of the Conservation District.*

The objective of the Conservation District is to conserve, protect and preserve the important natural resources of the State through appropriate management and use to promote their long-term sustainability and the public health, safety, and welfare.

The proposed use is an identified land use in the Resource subzone of the Conservation District; as such, it is subject to the regulatory process established in Chapter 183C, HRS and detailed further in Chapter 13-5, HAR.

The proposed land use is to perform a beach nourishment and berm enhancement project along the beach area in Ala Moana Regional Park. Ala Moana's beach is artificial and has no natural sand source, thus requiring persistent maintenance in order to maintain beach width. Persistent erosion has been occurring in the beach area at Ala Moana, and the intention of this project is to help mitigate that erosion by nourishing the beach with a large volume of compatible sand.

Assessments done for the project found minimal potential impacts to natural environment in the area, including coastal erosion and sea level rise. A number of mitigative practices have been identified within the application and environmental assessments to ensure appropriate management and action shall be implemented to protect natural resources and/or species.

2. *The proposed land use is consistent with the objectives of the subzone of the land on which the use will occur.*

The objective of the Resource subzone is to ensure, with proper management, the sustainable use of the natural resources of those areas. Areas below the certified shoreline in Hawai'i fall into the Resource subzone, which includes Ala Moana's beach area. The proposed beach nourishment and berm enhancement project is an identified land use pursuant to the Hawai'i Administrative Rules (HAR), §13-5-22, P-16 BEACH RESTORATION, (D-1): Sand placement in excess of 10,000 cubic yards including structures necessary to retain sand, extraction of sand from submerged lands, and transportation or transmission of sand from an offshore extraction site to the replenishment site. [Eff 12/12/94; am and comp] (Auth: HRS §183C-3) (Imp: HRS §183C-4)

The design of the proposed beach restoration project conforms to the objectives set forth in HAR 13-5-22, P-16, BEACH RESTORATION, as the project consists of sand placement in excess of 10,000 cubic yards and includes the extraction and transportation of the sand from the site of origin to the placement site on the beach at Ala Moana Regional Park. The beach within Ala Moana has been subjected to constant erosion and is in need of attention. Staff believes the proposed land use is consistent with the objectives of the subzone, provided identified mitigation and best management practices are adhered to, as it aligns with the beach restoration parameters of HAR 13-5-22, P-16, BEACH RESTORATION and would ensure the continued use of the natural resource that is the beach area of Ala Moana Regional Park.

3. *The proposed land use complies with provisions and guidelines contained in Chapter 205, HRS, entitled "Coastal Zone Management," where applicable.*

The intended purpose of the project is to restore the beach at the project site back to its 1957 width and footprint using roughly 70,000 cubic yards of sand, which would allow for the continued use of the shoreline area within Ala Moana Regional Park by the public as well as mitigate the dangers of the rock substrate being periodically exposed due to ongoing coastal erosion. According to the studies included in the application, there would be minimal negative impacts to recreational, scenic, economic, social, cultural, or natural resources outside of the temporary closure of sections of the parking lot and beach areas for active work zones on any given day. The beach resource would be further preserved from the inevitable effects of sea level rise and coastal erosion, for roughly a decade, maintaining this resource for use by the public.

OCCL staff believes that the proposed project fits within the Coastal Zone Management Program's Objectives and Policies. It is imperative that all Best Management Practices (BMPs) are carefully followed in order to minimize any potential negative impacts during construction.

4. *The proposed land use will not cause substantial adverse impacts to existing natural resources within the surrounding area, community, or region.*

The proposed project is intended to mitigate ongoing coastal erosion in the subject area and to preserve the use of the beach area of Ala Moana Regional Park. Additionally, the proposed beach restoration project would provide a short-term buffer against the effects of inevitable sea level rise on the chronic coastal erosion in the subject area. The beach in Ala Moana is artificial, and thus requires periodic maintenance and nourishment to preserve the beach resource.

Staff believes the proposed land use should not cause substantial adverse impacts to existing natural resources within the surrounding area, community or region provided that mitigative measures are implemented and the applicant shall be

required to take measures to eliminate or minimize the interference, nuisance, harm, or hazard that the project may cause. The action would place roughly 70,000 cubic yards of compatible dredged sand onto the beach area in Ala Moana Park in order to restore the beach to a healthy width and profile. In addition, the applicant is required to comply with Department of Health Clean Water Act requirements.

