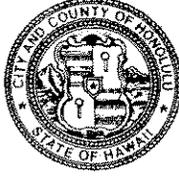


DEPARTMENT OF DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 11<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
Phone: (808) 523-4564 • Fax: (808) 523-4567  
Web site: [www.honolulu.gov](http://www.honolulu.gov)

AUG - 8 2007

MUFI HANNEMANN  
MAYOR



EUGENE C. LEE, P.E.  
DIRECTOR

CRAIG I. NISHIMURA, P.E.  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

GH-221

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "ECL".

July 19, 2007

Laurence K. Lau, Interim Director  
Office of Environmental Quality Control  
State Office Tower  
235 South Beretania Street, Room 702  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Lau:

Subject: Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for  
Halona Blowhole Lookout Renovation  
TMK: 3-9-012: por. 2; Maunalua, O'ahu, Hawaii

RECEIVED  
'07 JUL 25 P2:45  
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
QUALITY CONTROL

The Department of Design and Construction has reviewed the comments received during the 30-day public comment period that began on June 8, 2007 and ended on July 9, 2007. The agency has determined that this project will not have significant environmental effects and has issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). Please publish this notice in the next edition of the Environmental Notice.

A completed OEQC Publication Form and four copies of the Final Environmental Assessment are enclosed. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Greg Hee of my staff at 768-8434.

Sincerely,

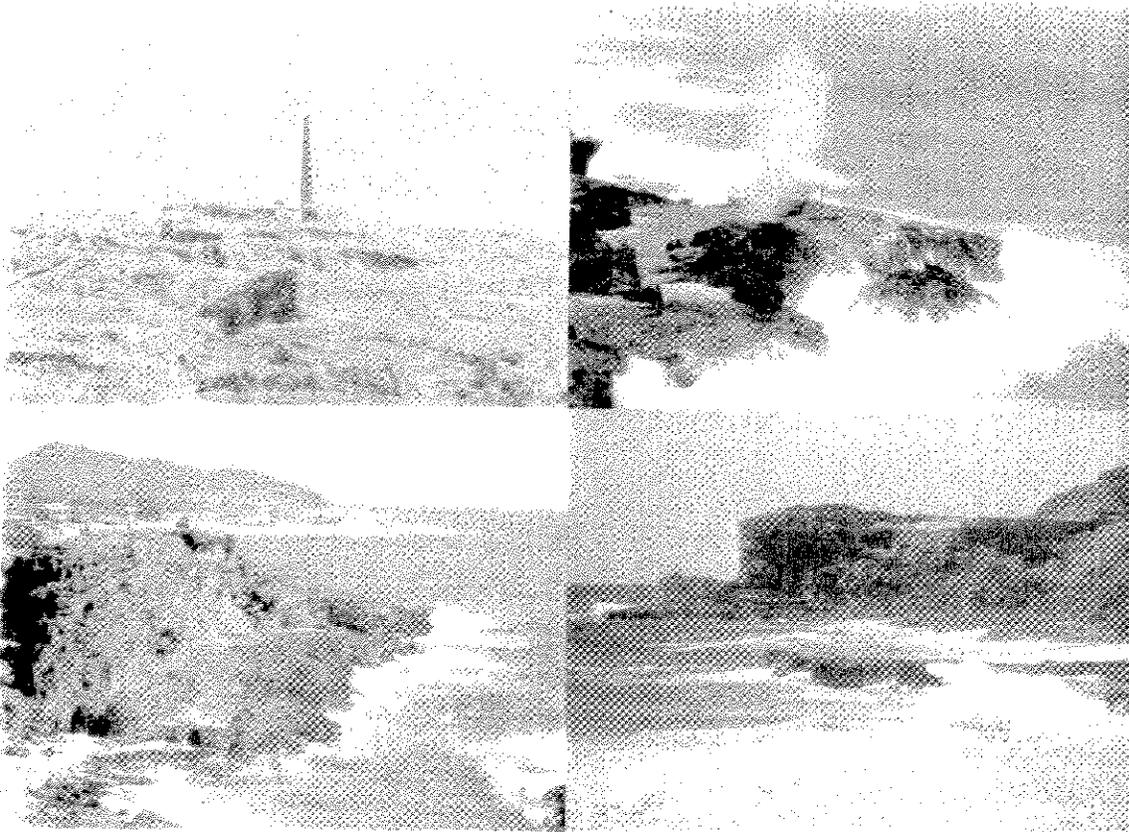
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Eugene C. Lee".

Eugene C. Lee, P.E.  
Director

ECL:hm

Enclosures





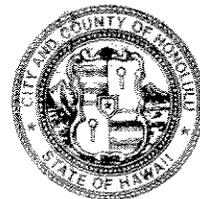
## FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

### *Hahaione Beachside Lookout Renovation*

Prepared for:

**Department of Design and Construction**  
City and County of Honolulu  
650 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

07 JUL 25 P 2:46



July 2007



DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

---

*HALONA BLOWHOLE LOOKOUT RENOVATION*  
Maunaloa, Oahu, Hawaii

---

Prepared in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements of Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, Chapter 200, Hawaii Administrative Rules, and Chapter 25, Shoreline Protection, Revised Ordinances, City and County of Honolulu

Prepared for

**Department of Design and Construction**  
City and County of Honolulu  
650 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Prepared by

**Gerald Park Urban Planner**  
1221 Kapiolani Boulevard, Suite 211  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

And

**Kim & Shiroma Engineers, Inc.**  
1314 South King Street, Suite 325  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

July 2007



## PROJECT PROFILE

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Project: Halona Blowhole Lookout Renovation

Proposing Agency: Department of Design and Construction  
City and County of Honolulu

Approving Agency: Department of Design and Construction  
for Mayor, City and County of Honolulu

Location: Maunaloa, Oahu

Tax Map Key: 3-9-012: por. 002

Land Area: 502.530 acres

Landowner: City and County of Honolulu

State Land Use Designation: \*Conservation

General Plan: Urban Fringe

*Sustainable* Communities Plan: East Honolulu

SCP Land Use Map: Preservation

Zoning: P-2 General Preservation

Special Management Area: Within Special Management Area

Existing Use: Visitor Lookout

Need for Environmental Assessment: Section 11-200-6 (b)(1)(A) and (b)(2)(B)  
Use of county lands and funds

Determination: Finding of No Significant Impact

Agent: Gregory Hee  
Department of Design and Construction  
City and County of Honolulu  
650 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: 768-8434

\* The Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands (OCCL), Department of Land and Natural Resources, State of Hawaii has determined that the proposed project does not require a permit from the Department of Land and Natural Resources. The OCCL also has determined that the proposed project qualifies as an exempt action (HAR §11-200-200-8 (2) pursuant to Chapter 343, HRS (See Appendix A).

**Note:** Substantive revisions to the text of the Draft Environmental Assessment are in ***bold*** italic type. Deleted text is [underscored with brackets].



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The Department of Design and Construction, City and County of Honolulu, proposes to repair and renovate the Halona Blowhole Lookout viewing platforms and parking area located at Maunalua, City and County of Honolulu, State of Hawaii. This natural water spouting fissure is located on the coastal sea cliffs between Hanauma Bay on the west, Sandy Beach on the east, the Pacific Ocean on the south, and Koko Crater on the north. The Halona Blowhole comprises part of TMK: 3-9-012: 002 with an area of 502.530 acres. A Location Map, Vicinity Map, and Tax Map are shown on Figures 1, 2, and 3.

### A. Purpose of the Proposed Action

The Halona Blowhole on the south coast of the island of Oahu has and continues to attract residents and visitors to view this natural water spouting feature. Facilities at the Halona Blowhole have and continue to deteriorate because of natural conditions associated with its coastal location. Steel rebar used to construct concrete walls, walkways, and floor slabs are corroding causing concrete to spall leading to the loss of structural integrity of the concrete, and in the instance of the lower observation deck the collapse of wall structures. The sum total of this gradual environmental deterioration is that conditions at the observation area expose residents and visitors to undue risks and a deteriorating facility.

A Design Alternative Report (Kim & Shiroma Engineers, 2006) evaluated conditions at the lookout and proposed improvements that can minimize public exposure to risks, improve the quality of the viewing experience, and enhance the overall attractiveness of the Halona Blowhole Lookout.

### B. Technical Characteristics

#### 1. Observation Area

The major proposals are to close the lower or *makai* observation area to visitors and to repair and reconstruct the upper or *mauka* observation area. Reconstruction will improve the visitor experience and allow for ADA access from the parking area to the *mauka* observation area.

Walls forming the *makai* viewing area will be demolished. Wall sections have collapsed and the viewing area is already closed to the public. Scattered remnants of the original wall **and the demolished walls** will be **removed**. [placed on the existing concrete slab, covered with gravel, and capped with grouted riprap with a texture to match the surrounding rock ledge.] The stairway and its exterior CRM wall leading to the *makai* viewing area will be demolished and removed. [to prevent unauthorized entry to the lower area of the lookout. Rocks from the CRM walls supporting the stairs will be used as part of the grouted riprap lining. With the removal of the *makai* viewing area, plant growth similar to the existing plantings on both sides of the lookout will be established on the grouted riprap. Soil and plant cuttings will be spread onto the grouted riprap and irrigated with water bags to establish plant growth].

The walls along the east parapet and the floor slab will be removed and reconstructed. **The length of the east parapet see through fence is approximately 127 feet (Department of Planning and Permitting Comment).** The floor slab and walls will be reconstructed using



glass fiber reinforced polymer (GFRP) rebar thereby negating the use of steel reinforcement that may corrode in the future. For the reconstructed **east parapet wall[s]**, a 12-inch high parapet wall of CRM or a concrete wall with GFRP rebar will be constructed and a 2'6" to 3'0" high see through fence installed on top of the wall. This will open the view to the blowhole and the Kaiwi Channel to those people who cannot see over the existing 3-foot high parapet wall. A new vertical cable fence will prevent lookout visitors from sitting on top and will make it more difficult for those who want to climb over the fence to venture down to the blowhole.

The southeast parapet wall, although in good condition, will be replaced. A new **20" high crm or concrete** wall with **a 2'6" to 3'0" high** see through fencing will be installed [(matching the dimensions of the east parapet wall)]. This will open the view to the Kaiwi Channel to those people who cannot see over the existing 3-foot high parapet wall. **The length of the southeast parapet see through fence is approximately 193 feet (Department of Planning and Permitting Comment). The Department of Parks and Recreation commented that the makai side grade of the southeast parapet wall is about two feet higher than the sidewalk side. The makai side of the wall should be graded and finished as a slope rather than a flat area to discourage people from climbing over and standing on the makai side the fence. The height of the southeast parapet wall therefore has been raised from 12" to 20".**

The CMU/CRM seat wall and the seating area and steps along the backside of the *mauka* viewing area will be removed. An ADA accessible ramp and new steps will replace the seating area to access the *mauka* viewing area from the parking area. **A new seating area will be provided on the ocean side of the ADA accessible ramp (Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board Comment).**

Interpretive and informational signs and proximity graphics showing the directional relationship of Maui and Molokai to the lookout are proposed in the walkway transition between the *mauka* viewing area and the parking area. An island of Oahu graphic is proposed at the south end of the southeast parapet wall.

