



H I L O   C E N T R A L   F I R E   S T A T I O N  
F I N A L   E N V I R O N M E N T A L   A S S E S S M E N T

P R E P A R E D   F O R  
H A W A I I   F I R E   D E P A R T M E N T  
C O U N T Y   O F   H A W A I I



A P R I L   2 0 0 8

**HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION  
FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

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**LIST OF ACRONYMS**

The following is a list of terms, abbreviations, and acronyms used in this document.

ADA – Americans with Disabilities Act

BMPs – Best Management Practices

DOH – State of Hawai‘i Department of Health

DOT – State of Hawai‘i Department of Transportation

DWS – County of Hawai‘i Department of Water Supply

EA – Environmental Assessment

FEIS – Final Environmental Impact Statement

FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency

FIRM – Flood Insurance Rate Map

FONSI – Finding of No Significant Impact

HAR – Hawai‘i Administrative Rules

HHA – Hawai‘i Housing Authority

HPHA - Hawai‘i Public Housing Authority

HMC – Hilo Medical Center

HDU – High Density Use

HRS – Hawai‘i Revised Statutes

LEED – Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design

LUC – Land Use Commission

LUPAG – County of Hawai‘i General Plan Land Use Pattern Allocation Guide

NAS – Naval Air Station

NPDES – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

OSHA – Occupational Safety & Health Administration

RD 3.75 – Residential Development (Hawai‘ i County zoning)

ROW – Right of Way

SMA – Special Management Area

TMK – Tax Map Key

UHH – University of Hawai‘i at Hilo

USGS – US Geologic Survey

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I n t r o d u c t i o n

**HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION**  
**FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

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**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

The Hawai'i Fire Department wishes to construct a new fire station and battalion headquarters in central Hilo. Five vacant houses, part of Lanakila Homes, originally a federally-funded public housing project, will be removed and relocated elsewhere on Lanakila Homes property to make way for the new fire station.

The proposed use of State lands and County funds triggers an environmental requirement for the preparation of an environmental assessment (EA) in compliance with Chapter 343, HRS. Because disposition of Federally-funded public housing is involved, compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is also required.

**1.1 PROJECT SUMMARY**

The following is a summary of the key elements of the proposed action:

<b>Project Name:</b>	Hilo Central Fire Station
<b>Proposing and Approving Agency:</b>	Hawai'i Fire Department
<b>Location:</b>	Kūkūau, South Hilo, Island of Hawai'i (Figure 1)
<b>Tax Map Key and Land Area:</b>	TMK: 2-4-28: (Por.) 07 1.999 acres (Figure 2)
<b>Landowner:</b>	Hawai'i Public Housing Authority (formerly Hawai'i Housing Authority); to be transferred to the County of Hawai'i
<b>Existing Use:</b>	Residential with vacant houses;
<b>Proposed Use:</b>	Construction of a fire station and battalion headquarters
<b>Land Use Designations:</b>	Land Use Pattern Allocation Guide (LUPAG) – High Density Use (HDU) (Figure 3) County Zoning – RD 3.75 (Figure 4) State Land Use District – Urban
<b>Special Designations:</b>	It is not in the Special Management Area or historic district
<b>Anticipated Determination:</b>	Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)
<b>Agencies Consulted:</b>	Various State agencies, County agencies and private organizations

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### 1.2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Hawai'i Fire Department wishes to construct a new fire station and battalion headquarters in central Hilo.

There is a need for a new facility at a different location. The current fire station was built in 1939 and, more importantly, is located in the tsunami evacuation zone. Whenever there is a tsunami warning, personnel have to evacuate the facility. This is a critical time for them to assist the public, yet at the same time they must evacuate the station. It is vital for emergency service providers to be available prior to, during and after impact to provide critical services to the public.

A site on Mohouli Street extension in Hilo was considered, but rejected as being too far out of the central part the city and too far at the edge of the fire response district. See section 7.0 on Alternatives for a full discussion.

The Hawai'i Fire Department anticipates using a fire station building floor plan template already developed for the Central Fire Station. See Figure 5. The new building will be approximately 15,860 square feet in size and contain a total of 41 rooms for living quarters, offices, work rooms, classrooms, bathrooms, showers, an exercise room, locker rooms, a kitchen, storage, a training room, an apparatus bay and a hose tower.

Separate parking lots will be constructed for staff and for the public, with a total of 29 parking stalls, including 3 ADA stalls. New sidewalks will also be installed. New underground utility connections will be placed during the construction phase, including relocation of existing sewer and gas lines that run through the site of the new fire station. The final configuration and dimensions will be determined during the design phase.

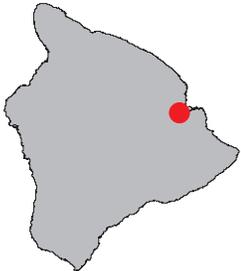
To the greatest extent possible the new facility will be designed to LEED Silver standard. The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System™ is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high performance green buildings (sustainably designed). LEED promotes a whole-building approach to sustainability by recognizing performance in five key areas of human and environmental health: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection, and indoor environmental quality. The Strategic Industries Division of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) acknowledged facility design to LEED Silver Standard, to the greatest extent possible, and also provided additional resources of information, which the contractor will consult during the design phase.

### 1.3 PROJECT LOCATION

The site selected for the new central fire station is the southeast (Puna-makai) corner of Wailoa and Ululani Streets in central Hilo, Kūkūau I ahupua'a, district of South Hilo. It is 1.999 acres in size and part of a larger public housing complex called Lanakila Homes, which is 29.3 acres in size. An existing central fire station is currently located 6/10 of a mile to the north at the corner



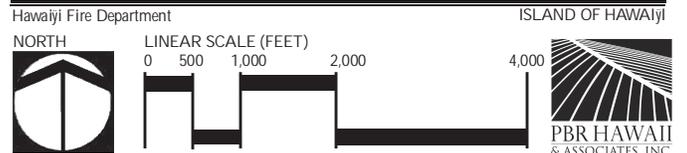
Project Location: Hilo, Hawaii



**Legend**

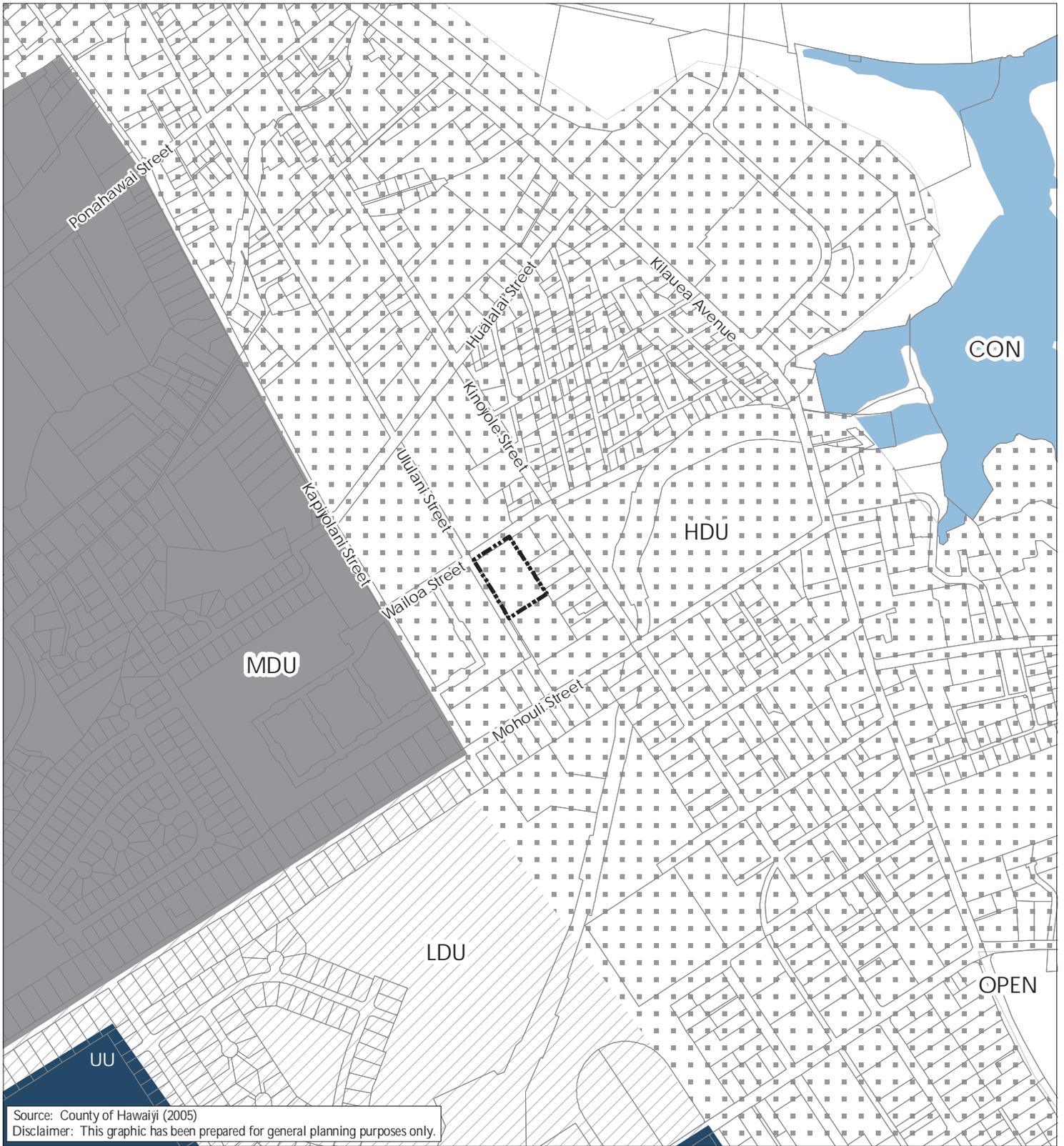
 Proposed Fire Station Site

**FIGURE 1**  
Regional Location Map  
**Hilo Central Fire Station**



Source: U.S. Geological Survey, 2004  
Disclaimer: This graphic has been prepared for general planning purposes only.





**Legend**

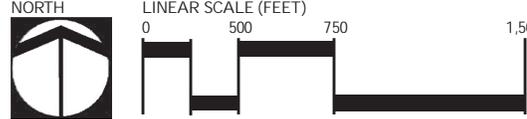
-  Proposed Fire Station Project
-  Conservation
-  High Density Use
-  Medium Density Use
-  Low Density Use
-  Open
-  University Use

**FIGURE 3**  
 Land Use Pattern Allocation Guide  
**Hilo Central Fire Station**

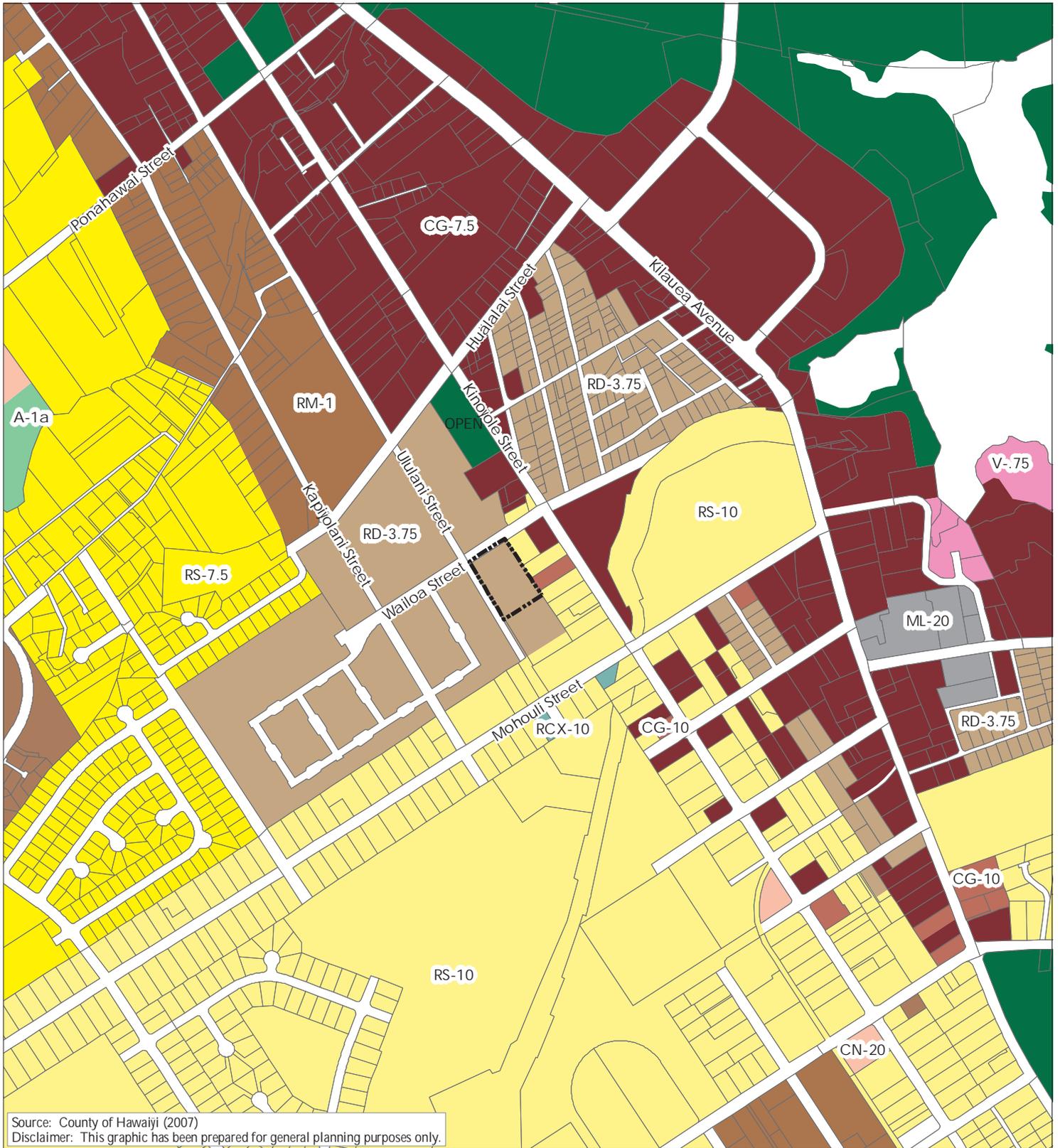
Hawai'i Fire Department ISLAND OF HAWAII

NORTH LINEAR SCALE (FEET)

0 500 750 1,500



  
 PBR HAWAII  
 & ASSOCIATES, INC.



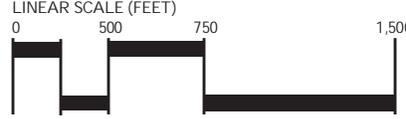
**Legend**

-  Proposed Fire Station Site
-  A-1a
-  CDH
-  CG-10
-  CN-20
-  ML-20
-  OPEN
-  RCX-10
-  RM-1
-  RS-10
-  RS-7.5
-  V-.75
-  RD-3.75  
(Residential Double Family - Minimum 3,750 sq. ft per dwelling)

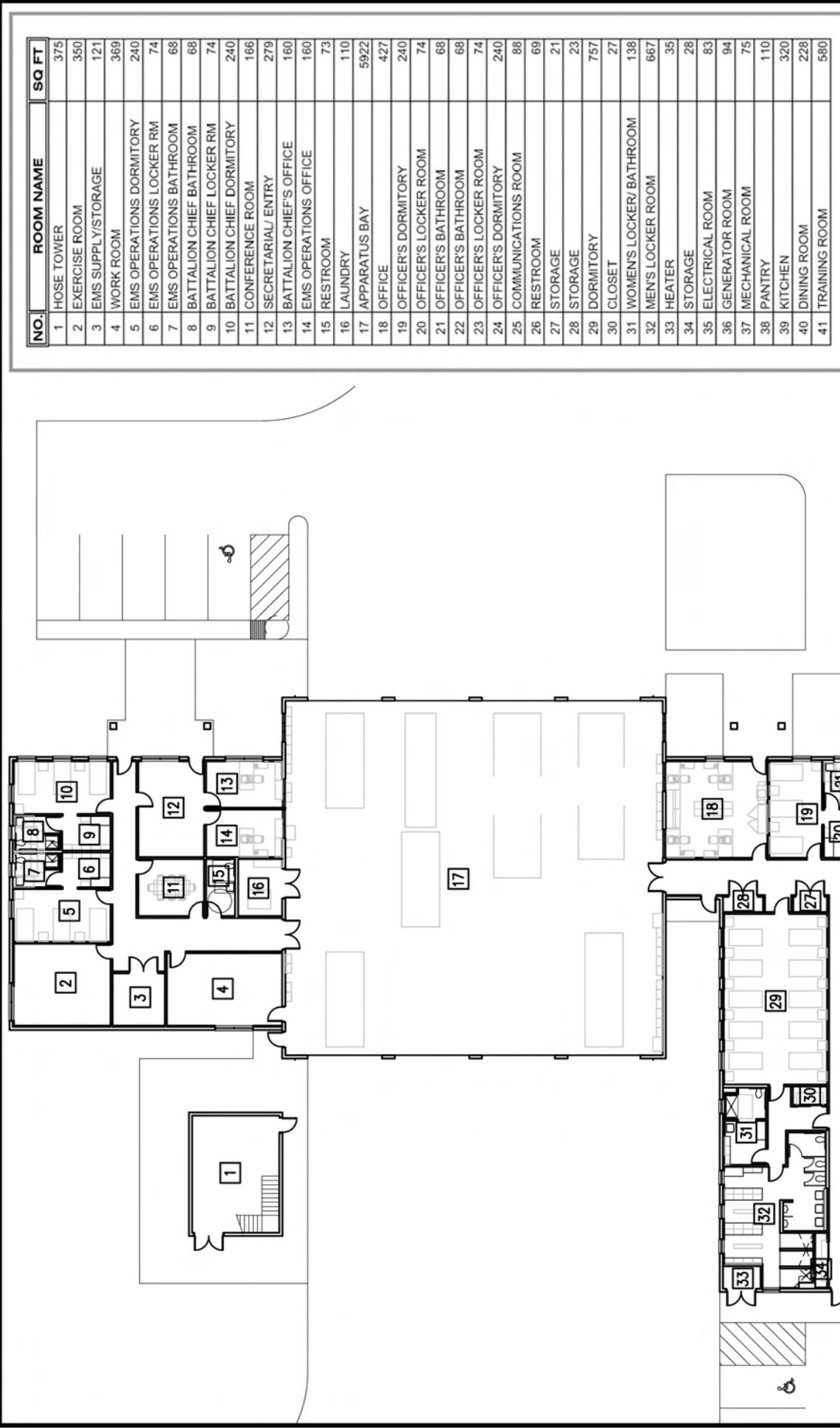
**FIGURE 4**  
 Hawai'i County Zoning Map  
**Hilo Central Fire Station**

Hawai'i Fire Department ISLAND OF HAWAII

NORTH LINEAR SCALE (FEET)

  
 PBR HAWAII & ASSOCIATES, INC.



NO.	ROOM NAME	SO FT
1	HOSE TOWER	375
2	EXERCISE ROOM	350
3	EMS SUPPLY/STORAGE	121
4	WORK ROOM	369
5	EMS OPERATIONS DORMITORY	240
6	EMS OPERATIONS LOCKER RM	74
7	EMS OPERATIONS BATHROOM	68
8	BATTALION CHIEF BATHROOM	68
9	BATTALION CHIEF LOCKER RM	74
10	BATTALION CHIEF DORMITORY	240
11	CONFERENCE ROOM	166
12	SECRETARIAL/ ENTRY	279
13	BATTALION CHIEF'S OFFICE	160
14	EMS OPERATIONS OFFICE	160
15	RESTROOM	73
16	LAUNDRY	110
17	APPARATUS BAY	5922
18	OFFICE	427
19	OFFICER'S DORMITORY	240
20	OFFICER'S LOCKER ROOM	74
21	OFFICER'S BATHROOM	68
22	OFFICER'S BATHROOM	68
23	OFFICER'S LOCKER ROOM	74
24	OFFICER'S DORMITORY	240
25	COMMUNICATIONS ROOM	88
26	RESTROOM	69
27	STORAGE	21
28	STORAGE	23
29	DORMITORY	757
30	CLOSET	27
31	WOMEN'S LOCKER/ BATHROOM	138
32	MEN'S LOCKER ROOM	667
33	HEATER	35
34	STORAGE	28
35	ELECTRICAL ROOM	83
36	GENERATOR ROOM	94
37	MECHANICAL ROOM	75
38	PANTRY	110
39	KITCHEN	320
40	DINING ROOM	228
41	TRAINING ROOM	580

FLOOR PLAN  
kya design group 02.21.08

**FIGURE 5**  
Building Floor Plan  
**Hilo Central Fire Station**

Hawai'i Fire Department  
ISLAND OF HAWAII  
NORTH  
LINEAR SCALE (FEET)  
0 15 30 60

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## FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

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of Kino'ole and Ponahawai Streets. The Hawai'i Fire Department selected this site after examining two candidate locations. See Section 3.0 for a full discussion of alternatives. Once the new facility is operational, the existing fire station will be utilized for another purpose.

The 29.3-acre Lanakila Homes site has been used for public housing since 1951, and prior to that, military housing. Lanakila Homes is undergoing a phased renovation, the subject of which was the 1997 *Lanakila Homes Project Final Environmental Assessment*.

The entire public housing property is bounded by Wailoa and Mohouli Streets, from mid-block between Ululani and Kino'ole Streets to Popolo Street. St. Joseph's School is to the northeast, and residential lots are found on the remaining sides. The 1.999-acre portion designated for the new fire station contains five houses that have been vacated because of the planned renovations. The five houses will be removed to another part of the Lanakila Homes property. See the photographs in Appendix C.

### **1.4 LAND OWNERSHIP**

The Hawai'i Housing Authority, HHA, (now called the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority, HPHA) is the landowner of record (See Figure 2). The Hawai'i Fire Department is the applicant for the applicable entitlements.

### **1.5 IDENTIFICATION OF THE APPLICANT**

The applicant and approving agency is the Hawai'i Fire Department. The contact information is provided below:

Desmond Wery, CIP Manager  
Hawai'i Fire Department  
25 Aupuni St. Suite 103  
Hilo, HI 96720  
Phone: (808) 981-8356  
Fax: (808) 981-2037

Vincent Shigekuni  
PBR HAWAI'I  
1001 Bishop Street, ASB Tower, Suite 650  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813  
Phone: (808)521-5631  
Fax: (808) 523-1402

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### 1.6 PERMITS AND APPROVALS, TIMELINE & PHASING, PROJECT COSTS

The following is a list of permits and the issuing agency:

- Building & Grading permits                      Hawai'i County Department of Public Works
- NPDES    State Department of Health
- Height variance                                      Hawai'i County Planning Department
- Plan Approval                                        Hawai'i County Planning Department
- Subdivision    Hawai'i County Planning Department

The Fire Station is scheduled to be completed in one phase by 2010 at an approximate cost of \$6.2 million.

## **2 . 0**

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**Description of the Affected Environment,  
Potential Impacts of the Proposed Action,  
& Mitigation Measures**

# HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION

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## **2.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT, POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

### **2.1 CLIMATE AND TOPOGRAPHY**

#### *Existing Conditions*

##### **Climate**

The climate on the Island of Hawai‘i, as well as within the State of Hawai‘i, can be characterized as having low day-to-day and month-to-month variability. Differences in the climates of various areas are generally attributable to the island’s geologic formation and topography creating miniature ecosystems ranging from tropical rain forests to dryer plains along with corresponding differences in temperature, humidity, wind, and rainfall over short distances.

Temperatures in the Hilo area are moderate with average daily minimum and maximum temperatures ranging from 66 degrees Fahrenheit (F) to 82 degrees. Average monthly temperatures recorded at Hilo International Airport in 2003, located about 1 mile east of the project area, averaged about 76 degrees and varied between an average of 68 and 84 degrees (NOAA 2003). Rainfall in the Hilo district is substantial with an average annual rainfall recorded at Hilo International Airport of about 128 inches per year.

The entire state of Hawai‘i lies well within the belt of northeasterly trade winds generated by the semi-permanent Pacific high pressure cell to the north and east of the islands. Areas along the eastern coasts of the islands are particularly affected by the trade winds and are usually well ventilated nearly year round.

Although Hilo is situated along the eastern coast of the island, the tall mountains of Mauna Loa and Mauna Kea significantly modify the influence of trade winds. Northeast trade winds typically occur during the day, while winds from the southwest typically occur during the night due to cold air drainage from the mountains. The mean annual wind speed at the airport is about 8 miles per hour (mph), and usually varies between about 4 and 12 mph during the day.

##### **Topography**

The topography can be characterized as generally consisting of a gradual slope from just southwest (mauka) of the fire station site traveling in an eastbound (makai) direction to parcels located along Kino‘ole Street. The elevation at the southwest edge of the project site is about 80 feet mean sea level (msl) and the low point along the parcels fronting Kino‘ole Street is about 60 feet msl.

# HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION

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### *Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures*

The construction of the Hilo Central Fire Station will have no effect on the climate or the topography of the surrounding region. Therefore, no mitigation measures are planned.

## **2.2 DRAINAGE AND SOILS**

### *Existing Conditions*

There are two perennial streams in the vicinity of the project area. The closest one is Alenaio Stream located north of the project site. This stream travels in a west to east direction and empties into Waiākea Fishpond. Waiākea Stream is located southeast of the project site and travels in a south to north direction. It also empties into the Waiākea Fishpond. The FIRM designation for the site is “Outside Floodplain.” The area is determined to be outside the 500-year floodplain. See Figure 6.

