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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
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HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

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OFF. OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
QUALITY CONTROL

IN REPLY REFER TO:

HWY-DD  
2.7856

October 20, 1995

MEMORANDUM:

TO: MR. GARY GILL, DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL

FROM: *Hugh Y. Ono*  
HUGH Y. ONO, ADMINISTRATOR  
HIGHWAYS DIVISION

SUBJECT: NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR HONOAPIILANI HIGHWAY WIDENING  
KUIHELANI HIGHWAY TO NORTH KIHEI ROAD  
PROJECT NO. STP-0300-1(24)  
TMK: 3-6-1, 3-6-2, 3-6-4, 3-8-5, WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII

The Department of Transportation has reviewed the comments received during the 30-day public period which began on May 23, 1995. The Department has determined that this project will not have significant environmental effects and has issued a negative declaration.

The Federal Highway Administration has designated this project as a categorical exclusion under 23CFR 771.117(d) which waives Federal EIS requirements. Please publish this notice in the November 23, 1995 Environmental Notice.

We have enclosed a completed OEQC Bulletin Publication Form and four (4) copies of the final Environmental Assessment. Please contact Mr. Ross Hironaka at 587-2250 if you have any questions.

Enclosures.

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1995-11-23-MA-FAA-Honoap

Honoapiilani Hwy Widening -

Kuihelani Hwy to North Kihei Road

NOV 23 1995

**FILE COPY**

**NOTICE OF DETERMINATION  
NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR HONOAPIILANI HIGHWAY  
WIDENING, KUIHELANI HIGHWAY TO NORTH KIHEI ROAD  
FEDERAL-AID PROJECT NO. NH-030-1(24)  
WAILUKU, MAUI  
OCTOBER 24, 1995**

**Proposing Agency:** Department of Transportation  
Highways Division  
State of Hawaii

**Accepting Agency:** Department of Transportation  
Highways Division  
State of Hawaii

**Description of proposed project:**

The State of Hawaii, Department of Transportation, Highways Division is proposing to widen Honoapiilani Highway between and at the intersections of Kuihelani Highway and North Kihei Road. The proposed project is to alleviate traffic congestion and increase vehicular safety along this primary arterial.

The widening consists of expanding the existing two-lane highway to a four-lane divided highway along the existing alignment between the intersections of Kuihelani Highway and North Kihei Road.

The proposed divided highway will have four 12 foot lanes, 4 to 10 foot paved shoulders and a grassed median. Construction widening will be on the east side of the existing highway.

Pohakea Bridge located within the proposed area will also be widened. The widening will consist of removing the existing bridge and constructing two new bridges. Each structure will have two 12 foot lanes, a 10 foot right shoulder and a 4 foot left shoulder.

Additional construction includes channelized turning lanes with speed change and storage lanes for the two intersections, traffic signalization, highway lighting and utility relocation.

***Determination:***

The "Significance Criteria" of the Environmental Impact Statement Rules Title 11, Chapter 200 were reviewed to determine if the proposed project may have a significant effect on the environment. The proposed project was determined to have no significant effect on the environment based on the following:

1. there would be no irrevocable commitment to loss or destruction of any natural or cultural resource;
2. the proposed action would not curtail the range of beneficial uses of the environment;
3. the proposed project does not conflict with the State's long-term environmental policies or goals and guidelines;
4. the proposed action would not substantially affect public health;
5. the proposed action would not substantially affect public health;
6. substantial secondary impacts, such as population changes or effects on public facilities is not anticipated;
7. the proposed project would not involve substantial degradation of environmental quality;
8. cumulative impacts of this action would not result in considerable effects on the environment, nor would any commitment to larger actions arise.
9. no rare, threatened or endangered species, or their habitats would be substantially affected;
10. the proposed action would not substantially affect air or water quality or ambient noise levels;
11. the action would not affect environmentally sensitive areas such as flood plains, tsunami zones, erosion-prone areas, geologically hazardous lands, estuaries, fresh waters or coastal waters.

***Reasons Supporting Determination:***

The EA has been revised to reflect the suggestions and recommendations of the affected agencies and interested parties. This final EA is attached to support the determination of a Negative Declaration.

The proposed project primarily involves "Exempt Classes of Actions" from the Comprehensive Exemption List for the State of Hawaii, Department of Transportation. The exemption for this project falls under Class 2, it states, "Replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located generally on the same site and will have substantially the same purpose, capacity, density, height, and dimensions as the structure replaced". This action will probably have minimal or no significant effect on the environment and are generally exempted from the preparation of an environmental assessment.