5. *The proposed land use, including buildings, structures and facilities, shall be compatible with the locality and surrounding area, appropriate to the physical conditions and capabilities of the specific parcel or parcels.*

The project includes maintenance of an existing sandy beach that is subject to chronic erosion and, as an artificial beach, requires periodic maintenance to maintain significant beach width. There are no new structures that are proposed to be built within the subject project. The proposed beach nourishment project would replenish the sand quantity at Ala Moana Park and would ensure the continued use of the beach for the public. Staff is of the opinion that the proposed project will be compatible with the locality, surrounding areas and land uses, and is appropriate to the physical conditions and capability of the specified parcels.

6. *The existing physical and environmental aspect of the land, such as natural beauty and open space characteristics, will be preserved or improved upon, whichever is applicable.*

The proposed project will replenish the sandy beach area of the popular Ala Moana Regional Park. The sandy beach would become significantly wider, allowing for more beach space for the enjoyment of the public, and the nourishment project would not negatively alter the natural beauty and open space characteristics of the land. The proposed beach nourishment and berm enhancement project would give the public more physical space to enjoy the natural environment of the land and marine resources in the area. Staff is of the opinion that the beach restoration and berm enhancement project would have no adverse impacts to the public or the neighbors.

7. *Subdivision of the land will not be utilized to increase the intensity of land uses in the Conservation District.*

No subdivision of land is proposed for this project.

8. *The proposed land use will not be materially detrimental to the public health, safety and welfare.*

Staff believes the proposed land use will not be materially detrimental to the public health, safety and welfare as mitigated. In fact, it is believed that the proposed action would be a benefit to public health, safety, and welfare as it would ensure the continued existence of a public sandy beach. The beach has currently eroded to the point where portions of rubble are appearing out of the sand, and this project

is designed to replenish the beach with a healthy amount of compatible sand to widen the beach back to its ideal width. With proper BMPs identified and followed correctly, the proposed land use will improve public health and welfare in the area.

CULTURAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A series of archaeological and cultural assessments were completed by Cultural Surveys Hawai'i (CSH) and Belt Collins, LLC between 2016 and 2018 that included evaluation of potential historical and cultural resources in the project area. The assessments completed included both a field inspection and literature review as well as analyzations of archaeological inventory surveys for the project area. Additionally, these materials included a large outreach program to a variety of individuals and groups including cultural practitioners, lineal and cultural descendants of the project area, and both government and non-government offices and organizations in order to fully gauge the potential impacts on cultural and historic resources. These materials were included in the application.

The assessments done concluded that while there were some historical and cultural properties in the Ala Moana area, none are in the vicinity of the project site. While human skeletal remains and pre-contact artifacts could be found within a secondary context in the sand at Ala Moana, as it was mined from other beaches around O'ahu to create Ala Moana Beach (particularly on the western side of the island), the amount of time that has passed since that sand was brought to Ala Moana, coupled with the high level of human activity on the beach, would imply that this is unlikely. Regardless, proper mitigation matters must be taken if that occurs.

In a letter from SHPD to the applicant dated June 18, 2018 in which **SHPD agreed with the applicant's determination of "effect, with proposed mitigation commitments" for the proposed project. This letter from SHPD also states that the C&C, DDC's proposed mitigation commitments are acceptable.** Additionally, a May 15, 2019 letter from SHPD to the applicant noted the acceptance of a 'large-format photos-only addendum' to the mitigation commitments, among others. It should be noted that this May 15, 2019 letter was not directly pertinent to the beach restoration project within the Ala Moana Regional Park Master Plan.

Ka Pa'akai O Ka'aina Analysis

The project site is at a manmade beach that is experiencing long-term coastal erosion. Traditional cultural practices that would take place in the project area would include gathering, fishing, diving, and ocean recreational activities. During construction, use of this portion of shoreline area may be prevented for public safety reasons. Upon completion, the project would not curtail these activities.