The east CRM wall facing Sandy Beach and the west CRM wall facing Halona Cove are in good condition and will remain intact. **A revised Conceptual Plan is shown on Figure 4.**

## 2. Parking and Access

Parking area modifications will increase the landscaped area, reduce the amount of paved area, and provide a better traffic circulation pattern without losing any parking stalls. The existing curbs and walkways will be replaced with new curbs and walkways to provide for a more efficient flow of vehicle traffic in and out of the parking area.

Reconfiguring the parking area will provide parking for 37 regular parking stalls, 4 accessible stalls, and 2 bus parking stalls.

The concrete walkway along the west CRM wall will be extended to a pathway leading to Halona Cove. The walkway leading to the bus parking area will be widened to comply with ADA requirements.

The Halona Blowhole Lookout sign will be replaced and moved closer to the entry driveway. **The new sign will be a Department of Parks and Recreation standard Type D sign.**



*The dimensions of the Type D sign is 8'-3' long, 2'-10" wide, and 3'-10" high (Department of Planning and Permitting Comment).*

### **C. Economic Characteristics**

The City and County of Honolulu owns the coastal lands where the Halona Blowhole is located. The Halona Blowhole is part of the larger Koko Head Regional Park which includes the distinctive landmarks of Koko Head, Koko Crater, and Hanauma Bay.

The cost of the proposed improvements is estimated at \$1.13 million (Kim & Shiroma, 2006) and will be funded by the City and County of Honolulu. The estimated cost does not include signage and graphics.

Construction is projected to take 6 to 9 months. A phased construction plan is under consideration to keep portions of the Lookout open to the public during consideration.

### **D. Social Characteristics**

Accessible walkways and parking will be designed in compliance with rules, regulations, and accessibility standards for outdoor recreation areas pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act.







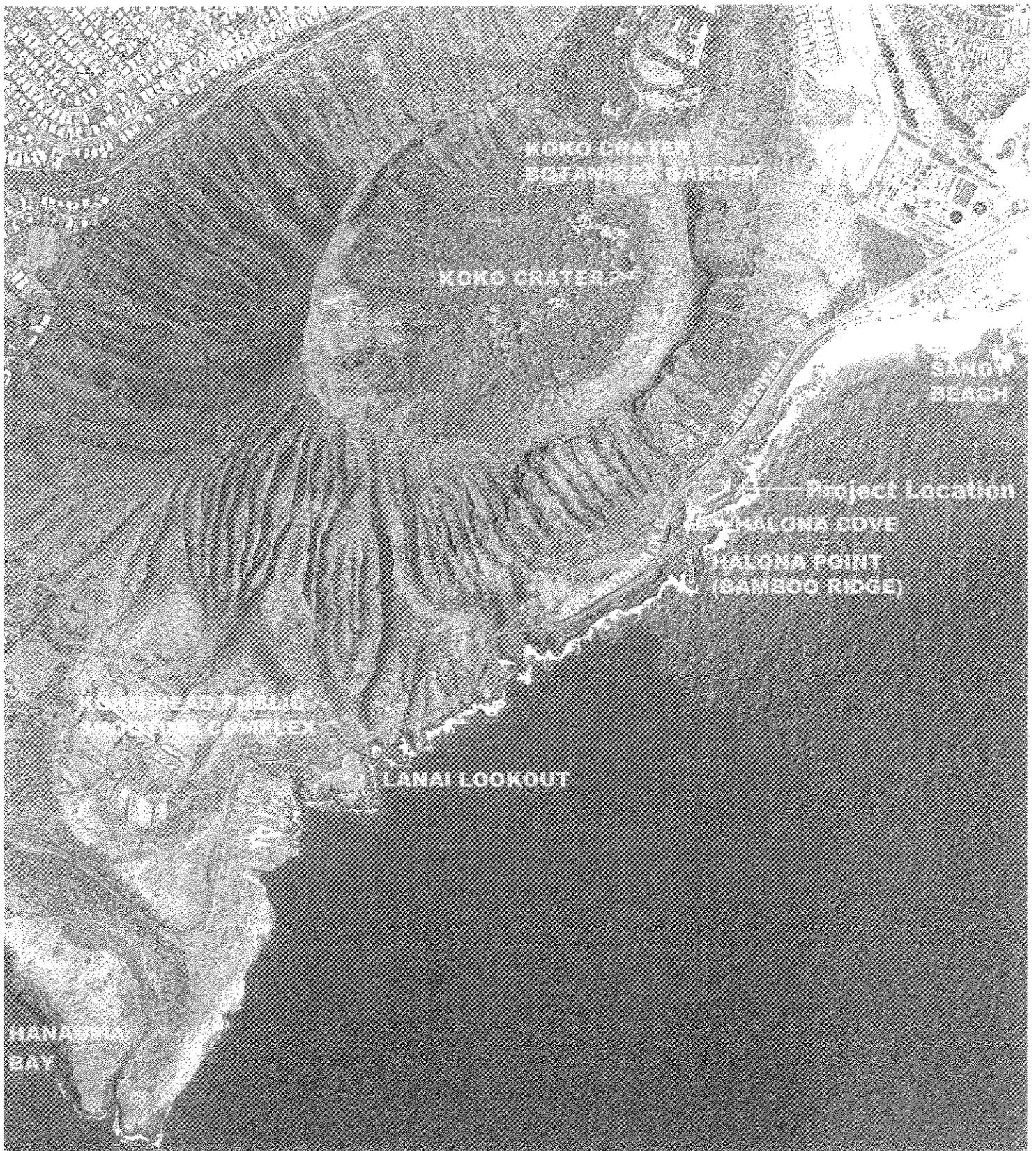
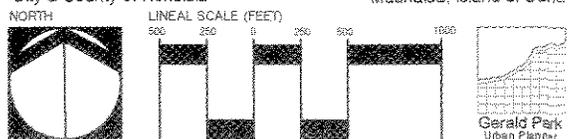


Figure 2  
Vicinity Map  
Halona Blowhole Lookout Renovation

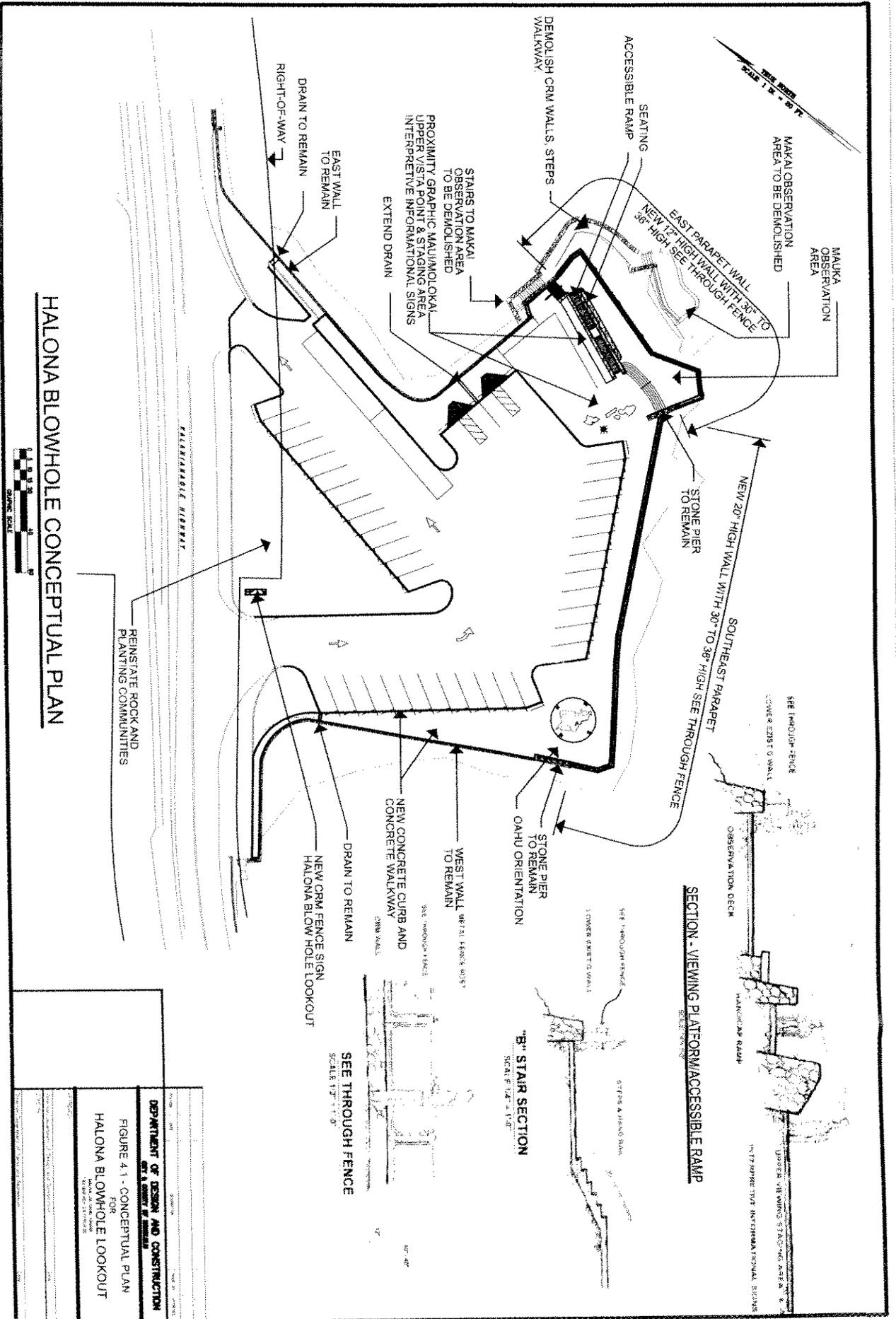
City & County of Honolulu Maunaloa, Island of Oahu











**HALONA BLOWHOLE CONCEPTUAL PLAN**



<p><b>DEPARTMENT OF DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION</b></p> <p><b>FIGURE 4.1 - CONCEPTUAL PLAN FOR HALONA BLOWHOLE LOOKOUT</b></p>	<p>DATE: 10/15/2010</p> <p>SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"</p> <p>PROJECT: HALONA BLOWHOLE</p>
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### A. Existing Conditions

The Halona Blowhole Lookout was constructed in the early 1950's. The improvements consisted of a lower (*makai*) viewing area for the blowhole, an east parapet holding the upper (*mauka*) viewing area for the blowhole with a seating area set back about 15-feet from the parapet wall, a southeast parapet facing the Kaiwi Channel, a paved parking area, two CRM retaining walls (east wall and west wall), and a landscaped entry island that separates the entrance driveway from the exit driveway. Access to the *makai* viewing area was provided through stairs located at the east wall. The walkways, viewing areas, and parapet walls were constructed of concrete. Figure 5 depicts existing conditions.