***Contact for Further Information:***

Mr. Ross Hironaka, Project Manager  
Department of Transportation, Highways Division  
869 Punchbowl Street, Room 403  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Phone #587-2250

## FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

**Proposing Agency:** Department of Transportation  
Highways Division  
State of Hawaii

**Accepting Agency:** Department of Transportation  
Highways Division  
State of Hawaii

**Project Name:** Honoapiilani Highway Widening  
Kuihelani Highway to North Kihei Road  
Federal-Aid Project No. NH-030-1(24)

**Agencies consulted:**

The following agencies were notified and permits will be secured, if required:

**County:** Planning Department  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
Department of Public Works  
Department of Water Supply  
Economic Development Agency

**State:** Department of Accounting and General Services  
Department of Agriculture  
Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism  
Department of Land and Natural Resources, Commission on Water  
Resource Management ✓  
Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Forestry and  
Wildlife, Maui  
Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Land  
Management, Maui  
Department of Land and Natural Resources, State Historic Preservation ✓  
Division  
Office of Environmental Quality Control  
Office of State Planning

**Federal:** U. S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service  
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers  
U. S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Services

***Project Characteristics:***

***General:*** The project is located on Honoapiilani Highway in the district of Wailuku on the island of Maui. The State of Hawaii, Department of Transportation, Highways Division is proposing to widen and improve Honoapiilani Highway between and at Kuihelani Highway and North Kihei Road to alleviate traffic congestion and increase vehicular safety.

Pohakea Bridge located on Honoapiilani Highway within the proposed widening area will also be widened. The widening will consist of demolishing the existing bridge and constructing two bridges.

The proposed project will be constructed entirely within the existing roadway right-of-way.

See figure 1 for project location.

***Technical:*** The length of project is 0.93 miles. This project length includes the widening of Honoapiilani Highway, route 30, from Kuihelani Highway and North Kihei Road and the intersection improvements at Kuihelani Highway and North Kihei Road.

The widening consists of expanding the existing two-lane Honoapiilani Highway to a four-lane divided highway along the existing alignment between the intersections of Kuihelani Highway, route 380, and North Kihei Road, route 310.

The proposed divided highway will have four 12' lanes (two lanes in each direction), 4' to 10' paved shoulders and a grassed median with an average width of 34'. This construction widening will be on the east side of the existing two lane highway.

See figure 2 for typical roadway section.

Built in 1937, the existing Pohakea Bridge is a reinforced concrete flat slab bridge. The bridge is not a historical site. The existing bridge structure over Pohakea Stream will be removed and two new bridge structures will be constructed. Each structure will have two 12' lanes, a 10' right shoulder and a 4' left shoulder width.

See figure 3 for bridge plan.

Improvements at the intersections of Kuihelani Highway and North Kihei Road includes channelized turning and storage lanes and a new traffic control system.

Other construction involves installation of a highway lighting system, slope control planting, landscaping and a sprinkler system. Utilities and plantation facilities will also be adjusted or relocated.

**Economic:** The estimated construction cost for the proposed widening project is \$10,110,000. State and federal funding is estimated to be \$1,870,000 and \$8,240,000, respectively.

**Social:** The purpose of this widening project is increase capacity and vehicular safety on Honoapiilani Highway by widening the highway and improving the intersections at Kuihelani Highway and North Kihei Road.

Honoapiilani Highway is one of two primary highways in the district of Wailuku that connects the north and the south regions of the island of Maui. Kuihelani Highway connects the north-east region to the south-west region and North Kihei Highway connects the south-west region to the south-east region of the island. These two routes intersect Honoapiilani Highway about a quarter of mile apart. Because of the currently large and increasing traffic volume using Honoapiilani Highway (see design traffic data) and the close proximity of these two intersections, traffic congestion and unsafe vehicular operations are expected to increase.

See figure 4 for traffic volume (Traffic Assignment).

Honoapiilani Highway at these two junctions is used by both residents and visitors traveling to and from Wailuku, Lahaina, Kihei and Kahalui; the four largest towns in Maui. Plus, many visitors traveling from Kahalui Airport to Lahaina, Maui's major resort spot, take Kuihelani Highway and then Honoapiilani Highway.