To the extent to which traditional and customary native Hawaiian rights are exercised, the proposed action does not appear to affect traditional Hawaiian rights, and therefore it is believed that no action is necessary to protect these rights. Staff believes no valued cultural, historical or natural resources customarily or traditionally used by native Hawaiians will be adversely affected within the Conservation District should this project

be approved and provided it is executed in accordance with the conditions and mitigations measures outlined in this report. The project will also be conditioned that if cultural finds are discovered, all work will cease and the SHPD will be notified.

Both the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) were sent a copy of this CDUA, along with relevant environmental and historical documents, for comments in February 2020. No response was received by OHA or other cultural agencies. However, it appears from interactions with SHPD, two letters of which are attached to the end of this report as **Exhibit A** and **Exhibit B**, that SHPD is in concurrence with the action provided as long as proper mitigation commitments are adhered to.

It is recommended that all work on the project include standard Best Management Practices (BMPs) regarding cultural and historic properties in Hawai'i in addition to any mitigation commitments approved by SHPD. This includes consultation with the State Historic Preservation Division in accordance with applicable regulations in the event that important archaeological, historical or cultural features are discovered, in addition to immediately stopping all work. The mitigative measures discussed in the assessment should also include extreme caution during any ground disturbance.

DISCUSSION

The proposed land use consists of replenishing the beach at Ala Moana Regional Park with roughly 70,000 cubic yards of dredged sand from a site offshore of the project site. The project is intended to restore the beach to its 1957 profile, which could provide a short-term erodible buffer towards management of sea level rise induced exacerbation of coastal hazards. No enlargement of the beach beyond its historical size are proposed. The location of the proposed project is on an artificially made beach in a highly developed area that is heavily utilized by the public. Owing to the lack of a natural sand source, the presence of a relatively deep swim channel that generally restricts the onshore transport of sand, and due to changing coastal conditions caused in part by rising sea level periodic maintenance and nourishment projects will likely be required in the future.

The information provided states that a site-specific erosion and sediment control plan will be implemented for this project - the details of this plan can be found in the *Mitigation* section of this report. Silt curtains will be used as an erosion control measure during the duration of the work on the beach area to minimize any potential impacts to the marine or coastal environments.

Staff notes that during construction Standard Best Management Practices will be implemented. Within the Application and the Final Environmental Impact Statement, the applicant has identified a number of mitigative measures, conditions and practices to ensure that the proposal will have minimal effects on the natural and other resources nearby. As such these proposed measures, conditions and practices are incorporated into the permit. These are listed in the "Mitigation" section of this report.

In the event that subsurface historic resources, including human skeletal remains, structural remains, cultural deposits, artifacts, sand deposits, or sinkholes are identified during the demolition and/or construction work, all work shall be ceased in the immediate vicinity of the find, the find would be protected from additional disturbance, and SHPD would be notified immediately.

The parameters of this proposal are consistent with Hawai'i Administrative Rules (HAR) §13-5-22, P-16, BEACH RESTORATION, (D-1): Sand placement in excess of 10,000 cubic yards including structures necessary to contain sand, extraction of sand from submerged lands, and transportation of transmission of sand from an offshore extraction site to the replenishment site. The design of the proposed improvements to the existing drainage system in the area fulfills the objectives set forth in HAR 13-5-22, P-16, BEACH RESTORATION, as the project is intended to replenish the beach back to a healthy width and profile and fits the criteria required in the HAR.

The project will involve dredging of offshore sand deposits to recover sand, and placement of the sand on submerged lands. The project site is in the Resource subzone, and the objective of the Resource Subzone is "to ensure, with proper management, the sustainable use of the natural resources of those areas". The project is consistent with the objectives of this subzone by using a sustainable resource, sand, to widen the beach resource.

Staff believes the proposed land use is consistent with the objectives of the subzone, provided identified mitigation and best management practices are adhered to, as it aligns with the beach restoration parameters of HAR 13-5-22, P-16, BEACH RESTORATION. As this project endeavors to restore the beach to a more substantial width and help to provide a short-term buffer to the inevitable effects of sea level rise in coming decades, staff does not foresee any environmental impacts beyond the continuing coastal erosion that the area is already experiencing.

