

PRE-CONSULTATION LETTERS  
RECEIVED ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT



STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION  
Kakuhāhewa Building, Room 555  
601 Kamohāiwa Boulevard  
Kapolei, Hawaii 96707

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES  
ENFORCEMENT  
CONVEYANCES  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

July 30, 2001

Ms. Mary O'Leary, AICP  
c/o Townscape, Inc.  
900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

LOG NO: 27854  
DOC NO: 0107EJ12

Dear Ms. O'Leary:

**SUBJECT: Chapter 6E-8 Historic Preservation Review – City and County of Honolulu 21<sup>st</sup> Century Vision Project for the Proposed Diamond Head Road Makai Plan  
Waikiki, Kona, O`ahu  
TMK: 3-1 various**

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment during preparation of a draft Environmental Assessment for the "21<sup>st</sup> Century Vision Project's" proposed Diamond Head Road Makai Plan. Our review is based on historic reports, maps, and aerial photographs maintained at the State Historic Preservation Division; no field inspection was made of the project areas. The City and County proposes to improve a one and one-half (1.5) mile section of Diamond Head Road between Paki Avenue and Kahala Avenue. All improvements will take place within the City and County's right-of-way and include widening sidewalks, traffic calming devices, relocation of utilities underground, widening planting strips, landscaping, adding signage, reconfiguring the Lookout area parking bays, and restriping the roadway to narrow vehicular lanes and add bike lanes.

Archaeology Concerns

A review of our records indicate that there are no known archaeological/cultural sites within the project corridor. However, according to the *Soil Survey of Islands of Kauai, Oahu, Maui, Molokai, and Lanai, State of Hawaii*. USDA, Soil Conservation Service, 1972 Section 1 and part of Section 2 of the proposed plan are underlain by *Jaucus* sand deposits. These deposits are known to contain traditional Hawaiian sites such as cultural layers and human burials.

Since the subject action has the potential to have an "adverse effect" on significant historic sites, we recommend that archaeological monitoring be conducted (to mitigate any adverse effect this project would have on buried subsurface historic sites), for all

Ms. Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Page Two

excavations that penetrate into or through the Jaucas Sand deposits within the project area. Prior to beginning construction, an acceptable monitoring plan shall be prepared for review and approval by the State Historic Preservation Division.

An archaeological monitoring plan must contain the following eight specifications: 1) the kinds of remains that are anticipated and where in the construction area the remains are likely to be found; 2) how the expected types of remains will be documented; 3) how the expected types of remains will be treated; 4) the archaeologist conducting the monitoring has the authority to halt construction in the immediate area of a find in order to carry out the plan; 5) a coordination meeting between the archaeologist and construction crew is scheduled, so that the construction team is aware of the plan; 6) what laboratory work will be done on remains that are collected; 7) a schedule for report preparation; and 8) details concerning the archiving of any collections that are made.

#### Architecture Concerns

The area as noted on the map includes a small part of Kapiolani Park (Hawaii Register of Historic Places) and runs along Diamond Head Road where there are several historic property such as Diamond Head Lighthouse and the Gerbode estate. We would need more information regarding the bike lanes and signage before we can determine any affect on historic property in the area. Is the gateway sign going to be within historic Kapiolani Park? Will the sign have accompanying landscaping? Will the bike lanes need higher railings than what is existing? If additional railings are needed, where would they be located? Thank you for addressing these questions in your EA.

Should you have any questions regarding archaeology, please feel free to call Sara Collins at 692-8026 or Elaine Jourdane at 692-8027. For any architectural concerns please call Tonia Moy at 692-8030.

Aloha,



Don Hibbard, Administrator  
State Historic Preservation Division

EJ:jk

**BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY**

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
630 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET  
HONOLULU, HI 96843



July 13, 2001

JEREMY HARRIS, Mayor

EDDIE FLORES, JR., Chairman  
CHARLES A. STED, Vice-Chairman  
JAN M.L.Y. AMI  
HERBERT S.K. KAOPUA, SR.  
BARBARA KIM STANTON

BRIAN K. MINAAI, Ex-Officio  
ROSS S. SASAMURA, Ex-Officio

CLIFFORD S. JAMILE  
Manager and Chief Engineer

Ms. Mary O'Leary, AICP  
c/o Townscape, Inc.  
900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Ms. O'Leary:

Subject: Your Transmittal of June 29, 2001 Requesting Pre-Assessment  
Comments for the Proposed Diamond Head Road Makai Plan

Thank you for the opportunity to provide pre-assessment comments on the proposed Diamond Head Road Makai Plan.

We have no objections to the proposed Diamond Head Road improvements project. The construction plans should be submitted for our review.

If you have any questions, please contact Scot Muraoka at 527-5221.

Very truly yours,

*Barry Usagawa*  
for CLIFFORD S. JAMILE  
Manager and Chief Engineer



Verizon Hawaii Inc.  
P.O. Box 2200  
Honolulu, HI 96841

July 5, 2001

Ms. Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Townscape, Inc.  
900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Proposed Diamond Head Road Makai Plan

Dear Ma'am:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the above subject project. We have the following comments to make:

- A schedule containing the start and completion of the underground support structures within the project must be provided.
- Until these dates are provided, please be advised that Verizon Hawaii will require a minimum of four months from the date final signed plans have been received to engineer, ship and receive all necessary materials for the project. At the end of this four-month period or the acceptance of all the underground conduit system, Verizon Hawaii will require three months to construct its facilities.
- All support structures must be approved by our inspector.
- Please provide names and phone numbers of the electrical consultants for the project.
- Relocation costs for project must be paid prior to any engineering and construction activities by the customer and/or developer.

Should you have any questions, please call Noel Remigio at 840-5847.

