

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

June 26, 2026

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

OAHU

Issuance of Construction and Management Right-of-Entry Permit to Department of Transportation for the Kalaeloa Hybrid Reef Project Purposes on State Submerged Lands off Kalaeloa Point, Ewa, Oahu, Tax Map Key: (1) 9-1-014: seaward of 049.

APPLICANT:

Department of Transportation (DOT).

LEGAL REFERENCE:

Sections 171-13 and 55 Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended.

LOCATION:

Portion of submerged lands situated off Kalaeloa Point, Ewa, Oahu, Tax Map Key: (1) 9-1-014: seaward of 049. **Exhibit A.**

AREA:

8,945 square feet, more or less

ZONING:

State Land Use District: Conservation

TRUST LAND STATUS:

Section 5 (b) of Hawaii Admission Act

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

CURRENT USE STATUS:

Vacant and unencumbered.

CHARACTER OF USE:

Right, privilege and authority to construct, use, maintain, repair, replace and remove for Kalaeloa Hybrid Reef Project purposes over, under and across State-owned submerged lands.

TERM

One-year.

COMMENCEMENT DATE:

To be determined by the Chairperson.

CONSIDERATION:

Gratis. Governmental agency.

CHAPTER 343 - ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

Final Environmental Assessment/Finding of No Significant Impact (FEA/FONSI) was issued on January 30, 2026, and published in the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development's The Environmental Notice on February 23, 2026.

DCCA VERIFICATION:

Not applicable.

APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS:

None.

REMARKS:

For the Board's reference, Conservation District Use Application (OA-3994) pertaining to the subject project will be considered by the Board under a separate item on today's agenda. Applicant understands that the subject request is contingent upon approval of the CDUA OA-3994.

The project is proposing to deploy a prototype hybrid reef (living breakwater) designed to protect coastlines while encouraging the growth of a healthy coral reef. The project includes the installation of individual base structures that mimic

sections of a fringing reef to stimulate rapid coral growth to provide additional wave attenuation, fish habitat, and structural support.

The hybrid reef consists of an array of submerged porous breakwater modules that will be populated by several reef-enhancing techniques to promote the rapid growth of reef-building organisms, transforming the array into a living, resilient system. Improvements include; outplanting coral collected from the site prior to deployment onto the structures; use of coral settlement modules (artificial habitats), microstructures, and biomaterials, that will be attached to the breakwater array (not the ocean floor) to promote the settlement of coral larvae to the structures; deployment of an underwater speaker to promote the settlement of herbivores fish to the structures.

The purpose of the prototype is to measure the performance of this type of a hybrid reef. Oceanographic and water quality sensors will be deployed on the structures and on the seabed to measure efficacy of the full-scale array and document changes to water quality (soundscape, turbidity, temperature, salinity, pH) over time. The acoustic speaker, recorders and sensors will be removed periodically for maintenance and battery swaps and will be finally removed at the completion of performance monitoring. All other structures (which are intended to harbor live coral and supporting reef organisms) are expected to remain installed permanently.

The project will conduct monitoring in accordance with permitting requirements. Monitoring is expected to occur at one (1) month following out planting, and again at six (6) months, one (1) year, three (3) years, and five (5) years unless otherwise specified in Special Activities Permit (SAP) conditions. Monitoring techniques will be updated as appropriate to reflect current best available methodologies, such as wave attenuation measurements, coral settlement surveys, digital tracking using photomosaic mapping and Structure-from-Motion imaging, to the extent practicable.

As noted in the FEA, DOT will assume long-term ownership, maintenance, and monitoring responsibilities of the project, after the evaluation stage. Staff notes the subject request covers the test period, and any long-term management and maintenance disposition will be brought to the Board at a later date.

Staff also recommend the Board delegate the authority to the Chairperson to extend the one-year period of the requested right-of-entry.

Applicant has not had a lease, permit, easement or other disposition of State lands terminated within the last five (5) years due to non-compliance with such terms and conditions.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board authorize the issuance of a construction and management right-of-entry permit to the Department of Transportation covering

the subject area for Kalaeloa Hybrid Reef Project purposes under the terms and conditions cited above, which are by this reference incorporated herein and further subject to the following:

- A. The standard terms and conditions of the most current right-of-entry form, as may be amended from time to time; and
- B. Terms and conditions of Conservation District Use Permit OA-3994.
- C. Delegate to the Chairperson authority to approve any continuation or renewal of the right of entry for additional one-year periods for good cause shown.
- D. Such other terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Chairperson to best serve the interests of the State.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barry Cheung