Galvanized pipe handrails were added in 1977 along the back of the seating area and along the walkway leading to the *makai* lookout. In 1979, additional repairs also were made; however, the extent of the repair work is unknown. The *mauka* lookout area was modified in 1985 by adding CRM infill to the interior faces of the parapet walls. The State Department of Transportation repaved the parking area in 1998 as part of the repaving of Kalaniana'ole Highway.

The *makai* viewing area was closed to the public in 1997. Chunks of concrete falling from the *mauka* viewing platform and the collapse of the *makai* viewing area protective walls prompted the closure. A locked gate at the top of the stairs prevents entry to the *makai* viewing area.

The east parapet of the *mauka* viewing area has many cracks in the parapet walls. It appears that the cracks are the result of rusting reinforcing steel. The parapet wall facing the blowhole also has cracks in the wall due to rusting reinforcing steel. The condition is not as severe as the east parapet wall.

The southeast parapet wall does not show cracks in the wall. There appears to be some patching on the backside of the wall, however, it may be paint to cover graffiti.

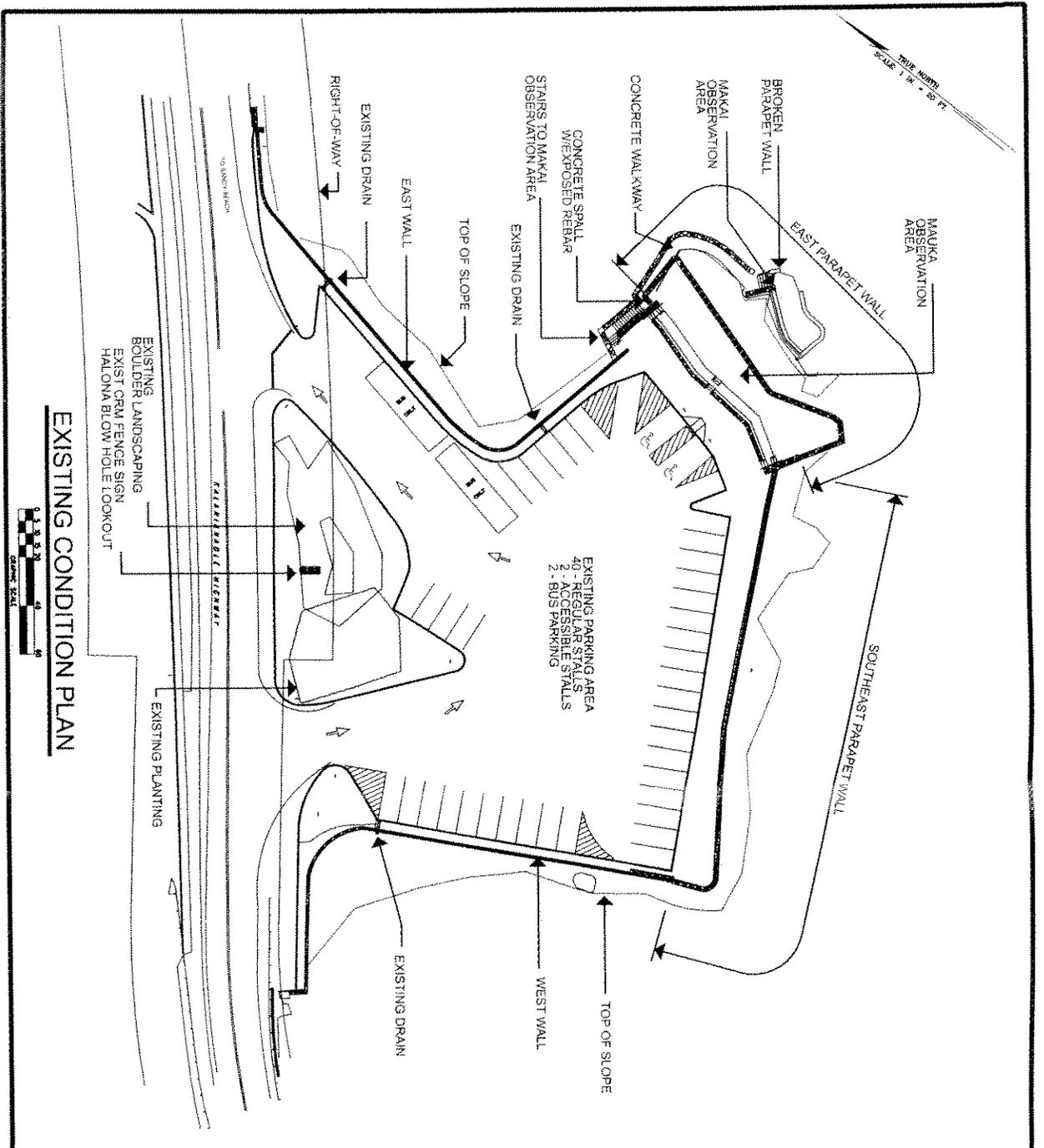
The parking area was repaved in 1998 and striped for 40 regular stalls, 2 accessible stalls, and 2 bus stalls. The pavement appears to be in good condition.

Storm runoff from the parking area is directed to corners of the parking area where sidewalk culverts penetrate the CRM walls and discharge runoff toward the gully areas located on both sides of the lookout area. The culverts are in good condition. Flow from the *mauka* lookout is directed to pipe drains located under the CRM infill of the parapet wall.

Beach naupaka grows in a landscaped traffic island between the entrance and exit driveways and adjacent to the bus parking stalls.

The exiting CRM park sign along Kalaniana'ole Highway is in poor condition. The base of the CRM structure is eroded and rocks are missing along the top of the sign. ***The sign dimensions are 8'-3" long, 3'-0" wide, and 4'-0" high (Department of Planning and Permitting Comment).***