The proposed project will benefit motorists by providing more efficient traffic movement through these intersections at Honoapiilani Highway. Businesses, resorts, plantations and golf courses will benefit from the increased capacity of this facility. The added lanes, bridge structures, channelization, turning movements and improved merge conditions will reduce vehicular conflicts and improve the motorists safety on this well traveled facility.

From the Long Range Planning Report published by the Department of Transportation in 1991 this project is one of several widening projects phased for this highway facility in the future. Some of the projects planned for widening are Kuihelani Highway from Honoapiilani Highway towards Kahalui, North Kihei Road from Honoapiilani Highway towards Kihei, and Honoapiilani Highway from North Kihei Road towards Lahaina.

***Environmental Characteristics:***

This roadway facility is situated between pineapple and sugarcane fields. Per the State Land Commission Office of Hawaii the project is zoned in an agriculture zone. Also, the project is outside the Special Management Area boundaries for the County of Maui.

From the Hawaii Forest Type Maps the land is classified as Non-commercial Forest Land (classification no. 22) and Cultivated and Intensively Pastured Areas (classification no. 31).

The elevation on Honoapiilani Highway at Kuihelani Highway is about 200 feet and 160 feet at North Kihei Road per the U.S.G.S. map. The slope of the highway averages a descending 2 percent from Kuihelani Highway to North Kihei Road.

From the Soil Survey of Islands of Kauai, Oahu, Maui, Molokai, and Lanai, State of Hawaii the soil classifications in this area are Pulehu PtA, Pulehu PtB and Stony Alluvial Land rSM.

The Pulehu Pt soils consists of well-drained soils on alluvial fans and stream terraces and in basins. These soils are used for sugarcane, truck crops, pasture, homesites, and wildlife habitat. The natural vegetation consists of bermuda grass, bristly foxtail, fingergrass, kiawe, klu, lantana, koa haole, and sandbur. The profile for this soil is a surface layer of dark-brown cobbly clay loam about 21 inches thick. This is underlain by stratified loam, loamy sand, fine sandy loam, and silt loam about 39 inches thick. Below this is coarse, gravelly or sandy alluvium. Permeability is moderate. Runoff is slow, and the erosion hazard is no more than slight. Pulehu Soil PtA are in areas of 0 to 3 percent slope and Pulehu Soil PtB are in areas of 3 to 7 percent slope.

Stony Alluvial Land rSM consists of stones, boulders, and soil deposited by streams along the bottoms of gulches and on alluvial fans. In most places the slope is 3 to 15 percent. The Stony Alluvial Land in this project is located in the Pohakea Stream area.

Pohakea Stream is an intermittent perennial stream. The annual precipitation in this area is about 20 inches a year.

***Summary of the Affected Environment:***

The roadway and bridge widening will enhance vehicular traffic flow within the area concerned, while having practically no long-term adverse impacts. There are no endangered flora, fauna, critical habitats, historical/archaeological or cultural sites at the proposed project site.

***Summary of Major Impacts:***

***Short Term:*** During construction the following minor adverse impacts may occur:

- Dust
- Noise
- Traffic delays (during non-peak hours)
- Erosion
- Construction Debris

***Long Term:*** No significant adverse impacts are expected in the following conditions due to construction of the proposed project:

- Air Quality
- Water Quality
- Noise
- Traffic
- Archaeological
- Flora
- Fauna
- Visual

