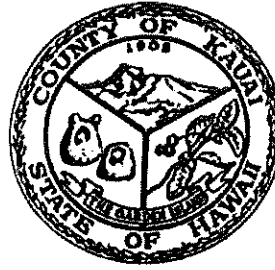


BILL "KAIPO" ASING
MAYOR

GARY K. HEU
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT



DONALD M. FUJIMOTO
COUNTY ENGINEER
TELEPHONE 241-6600

EDMOND P.K. RENAUD
DEPUTY COUNTY ENGINEER
TELEPHONE 241-6600

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
COUNTY OF KAUA'I
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
4444 RICE STREET
MO'IKEHA BUILDING, SUITE 275
LIHU'E, KAUA'I, HAWAII 96766-1340

July 29, 2008

Katherine Puana Kealoha, Director
Office of Environmental Quality Control (OEQC)
235 South Beretania Street, Suite 702
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Ms. Kealoha,

Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) for
Nāwiliwili – Ahukini Shared-Use Path
County of Kaua'i Job No. CMAQ-0700(57), Contract No. 7538
TMK: (4) (por.) 3-2-plats: 02, 03, 04, 06, 07; 3-3-03: 3-5-plats 01, 02; 3-6-plats 02, 08; 3-7-02
Lihu'e, Island of Kaua'i, Hawai'i

The Department of Public Works, County of Kaua'i has reviewed the Draft Environmental Assessment for the subject project, and anticipates a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) determination. Please publish notice of availability for this project in the next OEQC Environmental Notice.

We have enclosed a completed OEQC Publication Form, and one (1) PDF copy and four (4) hard copies of the project DEA. A copy of the project summary will be e-mailed to OEQC. Please call Jim Niermann at (808) 842-1133 if there are any questions.

Very truly yours,

DONALD M. FUJIMOTO
for County Engineer

Attachments
cc: Parks & Recreation Department

Draft Environmental Assessment

Nāwiliwili-Ahukini Shared-Use Path

County of Kauaʻi Job No. 20987

County of Kauaʻi

July 29, 2008

Prepared For:

County of Kauaʻi

Department of Public Works

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Nāwiliwili- Ahukini Shared-Use Path

County of Kaua'i Job No. 20987
County of Kaua'i

July 21, 2008

Prepared For:

County of Kaua'i
Department of Public Works
County of Kauai
4444 Rice Street, Suite 275
Lihue, HI 96766-1340

Prepared by:

R. M. Towill Corporation
2024 North King Street, Suite 200
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819
1-20987-0P

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PROJECT SUMMARY	vii
SECTION 1 INTRODUCTION	
1.1 Project Overview	1-1
1.2 Purpose and Need of Project.....	1-1
1.3 Purpose of the Environmental Assessment.....	1-3
1.4 Project History	1-3
SECTION 2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND ALTERNATIVES	
2.1 Project Context	2-1
2.1.1 Location	2-1
2.1.2 Path Corridors	2-1
2.1.3 Path Segments.....	2-2
2.1.4 Design Objectives and Guidelines.....	2-5
2.2 Path Alternatives.....	2-6
2.2.1 Primary Project Corridor: Ahukini Landing to Nāwiliwili Beach Park..	2-6
2.2.1.A Ahukini Landing to Ninini Point	2-6
2.2.1.B Ninini Point to Kalapakī Beach – Coastal Route	2-14
2.2.1.C Ninini Point to Kapule Highway.....	2-20
2.2.1.D Kapule Highway / Ninini Road Intersection to Kaua’i Marriott.....	2-23
2.2.1.E Kaua’i Marriott to Nāwiliwili Beach Park.....	2-28
2.2.1.F Nāwiliwili Beach Park Improvements.....	2-33
2.2.2 Secondary Network Corridor:	
Corridor II - Ahukini Landing to Līhu’e Civic Center.....	2-38
2.2.2.G Ahukini Landing to Līhu’e Airport	2-38
2.2.2.H Līhu’e Airport to Kapule Highway	2-41
2.2.2.I Ahukini Road – Kapule Highway to Umi Street.....	2-45
2.2.2.J Kapule Highway – Ahukini Road to Ninini Point Road	2-48
2.2.2.K Molokoa Public Facility Center.....	2-51
2.2.2.L Līhu’e Civic Center Connections.....	2-53

2.2.3	Secondary Network Corridor:	
	Corridor III - Nāwiliwili Beach Park to Lihū‘e Civic Center	2-63
2.2.3.M	Rice Street.....	2-63
2.2.3.N	Nāwiliwili Stream Valley.....	2-65
2.2.4	Secondary Network Corridor:	
	Corridor IV - Nāwiliwili Beach Park to Niumalu Beach Park	67
2.2.4.O	Nāwiliwili Beach Park to Niumalu Beach Park	67
2.2.4.P	Niumalu Road to Nāwiliwili Small Boat Harbor	72
2.3	Alignment Alternatives Cost Estimate	73
2.4	Preferred Alignments Cost Estimate.....	75

SECTION 3 NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

3.1	Climate.....	3-1
3.2	Geography, Topography and Soils.....	3-1
3.3	Water Quality	3-2
3.3.1	Surface Water and Wetlands.....	3-2
3.3.2	Groundwater	3-5
3.4	Drainage	3-6
3.5	Flora	3-8
3.6	Fauna.....	3-8
3.7	Scenic and Visual Resources.....	3-12
3.8	Coastal Conditions and Processes	3-13
3.9	Air Quality	3-15
3.10	Noise	3-17
3.11	Flood Hazards	3-18
3.12	Other Hazards	3-21
3.12.1	Earthquake	3-21
3.12.2	Hurricane	3-21
3.12.3	Tsunami	3-21
3.12.4	High Waves	3-21