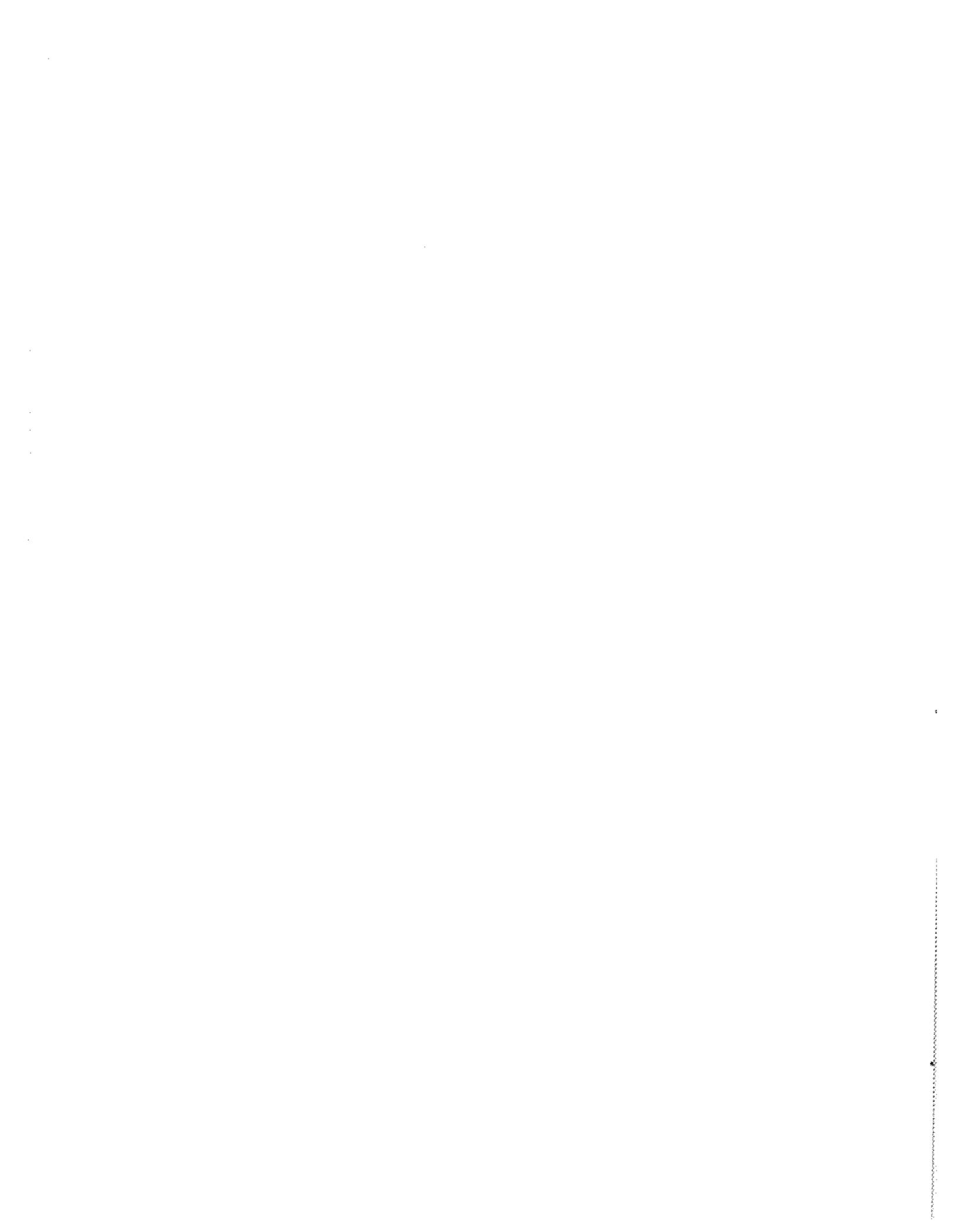




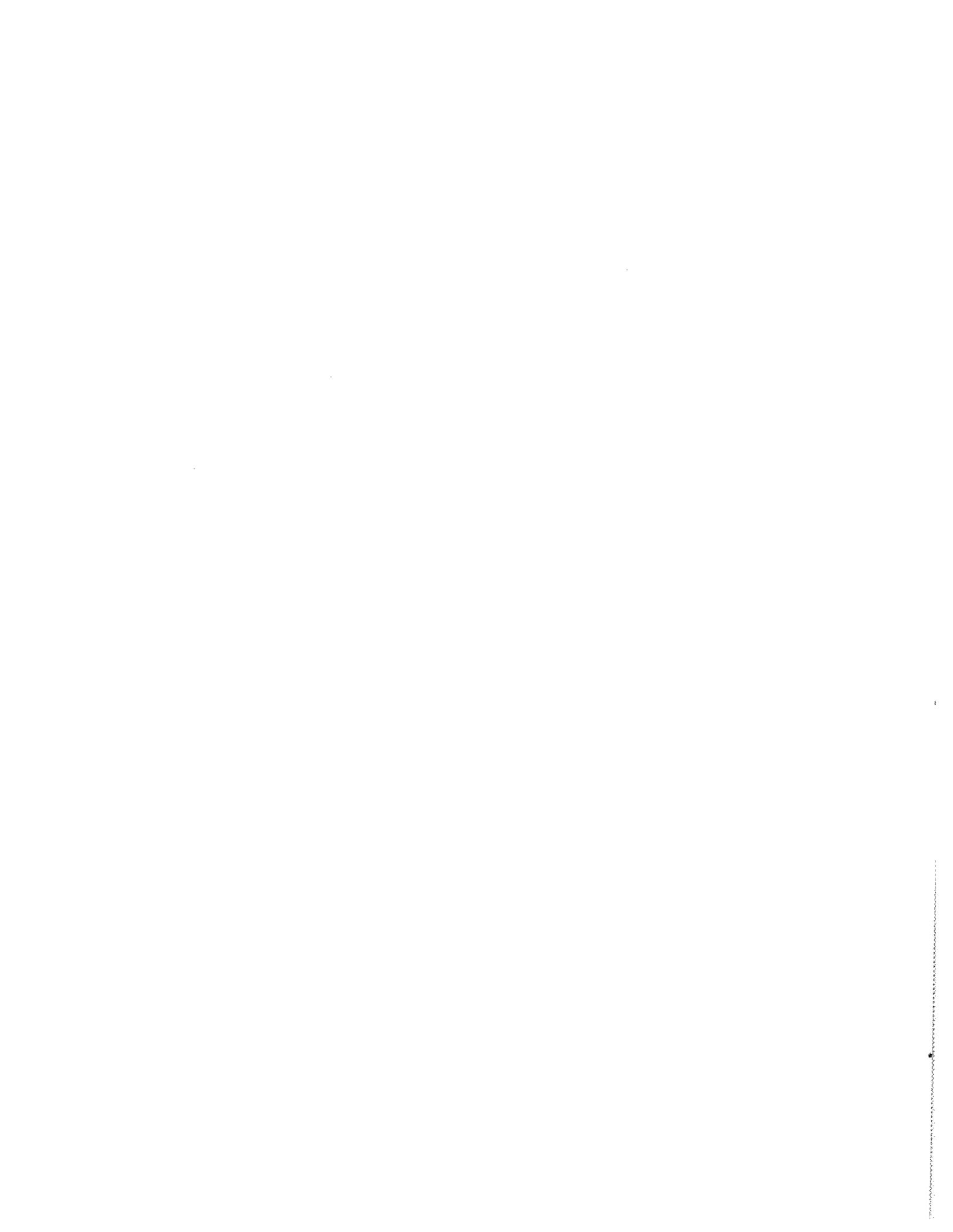
**EXISTING CONDITION PLAN**



<p><b>DEPARTMENT OF DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION</b>          CITY &amp; COUNTY OF DENVER</p>	
<p><b>EXISTING CONDITION PLAN</b>          FOR          HALONA BLOWHOLE LOOKOUT</p>	
<p>Project No. _____</p>	<p>Date: _____</p>
<p>Contract No. _____</p>	<p>Scale: _____</p>
<p>Contract Description: _____</p>	<p>Sheet No. _____</p>
<p>Contractor: _____</p>	<p>City Engineer: _____</p>
<p>City Engineer: _____</p>	<p>City Engineer: _____</p>







There is no utility service to the Halona Blowhole Lookout. Potable water and electrical power are available at Sandy Beach approximately 0.5 miles to the east.

## **B. Climate**

Information on climate is presented from the Koko Head District Park master Plan and Koko Head Shooting Complex Safety Improvements Final Environmental Impact Statement (2001).

The climate at the Koko Head District Park and Shooting Complex is generally dry and warm. The southern exposure of the park ensures hot and clear days while its aridness and low relative humidity creates dry, cool and clear night. Northeast tradewinds help to moderate temperature extremes for a given 24 hour period.

Rainfall averages approximately 25 to 36 inches per year, usually peaking in December and March of a given year. Average annual temperature ranges from a low of approximately 70 degrees Fahrenheit (F) to a high of about 83 degrees F. The average mean temperature is 76.6 degrees F.

The summer, extending from about April to November, includes periods of strong northeast trade winds from approximately June to September and the transitional period just preceding and following. During this time, winds range from northerly through easterly, and occasionally southerly, but mostly from the northeast quadrant. Wind speeds may range up to 35 or 45 mph; about 50 percent of the time the speeds exceed 12-15 mph.

## **C. Geology and Soils**

Clark (2006) points out that the lookout is located on the eastern sea cliffs that front two massive volcanic craters, Koko Head and Koko Crater. Both of these craters are known as tuff cones, which mean that when they erupted in the ocean, the volcanic ash they created was cemented into rock called tuff. The tuff often contains limestone fragments which were broken off coral reefs during the volcanic explosions.

The Soil Conservation Service (1972) identifies a single soil type---Rock Land (rRK)---comprising the Halona Blowhole. Typically, exposed rock covers 25 to 90 percent of the surface in areas where Rock Land is found. Rock outcrops and very shallow soils are the main characteristics. The rock outcrops are mainly basalt and andesite. Foundations and retaining walls built on Rock Land are susceptible to cracking.

## **D. Topography**

Existing grades at the Lookout are the result of constructed pavements, walkways, and the parking area. Ground elevation appears to be approximately 40 feet above mean sea level (msl) at the parking area and approximately 35 feet msl at the parapet wall below the parking area.

## **E. Flood Hazard and Drainage**

The Flood Insurance Rate Map places the Halona Blowhole in Zone "D" which is defined as "areas of undetermined, but possible, flood hazards (Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2004)".







In spite of its shoreline location, the Halona Blowhole Lookout is not within a coastal high hazard area.

## **F. Water Resources**

### **1. Surface Water**

There are no freshwater streams, rivers, lakes, ponds, and wetlands in the vicinity of the Halona Blowhole.

The State Department of Health classifies ocean waters off the Halona Blowhole as Class A Waters to the 100 fathom contour (Department of Health, 1987). "It is the objective of Class A waters that their use for recreational purposes and aesthetic enjoyment be protected. Any other use shall be permitted as long as it is compatible with the protection and propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife, and with recreation in and on these waters. These waters shall not act as receiving waters for any discharge which has not received the best degree of treatment or control compatible with the criteria established for this class (Hawaii Administrative Rules §11-54-03(c)(2))

### **2. Ground Water**

Mink and Lau (1980) classify the aquifer in this area of East Honolulu as part of the Waialae aquifer system. The Waialae aquifer is characterized by an unconfined basal aquifer above a confined basal aquifer in horizontally extensive lavas. The unconfined aquifer is classified as potentially useful, high in salinity (between 5,000 and 15,000 parts per million chloride), neither potable nor ecologically important, and replaceable. The confined basal aquifer has potential for a source of fresh drinking water (Fresh <250 mg/l C<sup>-</sup>), and is irreplaceable. No Board of Water Supply wells are known to be located between Hanauma Bay and Sandy Beach.

## **H. Flora and Fauna**

Beach naupaka and koa haole were the only botanical species noted growing at or near the Lookout.

Terrestrial fauna was not observed at the time of this author's field inspection.

The short-eared Owl or Pueo has been observed on two occasions on the slopes of Koko Crater and Kalona Point (Bruner, 1988). This endemic subspecies is listed as endangered on Oahu by the State Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry and Wildlife. Migratory species such as the Pacific golden plover and wandering tattler have been observed along this coastline and further inland.

Bruner observed indigenous seabirds in Koko Head Regional Park and these birds probably frequent the coast. Some of these seabirds include Laysan albatross, white tern, sooty tern, great frigate bird, and wedge-tailed shearwater. Bruner also observed common exotic birds frequenting the Park.

The endangered green sea turtle is known to feed on seaweed growing close to shore at Halona Cove but they do not come ashore (Clark, 2006). The endangered humpback and



sperm whales winter yearly in Hawaii and can be seen offshore between December and April.

## **I. Archaeological Features**

According to Clark (2006), Halona means “peering place” or “lookout” in Hawaiian and is the name of the point in which the blowhole is located (Halona Point). It is an appropriate name for the site which has been open to the public since the completion of the coastal highway in 1931.

There are no known archaeological features associated with the site; however, there are two features erected in recent times that can be seen at and in the vicinity of the blowhole: the Halona Blowhole Obelisk Warning Sign and the Umi Mamori Jizo. Clark (Ibid) describes the history of both features.

When Kalanianaʻole Highway was extended past Hanauma Bay in the early 1930s, many fishermen from other parts of the island began finding their way to the Koko Head sea cliffs. While the sea cliffs provide some excellent fishing sites, especially for ulua, they are also one of the most dangerous shoreline areas on Oahu. As soon as the road opened, fisherman started drowning all along the Koko Head sea cliffs, swept off the ledges and points at sea level by powerful waves. In response to the alarming number of drownings that were occurring, the Honolulu Japanese Casting Club (HJCC) undertook a community service project that they hoped would prevent more drownings. In 1931, they decided to erect obelisk-shaped warning signs made from six-foot long, four-by-four posts at every spot on the shore where a fisherman had drowned. Each post has the Japanese word “kiken”, or “danger”, written in calligraphy on it and the English word “danger.”

Members of HJCC began their project in November 1931, and continued erecting wooden obelisks around Oahu for a period of ten years. When the project ended with the beginning of World War II, they had placed over 50 obelisks all around the island, grim testament to the number of drownings that occurred during the 1930s. Today, only two of the original obelisks are still standing, one next to the Halona Blowhole, which was erected in 1931, and one at Paioluolu Point, the west point of Hanauma Bay, which was erected in 1934.

On Sunday, December 20, 1931, members of the HJCC drove to Bamboo Ridge to erect two obelisk signs where two of their members had recently drowned. While walking to the spot where the first obelisk was to be placed, a rogue wave caught two of the members off-guard and swept on of them into the ocean, where he drowned. In response to this incident, the HJCC members decided to purchase a statue of Jizo, a Buddhist guardian saint, and erect it above Bamboo Ridge. They received approval from Lester McCoy, the director of the Board of Public Parks and Recreation, purchased a granite statue from Hiroshima, Japan, and installed it on August 31, 1932. McCoy and other dignitaries of the day attended the installation ceremony.

The statue was a prominent landmark until July 1939, when it was severely vandalized. Club members removed the statue, but left the granite base. They found a large, lava (“moss rock”) boulder and asked a stone mason to carve a bas relief of Jizo into the face of the boulder. They installed the boulder on the original granite base on June 23, 1940, where it still stands today. It is called the Umi Mamori Jizo, or the “Ocean Protector Jizo.”



The Umi Mamori Jizo is maintained by Shingon Shu Hawaii, a Buddhist mission on Sheridan Street in Honolulu. Priest from Shingon Shu Hawaii conducted the installation ceremonies in 1932 and 1940 and continue to hold an annual service at the site on the second Sunday in November.

## **J. Land Use Controls**

The property is classified Conservation on the State Land Use District map for the area, general planned Urban Fringe, designated Preservation on the East Honolulu *Sustainable Communities Plan* Land Use Map, and zoned P-2 General Preservation.