***Alternatives Considered:***

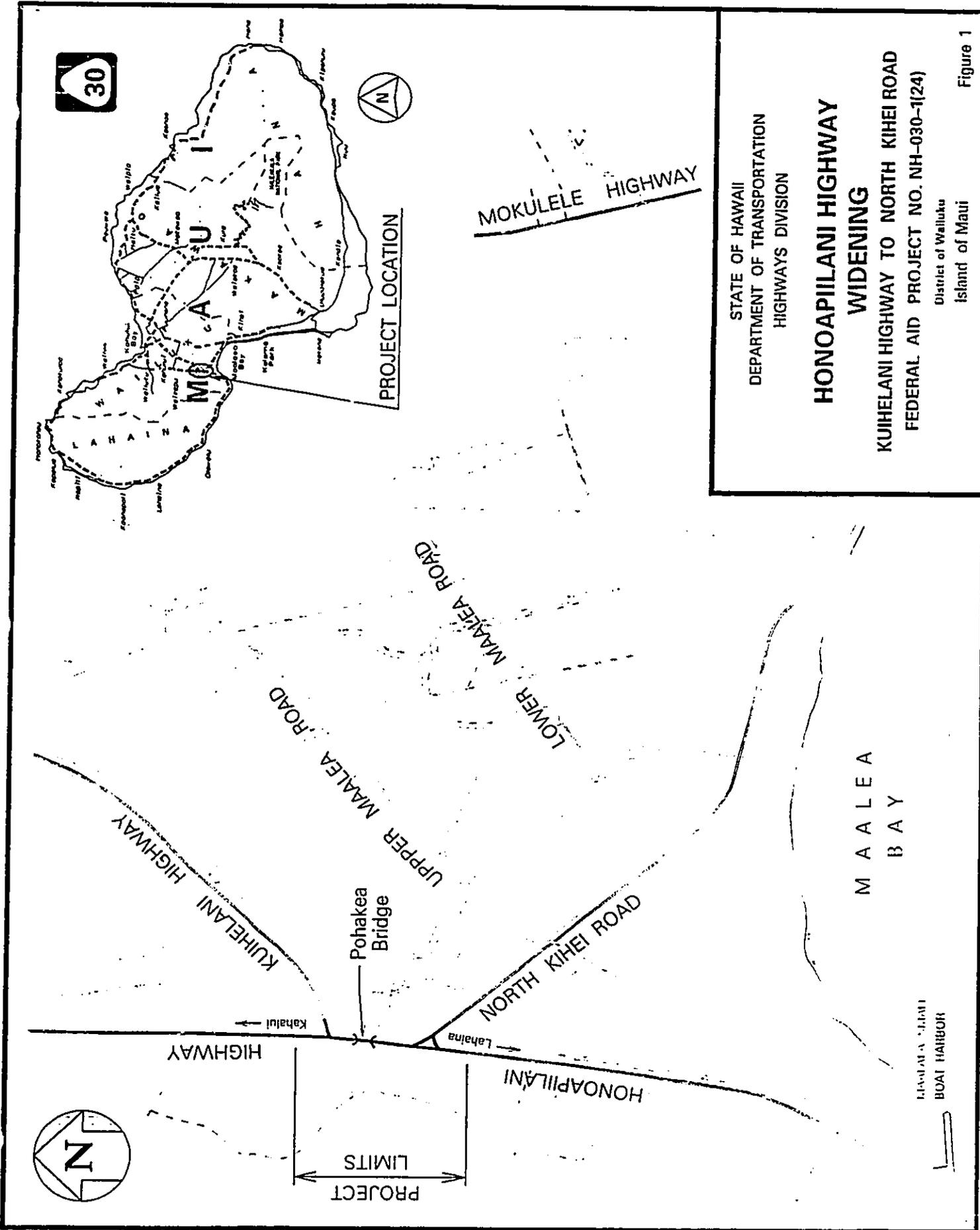
The "no-action" alternative was considered but deemed unacceptable because the benefits of providing the motoring public with a higher volume travelway and a safer travelway outweigh the adverse impacts of this project.

***Proposed Mitigation Measures:***

1. Appropriate temporary pollution control measures will be utilized for dust and noise during construction.
2. Appropriate temporary and construction traffic control measures will be utilized.
3. Appropriate erosion control measures will be utilized during the widening construction of Pohakea Bridge.
4. Appropriate measures will be utilized to minimize and control drainage flow impacts during construction.
5. Appropriate measures will be utilized to minimize the effects of construction debris at the project site and its removal from the project site.

***Permits Required Prior to Construction:***

1. Water Quality Certification (WQC, 401 Permit), State of Hawaii, Department of Health, Clean Water Branch
2. Coastal Zone Management Certification (CZM), State of Hawaii, Office of State Planning, Coast Zone Program Office
3. Department of Army Permit (DA, 404 Permit), U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Operations Branch
4. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit (NPDES), Department of Health, Clean Water Branch
5. Stream Channel Alteration Permit (SCAP), Department of Land and Natural Resources, Commission on Water Resource Management



