May 12, 2020

Michael Moule, P.E., Chief, Engineering Division
and Troy Tanigawa, Acting County Engineer
County of Kaua‘i
Department of Public Works, Engineering Division
Email: mmoule@kauai.gov and ttanigawa@kauai.gov

Dear Michael Moule and Troy Tanigawa:

SUBJECT: National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 Review – Initiation of Consultation and Request for Concurrence with the Area of Potential Effect Po‘ipū Road Multi-Modal Improvements
Federal Aid Project No. STP-0520(004)
Kōloa and Weliweli Ahupua‘a, Kona District, Island of Kaua‘i
TMK: (4) 2-6-008:018, (4) 2-6-008:013, (4) 2-6-008:021, (4) 2-6-008:022, (4) 2-8-014:008, (4) 2-8-014:021, (4) 2-8-014:019, (4) 2-8-014:026, (4) 2-8-014:029, (4) 2-8-014:018, (4) 2-6-015:006, (4) 2-6-015:026, (4) 2-8-015:082, (4) 2-8-022:004, (4) 2-8-022:016

The State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) received a letter dated April 13, 2020 from the County of Kaua‘i Department of Public Works Engineering Division (Kaua‘i County) on behalf of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to initiate NHPA Section 106 consultation, request recommendations and contact information for consulting parties, and request the State Historic Preservation Officer’s (SHPO’s) concurrence with the proposed Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the Po‘ipū Road Multi-Modal Improvements project on the island of Kaua‘i. The SHPD received this submittal on April 13, 2020.

The proposed Kaua‘i County project, in coordination with the Hawai‘i Department of Transportation (HDOT), will receive funding from the Federal Highways Administration (FHWA) and is therefore a federal undertaking as defined in 36 CFR 800.16(y). The proposed undertaking is subject to compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA and historic preservation review under Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) §6E-8. Pursuant to the Programmatic Delegation of Authority (May 2016), the FHWA has delegated Section 106 consultation to Kaua‘i County and HDOT.

The proposed project is located in Kōloa on the island of Kaua‘i. Kaua‘i County indicates the APE is primarily within the existing operational Po‘ipū Road right-of-way (ROW), between Kōloa Road and approximately 275 feet east of Keleka Road, however, there are some areas where work including minor grading work and intersection improvements will occur on parcels adjacent to ROW. The area of the APE is approximately 41.72 acres and includes 5 feet beyond both sides of the Po‘ipū Road ROW from the Po‘ipū Road/Kōloa Road Intersection to 275 feet east of the Po‘ipū Road/Keleka Road Intersection (40 feet beyond the ROW in some areas). Additional information regarding the APE is included in a table in Kaua‘i County’s letter. Additionally, Kaua‘i County indicates a portion of the APE extends below the ground surface as follows:

- Replacement of stop controlled intersections with roundabouts require ground disturbance to an anticipated maximum depth of 24 inches below surface at these locations: Po‘ipū Road – Kiahuna Plantation Road Intersection and Po‘ipū Road – Ala Kinoiki Intersection;
Roadway resurfacing, shoulder widening, construction of sidewalks, improvements to accessible ramps and curbs, construction of vehicle parking stalls, construction of medians, and replacement or upgrades to bus stops require ground disturbance to an anticipated maximum depth of 24 inches below surface, at various locations throughout the APE;

Replacement of roadway signage and new roadway signage to denote bike lanes and pedestrian crossings require ground disturbance to an anticipated maximum depth of 36 inches, at various locations throughout the APE;

Reconstruction/replacement of guardrails require ground disturbance to an anticipated maximum depth of 42 inches, at various locations throughout the APE;

Storm drainage improvements require ground disturbance to an anticipated maximum depth of 7 feet at various locations throughout the APE with one location at the existing Poipu Road roundabout requiring ground disturbance that will extend to a maximum depth of 10 feet;

Possible street light installation and/or relocation and utility pole guy wire adjustments will require ground disturbance to an anticipated maximum depth of 8 feet, at various locations throughout the APE; and

Minor adjustment of utility boxes, and manhole frames and covers, as necessary will require ground disturbance to an anticipated maximum depth of 36 inches, at various locations throughout the APE.

The construction staging areas will be located on the shoulder of Po‘ipū Road from the edge of the pavement to the ROW boundary. These areas are within both the APE and the road ROW and are further described as follows: on the mauka side of Po‘ipū Road between Kiahuna Plantation Drive and Kīpuka Street, adjacent to TMKs 4-2-8-014:029, 4-2-8-014:026, 4-2-8-014:021, 4-2-8-014:019, on the western side of Po‘ipū Road south of Pa‘anau Road, adjacent to TMKs 4-2-6-008:018, 4-2-6-008:013, 4-2-6-008:021, and 4-2-6-008:022 and on the western side of Po‘ipū Road south of Lopaka Paipa Boulevard adjacent to TMKs 4-2-6-015:006 and 4-2-6-015:026.

Based on the information received, the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) has no objections to the APE as it is defined.

In response to Kaua‘i County’s request for a contact list of potential consulting parties, the SHPD agrees with the plan to refer to the Native Hawaiian Organization Notification List provided by the U.S. Department of the Interior and maintained by the Office of Native Hawaiian Relations. Additionally, SHPD recommends expanding consultation to interested parties such as civic clubs and historic preservation interest groups such as Historic Hawai‘i and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

The SHPD looks forward to continuing the Section 106 process for the proposed project.

The Kaua‘i County, HDOT, and FHWA are the offices of record for this undertaking. Please maintain a copy of this letter with your environmental review record for this undertaking.

Please contact Stephanie Hacker, Historic Preservation Archaeologist IV, at Stephanie.Hacker@hawaii.gov or at (808) 692-8046 for matters regarding archaeological resources or this letter.

Aloha,

Alan Downer, PhD
Administrator, State Historic Preservation Division
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

cc: Meesa Otani, FHWA (Meesa.Otani@dot.gov)
    Justin Rush, HDOT (Justin.SE.Rush@hawaii.gov)