The parcel is within the Resource subzone of the Conservation District. Land uses in the conservation district are regulated by the Department of Land and Natural Resources. The Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands (OCCL), Department of Land and Natural Resources, has determined that the *“proposed renovations are an identified use pursuant to Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR) §13-5-22 Identified land uses in the protective subzone, P-9 STRUCTURES, EXISTING (A-1) Replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities . . .”* This use does not require a permit from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

OCCL also determined that the project is exempt from environmental assessment *“pursuant to HAR §11-200-8 Exempt classes of Action, 2: Replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located approximately on the same site and will have substantially the same purpose, capacity, density, height, and dimensions as the structure replaced.”* The OCCL determination is found in Appendix A.

One of the key elements of the East Honolulu *Sustainable Communities Plan* is the delineation of urban, agricultural, and preservation boundaries for the community plan area. According to the Plan, “[T]he Preservation Boundary is established to protect undeveloped lands which form an important part of the region’s open space fabric but that are not valued primarily for agricultural uses. Such lands include important wildlife habitat, archaeological or historic sites, significant landforms or landscapes over which significant views are available, and development-related hazard areas.”

The Plan places almost the entire the coastal area between Koko Head and Makapuu Point in a Preservation Area (which presumably is bounded by the preservation boundary). The exceptions are Hanauma Bay and Sandy Beach which are designated Regional, District, and Beach Parks. The Plan describes this shoreline area thusly:

“The rugged coastal lands between Koko Head and Makapuu Point are among Oahu’s most unique and spectacular scenic resources, offering mauka and makai views from many vantage points. Protection of the scenic value of this viewshed has island-wide importance because of its attraction to both residents and visitors. Preserving one of Oahu’s most popular visitor resources is critical to our economy since tourism, our base industry, continues to grow in significance.” This approximately 6.5 mile long coastal area also comprises one of the critical shoreline areas in the Plan.

One of the guidelines for shoreline areas applicable to the proposed action is to:



Place high priority on maintaining the untamed landscape quality of the Koko Head to Makapuu viewshed. Any modification to this shoreline area should be done in a manner which preserves the aesthetic values of the undeveloped xerophytic landscape.

The Halona Blowhole Lookout is within the County delineated Special Management Area (“SMA”) (See Figure 7). The Department of Planning and Permitting (“DPP”) [will determine the SMA permitting requirement] **has determined that a SMA Major Permit is required** for the proposed project (*Department of Planning and Permitting Comment*).

***The Department of Planning and Permitting indicated that a Public Infrastructure Map (“PIM”) revision is not required.***

The Coastal View Study (Chu and Jones, 1987) surveyed coastal views and landforms for the island of Oahu. The Study inventoried coastal areas by viewshed and rated them from Type 1 to Type 6 (Type 1 offering significant coastal views and Type 6 as coastal views linked to coastal developments to enhance viewing). The Halona Blowhole Lookout lies within the Koko Head Viewshed of East Honolulu. The Koko Head Viewshed was classified as a Type 1 Viewshed. Type 1 viewsheds demonstrate high levels of visual intactness and exemplify the purposed of many of the scenic and open space policies and objectives contained with the General Plan, Development Plans and HCZMP. The directives to “preserve and protect” scenic and open space resources are most applicable within intact viewsheds.

As a geographical location within the Koko Head Viewshed, the Halona Blowhole Lookout is identified for providing significant stationary 180 degree panoramic views of coastal land forms and the ocean to the north and south

## **K. Public Facilities**

### **1. Circulation**

Kalanianaʻole Highway, a two-way, two-lane, all purpose road passes to the west of the project site. It is the principal travel route for vehicles traveling between East Honolulu and the Waimanalo area of Oahu and a major scenic route for residents and visitors. The Highway is also an alternate route in case of emergency between Honolulu and Windward Oahu when roads such as the Wilson Tunnel, Pali Tunnel, and H-3 are blocked or closed.

### **2. Water**

There is no municipal water within the Kalanianaʻole Highway right-of-way.

### **3. Sewer**

There are no wastewater facilities at the Halona Blowhole Lookout. The nearest public restrooms are located at Sandy Beach to the north. This facility uses cesspools for wastewater disposal.



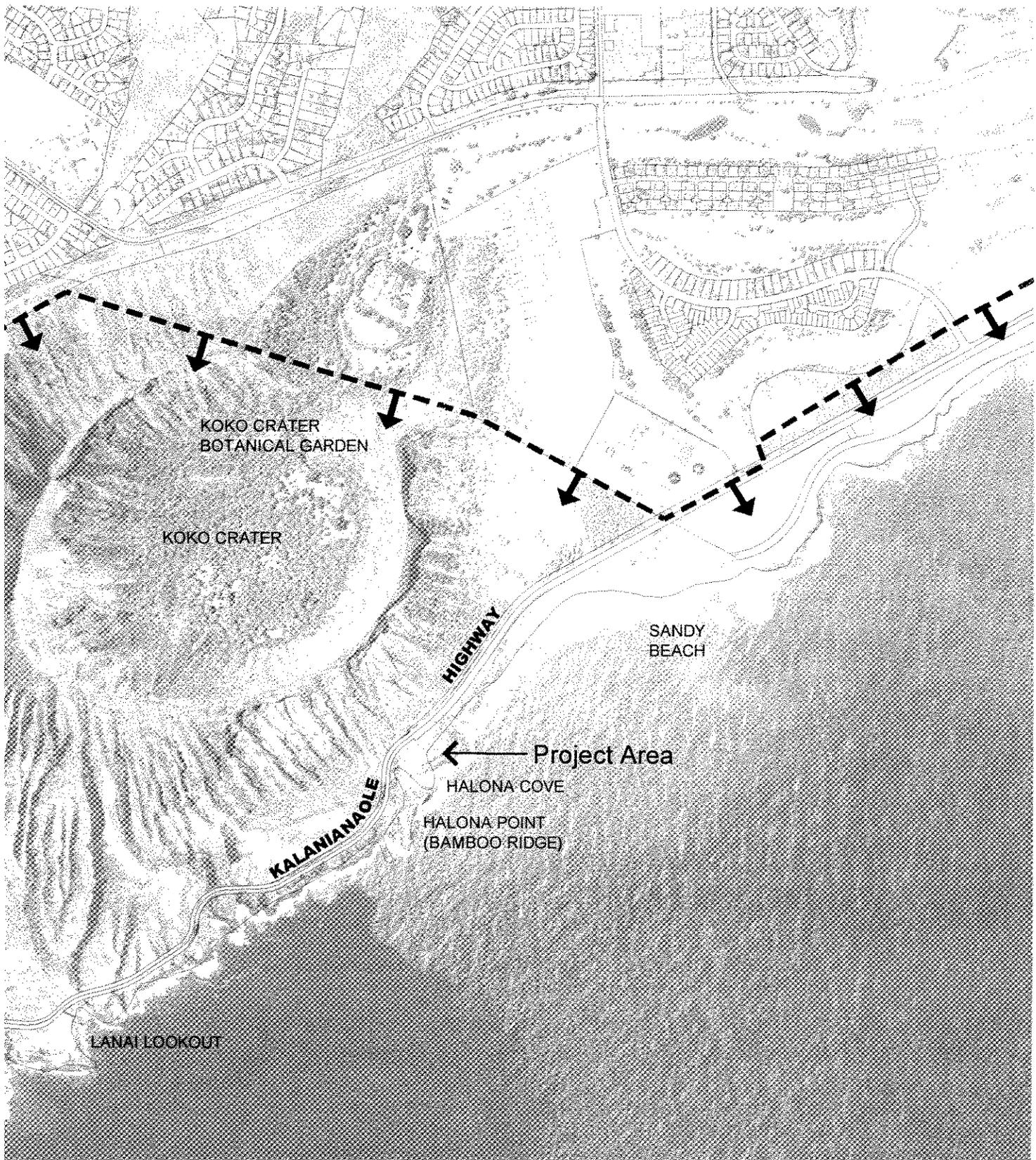
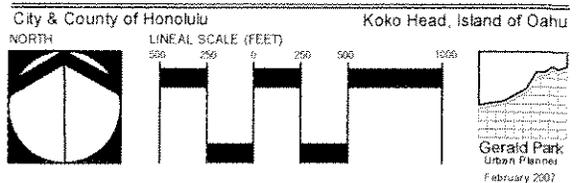


Figure 7  
 Special Management Area Map  
 Halona Blowhole Lookout Renovation



Legend

Area within Special Management Area



#### 4. Drainage

There are no streams or major drainage channels flowing through the project site. Storm runoff from areas *mauka* of Kalanianaʻole Highway flows off the hillside (Koko Crater) in shallow gullies and crosses the road at low points before discharging into the ocean.

#### 5. Electrical Power

There is no electrical service to the Halona Blowhole Lookout.

#### 6. Protective Services

The Honolulu Police Department services East Honolulu from the Main Station on Beretania Street in Honolulu. East Honolulu is part of Police District 1 which extends from Punahou Street in Makiki to Makapuu. Vehicle break-ins are a recurring problem at the Blowhole Lookout despite posted signs alerting visitors to take their valuables with them when viewing the blowhole.

#### 7. Parks and Recreation

City and County of Honolulu recreational facilities in this coastal section of Oahu include Hanauma Bay, Koko Head District Park, Koko Head Public Shooting Complex, Koko Crater Botanical Garden, and Sandy Beach.

Although not recreational facilities *per se*, the Halona Blowhole Lookout, Lanai Lookout, and Kuapa Pond Lookout all of which are located along Kalanianaʻole Highway attract residents and visitors for their scenic viewing.

Private facilities include Koko Head Stables and Hawaii Kai Golf Course.



# SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MEASURES TO MITIGATE ADVERSE EFFECTS

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## A. Assessment Process

The scope of the project was discussed with planners of the Department of Design and Construction, the consulting engineer, and others comprising the design team. State and County agencies were contacted for information relative to their jurisdiction, expertise, and areas of concern. Time was spent in the field noting site conditions and conditions in the vicinity of the Halona Blowhole. From the discussions and field investigations, existing conditions and features that could be affected by or affect the project were identified. These influencing conditions are:

- The Halona Blowhole Lookout is not located in a flood hazard area and coastal high hazard area;
- There are no recorded archaeological features on the premises;
- There are no coastal ecosystems on the premises;
- The site is free of geological and hydrological hazards;
- There are no wetlands on the property; and
- There is no utility service to the Lookout.

## B. Short-term Impacts

### 1. Air Quality

Construction will temporarily affect air quality and the acoustical environment. Grubbing, demolition, grading, stockpiling, backfilling and other soil (or sand) moving activities will raise fugitive dust that can settle in adjoining areas. Windy conditions coupled with exposed soil can create severe dust problems. The general contractor will employ dust control measures to prevent the work site and construction equipment and activities from becoming significant dust generators. Control measures shall comply with Chapter 60.1, Air Pollution Control, Title 11, Department of Health, State of Hawaii (and revisions thereto). The site work contractor may implement alternative methods adaptable to the scope of the improvements and features of the site.