Sincerely,

Jay Furukawa  
Manager – OSP Engineering, East Oahu

CC: File (Kaimuki/Waikiki)  
N. Remigio  
S. Perreira



200 Akamainui Street • Mililani, Hawaii 96789-3999 • Telephone: (808) 625-2100

July 3, 2001

Ms. Sherri Hiraoka  
Townscape, Inc  
900 Fort Street Mall Suite 1160  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Ms. Hiraoka:

Re: Proposed Diamond Head Road Makai Plan  
Pre-Consultation if Preparation of a Draft Environmental Assessment

Thank you for allowing Oceanic Cable to address issues and concerns regarding this project.

We cannot provide comments to the proposed improvements and the effects on Oceanic's facilities at this time. We are concerned on the relocation of utilities underground and the cost sharing of this activity. The undergrounding of utilities may affect services into private property.

Please contact Randy Makizuru, Area Engineer, at 625-8346 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

  
Alvin Park

Cc: Randy Makizuru  
Office File

# TOWNSCAPE, INC.

Environmental and Community Planning

900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160, Honolulu, HI 96813

Telephone (808) 536-6999 Facsimile (808) 524-4998

email address: [townscap@lava.net](mailto:townscap@lava.net)

June 29, 2001

RECEIVED  
JUL 3 2001

Ms. Lori Iha  
Oceanic Cable  
Mililani Tech Park  
200 Akamainui St.  
Mililani, HI 96789

By \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT: Proposed Diamond Head Road Makai Plan  
Pre-Consultation in Preparation of a Draft Environmental Assessment

Dear Ms. Iha:

The City and County of Honolulu is in the pre-consultation process of preparing the Draft Environmental Assessment for the proposed Diamond Head Road Makai Plan. We are contacting Oceanic Cable to request information on any issues or concerns that you may have regarding this project. This is a "21<sup>st</sup> Century Vision Project" of the City and County of Honolulu, whose primary objective for this project is to safely accommodate the needs of a diverse community of recreational users.

The City and County of Honolulu proposes to improve a one and one-half (1.5) mile section of Diamond Head Road between Paki Avenue (near Kapiolani Park) and Kahala Avenue (near Triangle Park). All construction activities will take place within the City's Diamond Head Road right-of-way, which varies from forty feet wide to eighty feet wide. Improvements will include widening sidewalks, traffic calming devices, relocation of utilities underground, widening planting strips, landscaping, adding signage, reconfiguring the Lookout Area parking bays, and restriping the roadway surface to narrow vehicular travel lanes and add bike lanes. The project does not propose improvements on privately owned property. No public buildings will be constructed.

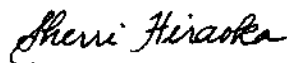
This section of Diamond Head Road is contained within the State Conservation District, the Special Management Area, and the Diamond Head Special District. The Road is adjacent to the makai boundary of the Diamond Head State Monument.

Please forward written comments to:

Ms. Mary O'Leary, AICP  
c/o Townscape, Inc.  
900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160  
Honolulu, HI 96813

If you have any questions regarding the proposed project, please contact Ms. Sherri Hiraoka at 536-6999 extension 105, or Ms. O'Leary, Project Manager, at 536-6999 extension 104.

Sincerely,



Sherri Hiraoka  
Staff Planner

**PRE-CONSULTATION LETTERS**  
**RECEIVED AFTER THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**  
**WAS OFFICIALLY SUBMITTED TO THE**  
**OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL**



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

PACIFIC PARK PLAZA • 711 KAPIOLANI BOULEVARD, SUITE 1200 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TELEPHONE: (808) 523-4529 • FAX: (808) 523-4730 • INTERNET [www.co.honolulu.hi.us](http://www.co.honolulu.hi.us)



JEREMY HARRIS  
MAYOR

CHERYL D. SOON  
DIRECTOR

GEORGE "KEOKI" MIYAMOTO  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TPD7/01-02851R

August 27, 2001

Ms. Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Townscape, Inc.  
900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Dear Ms. O'Leary:

Subject: Proposed Diamond Head Road Makai Plan

In response to the June 29, 2001 letter from Townscape, Inc., the following comments are provided for your use as you prepare the draft environmental assessment (EA) for the subject project:

1. The plan should consider including Americans with Disabilities Act accessible bus stops and shelters, and bus pullouts.
2. The draft EA should address the following:
  - Traffic impacts, including the impact of any diversion of traffic
  - Needs of the current users, such as bikers, joggers, surfers, fishermen, pedestrians, beachgoers, residents, tourists, tour buses, mopeds, and other vehicles
  - Parking needs and regulatory controls
  - Traffic safety

We look forward to reviewing the draft EA. Should you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact Faith Miyamoto of the Transportation Planning Division at 527-6976.

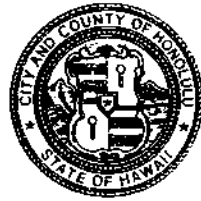
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cheryl D. Soon".

CHERYL D. SOON  
Director

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

650 SOUTH KING STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TELEPHONE: (808) 523-4414 • FAX: (808) 527-6743 • INTERNET: www.co.honolulu.hi.us



JEREMY HARRIS  
MAYOR

RANDALL K. FUJIKI, AIA  
DIRECTOR

LORETTA K. C. CHEE  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

2001/CLOG-2967(RY)

September 5, 2001

RECEIVED  
9/10/01

Ms. Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Townscape, Inc.  
900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Ms. O'Leary:

**Proposed Diamond Head Road Makai Plan**  
**Draft Environmental Assessment Pre-Consultation**

We have the following comments in response to your June 29 letter:

Engineering

1. Construction plans for the work within the city right of way are to be submitted to Site Development Division for construction plan review.
2. The sidewalk and curb ramp construction shall be in accordance with the city's standard and they must be in compliance with Americans with Disability Act requirements.
3. Please address potential impacts to the drainage system and roadway structures, short term impacts during construction of the improvements, and discuss mitigative measures such as employing erosion control measures.

