

**Comprehensive Exemption List
for the
City and County of Honolulu
Department of Design and Construction**

HISTORICAL NOTE

This exemption list for the Department of Design and Construction was reviewed and concurred upon by the Environmental Council on November 8, 2006.

GENERAL NOTE

Section 343, HRS authorizes the Environmental Council to establish procedures to exempt specific types of action from the need to prepare an environmental assessment because the action will have minimal or no significant effect on the environment.

The following types of projects will not be exempt:

1. Project requiring detailed analysis as provided in an environmental assessment under §343-5. These include, but are not limited to places listed on the Federal or State registers of historic places.
2. Project in statutorily defined areas, including but not limited to: critical habitats, special management areas, special design districts, registered view planes or scenic corridors, wet lands, sanctuaries, special habitats, shoreline areas, tsunami inundation areas, or other designations; except where the work is eligible for exemption and there is no negative impact on the conditions that define these areas.
3. Major projects without an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS); and Environmental Assessment with a Finding of No Significant Impact (EA/FONSI); or major projects that were never presented at a public meeting concerning site selection, master plan report, or any phase of incremental construction.
4. Major projects without a program to encourage public input into the design or siting of the project.

Pursuant to HAR §11-200-8 (B), all exemptions under the following classes in this section are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of planned, successive actions of the same type, in the same place, over time, is significant; or when an action that is normally insignificant in its impact on the environment may be significant in a particular sensitive environment, as expressed in #2 above.

Pursuant to the administrative rules promulgated under authority of Section 343-6(7), HRS, specifically Section 11-200-8; the Department of Design and Construction has determined that the following types of actions, where they fall within the given classes of action, shall generally be exempt from the preparation of an environmental assessment.

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Exemption Class #1:

Operations, repairs, or maintenance of existing structures, facilities, equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion or change of use beyond that previously existing.

1. Accessible ramps and handrails
2. All appurtenant equipment and facilities for all outdoor sports, including but not limited to soccer, football, volleyball, sand volleyball, basketball, baseball, and softball
3. Arbors
4. Archery ranges
5. Ball barriers
6. Ball fields
7. Batting cages
8. Benches and picnic tables
9. Bike racks
10. Bleachers and public seating areas
11. Bollards and vehicular access barriers
12. Canoe storage and launching facilities (e.g., canoe halau)
13. Charcoal disposals
14. Children's play equipment
15. Clearing and grubbing
16. Community gardens
17. Construction staging areas
18. Drinking fountains
19. Earth berms, drainage swales, and stream banks
20. Equipment installations, including but not limited to pumps; motors; electrical transformers, cabinets, panels, and vaults; power, light, and telephone pole systems; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC); irrigation controllers; telephone stations; emergency electrical generators; and lifts provided for handicapped accessibility
21. Essential utilities, including but not limited to wastewater systems, drainage systems, water systems, electrical systems, communication systems, irrigation systems, and fuel systems, except where a State Department of Health permit is required
22. Existing public facility structures, facilities, equipment, or topographical features involving negligible or no expansion or change of use beyond that previously existing
23. Exterior steps and stairways
24. Fencing, curbing, walls, and gates

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25. Fitness exercise stations
26. Fumigation and treatment of buildings for termites, cockroaches, ants, vermin, and other pests using pesticides registered by the State Department of Agriculture and the EPA
27. Guard shacks
28. Horseshoe pitching pits and courts
29. Hula mounds
30. Landscaping
31. Lighting of ball fields
32. Lighting of play courts
33. Lighting of streets and roadways
34. Maintenance/storage sheds
35. Minor underpinning
36. On-site street cleaning
37. Operations, repairs, or maintenance actions for compliance with OSHA requirements
38. Ornamental pools and fountains, and swimming pools
39. Outdoor cooking grills
40. Outdoor showers
41. Painting of existing buildings
42. Pavements (and striping, as needed), including but not limited to, roadways, driveways, parking lots, walkways, bikeways, jogging paths, or multi-use pathways
43. Pedestrian bridges within park and public facility properties
44. Phone booths
45. Planter boxes
46. Play court practice walls
47. Play courts
48. Reroofing or roofing
49. Retaining walls and embankment/slope erosion repairs
50. Scorekeeper booths and scoreboards
51. Security lighting of public grounds (including parks), structures, and parking lots
52. Signs, posts, flag/banner poles
53. Skating and skateboard rinks and related facilities
54. Temporary storage of construction equipment and materials on street remnant properties
55. Trash compactors
56. Trash enclosures and litter containers
57. Tree/plant nursery facilities
58. Visitor information kiosks
59. Water tanks developed to serve park and individual public facility needs
60. Zoo animal enclosures

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Exemption Class #2:

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.