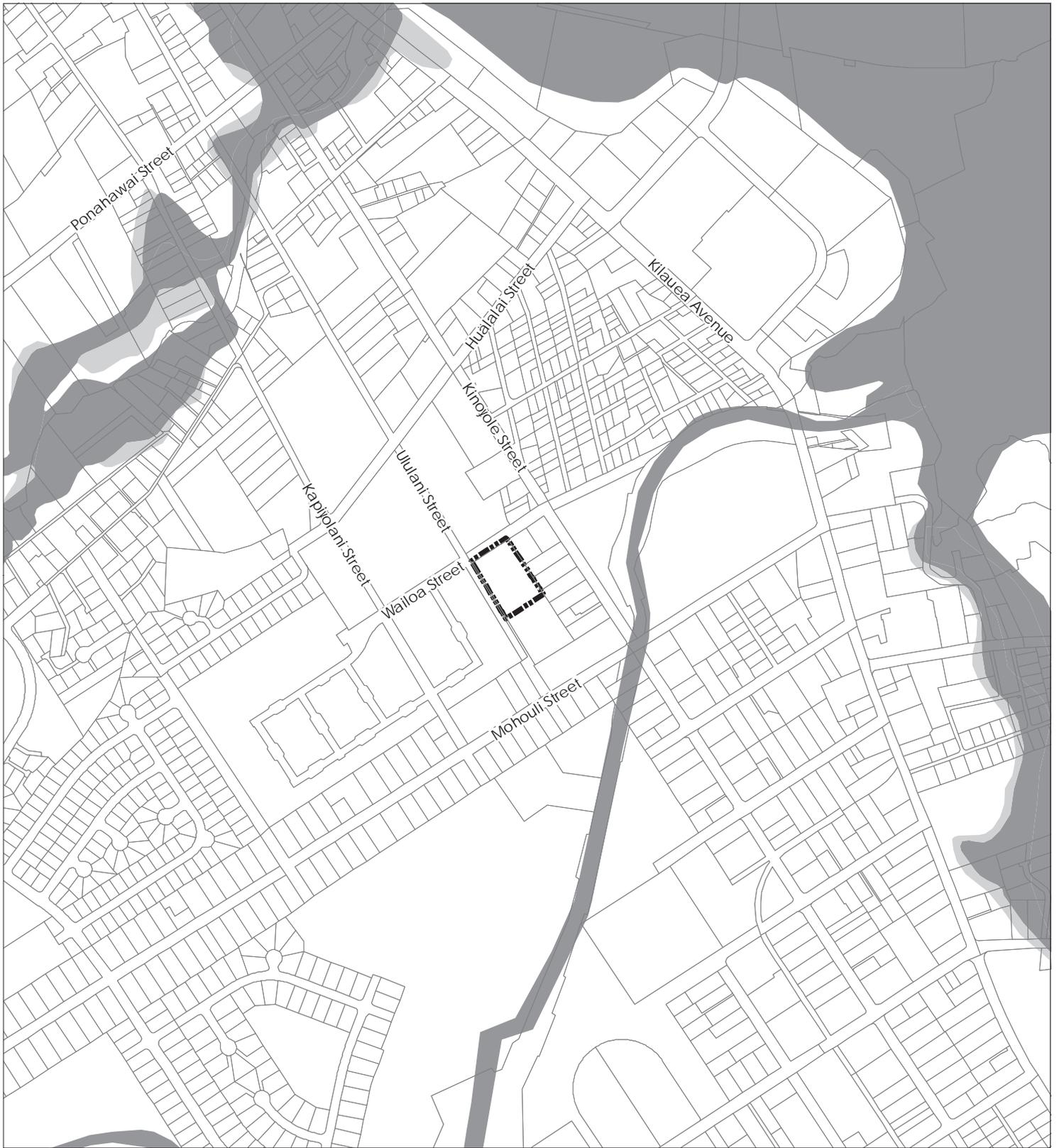
The soil at the project site is classified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service as Keaukaha Extremely Rocky Muck (rKFD), 6 to 20 percent slopes. This soil type occurs in Hilo and is undulating to rolling and follows the topography of the underlying pāhoehoe lava. Rock outcrops occupy about 25 percent of the area. The soil above the lava is rapidly permeable, and the pāhoehoe lava is very slowly permeable, with water moving rapidly through the cracks. Runoff is medium and erosion is slight. Keaukaha Extremely Rocky Muck lies in Soil Capability class VII. Soils in this class have very severe limitations that make them unsuited to cultivation, and their use is restricted to pasture or range, woodland, or wildlife. See Figure 7.

The project site is not in the immediate vicinity of either open bodies of water, perennial or intermittent streams. There are no wetlands in the area. See Figure 8. Waiākea Pond is the nearest body of water at 1725 feet (about a 1/3 of a mile), the closest perennial stream, Waiākea Stream, which flows near Mohouli and Kino‘ole Streets, is 465 feet (0.09 miles) to the east and the nearest intermittent stream, Alenaio Stream, is 1975 feet away (0.37 miles).

### *Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures*

The Army Corps of Engineers, in its pre-consultation letter, requested a determination of distances and evaluation of impacts from the project site to the nearest streams and bodies of water. Distances to the nearest body of surface water, and intermittent and perennial streams range from about a tenth of a mile to a little over a third of a mile. Because of distances involved, no impacts to US bodies of water or streams are expected and, therefore, no mitigation measures are recommended.

Impacts to soils and drainage are expected to be typical of any construction in a fully developed urban area. After construction is complete, no other impacts to underlying soils or to drainage patterns are expected. Nonetheless, the following measures will be implemented.



**Legend**

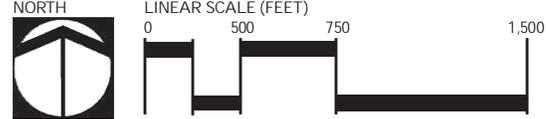
-  Proposed Fire Station Site
-  100-year floodplain. No base elevations determined
-  500-year floodplain. No base elevations determined
-  Areas determined to be outside 500-year floodplain

Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency (1988)  
 Disclaimer: This graphic has been prepared for general planning purposes only.

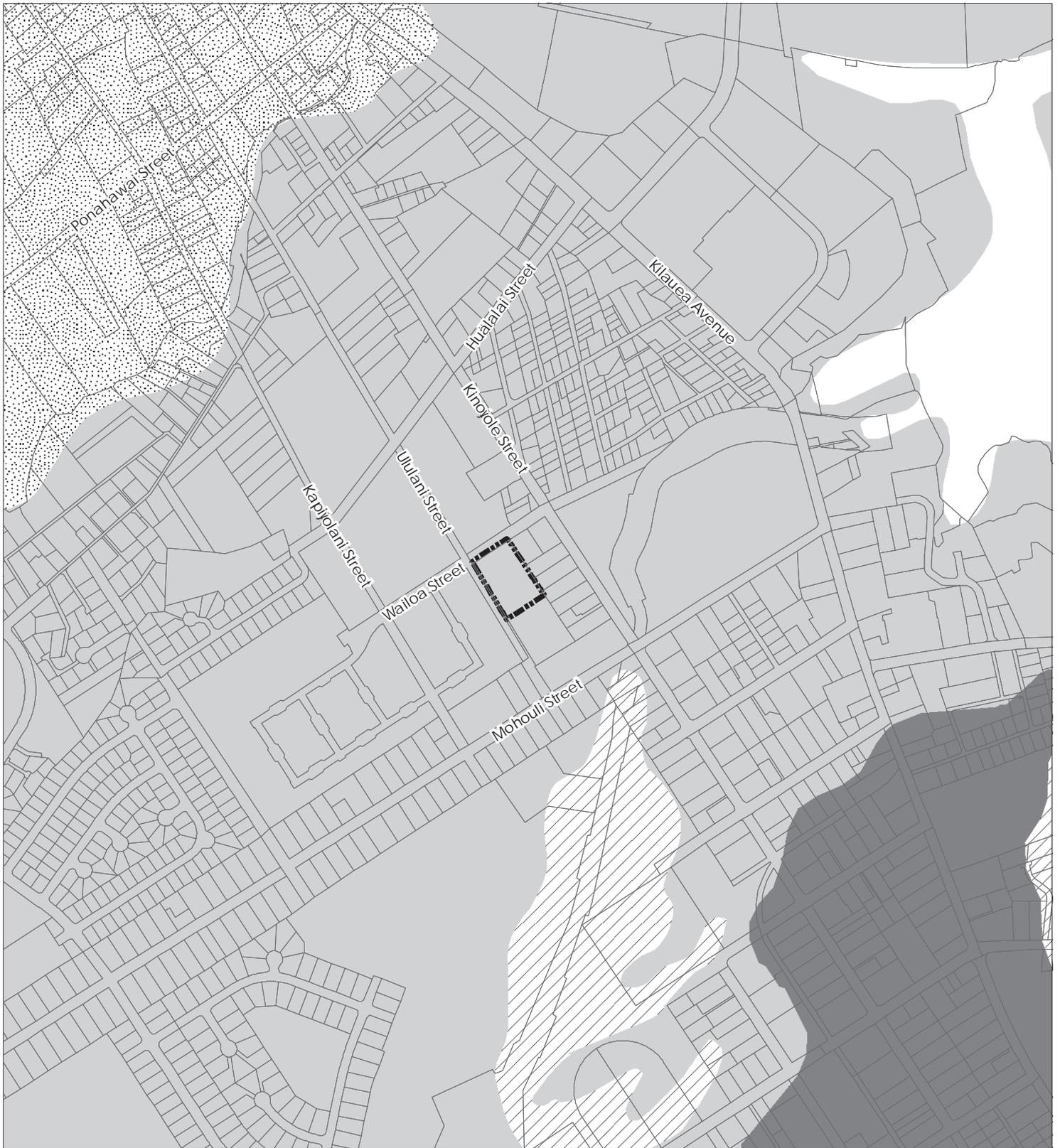
**FIGURE 6**  
 Flood Insurance Rate Map  
**Hilo Central Fire Station**

Hawai'i Fire Department ISLAND OF HAWAII

NORTH LINEAR SCALE (FEET)



  
**PBR HAWAII**  
 & ASSOCIATES, INC.



**Legend**

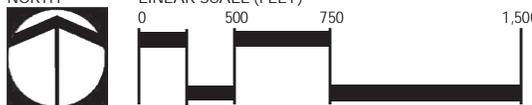
-  Proposed Fire Station Site
-  Hilo silty clay loam, 1-10% slopes
-  Keaukaha extremely rocky muck, 6-20% slopes
-  Olaa extremely stony silty clay loam, 0-20% slopes
-  Papai extremely stony muck, 3-25% slopes
-  Water

**FIGURE 7**  
 Natural Resources and Conservation Service  
 Soil Survey Map  
**Hilo Central Fire Station**

Hawai'i Fire Department ISLAND OF HAWAII

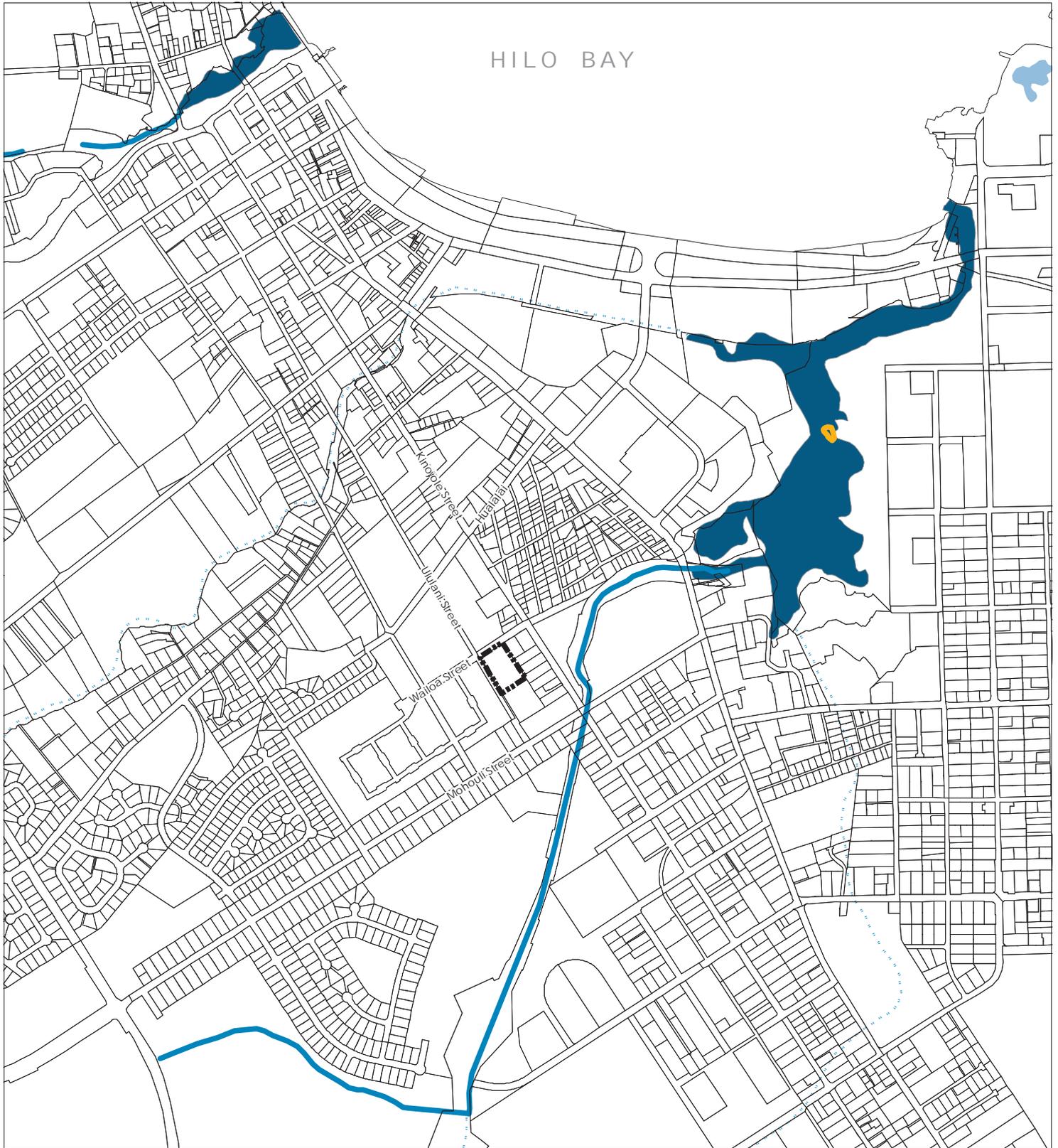
NORTH LINEAR SCALE (FEET)

0 500 750 1,500



  
 PBR HAWAII  
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Source: U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service 1997  
 Disclaimer: This graphic has been prepared for general planning purposes only.



Legend

-  Proposed Fire Station Site
-  Estuarine Subtidal Open Water
-  Palustrine Open Water Permanent Diked/Impounded
-  Intermittent Stream
-  Perennial Stream
-  Island

FIGURE 8  
Wetlands & Streams  
**Hilo Central Fire Station**

Hawaiji Fire Department

ISLAND OF HAWAII

NORTH



NOT TO SCALE



PBR HAWAII  
& ASSOCIATES, INC.

Source: U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service  
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Runoff: All grading operations will be conducted in compliance with dust and erosion control requirements of the County Grading Ordinance and applicable provisions of Chapter 11-60.1, HAR, Section 11-60.1-33 regarding Fugitive Dust. A watering program will be implemented during construction to minimize soil loss through fugitive dust emission. Other pollution control measures include cleaning job-site construction equipment and establishing groundcover as quickly as possible after grading. Permanent landscaping will also help to retain soil throughout the project. In addition to construction watering programs and landscaping, other mitigation measures generally associated with best management practices include:

- Early construction of drainage control features;
- Construction of temporary sediment basins to trap silt;
- Use of temporary berms and cut-off ditches where needed; and
- Use of temporary silt fences or straw bale barriers to trap silt.

If required, to further mitigate potential soil impacts, a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit will be obtained prior to construction to address point source discharges.

Any net increase of runoff from such impermeable surfaces as roads, parking lots and rooftops will be dealt with, possibly using drywells.

## 2.3 NATURAL HAZARDS

### *Existing Conditions*

Hurricanes, tsunamis, lava flows, and earthquakes represent the major natural hazards on the island of Hawai'i.

According to the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), the subject site is designated "Outside Floodplain/Area of Minimal Flooding" (Figure 6) and does not appear vulnerable to flooding. Additionally, the site is located more than 0.8 miles from the shoreline and as such, it would not be vulnerable to tsunamis or wave action hazards (Figure 9).

The entire island is subject to geologic hazards from lava flows and earthquakes. The U.S. Geologic Survey report identifies the degree of volcanic hazard of this area to be "3" out of a scale of "9". A lower number represents a greater the degree of hazard. The subject property is on the lower slopes of Mauna Loa Volcano, in Lava Flow Hazard Zone 3. Zone 3 is considered "less hazardous than Zone 2 [which is adjacent to and down slope of active risk zones] because of greater distance from recently active vents and/or because the topography makes it less likely that flows will cover these areas." As such, there is some risk of lava inundation over relatively short time scales. It should be noted that the entire city of Hilo has been designated Zone 3.

The County of Hawai'i is considered Earthquake Hazard Zone 4, which requires structures and structural fill deposits to be engineered to specific earthquake resistant standards.

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### ***Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures***

The proposed project will not exacerbate any natural hazard conditions. The potential impact of hurricanes and earthquakes will be mitigated by compliance with the *Uniform Building Code* (1997) in the design and construction of the proposed buildings.

According to the Pacific Disaster Center, the site is located outside of the tsunami evacuation zone (Figure 9). Tsunami evacuation zones are derived from tsunami inundation maps, but are more conservative than the inundation maps in that they encompass greater areas that are potentially at risk that should be evacuated. They also refer to readily identifiable physical landmarks such as roads where possible. The proposed project site is located outside of the tsunami evacuation zone and thus is not at risk from this hazard. No mitigation measures are proposed.

In general, geologic conditions impose no constraints on the proposed alternative. As required under County of Hawai'i regulations, all construction will conform with the provisions of the *Uniform Building Code* (1997) appropriate to the Zone 4 Seismic Probability Rating. The seismic and lava inundation hazards pose an equal risk to all locations in the entire service area of East Hawai'i. The design requirements make construction slightly more costly, but these requirements would be in effect regardless of the specific location in the region. No mitigation measures are required.

## **2.4 FLORA AND FAUNA**

### ***Existing Conditions***

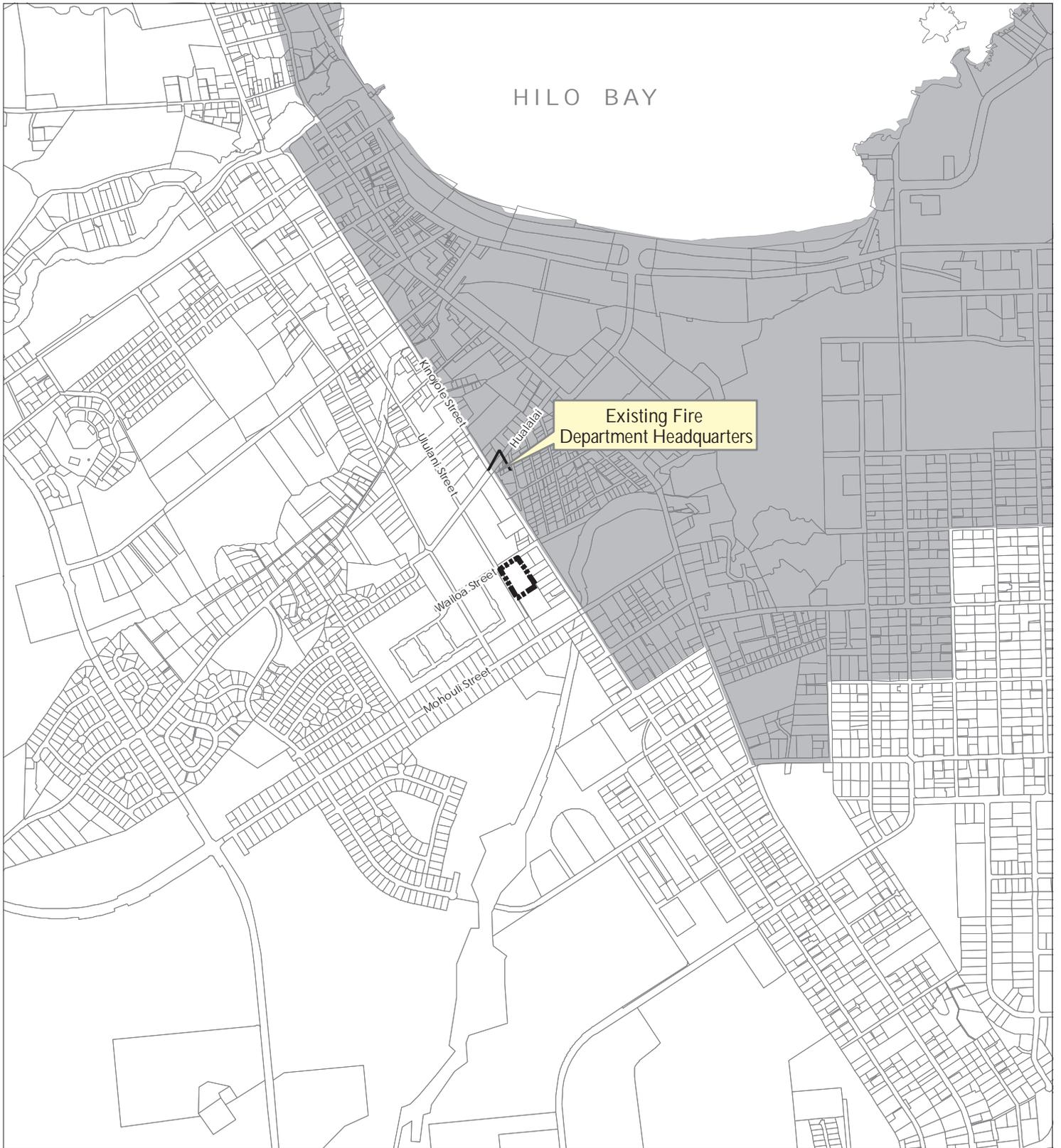
The project area, which includes the fire station site, has been used for public housing since 1951. In 1997 a program of housing rehabilitation commenced and is being carried out in phases. Five houses on the fire station site are currently vacant and are slated for removal, to be relocated elsewhere on the public housing property.

As of 1997, no rare, threatened or endangered species of flora or fauna existed on the site. Observed trees consisted of: Pink Tecoma, Paper Bark, Royal Poinciana, Koa, Rain Tree, Mungai, Brassia, Norfolk Pine, various ornamental palms, banana, plumeria, citrus, jacaranda and mango. Shrubs included nandina, gardenias, dracaenas, ginger, heliconia and tree ferns. The lawn was Hilo Grass. The site contains no exceptional trees listed in the Hawai'i County General Plan.

Natural fauna consists of common species found in urban areas, such as rats, mice, dogs and cats.

### ***Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures***

On December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007 the US Fish & Wildlife Service, in its pre-consultation letter wrote that, to the best of its knowledge, no federally listed or proposed threatened or endangered species or



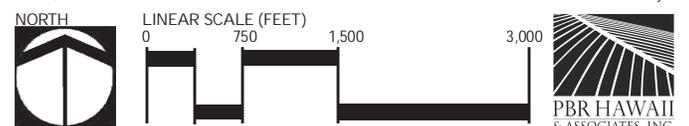
**Legend**

-  Proposed Fire Station Site
-  Tsunami Evacuation Zone
-  Outside Tsunami Evacuation Zone

**FIGURE 9**  
Tsunami Evacuation Zone  
**Hilo Central Fire Station**

Hawai'i Fire Department

ISLAND OF HAWAII



Source: Pacific Disaster Center (1998)  
Disclaimer: This graphic has been prepared for general planning purposes only.

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candidate species, or proposed or designated critical habitat, occur within the proposed project footprint. Observed flora and fauna are typical of an urban residential area. Impacts are expected to be insignificant. No mitigation measures are planned, other than landscaping during the construction phase. To the greatest extent possible, native Hawaiian flora will be used.

### 2.5 ARCHEOLOGICAL, HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Archaeological and Historic Resources: No known archeological or historic resources occur on the site.

#### ***Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures***

Given the prior uses of the site for intensive cultivation and the previous grubbing and grading required to prepare the property for the initial housing construction, any remains, artifacts or resources would have been destroyed long ago. State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) of the Department of Land & Natural Resources (DLNR) has concurred with this conclusion. A November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2007 letter from that division stated that “*no historic properties will be affected*” based on the nature of the project. See Appendix B for a reproduction of this letter.

In the event that historic resources, including skeletal remains, are identified during the construction activities, all work will cease in the immediate vicinity of the find, the find will be protected from additional disturbance and the State Historic Preservation Office will be notified immediately.

Cultural Resources: Cultural impacts assessments carried out for nearby projects have been reviewed. These include the Final Environmental Assessments (FEAs) for the following: *Ka Hui Na Koa O Kawili – Hawaii Island Veterans’ Memorial, Inc., Project* (July 2006); *Acquisition of Existing Drainageway Lands Project* (November 2006) and the final environmental impact statement *East Hawai’i Regional Sort Station (February 2004)*. None of the assessments reviewed reported any significant cultural resources in the area.