Most construction equipment and vehicles are diesel powered and emit exhaust emissions typically high in nitrogen dioxide and low in carbon monoxide. The Federal and State nitrogen dioxide standard ---100mg/m<sup>3</sup> per annum---which is an annual standard, is not likely to be exceeded during construction. Carbon dioxide emissions should be less than that generated by automobile traffic on adjoining streets. Aldehyde odors from diesel equipment may be detected but should be dispersed by the prevailing winds.

### 2. Noise

Construction noise, like fugitive dust, cannot be avoided. However, there are no inhabited areas nearby thus only construction workers, passers-by, and visitors to Halona Cove will be exposed to construction noise.



Exposure to noise will vary by construction phase, the duration of each phase, and the type of equipment used during the different phases. Maximum sound levels in the range of 82-96 db(A) measured at 50 feet from the source will be generated by heavy machinery during the demolition and site work phase. After this phase is completed, reductions in sound levels, frequency, and duration can be expected as the walls, pavements, and parking area improvements are constructed.

Community Noise Control regulations establish maximum permissible sound levels for construction activities occurring within "acoustical" zoning districts. Based on the preservation zoning for the site, the site is considered to be located in the Class A zoning district for noise control purposes. The maximum permissible daytime sound level in the district attributable to stationary noise sources and equipment related to construction activities is 55 dBA during daytime (7:00 AM to 10:00 PM) and 45 dBA during nighttime (10:00 Pm to 7:00 AM) (Chapter 46, Community Noise Control, 1996).

In general, construction activities cannot exceed the permissible noise levels for more than ten percent of the time within any twenty-minute period except by permit or variance. Any noise source that emits noise levels in excess of the maximum permissible sound levels cannot be operated without first obtaining a noise permit from the State Department of Health. Although the permit does not attenuate noise per se it regulates the hours during which excessive noise is allowed.

The general contractor will be responsible for obtaining and complying with conditions attached to the permit. Work will be scheduled between the hours of 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM Mondays through Fridays. The contractor will also ensure that construction equipment with motors is equipped with mufflers in proper operating condition.

Noise will be audible over the entire construction period. All construction activities will comply with Chapter 46 Noise Control for Oahu, Title 11, Administrative Rules, Department of Health, State of Hawaii.

### 3. Erosion

Demolition and site work will expose rock and possibly pockets of soil creating opportunities for erosion (fugitive dust and suspended sediment in runoff). Demolition, grading, and stockpiling of excavated or imported material will be performed in accordance with the erosion control ordinance of the City and County of Honolulu and grading plans approved by the Department of Planning and Permitting, City and County of Honolulu.

Rubble from the demolished improvements will be formed into a 30' long x 12' wide x 3' deep pile on the concrete floor of the *makai* observation deck. An estimated 48 cubic yards of rubble from the *makai* viewing area and 85 cubic yards from the *mauka* viewing area would form the rock pile. The rubble will be covered with gravel and capped with grouted riprap textured to match the surrounding rock ledge. Planting holes will allow vegetation to be planted and grow atop the pile.

Best Management Practices (BMPS) for erosion and drainage control during construction will be incorporated into a detailed BMP plan. Silt curtains will be erected around work sites and gravel blankets placed at vehicle access points. Additional BMPs will be considered based on site conditions.



The site work contractor will take precautionary measures to prevent pollutants such as floating debris, grease, oil, and soil particles from entering State waters so as to not violate basic water quality criteria (Hawaii Administrative Rules §11-54-04). ***The Department of Health also commented that the project and its potential impacts must meet the anti-degradation policy (HAR §11-54-1.1) designated uses as determined by the classification of receiving State waters (HAR §11-54-3). The City and County of Honolulu will comply with Hawaii Administrative Rules Chapter 54 and the applicable sections cited in the DOH comments.***

Construction work will not exceed one (1) acre thus a NPDES General Permit Authorizing Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Construction Activity will not be required from the State Department of Health.

#### 4. Flora

Grubbing will clear what little vegetation grows in the landscaped traffic island at the entry. After the traffic island is reconfigured, it will be landscaped with the same plant material as now existing. No threatened or endangered plants will be affected.

#### 5. Archaeological Features

***The State Historic Preservation Division commented that the project should have “no effect” on historic properties. “Thus, we have no objections to your finding of no significant impact (FONSI) to the environment.”***

Should demolition unearth subsurface archaeological sites, artifacts, cultural deposits, or burials work in the immediate area will cease and historic authorities notified for proper disposition of the finds.

The proposed improvements will not impact the two monuments erected in the vicinity of the blowhole and the lookout.

#### 6. Traffic

Some construction work in the Kalanianaʻole Highway right-of-way may be required. The contractor will implement measures to minimize inconvenience to motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists during construction. These measures will include but are not limited to:

- Keeping one lane of traffic open at all times;
- Posting warning signs on both sides of the work area to alert motorists of road work and to slow traffic speed;
- Positioning traffic cones or other directional devices in the roadway to guide vehicles around work areas;
- Posting off-duty police officers to assist in traffic control;
- Limiting construction to between 7:00 AM and 3:30 PM, Monday through Friday.

***The State Department of Transportation commented that “[A]ny renovation work within and adjoining our highway (Kalanianaʻole Highway) right-of-way, including improvements or facilities within the project area that may impact the highway, e.g.***



***drainage and surface water flow; traffic backing up into the highway, etc., will need prior review and approval by our Highways Division."***

***The Department of Design and Construction will submit construction plans to the Highways Division for review and will coordinate the project in advance of and during the renovation work.***

The road sections affected by construction will be restored to pre-construction conditions or better. Open trenches will be covered with steel plates at the end of each working day and safety devices posted during night hours.

Construction vehicles hauling men and material will contribute to traffic on Kalanianaʻole Highway. Material deliveries will be scheduled to minimize impacts on local traffic. Materials will be off-loaded on-site. Should materials have to be unloaded

### **C. Long-term Impacts**

Long-term impacts are discussed in the context of the Special Management Area objectives and policies.

#### **1. Recreation**

The Halona Blowhole Lookout may be closed during construction. If possible, a phased closure will be considered to keep half of the lookout area open during construction. While closure will preclude visitors from entering the lookout area, it may not preclude beach-goers from accessing Halona Cove. It has not been determined if access to Halona Cove will be closed, however, for public safety reasons, access should be closed for the duration of construction.

With the exception of constructing a rubble pile in the vicinity of the demolished lower observation deck, lateral access along the rocky shoreline from either side of the Halona Blowhole will not be prohibited.

#### **2. Scenic and Open Space**

The proposed improvements will not adversely affect scenic and open space resources along this coastal section of Kalanianaʻole Highway. The proposed new see-through fencing (2'6" high on a 12" base) is not much higher than the existing 3'0" high parapet walls. The existing parapet walls blocks all views towards the ocean except when viewed from over the top of the wall. Replacing the CRM parapet walls with see-through fencing should make it easier for people to view the blowhole and the ocean beyond.

The proposed improvements will not obstruct views of the ocean from the State highway closest to the ocean.

#### **3. Coastal Ecosystems**

The project is not proposed in an area of open waters, potential fisheries and fishing grounds, and wildlife habitats. There are no wetlands, perennial streams, lakes, or other bodies of water ecosystems on the premises.



The project is located close to the ocean and the site work contractor will employ appropriate measures to minimize discharge into State waters.

#### 4. Archaeological Resources

There are no archaeological resources on the premises.

#### 5. Economic Uses

Although the Halona Blowhole Lookout is located along the coastline, it is not a coastal dependent development.

#### 6. Coastal Hazards

The proposed improvements are not located in a flood hazard or coastal high hazard area.

#### 7. Managing Development and 8. Public Participation

The DPP [will determine the SMA permitting requirement] has determined that a Special management Area Major Permit is required for the project. If a Major SMA Permit is required, the DPP will schedule a public hearing as part of the SMA review process. Notice of the public hearing will be published in a local daily newspaper. Adjoining property owners and lessees will be notified by mail as to the time and place of the hearing.

The Honolulu City Council approves SMA permits. The application for SMA Permit and DPP recommendation will be presented to the City Council Zoning Committee and the City Council. The Zoning Committee can also schedule a public hearing if warranted. Honolulu City Council hearing procedures provide ample opportunity for the public to comment on the SMA Permit application.

#### 9. Beach Protection

The proposed improvements are not located on a beach per se. The proposed rubble pile will be constructed on a rocky sea cliff approximately 70 to 80 feet away from the waters edge.

#### 10. Marine Resources

The project does not propose the use of marine resources and will not affect marine resources in the vicinity of the rocky coastline.



### **A. No Action**

A "No Action" alternative would preclude the occurrence of all impacts, short and long term, beneficial and adverse described in this Assessment. A No Action alternative would forego the improvements proposed in the Design Alternative Report. The existing Lookout will continue to deteriorate, pose additional safety concerns, and ultimately lead to closure and the loss of a major scenic viewpoint.



## AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS CONSULTED IN PREPARING THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

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*The Draft Environmental Assessment for the Halona Blowhole Lookout Renovation was published in the Office of Environmental Quality Control Environmental Notice of May 23, 2007. Publication initiated a 30-day public review period that ended on June 22, 2007. An asterisk \* identifies agencies and organizations that submitted written comments during the review period. All comment letters and responses are found in Appendix A.*

### **City and County of Honolulu**

- \*Department of Parks and Recreation
- \*Department of Planning and Permitting**
- \*Police Department

### **State of Hawaii**

- Department of Land and Natural Resources
  - \*Historic Preservation Division
- Department of Health
  - \*Environmental Planning Office**
- Office of Environmental Quality Control
- \*Department of Transportation

### **Other**

- \*Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board No. 1
  - Councilmember Charles Djou
  - The Honorable Sam Slom
  - The Honorable Fred Hemmings
  - The Honorable Gene Ward
  - Hawaii Kai Public Library (Placement)



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Permits and approvals required for the project and approving authorities are listed below. Additional permits and approvals may be required pending final construction plans.

**City and County of Honolulu**

Honolulu City Council

Special Management Area Permit [(To Be Determined)]

Department of Planning and Permitting

Grubbing, Grading, and Stockpiling Permit  
Building Permit for Building, Electrical, Plumbing, Sidewalk/Driveway and Demolition Work

**State of Hawaii**

Department of Health

NPDES General Permit (Tentative)  
Variance from Pollution Control (Noise Permit)

Department of Transportation

Permit to Perform Work within State Highway Right-of-Way



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Chapter 200 (Environmental Impact Statement Rules) of Title 11, Administrative Rules of the State Department of Health, establishes criteria for determining whether an action may have significant effects on the environment (§11-200-12). The relationship of the proposed project to these criteria is discussed below.

**1) Involves an irrevocable commitment to loss or destruction of any natural or cultural resource;**

The proposed project does not involve a commitment to loss or destruction of any natural resource.

**2) Curtails the range of beneficial uses of the environment;**

The proposed improvements will renovate a popular facility for residents and visitors that is in deteriorating condition. The Halona Blowhole Lookout was constructed in the early 1950s and is in need of replacement and or renovation. All improvements will be confined to the existing lookout site or areas that have been previously improved.