Land Use Approvals

1. Since the project falls within the core area of the Diamond Head Special District, the project will be subject to obtaining a Minor Special District permit.
2. It appears that most, if not all, of the project falls within the Special Management Area (SMA), and that a SMA Use permit will be required. If desired, you may combine SMA

Ms. Mary O'Leary, AICP

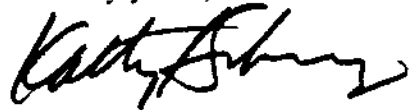
Page 2

September 5, 2001

application requirements and environmental assessment requirements into one document for concurrent processing if impacts under Chapter 25, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, are adequately addressed in the environmental assessment required under Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes. But, be advised that a decision on the SMA cannot be issued until said Chapter 343 requirements have been satisfied.

If you have any questions, please call Raymond Young of our staff at 527-5839.

Sincerely yours,

  
RANDALL K. FUJIKI, AIA  
Director of Planning and Permitting

RKF:lh

doc:108814 rev. 2

COMMENT LETTERS  
RECEIVED ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

DEPARTMENT OF FACILITY MAINTENANCE  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**  
650 SOUTH KING STREET, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TELEPHONE : (808) 523-4341 FAX: (808) 527-5857

JEREMY HARRIS  
MAYOR



ROSS S. SASAMURA, P.E.  
DIRECTOR AND CHIEF ENGINEER

ALVIN K. C. AU  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
M01-742

October 8, 2001

RECEIVED  
10/26/01

Ms. Mary O'Leary, AICP  
c/o Townscape, Inc.  
900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Ms. O'Leary:

**Subject: Proposed Diamond Head Road Makai Recreation Master Plan Project**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment for the subject project.

We request that the landscape "bulbouts" proposed for Section 5, Diamond Head Road between Observation Area #3 and Kahala Avenue, be eliminated and a wider planter strip area between the paved sidewalk and roadway pavement be constructed to accommodate street trees. The "bulbouts" obstruct our mechanical street sweeping operations along the roadway curb line, resulting in pockets of debris that will accumulate and require manual cleaning. They also impede the continuous flow of storm water.

For your information, Diamond Head Road, from Beach Road to Makapuu Avenue, is scheduled to be resurfaced by contract this year. The Department of Design and Construction, Civil Construction Branch, is administering the contract. The subject project is located within these limits.

Should you have questions, please call Mr. Charles Pignataro of our Division of Road Maintenance, at 527-6282.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ross S. Sasamura".

ROSS S. SASAMURA, P.E.  
Director and Chief Engineer

cc: DDC (Don Griffin)  
DDC (Civil Const. Branch)

**TOWNSCAPE, INC.**  
**Environmental and Community Planning**

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900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160, Honolulu, HI 96813  
Telephone (808) 536-6999 Facsimile (808) 524-4998  
email address: townscap@java.net

November 9, 2001

Mr. Ross Sasamura  
Director & Chief Engineer  
Department of Facility Maintenance  
City & County of Honolulu  
650 South King Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Mr. Sasamura:

RE: Comment Letter on the Draft Environmental Assessment – Diamond Head Road Makai  
Recreation Master Plan, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii

Thank you for your comment letter dated October 8, 2001, in response to your Department's review of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the above-referenced project. For your information, we offer the following:

1. The statements regarding the bulbouts proposed for Section 5 are noted. This issue will be addressed during the design phase.
2. The Department of Design and Construction (DDC) is aware of the Diamond Head Road resurfacing project referenced in your letter.

A copy of your comment letter and this response letter will be included in the Final Environmental Assessment. Should you have any further questions, please contact me at 536-6999.

Sincerely,



Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Rae Loui, Director, Department of Design and Construction  
Mr. Don Griffin, Project Manager, Department of Design and Construction

**MICHELLE SPALDING MATSON**  
**3931 Gail Street**  
**Honolulu, Hawaii 96815**

**RECEIVED**  
10/25/01

October 24, 2001

Townscape, Inc.  
900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160  
Honolulu, HI 96813

City and County of Honolulu  
Department of Design and Construction  
650 South King Street - 9th Floor  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Attention: Ms. Mary O'Leary, AICP,  
Senior Planner

Attention: Mr. Don Griffin, Project Manager

**SUBJECT: DIAMOND HEAD ROAD RECREATION MASTER PLAN**  
**DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, SEPTEMBER, 2001:**  
**CONSIDERATIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS**

Dear Ms. O'Leary and Mr. Griffin:

I am writing today as an individual in response to the Diamond Head Road Recreation Master Plan Draft Environmental Assessment (Draft EA) dated September 2000. As an active member of several organizations that have been closely involved with issues centering on Diamond Head and the Diamond Head State Monument over the past ten years, including the Diamond Head Citizens Advisory Committee, Diamond Head/Kapahulu/St. Louis Heights Neighborhood Board, Kapiolani Park Preservation Society and others, I am aware of the community's universal desire to preserve and protect the treasured scenic and recreational attributes of the Diamond Head National Natural Landmark and State Monument.

In addition, as a community participant on the Diamond Head Road Recreation Master Plan Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), I have had the opportunity to observe that Townscape, Inc. has worked closely and diligently with the community in an exemplary manner. I believe that, while conceptual, the subject plan proposed by the City and County is a promising step in the right direction, and I offer the following considerations, comments and concerns in support of its successful implementation:

**SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RESOURCE**

Additional emphasis is recommended at the beginning of the Draft EA on the significance of Diamond Head as the world renowned symbol of Hawai'i, as a Registered National Natural Landmark, and as a Historic State Monument - and that Diamond Head

Road is a Scenic Road encircling this significant resource. Throughout the years, the understanding of the crater's natural integrity, historic character, and magnetic scenic and recreational attraction to Hawai'i's residents and visitors alike has been clearly understood and supported by the community-at-large.