Those knowledgeable about the region were also consulted for their input. These contacts included Pua Kanahale, Cultural Practitioner and Cultural Consultant, and co-founder of the Edith Kanaka’ole Foundation; and Kalani Makekau-Whittaker, Associate Director, Native Hawaiian Student Center at UHH. Neither reported any known activity in the area or any possible cultural impact on the area from the project. Larry Kimura, Associate Professor Hawaiian Studies at UHH and Alan Haun, a local archeologist, were contacted, but without any response.

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) was contacted during the pre-consultation review period but offered no comments regarding possible cultural impacts from this project. OHA did recommend preservation of unexpected archeological finds during the construction period, which is discussed in this section, along with appropriate mitigation measures.

# HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION

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### *Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures*

Since there are no site-specific resources to be affected, no impacts to traditional cultural practices are expected from the project. No mitigation measures are required.

## **2.6 ROADS AND TRAFFIC**

### *Existing Conditions*

The Hawai'i Belt Road (Hwy 19) is the only major public roadway facility providing vehicular access to and from the various communities throughout the island. This State highway connects the Hilo urban center to the rest of the island. This highway runs through Hilo Town, but is not located near the project site.

Within the project area are several smaller County-owned streets that primarily service surrounding residential subdivisions. The project site is bounded by Uulani and Wailoa streets on the north and west sides. See Figure 2. Other streets within the area include Mohouli Street, Kino'ole Street and Kapi'olani Street.

Kilauea Avenue, Kino'ole Street and Mohouli Street are currently used by the Hawai'i Fire Department as primary roadways to respond to emergency incidents occurring in this and the Wai'akea House lots and Wai'akea Homestead areas to the east.

### *Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures*

Traffic along the streets bounding the project site is light since it is generally limited to use by residents living in the area. Wailoa Street would provide firefighters access to Kapi'olani Street that in turn would allow access to the upper area of Mohouli Street for emergency incidents. The use of Wailoa Street may lessen the use of Kino'ole Street in the southerly direction for emergency vehicles. It is expected that this project will not have any significant impact on the existing roadway facilities.

During the pre-consultation period the State Department of Education expressed concerns regarding a possible increase in emergency vehicle traffic directly fronting Kapi'olani Elementary School, which is on Kilauea Avenue 0.4 miles to the east, due to the new location of the proposed Fire Station.

The Hawai'i Fire Department reported that Kilauea Avenue is currently used to access various neighborhoods to the east and west, and that no significant increase in emergency response traffic in those areas directly fronting the school is expected due to the new project location. Therefore, no mitigation measures are planned.

During the pre-consultation period the State Department of Transportation indicated that the project would have no impact on its state facilities.

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### 2.7 AIR QUALITY

#### *Existing Conditions*

Air quality in Hawai'i is generally characterized as relatively clean and low in pollution. Northeast tradewinds that are predominant throughout the year typically carry emissions and other air pollutants from inland areas out toward the ocean.

Air quality in the Hilo area is believed to be relatively good, except for occasional impacts from localized traffic congestion. Perhaps the dominant air quality factor in the Hilo area for the past several years has been the volcanic emissions from Kīlauea Volcano, although the prevailing winds carry emissions away from the Hilo area much of the time. Most of these emissions occur as sulfur dioxide and then subsequently convert into particulate sulfate, which causes a volcanic haze (vog) to blanket the area during "Kona wind" conditions (winds with a southerly component).

#### *Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures*

The State Department of Health (DOH) maintains a limited network of air monitoring stations around the State to gather data on certain regulated pollutants. Currently, no routine ambient air monitoring is conducted by DOH in the Hilo area. Historical monitoring during the 1970's and 1980's indicated very low pollutant levels in Hilo. The entire state has been an attainment area for the last several decades. There is little reason to believe this has changed significantly.

Construction activity will be the principal source of short-term air quality impact. Construction vehicle activity will increase automotive pollutant concentrations along the existing roadways as well as on the project site. Site preparation, earth moving, and building and road disturbance will create particulate emissions. Movement of construction vehicles on unpaved surfaces will also generate particulate emissions.

No exceedance of state or federal carbon monoxide standards is anticipated. Concentrations will increase with or without the project due to increased traffic volumes, reduced average speed, and queuing at signalized intersections.

Although the potential for fugitive dust is low due to the wet climate and low wind speeds, adequate dust control measures will be employed, particularly during dry periods during construction. Dust control will be accomplished by frequent watering of unpaved roads within the project site and areas of exposed soil surfaces. As soon as it is feasible, landscaping of completed areas will also be employed. Dust control measures will comply with applicable provisions of HAR section 11-60.1-33 and the County grading ordinance.

### 2.8 WATER QUALITY

Under the State's Water Resource Protection Plan, aquifers of the Island of Hawai'i have been classified under an aquifer coding system to identify and describe these aquifers. This system is comprised of Aquifer Sectors, and then Aquifer Systems located within these sectors. An

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Aquifer Sector reflects an area with broad hydrogeological (subsurface) similarities while maintaining traditional hydrographic (surface), topographic and historical boundaries. The Aquifer System is an area within a sector that is more specifically defined by hydrogeologic continuity, particularly hydraulic connections among aquifer types and units.

The property is situated within the Northeast Mauna Loa Aquifer Sector. This sector includes the hydrologic units of Hilo and Keaau as separate systems. The parcel to be acquired is situated within the Hilo Aquifer System. The geology of the Hilo Aquifer System is dominated by the Ka'ū volcanic series of Mauna Loa volcano, and extends from the coast to the inland boundary at the crest of Mauna Loa. Groundwater within this aquifer sector exists primarily as basal groundwater followed by high level dike and perched water. Caprock, although thick and extensive, does not play an important role in the coastal regions of the aquifer. The Hilo Aquifer System has an estimated sustainable yield of 347 million gallons per day.

### *Probable Impacts and Mitigation Measures*

The project should have no impact on the underlying groundwater system. There will be no significant net increase in developed impervious surface from this project and would, therefore, not decrease the amount of localized groundwater recharge occurring in the project area. As a result, the project should not adversely impact the underlying aquifer system nor contaminate potable water sources. In addition, according to the EPA website, there is no sole source aquifer on this island, which has been confirmed by the State Department of Health. This further confirms the lack of contamination potential.

In its April 11, 2008 comment letter, the Department of the Army (DA) Corps of Engineers confirmed that, because the subject area consists entirely of uplands and is absent of waters of the US, the project activity will not involve discharge of dredged or fill materials into US waters; and that a DA permit would not be required. See Appendix B for a copy of the letter.

## 2.9 NOISE

### *Existing Conditions*

The project site is located in an existing residential neighborhood. Existing background noise sources generally consist of those generated by vehicular traffic, wind, occasional distant aircraft flybys, and activities occurring at residences such as voices, stereo and television sounds. **There** are no other atypical noise producing activities or facilities present (e.g., auto body shops, factories, foundries, etc.) The project site is directly adjacent to vacant homes, so is quieter than most residential neighborhoods. Other occupied Lanakila Homes residences are located further inland of the project site but these could not be heard from the site.

### *Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures*

During construction, temporary noise impacts will occur that are unavoidable. Construction noise impacts will be mitigated by adherence to conditions imposed by the Department of

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Health's HAR 11-46, "Community Noise Control."

During the operational phase, temporary noise impacts will be generated during the course of responding to fire alarms and other emergencies. The testing of the sirens is done on a daily basis when personnel are assigned to check the working condition of the vehicles. Testing usually consists of short bursts from the siren. Undeniably sirens are used when responding to emergency incidents. Personnel, however, are advised and trained to be prudent in the use of sirens. For example, the use of the sirens may not be necessary at night; in and around light traffic residential areas with good visibility; during times of light traffic in other areas; and around churches and schools when they are in session.

The area of the proposed fire station is only lightly trafficked, so the use of the siren when exiting the station may not be necessary in all cases. Nonetheless, sirens are used when deemed essential because they are a necessary warning device for responding to emergencies. These types of noise disturbances are unavoidable but will be intermittent and of short duration. No other mitigation measures are planned.

## 2.10 VISUAL RESOURCES

### *Existing Conditions*

The site is covered with vegetation typical of the area, overhead utility lines and five vacant houses. It abuts Wailoa Street and Ululani Street, which are secondary roadways. The visual aspect is typical of a residential neighborhood.

### *Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures*

The proposed buildings will be designed to be compatible with the character of the surrounding area and will be landscaped in keeping with this character and that of Hilo Town. The structure will be approximately 26 feet high, which is below the maximum 35 foot height limit permitted within the RD-3.75 zoning district. If the hose tower, at approximately 45 feet, is added, a height variance will be obtained. The five vacant housing units will be removed and replaced at an alternate site within the Lanakila Homes project area.

In addition, the project site is not listed by the County as being in a scenic viewplane or as a site of natural beauty, nor is it home to any of the exceptional trees listed in the County of Hawai'i's General Plan. Construction of the fire station will not block any scenic viewplanes or impact any areas of natural beauty. During the construction phase, landscaping will be done with native Hawaiian plants and trees, wherever possible. Other than landscaping no mitigation measures are planned.

## 2.11 SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

### *Existing Conditions*

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The population of Hawai'i County increased by more than 56,000 persons between 1980 and 2000. Between 1980 and 1990, Hawai'i Island's population increased by 30.7 percent and increased by 23.6 percent between 1990 and 2000. The April 1, 2000 population figure for Hawai'i County was 148,677 according to census figures compiled by the County of Hawai'i, Department of Research and Development.

The South Hilo district had a population of 47,386 in 2000 which represented approximately 32 percent of the total population for Hawai'i Island. The City of Hilo is the largest population center on the island with the main offices of the county government, branch offices of federal and state agencies located there. The island's major deep draft harbor and international airport are also located in Hilo. In addition to industrial, commercial and social service activities, the University of Hawai'i at Hilo and Hawai'i Community College and affiliated research programs play an important role in Hilo's economy.

Hilo and the rest of the east Hawai'i communities are adjusting to the loss of the sugar industry in the mid 1990's. Industrial activities that remain include quarrying, construction material manufacturing and fabrication, storage, wholesaling facilities, garment manufacturing, processing and packaging of agricultural products and supportive services to businesses. Although the district enjoys some economic benefit from tourism, much of it is indirect through the spin-offs from the primary tourism activity in West Hawai'i. The immediate area is not used as a basis for employment. Presently there are five vacant single story houses on the site.

### ***Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures***

The proposed Hilo Central Fire Station project will have a beneficial socioeconomic impact by providing reliable emergency services to the needs of the surrounding community.

Construction of the facility will not require the relocation of residents, as the site is currently vacant. The five unoccupied single story houses will be removed and relocated to an alternate site within the Lanakila Homes area.

Short-term employment benefits will be generated throughout the construction period as well as long-term employment benefits for the estimated eighteen additional personnel when the fire station is fully staffed. The benefits however will not be significant relative to the overall economy of the island. No changes are expected to the overall economy and no mitigation measures are planned.

## **2.12 INFRASTRUCTURE**

The existing sewer and gas lines currently run through the project site. They will be relocated during the construction phase. Their new location will be determined during the design phase and impacts from the relocation will be mitigated by BMPs.

### **2.12.1 Wastewater System**

#### ***Existing Conditions***

There is an existing 8-inch sewer line within Wailoa Street that connects to the project site.

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### *Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures*

The future employees and staff are expected to generate a demand of between 1,100 to 1,400 gallons per day of wastewater. Occupancy of the Fire Station on a 24-hour basis is not expected to impact the existing wastewater sewer line. Nonetheless, based on a consultation with the Wastewater Division of the Hawai'i County Department of Environmental Management, a grease interceptor for the Fire Station kitchen will be installed.

### **2.12.2 Drainage System**

#### *Existing Conditions*

The subject site is located in an area described as "outside floodplain/minimal flooding area" on the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) (Figure 6).

#### *Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures*

The proposed fire station with its buildings, walkways, and parking area will increase the amount of impervious surfaces. However, the project will be constructed based on related on-site drainage systems, which may include County approved drywells. No on-and off-site drainage problems associated with this project are anticipated and the increase in runoff is expected to be insignificant. No mitigation measures are planned.

### **2.12.3 Water System**

#### *Existing Conditions*

According to the county Department of Water Supply (DWS) in its April 8, 2008 letter, there is an existing 12-inch County water line within Wailoa Street fronting the project site. This 12-inch line will supply the site with its water commitment demands, which will be determined by a professional engineer licensed within the State of Hawai'i and approved by DWS.

#### *Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures*

The future staff and employees are expected to generate a demand of 2,100 to 2,800 gallons per day from the existing water line. Additionally, the line will serve the site if/when fire protection services are required. The 12-inch water line will supply the 2,000 gallon per minute requirement for fire protection services. The Department will also inspect and approve the installation of a reduced principle type backflow prevention assembly.

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### 2.12.4 Solid Waste

#### *Existing Conditions*

Since 1997 the project site has been used for the Lanakila Homes public housing and is undergoing a phased renovation. Solid waste was previously collected by private haulers, which will continue.

#### *Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures*

During the construction period solid waste will be generated. To the greatest extent practicable, the applicant will instruct the contractor to identify recyclable materials, to segregate and recycle as well as provide documentation of recycled materials by weight, volume, value or some other factor. All disposal will follow State and County regulations.

### 2.12.5 Utilities

#### *Existing Conditions*

The Hawai'i Electric Light Company, Inc. (HELCO), a privately-owned utility company regulated by the State Public Utilities Commission, provides electrical power to the island of Hawai'i. The HELCO network of power plants serving Hilo includes the Kanoiehua Power Plant, Puna Power Plan, Wailuku Hydro Power Plant, Hilo Coast Power Plant, and Shipman Power Plant. Currently, HELCO provides electrical power to the site.

Telecommunication services are provided by Verizon Hawaii via overhead lines.

The Gas Company provides clean, efficient synthetic gas to the town of Hilo. The project area is currently serviced by an existing 2-inch natural gas line that runs along Wailoa Street.

#### *Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures*

Electrical, natural gas and telephone services are currently sized, adequate, and available to supply the area and parcel. No impacts are expected and no mitigation measures planned.

## 2.13 PUBLIC SERVICES

### 2.13.1 Police Protective Services

#### *Existing Conditions*

The project site is located in South Hilo, Patrol District 1. The district extends from Hakalau in the north, to the mid-point of Kanoiehua Avenue between Hilo and Kea'au in the south, to the Saddle Road in the west. The district includes the main police station, located at 349 Kapi'olani Street, approximately 0.3 miles from the project site. More than half of the district's patrol officers are assigned to the City of Hilo.

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### *Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures*

The Hawai'i Police Department does not anticipate any significant impact to traffic and/or public safety concerns from the project. No mitigation measures are planned.

### **Medical Services**

#### *Existing Conditions*

Hilo Medical Center (HMC) is the primary health care facility serving the South Hilo district. HMC is located approximately 3.05 miles from the project site at 1190 Waiānuenu Avenue. Ambulance service in Hilo is provided by the Hawai'i Fire Department, which can serve the project site area from the current Hilo Central Fire Station in two minutes. Once the newly constructed Hilo Central Fire Station is developed, the site will have 24 hour trained Emergency Medical Service personnel on site.

#### *Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures*

The newly developed Hilo Central Fire Station will be located just 0.65 miles from its existing site. The project will not cause an increase or shift in population. The impacts to Hilo Medical Center or other emergency services in the existing service area will not change nor will there be any impacts to the delivery of services by Hawai'i Fire Department personnel. No mitigation measures are planned.

### **2.13.3 Recreational Facilities**

#### *Existing Conditions*

The entire South Hilo District contains 54 parks totaling 590 acres. The immediate area of the project site is served by the Keikiland Playground, which is on the corner of Hualālai and Kino'ole Streets. Other recreational facilities, parks, and open spaces in the Hilo area include Kūhiō-Kalaniana'ole Park, Honoli'i Beach Park, Lili'uokalani Gardens, Reeds Bay, Onekahakaha Beach Park, Kealoha Beach Park, Carlsmith Beach Park and Richardson Ocean Park.

#### *Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures*

The project itself is not a direct generator of new residents requiring recreational facilities. No significant impacts to recreational facilities are anticipated as a result of the proposed development and therefore no mitigation measures are proposed.

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Alternatives

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### 3.0 ALTERNATIVES

The Hawai'i Fire Department's emergency response assignments are broken down into Fire Districts which delineate the primary response area for a particular station. The Hawai'i Fire Department requires a new fire station to serve the Fire District which includes downtown Hilo and along the Hāmākua coast to Nīnole, about 17.4 miles north.

A location outside of the tsunami evacuation zone was the primary factor in site selection. A secondary factor in selecting the preferred site was proximity to the center of Hilo in the response District.

#### 3.1 NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

The no action alternative would not meet the requirement for a new fire station and has therefore been rejected.

#### 3.2 OTHER ALTERNATIVES

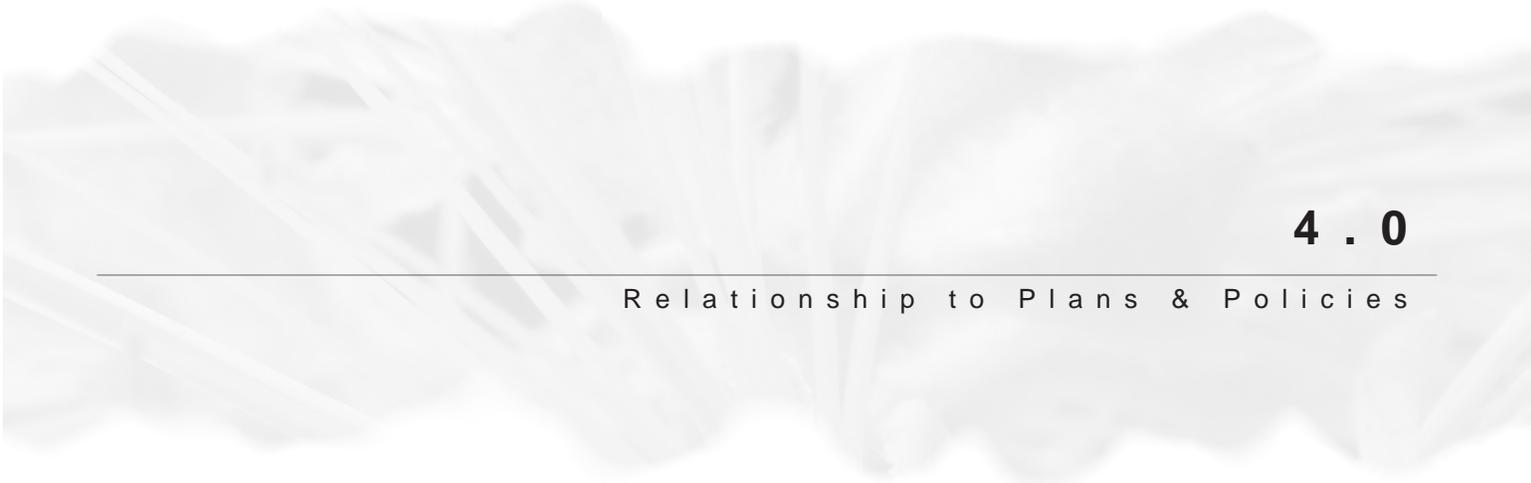
Mohouli Street Extension: The Mohouli Street Extension site would place the new station away from close proximity to the city center and away from the center of the primary response area. For these reasons this alternative has not been selected.

Lanakila Homes site: The primary reason this site was chosen was its location, allowing the fire station to be located outside the tsunami evacuation zone and situated closer than the Mohouli Street site to the community and downtown Hilo in the primary response area. Due to its more central setting, this has been selected as the preferred alternative.

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Relationship to Plans & Policies

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### 4.0 RELATIONSHIP TO PLANS AND POLICIES

#### 4.1 NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

Five vacant houses, part of Lanakila Homes, originally a federally-funded public housing project, will be removed and relocated elsewhere on Lanakila Homes property to make way for the new fire station. Because disposition of Federally-funded public housing is involved, compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 is also required. See Appendix A for NEPA compliance documentation.

#### 4.2 STATE OF HAWAI'I

##### 4.2.1 Chapter 205, Hawai'i Revised Statutes – State Land Use Law

The subject property lies within the State Land Use Urban District. The Urban District generally includes lands characterized by “city-like” concentrations of people, structures and services. This district also includes vacant areas for future development. Jurisdiction of this district lies primarily with the respective counties. Generally, permitted uses in the district area are established by the respective County through ordinances or rules. The proposed use is in keeping with Urban District guidelines.

##### 4.2.2 Chapter 205A-2, Hawai'i Revised Statutes – Coastal Zone Management Program

This section identifies the impacts of the project relative to the Hawai'i Coastal Zone Management (CZM) objectives and policies (Chapter 205A-2, HRS) and the Special Management Area guidelines (Section 25-3.2, ROH).

A discussion of the CZM Program objectives and policies as they apply to this project are presented below:

**Historic resources:** *Protect, preserve, and, where desirable, restore those natural and manmade historic and prehistoric resources in the coastal zone management area that are significant in Hawaiian and American history and culture.*

- (A) *Identify and analyze significant archaeological resources;*
- (B) *Maximize information retention through preservation of remains and artifacts or salvage operations; and*
- (C) *Support state goals for protection, restoration, interpretation, and display of historic resources.*

**Discussion:** It is not anticipated that any historic or archaeological remains will be discovered on the site since most of the subject property has been in use since the 1940's and is highly degraded. The proposed project will have no effect on cultural practices, nor will it interrupt access to coastal areas or to fishing and gathering areas. Proposed improvements will not block existing view planes, natural features or landmarks. In a letter dated November 29, 2007, the State Historic Preservation Division of DLNR commented that the project would have no significant adverse effect. See Appendix B for a copy of the letter.

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During the pre-consultation period, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs requested that, should iwi kūpuna or Native Hawaiian cultural or traditional deposits be found during ground disturbance or excavation, work will cease, and the appropriate agencies contacted pursuant to applicable law.

Despite the unlikelihood of finding archaeological resources, all construction plans will include the condition that, should historic or cultural remains, such as artifacts, burials, concentrations of shell or charcoal, lava tubes or lava blisters/bubbles, be encountered during the construction activities, work shall cease in the immediate vicinity of the find, the find shall be protected from further disturbance and the contractor shall immediately contact the State Historic Preservation Division.

***Scenic and open space resources:** Protect, preserve, and, where desirable, restore or improve the quality of coastal scenic and open space resources.*

**Discussion:** The proposed project, as a low-rise facility in a residential neighborhood, will not obstruct any significant coastal public views. Nor are there are areas of natural beauty in the area which the project may impact.

***Coastal ecosystems:** Protect valuable coastal ecosystems, including reefs, from disruption and minimize adverse impacts on all coastal ecosystems.*

**Discussion:** The project is not expected to have an effect on coastal ecosystems. The project site is not adjacent to the coastline but is located about 300 feet inland of the landward boundary of the SMA. The Army Corps of Engineers has further confirmed that the project area is absent of any US Waters. Project activities do not involve alterations to stream channels or other natural water sources. Impacts to water quality that could occur during construction would be mitigated by applying appropriate BMPs, such as minimizing open grading activities, grassing or paving exposed areas as soon as practicable, and structural controls such as silt fences or temporary berms. An NPDES permit will be obtained prior to construction and all other applicable regulations and standards, as found in HAR 11-54 and 11-55, will be adhered to. A reduced principle type backflow prevention assembly, to be installed to the waterlines during the construction period, will prevent contamination of the water supply during the operational phase.

***Economic uses:** Provide public or private facilities and improvements important to the State's economy in suitable locations.*

**Discussion:** The project is a public facility which will be located in the Urban District away from the coastline in a residential neighborhood.

***Coastal hazards:** Reduce hazard to life and property from tsunami, storm waves, stream flooding, erosion, subsidence, and pollution.*

- (A) *Develop and communicate adequate information about storm wave, tsunami, flood, erosion, subsidence, and point and nonpoint source pollution hazards;*
- (B) *Control development in areas subject to storm wave, tsunami, flood, erosion, hurricane, wind, subsidence, and point and nonpoint source pollution hazards;*
- (C) *Ensure that developments comply with requirements of the Federal Flood Insurance Program; and*

# HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION

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- (D) *Prevent coastal flooding from inland projects.*

**Discussion:** As the proposed project site is located inland from the coast, it is not anticipated to be affected by coastal hazards, such as tsunami or storm waves. It is within an area designated by FIRM to be outside the 500 year flood plain, so stream flooding, subsidence, and subsequent pollution of coastal areas is unlikely. Construction activities will follow strict erosion control measures specified by applicable Federal, State, and City regulations. Prior to issuing a grading permit, an erosion control plan and BMPs required for the NPDES permit will be submitted describing the implementation of appropriate erosion control measures. These generally include the use of cut-off ditches, temporary groundcover, and use of detention areas.

**Beach protection:** *Protect beaches for public use and recreation.*

- (A) *Locate new structures inland from the shoreline setback to conserve open space, minimize interference with natural shoreline processes, and minimize loss of improvements due to erosion;*
- (B) *Prohibit construction of private erosion-protection structures seaward of the shoreline, except when they result in improved aesthetic and engineering solutions to erosion at the sites and do not interfere with existing recreational and waterline activities; and*
- (C) *Minimize the construction of public erosion-protection structures seaward of the shoreline.*

**Discussion:** The project is not located on the coastline, and therefore, will not involve construction in the shoreline setback or of erosion-protection structures seaward of the shoreline. The project will not affect beaches or coastal recreational opportunities available to the public.