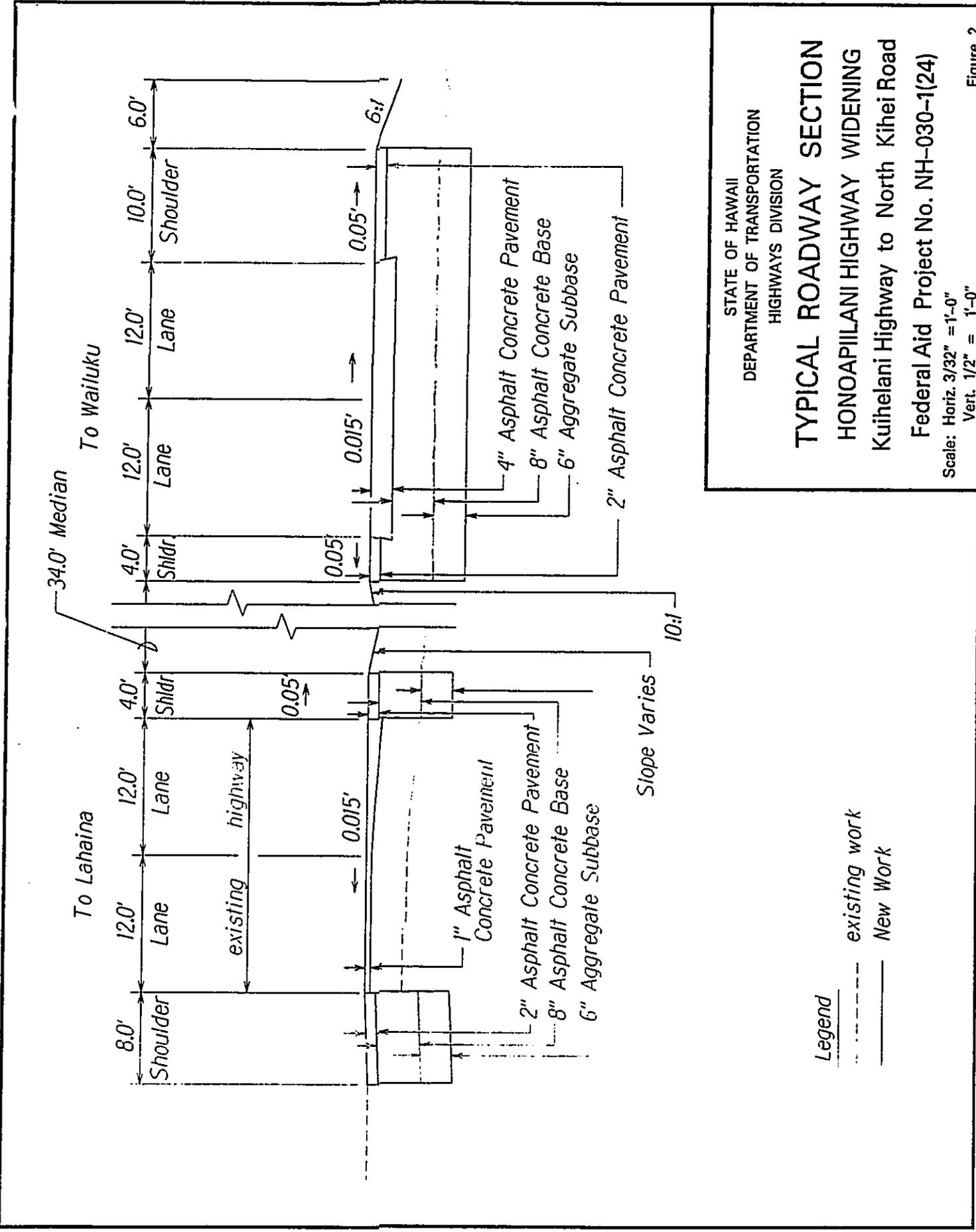
STATE OF HAWAII  
 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
 HIGHWAYS DIVISION

**HONOAPIILANI HIGHWAY  
 WIDENING**

KUIHELANI HIGHWAY TO NORTH KIHEI ROAD  
 FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. NH-030-1(24)