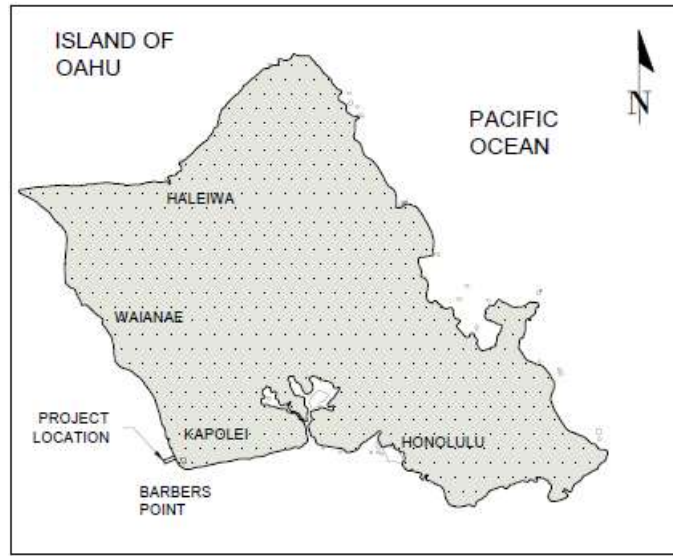
Barry Cheung
District Land Agent

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:

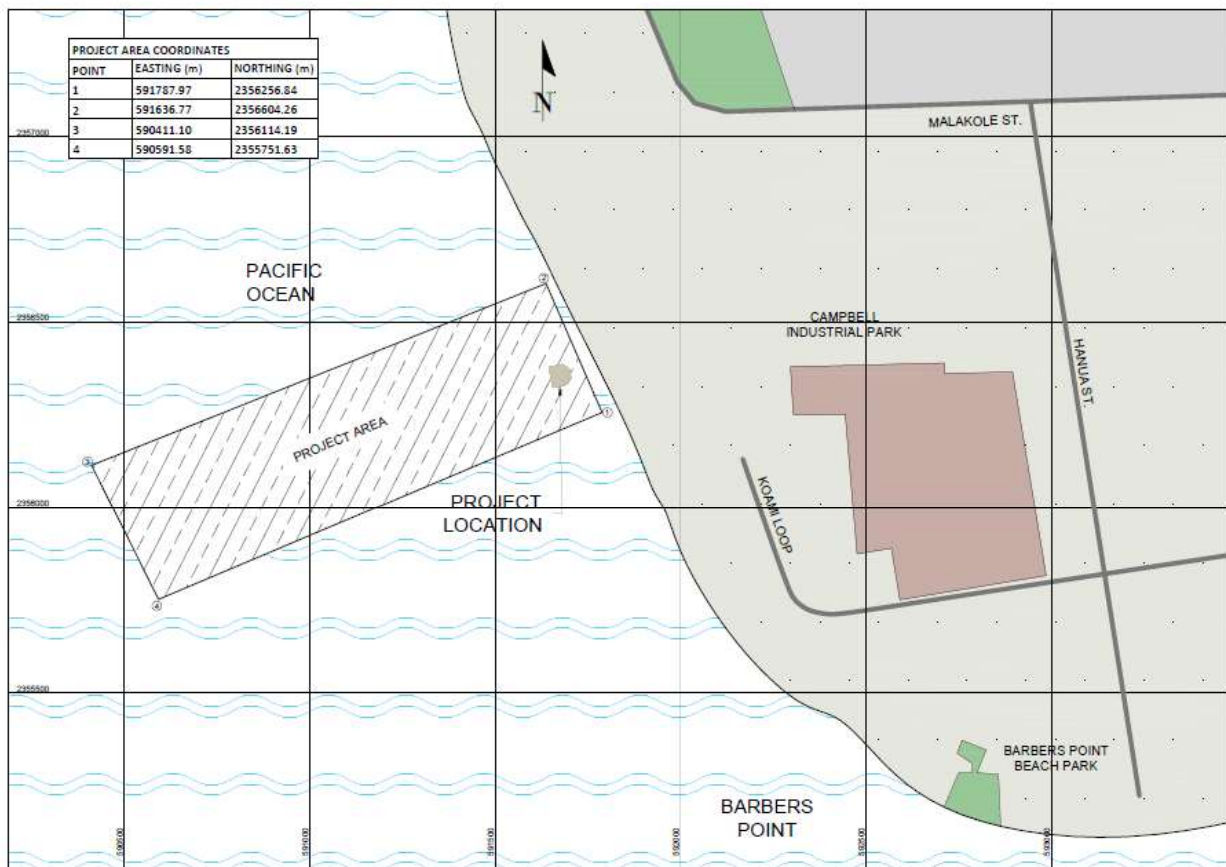
R.K.P.

Ryan K. P. Kanaka'ole, Acting Chairperson

LY



LOCATION MAP



VICINITY MAP

EXHIBIT A