### 4.2.3 Chapter 226, Hawai‘i Revised Statutes – Hawai‘i State Plan

Adopted in 1978 and last revised in 1991, the *Hawai‘i State Plan* establishes a set of themes, goals, objectives and policies that are meant to guide the State’s long-run growth and development activities. The three themes that express the basic purpose of the *Hawai‘i State Plan* are individual and family self-sufficiency, social and economic mobility, and community or social well-being. Chapter 226-4 sets forth goals associated with the *Hawai‘i State Plan*:

- (1) *A strong, viable economy, characterized by stability, diversity, and growth, that enables the fulfillment of the needs and expectations of Hawai‘i’s present and future generations.*
- (2) *A desired physical environment, characterized by beauty, cleanliness, quiet, stable natural systems, and uniqueness, that enhances the mental and physical well-being of the people.*
- (3) *Physical, social, and economic well-being, for individuals and families in Hawai‘i, that nourishes a sense of community responsibility, of caring, and of participation in community life.*

**Discussion:** The proposed project helps to fulfill the third goal of enhancing the physical and social well-being of the people of Hawai‘i County by ensuring a more centrally-situated fire station and battalion headquarters and a quicker response time on the part of Hawai‘i Fire Department personnel during times of emergencies.

## HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

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The aspects of the *Hawai'i State Plan* most pertinent to the proposed project are the following:

**§226-12 Objective and policies for the physical environment--scenic, natural beauty, and historic resources.**

(a) *Planning for the State's physical environment shall be directed towards achievement of the objective of enhancement of Hawaii's scenic assets, natural beauty, and multi-cultural/historical resources.*

(b) *To achieve the scenic, natural beauty, and historic resources objective, it shall be the policy of this State to:*

- (1) *Promote the preservation and restoration of significant natural and historic resources.*
- (2) *Provide incentives to maintain and enhance historic, cultural, and scenic amenities.*
- (3) *Promote the preservation of views and vistas to enhance the visual and aesthetic enjoyment of mountains, ocean, scenic landscapes, and other natural features.*
- (4) *Protect those special areas, structures, and elements that are an integral and functional part of Hawaii's ethnic and cultural heritage.*
- (5) *Encourage the design of developments and activities that complement the natural beauty of the islands.*

**Discussion:** The proposed project received a “no effects” determination from the SHPD on November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2007. The project will further comply with the preservation of historic and archeological resources by a condition on permits that includes the provision that, should any historic or archeological resources be uncovered during construction, activity will cease, the finds preserved and the SHPD will be contacted immediately to determine appropriate disposition.

**§226-26 Objectives and policies for socio-cultural advancement--public safety.**

- (1) *Assurance of public safety and adequate protection of life and property for all people.*
- (2) *Optimum organizational readiness and capability in all phases of emergency management to maintain the strength, resources, and social and economic well-being of the Community in the event of civil disruptions, wars, natural disasters, and other major disturbances. Ensure that public safety programs are effective and responsive to community needs. Ensure that responsible organizations are in a proper state of readiness to respond to major war-related, natural, or technological disasters and civil disturbances at all times.*

**Discussion:** This project proposes to relocate the Hilo Central Fire Station to an area where personnel will not be restricted by tsunami evacuation requirements prior to being responsive to emergency needs of the public. In this way the Hawai'i Fire Department's mandate to provide immediate urgent services will be realized more efficiently. In addition, the presence of uniformed “authority figures” in the Lanakila Homes neighborhood may help to reduce the occurrence of illegal activities. This is confirmed by an April 7, 2008 comment letter from St. Joseph's School, located across the street from the fire station site, in which the Principal, Sister Marion Kikukawa commented that “it brings a feeling of safety and security knowing that we have both the County's Rescue/Fire and Police Department at our doorstep.”

# HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION

## FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

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### **§344 State Environmental Policy**

**1. Purpose.** *The purpose of this chapter is to establish a state policy which will encourage productive and enjoyable harmony between people and their environment, promote efforts which will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere and stimulate the health and welfare of humanity, and enrich the understanding of the ecological systems and natural resources important to the people of Hawaii. [L 1974, c 247, pt of §1; gen ch 1993].*

*(D) Establishing a commitment on the part of each person to protect and enhance Hawaii's environment and reduce the drain on nonrenewable resources.*

*(B) Foster the planting of native as well as other trees, shrubs, and flowering plants compatible to the enhancement of our environment.*

**Discussion:** Mandates found in HRS 344 will be followed as part of the planned adherence, wherever possible, to the design guidelines for LEED Silver Standard. As part of this, the contractor will be encouraged to prepare and implement construction and demolition recycling plans. Landscaping will be done using native Hawaiian trees and plants wherever possible.

## **4.3 COUNTY OF HAWAI'I**

### **4.3.1 Land Use Pattern Allocation Guide**

The project is proposed to be in an area designated by the County as High Density Use (HDU). A fire station is an allowable use in this area. See Figure 3.

### **4.3.2 General Plan**

It is also consistent with the following sections of the Hawai'i County General Plan:

- Continue to seek ways of improving public service through the coordination of service and maximizing the use of personnel and facilities.*
- The establishment of a fire/police facility shall consider site size and locations that permit quick and efficient vehicular access.*
- Fire stations within five miles of concentrated settlement areas.*
- First response emergency medical service within eight minutes of concentrated settlement areas (alternative means, such as training police officers or volunteer fire personnel, could be available to provide first response).*
- Expansion of Police, Fire, and emergency medical facilities should be considered in accordance with district needs.*

**Discussion:** This project proposes to relocate the Hilo Central Fire Station to an area that is centrally located in the district, near the core of the population settlement, but outside of the tsunami evacuation zone. After consideration of a number of sites based on the above factors, the preferred alternative site was one more centrally located than other sites considered and rejected. See section 7.0 for a full discussion of alternatives.

### **4.3.3 County Zoning**

The Hawai'i County zoning is RD-3.75, indicating double-family residential (RD) with a minimum 3,750 square foot land area for each dwelling unit. The RD district provides for

## HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION

### FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

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moderate density use characterized by the establishment of single or double-family dwellings on each building site. It applies to areas with developed community facilities. It may occupy a transitional area between RS (single-family residential) districts and those districts having a more intense use of land. A fire station is an allowable use in the RD-3.75 district.

#### **4.3.4 Special Management Area**

The proposed project site is located outside the SMA and is not expected to have any impact on coastal resources.

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**D e t e r m i n a t i o n , F i n d i n g s ,  
& R e a s o n s f o r S u p p o r t i n g D e t e r m i n a t i o n**

**HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION**  
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**5.0 DETERMINATION, FINDINGS, AND REASONS FOR  
SUPPORTING DETERMINATION**

This EA has evaluated the potential primary, secondary, and cumulative environmental impacts, both short-term and long-term, that could result from implementation of the proposed Hilo Central Fire Station. Mitigation measures have also been proposed to address potential impacts resulting from the project

**5.1 SIGNIFICANCE CRITERIA**

According to the DOH, *Hawai'i Administrative Rules* (HAR) (§11-200-12 Significance Criteria), an applicant or agency must determine whether an action may have a significant impact on the environment, including all phases of the project, its expected consequences (both primary and secondary), its cumulative impact with other projects and its short and long-term effects. The HAR establishes “significance criteria” to determine whether significant environmental impacts will occur as a result of a proposed action. An action shall be determined to have a significant impact on the environment if it meets any one of the following criteria:

- (1) Involves an irrevocable commitment to loss or destruction of any natural or cultural resources**

The proposed project is not anticipated to involve any construction activity that may lead to a loss or destruction of any natural or cultural resource. There is little potential for encountering such resources, as the area had been previously graded and developed for the Lanakila Homes in 1951.

- (2) Curtails the range of beneficial uses of the environment**

The environment has been in housing use for more than the last 60 years. The five vacant houses on site will be removed. No beneficial uses will be relinquished by the development of a fire station on this parcel.

- (3) Conflicts with the State's long-term environmental policies or goals and guidelines as expressed in Chapter 344, HRS; and any revisions thereof and amendments thereto, court decisions, or executive orders**

The proposed project is not in conflict with the long-term environmental policies, goals, and guidelines of the State of Hawai'i. As presented earlier in this EA, the project's potential adverse impacts are associated only with the short-term construction-related activities, and such impacts can be mitigated through adherence to standard construction mitigation practices.

- (4) Substantially affects the economic or social welfare of the community or State**

## HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION

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The proposed project will have no adverse effects on the economy or social welfare of the City of Hilo or the County of Hawai'i. The social welfare of the residents of Hilo could possibly benefit from the more efficient operations and siting of the Central Fire Station.

**(5) Substantially affects public health**

There will be temporary impacts to noise, air and water quality levels during the construction phase of the project; however, these potential impacts will be short-term and are not expected to substantially affect public health. All construction activities will comply with applicable regulations and will implement appropriate mitigation measures. After construction, the development should have minimal impact on ambient noise levels or air and water quality.

A more efficient central Fire Station could possibly beneficially impact public health by reducing mortality and morbidity from fire-related causes.

**(6) Involves substantial secondary impacts, such as population changes or effects on public facilities**

The proposed fire station development will serve the existing residents of Hilo and its visitors. It will not induce any increases or shifts in population, and will not have a significant effect on any other public facilities.

**(7) Involves a substantial degradation of environmental quality**

Construction activities associated with the proposed project are anticipated to result in negligible short-term impacts to noise, air-quality, and traffic in the immediate vicinity. With the incorporation of the recommended mitigation measures during the construction period, the project will not result in degradation of environmental quality. No long term negative impacts are expected from project implementation.

**(8) Is individually limited but cumulatively has considerable effect on the environment, or involves a commitment for larger actions**

As documented throughout this EA, this project will have no serious negative effects. It is a stand-alone project which does not involve a commitment for larger actions.

**(9) Substantially affects a rare, threatened or endangered species or its habitat**

There are no known, threatened, or endangered species of flora, fauna, or associated habitats located on the project site that could be adversely affected by the construction and operation of the proposed project.

**(10) Detrimentially affects air or water quality or ambient noise levels**

Construction activities for development of the property could potentially impact noise and air and water quality levels. However, these impacts will be short-term and are not expected to be

# HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION

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detrimental. All construction activities will comply with applicable regulations and will implement appropriate mitigation measures as necessary. After construction, the development is not expected to adversely impact ambient noise levels or water and air quality. There will not be a significant increase in impervious surfaces over the property's former use, and no subsequent increase in runoff, which will be accommodated by proposed drainage improvements and will not detrimentally affect water quality.

- (11) Affects or is likely to suffer damage by being located in an environmentally sensitive area, such as a flood plain, tsunami zone, beach, erosion-prone area, geologically hazardous land, estuary, freshwater, or coastal waters**

The development will not affect any environmentally sensitive area. The project is located outside a FIRM-designated flood plain and inland from the coast. The proposed project's facilities will be constructed in compliance with County of Hawai'i building codes, and the drainage improvements will be designed to minimize any potential for localized flooding.

- (12) Substantially affects scenic vistas and view planes identified in County or State plans or studies**

The proposed project will not alter the visual setting of the area, nor will it block any scenic vistas. The area is not listed as a scenic viewplane or area of natural beauty by the county.

- (13) Requires substantial energy consumption.**

Construction and operation of the project will not require substantial increases in energy consumption.

## 5.2 DETERMINATION

The applicant does not foresee that the proposed project will have any significant adverse impact on the existing natural, physical, or human environment, and, as the approving agency, anticipates issuing a finding of no significant impact (FONSI).

**HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION**  
**FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

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### C o n s u l t e d P a r t i e s

**HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION**  
**FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

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## **6.0 CONSULTED PARTIES**

### **6.1 PRE-CONSULTATION**

On November 13, 2007 requests for pre-consultation comments were sent to the following. Those that submitted comments are underlined. Comments and responses are reproduced in Appendix B.

#### **Federal**

Army Corps of Engineers  
Department of the Interior-Fish and Wildlife Service  
Housing and Urban Development

#### **State of Hawai'i**

Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT)  
- Strategic Industries Division  
- HI Housing Finance & Development Corporation  
Department of Health-Environmental Planning Office  
Department of Land and Natural Resources-State Historic Preservation Division  
Department of Transportation  
Office of Environmental Quality Control  
Office of Hawaiian Affairs  
University of Hawai'i Environmental Center  
Department of Education

#### **County of Hawai'i**

Mayor's Office  
County Council  
Department of Environmental Management  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
Department of Public Works  
Department of Water Supply  
Planning Department  
Police Department

#### **Community**

Hawai'i Electric Light Company, Inc.  
Hawaiian Telcom  
Oceanic Time Warner Cable

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**6.2 DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

The draft environmental assessment was distributed February 28, 2008 to the following. Those that submitted comments are underlined. Comments and responses are reproduced in Appendix B.

**Federal**

US Army Corps of Engineers  
Housing and Urban Development

**State of Hawai'i**

Department of Health-Environmental Planning Office  
Office of Environmental Quality Control  
Office of Hawaiian Affairs  
Department of Land & Natural Resources  
DBEDT Strategic Industries Division  
UH Environmental Center  
Department of Education  
Department of Transportation

**County of Hawai'i**

Mayor's Office  
Department of Environmental Management  
Department of Public Works  
Department of Water Supply  
Planning Department

**Community**

St. Joseph's School



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R e f e r e n c e s

**HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION**  
**FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

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## **7.0 REFERENCES**

Environmental Protection Agency Sole Source Aquifer Protection Program:

<http://cfpub.epa.gov/safewater/sourcewater/sourcewater.cfm?action=SSA>

Hawaii Housing Authority, Department of Human Services (1997). *Final Environmental Assessment, Lanakila Homes*.

Hawaii State Data Center, Report 2000 - Income And Poverty Characteristics, For Islands And Census Tracts: 2000:

<http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/info/census/Folder.2005-10-13.2927/sf3/incpov2000ct.pdf>

Hawaii State Department of Transportation – Airports Division, Allen Thomas, Engineer

Juvik, S.P. (1998). *Atlas of Hawai‘i*. 3rd Edition. Honolulu: University of Hawai‘i Press. Honolulu, Hawai‘i.

Nishimura, Brian T. (2007). *Final Environmental Assessment, Public Safety Complex Parking and Impound Lot*. Prepared for the County of Hawai‘i, Department of Public Works.

Ohashi, Yukie. (2006) *Final Environmental Assessment, Ka Hui Na Koa O Kawili – Hawaii Island Veterans’ Memorial, Inc., Project*. Prepared for the Hawai‘i County Planning Department

Robichaux, David. (2004). *East Hawai‘i Regional Sort Station Final Environmental Impact Statement*. Prepared for the County of Hawai‘i, Department of Environmental Management.

SSFM International, Inc. (2006). *Final Environmental Assessment, Acquisition of Existing Drainageway Lands Project*. Prepared for the County of Hawai‘i, Department of Public Works.

US Census Bureau: <http://www.census.gov/>

US Geological Survey, Open-File Report 02-460. (2002). <http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2002/of02-460/of02-460.html>

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# **A p p e n d i x A**

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**N a t i o n a l E n v i r o n m e n t a l P o l i c y A c t ( N E P A )  
C o m p l i a n c e D o c u m e n t a t i o n**

**Environmental Assessment  
for HUD-funded Proposals**

Recommended format per 24 CFR 58.36, revised March 2005  
[Previously recommended EA formats are obsolete].

Project Identification: Hilo Central Fire Station

Preparer: Nancy Heinrich

Responsible Entity: Hawai'i Fire Department

Month/Year: February 2008

## Environmental Assessment

**Responsible Entity:** Hawai‘i Fire Department  
[24 CFR 58.2(a)(7)]

**Certifying Officer:** Darryl Oliveira, Chief  
[24 CFR 58.2(a)(2)]

**Project Name:** Hilo Central Fire Station

**Project Location:** Wailoa & Ululani Streets, City of Hilo, County of Hawai‘i, State of Hawai‘i

**Estimated total project cost:** \$6.2 million

**Grant Recipient:** not applicable  
[24 CFR 58.2(a)(5)]

**Recipient Address:**  
[responsible entity]: Hawai‘i County Fire Department  
25 Aupuni St. Suite 103  
Hilo, HI 96720

**Project Representative:** Desmond Wery, Capitol Improvement Projects (CIP) Manager

**Telephone Number:** (808) 981 8394

**Conditions for Approval:** (List all mitigation measures adopted by the responsible entity to eliminate or minimize adverse environmental impacts. These conditions must be included in project contracts and other relevant documents as requirements). [24 CFR 58.40(d), 40 CFR 1505.2(c)]

Construction phase:

1. Best management practices (BMPs) to reduce or eliminate impacts to air and water quality and prevent soil erosion and runoff. Proposed measures include watering of exposed soils during construction; installation of: sediment basins, berms, cutoff basins; and when feasible, immediate landscaping or paving of exposed soils.
2. Community Noise Control: Adherence to the State of Hawai‘i (SOH) Department of Health (DOH) regulations on construction activity that would generate noise.

Operational phase:

3. Permanent landscaping; use of detention basins, drywells or other BMPs.
4. Shielding of exterior lights to prevent disorientation of over-flying seabirds and the potential for bird strikes.
5. Adherence to the Uniform Building Code in the design of the new facility to reduce the potential structural impacts from earthquakes.
6. Noise: see the section below, “Noise Abatement and Control,” for mitigation measures.

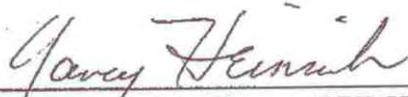
**FINDING:** [58.40(g)]

**Finding of No Significant Impact**

(The project will not result in a significant impact on the quality of the human environment)

**Finding of Significant Impact**

(The project may significantly affect the quality of the human environment)

**Preparer Signature:**  **Date:** 2/22/2008  
**Name/Title/Agency:** Nancy Heinrich, Planner, PBR Hawai'i & Associates, Inc.

**RE Approving Official Signature:**

 **Date:** 2/22/08  
**Name/Title/Agency:** Darryl Oliveira, Chief, Hawai'i Fire Department  
for

**Statement of Purpose and Need for the Proposal:** [40 CFR 1508.9(b)]

There is a need for a new County central fire station facility at a different location. The current fire station was built in 1939 and, more importantly, is located in the tsunami evacuation zone. Whenever there is a tsunami warning, fire department personnel have to evacuate the facility. This is a critical time for key emergency service personnel to assist the public, yet at the same time they must evacuate the existing fire station. It is vital for emergency service providers to be available prior to, during and after a natural or man-made disaster to provide critical services to the public.

**Description of the Proposal:** Include all contemplated actions which logically are either geographically or functionally a composite part of the project, regardless of the source of funding. [24 CFR 58.32, 40 CFR 1508.25]

The Hawai'i Fire Department wishes to construct a new fire station and battalion headquarters in central Hilo. Five vacant houses, part of Lanakila Homes (originally a federally-funded housing project), were planned to be removed and relocated elsewhere on the Lanakila Homes property (which is undergoing ongoing renovation and rehabilitation). As this portion of the Lanakila Homes project was planned to be vacant, the County, which requires a new central fire station, requested that it be able to site the Hilo Central Fire Station (and battalion headquarters) on the proposed site.

**Existing Conditions and Trends:** Describe the existing conditions of the project area and its surroundings, and trends likely to continue in the absence of the project. [24 CFR 58.40(a)]

The proposed site is located in a neighborhood that has been developed with public housing since 1951. The site is located on the eastern edge of the Lanakila Homes project and separated by the rest of the Lanakila Homes project area by a road. While there are existing residential structures on the project site, the structures have not been legally occupied and are supposed to be vacant. Unfortunately, since the structures have not been razed, the structures are sometimes illegally occupied and it is common knowledge that illegal drug activity occurs in these abandoned homes. Much of the area not occupied by structures is overgrown with weeds and trees. This portion of Lanakila Homes is an eyesore, attracts criminal activity and creates an unsafe environment for neighboring law-abiding residents. The project site is surrounded by other residential and mixed use (residential-commercial) areas. In the absence of the fire station, the location will likely remain vacant (with its associated blight) or may eventually be developed with housing, subject to availability of funding.

**Statutory Checklist**

[24CFR §58.5]

Record the determinations made regarding each listed statute, executive order or regulation. Provide appropriate source documentation. [Note reviews or consultations completed as well as any applicable permits or approvals obtained or required. Note dates of contact or page references]. Provide compliance or consistency documentation. Attach additional material as appropriate. Note conditions, attenuation or mitigation measures required.

**Factors**

**Determination and Compliance Documentation**

<p><b>Historic Preservation</b> [36 CFR 800]</p>	<p>The project is not subject to compliance with Section 106 of the National Preservation Act of 1966, because on November 29, 2007, the State Historic Preservation Officer wrote that: ‘We have made a determination of “no historic properties affected.”...’</p>
<p><b>Floodplain Management</b> [24 CFR 55, Executive Order 11988]</p>	<p>The project site is located outside of the 100-year floodplain hazard area identified on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) map. Refer to Figure 6 of the Draft Environmental Assessment.</p>
<p><b>Wetlands Protection</b> [Executive Order 11990]</p>	<p>The project is not located within or adjacent to a wetland identified by or delineated on the US Department of the Interior US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) map. Refer to Figure 8 of the Draft Environmental Assessment.</p>
<p><b>Coastal Zone Management Act</b> [Sections 307(c),(d)]</p>	<p>Not applicable. See Attachment 1, a June 24, 2004 letter from the state Coastal Zone Management office to HUD.</p>
<p><b>Sole Source Aquifers</b> [40 CFR 149]</p>	<p>There is no sole source aquifer for this island, as delineated for Region IX on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) groundwater website &lt;<a href="http://www.epa.gov/safewater/sourcewater/pubs/qrg_ss_ama_reg9.pdf">http://www.epa.gov/safewater/sourcewater/pubs/qrg_ss_ama_reg9.pdf</a>&gt;.</p>
<p><b>Endangered Species Act</b> [50 CFR 402]</p>	<p>Due to the developed nature and urban setting of the site, the project will not affect Federally-listed or proposed threatened and endangered species, or designated or proposed critical habitat. See the 12/14/07 letter from the Honolulu office of the US Fish &amp; Wildlife Service in Appendix B of the draft EA confirming the lack of such species and habitats.</p>
<p><b>Wild and Scenic Rivers Act</b> [Sections 7 (b), (c)]</p>	<p>According to the USFWS website (<a href="http://www.rivers.gov/wildriverslist.html">http://www.rivers.gov/wildriverslist.html</a>), there are no wild or scenic rivers in the state of Hawai‘i.</p>
<p><b>Air Quality</b> [Clean Air Act, Sections 176 (c) and (d), and 40 CFR 6, 51, 93]</p>	<p>According to the EPA website (<a href="http://www.epa.gov/air/oaqps/greenbk/mapnpoll.html">http://www.epa.gov/air/oaqps/greenbk/mapnpoll.html</a>), the entire State of Hawai‘i is an attainment area.</p>

<p><b>Farmland Protection Policy Act</b> [7 CFR 658]</p>	<p>According to the Agricultural Lands of Importance to the State of Hawai‘i (ALISH) maps, the project site does not include prime or unique farmland (Status A). See the map in Attachment 2.</p>
<p><b>Environmental Justice</b> [Executive Order 12898]</p>	<p>Minority status and income level are main factors in an environmental justice evaluation.</p> <p><u>Minority status</u>: The site itself is currently vacant, but is located within a predominantly mixed race neighborhood typical of many in the State. No single cultural or ethnic group is predominant. See the table in Attachment 3.</p> <p><u>Income level</u>: Potential sites considered for the new fire station were in other residential neighborhoods in the urban core of Hilo with vacant lots. Even though the Lanakila Homes (the selected site) is an affordable housing project (with corresponding income levels), this site was not selected because of the neighborhood’s “economic status,” but because land was available in a central location near major thoroughfares. A comparison of income levels in this census block and the Hilo CCD is presented in the table in Attachment 3.</p> <p><u>Noise</u>: It is acknowledged that there will be occasional and unavoidable events that may require emergency vehicles from the fire station to use sirens to safely access surrounding streets. See the discussion in the Noise Abatement and Control section below.</p> <p><u>Positive impacts</u>: The availability of trained emergency medical service personnel and fire protection in the immediate vicinity of Lanakila Homes and neighboring properties is a positive and reassuring public presence, and may have a positive impact on lowering home insurance rates for neighboring residents. The presence of uniformed “authority figures” in the Lanakila Homes neighborhood may help to reduce the incidence of criminal activities.</p>

**HUD Environmental Standards Determination and Compliance Documentation**

<p><b>Noise Abatement and Control</b> [24 CFR 51 B]</p>	<p>Lanakila Homes is a typically quiet residential neighborhood and, because the houses on site are vacant and slated for removal, the area is quieter than usual, lacking people, car and pet noises. Sirens will be used when deemed essential as necessary warning devices for responding to emergencies. The use of sirens can be mitigated as follows in consideration of the nearby neighbors:</p> <p>The testing of the sirens is done on a daily basis, but this</p>
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	usually consists of short bursts only. Personnel are advised and trained to be prudent in their use. Sirens need not always be used: at night (and only when absolutely necessary); in and around light traffic residential areas with good visibility; during times of light traffic in all other areas; and around churches and schools when they are in session. The area of the proposed fire station is only lightly trafficked, so the use of sirens when exiting the station may not be necessary in all cases. These types of noise disturbances are unavoidable but will be intermittent and of short duration.
<b>Toxic/Hazardous/Radio-active Materials, Contamination, Chemicals or Gases</b> [24 CFR 58.5(i)(2)]	<p>The property has been in residential use for many years. Originally the site was developed for military housing in the 1900s then redeveloped for public housing in 1951. Any hazardous materials once on site is likely to no longer be present.</p> <p>According to the Noise, Radiation &amp; Indoor Air Quality Branch of the state Department of Health, no radon has ever been found in the state of Hawai'i.</p> <p>Based on an Environmental Data Registry search, there are no toxic, radioactive or other hazardous materials in the vicinity of the project site. See the map in Attachment 4.</p>
<b>Siting of HUD-Assisted Projects near Hazardous Operations</b> [24 CFR 51 C]	There are no hazardous operations in the vicinity of the project site. See attached Hazardous Operations map (Attachment 4).
<b>Airport Clear Zones and Accident Potential Zones</b> [24 CFR 51 D]	See the map provided by State DOT-Airports Division in Attachment 5. The project site is not in or near the approach paths ("approach surfaces") of either runway of Hilo International Airport; it is 1.25 miles and 1.6 miles, respectively, from the closest ends of the short and long runways. It is also clear of the "areas of higher elevation with potential obstructions," represented on the map by hatch marks. Therefore, the project site is not close enough to the airport to pose a risk in terms of its Clear Zones or Accident Potential Zones.