According to the FEIS, three options were considered for beach nourishment. Option 1 would include widening the central area of the beach to straighten the shoreline footprint through the central area, increasing the dry beach width by up to 45 ft with total fill volume of 37,600 cy; option 2 would include widening the beach in the central area to match the 1957 shoreline position, increasing the dry beach width by up to 78 ft with a total fill volume of 50,600 cy; and, option 3 would include widening the beach in both the Ewa and central areas to the 1957 shoreline position, increasing the dry beach width by up to 78 ft and requiring the greatest volume placement of the three options of 65,000 cy. Various sand sources were presented in which two were favored in terms of quality, quantity, cost, and general feasibility. The FEIS highlights the Ala Moana – Offshore sand deposit as the favored sand source for the project, and the Hilton sand source was chosen as a secondary option if needed, as these two sand sources were determined to closely match the existing sand at Ala Moana's beach park. However, the Ala Moana – Offshore source features fines ranging from 1.4 - 5.4% (which approaches the upper end of the range considered acceptable according to DLNR's sediment standards of 6%), while the Hilton

site features a lower concentration of fines ranging from 0.4 – 1.4% according to sediment analyses featured in the FEIS.

Our office agrees that beach nourishment would improve the beach resource at Ala Moana Park by increasing usable beach area and by providing a more robust erodible buffer to shield backshore infrastructure from coastal hazards. However, our office recommends that nourishment option 1 be considered as the preferred approach using sand sourced solely from the Hilton sand deposit. This sand source is considered by our office to feature the highest sand quality of the sources presented and is reported to contain an estimated sand volume of 45,000 cy, which exceeds that required for nourishment option 1 considering the overfill factor (37,600 cy). The grain size analysis of the Hilton sand source shows that respective grain sizes track just outside of the +/- 20% bounds on the coarser end of the range, however this is not considered a point of concern as the use of slightly coarser sand in nourishment projects, relative to the nourishment site, is known to produce a more stable beach. We find that it would likely be beneficial to beach users as well as the nearshore environment that a smaller project (option 1) be conducted using a sand source that better matches the Ala Moana beach sand, verses a larger project that depends on less compatible sand and that nears what would be considered questionable for beach use according to DLNR standards. In addition to grain size differences, one of our concerns for use of this material at this location is that due to the poor ocean circulation and the proximity to the swim channel, there is likely to be longer-term turbidity to the extent that it may approach an unacceptable situation.

Overall, staff believes that the project will have negligible adverse environmental or ecological effects provided that best management practices and mitigation measures as described in the application and environmental assessment, and as required by rule or laws, are fully implemented.

RECOMMENDATION

Based on the preceding analysis, staff recommends that the Board of Land and Natural Resources **APPROVE** Conservation District Use Application OA-3858 for the Ala Moana Regional Park Beach Nourishment Project located in urban Honolulu, O'ahu at TMKs (1) 2-3-037:001, and (1) 2-3-037:025 and makai of both parcels, **subject to the following conditions:**

1. Before proceeding with any work authorized by the department or the board, the permittee shall submit four copies of the construction plans and specifications to the chairperson or an authorized representative for approval for consistency with the conditions of the permit and the declarations set forth in the permit application. Three of the copies will be returned to the permittee. Plan approval by the chairperson does not constitute approval required from other agencies;
2. Unless otherwise authorized, **any work or construction to be done on the land shall be initiated within one year of the approval of such use, in accordance**

with construction plans that have been signed by the chairperson, and shall be completed within three years of the approval of such use;