In addition, the land designations in the Draft EA need to be more fully and accurately clarified. The State Conservation area encompasses the public lands within the Diamond Head State Monument, from the crater's floor and interior and exterior slopes, to the *mauka* side of Diamond Head Road at the crater entrance, and to the shoreline on the *makai* side of the crater. It should be noted that the boundary of the Diamond Head State Monument no longer extends only to the *mauka* side of Diamond Head Road as stated in the Draft EA on pages 1 and 56. Act 258, 2001, in concert with the Diamond Head National Natural Landmark designation, provides that the Diamond Head State Monument include Kuilei Cliffs and Diamond Head Beach Park, thus extending the *makai* boundary of the Monument to the shoreline. This should also be reflected on updated maps in the Final Environmental Assessment in place of those on pages 33 and 57 of the Draft EA.

### SCOPE OF WORK

Beginning on page 1, and as also found on pages 2, 5, 6, 7, 34, and 42, the Draft EA states that all proposed improvements and construction activities within the project's Scope of Work will be confined to the public right-of-way (ROW) of Diamond Head Road. Appropriately, the Draft EA describes and illustrates the ROW as the following: 50 feet across between Poni Moi Road and Beach Road (pages 12 and 14); 60 feet across between Beach Road and the Kahala Lookout observation area #3 (pages 16 and 19); and 80 feet across between the Kahala Lookout observation area #3 and Kahala Avenue (page 25). Governor's Executive Orders provide that the City and County of Honolulu maintain the public ROW of the roadway, which is measured from the centerline of the roadway surface.

The Draft EA notes on page 6 that the land adjacent to the ROW is designated State Conservation along the Lookout area. It is recommended that this be further clarified to reflect that the Lookout observation areas are not within the ROW or the State Urban District and remain within the State Conservation District and the Diamond Head State Monument, as shown on page 32 of the Draft EA. Thus, it would seem appropriate that the Diamond Head Citizens Advisory Committee and the Department of Land and Natural Resources be included in the review, recommendation, and respective approval of any proposals for these areas in accordance with Section 6E, Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes and Act 258, 2001.

### CURRENT CONDITIONS ALONG DIAMOND HEAD ROAD

Diamond Head Road is a major daily recreation area for residents and visitors alike. The Draft EA notes that pedestrians outnumber bicyclists along Diamond Head Road by approximately 5 to 1. Motorists are also numerous and include residents, through traffic,



City buses, trolleys and tour buses. Emergency vehicles must also have access, with the widest fire emergency vehicle being 10.5 feet across.

Diamond Head Road has several blind turns with intersecting vehicular access around the Monument's slopes on the lower portion, as shown in the Draft EA on page 29. These conditions have deterred safe recreational bicycle use on the mauka side, and, coupled with utility poles within inches of the roadway, have caused hazards, accidents and fatalities under excessive speed. The recommended speed around these turns is 15 mph. During the CAC meetings, providing safer conditions for pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists was an expressed priority.

#### **PLACING OVERHEAD UTILITIES UNDERGROUND - A PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUE**

The Community's #1 Priority, as recorded in the CAC meeting reports as being ahead of all other improvements that might be considered for this Scenic Road, is that the overhead utilities be placed underground to ensure safer conditions along Diamond Head Road. This essential public safety improvement has been substantiated as the First Priority ever since the City's bicycle plan was first proposed in the early 1990's. First and foremost, the community's concern has remained centered on the greatest public safety concern of the hazardous utility poles located along Diamond Head Road within inches of the roadway. In addition, residents of the area between Makalei Place and the Diamond Head Lighthouse are well aware of the fire hazards associated with overhead powerlines on the utility poles with sparking transformers that frequently blow out under high wind conditions.

This has been well documented in community comments and Neighborhood Board testimony over the years. In considering the proposed project for a second time within the past ten years, the community's message remains clear, as was ultimately emphasized at the CAC meeting on August 14, 2000. The CAC unanimously agreed that any funds received should be allocated toward engineering the undergrounding of utilities on Diamond Head Road as the first priority, and the Committee report reads as follows: "The Committee members strongly expressed that they did not want to spend money on smaller items early on ... They stated that undergrounding the utilities and designing the project are the first priority."

There is no question that this serious hazard can be remedied by placing the utilities underground from Kapiolani Park to the Lighthouse, where the Scenic Road is narrowed with blind turns around the natural formation of the crater's slope. Now the opportunity has again arisen to underground the utilities on Diamond Head Road and this must be accomplished without further delay, as the safety and welfare of the public, residents and visitors alike, continues to be at stake.

Undergrounding the utilities will also remove an obtrusive blight on this valuable natural resource and its significant viewplanes. Indeed, the Draft EA states on page 43 that "undergrounding of utilities is of high priority in order to eliminate the visual eyesore of the wires and the numerous poles that interrupt views of Diamond Head", and on page 9 that "Relocating utility lines underground will enhance the views."

However, as evidenced throughout the proposed Diamond Head Road Recreation Master Plan, greater emphasis appears to be placed on street embellishments while there is an apparent lack of prevailing emphasis on the community's primary public safety priority. Curiously as well, the undergrounding of utilities is placed at the bottom of the list of the summaries of the Scope of Work in the Draft EA.

#### COSTS OF UNDERGROUNDING THE UTILITIES ON DIAMOND HEAD ROAD

In addition, the projected costs of undergrounding the utilities on Diamond Head Road appear to be somewhat inflated. The Draft EA claims the total cost for undergrounding the utilities over the entire 1.5-mile length of the proposed project between Kapiolani Park and Kahala Avenue is estimated at \$5.173 million, and states that "the undergrounding of utilities is common to all 5 sections" - a total of 6,790 linear feet. (See: pages 9,10, 11, and 27.)

In fact, utility poles carrying electric power and transformers, telephone and cable lines run overhead from Poni Moi Road to just beyond the Diamond Head Lighthouse, which is approximately half the project length. This is also the most dangerous section, with blind turns hugging the crater slopes and utility poles within inches of the roadway. On the Kahala side of Diamond Head Road between the Diamond Head Lighthouse and the end of the Kahala Lookout (observation area #3), there are only overhead street lights on the *mauka* side. Conversely however, the Draft EA, in summarizing the Scope of Work for each Section, represents that all utilities would need to be placed underground for the entire 1.5-mile length of the proposed project.