### Environmental Assessment Checklist

[Environmental Review Guide HUD CPD 782, 24 CFR 58.40; Ref. 40 CFR 1508.8 &1508.27]  
Evaluate the significance of the effects of the proposal on the character, features and resources of the project area. Enter relevant base data and verifiable source documentation to support the finding. Then enter the appropriate impact code from the following list to make a determination

of impact. **Impact Codes:** (1) - No impact anticipated; (2) - Potentially beneficial; (3) - Potentially adverse; (4) - Requires mitigation; (5) - Requires project modification. Note names, dates of contact, telephone numbers and page references. Attach additional material as appropriate. Note conditions or mitigation measures required.

<b>Land Development</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Source or Documentation</b>
Conformance with Comprehensive Plans and Zoning	1	<p>The project is proposed to be in an area designated by the County of Hawai‘i on its comprehensive plan (the Hawai‘i County General Plan, approved as County of Hawai‘i Ordinance No. 05-25) as High Density Use (HDU). Refer to Figure 4 of the Draft Environmental Assessment. Detailed land uses are regulated by the Zoning section of the Hawai‘i County Code (see paragraph below).</p> <p>The Hawai‘i County zoning is RD-3.75, indicating double-family residential (RD) with a minimum 3,750 square foot land area for each dwelling unit. Per the Hawai‘i County Code regulating zoning, Section 25-4-11 states that “Public uses, structures and buildings and community buildings are permitted uses in any district, provided that the director has issued plan approval for such use.”</p>
Compatibility and Urban Impact	1	The proposed fire station is a permitted use in any zoning district. The availability of trained emergency medical service personnel and fire protection in the immediate vicinity of Lanakila Homes and neighboring properties is a positive and reassuring public presence, and likely to have a positive impact on lowering home insurance rates for neighboring residents.
Slope	1	The topography of the general area is gently sloping and the project site has been heavily modified to accommodate single-family and duplex residential development. Please refer to the site photographs in Appendix C.
Erosion	1	According to U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA NRCS) soils map, soil type is rKFD (Keaukaha Extremely Rocky Muck); erosion hazard is slight. Refer to Figure 7 of the Draft Environmental Assessment.
Soil Suitability	1	According to the USDA NRCS, soils in this class (Keaukaha Extremely Rocky Muck) have very severe limitations that make them unsuited to cultivation, and their use is restricted to pasture or range, woodland, or wildlife.

Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety	1	<p>The proposed project will not exacerbate any natural hazard conditions. The potential impact of hurricanes and earthquakes will be mitigated by compliance with the <i>Uniform Building Code</i> (1997) in the design and construction of the proposed buildings. The seismic and lava inundation hazards pose an equal risk to all locations in the entire service area of East Hawai‘i. The design requirements make construction slightly more costly, but these requirements would be in effect regardless of the specific location in the region.</p> <p>According to the Pacific Disaster Center, the site is located outside of the tsunami evacuation zone (refer to Figure 9 of the Draft Environmental Assessment).</p>
Energy Consumption	1	<p>The site is currently vacant and consumes little or no energy. The proposed fire station will operate on a 24 hour/7 day a week basis and will require energy to operate similar to consumption levels at other fire stations. To the greatest extent possible the new facility will be designed to LEED Silver standard of the US Green Building Council, thus further reducing facility energy consumption.</p>

<b>Noise - Contribution to Community Noise Levels</b>	4	<p>Some potential adverse impacts, mitigable to insignificant levels; see Noise Abatement &amp; Control section above.</p>
<b>Air Quality</b> Effects of Ambient Air Quality on Project and Contribution to Community Pollution Levels	1	<p>The project is not likely to be a significant generator of air pollutants, based on observation of operations at other fire stations. The entire State of Hawai‘i is in attainment.</p>
<b>Environmental Design</b> Visual Quality - Coherence, Diversity, Compatible Use and Scale	2	<p>The existing buildings on-site are rundown and the remainder of the site is overgrown. The proposed fire station is anticipated to present a significant improvement in visual character than the currently rundown buildings and overgrown landscaping which is the current condition of the lot.</p>

<b>Socioeconomic</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Source or Documentation</b>
Demographic Character Changes	1	<p>Currently the site contains vacant houses. When the fire station is in operation, there will be new “residents,” the fire-fighting staff who would be on-site in shifts, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. These firemen are expected to have similar socio-economic status of those residing in the area and are</p>

		unlikely to cause fear or distrust among surrounding residents.
Displacement	1	Since no one currently lives on site, no one will be displaced.
Employment and Income Patterns	1	The site does not currently provide any employment opportunities. In addition, as there are no existing residents on the site, income patterns will not be impacted. With the implementation of the fire station, some jobs from the existing fire station will be relocated to the proposed site and some new jobs may be created. This may not necessarily be of direct benefit to existing adults of the area as the minimum physical requirements for firefighters are extremely high. However, firefighters may provide role models for children.

**Community Facilities and Services**

	<b>Code</b>	<b>Source or Documentation</b>
Educational Facilities	1	Since the proposed fire station is a public facility and a place of employment, no school-aged children will be generated. There are no schools or educational facilities on the project site. The closest school is a private elementary school 0.1 miles to the northwest. It is separated from the project site by Wailoa Street (the project site's northern boundary), a multi-family home and a playfield. The school is unlikely to be affected during construction since construction impacts will be mitigated to non-significant levels. Additionally it is unlikely to be adversely impacted by fire station operations, as these also will be mitigated to insignificant levels. See section 2.0 in the draft EA for a description of mitigation measures.
Commercial Facilities	1	There are no commercial facilities currently operating on site. A place of employment would typically generate workers who would shop or dine nearby, but the operations of a fire station and its personnel are unique. Firefighters on-duty are required to be close to their emergency vehicles at all times so they usually are close to the fire station and only leave (other than to respond to emergencies) to shop for food. It is expected that the firemen will continue to shop at the stores they currently patronize.
Health Care	2	The site currently does not provide health care. The operation of the fire station and the availability of trained emergency medical service personnel in the immediate vicinity of Lanakila Homes and neighboring properties are expected to be positive and

		reassuring public services.
Social Services	1	Currently the site is vacant and provides no social services. The fire station may provide indirect benefits to the social service needs of residents in the area by: 1) reversing the visual blight presented by the existing deteriorated buildings and landscaping; 2) providing “24/7” presence of uniformed personnel; and 3) providing role models for area children.
Solid Waste	4	As there are no current residents, no solid waste is being generated on site. However, as the existing residential structures are in disrepair, the homes will likely have to be demolished or deconstructed, and present some solid waste that will have to be processed and/or buried in a landfill. Construction and operation of the proposed fire station will generate solid waste, but the bulk of the solid waste is already being generated at the fire station’s current location at Kino’ole and Ponahawai streets (0.6 miles north of proposed project site). To the greatest extent possible the new facility will be designed to LEED Silver standard, which encourages recycling construction debris to further reduce the volume of solid waste entering the landfill.
Waste Water	1	As there are no current residents, no waste water is being generated on site. Once in operation, the staff of the proposed fire station will generate waste water. However, since the existing fire station at Kino’ole and Ponahawai street currently generates waste water, only additional personnel at the proposed fire station will represent an increase in waste water generated.
Storm Water	1	Currently storm water flows generated on-site can be characterized as typical of residential areas: with roofs, driveways and (in this case overgrown) lawns. The proposed fire station project may result in an increase of impervious surfaces, with a comparable building footprint (and roof area), but likely larger pavement areas for driveways, truck wash downs, off-street parking, etc. During the Building Permit review process, the County of Hawai’i will require that there be no net increase in runoff from the site over current conditions. Therefore the impact of storm water runoff from the proposed project is expected to be negligible.
Water Supply	1	Currently, little or no potable water is being used on site. Once in operation, the staff of the proposed fire station will require water. However, since the existing fire station at Kino’ole and Ponahawai street currently

		uses water, only additional personnel at the proposed fire station will represent an increase in water required.
Public Safety - Police	2	The subject property, in its current vacant state, is reportedly the site of illegal drug activity. This activity will likely diminish during construction and will likely cease once the fire station is in operation.
- Fire	2	The subject property, in its current vacant deteriorated and overgrown state, could be viewed as a potential fire hazard. Implementation of the proposed project, as an improved fire station and battalion headquarters, will likely enhance the fire fighting capabilities in the Hilo area. The increased availability of fire protection in the immediate vicinity of Lanakila Homes and neighboring properties is a positive and reassuring public service, and may have a positive impact on lowering home insurance rates for neighboring residents.
- Emergency Medical	2	As there are currently no residents on-site, no emergency medical services are required (except by those who are trespassing). The operation of the fire station and the availability of trained emergency medical service personnel in the immediate vicinity of Lanakila Homes and neighboring properties is a positive and reassuring public service.
Open Space and Recreation - Open Space	1	The existing site is occupied by dilapidated buildings and overgrown vegetation. It presents little in the way of desirable open space values (unobstructed views and attractive landscape). The proposed project will likely not provide desirable open space values as well.
- Recreation	1	The existing site is occupied by dilapidated buildings and overgrown vegetation and presents little value for active recreational use. The proposed project will likely provide recreational facilities, such as volleyball, basketball and exercise equipment for use by firefighters. This will meet the recreational needs of the firemen and reduce the demand on existing area recreational facilities.
- Cultural Facilities	1	Cultural impacts assessments carried out for nearby projects have been reviewed. These include the final environmental assessments (FEAs) for the following: <i>Ka Hui Na Koa O Kawili – Hawaii Island Veterans’ Memorial, Inc., Project</i> (July 2006); <i>Acquisition of Existing Drainageway Lands Project</i> (November 2006); and the final environmental impact statement <i>East Hawaii Regional Sort Station</i> (February 2004). None of the assessments reviewed reported any

		<p>significant cultural resources in the area.</p> <p>Those knowledgeable about the region were also consulted for their input. These contacts included Pua Kanahele, Cultural Practitioner and Cultural Consultant, and co-founder of the Edith Kanakaole Foundation; and Kalani Makekau-Whittaker, Associate Director, Native Hawaiian Student Center at the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo (UHH). Neither reported any known activity in the area or any possible cultural impact on the area from the project. Larry Kimura, Associate Professor Hawaiian Studies at UHH and Alan Haun, a local archeologist, were contacted, but without any response.</p> <p>The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) was contacted during the pre-consultation review period but offered no comments regarding possible cultural impacts from this project. OHA did recommend preservation of unexpected archeological finds during the construction period, which is discussed in this section, along with appropriate mitigation measures.</p>
Transportation	1	The existing site does not provide any transportation facilities and the proposed project does not include any such facilities.

### Natural Features

### Source or Documentation

Water Resources	1	<p>Based on review of 33 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 328, the site does not appear to contain or be located adjacent to any “waters of the United States.” In addition, there is no sole source aquifer for this island, as delineated for Region IX on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) groundwater website <a href="http://www.epa.gov/safewater/sourcewater/pubs/qrg_ssamap_reg9.pdf">http://www.epa.gov/safewater/sourcewater/pubs/qrg_ssamap_reg9.pdf</a>. Refer to Figure 8 in the draft EA.</p>
Surface Water	1	<p>Based on review of 33 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 328, the site does not appear to contain or be located adjacent to any “waters of the United States.” In addition, according to the USFWS website (<a href="http://www.rivers.gov/wildriverslist.html">http://www.rivers.gov/wildriverslist.html</a>), there are no wild or scenic rivers in the State of Hawai‘i.</p>
Unique Natural Features and Agricultural Lands	1	<p>As the site was previously developed for residential use, there are no unique topographical land features.</p> <p>According to the Agricultural Lands of Importance to</p>

		the State of Hawai'i (ALISH) maps, the project site does not include prime or unique farmland (Status A). See the map in attachment 2.
Vegetation and Wildlife	1	The site was developed and has been utilized for residential use for many years and is overgrown with vegetation common to urbanized areas of Hilo. Due to the developed nature and urban setting of the site, the project will not affect Federally-listed or proposed threatened and endangered species, or designated or proposed critical habitat. See the 12/14/07 letter from the Honolulu office of the US Fish & Wildlife Service confirming the lack of such species and habitats in Appendix B of the draft EA.

### Other Factors

### Source or Documentation

Flood Disaster Protection Act [Flood Insurance] [§58.6(a)]	1	The project site is located outside of the 100-year floodplain hazard area identified on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) map. Refer to Figure 6 of the Draft Environmental Assessment.
Coastal Barrier Resources Act/Coastal Barrier Improvement Act [§58.6(c)]	1	Federal legislation and implementing regulations concerning these resources do not apply to the State of Hawai'i, Guam, MMI, TTPI or American Samoa. ( <a href="http://projects.dewberry.com/FWS/CBRS%20Maps/Forms/AllItems1.aspx">http://projects.dewberry.com/FWS/CBRS%20Maps/Forms/AllItems1.aspx</a> ).
Airport Runway Clear Zone or Clear Zone Disclosure [§58.6(d)]	1	The project site is not in or near the approach paths of the Hilo International Airport runways and is not close enough to the airport to pose a risk in terms of its Clear Zones or Accident Potential Zones. See the discussion above and the map in Attachment 5.
Other Factors		None.

### Summary of Findings and Conclusions

#### ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED ACTION

**Alternatives and Project Modifications Considered** [24 CFR 58.40(e), Ref. 40 CFR 1508.9] (Identify other reasonable courses of action that were considered and not selected, such as other sites, design modifications, or other uses of the subject site. Describe the benefits and adverse impacts to the human environment of each alternative and the reasons for rejecting it.)

An alternate fire station site in Hilo was considered near the intersection of the Mohouli Street Extension and Komohana Street. It was rejected as being too far out of the central part of the city and too far at the edge of the fire response district.

**No Action Alternative** [24 CFR 58.40(e)]

(Discuss the benefits and adverse impacts to the human environment of not implementing the preferred alternative).

There is a need to address the hazardous conditions associated with the existing fire station (within the tsunami evacuation zone). Whenever there is a tsunami warning, fire department personnel have to evacuate the facility. This is a critical time for key emergency service personnel to assist the public, yet at the same time they must evacuate the existing fire station. It is vital for emergency service providers to be available prior to, during and after a natural or man-made disaster to provide critical services to the public. The no action alternative would not meet the requirement for a new fire station and has therefore been rejected.

**Mitigation Measures Recommended** [24 CFR 58.40(d), 40 CFR 1508.20]

(Recommend feasible ways in which the proposal or its external factors should be modified in order to minimize adverse environmental impacts and restore or enhance environmental quality.)

Construction phase:

- Best management practices (BMPs) to reduce or eliminate impacts to air and water quality and prevent soil erosion and runoff. Proposed measures include watering of exposed soils during construction; installation of: sediment basins, berms, cutoff basins; and when feasible, immediate landscaping or paving of exposed soils.
- Community Noise Control: Adherence to the State of Hawai'i (SOH) Department of Health (DOH) regulations on construction activity that would generate noise.

Operational phase:

- Permanent landscaping; use of detention basins or drywells or other BMPs.
- Shielding of exterior lights to prevent disorientation of over-flying seabirds and the potential for bird strikes.
- Adherence to the Uniform Building Code in the design of the new facility to reduce the potential structural impacts from earthquakes.

Noise: Lanakila Homes is a typically quiet residential neighborhood and, because the houses on site are vacant and slated for removal, the area is quieter than usual, lacking people, car and pet noises. Sirens are used when deemed essential as necessary warning devices for responding to emergencies. The use of sirens can be mitigated as follows in consideration of the nearby neighbors:

The testing of the sirens is done on a daily basis, but this usually consists of short bursts only. Personnel are advised and trained to be prudent in their use. Sirens may not always be used: at night (and only when absolutely necessary); in and around light traffic residential areas with good visibility; during times of light traffic in all other areas; and around churches and schools when they are in session. The area of the proposed fire station is only lightly trafficked, so the use of sirens when exiting the station may not be necessary in all cases. These types of noise disturbances are unavoidable but will be intermittent and of short duration.

**Additional Studies Performed**

(Attach studies or summaries) – none

## List of Sources, Agencies and Persons Consulted [40 CFR 1508.9(b)]

### Sources

Environmental Protection Agency Sole Source Aquifer Protection Program:  
<http://cfpub.epa.gov/safewater/sourcewater/sourcewater.cfm?action=SSA>

Hawaii Housing Authority, Department of Human Services (1997). *Final Environmental Assessment, Lanakila Homes*.

Hawaii State Data Center, Report 2000 - *Income And Poverty Characteristics, For Islands And Census Tracts: 2000*:  
<http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/info/census/Folder.2005-10-13.2927/sf3/incpov2000ct.pdf>

Juvik, S.P. (1998). *Atlas of Hawaii*. 3rd Edition. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press. Honolulu, Hawaii.

Nishimura, Brian T. (2007). *Final Environmental Assessment, Public Safety Complex Parking and Impound Lot*. Prepared for the County of Hawaii, Department of Public Works.

Ohashi, Yukie. (2006) *Final Environmental Assessment, Ka Hui Na Koa O Kawili – Hawaii Island Veterans' Memorial, Inc., Project*. Prepared for the Hawaii County Planning Department

Robichaux, David. (2004). *East Hawaii Regional Sort Station Final Environmental Impact Statement*. Prepared for the County of Hawaii, Department of Environmental Management.

SSFM International, Inc. (2006). *Final Environmental Assessment, Acquisition of Existing Drainageway Lands Project*. Prepared for the County of Hawaii, Department of Public Works.

US Census Bureau: <http://www.census.gov/>

**Agencies and Persons Consulted**

**Federal**

Army Corps of Engineers  
Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Housing and Urban Development

**State of Hawai'i**

Department of Health-Environmental Planning Office  
Department of Land and Natural Resources-State Historic Preservation Division  
Department of Transportation  
Department of Transportation – Airports Division, Allen Thomas, Engineer  
Office of Environmental Quality Control  
Office of Hawaiian Affairs  
Dept. Business Economic Development & Tourism, Strategic Industries Div.  
University of HI Environmental Center  
Department of Education

**County of Hawai'i**

Mayor's Office  
County Council  
Department of Environmental Management  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
Department of Public Works  
Department of Water Supply  
Planning Department  
Police Department

**Private**

Hawaii Electric Light Company, Inc.  
Hawaiian Telcom  
Oceanic Time Warner Cable





**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

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THEODORE E. LIU  
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MARY LOU KOBAYASHI  
ADMINISTRATOR  
OFFICE OF PLANNING

**OFFICE OF PLANNING**

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Fax: (808) 587-2824

Ref. No. P-10520

June 24, 2004

Mr. Gordan Y. Furutani, Field Office Director  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
Hawaii State Field Office  
500 Ala Moana Boulevard, Suite 3A  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Furutani:

**Subject:** Hawaii Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program Federal Consistency Requirements for U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Grant Programs

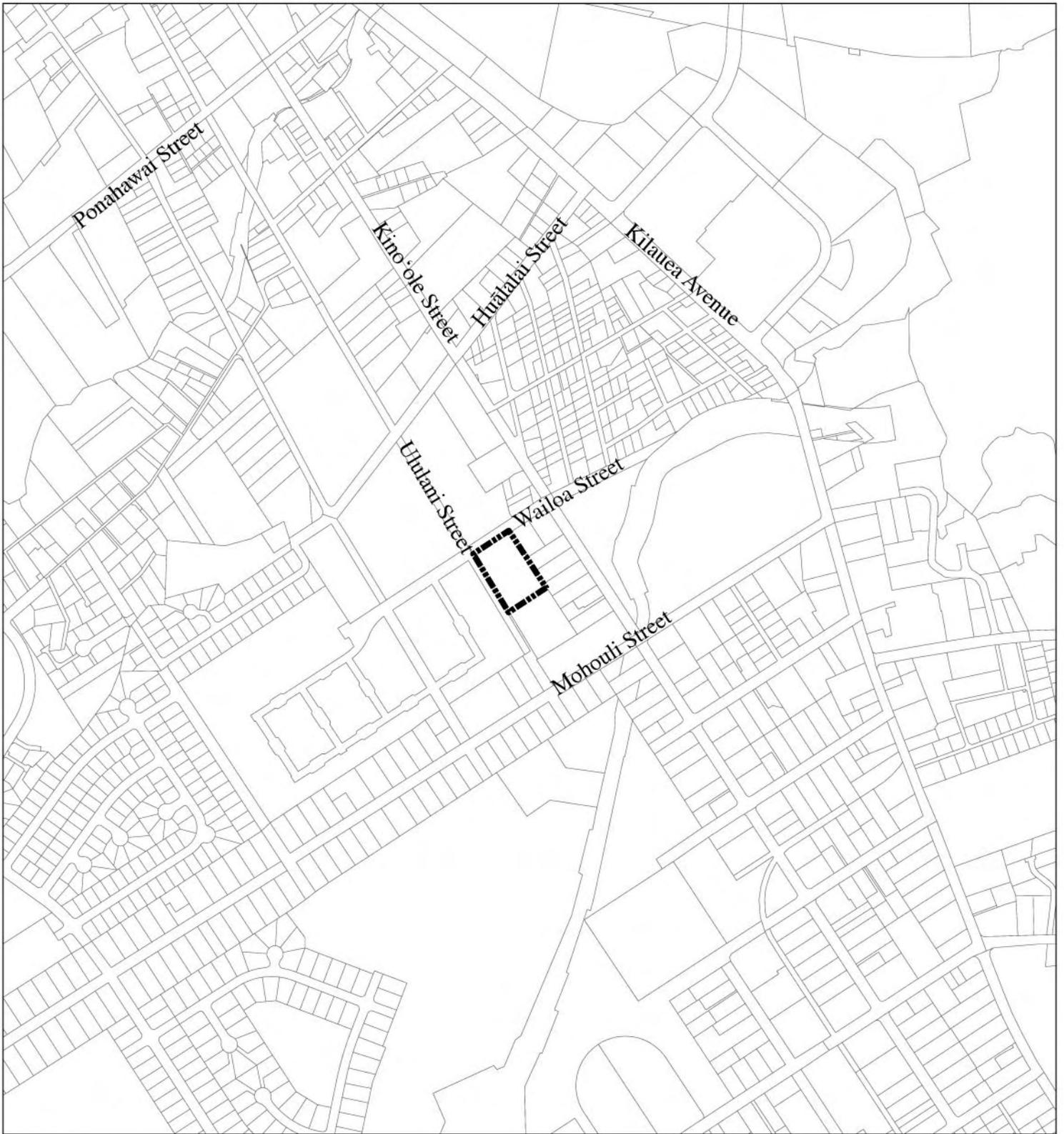
We have recently revised the Hawaii CZM Program list of federal assistance programs that require CZM federal consistency review by our office. We no longer review any HUD assistance programs, including Community Development Block Grants, and housing programs such as the Public Housing Capital Fund. Applicants for HUD assistance are no longer required to obtain CZM federal consistency approval for HUD assisted activities. Other CZM regulations such as the Special Management Area and Shoreline Setback provisions which are administered by the Counties, are still valid and may apply to HUD assisted projects. Each County Planning Department should be consulted for the applicability of Special Management Area and Shoreline Setback Area requirements. We suggest that the environmental checklist that applicants for HUD assistance must complete be modified to reflect the change in CZM requirements.

Thank you for your cooperation in ensuring compliance with Hawaii's CZM Program. If you have any questions, please contact John Nakagawa at 587-2878 or Debra Tom at 587-2840, of our CZM Program.

Sincerely,

Mary Lou Kobayashi  
Administrator





**Legend**

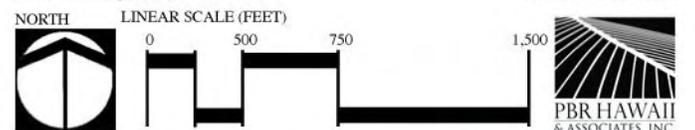
-  Proposed Fire Station Project
-  Prime Agricultural Land
-  Unique Agricultural Land
-  Other Important Agricultural Land
-  Unclassified Land

Source: State of Hawai'i Department of Agriculture (1977)  
 Disclaimer: This graphic has been prepared for general planning purposes only.