3. The permittee shall notify the Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands (OCCL) in writing at least 24 hours prior to the initiation and upon completion of the project;
4. Authorization of the sand use and placement is contingent upon review and approval of the sand by the Department. The sand shall meet the following State quality standards:
 - a. The proposed fill sand shall not contain more than six (6) percent fines, defined as the #200 sieve (0.074 mm).
 - b. The proposed beach fill sand shall not contain more than ten (10) percent coarse sediment, defined as the #4 sieve (4.76 mm) and shall be screened to remove any non-beach compatible material and rubble.
 - c. No more than 50 percent of the fill sand shall have a grain diameter less than 0.125mm as measured by #120 Standard Sieve Mesh.
 - d. Beach fill shall be dominantly composed of naturally occurring carbonate beach or dune sand. Crushed limestone or other man-made, or non-carbonate sands are unacceptable.
5. **Sand for the project is sourced only from the Hilton sand deposit as noted within this report, or from another sand source that is compatible with Ala Moana Beach sand with approval from OCCL;**
6. Sand used for beach maintenance shall be screened of coarse material (rocks) and any non-beach compatible material;
7. All representations relative to mitigation set forth in the accepted environmental impact statement for the proposed use are incorporated as conditions of the permit;
8. The permittee shall comply with all of the mitigation measures and Best Management Practice representations stated in this document;
9. The applicant shall implement both site-specific and standard Best Management Practices (BMPs), including the ability to contain and minimize silt in nearshore waters through silt containment devices or barriers and to clean up fuel, fluid or oil spills immediately for projects authorized by this permit. Equipment must not be refueled in the shoreline area. If visible petroleum, persistent turbidity or other unusual substances are observed in the water as a result of the proposed operation, all work must cease immediately to ascertain the source of the substance. Any spill(s) or other contamination(s) that occur at the project site will be reported immediately to the Department of Health and other appropriate agencies;
10. Any materials that become liberated during construction activities must be immediately removed from the beach or ocean;

11. No contamination of the marine or coastal environment (trash or debris) shall result from project-related activities authorized under this letter;
12. All placed material shall be free of contaminants of any kind including: excessive silt, sludge, anoxic or decaying organic matter, turbidity, temperature or abnormal water chemistry, clay, dirt, organic material, oil, floating debris, grease or foam or any other pollutant that would produce an undesirable condition to the beach or water quality;
13. Work shall be conducted during calm weather periods to the most practical extent possible and no work shall occur if there is high surf or ocean conditions that will create unsafe work or beach conditions;
14. The activity shall not substantially disrupt the movement of those species of aquatic life indigenous to the area, including those species which normally migrate through the area;
15. The activity shall not adversely affect a federally listed threatened or endangered species or a species proposed for such designation, or destroy or adversely modify its designated critical habitat;
16. Artificial light from exterior lighting fixtures, including but not limited to floodlights, uplights, or spotlights used for decorative or aesthetic purposes, shall be prohibited if the light directly illuminates or is direct to project across property boundaries toward the shoreline and ocean waters, except as may be permitted pursuant to HRS §205A-71. All exterior lighting shall be shielded to protect the night sky;
17. **No night work that requires outdoor lighting during seabird fledging season from September 15 through December 15;**
18. During construction, appropriate mitigation measures shall be implemented to minimize impacts to the aquatic environment, off-site roadways, utilities, and public facilities;
19. The applicant shall plan to minimize the amount of dust generating materials and activities. Material transfer points and on-site vehicular traffic routes shall be centralized. Dusty equipment shall be located in areas of least impact. Dust control measures shall be provided during weekends, after hours and prior to daily start-up of project activities. Dust from debris being hauled away from the project site shall be controlled. Landscaping and dust control of cleared areas will be initiated promptly;
20. The permittee shall comply with all applicable Department of Health administrative rules;

21. When provided or required, potable water supply and sanitation facilities shall have the approval of the Department of Health and the City & County Board of Water Supply;
22. Obstruction of public roads, trails, lateral shoreline access, and pathways shall be avoided or minimized. If obstruction is unavoidable, the permittee shall provide alternative roads, trails, lateral beach access, or pathways acceptable to the department;
23. Appropriate safety and notification procedures shall be carried out. This shall include high visibility safety fencing, tape or barriers to keep people away from the active construction site, and a notification to the public informing them of the project;
24. **Should historic remains such as artifacts, burials or concentration of charcoal be encountered during construction activities, work shall cease immediately in the vicinity of the find, and the find shall be protected from further damage. The contractor shall immediately contact SHPD (692-8015), which will assess the significance of the find and recommend an appropriate mitigation measure, if necessary;**
25. The permittee acknowledges that the approved work shall not hamper, impede, or otherwise limit the exercise of traditional, customary, or religious practices of native Hawaiians in the immediate area, to the extent the practices are provided for by the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i, and by Hawai'i statutory and case law;
26. The permittee shall comply with all applicable statutes, ordinances, rules, and regulations of the federal, state, and county governments, and applicable parts of Chapter 13-5, HAR;
27. The permittee, its successors and assigns, shall indemnify and hold the State of Hawai'i harmless from and against any loss, liability, claim, or demand for property damage, personal injury, and death arising out of any act or omission of the applicant, its successors, assigns, officers, employees, contractors, and agents under this permit or relating to or connected with the granting of this permit;
28. Where any interference, nuisance, or harm may be caused, or hazard established by the use, the permittee shall be required to take measures to minimize or eliminate the interference, nuisance, harm, or hazard within a time frame and manner prescribed by the Chairperson;
29. The permittee understands and agrees that the permit does not convey any vested right(s) or exclusive privilege;
30. The permittee shall comply with all applicable statutes, ordinances, rules, and regulations of the federal, state, and county governments, and applicable parts of