During their meeting of October 18, 2001, the Neighborhood Board's Planning, Land Use, and Transportation Committee was informed that a utilities consultant had been asked for a "ballpark" cost estimate for undergrounding the utilities, and the result was apparently based on the entire 6,790 linear feet of the proposed project - without a site survey or pole count. It would be of some concern if such formulation resulting in an inflated estimate provokes disincentive for accomplishing the community's priority of undergrounding the utilities on Diamond Head Road.

It is also curious that the Draft EA states on page 28 the City "may" choose to pursue cost sharing by the utility companies. In accordance with Article 22 of Chapter 14, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, the utilities are required to pay a portion of the cost of undergrounding the utilities, to wit: "the costs... within the public right of way shall be borne equally by the city and the respective utility company." In addition, the Land Use Ordinance provides that utilities are to be placed underground with improvements within the Diamond Head Special District.

In reality, the community's priority of undergrounding utilities on Diamond Head Road, and as located overhead and within the most dangerous Sections 1 and 2 between Kapiolani Park and Beach Road, should cost no more than \$600,000 to \$800,000. As a comparative, the undergrounding of utilities along 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue on the opposite slope of Diamond Head from the proposed project was reported as being \$214 per linear foot,

which would be an estimated \$567,100 for the 2,650 linear feet between Poni Moi Road and Beach Road in Sections 1 and 2 of the proposed plan. In answer to the question of the cost for undergrounding utilities over this distance, a representative of the City's Department of Transportation Services informed the Diamond Head Citizens Advisory Committee at their meeting on the concepts of this proposed project that the estimated cost would be approximately \$600,000, or \$240 per linear foot.

As stated in the Draft EA on pages 34, 36, and 37, the soil conditions along Diamond Head Road from Kapiolani Park to Coconut Ave. consist of primarily Jaucas Sand; from Coconut Avenue to Makalei Place is Molokai Silty Clay Loam; and from Makalei Place to the area fronting Kuilei Cliffs is Makalapa Clay. On page 37 the Draft EA goes on to state that the Diamond Head Road ROW is a developed roadway that (already) contains street pavement, landscaping and sidewalks, and that all construction activities will be confined within the existing ROW. The Draft EA also states on page 42 that "The proposed improvements will take place within the previously disturbed road right-of-way". Therefore, the improved conditions of the ROW, as comprised of permeable and slight-to-moderate erosive soils, should be no different within the ROW of Diamond Head Road than along 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue on the opposite side of the crater. Thus, there should be no unforeseen hidden costs in trenching within the ROW for the underground utilities on the mauka side of Sections 1 and 2.

The City has so far allocated \$400,000 for FY 2001 and \$700,000 for FY 2002 to the project for planning purposes, with planning reportedly costing approximately \$250,000 and leaving a remainder of approximately \$850,000 in City funds currently appropriated for the proposed project. However, it is reported that the project engineer has determined that the remainder will only cover installation of a few decorative light poles near the Lookout observation areas in Section 4. In fact, the Draft EA states on page 28, conversely to the phasing plan on page 29, that "due to the relatively limited funds available at the present time - FY 2001 \$400,000, and FY 2002 \$700,000 - in comparison with the entire project cost estimate, the first items recommended for implementation are targeted in Section 4, which is the most scenic area and attracts a great deal of recreational users, but has relatively fewer complications because utility lines are minimal, there are no residences, and modifications to the street are primarily re-striping." Would this mean that the City is not contemplating implementing the 8-foot wide sidewalk for pedestrian safety, and is providing precedence instead to decorative light poles?

The CAC unanimously agreed that any funds received should be allocated toward engineering the undergrounding of utilities as the first priority, as found in the CAC meeting report of August 14, 2000 as follows: "The Committee members strongly expressed that they did not want to spend money on smaller items early on ... They stated that undergrounding the utilities and designing the project are the first priority."

The Committee report also records that the "Committee members asked that funding sources be investigated and that only the necessary amount of design work be completed - and 'no more' - so that local funds could be leveraged and federal funding approval

obtained (to supplement the cost of undergrounding the utilities). Committee members then stated that if there are any City funds left over, then some immediate project items can be considered."

This October, the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO) approved an additional \$420,000 to be requested by the State from Federal TEA-21 highway funds for the proposed project - described as "a bikeway facility between Paki Avenue and Kahala Avenue... in conformance with the Diamond Head Road Recreational Master Plan... for safety and convenience of bicyclists, motorists and pedestrians." Also in October, the Diamond Head/Kapahulu/St. Louis Heights Neighborhood Board voted to recommend that \$283,333 of the Diamond Head sub-district's share of \$1 million in capital improvement funds for the Board's district be allocated to the proposed project for the specific purpose of providing supplemental funds for undergrounding the utilities on Diamond Head Road.

Thus, the allocation of the remainder \$850,000 in current appropriations, plus the requested \$420,000 from federal funds, and the recommended \$283,333 in local capital improvement funds, provides for a total of \$1,533,333 to be funded toward the first phase of the proposed project, shown as Sections 1 and 2 on page 29 of the Draft EA. So, for example, if comparable projects were researched and a site survey and appropriate calculations were performed, it might be found that by applying a comparative cost of \$700,000 for undergrounding the utilities in Sections 1 and 2, less half that amount required to be paid by the utilities (-\$350,000), and adding the cost of the street improvements (\$1.349 million) as well as 20% for survey and design and a 10% contingency factor (\$510,000), the total calculated cost estimate for Sections 1 and 2 actually may be \$2.209 million - or, \$ 2.801 million less than the original ballpark estimate for utility undergrounding in Sections 1 and 2. This would leave \$675,667 in additional funds needed to implement safety improvements for Phase I -Sections 1 and 2 -on Diamond Head Road.