Agricultural Lands of Importance to the State of Hawai'i

**Hilo Central Fire Station**

Hawai'i Fire Department ISLAND OF HAWAII





Racial mix, project site census block compared to Hilo CCD

	<b>South Hilo District</b>	<b>Census Tract 204, block 2</b>
Total population	47,386	3,098
<b>Race Reported</b>		
White only	17.25%	20.7%
Black only	0.67%	0%
American Indian, Alaskan Eskimo, Aleut only	0.4%	0%
Asian only	38.7%	27.8%
Polynesian* only	11.4%	0.25%
2 or more races	30.6%	39.9%

\* Polynesian is defined as Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

1999 Median income figures -- project site census block compared to Hilo CCD

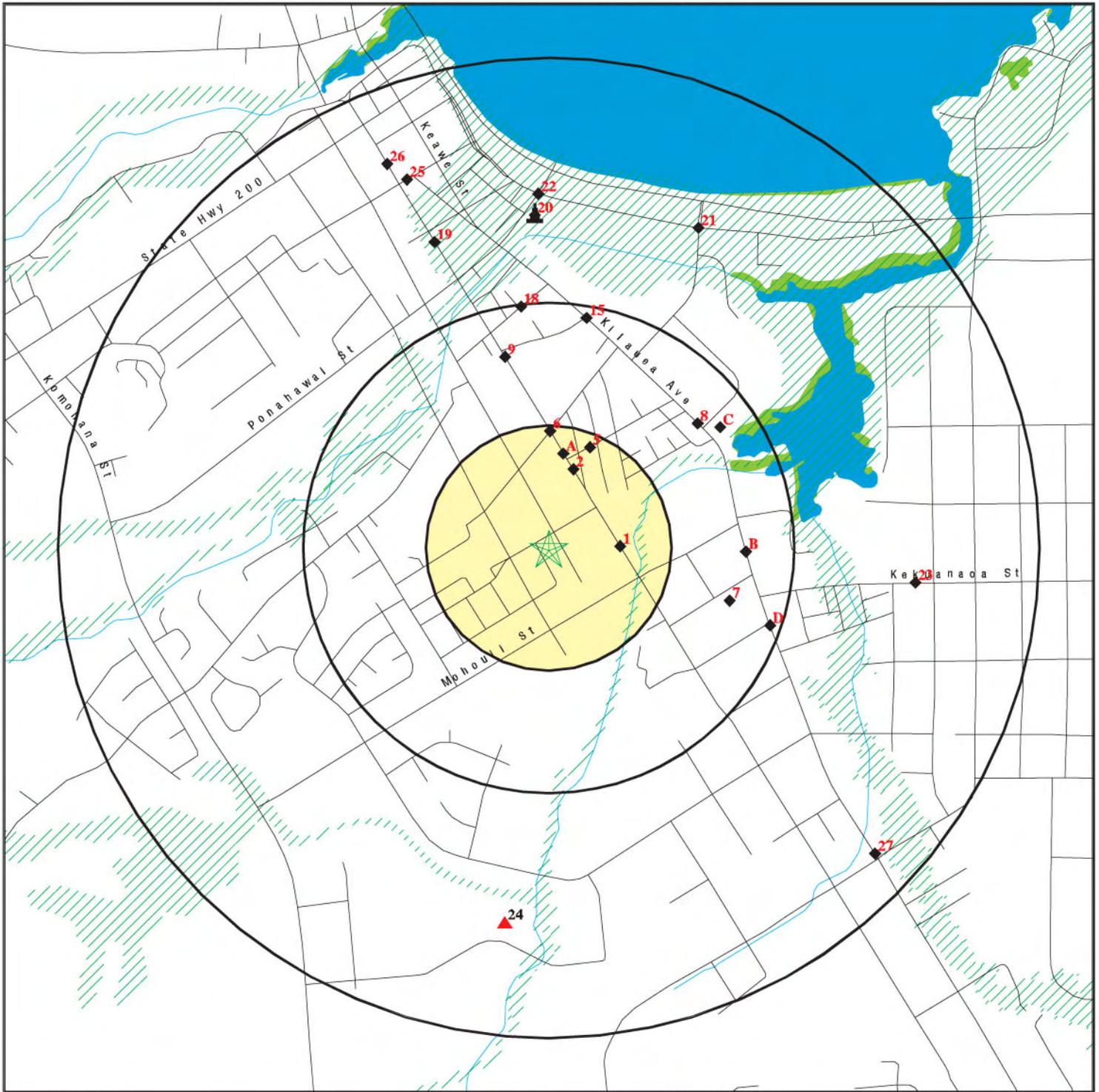
Figures taken from *US Census Bureau, Census 2000* website

Census Tract 204, Block Group 2: 12,857  
Hilo CCD: 39,213

Note: Percentages are based on figures from *US Census Bureau, Census 2000* website, Census Tract 204. CT 204 Block Group 2 is for the immediate neighborhood of the project site.



# OVERVIEW MAP - 2131687.1s



- ★ Target Property
- ▲ Sites at elevations higher than or equal to the target property
- ◆ Sites at elevations lower than the target property
- ▲ Manufactured Gas Plants
- National Priority List Sites
- Dept. Defense Sites
- Indian Reservations BIA
- ▲ Oil & Gas pipelines
- 100-year flood zone
- 500-year flood zone
- National Wetland Inventory



SITE NAME: Hilo Fire Station  
 ADDRESS: Wailoa/Ulalani  
 Hilo HI 96720  
 LAT/LONG: 19.7126 / 155.0833

CLIENT: PBR Hawaii  
 CONTACT: Nancy Heinrich  
 INQUIRY #: 2131687.1s  
 DATE: January 29, 2008 6:10 pm









# **A p p e n d i x B**

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C o n s u l t a t i o n , C o m m e n t s & R e s p o n s e L e t t e r s

LINDA LINGCLE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
LAND DIVISION  
POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

RECEIVED  
MAR 05 2008  
PBR HAWAII

LAURA H. TITILEY  
CLERK OF THE HONOLULU DISTRICT COURT  
FOUNDER OF THE HONOLULU DISTRICT COURT

March 3, 2008

PBR Hawaii  
ASB Tower, Suite 650  
1001 Bishop Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Attention: Ms. Nancy Heinrich

Gentlemen:

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment for Hilo Central Fire Station, Hilo, Hawaii, Tax Map Key: (3) 2-4-28:portion 7

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the subject matter. The Department of Land and Natural Resources' (DLNR) has no other comments to offer on the subject matter. Should you have any questions, please feel free to call our office at 587-0433. Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Morris M. Atta*  
Morris M. Atta  
Administrator



PBR HAWAII  
& ASSOCIATES, INC.

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Fax: (808) 961-9989

**WAILUKU OFFICE**  
1787 Wailuku Loop, Suite 4  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793-1271  
Tel: (808) 242-2878

April 17, 2008  
Mr. Morris M. Atta, Administrator  
State of Hawaii  
Department of Land & Natural Resources  
Land Division  
P.O. Box 621  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809

**SUBJECT: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (DEA) FOR HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION**

Dear Mr. Atta:

Thank you for your letter dated March 3, 2008 in which you note that you have no additional comments on this project.

Thank you for your participation in the environmental review process. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any additional information or have any questions.

Sincerely,

*Nancy Heinrich*  
Nancy Heinrich  
Planner

D:\hilo\252594.03 Hilo Central Fire Station\DEA comments & responses\final letters\BL-05 DLNR response.doc

LINDA LINGLE  
CONFERENCE  
DIRECTOR  
MARK K. ANDERSON  
DEPT. DIRECTOR

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Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Nancy Heinrich  
PBR  
Page 2

RECEIVED  
MAR 19 2008  
PBR HAWAII

March 6, 2008

Ms. Nancy Heinrich  
PBR Hawaii  
ASB Tower, Suite 650  
1001 Bishop Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Ms. Heinrich:

Re: Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) for Hilo Central Fire Station  
Tax Map Keys: (3) 2-4-28: por. 07

Thank you for your February 26, 2008, notice. We appreciate the opportunity to review the DEA for the Hilo Central Fire Station.

We would like to call your attention to: (1) State energy conservation goals; and, (2) energy and resource efficiency and renewable energy and resource development.

1. **State energy conservation goals.** Project buildings, activities, and site grounds should be designed and/or retrofitted with energy saving considerations. The mandate for such consideration is found in Chapter 344, HRS ("State Environmental Policy") and Chapter 226 ("Hawaii State Planning Act"). In particular, we would like to call to your attention HRS 226 18(c) (4) which includes a State objective of promoting all cost-effective energy conservation through adoption of energy-efficient practices and technologies.

We recommend that you contact Hawaii Electric Light Company early in the project to see if they have demand-side management incentives for various energy conservation measures that would be applicable to the fire station.

2. **Energy and resource efficiency and renewable energy and resource development.** We call your attention to the need for actions to enhance the sustainability of the development, including construction activity pollution prevention, green architecture, photovoltaic energy, solar water heating, and water conservation measures. We note that on page two of the DEA you state that to the greatest extent possible the new facility will be designed to the LEED Silver standard.

Our website (<http://www.hawaii.gov/dbedt/info/energy/efficiency/>) provides detailed information on guidelines, directives and statutes, as well as studies and reports on aspects of energy efficiency. Please also do not hesitate to contact Carlyn Shon, Energy Efficiency Branch Manager, at telephone number 587-3810, for additional information on energy efficiency and renewable energy resources.

Sincerely,

*Elizabeth Corbin*  
Elizabeth Corbin  
Acting Administrator

c: OEQC  
County of Hawaii Fire Department



LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR

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MAR 13 2008  
HAWAII



BRENNON T. MORIOKA  
INTERIM DIRECTOR  
Deputy Directors  
MICHAEL D. FORBAY  
FRANCIS PAUL KEENO  
BRIAN H. SEKIGUCHI  
IN REPLY REFER TO:  
STP 8.2794

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

March 7, 2008

Ms. Elizabeth Corbin  
Acting Administrator  
Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism  
Strategic Industries Division  
P.O. Box 2359  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Dear Ms. Corbin,

**SUBJECT: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (DEA) FOR HILO  
CENTRAL FIRE STATION**

Thank you for your letter of March 6, 2008. We respond to your comments as follows:

1. State energy conservation goals: Mandates found in HRS 344 ("State Environmental Policy") and Chapter 226 ("Hawaii State Planning Act") will be followed as part of the planned adherence, wherever possible, to the design guidelines for LEED Silver Standard.

HELCO was pre-consulted through the Environmental Division of its parent company, Hawaiian Electric, but no response was received.

2. Energy and resource efficiency and renewable energy and resource development: Thank you for providing us with information on sustainability measures, and your website providing energy efficiency details. New information at this site, if not included in the LEED Silver guidelines, will be considered and followed wherever possible.

We appreciate your participation in the environmental review process. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Nancy Heinrich  
Planner

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Associate

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Associate

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Fax: (808) 961-9989

**WAILUKU OFFICE**

1000 Wailuku Loop, Suite 4  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793-1271  
Tel: (808) 242-2678

April 17, 2008

Brennon Morioka  
Interim Director of Transportation  
State of Hawai'i  
Department of Transportation  
869 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

**SUBJECT: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (DEA) FOR HILO  
CENTRAL FIRE STATION**

Dear Mr. Morioka:

We are in receipt of your letter dated March 7, 2008 in which you note that this project will not significantly impact State transportation facilities in the area.

Thank you for your participation in the environmental review process. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any additional information or have any questions.

Sincerely,

Nancy Heinrich  
Planner

O:\ubb252594.03\_Hilo Central Fire Station\DEA comments & responses\final letters\BL\_04\_DOT\_response.doc

Harry Kim  
Mayor



Bobby Jean Leithead-Todd  
Director

Nelson Ho  
Deputy Director

**County of Hawaii**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

25 Aupuni Street • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720-4252  
(808) 961-8083 • Fax: (808) 961-8086  
[http://eo.hawaii.hi.us/directory/dir\\_envmng.htm](http://eo.hawaii.hi.us/directory/dir_envmng.htm)

March 17, 2008

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MAR 25 2008

2008 3-25-08

Ms. Nancy Heinrich  
PBR Hawaii  
1001 Bishop Street, ASB Tower 650  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment  
Hilo Central Fire Station  
Hilo, Hawai'i  
TMK: 2-4-28:por. 07

Dear Ms. Heinrich,

We offer the following comments:

Wastewater Division

Please provide grease interceptor for commercial kitchen, sized and installed in accordance with the City and County of Honolulu Pretreatment Program.

If you have any questions or need further clarification, please contact Bert Saito, Wastewater Division Chief, at 808-961-8515.

Thank you for allowing us to offer our comments on this project.

Sincerely,

Bobby Jean Leithead-Todd  
DIRECTOR

cc: OEQC  
Desmond Wery, Hawai'i County Fire Dept.  
Bert Saito, WWD Chief

Hawai'i County is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



April 17, 2008

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**STATE OF HAWAII**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
P.O. BOX 2380  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96824

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

April 1, 2008

Ms. Nancy Heinrich, Planner  
PBR Hawaii  
1001 Bishop Street, Suite 650  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Ms. Heinrich:

**SUBJECT:** Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) for the Hilo Central Fire Station  
Hilo, Island of Hawaii (TMK: 2-4-28, por. 07)

The Department of Education has reviewed the DEA for the Hilo Central Fire Station project. Thank you for your January 18, 2008, response letter to our pre-consultation comments. We have no further comments to offer at this time.

Should you have any questions, please call George Casen of the Facilities Development Branch at 377-8308.

Very truly yours,

Patricia Hamamoto  
Superintendent

PH:jmb

cc: Randolph Moore, Assistant Superintendent, OSFSS  
Duane Kashiwai, Public Works Administrator, FDB  
Valerie Takata, CAS, Hilo/Launapahoehoe/Waikeka Complex Areas  
Katherine P. Kealoha, Director, OEQC  
Desmond Wery, County of Hawaii, Fire Department

**SUBJECT: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (DEA) FOR  
HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION**

Dear Ms. Leithead-Todd:

Thank you for your letter dated March 17, 2008 forwarding comments from the Wastewater Division.

We will install a grease interceptor in the Hilo Central Fire Station kitchen, per the request of your Wastewater Division Chief. The grease interceptor shall be designed and installed in accordance with the Uniform Plumbing Code and the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials. Cleaning procedures shall follow the Rules Relating to Grease Interceptor Program Compliance following City & County of Honolulu standards as delineated at <http://www.co.honolulu.hi.us/enw/rcc/index1.htm> and 40 CFR, [http://www.setonresourcecenter.com/cfi/40CFR/P403\\_000.HTM](http://www.setonresourcecenter.com/cfi/40CFR/P403_000.HTM). We anticipate using a 320 gallon concrete interceptor.

Please contact me if you need any additional information or have any questions. Thank you for your participation in the environmental review process.

Sincerely,

Nancy Heinrich  
Planner

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response.net\rcy.d\w.doc



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April 17, 2008

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 Wailuku, HI 96793-1271  
 Tel: (808) 242-2878

Patricia Hamamoto, Director  
 State of Hawai'i  
 Department of Education  
 PO Box 2360  
 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96804

Attn: George Casen

**SUBJECT: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (DEA) FOR HILO  
CENTRAL FIRE STATION**

Dear Ms. Hamamoto:

We are in receipt of your letter dated April 1, 2008 in which you note that you have no further comments on this draft EA.

Thank you for your participation in the environmental review process. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any additional information or have any questions.

Sincerely,

Nancy Heinrich  
Planner

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APR 10 2008  
PBR HAWAII



LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

CHYOMEL L. FUKINO, M.D.  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
P.O. Box 3378  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3378

In reply, please refer to:  
EPO-08-037

April 7, 2008

Ms. Nancy Heinrich  
 PBR HAWAII  
 ASB Tower, Suite 650  
 1001 Bishop Street  
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Ms. Heinrich:

**SUBJECT: Draft Environmental Assessment for the Hilo Central Fire Station  
Hilo, Island of Hawaii, Hawaii**  
TMK: (3) 2-4-028: 007

Thank you for allowing us to review and comment on the subject application. The document was routed to the various branches of the Department of Health (DOH) Environmental Health Administration. We have the following Clean Water Branch and General comments.

Clean Water Branch

The Department of Health, Clean Water Branch (CWB), has reviewed the subject document and offers these comments on your project. Please note that our review is based solely on the information provided in the subject document and its compliance with Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR), Chapters 11-54 and 11-55. You may be responsible for fulfilling additional requirements related to our program. We recommend that you also read our standard comments on our website at <http://www.hawaii.gov/health/environmental/envy-planning/landuse/CWB-standardcomment.pdf>.

1. Any project and its potential impacts to State waters must meet the following criteria:
  - a. Antidegradation policy (HAR, Section 11-54-1.1), which requires that the existing uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect the existing uses of the receiving State water be maintained and protected.
  - b. Designated uses (HAR, Section 11-54-3), as determined by the classification of the receiving State waters.
  - c. Water quality criteria (HAR, Sections 11-54-4 through 11-54-8).

Ms. Heinrich:  
April 7, 2008  
Page 2

2. You are required to obtain a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for discharges of wastewater, including storm water runoff, into State surface waters (HAR, Chapter 11-55). For the following types of discharges into Class A or Class 2 State waters, you may apply for NPDES general permit coverage by submitting a Notice of Intent (NOI) form:
  - a. Storm water associated with construction activities, including clearing, grading, and excavation, that result in the disturbance of equal to or greater than one (1) acre of total land area. The total land area includes a contiguous area where multiple separate and distinct construction activities may be taking place at different times on different schedules under a larger common plan of development or sale. An NPDES permit is required before the start of the construction activities.
  - b. Hydrotesting water.
  - c. Construction activity dewatering.

You must submit a separate NOI form for each type of discharge at least 30 calendar days prior to the start of the discharge activity, except when applying for coverage for discharges of storm water associated with construction activity. For this type of discharge, the NOI must be submitted 30 calendar days before to the start of construction activities. The NOI forms may be picked up at our office or downloaded from our website at <http://www.hawaii.gov/health/environmental/water/cleanwater/forms/genl-index.html>.

3. For types of wastewater discharges not listed in Item 2 above or wastewater discharging into Class 1 or Class AA waters, you may need to obtain an NPDES individual permit. Class 1 waters include, but is not limited to, all State waters in natural reserves, preserves, sanctuaries, and refuges established by the Department of Land and Natural Resources under Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), Chapter 195, or similar reserves for the protection of aquatic life established under HRS, Chapter 195.

An application for an NPDES individual permit must be submitted at least 180 calendar days before the commencement of the discharge. The NPDES application forms may be picked up at our office or downloaded from our website at <http://www.hawaii.gov/health/environmental/water/cleanwater/forms/indiv-index.html>.

4. You must also submit a copy of the NOI or NPDES permit application to the State Department of Land and Natural Resources, State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD), or demonstrate to the satisfaction of the CWB that SHPD has or is in the process of evaluating your project. Please submit a copy of your request for review by SHPD or SHPD's determination letter for the project along with your NOI or NPDES permit application, as applicable.

Ms. Heinrich:  
April 7, 2008  
Page 3

5. Page 7 of the draft EA states: "If required, to further mitigate potential soil impacts, a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit will be obtained prior to construction to address non-point source discharges." The NPDES permit is for point source discharges of pollutants to State waters.
6. Page 12 of the draft EA states: "In addition, according to the EPA website, there is no sole source aquifer on this island, which has been confirmed by the Clean Water Branch of the State Department of Health." The CWB does not administer any programs under the U.S. Safe Drinking Water Act. Please provide the document showing that the CWB confirmed the island of Hawaii does not contain a sole source aquifer.
7. Please note that all discharges related to the project construction or operation activities, whether or not NPDES permit coverage and/or Section 401 Water Quality Certification are required, must comply with the WQS. Noncompliance with water quality requirements contained in HAR, Chapter 11-54, and/or permitting requirements, specified in HAR, Chapter 11-55, may be subject to penalties of \$25,000 per day per violation.

If you have any questions, please visit our website at <http://www.hawaii.gov/health/environmental/water/cleanwater/index.html>, or contact the Engineering Section, CWB, at 586-4309.

#### General

We strongly recommend that you review all of the Standard Comments on our website: <http://hawaii.gov/health/environmental/env-planning/landuse/landuse.html>. Any comments specifically applicable to this project should be adhered to.

If there are any questions about these comments please contact Jiakai Liu with the Environmental Planning Office at 586-4346.

Sincerely,



KELVIN H. SUNADA, MANAGER  
Environmental Planning Office

c: EPO  
CWB  
EH-Hawaii



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& ASSOCIATES, INC.

April 17, 2008

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Wailuku, Hawaii 96793-1271  
Tel: (808) 242-5878

Kelvin Sunada  
4/17/2008  
Page 2

6. Sole Source Aquifer: Dan Chang of the Clean Water Branch confirmed the lack of a sole source aquifer on this island in a February 2008 telephone consultation.
7. Compliance with Water Quality Standards: Thank you for the information regarding WQS compliance and the penalties involved with non-compliance. We will further consult your website for additional information at the url you provided.

General comments: We will review all the Standard Comments found at the url for your website, and will adhere to those that apply.

Thank you for your participation in the environmental review process. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any additional information or have any questions.

Sincerely,

Nancy Heinrich  
Planner

Encl.

O:\Job\250594.03 Hilo Central Fire Station\DEA comments & responses\final letters\BL-06 DOH-EPO response.doc

**SUBJECT: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (DEA) FOR HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION**

Dear Mr. Sunada:

We are in receipt of your letter dated April 7, 2008 with comments from the Clean Water Branch and with general comments. We respond to your numbered comments as follows:

1. Clean Water Branch: We will review and comply with applicable standard comments found at the website you provided. In addition, we will comply with the specified subsections in HAR 11-54 regarding the anti-degradation policy, designated uses and water quality criteria.
2. & 3. NPDES: An NPDES permit is included in the permits and approvals list in section 1.6 of the draft EA. We will comply with all requirements regarding storm water discharge, hydrotesting, construction activity dewatering, and submission of Notices of Intent (NOI) for either the general or the individual NPDES permit. Any required permits will be obtained prior to the start of construction activities.
4. SHPD evaluation: On November 29, 2007, the SHPD responded to our request for pre-consultation comments with a "no historic properties affected" determination. A copy of that division's letter is enclosed. A copy of that letter will also be submitted with the NOI or NPDES permit application.
5. Point source discharges: Thank you for the correction on the type of discharges prevented by the NPDES permit. The correction will be made to the text of the final EA.

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

LAURA K. THIELER  
COMMISSIONER  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSIONER OF WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT  
KIM C. KAWAHARA  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER  
ADRIANO BARRONCES  
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COMMISSIONER OF WATER RESOURCES  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT  
PETER J. JOHNSON  
DIRECTOR OF WATER RESOURCES  
KAROLANNE SHAW-DESPAIN  
STATE PLANT

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November 29, 2007

Vincent R. Shigeekuni, V.P.  
PBR Hawaii & Associates, Inc.  
101 Aupuni Street, Suite 310  
Hilo, HI 96720-4262

Dear Mr. Shigeekuni:

**SUBJECT:** National Historic Preservation Review (NHPA) Section 106 Review --  
Section 106 Historic Preservation Review for the Request for determination of "no  
historic properties affected" associated with the Pre-Consultation for the Hilo  
Central Fire Station Draft Environmental Assessment  
Waiakea Ahupua'a, South Hilo District, Island of Hawai'i  
TMKs: (3) 2-4-28-07

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the aforementioned project, which we received on November 20, 2007. We have made a determination of "no historic properties affected" based on the nature of the project. You propose to construct a new fire station facility at the intersection of Ululani and Wailoa Streets, to replace the existing Central Fire Station. The new location is currently occupied by five vacant low-income housing units.

In the event that historic resources, including human skeletal remains, lava tubes, and lava bisters/bubbles, are identified during the construction activities, all work needs to cease in the immediate vicinity of the find, the find needs to be protected from additional disturbance, and the State Historic Preservation Division, Hawaii Island Section, needs to be contacted immediately at (808) 896-0514.

Please contact Morgan Davis at (808) 896-0514 if you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter.

Aloha,

Laura H. Thielen  
State Historic Preservation Officer

MD:oup



Saint Joseph School

Junior - Senior High (7 - 12)  
1000 Ululani Street  
Hilo HI 96720-3999  
Tel: (808) 935-4936; Fax: (808) 969-9019  
Website: sjhsjhilo.org

April 7, 2008

PBR Hawaii  
ASB Tower, Suite 650  
1001 Bishop Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
Re: Hilo Central Fire Station

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APR 08 2008  
PBR HAWAII

To Whom It May Concern:

We are pleased to hear that the County of Hawaii has considered the site location on Wailoa and Ululani streets for the new Hilo Central Fire Station. It brings a feeling of safety and security knowing that we have both the County's Rescue/Fire and Police Department at our doorstep. Furthermore, it should bring an improvement to the aesthetics and healthfulness of the area which has sat vacant for some time.

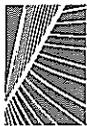
In review of the Draft Environmental Assessment, we find the project suitable for the area and a good use for the property. We support the County's proposal for the new Hilo Central Fire Station and have no further comments to the Draft Environmental Assessment dated February 2008.

Thank you for allowing the opportunity to review this Assessment and we look forward to the future of this new complex.

Sincerely,

Sr. Marion Kikukawa, OSF  
Principal, St Joseph Elementary/Jr. Sr. High School

cc: Rev. Thomas Purayidathil PhD, Pastor/Administrator of Hilo Roman Catholic Community  
Craig Carmello, CFO Business Manager, St. Joseph School  
Office of Environmental Quality Control  
County of Hawai'i, Hawai'i Fire Department



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SCOTT AIKKA, AIRRIGO  
Associate

SCOTT MURAKAMI, ASLA, LEED AP\*  
Associate

## HONOLULU OFFICE

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## HILO OFFICE

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Hilo Lagoon Center, Suite 310  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4262  
Tel: (808) 961-3333  
Fax: (808) 961-4999

## WAILUKU OFFICE

1787 Wili Pt. Loop, Suite 4  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793-1271  
Tel: (808) 242-2070

April 17, 2008

Sister Marion Kikukawa, OSF  
Saint Joseph School  
1000 Uluhiani Street  
Hilo, Hawaii 96820-3999

**SUBJECT: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (DEA) FOR HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION**

Dear Sister Kikukawa:

We are in receipt of your letter dated April 7, 2008. We appreciate your expression of general support for the establishment of the Hilo Central Fire Station and agree that its presence should contribute to the general level of safety and security for this neighborhood.