this chapter;

31. In issuing the permit, the department and board have relied on the information and data that the permittee has provided in connection with the permit application. If, subsequent to the issuance of the permit such information and data prove to be false, incomplete, or inaccurate, this permit may be modified, suspended, or revoked, in whole or in part, and the department may, in addition, institute appropriate legal proceedings;
32. The permittee shall obtain necessary county permits for proposed the use prior to final construction plan approval by the department;
33. Any landscaping shall be appropriate to the site location and shall give preference to plant materials that are endemic or indigenous to Hawai'i. The introduction of invasive plant species is prohibited;
34. Other terms and conditions as prescribed by the Chairperson; and
35. Failure to comply with any of these conditions shall render this Conservation District Use Permit void under Chapter 13-5, as determined by the chairperson or board.

Respectfully Submitted,

Salvatore Saluga

Salvatore Saluga, Coastal Lands Program Specialist
Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands

Approved for submittal:

Suzanne D. Case

Suzanne D. Case, Chairperson
Board of Land and Natural Resources



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION
KAKUHIHEWA BUILDING
601 KAMOKILA BLVD, STE 355
KAPOLEI, HAWAII 96707

SUZANNE B. CASE
DIRECTOR
BUREAU OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSIONER OF WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
RICHARD E. MARSHALL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
W. BOY BLANDY
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR - PLANS
ADRIANNE MORGAN
PLANNING AND DESIGN SERVICES
BUREAU OF CONSERVATION
COMMISSIONER OF WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES
BUREAU OF CONSERVATION
PLANNING AND DESIGN SERVICES
KAPOLEI, HAWAII 96707
STATE FORD

June 18, 2018

Robert J. Kroning, Director
Department of Design and Construction
650 South King Street, 11th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
via: rkroning@honolulu.gov

IN REPLY REFER TO:
LOG: 2018.01374
DOC: 1806KN03
Architecture, Archaeology

Dear Mr. Kroning:

RE: Historic Preservation Review
Ala Moana Regional Park Master Plan
1201 Ala Moana Blvd. Honolulu, HI 96814
Walkiki Ahupua'a, Kona District, Island of O'ahu
TMK: (1) 2-3-037:001

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this request from the Department of Design and Construction (DDC) for Hawaii's Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 6E-8 review. The State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) received this submittal on June 5, 2018. The submittal included the SHPD 6E Submittal Form, information per §13-275, HAR, the permit set, and photographs. The proposed scope of work includes repairing damaged canal walls, improving access along Ala Moana Boulevard and the edge conditions of the Japanese and Hawaiian ponds, reconfiguring the McCoy Pavilion "keyhole" parking area, and providing maintenance repair to the Bridle Bridge and Roosevelt Portals.

Ala Moana Regional Park is listed on the Hawaii's Register of Historic Places as part of the thematic multiple property nomination for the City & County of Honolulu's Art Deco Parks. The park was evaluated as eligible under Criteria A and C, under the areas of Recreation and Architecture and the period of significance is 1934.

Per §13-275-7, HAR, the project will affect one or more significant historic properties, the effects will potentially be harmful, and therefore SHPD concurs with DDC's "Effect, with proposed mitigation commitments" effect determination. Per §13-275-8, HAR, DDC's proposed mitigation commitments are acceptable.