**3) Conflicts with the state's long-term environmental policies or goals and guidelines as expressed in chapter 344, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and any revisions thereof and amendments thereto, court decisions or executive orders;**

The project does not conflict with long-term environmental policies, goals, and guidelines of the State of Hawaii.

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

The project will not substantially affect the economic or social welfare of the State.

**5) Substantially affects public health;**

Public health should not be adversely affected by the proposed project.

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

The proposed project will not initiate population changes or effects on public facilities.

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

Environmental quality will not be substantially degraded as a result of the project.

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



The project is not the precursor for a larger action. It is, however, part of on-going capital improvement programs to improve existing facilities for residents of and visitors to the City and County of Honolulu.

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

Field investigations reveal that there is no rare, threatened or endangered flora on the premises.

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

Ambient air quality will be affected during construction by fugitive dust and combustion emissions but can be controlled by measures stipulated in this Assessment. Construction noise will be pronounced during site work but should diminish once the existing walls and pavements are demolished. Noise will diminish during construction of the new walls, pavements, and parking area. All construction activities will comply with air quality and noise pollution regulations of the State Department of Health.

**11) Affects an environmentally sensitive area such as a flood plain, tsunami zone, erosion prone area, geologically hazardous land, estuary, fresh water, or coastal waters;**

The improvements are not proposed in an environmentally sensitive area.

**12) Substantially affects scenic vistas and view planes identified in county or state plans or studies; or**

The completed project will not adversely affect scenic vistas and viewplanes. It is anticipated that the completed project will enhance coastal viewing opportunities for all who visit the Halona Blowhole Lookout.

**13) Requires substantial energy consumption.**

The completed improvements will not need energy to operate.



## REFERENCES

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APPENDIX A

CORRESPONDENCE FROM OFFICE OF CONSERVATION  
AND COASTAL LANDS



LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
OFFICE OF CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
POST OFFICE BOX 821  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

PETER T. YOUNG  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

DEAN A. NAKANO  
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCE MANAGEMENT  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

Ref: OCCL:MC

Eugene C. Lee, P.E.  
Deputy Director  
Department of Design and Construction  
City and County of Honolulu  
Honolulu HI 96813

195 081  
dup  
H  
Greg Lee

Correspondence: OA-06-194

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RECEIVED  
DEPT OF DESIGN & CONSTR  
C & O OF HONOLULU

Dear Mr. Lee,

SUBJECT: Reconstruction of Hālonā Blowhole Lookout  
Subject Parcel TMK: (1) 3-9-012:002  
Hawai'i Kai, O'ahu

The Department of Land and Natural Resources, Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands (OCCL) is in receipt of your letter, dated February 24, 2006, regarding the proposed repairs to the Hālonā Blowhole Lookout and parking lot. According to your letter, the lower portion of the lookout collapsed two years ago due to normal weathering. The City and County wishes to:

1. Restore the lower platform area to its natural appearance.
2. Stabilize and reconstruct the upper viewing platform
3. If practical, construct improvements so that the viewing platform is ADA accessible.
4. Assess the need to repave the parking lot, and repave if needed.
5. Place interpretive signage for the Hālonā Blowhole and humpback whale viewing.

The proposals would not expand the area of use or the footprint of the lookout or parking area.

The parcel lies within the Resource Subzone of the Conservation District. Based on the information provided, the proposed renovations are an identified use pursuant to Hawai'i Administrative Rules (HAR) §13-5-22 *Identified land uses in the protective subzone, P-9 STRUCTURES, EXISTING, (A-1) Replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities as identified in the exempt classes established in §11-200-8, except as provided in §13-5-37 where the new structure will be located approximately on the same site and will have substantially the same purpose, capacity, density, height, and dimensions as the structure replaced.* This use does not require a permit from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.



The damage to the structure appears to be less than 50%. OCCL wishes to remind you for future record that, pursuant to HAR §13-5-37 *Nonconforming uses*, (d) *If a nonconforming structure is destroyed by any means to an extent of more than fifty percent of its replacement cost at the time of destruction, it shall not be reconstructed except in conformity with the provisions of this chapter.*

The project as described is identified as exempt pursuant to HAR §11-200-8 *Exempt Classes of Action*, 2: *Replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located approximately on the same site and will have substantially the same purpose, capacity, density, height, and dimensions as the structure replaced*

Please call Michael Cain at 587-0048, should you have any further questions.

Alotta,  


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



APPENDIX B

COMMENT LETTERS AND RESPONSES



# CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

1000 LULUOHA STREET, SUITE 303 • KAPOLEI, HAWAII 96707  
PHONE: (808) 692-5561 • FAX: 692-5131 • INTERNET: www.co.honolulu.hi.us



MUFI HANNEMANN  
MAYOR

LESTER K. C. CHANG  
DIRECTOR

DANA L. TAKAHARADIAS  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR



June 6, 2007

Mr. Gerald Park  
Gerald Park Urban Planner  
1221 Kapiolani Blvd., Suite 211  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Dear Mr. Park:

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment  
Halona Blowhole Lookout Renovation  
TMK 3-9-012, por. 002

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the Draft Environmental Assessment relating to the Halona Blowhole Lookout Renovation.

The Department of Parks and Recreation is a strong supporter of the renovation of the Halona Blowhole Lookout and has no comment regarding environmental impact issues.

However, we do offer the following comments relating to the proposed improvements themselves:

- A. The existing southeast parapet is actually a retaining wall with the grade about two feet higher on the makai side of the wall than the sidewalk side. It appears that the makai side of the wall will have to be graded if the wall is to be removed and replaced with a see through fence. We recommend it be finished as a slope rather than flat area to provide a better view and to further discourage people from climbing over and standing on the makai side of the fence.
- B. Expanding the triangle traffic area will reduce the amount of space available for traffic flow by narrowing the entryway and suggest extending the parking along the existing triangle without enlarging it.

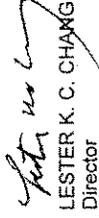
Mr. Gerald Park  
June 6  
Page 2

C. The proposed parking configuration will result in reducing the existing parking by three stalls. We recommend locating the "Oahu Orientation" display next to the interpretive international signage, leaving the southeast and west parking area and sidewalks basically unchanged so no stalls are lost.

D. Our District I staff responsible for the care and maintenance of the Halona Blowhole Lookout, also suggest that the drain along the west wall be re-sloped to improve drainage, as silt and water currently pond around it during rainy periods and recommend that due to the harsh salt environment, glass fiber reinforced polymer rebar be used to mitigate rust and extend the life of new masonry and that particular attention be given to salt/rust and vandalism resistant metal fencing and reinforcing cables.

Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. John Reid, Planner, at 692-5454.

Sincerely,

  
LESTER K. C. CHANG  
Director

LKCC:mk  
(208858)

cc: Mr. Gregg Hee, Department of Design and Construction







CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET · HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TELEPHONE: (808) 528-3111 · INTERNET: www.honolulu.gov

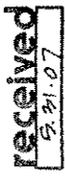


BOISSE P. CORREA  
CHIEF  
GLENN KAJIYAMA  
PAUL D. PATELU  
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE BS-DK

May 25, 2007

June 5, 2007



Mr. Gerald Park  
Gerald Park Urban Planner  
1221 Kapiolani Boulevard, Suite 211  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Mr. Gerald Park  
Gerald Park, Urban Planner  
1221 Kapiolani Boulevard, Suite 211  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

LOG NO: 2007.1672  
DOC NO: 0705amj35  
Archaeology



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION  
601 KAMOKILA BOULEVARD, ROOM 551  
KAPOLEI, HAWAII 96707



Dear Mr. Park:

SUBJECT: Chapter 6E-8 Historic Preservation Review -  
DEA Halona Blowhole Lookout Renovation  
Maunaloa Ahupua'a, Kona District, Island of O'ahu  
TMK: (1) 3-9-012-002 (portion)

This is in response to your letter of May 14, 2007, requesting comments on a Draft Environmental Assessment for the Halona Blowhole Lookout Renovation project in East Honolulu.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the aforementioned document, which we received on May 21, 2007. The DEA covers the repair and renovation of the Halona Blowhole Lookout viewing platforms and parking area, which have become a safety hazard due to their ongoing deterioration.

This project should have no significant impact on the facilities or operations of the Honolulu Police Department.

According to your document, there are no known historic properties within the area of potential effect. Also, according to your document, the proposed project will not expand the area of use or the footprint of the lookout or the parking area. For these reasons, and provided the aforementioned information is accurate, we concur with your determination that the proposed project will have "no effect" on historic properties (page 22, DEA). Thus, we have no objections to your finding of no significant impact (FONSI) to the environment.

If there are any questions, please call Acting Major Robert Green of District 7 at 529-3362 or Mr. Brandon Stone of the Executive Office at 529-3644.

Sincerely,

BOISSE P. CORREA  
Chief of Police

By *Al A. Kamohi J. Amunini*  
JOHN P. KERR  
Assistant Chief of Police  
Support Services Bureau

*Melanie Chinsed*  
Melanie Chinsed, Administrator  
State Historic Preservation Division

Please contact me at (808) 692-8015 if you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter.

Aloha,

anj

*Serving and Protecting With Aloha*





STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5087

May 25, 2007

Mr. Gerald Park  
Gerald Park Urban Planner  
1221 Kapiolani Boulevard, Suite 211  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Dear Mr. Park:

Subject: Halona Blowhole Lookout Renovation  
Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA)  
TMK: 3-9-012: por. 002, Oahu

Thank you for advising us of the subject proposed project and providing the project's Draft EA for our review. We have some initial comments:

1. Any renovation work within and adjoining our highway (Kalaniana'ole Highway) right-of-way, including improvements or facilities within the project area that may impact the highway, e.g. drainage and surface water flow; traffic backing up into the highway, etc., will need prior review and approval by our Highways Division.
2. A copy of this letter and the project's Draft EA will be forwarded to our Highways Division for further follow up. If determined by the Highways staff, the City and County, Department of Design and Construction and its designated contractors may need to discuss and coordinate the subject project with one or more of our Highways offices in advance of and during the renovation period.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide our initial comments.

Very truly yours,

BARRY FUKUNAGA  
Director of Transportation

c: Gregory Hee, Department of Design and Construction

Deputy Directors  
FRANCIS PAUL KEENO  
BRENNON T. MURDOCK  
BRIAN H. SENGUICH

IN REPLY REFER TO:

STP 8.2499

received  
5. 21. 07



GERALD PARK  
Urban Planner

- Planning
- Land Use Research
- Environmental Studies

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96814

Telephone:  
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Facsimile:  
(808) 592-7485  
e-mail:  
geraldparkurbanplanner@hawaiiplanner.net

July 9, 2007

Barry Fukunaga, Director of Transportation  
Department of Transportation  
State of Hawaii  
869 Punchbowl Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Fukunaga:

Subject: Halona Blowhole Lookout Renovation  
Tax Map Key 3-9-012: por. 002, Oahu  
STP 8.2499

Thank you for reviewing the Draft Environmental Assessment prepared for the subject project. Responses to your comments are offered in the order they were presented.