If this can be shown for the Section with the most immediate need of safety improvements, each subsequent phase, Sections 3 and 4 followed by Section 5 as illustrated on page 29 of the Draft EA, must also be revisited and the cost estimate formulated accordingly. Further, since there are only street lights in Section 4 which are to remain on the *mauka* side, the total of a surveyed cost estimate should reflect a significant downward adjustment. Please provide a more accurate cost estimate for the proposed project based on comparable projects and an appropriate site survey.

It is important that the City continue to make every effort at both the federal and local levels to secure the funds required for undergrounding the utilities on Diamond Head Road. In addition, a surveyed cost breakdown of undergrounding the utilities on Diamond Head Road would be a significant step in ensuring that this project proceeds.

### PHASING PLAN

It will be important that the Scope of Work for the proposed project follows the Phasing Plan in the Draft EA on page 29. This allows improvements to the most hazardous area, Section 1 and 2, to be implemented first, followed by improvements to Sections 3 and 4, and finally Section 5. In a letter to the OMPO Policy Committee regarding the request for \$420,000 in federal funding for the proposed project, the Neighborhood Board expressed concerns about this important scenic and recreation area being repeatedly disrupted should improvements be undertaken in a piecemeal manner. The Neighborhood Board recommended that utility undergrounding be coordinated with sidewalk and street improvements to avoid multiple disruptions, as a significant negative impact to the use of this recreation area would occur if the road were to be under construction first to add bike lanes, and then later to remove utility poles and bury utility lines. Indeed, at the August 14, 2000 meeting, the CAC was assured that the Master Plan will recommend that the utility undergrounding and roadway and sidewalk improvements be designed and constructed concurrently.

### REPLACING PLANTING STRIPS WITH TREE WELLS

The Draft EA states on page 5 that the Community Advisory Committee and the project planning consultant developed the plans for the proposed improvements for the 1.5-mile *makai* section of Diamond Head Road. However, several of the project's structural embellishments proposed for this Scenic Area as presented in the City's plan, such as removing the traditional grass planting strips and replacing them with tree wells, adding roadway bulb-outs, and a recommendation to excavate a 4<sup>th</sup> observation area as a parking lot on the Monument's slope, did not perceptibly originate in the CAC meetings and were questioned when presented. In fact, the Draft Diamond Head State Monument Plan dated October, 2000 states on page 1-5 that "The types of improvements recommended in the Master Plan include:... Widen planting strips."

However, as found on pages 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 of the Draft EA, the City proposes to remove all sidewalk planting strips on both the *mauka* and *makai* sides of Section 1 and on the *makai* side of Section 2, and instead construct tree wells at intervals along the curb with light poles in the widened sidewalk on the *makai* side of Sections 1 and 2.

By eliminating the traditional and unobtrusive grass planting strips and replacing them with structural tree wells adjacent to light poles and surrounded by concrete, the City would be accomplishing the following:

- a. diminishing the historic character and natural integrity of the Scenic Road;
- b. creating additional roadside safety hazards as coupled with curbside light poles;
- c. causing pedestrians to maneuver between the sidewalk obstacles or not use this portion of the sidewalk at all when necessary, thus negating the reason to widen the sidewalk for increased pedestrian accessibility and safety;

- d. adding more impermeable, heat-generating surface area where the grass planting strips have helped to alleviate this.

An additional concern would pertain to invasive tree root systems growing under the sidewalk and adjacent to the street, which could cause additional hazards for bicyclists and pedestrians, and additional remedial costs in the future.

The Draft EA states on pages 17 and 18 and illustrates on pages 19, 22, and 23 that no additional street trees will be planted in Sections 3 and 4 in order to maintain sightlines and viewplanes, and that improvements in the Lookout observation areas are to "enhance and highlight the existing park-like character." In addition, the Draft EA demonstrates on page 20 that the objective is to maintain viewplanes that are open and unobstructed, and on page 43 that "It is not necessary to clutter the road right-of-way with street trees... which would ultimately obstruct the views of the ocean." It is suggested that this planning wisdom also be applied to Sections 1 & 2, the most hazardous and narrow sections, where street trees would obstruct significant shoreline views fronting Makalei and Leahi Beach Parks, as well as present additional hazards for pedestrians and the physically challenged, as well as errant motorists and bicyclists.

Thus, it is eminently recommended that it would be best to restore the grass planting strips to retain the unobstructed scenic quality and preserve the historic character of Diamond Head Road, and to install adequate irrigation for the planting strips to maintain the grass that provides for heat absorption. Further, it is important to also retain the residential landscaping in Sections 1 and 2.

In addition, it is suggested that the appropriateness of placing new light poles on the *makai* side of Sections 1 and 2 of Diamond Head Road might be further enhanced by their placement on the *makai* side of the widened sidewalk in order to entirely eliminate roadside obstacles as illustrated on pages 12 and 14 of the Draft EA. Such conditions are currently encountered with the utility poles as unfavorably placed on the *mauka* side of Sections 1 and 2 of Diamond Head Road.

#### PROPOSED GATEWAY / ENTRANCE AND INTERPRETIVE SIGNS

The Draft EA plan also includes on pages 10 and 13 a gateway/entrance sign proposed to be located within the public ROW near the intersection of Poni Moi Road and Diamond Head Road, but not on Kapiolani Park Trust lands, to "remind motorists that they are entering a special residential and recreation area." One question where this might be placed, as the Trust lands are contiguous to the residential properties on Poni Moi Road. And a large posted gateway/entrance sign could be a public safety obstacle in the public ROW along this narrow section of Diamond Head Road, which does not appear to be a sound idea.

It might also be questioned what the proposed gateway/entrance sign would represent, as Diamond Head Road is a Scenic Road within the Diamond Head State Monument

Recreation Area as indicated by the sign presently posted in Section 5 of the proposed project area.