Thank you for your participation in the environmental review process. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any additional information or have any questions.

Sincerely,

Nancy Heinrich  
Planner

O:\Jobs\252594.03 Hilo Central Fire Station\DEA comments & responses\final letters\BL-08 St. Joes response.doc



**DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY • COUNTY OF HAWAII**  
345 KEKUAO'A STREET, SUITE 20 • HILO, HAWAII 96720  
TELEPHONE (808) 961-8050 • FAX (808) 961-8657

April 8, 2008

PBR Hawaii  
1001 Bishop Street  
ASB Tower, Suite 650  
Honolulu, HI 96813

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APR 11 2008

DEPT HAWAII

**DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT  
HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION  
TAX MAP KEY 2-4-028-007 (PORTION)**

We have reviewed the subject Draft Environmental Assessment and have the following comments.

Water can be made available from an existing 12-inch waterline within Wailoa Street fronting the proposed project site. This 12-inch waterline would serve the proposed Hilo Central Fire Station and not the 6-inch waterline along Wailoa Street between Akahi and Uluhiani Streets. Prior to issuing a water commitment for the project, the Department would request estimated maximum daily water usage calculations prepared by a professional engineer licensed in the State of Hawaii for review and approval. After review of the calculations, the Department will determine the water commitment deposit amount, facilities charges due, and other conditions for final approval.

Please be informed that the proposed facility will require that there be 2,000 gallons per minute available at the site for fire protection. The existing 12-inch waterline described above should be adequate to provide the required fire flow.

Please also be informed that any meter(s) serving the proposed project will require the installation of a reduced principle type backflow prevention assembly within five feet of the meter on private property. The Department must inspect and approve the installation prior to commencement of water service.

Should there be any questions, please contact Mr. Finn McCall of our Water Resources and Planning Branch at 961-8070, extension 255.

Sincerely yours,

Milton D. Pavao, P.E.  
Manager

FM:dfg

copy – County of Hawaii Fire Department

... *Water brings progress...*

The Department of Water Supply is an Equal Opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington DC 20250-9410. Or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD)



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**WAILUKU OFFICE**

1787 Wai'oli Loop, Suite 4  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793-1271  
Tel: (808) 242-2878

April 17, 2008

Mr. Milton D. Pavao, PE, Manager  
Department of Water Supply  
County of Hawai'i  
345 Kekūāiō'a Street, Suite 20  
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

**SUBJECT: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (DEA) FOR HILO  
CENTRAL FIRE STATION**

Dear Mr. Pavao:

Thank you for your letter dated April 8, 2008. We respond to your comments as follows.

**Existing waterlines:** We appreciate the updated information on the 12-inch waterline within Wailoa Street. In the final EA reference to the 6-inch waterline will be corrected. Prior to issuance of a water commitment, a licensed professional engineer will submit estimated daily water usage calculations to your Department.

**Fire protection:** Thank you for the information on water volume required for fire protection at the site and the adequacy of the existing 12-inch line. We will include this in the final EA.

**Meters:** A reduced principle type backflow prevention assembly will be installed within five feet of any meters serving the project. This will be done on private property and will be subject to prior inspection and approval by your Department.

Thank you for your participation in the environmental review process. Please contact me if you need any additional information or have any questions.

Sincerely,

Nancy Heinrich  
Planner

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PHONE (808) 594-1688



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**  
711 KAPI'OLANI BOULEVARD, SUITE 500  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

HRD08/3359B

April 10, 2008

Desmond Wery, CIP Manager  
Hawai'i Fire Department  
25 Aupuni Street, Suite 103  
Hilo, HI 96720

**RE: Request for comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment for the Hilo Central Fire Station, Kūkūā, South Hilo, Hawai'i Island, TMK: 2-4-28; por. 07.**

Dear Desmond Wery,

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) is in receipt of the above-referenced Draft Environmental Assessment. The Hawai'i Fire Department is proposing to build a new central fire station on 1.999 acres of Hawai'i Public Housing Authority land in Hilo. The project would include the development of the 15,860-square-foot, 41-room facility with a parking lot and other associated infrastructure. OHA reviewed the project and offers the following comments.

We will rely on the applicant's assurances that should iwi kūpuna or Native Hawaiian cultural or traditional deposits be found during the construction of the project, work will cease, and the appropriate agencies will be contacted pursuant to applicable law.

In addition, OHA appreciates that the applicant plans to use native vegetation in its landscaping plan for subject parcel. Landscaping with native plants furthers the traditional Hawaiian concept of mālama 'āina and creates a more Hawaiian sense of place.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If you have further questions, please contact Sterling Wong (808) 594-0248 or e-mail him at [sterlingw@oha.org](mailto:sterlingw@oha.org).

Sincerely,

Clyde W. Nāmūt'o  
Administrator

FAX (808) 594-1685  
**RECEIVED**  
APR 16 2008  
HILLO HAWAII

Desmond Wery, CIP Manager  
Hawaii Fire Department  
April 10, 2008  
Page 2

C: / Vincent Shigekuni  
PBR Hawaii & Associates Inc.  
1001 Bishop Street  
ASB Tower, Suite 650  
Honolulu, HI 96813-3484

Harry Kim  
Mayor



Darryl J. Oliveira  
Fire Chief  
Glen P. I. Honda  
Deputy Fire Chief

County of Hawaii  
FIRE DEPARTMENT  
25, Muihoo Street • Suite 602 • Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
(808) 981-2404 • Fax (808) 981-2037

April 16, 2008

Mr. Clyde W. Manu'oa, Administrator  
State of Hawaii  
Office of Hawaiian Affairs  
711 Kapi'olani Boulevard, Suit. 509  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Manu'oa:

**SUBJECT: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (DEA) FOR HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION**

Thank you for your letter dated April 10, 2008.

We appreciate your acceptance of our assurance that we will remain in full compliance with all laws pertaining to Iwi Kūia and Native Hawaiian Cultural and traditional resources. Should these be found during the construction of the project we will ensure that all work will cease and the appropriate agency will be immediately contacted.

In current and future fire station development by the Hawaii Fire Department we are committed to the use of native vegetation in the landscaping of our project.

Thank you for your participation in the environmental review process. Please contact me if you need any additional information or have any questions.

Sincerely,

*Desmond Wery*  
DESMOND WERY  
CIP MANAGER

APPROVED:

*Darryl J. Oliveira*  
DARRYL OLIVEIRA  
Fire Chief



1001 Bishop Street, Suite 650, Honolulu, HI 96813-3484



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, HONOLULU  
FORT SHAFTER, HAWAII 96858-5440  
April 11, 2008

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

Regulatory Branch

Ms. Nancy Heinrich  
PBR Hawaii  
1001 Bishop Street, Suite 650  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Ms. Heinrich:

This letter is in response to your request for comments on the proposed construction of the Hilo Central Fire Station at a new site located on the corner of Waihoa Street and Ululani Street, TMK: 3-2-4-28; portion 07, Hilo, Hawaii. We have reviewed the information provided in the draft Environmental Assessment regarding the Corps' authority to issue Department of the Army (DA) permits pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

Based on the information in the dEA, the subject area consists entirely of uplands and is absent of waters of the U.S. It is anticipated that proposed activities will not involve the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. Based on this understanding, a DA permit will not be required.

Should you have any questions regarding this jurisdictional determination, please contact Ms. Joy Anamizu at (808) 438-7023, by facsimile at (808) 438-4060 or by email at joy.n.anamizu@usace.army.mil and refer to file number above.

Sincerely,

George P. Young, P.E.  
Chief, Regulatory Branch

File No. POH-2007-352

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APR 17 2008

HAWAII



W. FRANK BRANDT, P.E., ASIA  
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RAYMOND T. HIGA, ASIA  
Senior Associate

KEVIN K. NISHIKAWA, ASIA  
Associate

KIMI MITSUAMI YUEN, LEED AP  
Associate

SCOTT A. AIKIA, ABRIGO  
Associate

SCOTT MURAKAMI, ASIA  
Associate

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E-mail: systems@pbrhawaii.com

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Fax: (808) 961-3959

WAILUKU OFFICE  
PST, Will Pa Loop, Suite 1  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96791-1271  
Tel: (808) 242-2878

April 18, 2008

Mr. George P. Young, P.E., Chief  
Regulatory Branch  
Department of the Army  
U.S. Army Engineer District  
Fort Shafter, Hawaii 96585-5440

Attn: Joy Anamizu

SUBJECT: HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA)

Dear Mr. Young,

We are in receipt of your letter dated April 11, 2008 with comments on this draft EA (Your reference number POH-2007-352).

We appreciate your determination that a DA permit, pursuant to Sec. 404 of the Clean Water Act, will not be required.

Thank you again for your participation in the environmental assessment review process. If you have any questions regarding this project, please do not hesitate to contact me at 521-5631.

Sincerely,

Planner

cc: Desmond Wery, Hawai'i Fire Department CIP Manager

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LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR



ORLANDO "DAN" DAVIDSON  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM  
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
FAX: (808) 587-0600

November 19, 2007

Mr. Vincent R. Shigekuni  
Vice President  
PBR Hawaii & Associates, Inc.  
1001 Bishop Street  
ASB Tower, Suite 650  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-3484

Dear Mr. Shigekuni:

Re: Pre-Consultation for the Hilo Central Fire Station Draft Environmental  
Assessment, Hilo, Hawaii, TMK: 2-4-28:Por. 07

Thank you for seeking our comments on the proposed Hilo Central Fire Station.

We do not believe the proposed project will impact any of our existing or  
proposed projects, plans, policies or programs.

Sincerely,

  
Orlando "Dan" Davidson  
Executive Director



November 21, 2007

W. FRANK BRANDT, ASIA  
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Senior Associate

RAYMOND THIGA, ASIA  
Senior Associate

KEVIN K. NISHIKAWA, ASIA  
Associate

KIMIHIKAMI YUJIN, LEED AP  
Associate

SCOTT ALIKA ABRIGO  
Associate

SCOTT MURAKAMI, ASIA  
Associate

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Tel: (808) 521-5641  
Fax: (808) 521-1197  
E-mail: [sysadmin@pbrhawaii.com](mailto:sysadmin@pbrhawaii.com)

HILO OFFICE  
101  
Hilo Lagoon Center, Suite 310  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720-1262  
Tel: (808) 961-3333  
Fax: (808) 961-1939

WAILUKU OFFICE  
1787 Waii Pk Loop, Suite 4  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793-1271  
Tel: (808) 211-2876

Orlando "Dan" Davidson, Executive Director  
Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation  
677 Queen Street, Suite 300  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

SUBJECT: PRE-CONSULTATION FOR THE HILO CENTRAL FIRE  
STATION DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, HILO,  
ISLAND OF HAWAII (TMK: 2-4-28: (Por.) 07)

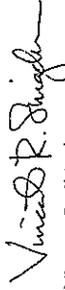
Dear Mr. Davidson,

Thank you for your letter dated November 19, 2007 (Your reference number  
07:PEO/132). We acknowledge that the Hawaii Housing Finance and  
Development Corporation staff does not believe the proposed project will impact  
any of your existing or proposed projects, plans, policies or programs.

Thank you again for your participation in the preparation of the upcoming Draft  
Environmental Assessment. If you have any questions regarding this project,  
please do not hesitate to contact me at 521-5631.

Sincerely,

PBR HAWAII



Vincent R. Shigekuni  
Vice President

cc: Desmond Wery, Deputy Fire Chief

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Development.doc



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

November 27, 2007

Mr. Vincent R. Shigekuni, Vice-President  
PBR Hawaii  
1001 Bishop Street, Suite 650  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Shigekuni:

**SUBJECT:** Pre-Consultation for the Hilo Central Fire Station  
Draft Environmental Assessment  
Hilo, Island of Hawaii (TMK: 2-4-28, por. 07)

The Department of Education has reviewed your request for pre-consultation on the potential impacts of the Hilo Central Fire Station project.

The project site sits in close proximity to the Waiakea Flood Control Channel, just upstream of the Chiefess Kapiolani Elementary School. Please address potential drainage or flooding impacts that this project may have on the school or its grounds.

Given the configuration of roads in the vicinity of the fire station, fire response and emergency medical vehicles will be frequently using Kinoole Street, Mohouli Street and Kilaueta Avenue to reach their destinations. These streets are at the makai, mauka and Punia property boundaries of the elementary school. We would like to see what impacts this traffic would have on the school, including potential noise and safety impacts.

Please also address potential noise impacts from sirens at the fire station.

Should you have any questions, please call George Casen of the Facilities Development Branch at 733-4862.

Very truly yours,

Patricia Hamamoto  
Superintendent

PH:jmb

cc: Randolph Moore, Assistant Superintendent, OSFSS  
Duane Kashiwai, Public Works Administrator, FDB  
Valerie Takata, CAS, Hilo/Launahoehoe/Waiakea Complex Areas

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



January 18, 2008

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TOM SCINELLA, AICP  
Senior Associate

RAYMOND T. IIGA, ASIA  
Senior Associate

KEVIN K. NISHIKAWA, ASIA  
Associate

KIMI MIKAMI YUEN, LEED AP  
Associate

SCOTT ALIKA, AIBICO  
Associate

SCOTT MURAKAMI, ASIA  
Associate

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Hilo Laguna Center, Suite 410  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720-1562  
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**WAILUKU OFFICE**  
1787 Wailuku Lane, Suite 4  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793-1271  
Tel: (808) 342-3878

Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent  
State of Hawaii  
Department of Education  
P.O. Box 2360  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Attn: George Casen

**SUBJECT: PRE-CONSULTATION FOR THE HILO CENTRAL FIRE  
STATION DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA),  
HILO; TMK: 2-4-28; (Por.) 07**

Dear Ms. Hamamoto,

Thank you for your letter dated November 27, 2007. We offer the following responses to your comments:

Drainage and flooding impacts: We acknowledge your concerns that the proposed development of a fire station on a property mauka of Chiefess Kapiolani Elementary School could potentially increase runoff that could cause damage to the school. The fire station site is currently occupied by five duplex homes (which will be removed) and related impervious surfaces. The site will then be developed with the Fire Station, driveway, sidewalks and parking areas.

Please note that the Waiakea Flood Control Channel is located between it and the school. While there may be an increase in impervious surface area from the fire station project, any increase in runoff from the proposed project will likely follow the current drainage pattern towards the Waiakea Flood Control Channel, where runoff from the project site would be intercepted well before it reaches the school. We do not believe the increase in impervious surface area will be significant.

Traffic: We acknowledge that Kino'ole Street, Mohouli Street, and Kilaueta Avenue may be used by emergency responders to reach their destinations when necessary. We have been advised by the Fire Department that its vehicles already use Kilaueta Avenue and Kino'ole Street to reach other parts of Hilo. We also acknowledge that this impact will be occasional and unavoidable. However, the impact of emergency vehicles accessing local

Patricia Hamamoto  
January 18, 2008  
Page 2

streets and the occasional loud noise from sirens should be weighed against the proximity of fire protection and emergency medical services that would be available to protect the lives and property of the students, faculty and staff of the Elementary School.

Thank you again for your participation in the preparation of the upcoming draft Environmental Assessment. If you have any questions regarding this project, please do not hesitate to contact me at 521-5631.

Sincerely,

PBR HAWAII



Vincent R. Shigekuni  
Vice President

cc: Desmond Wery, Hawai'i Fire Department CIP Manager

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**Patrick Lui**

**From:** Dionne Tallia  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 27, 2007 5:28 PM  
**To:** Vincent Shigekuni; Nancy Heinrich  
**Subject:** FW: Comments on the Proposed Hilo Central Fire Station at Wailoa and Ululani Street TMK 2-4-28: Por 07

---

**From:** Engelhard, Patricia [mailto:PENGELHARD@co.hawaii.hi.us]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 27, 2007 3:47 PM  
**To:** sysadmin  
**Subject:** Comments on the Proposed Hilo Central Fire Station at Wailoa and Ululani Street TMK 2-4-28: Por 07

The Hawai'i County Department of Parks and Recreation has no comments on the pre-consultation letter for the proposed relocation of the Hilo Central Fire Station.

Patricia G. Engelhard  
Director

11/28/2007



Bobby Jean Leithead-Todd  
Director



Harry Kim  
Mayor

Nelson Ho  
Deputy Director

November 28, 2007

W. FRANK BRANDT/ASLA  
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THOMAS WITTEN/ASLA  
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R. STAN DUNGAN/ASLA  
Executive Vice President

RUSSELL Y. CHONG/ASLA  
Executive Vice President

Ms. Patricia G. Engelhard, Director  
Hawaii County Department of Parks and Recreation  
25 Aupuni Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96720

**SUBJECT: PRE-CONSULTATION FOR THE HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, HILO, ISLAND OF HAWAII (TMK: 2-4-28: (Por.) 07)**

Dear Ms. Engelhard,

Thank you for your email dated November 27, 2007. We acknowledge that the Hawaii County Department of Parks and Recreation staff has no comments on the proposed Hilo Central Fire Station.

Thank you again for your participation in the preparation of the upcoming Draft Environmental Assessment. If you have any questions regarding this project, please do not hesitate to contact me at 521-5631.

Sincerely,

PBR HAWAII

*Vincent R. Shigekuni*

Vincent R. Shigekuni  
Vice President

cc: Desmond Wery, Hawaii Fire Department CIP Manager

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**HONOLULU OFFICE**  
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Fax: (808) 961-2089

**WAILUKU OFFICE**  
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**County of Hawaii**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**  
25 Aupuni Street • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4252  
(808) 961-8083 • Fax (808) 961-8086  
[http://eo.hawaii.hi.us/directory/dir\\_envrnmng.htm](http://eo.hawaii.hi.us/directory/dir_envrnmng.htm)

November 28, 2007

Mr. Vincent R. Shigekuni  
Vice President  
PBR Hawaii  
1001 Bishop Street  
ASB Tower, Suite 650  
Honolulu, HI 96813-3484

**SUBJECT: PRE-CONSULTATION FOR THE HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, HILO, ISLAND OF HAWAII (TMK: 2-4-28: (Por.) 07)**

Dear Mr. Shigekuni,

We offer the following comments:

- Wastewater  
County sewer is accessible so the new fire station must connect.
- Solid Waste  
See enclosed memorandum.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to review and comment on this project.

Sincerely,

*Bobby Jean Leithead-Todd*

Bobby Jean Leithead-Todd  
DIRECTOR

cc: Bert Saito, P.E., Interim WWD Chief  
Michael Dworsky, P.E., SWD Chief

*10/26/07*



**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**  
**SOLID WASTE DIVISION**

COUNTY OF HAWAII - 108 RAILROAD AVENUE - HILO, HI 96720  
 HILO (808) 961-8514 WAIMEA (808) 887-3018 KONA (808) 327-3507  
 FAX: 961-8553 887-3025 327-3506



Harry Kim  
*Mayor*

Bobby Jean Leithead-Todd  
*Director*

Nelsen Ho  
*Deputy Director*

**County of Hawaii**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**  
 25 Aupuni Street • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4252  
 (808) 961-8083 • Fax (808) 961-8086

September 14, 2007

DATE: November 27, 2007

TO: Bobby Jean Leithead-Todd  
 DIRECTOR

FROM: Michael Dworsky  
 CHIEF

SUBJECT: **PRE-CONSULTATION FOR THE HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, HILO, ISLAND OF HAWAII (TMK: 2-4-28: Por.) 07**

Please incorporate the comments from the Solid Waste Division into the appropriate response from the Department to:

Vincent r. Shigekuni, Vice President  
 PBR Hawai'i & Associates, Inc.  
 101 Aupuni St.  
 Hilo Lagoon Center, Suite 310  
 Hilo, HI 96720

The Solid Waste Division has reviewed the subject request and has the following comments to offer:

The proposed site is currently occupied by five vacant public housing structures and is approximately 1.99 acres in size. The five vacant structures are scheduled to be removed.

- Aggregates and any other construction/demolition waste should be reused to its fullest extent.
- A Solid Waste Demolition Plan will need to be prepared and submitted in accordance with the attached 'Solid Waste Demolition Plan - Guideline'.

The County of Hawai'i is proposing to construct a new fire station facility. The Fire Station will act as a main hub to provide the community with emergency operations which include fire response services as well as emergency medical services (EMS).

- A Solid Waste Management Plan will need to be prepared and submitted in accordance with the attached 'Solid Waste Management Plan - Guideline'.
- Commercial operations may not use transfer stations for disposal.
- The plan should maximize recycling, reuse, and reduce in lieu of putting materials in the Landfill.
- Ample room should be provided for recycling.

enclosures

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN  
 Guidelines

INTENT AND PURPOSE

This is to establish guidelines for reviewing solid waste management plans, for which special conditions are placed on developments. The solid waste management plan will be used to: (1) encourage recycling and recycling programs, (2) predict the waste generated by the proposed development to anticipate the loading on County transfer stations, landfills and recycling facilities, and (3) predict the additional traffic being generated because of waste and recycling transfers.

REPORT

The consultant's report will contain the following:

1. Description of the project and the potential waste it may be generating. i.e. analysis of anticipated waste volume and composition. This includes waste generated during the construction and operational phases. Greenwastes will be included in this report for both construction grubbing and future operational landscape maintenance.
2. Description and location of the possible sites for waste disposal or recycling. We will not allow the use of the County transfer stations for any commercial development; commercial development as defined under the policies of the Department of Environmental Management Solid Waste Division.
3. Since the Department of Environmental Management promotes recycling, indicate onsite source separation facilities by waste stream; i.e. source separation bins of glass, metal, plastic, cardboard, aluminum, etc. Provide ample and equal space for rubbish and recycling.
4. Identification of the proposed disposal site and transportation methods for the various components of the waste disposal and recycling system, including the number of truck traffic and the route that truck will be using to transport the waste and recycled materials.



Harry Kim  
Mayor

Bobby Jean Leithhead-Todd  
Director

Nelson Ho  
Deputy Director

**County of Hawaii**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**  
25 Aupuni Street • Hilo, Hawaii 1 96720-4252  
(808) 961-8083 • Fax (808) 961-8086  
http://co.hawaii.hi.us/director/dir\_envmgmt.htm

May 18, 2007

SOLID WASTE DEMOLITION PLAN

Guidelines

INTENT AND PURPOSE

This is to establish guidelines for reviewing demolition plans, for which special conditions are placed on commercial, industrial, and multiple structure demolition projects. The demolition plan will be used to: (1) identify the anticipated waste generated by the demolition, (2) detail site specific hazardous waste investigation and disposal procedures, (3) report recycling and reuse procedures.

REPORT

The report will contain the following:

1. Description of the project and the waste it may be generating: i.e. analysis of anticipated waste volume and composition.
2. List materials to be recycled, reused, and sorting procedures. Also, identify a responsible party for overseeing this effort.
3. Identification of the proposed disposal site and transportation methods for the various components of the waste and recyclable commodities, including the route that truck will be using to transport the waste and recycled materials. We will not allow the use of the County transfer stations for any demolition project.

REQUIREMENTS AND CONDITIONS

1. A demolition plan will be required for all commercial, industrial, and multiple structure demolition projects.
2. We will require the owner to provide all recommendations and mitigation measures as outlined in the report; besides any conditions placed on the applicant by the Department of Environmental Management.
3. The owner is responsible for certifying that the demolition plan is executed.

*Michael Dworsky*

Michael Dworsky, P.E.  
CHIEF, Solid Waste Division

*B. Leithhead-Todd*

Bobby Jean Leithhead-Todd  
DIRECTOR

Hawaii County is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.



December 4, 2007

Bobby Jean Leithhead-Todd, Director  
County of Hawaii  
Department of Environmental Management  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, Hawaii 1 96720

**SUBJECT: PRE-CONSULTATION FOR THE HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, HILO, ISLAND OF HAWAII (TMK: 2-4-28: (Por.) 07)**

Dear Ms. Leithhead-Todd,

Thank you for your letter dated November 28, 2007. We offer the following responses in the respective order of your comments:

Wastewater

1. We acknowledge the County sewer line to be accessible to the project site, therefore, the proposed Hilo Central Fire Station will connect.

Solid Waste

1. Instruction will be given to the contractor to develop construction and demolition recycling plans in order to ensure construction aggregates are reused to its fullest extent.
2. We acknowledge that a Solid Waste Demolition Plan will be required in accordance with Solid Waste Demolition Plan – Guidelines, which were attached to your letter.
3. We acknowledge that a Solid Waste Management Plan will be required in accordance with the Solid Waste Management Plan – Guidelines.
4. Currently, refuse at the County fire stations are collected by a commercial hauler weekly and deposited in the landfill. It is likely that the proposed Central Fire Station will also utilize this method of solid waste disposal and will not directly make trips to the Hilo Transfer Station for disposal of wastes.

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KIMI MIKAMI YUEN, LEED PA  
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SCOTT MURAKAMI, ASIA  
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**WAILUKU OFFICE**  
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Tel: (808) 242-3878

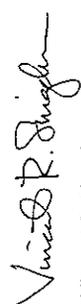
5. We recognize that the Solid Waste Management Plan should maximize recycling and reuse and reduce in lieu of putting materials in the Landfill to the fullest extent possible.