Per 36 CFR 800.16(y), this project will require a Federal permit, license or approval and therefore is considered an undertaking. DDC acknowledges that this project shall comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and SHPD looks forward to future consultation and receiving the appropriate documentation per 36 CFR 800.11.

Please contact Susan Lebo, Archaeology Branch Chief, at (808) 692- 8019, or at Susan.A.Lebo@hawaii.gov, for questions regarding archaeological resources, or Kaiwi Yoon, Architecture Branch Chief at (808) 692-8032, or at Kaiwi.N.Yoon@hawaii.gov for questions regarding architectural resources this letter.

A-2

Exhibit A – SHPD 6E Historic Preservation Review Approval

R. Kroning
06/18/18
Page 2

Mahalo,

Alan Downer

Alan Downer, PhD.
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Administrator, State Historic Preservation Division

cc: emorisato@honolulu.gov



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION
KAKUHIHEWA BUILDING
601 KAMOKILA BLVD, STE 555
KAPOLEI, HAWAII 96707

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY
M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER
AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONSERVANCIES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES REPORT EXPERT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

June 3, 2020

IN REPLY REFER TO:
LOG NO: 2020.00267
2019.02528
DOC NO: 2005TGM07
Architecture, Archaeology

Samuel J. Lemmo, Administrator
Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands
Department of Land and Natural Resources
P.O. Box 621
Honolulu, HI 96809
Via Email: sam.j.lemmo@hawaii.gov

Mark Yonamine, Director
Department of Design and Construction
City and County of Honolulu,
650 S. King Street
Honolulu, HI 96813
C/O Elaine Morisato: emorisato@honolulu.gov

Dear Mr. Lemmo and Mr. Yonamine:

SUBJECT: HRS Chapter 6E-8 Historic Preservation Review
Ala Moana Park and Magic Island State Park – Beach Nourishment Project
Conservation District Use Application (CDUA) OA-3858
45-123 Kane'ohe Bay Drive Kane'ohe, HI 96744
Honolulu Ahupua'a, Kona Moku, Island of O'ahu
TMK: (1) 2-3-037:001 & 025, and adjacent submerged State land within the Resource
Subzone of the Conservation District makai of the subject parcels

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this request from the Department of Land and Natural Resources Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands (OCCL) and the City and County Department of Design and Construction (DDC), for Hawaii's Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 6E-8 review. The State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) received this submittal on November 14, 2019 and additional information was received on February 3, 2020. The additional information submitted included the Conservation District Use Application (CDUA), Special Management Area Use Permit Application, SHPD 6E Submittal Form, Coastal Assessment and Design Report, Final Environmental Impact Statement, and photographs.

The proposed project to Ala Moana Park and Magic Island State Park includes artificially nourishing the beach with sand to address the erosion problem and the exposed rocks in the nearshore waters. Ala Moana's Beach does not have a natural source of sand and any sand that moves toward shore over the reef flat would be blocked from reaching the beach by the deeper swimming channel. The beach nourishment project is part of a master plan to produce improvements to the park and is included in the August 2019 Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS).

According to the information submitted, the proposed action involves the placement of roughly 70,700 cubic yards of sand on the beach of Ala Moana Park between Kewalo Basin and Magic Island. Approximately 65,700 cubic yards of this sand would be used for the beach nourishment, which will be supplemented with a berm enhancement in the area

Exhibit B – SHPD 6E Historic Preservation Review Final Approval

S. Lemmo & M. Yonamine
6/3/20
Page 2

near the Magic Island parking lot. This quantity of sand was determined to meet the project's goal of restoring the beach at Ala Moana Beach Park to its 1957 shoreline position.

This nourishment project would cover roughly 4,500 feet of linear shoreline, with cross-shore widening varying across the beach. The total footprint of the nourishment project would be roughly 606,100 square feet, or 13.9 acres. The sand would be taken from one or more offshore sand sources, both of which are between 4,500 and 5,000 feet offshore of the project site. An area of the beach will be used as a dewatering basin for water runoff from the dredged sand to drain through the beach. This dewatering basin will be approximately 90 feet by 70 feet with a depth of about 2-3 feet.