The Draft EA also proposes on page 15 that interpretive signs be installed at Makalei and Leahi Beach Parks to provide information about the area history and cultural points of interest. A more appropriate location for interpretive information might be at the entrance perimeters of the Lookout observation areas, as proposed on pages 17 and 23, where the lay of the land and historic features can be more fully understood and experienced by a greater number of residents and visitors, pedestrians and motorists alike. In addition, any signage in this area should be consistent with the graphic design standards of the Diamond Head State Monument Plan and Policies and not excessive in cost.

### PARKING AND VEHICULAR IMPACTS

During the Community Advisory Committee meetings, comments were expressed that supported limited commercial vehicle access as appropriate to Diamond Head Road's narrow capacity along the lower winding section of this Scenic Road, and restriction of oversized vehicles to reduce noise and visual obstruction impacts. It was recommended that oversized vehicles such as construction equipment and tour buses be rerouted to the wider and less hazardous section along the upper *mauka* portion of Diamond Head Road. Thus, oversized tour buses could stop at the entrance to the crater, and continue to the Lookouts from the Kahala side of Diamond Head Road. In fact, the Diamond Head Road Recreation Master Plan Draft dated October, 2000 states on page 2-21 that "About the same number of big tour buses travel on Monsarrat Avenue as travel on Diamond Head Road. However, more big tour buses are traveling in the Koko Head-bound direction than in the Waikiki direction. The buses are likely traveling toward the Diamond Head State Monument (entrance) via Monsarrat, or to the Lookout Area and then on to further destinations in East Honolulu." The Draft plan goes on to recommend on page 3-4 that oversized vehicles be "restricted to reduce noise and visual obstruction impacts."

The Draft EA notes on page 50 that large commercial and public vehicles often use Diamond Head Road, and on page 60 that "oversized vehicles would be restricted to reduce noise and visual obstruction." However, the Draft EA does not offer sufficient reason on page 60 to abandon this recommendation. Nor does the Draft EA address the impact, access, or accommodation of oversized vehicles along Diamond Head Road or within the Lookouts of the Diamond Head State Monument recreation area.

Currently, oversized commercial vehicles create excessive noise and cause visual obstruction by blocking motorists' line-of-sight distances and viewplanes for other users along the lower *makai* side of this Scenic Road. This impact will be further intensified when the traffic lane widths are reduced to a consistent 11 feet to reduce traffic speed and improve safety conditions. Thus, rerouting oversized commercial traffic becomes even more important in the mitigation of safety hazards in this mixed-use recreation area.

The Draft EA recommends on pages 20 and 22 that a landscaped traffic island, similar to a median strip, will be constructed within the Kahala Lookout observation area #3 to create

one-way ingress on the Waikiki side and one-way egress on the Kahala side separated from the parking area. Yet, the Draft EA does not provide for tour bus access and parking. In recognition of this, it is recommended that a one-way separated loop for oversized tour buses entering from upper Diamond Head Road on the Kahala side by way of the traffic island on the Waikiki side and exiting toward East Honolulu from designated commercial vehicle parking areas. This allows for access and parking by oversized tour buses at the Kahala Lookout while mitigating the line-of-sight, public safety, and noise impacts on lower Diamond Head Road and within the smaller Lookouts.

It is hoped that the above concerns and recommendations will be tallied with those received from other members of the community, along with those of interested and affected organizations and community groups, and that the concerns expressed will be given serious consideration in amending and improving the Diamond Head Recreation Master Plan for the Final Environmental Assessment. With comprehensive consideration, this proposed project has the promise of providing the essential safety improvements for all who enter this significant scenic and recreation area, the Diamond Head National Natural Landmark and State Monument.

Sincerely,

  
Michelle Spalding Matson



**TOWNSCAPE, INC.**  
Environmental and Community Planning

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900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160, Honolulu, HI 96813  
Telephone (808) 536-6999 Facsimile (808) 524-4998  
email address: townscap@lava.net

November 9, 2001

Ms. Michelle Spalding Matson  
3931 Gail Street  
Honolulu, HI 96815

Dear Ms. Spalding Matson:

**RE: Comment Letter on the Draft Environmental Assessment – Diamond Head Road Makai Recreation Master Plan, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii**

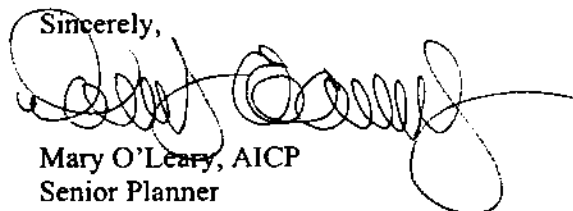
Thank you for your comment letter received on October 25, 2001, in response to your review of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the above-referenced project. For your information, we offer the following:

1. Your comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment will be taken into consideration during the design phase.
2. The Draft Environmental Assessment presents the proposed "Diamond Head Road Makai Recreation Master Plan" improvements for the Diamond Head Road right-of-way, the "project area". The historical significance of the Diamond Head Crater is discussed in Section 3.8 Archaeological, Cultural and Historic Resources of the Draft and Final Environmental Assessments. The "Final Diamond Head Road Makai Recreation Master Plan" report will elaborate on the significance of Diamond Head Crater, which will be completed after the conclusion of the environmental review process.
3. The paved road pull-off areas ("Lookout Areas") are considered part of the roadway system. The Department of Planning and Permitting has reviewed the Draft Environmental Assessment regarding the project area and the relative required permits and land use designations.
4. The Diamond Head State Monument Boundary will be modified on Figure 3-2 and Figure 6-1 in the Final Environmental Assessment.
5. The proposed improvements for each Section are not listed in priority order. Therefore, that the under grounding of utilities is located at the end of each list does not reflect that under grounding of utilities is not a priority.
6. The cost estimates presented in Figure 2-9 "Construction Cost Estimates" represent order-of-magnitude costs based on a conceptual Master Plan. The cost for under grounding utilities will be further determined during the design phase.