6. All fire stations and personnel are encouraged by the Administration to recycle and it is anticipated that this practice will also be adopted at the proposed Central Fire Station.

Thank you again for your participation in the preparation of the upcoming Environmental Assessment. If you have any questions regarding this project, please do not hesitate to contact me at 521-5631.

Sincerely,

PBR HAWAII



Vincent R. Shigekuni  
Vice President

cc: Desmond Wery, Hawai'i Fire Department CIP Manager

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LINDA JUNGLE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Laura H. Thielen  
DIRECTOR  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT  
1001 KALANOAUE AVENUE, SUITE 200  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TEL: 808-586-2500  
FAX: 808-586-2501  
WWW.COMMISSIONONWATERRESOURCES.HAWAII.GOV

RECEIVED NOV 30 2007

November 29, 2007  
Vincent R. Shigekuni, V.P.  
PBR Hawaii & Associates, Inc.  
101 Aupuni Street, Suite 310  
Hilo, HI 96720-4262

LOG NO: 2007.3895  
DOC NO: 071UMD40  
Archaeology

Dear Mr. Shigekuni:

**SUBJECT:** National Historic Preservation Review (NEPA) Section 106 Review - Section 106 Historic Preservation Review for the Request for Determination of "no historic properties affected" associated with the Pre-Consultation for the Hilo Central Fire Station Draft Environmental Assessment  
Waiakea Ahupua'a, South Hilo District, Island of Hawaii'i  
TMKS: (S) 2-4-28-07

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the aforementioned project, which we received on November 20, 2007. We have made a determination of "no historic properties affected" based on the nature of the project. You propose to construct a new fire station facility at the intersection of Uluhuni and Wailoa Streets, to replace the existing Central Fire Station. The new location is currently occupied by five vacant low-income housing units.

In the event that historic resources, including human skeletal remains, lava tubes, and lava blisters/bubbles, are identified during the construction activities, all work needs to cease in the immediate vicinity of the find, the find needs to be protected from additional disturbance, and the State Historic Preservation Division, Hawaii Island Section, needs to be contacted immediately at (808) 896-0514.

Please contact Morgan Davis at (808) 896-0514 if you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter.

Aloha,



Laura H. Thielen  
State Historic Preservation Officer

MD:oup



W. FRANK BRANDT, FASIA  
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Wailuku, Hawaii 96791-1271  
Tel: (808) 232-5878

November 28, 2007

Laura H. Thielen, State Historic Preservation Officer  
State of Hawai'i  
Department of Land and Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 621  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96809

**SUBJECT: National Historic Preservation Review (NHPA) Section 106 Review - Section 106 Historic Preservation Review for the Request for determination of "no historic properties affected" associated with the Pre-Consultation for the Hilo Central Fire Station Draft Environmental Assessment, Waiakea Ahupua'a, South Hilo District, Island of Hawai'i (TMK: 2-4-28: (Por.) 07)**

Dear Ms. Thielen,

Thank you for your letter dated November 29, 2007 (Log # 2007.3895, Doc # 0711MD40). We acknowledge the "no historic properties affected" determination for the Hilo Central Fire Station.

In the event that historic resources, including human skeletal remains, lava tubes, and lava blisters/bubbles, are identified during the construction activities, all work will cease in the immediate vicinity of the find and the find(s) will be protected from additional disturbance. In the event that historic resources are uncovered, the State Historic Preservation Hawai'i Island Section will be contacted immediately.

Thank you again for your participation in the preparation of the upcoming Draft Environmental Assessment. If you have any questions regarding this project, please do not hesitate to contact me at 521-5631.

Sincerely,

PBR HAWAII

Vincent R. Shigekuni  
Vice President

cc: Desmond Wery, Hawai'i Fire Department CIP Manager

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REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, HONOLULU  
FORT SHAFTER, HAWAII 96858-5440

December 4, 2007

Regulatory Branch

File Number POH-2007-352

Mr. Patrick Lui, Project Manager  
PBR Hawaii & Associates, Inc.  
1001 Bishop Street, ASB Tower, Suite 650  
Honolulu, HI 96813-3484

Dear Mr. Lui:

This responds to your request for written comments for the preparation of a draft Environmental Assessment (dEA) which addresses activities and impacts of the proposed Hilo Central Fire Station Project, Pihonua, Hawaii Island (TMK (3) 2-4-28: por. 7).

The dEA should provide information that indicates whether waters of the United States, as represented by wetlands, springs and ephemeral streams are in, or adjacent to, the proposed project area. Further, the location of perennial or intermittent streams relative to the proposed project area should be referenced in appropriate maps. The dEA should state in appropriate sections whether there is a potential for waters of the U.S., including the above waterbodies and other special aquatic sites, to be directly and/or indirectly impacted by construction of project structures and associated ground disturbing activities within the proposed improvement area.

Upon our receipt of the dEA, it may then be determined whether a Department of Army (DA) permit for Section 404 activities of the Clean Water Act may, or may not be, required for the proposed Arc of Hilo Expansion Project.

Thank you for your consideration of potential impacts to the aquatic environment of the Hilo District watershed. Please contact Mr. Farley Watanabe of my staff at 438-7701, or facsimile 438-4060, or Farley.K.Watanabe@poh01.usace.army.mil if you have any questions or need additional information. Please refer to File Number POH-2007-352 in any future correspondence with us regarding this project.

Sincerely,

George P. Young, P.E.  
Chief, Regulatory Branch



Vincent R. Shigekuni  
Vice President

cc: Desmond Wery, Hawai'i Fire Department CIP Manager

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December 10, 2007

Mr. George P. Young, P.E., Chief, Regulatory Branch  
Department of the Army  
U.S. Army Engineer District  
Fort Shafter  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96585-5440

**SUBJECT: PRE-CONSULTATION FOR THE HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, HILO, ISLAND OF HAWAII (TMK: 2-4-28; (Por.) 07)**

Dear Mr. Young,

Thank you for your letter dated December 4, 2007. We offer the following responses in the respective order of your comments:

1. The Draft EA will provide information that indicates whether waters of the United States as represented by wetlands, springs and ephemeral streams are in, or adjacent to, the proposed project area.
2. The Draft EA will include appropriate maps that indicate the location of perennial or intermittent streams relative to the proposed project area.
3. When appropriate, the Draft EA will state if the potential for U.S. waters will be directly or indirectly impacted by the construction of the project structures and associated ground disturbing activities within the proposed improvement area.
4. We acknowledge upon receipt of the Draft EA, that a permit related to section 404 activities of the Clean Water act may, or may not be required for the proposed project from the Department of the Army.

Thank you again for your participation in the preparation of the upcoming Draft Environmental Assessment. If you have any questions regarding this project, please do not hesitate to contact me at 521-5631.

Sincerely,

PBR HAWAII

W. FRANK BRANDT, FASLA  
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SCOTT MURAKAMI, ASLA  
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**WAILUKU OFFICE**  
1729 Wailuku Loop, Suite 4  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96791-1271  
Tel: (808) 214-2876

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR



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

December 4, 2007

Mr. Vincent R. Shigekuni  
Vice President  
PBR Hawaii & Associates, Inc.  
1001 Bishop Street  
ASB Tower, Suite 650  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-3484

Dear Mr. Shigekuni:

Subject: Hilo Central Fire Station  
Draft Environmental Assessment – Early Consultation  
TMK: 2-4-28; (Por. 07)

Thank you for requesting our review of the subject project.

The proposed project is not anticipated to significantly impact any State transportation facilities.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments.

Very truly yours,

*Francis Paul Keene*

BRENNON T. MORIOKA, Ph.D., P.E.  
Acting Director of Transportation

c: Christopher Yuen, Hawaii Planning Department  
Darryl Oliviera, Hawaii County Fire Department

BRENNON T. MORIOKA  
ACTING DIRECTOR

Deputy Director  
MICHAEL FORNEY  
FRANCIS PAUL KEENE  
BRIAN H. SEKIGUCHI

IN REPLY REFER TO:

STP 8.2.699



December 10, 2007

W. FRANK BRANDT, FASIA  
*Chairman*

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KEVIN K. NISHIKAWA, ASIA  
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WAILUKU OFFICE  
1787 Wai Ola Loop, Suite 4  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96791-1271  
Tel: (808) 242-3828

Mr. Brennon Morioka, Ph.D., P.E., Acting Director of Transportation  
State of Hawaii  
Department of Transportation  
869 Punchbowl Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

SUBJECT: PRE-CONSULTATION FOR THE HILO CENTRAL FIRE  
STATION DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, HILO,  
ISLAND OF HAWAII (TMK: 2-4-28; (Por.) 07)

Dear Mr. Morioka,

Thank you for your letter dated December 4, 2007 (your reference number STP8.2699). We acknowledge that the Department of Transportation does not anticipate any significant impact upon State transportation facilities from the proposed Hilo Central Fire Station.

Thank you again for your participation in the preparation of the upcoming Draft Environmental Assessment. If you have any questions regarding this project, please do not hesitate to contact me at 521-5631.

Sincerely,

PBR HAWAII

*Vincent R. Shigekuni*

Vincent R. Shigekuni  
Vice President

cc: Desmond Wery, Hawai'i Fire Department CIP Manager

C:\nob25\2594.03 Hilo Central Fire Station\Pre Consultation\Letters Received Responses\DOT.doc

**Harry Kim**  
Mayor



**County of Hawaii**

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

101 Paahahi Street, Suite 3 • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4224  
(808) 961-8288 • FAX (808) 961-8742

**Christopher J. Yuen**  
Director

**Brad Kurokawa, ASLA**  
LEED® AP  
Deputy Director

Mr. Vincent R. Shigekuni  
PBR Hawaii & Associates, Inc.  
Page 2  
December 4, 2007

December 4, 2007

Mr. Vincent R. Shigekuni  
PBR Hawaii & Associates, Inc.  
1001 Bishop Street  
ASB Tower, Suite 650  
Honolulu HI 96813-3484

Dear Mr. Shigekuni:

**Subject: Pre-Environmental Assessment Consultation**  
**Land Owner: Hawaii Housing Authority**  
**Project: Hilo Central Fire Station**  
**TMK: 2-4-28:Portion of 7, South Hilo, Hawaii**

This is in response to your request for comments on the above-referenced project.

According to your submittal, this new fire station will act as a main hub to provide emergency operations which includes fire response services as well as emergency medical services.

We have the following to offer:

1. The State Land Use designation is Urban.
2. The General Plan designation is High Density Urban, which is characterized as "General commercial, multiple family residential and related services (multiple family residential – up to 87 units per acre).
3. The County zoning is Multiple-Family Residential (RM-3.75). Public uses, structures and buildings and community buildings are permitted uses provided that the director has issued plan approval for such use.
4. The project is not located within the County's Special Management Area.

*Hawaii's County is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.*

We would like to have a copy of the Draft Environmental Assessment for our review and file.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Esther Imamura of this office at 961-8288, extension 257.

Sincerely,

  
**CHRISTOPHER J. YUEN**  
Planning Department

ETJ:cd

F:\p\p\m\6\ETJ\IE\Adm\ff\Pre-consult\Shigekuni Firz Sm 2-4-28-7.rtf



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 KIMI MIKAMI YUSUKE, LEED AP  
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WAILUKU OFFICE  
 1787 Wahi Pa Loop, Suite 4  
 Wailuku, Hawaii 96791-1721  
 Tel: (808) 242-2928

December 11, 2007

Mr. Christopher J. Yuen, Director  
 County of Hawai'i  
 Planning Department  
 101 Pahuahi Street, Suite 3  
 Hilo, Hawai'i 96720-4224  
 Attn: Esther Inamura

**SUBJECT: PRE-CONSULTATION FOR THE HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, HILO, ISLAND OF HAWAII (TMK: 2-4-28: (Por.) 07)**

Dear Mr. Yuen,

Thank you for your letter dated December 4, 2007. We thank you for the information provided and offer the following responses in the respective order of your comments:

1. We acknowledge that the State Land Use designation is Urban.
2. We acknowledge that the proposed site is classified as High Density Urban under the Hawai'i State General Plan.
3. We acknowledge that the proposed site is designated, and is permitted, within the Hawai'i County zoning classification RM-3.75.
4. We acknowledge that the proposed site is not located within the County's Special Management Area.

A copy of the Draft EA will be forwarded to the County of Hawai'i Planning Department for your review.

Thank you again for your participation in the preparation of the upcoming Draft Environmental Assessment. If you have any questions regarding this project, please do not hesitate to contact me at 521-5631.

Sincerely,

PBR HAWAII

Vincent R. Shigekuni  
 Vice President

cc: Desmond Wery, Hawai'i Fire Department CIP Manager

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Harry Kim  
Mayor



**County of Hawaii**  
POLICE DEPARTMENT  
349 Kapiolani Street • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-3998  
(808) 935-3311 • Fax (808) 961-8865

December 6, 2007

Mr. Vincent R. Shigekuni  
Vice President  
PBR Hawaii'i & Associates, Inc.  
1001 Bishop Street  
ASB Tower, Suite 650  
Honolulu, Hawaii 1 96813-3484

Dear Mr. Shigekuni:

This responds to your November 13, 2007, request for comments on the proposed construction of the Hilo Central Fire Station on a property located at the corner of Uluani and Wailoa Streets.

This proposed project does not appear to impact any of our existing or proposed projects, plans, policies, or programs.

Should you have any questions, feel free to contact Assistant Chief Paul Ferreira of our Administrative Bureau at 961-2261.

Sincerely,

HARRY S. KUBOJIRI  
ACTING POLICE CHIEF

pkf

Lawrence K. Mahuna  
Police Chief

Harry S. Kubojiri  
Deputy Police Chief



December 10, 2007

Harry S. Kubojiri, Acting Police Chief  
County of Hawai'i  
Police Department  
349 Kapiolani Street  
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720-3998

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TOM SCHNELL, AICP  
Senior Associate

RAYMOND T. HIGA, ASIA  
Senior Associate

KRYN K. NISHIKAWA, ASIA  
Associate

KIMI MIKAMI YUEN, LEED\* AP  
Associate

SCOTT ALIKI, AIBINGO  
Associate

SCOTT MURAKAMI, ASIA  
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Fax: (808) 523-1402  
E-mail: [sysa@pbr-hawaii.com](mailto:sysa@pbr-hawaii.com)

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Hilo Logistics Center, Suite 310  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4882  
Tel: (808) 961-3333  
Fax: (808) 961-4999

WAILUKU OFFICE  
1782 Wai Pa Loop, Suite 4  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96791-1271  
Tel: (808) 242-3828

**SUBJECT: PRE-CONSULTATION FOR THE HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, HILO, ISLAND OF HAWAII (TMK: 2-4-28: (Por.) 07)**

Dear Chief. Kubojiri,

Thank you for your letter dated December 6, 2007. We acknowledge that the Police Department does not anticipate any significant impacts to the Police Departments existing or proposed projects, plans, policies or programs.

Thank you again for your participation in the preparation of the upcoming Environmental Assessment. If you have any questions regarding this project, please do not hesitate to contact me at 521-5631.

Sincerely,

PBR HAWAII

Vincent R. Shigekuni  
Vice President

cc: Desmond Wery, Hawai'i Fire Department CIP Manager

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**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

STRATEGIC INDUSTRIES DIVISION  
235 South Beretania Street, Leleopala, A Kamehameha Bldg., 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2352, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

LINDA LINGLE  
Vice President  
THEODORE E. LUI  
DIRECTOR  
MARK K. ANDERSON  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Telephone: (808) 587-3807  
Fax: (808) 589-2536  
Web site: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt

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PBR HAWAII

December 10, 2007

Mr. Vincent Shigekuni  
Vice President  
PBR Hawaii & Associates  
1001 Bishop St., Ste 650  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-

Dear Mr. Shigekuni:

Re: Pre-consultation for the Hilo Central Fire Station, Island of Hawaii  
Draft Environmental Assessment  
Tax Map Key: TMK:2-4-28: (Por.) 07)

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed construction of a new fire station facility within the South Hilo district of Waiakea at the intersection of Ululani Street and Wailoa Street. We would like to defer our comments until receipt of the Draft Environmental Assessment.

Sincerely,

  
Maurice H. Kaya  
Chief Technology Officer



**PBR HAWAII  
& ASSOCIATES, INC.**

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KEVIN K. NISHIKAWA, ASIA  
Associate

KIMI MIKAMI YUEN, LEED AP  
Associate

SCOTT AIUKA, ADRIGG  
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SCOTT M. WAKAMILANI, LEED AP  
Associate

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Fax: (808) 961-4939

**WAILUA OFFICE**  
1737 Wailua Loop, Suite 4  
Wailua, Hawaii 96793-1271  
Tel: (808) 712-2878

December 28, 2007

Mr. Maurice H. Kaya  
Chief Technology Officer  
State of Hawaii  
Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism  
Strategic Industries Division  
235 South Beretania Street, Fifth floor  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

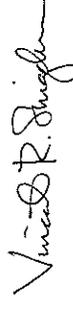
**SUBJECT: PRE-CONSULTATION FOR HILO CENTRAL FIRE STATION  
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (DEA)**

Dear Mr. Kaya:

Thank you for your letter dated December 10, 2007 on the above-captioned project. We note that you have no comments to offer at this time.

We will forward a copy of the DEA for your review. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any additional information or have any questions.

Sincerely,



Vincent Shigekuni  
Vice President

O:\Job\252594.03 Hilo Central Fire Station\PrcConsultation\Responses

PHONE (808) 594-1888

FAX (808) 594-1855



STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS  
711 KAPĪʻOLANI BOULEVARD, SUITE 500  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

December 11, 2007

Patrick Lui  
PBR Hawaii & Associates Inc.  
1001 Bishop Street  
ASB Tower, Suite 650  
Honolulu, HI 96813-3484

RE: Pre-consultation for Draft Environmental Assessment for the construction of the new  
Hilo Central Fire Station, Hilo, Hawaii, TMK: (3) 2-4-28, por. 07

Dear Patrick Lui,

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) is in receipt of your pre-consultation request for the Draft Environmental Assessment for the County of Hawaii's proposed new Hilo Central Fire Station, slated to be built on about 1.99 acres of land currently occupied by five vacant public housing structures. OHA offers the following comments.

We request that the County of Hawaii adopt language in its Draft Environmental Assessment that ensures that should iwi kūpuna or Native Hawaiian cultural or traditional deposits be found during ground disturbance or excavation, work will cease, and the appropriate agencies will be contacted pursuant to applicable law.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, and we look forward to reviewing and commenting on the Draft Environmental Assessment for this project when it becomes available. If you have further questions, please contact Sterling Wong (808) 594-0248 or e-mail him at [sterlingw@oha.org](mailto:sterlingw@oha.org).

Sincerely,

Clyde W. Nāmuʻo  
Administrator



December 13, 2007

Mr. Clyde W. Nāmuʻo, Administrator  
State of Hawaii  
Office of Hawaiian Affairs  
711 Kapīʻolani Boulevard, Suite 500  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

SUBJECT: PRE-CONSULTATION FOR THE HILO CENTRAL FIRE  
STATION DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, HILO,  
ISLAND OF HAWAII (TMK: 2-4-28: (Por.) 07)

Dear Mr. Nāmuʻo,

Thank you for your letter dated December 11, 2007 (reference number HRD07/3359). The Draft EA will include language that states should iwi kūpuna or Native Hawaiian cultural or traditional deposits be found during ground disturbance or excavation, work will cease, and the appropriate agencies will be contacted pursuant to applicable law.

Thank you again for your participation in the preparation of the upcoming Draft Environmental Assessment. If you have any questions regarding this project, please do not hesitate to contact me at 521-5631.

Sincerely,

PBR HAWAII

Vincent R. Shigekuni  
Vice President

cc: Desmond Wery, Hawaii Fire Department CIP Manager

O:\Job25\2594.03 Hilo Central Fire Station\Pre Consultation\Letters Received Responses\OHA.doc

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Associate

KIM SIKIYAMA YUEN, LEED AP  
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WAILUKU OFFICE  
1757 Wai'oli Loop, Suite 4  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96791-1271  
Tel: (808) 242-3028



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office
300 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 3-122, Box 50088
Honolulu, Hawaii 96850



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DEC 17 2007

PBR HAWAII

In Reply Refer To:
2008-SL-0053

DEC 14 2007

Mr. Vincent R. Shigekuni
Vice President
PBR Hawaii
101 Bishop Street
ASB Tower Suite 650
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-4262

Subject: Pre-Consultation for the Hilo Central Fire Station Draft Environmental
Assessment, Hilo, Island of Hawaii, TMK: 2-4-28 (Por.) 07

Dear Mr. Shigekuni:

Thank you for your letter received on November 14, 2007, requesting our comments on the
potential impacts from the proposed project on threatened and endangered species and federally
designated critical habitat. The proposed project will construct a new fire station within the
district of Waialea in South Hilo. The site (TMK: 2-4-28 (Por.) 07) is zoned for residential
development and there are five vacant structures on the 1.99 acre parcel.

We have reviewed the information you provided and pertinent information in our files, including
data compiled by the Hawaii Biodiversity and Mapping Program and the Hawaii GAP Program.
Land cover information indicates that the proposed project area is in a developed residential area.
To the best of our knowledge, no federally listed or proposed threatened or endangered species
or candidate species, or proposed or designated critical habitat occur within the proposed project
footprint.

We appreciate your efforts to conserve endangered species. If you have questions regarding this
letter, please contact Dr. Jeff Zimpfer, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, Consultation and Technical
Assistance Program (phone: 808-792-9431; fax: 808-792-9581).

Sincerely,

Christie Russell

for Patrick Leonard
Field Supervisor



December 28, 2007

Mr. Patrick Leonard, Field Supervisor
US Department of the Interior
Fish & Wildlife Service
300 Ala Moana Blvd., Rm. 3-122, Box 50088
Honolulu, Hawaii'i 96850

Attn: Dr. Jeff Zimpfer

SUBJECT: PRE-CONSULTATION FOR THE HILO CENTRAL FIRE
STATION DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, HILO,
ISLAND OF HAWAII (TMK: 2-4-28; Por. 07)

Dear Mr. Leonard,

Thank you for your letter dated December 14, 2007 (your reference 2008-SL-0053)
in which you note that, to the best of your knowledge, no federally listed or
proposed threatened or endangered species or candidate species, or proposed or
designated critical habitat, occur within the proposed project footprint.

Thank you again for your participation in the preparation of the upcoming Draft
Environmental Assessment. If you have any questions regarding this project,
please do not hesitate to contact me at 521-5631.

Sincerely,

PBR HAWAII

Vincent R. Shigekuni

Vincent R. Shigekuni
Vice President

W. FRANK BRANDY, FASLA
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THOMAS S. WITTEN, ASLA
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SCOTT ALIKA, AIBIIO
Associate

SCOTT MURAKAMI, ASLA
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Fax: (808) 961-9589

WAILUKU OFFICE
1255 Vail Pt. Loop, Suite 4
Wailuku, Hawaii 96798-1271
Tel: (808) 242-2878

copy: Desmond Wery, Hawai'i Fire Department CIP Manager



**A p p e n d i x C**

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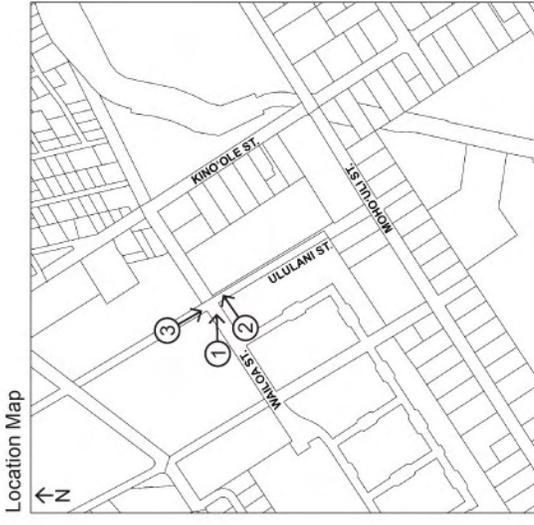
S i t e P h o t o g r a p h s



1. View towards the project site across from the corner of Wailoa and Ululani Streets



2. View northwest (makai) up Wailoa Street



Location Map



3. View of Ululani Street facing southwest; the project site is on the left

Site Photographs

# Hilo Central Fire Station

Hawaii's Fire Department

ISLAND OF HAWAII



NOT TO SCALE



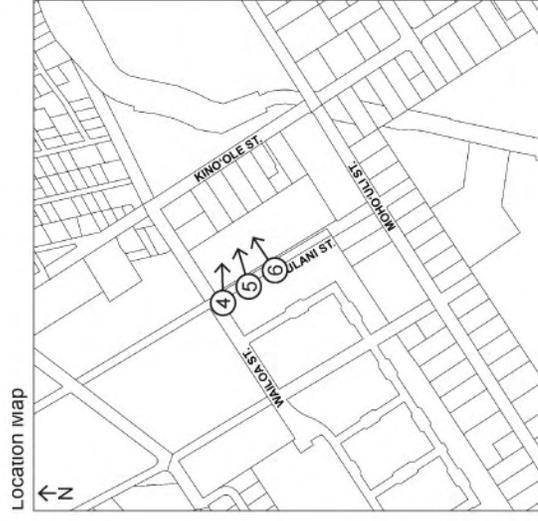
4. View of existing vacant two-story duplexes on the project site



5. View of a typical two-story duplex on the project site



6. View of a typical single-story house on the project site



Site Photographs

# Hilo Central Fire Station

Hawai'i Fire Department

ISLAND OF HAWAII



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