District of Waialuku  
 Island of Maui

Figure 1

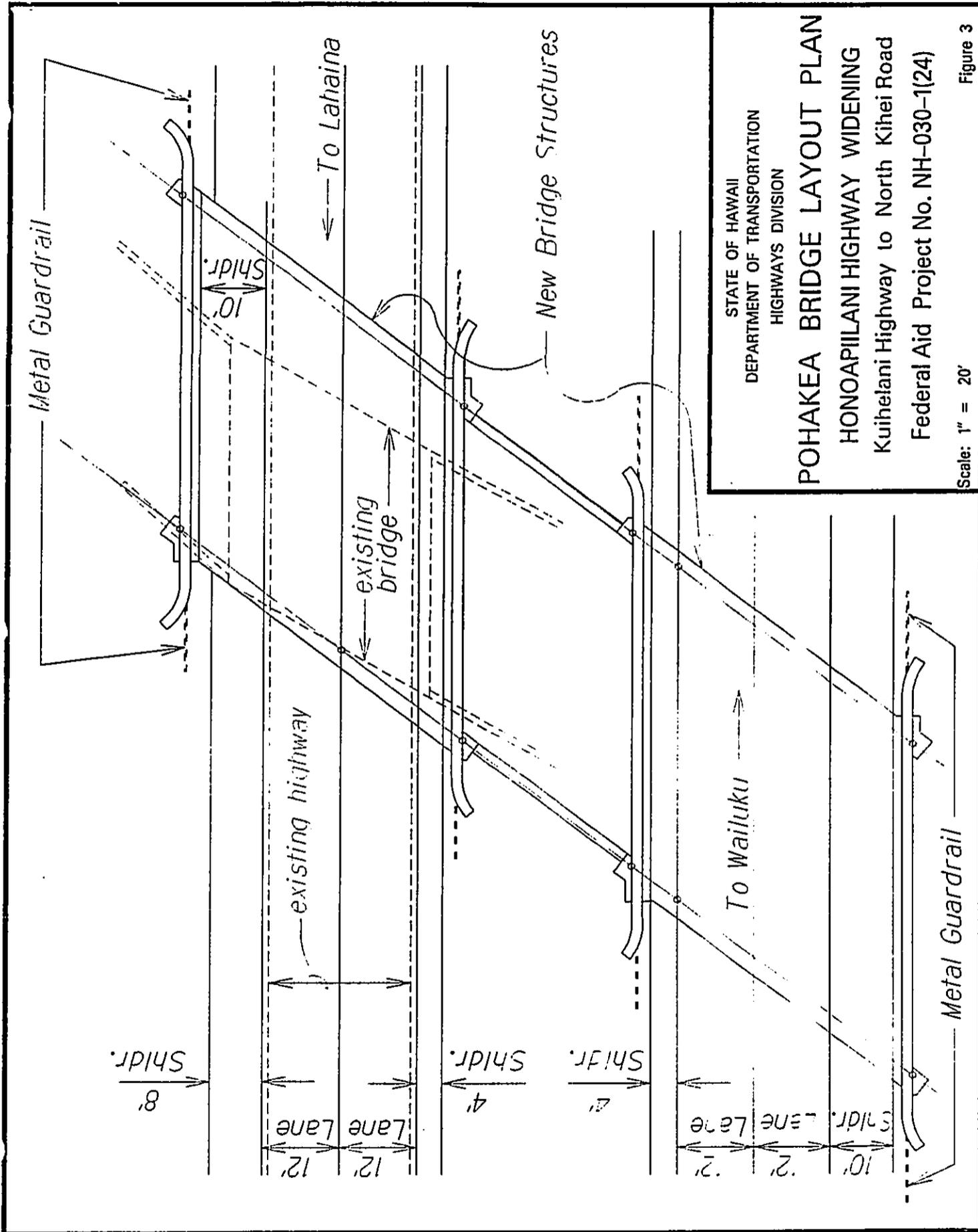


STATE OF HAWAII  
 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
 HIGHWAYS DIVISION

**TYPICAL ROADWAY SECTION**  
 HONOAPIILANI HIGHWAY WIDENING  
 Kuihelani Highway to North Kihei Road  
 Federal Aid Project No. NH-030-1(24)

Scale: Horiz. 3/32" = 1'-0"  
 Vert. 1/2" = 1'-0"

Figure 2



STATE OF HAWAII  
 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
 HIGHWAYS DIVISION

**POHAKEA BRIDGE LAYOUT PLAN**  
 HONOAPIILANI HIGHWAY WIDENING  
 Kuihelani Highway to North Kihei Road  
 Federal Aid Project No. NH-030-1(24)

Scale: 1" = 20'

Figure 3

**Traffic Assignment**  
**Honoapiilani Highway Widening**  
**Kuihelani Highway to North Kihei Road**  
**TA 94-120**

Traffic Data

1996 ADT	29,400
2016 ADT	58,900
DHV	4,700
K(des)	8.0
T(24)	3.5
T(des)	5.0
D(des)	55/45

24-Hour Truck Composition

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Bus	14.27
2D	53.43
3X	19.96
4X	0.21
2S1, 3S1, 2S2	2.79
3S2, 3-2, 2-3	6.97
6/6-X S-TLR	0.64
5X M-TLR	1.18
6X M-TLR	0.21
7X M-TLR	0.32

Figure 4