1. Construction plans affecting the Kalaniana'ole Highway right-of-way will be submitted to the Highways Division for review and approval prior to construction.
2. The Department of Design and Construction or the contractor selected for the project will discuss coordinating the subject improvements with the Highways Division in advance of and during the renovation period.

We thank the Department of Transportation for participating in the environmental assessment review process.

Sincerely,

GERALD PARK URBAN PLANNER

Gerald Park

c: G. Hee, DDC  
C. Shifoma, KSE





RUFU HANNEMANN  
MAYOR

HENRY ENG, FAICP  
DIRECTOR

DAVID N. TANQUE  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

2007/ELOG-1090(DT)

June 14, 2007



Mr. Gerald Park  
1221 Kapiolani Blvd.  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Dear Mr. Park:

Subject: Comments on Draft Environmental Assessment (EA)  
Halona Blowhole Lookout Renovation  
Department of Design and Construction  
Makai of Kalaianaoale Highway - Near Halona Point  
Tax Map Key 3-9-12: Portion of 2

We have reviewed the Draft EA for the above project and have the following comments.  
Please address and/or incorporate them into the Final EA:

Planning Division (PD)

1. The project will not require a Public Infrastructure Map (PIM) revision. As currently proposed, it does not meet the five PIM applicability criteria, including: No. 4, modifications to an existing facility which would permit significant new development or redevelopment and No. 5, a total project cost of over \$3 million for capital improvements.

Please contact Mike Watkins at 768-8044, should you have any questions regarding the above comments.

Zoning, Regulations and Permits Branch (ZRPB)

1. A major Special Management Area Use Permit will be required for the project.
2. A new wall with see-through fencing is mentioned for the observation area under the Technical Characteristics section. Please provide the length of this wall.

Mr. Gerald Park  
June 14, 2007  
Page 2

3. The EA should include the dimensions of the new concrete rubble masonry (CRM) fence sign that will replace the existing sign at the entrance. An elevation drawing of the sign should also be included.
4. There is a "drain to remain" notation on the right side of the Halona Blowhole Conceptual Plan. However, there is no arrow showing the location of the drain. Please show the drain location.
5. Page 8 of the EA mentions the existing CRM park sign. The dimensions of the existing and proposed signs should be included in this section.
6. The Final EA should describe how much (in cubic yards) clearing, grubbing, and grading will be done prior to construction.
7. Are there rubbish cans at the lookout? If yes, the method of solid waste disposal (includes refuse and any clearing) should be included in the EA.
8. Page 14 of the EA under "Archaeological Features" mentions there are two monuments nearby. Please include the distance of these monuments to the site.
9. Page 18 of the EA under "Parks and Recreation" mentions the nearby recreation facilities. Please include the distances (in miles) from the lookout to the following facilities: Hanauma Bay, Koko Head District Park, and Sandy Beach.

Please contact Dana Teramoto of our staff at 768-8025, should you have any questions regarding ZRPB's comments.

Very truly yours,

*Henry Eng*

for Henry Eng, FAICP, Director  
Department of Planning and Permitting

HE:nt

cc: Mike Watkins





July 9, 2007

Henry Eng, FAICP, Director  
Department of Planning and Permitting  
City and County of Honolulu  
650 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Eng:

Subject: Halona Blowhole Lookout Renovation  
Tax Map Key: 3-9-012; portion 2  
Maunaloa, District of Honolulu, Hawaii

Thank you for providing comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment prepared for the subject project. We offer the following responses in the order your comments were presented.

Planning Division

1. A statement in the Final Environmental Assessment will indicate that a Public Infrastructure Map (PIM) is not required.

Zoning, Regulations and Permits Branch

1. It is acknowledged that a major Special Management Area Use Permit is required for the project.
2. The length of the east parapet see through fence is approximately 127 feet. The length of the southeast parapet see through fence is approximately 193 feet.
3. The new concrete rubble masonry fence sign will be a standard Department of Parks and Recreation Type D sign. The dimensions of the Type D sign is 8'-3" long, 2'-10" wide, and 3'-10" high.
4. An arrow showing the location of the drain has been added to the Halona Blowhole Lookout Renovation Conceptual Plan.
5. The existing Park sign dimensions are 8'-3" long, 3'-0" wide, and 4'-0" high.

6. In consultation with the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Department of Design and Construction has abandoned plans to form a rubble pile on the concrete base of the lower observation deck. The pile would have been formed of demolished material from the lower and upper observation decks, covered with gravel, and capped with a grouted riprap texture to match the surrounding rock ledge.

The new plan is to remove all demolished material from the site. Under this plan, there is no change in the estimated quantities to be removed as that presented in the Draft EA---approximately 48 cubic yards of rubble from the makai viewing area and

Henry Eng  
July 9, 2007  
Page 2

85 cubic yards of material from the mauka viewing area.

Pre-construction grubbing is estimated at 5 cubic yards. Grading is not proposed.

7. Six trash receptacles (55 gallon drums) are placed at the Halona Blowhole Lookout. Solid waste is collected by Department of Parks and Recreation maintenance staff every morning and trucked to Hanauma Bay where it is deposited in refuse bins and compacted. A private contractor then hauls the compacted refuse to the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill for disposal.

Construction debris will be disposed of at a private landfill in Nanakuli that accepts construction debris. Alternatively, construction debris will be disposed of at the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill.

8. The Halona Blowhole Obelisk Warning Sign is located approximately 100 feet makai of the southeast parapet wall at the Halona Blowhole Lookout. The obelisk is located on the coastal ledge adjoining the blowhole.

The second monument is located at Papailuolu Point, the western point of Hanauma Bay, about 1.7 miles southwest of the Halona Blowhole (point to point).

9. The distance, in approximate miles, from the Halona Blowhole to the entrance to Hanauma Bay, 1.4 miles; to Koko Head District Park via the former Job Corps Road, 1.7 miles; and to the entry to the parking lot at Sandy Beach, 0.4 miles.

We thank the Department of Planning and Permitting for participating in the environmental assessment review process.

Sincerely,

GERALD PARK URBAN PLANNER

Gerald Park

c: G. Hee, DDC  
C. Shiroma, KSE



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@hawaii.net





June 20, 2007

Gerald Park  
Gerald Park Urban Planner  
1221 Kapiolani Boulevard, Suite 211  
Honolulu, HI 96814



Dear Mr. Park,

The draft Environmental Assessment for the Halona Blowhole Lookout Renovation was reviewed by Mary Houghton, Chair, Parks and Recreation Committee, Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board No. 1. I would like to add the following comments:

- a. Concern as to signage & graphics not part of the approved budget and the possibility of a gap between completion of HBL renovation and installation of appropriate signage.
- b. Concern about removal of the seating area for ADA accessible ramp and new steps (which is great) but no replacement of seats - please note the visitor experience includes sitting at the blow hole, not just standing -- especially for seniors

If there is a requirement for a Special Management Area Permit, the board requests the board and community be notified with enough notice that board and community members can plan to attend to give testimony.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the draft environmental assessment.

Sincerely,

*Lester Muraoka*

Lester Muraoka  
Chair



Oahu's Neighborhood Board System - Established 1973



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gpk@urbanplanner.net  
@hawaiienvironment

July 9, 2007

Lester Muraoka, Chair  
Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board No. 1  
c/o Neighborhood Commission  
Room 400, Honolulu Hale  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Muraoka:

Subject: Halona Blowhole Lookout Renovation  
Tax Map Key 3-9-012; por. 002  
Maunaloa, District of Honolulu, Hawaii

Thank you reviewing the Draft Environmental Assessment prepared for the subject project. Responses to your comments are offered in the order they were presented.

- a. Signage and Graphics  
The graphics will be incorporated as part of the design package.
- b. Removal of Seating Area

A seating area will be provided on the ocean side of the ADA accessible ramp.

We thank the Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board for participating in the environmental assessment review process.

Sincerely,

GERALD PARK URBAN PLANNER

*Gerald Park*

Gerald Park

- c. G. Hee, DDC
- C. Shiroma, KSE





STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
P.O. Box 3378  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96861-3378

June 20, 2007

Mr. Gerald Park  
Gerald Park Urban Planner  
1221 Kapiolani Boulevard, Suite 211  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Mr. Park:

SUBJECT: Draft Environmental Assessment for Halona Blowhole Lookout Renovation  
Maunakua, Oahu, Hawaii  
TMK: (1) 3-9-012: 002 (portion)

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

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/env-planning/landuse/CWB-standardcomment.pdf>.

1. Any project and its potential impacts to State waters must meet the following criteria:
  - a. Anti-degradation 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).
2. You are required to obtain a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for discharges of storm water runoff associated with construction activities, including clearing, grading, and excavation, that result in the disturbance of equal to or greater than

In reply, please refer to:  
EPO-07-108



Mr. Park  
June 20, 2007  
Page 2

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.**

You must submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) form at least 30 days prior 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. 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.

4. Please note that all discharges related to the project construction or operation activities, whether or not NPDES permit coverage and/or Section 401 WQC are required, must comply with the State's Water Quality Standards. 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: [www.state.hi.us/health/environmental/env-planning/landuse/landuse.html](http://www.state.hi.us/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 Jiacai Liu with the Environmental Planning Office at 586-4346.

Sincerely,

KELVIN H. SUNADA, MANAGER  
Environmental Planning Office

c: EPO  
CW B

July 9, 2007

Kelvin H. Sunada, Manager  
Environmental Planning Office  
919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 312  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-3378

Dear Mr. Sunada:

Subject: Halona Blowhole Lookout Renovations  
Tax Map Key 3-9-012; par. 002

Thank you for reviewing and commenting on the Draft Environmental Assessment prepared for the subject project. Responses to your comments are offered in the order they were presented.

Clean Water Branch

1. Water Quality Standards  
The City and County of Honolulu will comply with Hawaii Administrative Rules Chapter 54 and the applicable sections cited in your comments.

2. NPDES Permit  
The Halona Blowhole Lookout project area is less than one acre and an NPDES permit should not be required.

3. State Historic Preservation Division Notification  
The State Historic Preservation Division has issued a "no effect" determination for the proposed renovation. A copy of their determination letter will be submitted with a NOI or NPDES permit application if required.

4. Construction and Operational Discharges  
The City and County of Honolulu will comply with the State's Water Quality Standards. It is acknowledged that violation of the State's Water Quality Standards may be subject to penalties of \$25,000 per day per violation.

General

The City and County of Honolulu will review the Department of Health standard comments and comply with the standards that apply to this project.  
The participation of the Environmental Planning Office in the environmental assessment review process is appreciated.

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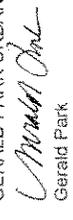




Kelvin Sunada  
July 9, 2007  
Page 2

Sincerely,

GERALD PARK URBAN PLANNER



Gerald Park

c: G. Hee, DDC  
C. Shiroma, KSE