SECTION 4 PUBLIC SERVICES

4.1	Traffic and Roadways.....	4-1
4.1.1	Ahukini Road	4-1

4.1.2 Kapule Highway	4-1
4.1.3 ‘Umi Street	4-1
4.1.4 Kā’ana Street	4-1
4.1.5 Ho’olako Street	4-2
4.1.6 Ho’olaulea Way and Limo Road	4-2
4.1.7 Rice Street	4-3
4.1.8 Hardy Street	4-3
4.1.9 Ninini Point Road	4-3
4.1.10 Wa’apā Road	4-3
4.1.11 Kānoa	4-4
4.1.12 Wilcox	4-4
4.1.13 Nāwiliwili Road	4-4
4.2 Parks and Recreational Resources	4-5
4.3 Schools	4-7
4.4 Fire, Police and Medical Services.....	4-7
4.5 Water System.....	4-7
4.6 Wastewater	4-8
4.7 Electrical Demand.....	4-8
4.8 Communications (Cable, Internet, Telephone).....	4-9
4.9 Airport Facilities.....	4-9
4.10 Harbor Facilities	4-11
 SECTION 5 SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL ENVIRONMENT	
5.1 Socio-Economic Characteristics	5-1
5.2 Archaeological/Historical Resources	5-3
5.3 Traditional Cultural Practices	5-7
5.4 Shoreline Access.....	5-8
5.5 Public Safety / Crime	5-9
 SECTION 6 RELATIONSHIP TO STATE, COUNTY AND FEDERAL LAND USE PLANS, POLICIES AND CONTROLS	
6.1 Kaua’i County	6-1
6.1.1 General Plan	6-1
6.1.2 Līhu’e Development Plan.....	6-3

6.1.3 County Zoning	6-3
6.1.4 Special Management Area	6-4
6.1.5 Other County Plans	6-9
6.2 State of Hawai‘i	6-10
6.2.1 Hawai‘i State Plan.....	6-10
6.2.2 State Land Use District Classification	6-11
6.2.3 Hawai‘i Statewide Transportation Plan	6-13
6.2.4 Bike Plan Hawai‘i	6-13
6.2.5 Coastal Zone Management, HRS 205(A).....	6-15
6.3 Federal	6-24
6.3.1 Clean Water Act Section (401) (404).....	6-24
6.3.2 Department of Transportation Section 4(f)	6-25
6.3.3 Endangered Species Act.....	6-27
6.3.4 National Historic Preservation Act Section 106.....	6-27
6.3.5 Coastal Zone Management.....	6-28
SECTION 7 NECESSARY PERMITS AND APPROVALS.....	7-1
7.1 State of Hawai‘i	7-1
7.2 County of Kaua‘i.....	7-2
7.3 Utility Companies	7-2
SECTION 8 AGENCIES, ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS CONSULTED.....	8-1
8.1 County of Kaua‘i.....	8-1
8.2 State of Hawai‘i	8-1
8.3 Federal Government.....	8-1
9.4 Elected Officials.....	8-2
8.5 Community Organizations and Individuals.....	8-2
SECTION 9 SIGNIFICANCE DETERMINATION	9-1
9.1 Significance Determination.....	9-1
SECTION 10 FINDINGS	10-1
SECTION 11 REFERENCES.....	11-1

FIGURES

Figure 1-1: Project Location.....	1-2
Figure 2-1: Route Alternatives Map	2-3
Figure A1: Path Segment ‘A’ – Ahukini Landing to Ninini Point	2-7
Figure A2: Path / Road Section Detail.....	2-12
Figure B1: Path Segment ‘B’ – Ninini Point to Kalapaki Beach Coastl Route	2-15
Figure C1: Path / Road Section Detail.....	2-23
Figure D1: Path Segment ‘D’ – Kapule Highway to Kauai Marriott.....	2-25
Figure E1: Path Segment ‘E’ – Kauai Marriott to Nāwiliwili Beach park	2-29
Figure E2: Path ‘E’ Oblique View	2-30
Figure F1: Nāwiliwili Waterfront Park Master Plan.....	2-35
Figure F2: Proposed Comfort Station Plan and Elevations.....	2-37
Figure F3: Proposed Covered Picnic Table.....	2-37
Figure H1: Path Segment ‘H’ – Līhu‘e Airport to Kapule Highway	2-42
Figure K: Path Segment ‘K’ – Molokoa Public Facilities Center	2-52
Figure L1: Path Segment ‘L’ – Līhu‘e Civic Center Connections	2-56
Figure L2: Līhu‘e Civic Center Master Plan	2-57
Figure L3: Approved Street Sections, Lhue – Hamamaulu Master Plan.....	2-58
Figure O/P: Path Segments O and P – Nāwiliwili Park to Niumalu Park.....	2-68
Figure 2-2: Preferred Alternatives Map	2-78
Figure 3-1: Soils Map	3-3
Figure 3-2: FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map.....	3-19
Figure 3-3: Tsunami Evacuation Zones.....	3-22
Figure 5-1: State Historic Sites.....	5-3
Figure 6-1: Special Management Area	6-5
Figure 6-2: State Land Use Districts.....	6-12

APPENDICES

- Appendix A Archaeological Literature Review and Field Inspection Report
- Appendix B Cultural Impact Evaluation
- Appendix C Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment
- Appendix D Nāwiliwili Waterfront Park Master Plan
- Appendix E Coastal Path Historical and Cultural Committee Draft Report
- Appendix F Federal Consultation Correspondence
- Appendix G Public Outreach Meetings