The information provided also states that the most likely method of delivery would be through the Ala Wai Small Boat Harbor. This would be done by mooring the sand barge containing the offshore sand alongside the Magic Island parking lot for placement into dump trucks. The dump trucks will cross the parking lot and deliver the sand directly to the beach. Bulldozers will move the sand (after dewatering) to its proper location for the nourishment project once the sand is within the beach profile.

The Ala Moana Park is located on the south shore of O'ahu, Hawai'i, between Kewalo Basin and the Ala Wai Small Boat Harbor. The 119-acre park, which is owned and administered by the City and County of Honolulu, is listed in Hawai'i Register of Historic Places (SIHP # 50-80-14-01388) as a contributing resource to the Art Deco Parks Thematic group and is significant for its Art Deco architecture and for the pattern of the parks development movement in the Honolulu during the 1930s. The park includes a large expanse of green area and a variety of amenities, including nearly 4,000 lineal feet of beach between Kewalo Basin and Magic Island. The beach was artificially added in the mid-1950s.

The proposed project is only for the beach nourishment project and will not include work to any other of the park's landscape features, structures, objects and buildings. The proposed project will retain the historic character of the park, and therefore will not affect the design, workmanship, materials, location, setting, association and feeling of this historic building.

Per §13-275-7, HAR, the project will have no effect on significant historic properties. Therefore, the SHPD concurs with OCCL's project effect determination of "**no historic properties affected**" for the beach nourishment work. Pursuant to §13-275-7(e), HAR, when the SHPD agrees that the action will not affect any significant historic properties, this is the SHPD's written concurrence and historic preservation review ends.

SHPD hereby notifies the OCCL and the DDC that the HRS 6E historic preservation review process is ended. The permitting and/or project initiation process may continue.

Please attach to construction documents: In the unlikely event that subsurface historic resources, including human skeletal remains, structural remains, cultural deposits, artifacts, sand deposits, or sink holes are identified during the demolition and/or construction work, cease work in the immediate vicinity of the find, protect the find from additional disturbance, and contact the State Historic Preservation Division, at (808) 692-8015.

The SHPD looks forward reviewing future projects for Ala Mona Beach Park.

Please contact Dr. Susan Lebo, Archaeology Branch Chief, at (808) 692-8019 or at Susan.A.Lebo@hawaii.gov regarding archaeological resources, or Tanya Gumapac-McGuire, Architecture Branch Chief, at (808) 692-8022 or at Tanya.Gumapac-McGuire@hawaii.gov regarding architectural resources or this letter.

Aloha,
Alan Downer

Alan Downer, PhD.
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Administrator, State Historic Preservation Division

cc: David Smith, dsmith@seaengineering.com
Michele Nekota, mnekota@honolulu.gov

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

530 SOUTH KING STREET, ROOM 300 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 768-4141 • FAX: (808) 768-4242 • INTERNET: www.honolulu.gov



KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR

FILE COPY

AUG 23 2019

ROY K. AMEMIYA, JR.
MANAGING DIRECTOR
GEORGETTE T. DEEMER
DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR

August 12, 2019

Mr. Scott Glenn, Director
Office of Environmental Quality Control
Department of Health
State of Hawaii
235 South Beretania Street, Room 702
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Glenn:

RECEIVED
19 AUG 12 PM 4:20
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY CONTROL

I hereby accept the Department of Design and Construction's Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Ala Moana Regional Park and Magic Island Improvements. The FEIS fulfills the requirements of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, Chapter 343 and Hawaii Administrative Rules, 11-200. There will be short-term impacts during construction where sections of the park are closed. Best Management Practices will be implemented during the construction phases of the project. None of the projects will have a long-term impact on the environment. All existing recreational and cultural practices will continue to occur after construction is complete.

My acceptance of the statement affirms the adequacy of the FEIS in accordance with applicable laws. I find that the mitigation measure as provided in the FEIS will minimize the negative impacts of the project.

I direct the Department of Design and Construction to perform these or comparable mitigation measures at the discretion of relevant agencies in implementing this project.

Should there be any questions, please contact Robert J. Kroning, Director of the Department of Design and Construction, at 768-8480.

Sincerely,

Kirk Caldwell
Mayor

20-045

Exhibit C – FEIS Acceptance Letter from Mayor's Office