1. Accessible ramps and handrails
2. All appurtenant equipment and facilities for all outdoor sports, including but not limited to, soccer, football, volleyball, sand volleyball, basketball, baseball, and softball
3. Arbors
4. Archery ranges
5. Ball barriers
6. Ball fields
7. Batting cages
8. Benches and picnic tables
9. Bike racks
10. Bleachers and public seating areas
11. Bridge replacements
12. Bollards and vehicular access barriers
13. Canoe storage and launching facilities (e.g., canoe halau)
14. Charcoal disposals
15. Children's play equipment
16. Clearing, grading, and grubbing
17. Community gardens
18. Drainage structure replacements
19. Drinking fountains
20. Earth berms, drainage swales, and stream banks
21. Equipment installations, including but not limited to, pumps; motors; electrical transformers, cabinets, panels, and vaults; power, light, and telephone pole systems; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC); irrigation controllers; telephone stations; emergency electrical generators; and lifts provided for handicapped accessibility
22. Essential utilities, including but not limited to, wastewater systems, drainage systems, water systems, electrical systems, communication systems, irrigation systems, and fuel systems except where a State Department of Health permit is required
23. Exterior steps and stairways
24. Fencing, curbing, walls, and gates
25. Fitness exercise stations
26. Guard sheds
27. Guardrail replacement and repair

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28. Horseshoe pitching pits and courts
29. Hula mounds
30. Landscaping
31. Lighting of ball fields
32. Lighting of play courts
33. Lighting of streets and roadways
34. Maintenance/storage sheds
35. Ornamental pools and fountains and swimming pools
36. Outdoor cooking grills
37. Outdoor exhibit walls
38. Outdoor showers
39. Pavements (and striping, as needed), including but not limited to, roadways, driveways, parking lots, walkways, bikeways, jogging paths, or multi-use pathways
40. Pedestrian bridges within park and public facility properties
41. Phone booths
42. Planter boxes
43. Play court practice walls
44. Play courts
45. Public facility structures, including but not limited to those intended for recreational, meeting, administration, maintenance, operations, safety, and protection (e.g., police, fire, and emergency medical) use
46. Retaining walls, slope retaining structures, and stream bank linings
47. Scorekeeper booths and scoreboards
48. Security lighting of public grounds (including parks), structures, and parking lots
49. Signs, posts, and flag/banner poles
50. Skating and skateboard rinks and related facilities
51. Trash compactors
52. Trash enclosures and litter containers
53. Tree/plant nursery facilities
54. Underground fuel tank replacement, except where a State Department of Health permit is required
55. Visitor information kiosks
56. Water tanks developed to serve park and individual public facility needs
57. Zoo animal enclosures

Exemption Class #3:

Construction and location of single, new, small facilities or structures and the alteration and modification of the same and installation of new, small, equipment and facilities and the alteration and modification of same, including but not limited to:

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- a. Single-family residences less than 3,500 square feet, not in conjunction with the building of two or more such units;
 - b. Multi-unit structures designed for not more than four dwelling units if not in conjunction with the building of two or more such structures;
 - c. Stores, offices, and restaurants designed for total occupant load of 20 persons or less per structure, if not in conjunction with the building of two or more such structures; and
 - d. Water, sewage, electrical, gas, telephone, and other essential public utility services extensions to serve such structures or facilities; accessory or appurtenant structures, including garages, carports, patios, swimming pools, and fences; and acquisition of utility easements.
1. Accessible ramps and handrails
 2. Acquisition of utility easements
 3. All appurtenant equipment and facilities for all outdoor sports, including but not limited to soccer, football, volleyball, sand volleyball, basketball, baseball, and softball
 4. Arbors
 5. Archery ranges
 6. Ball barriers
 7. Ball fields
 8. Batting cages
 9. Benches and picnic tables
 10. Bike racks
 11. Bleachers and public seating areas
 12. Bollards and vehicular access barriers
 13. Bus shelters
 14. Cathodic protection of pipelines and equipment
 15. Charcoal disposals
 16. Children's play equipment
 17. Clearing, grading, and grubbing
 18. Comfort facilities in existing parks and public facility properties
 19. Community gardens
 20. Construction and location of a single, new, small public facility structure, including but not limited to those intended for recreational, meeting, administration, maintenance, operations, and safety and protection (e.g., police, fire, and emergency medical) less than 3,500 square feet in floor area not in conjunction with the building of two or more such units
 21. Construction or installation of an underground fuel tank with a maximum capacity of 4,000 gallons at fire and police stations
 22. Construction or installation of cesspools that require State Department of Health and Board of Water Supply approvals

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23. Construction or striping of existing pavement for a bike path within an existing City and County right-of-way
24. Covered walkways
25. Creation of temporary staging areas during periods of City and County construction
26. Drinking fountains
27. Earth berms and drainage swales
28. Equipment installations, including but not limited to pumps; motors; electrical transformers, cabinets, panels, and vaults; power, light, and telephone pole systems; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC); irrigation controllers; telephone stations; emergency electrical generators; and lifts provided for handicapped accessibility
29. Essential utilities and new, small equipment, including but not limited to wastewater systems, drainage systems, water systems, electrical systems, communication systems, and irrigation systems
30. Extensions, modifications, or additions to existing buildings and new, small equipment less than 3,500 square feet in floor area not in conjunction with the building of two or more such additions
31. Fencing, curbing, walls, and gates
32. Fitness exercise stations
33. Guard sheds
34. Installation and construction of flare screens, safety barriers, guardrails, energy attenuators, and other appurtenances designed to protect the motoring public
35. Horseshoe pitching pits and courts
36. Hose bibs
37. Hula mounds
38. Landscaping
39. Lighting of ball fields
40. Lighting of play courts
41. Maintenance/storage sheds
42. Minor street widening and improvements within existing or future City and County street rights-of-way
43. Ornamental pools and fountains and swimming pools
44. Outdoor showers
45. Pavements (and striping, as needed), including but not limited to roadways, driveways, parking lots, walkways, bikeways, jogging paths, or multi-use pathways
46. Pedestrian bridges within park and public facility properties
47. Phone booths
48. Planter boxes
49. Play court practice walls
50. Play courts

