



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097**

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

March 1, 2021

Ms. Suzanne D. Case, Chairperson
c/o Board of Land and Natural Resources
1151 Punchbowl Street, Room 130
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Case and Board Members:

Subject: Request Authorization to Acquire Land for the Department of Transportation, Highways Division, for Highway Purposes, Relating to Ala Moana Boulevard Elevated Pedestrian Walkway Project No. BLD-092-1(029), at Honolulu, Island of Oahu, Hawaii.

OAHU

APPLICANT:

State of Hawaii, Department of Transportation, Highways Division (HDOT).

LEGAL REFERENCE:

Sections 107-10, 171-30, and Chapter 264, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended.

LOCATION:

Ala Moana Boulevard Elevated Pedestrian Walkway
Vicinity of Victoria Ward Park in Ward Village
Project No. BLD-092-1(029)

ZONING:

Easement P-1 and Construction Parcels C-1 and C-2 (Mauka, VWL)	
Tax Map Key No. (1) 2-3-01-128	Commercial
Tax Map Key No. (1) 2-3-01-128, 129, 130, 132	Commercial

COMPENSATION:

The acquisition of any parcels, easements, and/or temporary construction parcels' fair market value will be determined by an independent appraiser (contracted for by the State of Hawaii). Compensation to the landowners may exceed the appraisal to the extent allowed by Section 171-30 (e) Hawaii Revised Statutes.

CHAPTER 343 – ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

The Final Environmental Assessment was published in the January 8, 2021 edition of the The Environmental Notice by Office of Environmental Quality Control.

REMARKS:

The HDOT is working with Victoria Ward Limited in building an elevated pedestrian walkway makai side of Victoria Ward Park that connects to the harbor.

As of September 1, 2018, the Department of the Attorney General has mandated the HDOT to obtain Board approval for all acquisitions in accordance with Section 171-30, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

HDOT is proposing to build an elevated pedestrian and bicycle walkway over Ala Moana Boulevard between Ward Avenue and Kamakee Street. The project envisions a 'land bridge' for Ward Village and surrounding community residents to walk or bike across Ala Moana Boulevard, connecting them to oceanfront Ala Moana Beach Park, Kewalo Basin, and Kakaako Waterfront Park. HDOT is proposing the project to provide a safe and efficient way for pedestrians to cross over the busy highway and reduce vehicle-pedestrian accidents at the Ward Avenue and Kamakee Street intersections.

Ala Moana Boulevard generally consists of three lanes in each direction plus turn lanes with a landscaped median. Mauka of Ala Moana Boulevard, Victoria Ward Limited is developing the 60-acre master planned Ward Village, which is expected to create at least 4,500 new residential condominiums. Additionally, the Honolulu Rail Transit's Kakaako Station will be located nearby, where 2,650 pedestrians and cyclists are projected to access the station each day. The proposed elevated walkway would connect pedestrians and cyclists generated by these future developments to Kewalo Basin, Kakaako Waterfront Park, and Ala Moana Beach Park.

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The new elevated walkway would be accessible via both stairway and an American with Disabilities Act (ADA) path that connects to the Ala Moana Boulevard sidewalks on either side of the structure. Lighting would be needed for the elevated walkway, ADA paths or sidewalks leading to/from the structure, and under the structure along Ala Moana Boulevard. A central pier to support the walkway structure would be placed in the highway median.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

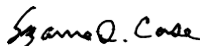
- A. Authorize the acquisition of the subject lands subject to an appropriate conveyance document, as reviewed and approved by the Department of the Attorney General and by the Department of Transportation.

Sincerely,



JADE T. BUTAY
Director of Transportation

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:



SUZANNE D. CASE, Chairperson

Enclosures