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51. Retaining walls, except within the shoreline area
52. Scorekeeper booths and scoreboards
53. Security lighting of public grounds (including parks), structures, and parking lots
54. Signs, posts, and flag/banner poles
55. Skating and skateboard rinks and related facilities
56. Steps and stairways
57. Storm drain line modifications
58. Traffic calming devices
59. Trash compactors
60. Trash enclosures and litter containers
61. Water tanks developed to serve park and individual public facility needs
62. Visitor information kiosks

Exemption Class #4:

Minor alterations in the conditions of land, water, or vegetation.

1. Chemical control of vegetation using herbicides and pesticides registered by the State Department of Agriculture and the EPA
2. Clearing, grubbing, or grading of less than 100 cubic feet within existing parks and public facility property boundaries
3. Landscaping within existing parks and public facility property boundaries (i.e., trees, shrubs, grass, ground covers, and community gardening planting)
4. Lining short sections of stream banks for erosion control and slope stability
5. Removal of unhealthy trees that endanger life or property and nonsignificant trees

Exemption Class #5:

Basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities that do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource.

1. Basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities necessary within existing parks and public facility property boundaries that do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource, including but not limited to, archaeological surveys, biological and ecological studies and surveys, chemical and bacteriological laboratory analysis, monitoring device installation, storm water runoff sampling and analysis, stream studies and surveys, topographical surveys, exploratory soil boring, reconnaissance, testing, or data recovery.

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Exemption Class #6:

Construction or placement of minor structures accessory to existing facilities.

1. Accessible ramps and handrails
2. Air conditioning enclosures
3. Arbors
4. Ball barriers
5. Batting cages
6. Benches and picnic tables
7. Bike racks
8. Bleachers
9. Bollards and vehicular access barriers
10. Charcoal disposals
11. Children's play equipment
12. Construction field offices
13. Drinking fountains
14. Guard shacks
15. Hose bibbs
16. Lath houses (as used at nurseries and gardens)
17. Lighting of ball fields
18. Lighting of play courts
19. Lighting of streets and roadways
20. Maintenance/storage sheds
21. Ornamental pools and fountains
22. Outdoor showers
23. Pedestrian bridges within park and public facility properties
24. Phone booths
25. Planter boxes
26. Plaques, sculptures, and statues
27. Play court practice walls
28. Portable buildings for temporary use of 5 years or less
29. Relocation of buildings
30. Retaining walls, except in shoreline areas
31. Scorekeeper booths and scoreboards
32. Security lighting of park grounds, structures, and parking lots
33. Signs
34. Solar water heating systems that include exterior solar collectors, nonreflective panels, and storage tanks not greater than 120 gallons each, and associated accessories
35. Steps and stairways
36. Trash compactors

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37. Trash enclosures and litter containers
38. Underground fuel tanks and dispensers, except where a State Department of Health permit is required
39. Visitor information kiosks
40. Water tanks developed to serve park and individual public facility needs

Exemption Class #7:

Interior alterations involving things such as partitions, plumbing, and electrical conveyances.

1. Interior alterations and renovations to park and other public facility buildings, including but not limited to partitions, doors, counters, cabinets, shelving, plumbing, electrical systems, heating ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems, and electrical conveyances

Exemption Class #8:

Demolition of structures, except those structures located on any historic site as designated in the national register or Hawaii register as provided for in the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Public Law 89-665, 16 U.S.C. §470, as amended, or Chapter 6E, HRS.

1. Demolition of park and other structures on public property, except those structures located on any historic site

Exemption Class #9:

Zoning variances except shoreline setback variances.

1. Zoning variances of park and public facility properties, except shoreline setback variances

Exemption Class #10:

Continuing administrative activities, including but not limited to purchase of supplies and personnel-related actions.

1. Acquisition, but not improvement of property, for public use (including easements) and minor subdivision and consolidation of parcels necessary for acquisition of property for public use (including rounding corners and minor street widening)

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2. Disposal of remnant parcels outside of the City and County of Honolulu right-of-way
 - a. Parcel(s) not greater than 5,000 square feet for roadway improvement projects
 - b. Parcel(s) not greater than 16,000 square feet for stream improvement projects
3. Subdivision/consolidation of public lands and their transfer between the City and State for continuing public use
4. Continuing government administrative activities, including but not limited to purchase of supplies and personnel-related actions
5. Operation of initial or continuing public programs consistent with established land use (for example, summer fun recreational programs, sports leagues, public concert series)