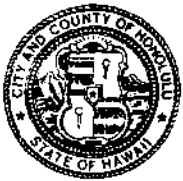
7. The Draft Environmental Assessment discusses funding sources, which reflects the extent of the information that was available in the "Draft Diamond Head Road Recreation Master Plan". Eventual funding sources and funding availability will be re-evaluated during the design phase.
8. Vision Team #17 recommended that the following Capital Improvement Program funds be used towards the Diamond Head Road Recreation master Plan. The following funding was approved by the City Council :
  - a. \$250,000 for fiscal year 2000 for the Diamond Head Road Recreation Master Plan and Environmental Assessment.
  - b. \$400,000 for fiscal year 2001 for design and construction of Diamond Head Road Recreation master Plan Improvements;
  - c. \$700,000 for fiscal year 2002 for design and construction of Diamond Head Road Recreation master Plan Improvements.
9. The implementation of improvements to Sections 3 and 4 is based on funding availability and permit requirements. The scope of work for improvements to Section 3 and Section 4 include widening the pedestrian walk way area to eight-feet wide.
10. The proposed improvements presented in the Draft Environmental Assessment reflects the general consensus of the project's Community Advisory Committee as of its final meeting held in November 2000. Your comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment will be taken into consideration during the design phase. During future public hearings associated with required permits, the general public will have another opportunity for public input on the proposed improvements.
11. The placement of street trees and street light poles will be determined during the design phase, in accordance with City regulations, which takes into consideration ADA accessibility and general public safety.
12. Signage design and placement will be addressed during the design phase. The Department of Design and Construction has and will continue to coordinate with the State Department of Land and Natural Resources. The Chair, and other members, of the State Diamond Head Monument's Citizens Advisory Committee were members of the Diamond Head Road Recreation Master Plan's Community Advisory Committee. Signage is not proposed within Kapiolani Park Trust lands.
13. The discussion on page 60 of the Draft Environmental Assessment regarding restricting oversized vehicles describes an earlier alternative that was considered by the project's Community Advisory Committee. Comments were received during the development of the Draft Master Plan and the Draft Environmental Assessment that rejected the notion that oversized vehicles, such as commercial tour buses, should be restricted from using or re-routed around Diamond Head Road because it is a valuable tourist and local resource.

14. Traffic lane widths of eleven feet are consistent with City street design standards. The speed limit for Diamond Head Road is not being proposed to be changed. Rather, improvements to Diamond Head Road, such as narrowing the traffic lane width, are intended to encourage traffic to operate at the posted speed limit. Your comments regarding roadway operational issues will be forwarded to the Department of Transportation Services.
15. Tour bus parking is an operational issue and will be reviewed during the design phase. Public parking will be designed in accordance with City standards and reviewed by the Department of Transportation Services. Your comments regarding roadway operational issues will be forwarded to the Department of Transportation Services.

A copy of your comment letter and this response letter will be included in the Final Environmental Assessment. Should you have any further questions, please contact me at 536-6999.

Sincerely,  
  
Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Rae Loui, Director, Department of Design and Construction  
Mr. Don Griffin, Project Manager, Department of Design and Construction



**DIAMOND HEAD/KAPAHULU/ST. LOUIS HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 5**

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • CITY HALL, ROOM 400 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

RECEIVED  
10/30/01

October 19, 2001

Townscape, Inc.  
900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160  
Honolulu, HI 96813

City and County of Honolulu  
Department of Design and Construction  
650 South King Street - 9th Floor  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Attention: Ms. Mary O'Leary, AICP,  
Senior Planner

Attention: Mr. Don Griffin, Project Manager

**SUBJECT: DIAMOND HEAD ROAD RECREATION MASTER PLAN  
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, SEPTEMBER, 2001:  
CONSIDERATIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS BY  
NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO.5**

Dear Ms. O'Leary and Mr. Griffin:

The Diamond Head/Kapahulu/St. Louis Heights Neighborhood Board (Board) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Diamond Head Road Recreation Master Plan Draft Environmental Assessment (Draft EA) dated September 2000. Over the past two years, the project planning consultant, Townscape, Inc., has worked closely and diligently with the Community in an exemplary manner to effectively convey and reflect the universal desire to preserve and protect the treasured scenic and recreational attributes of the Diamond Head National Natural Landmark and State Monument.

While conceptual, the plan proposed by the City and County is a step in the right direction, and the Board has the following considerations, comments and concerns to offer in support of a more successful implementation:

**SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RESOURCE**

From the beginning of the Draft EA, emphasis should be placed on the significance of Diamond Head as the world renowned symbol of Hawai'i, as a Registered National Natural Landmark, and as a Historic State Monument - and that Diamond Head Road is a Scenic Road encircling this significant resource. That being said, the tone would be more appropriately set forth for the proposed plan. Throughout the years, the understanding of the crater's natural integrity, historic character, and magnetic scenic and recreational attraction to Hawai'i's residents and visitors alike has been clearly understood and supported by the Community at large.



Oahu's Neighborhood Board System - Established 1973

**Diamond Head/Kapahulu/ St. Louis Heights Neighborhood Board No5  
Summary of Comments, Recommendations, and Requests on the Draft  
Environmental Assessment, Diamond Head Road Recreation Master Plan**

Recommend that the Draft EA clarify that the Diamond Head Road right-of-way does not include the Lookouts in terms of the Conservation area and the Diamond Head State Monument.

Strongly support improvements to the right-of-way, including traffic calming measures, to increase safety for motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians.

Strongly support the undergrounding of utility lines along Diamond Head Road for the safety of motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists and to enhance the Monument's significant viewplanes, in recognition of the priorities expressed by the Community during the planning process.

Request that the City continue efforts to secure additional funds for undergrounding the utilities, including federal transportation and highway enhancement funds.

Question the estimated costs of undergrounding the utilities and request additional information on the costs, including how the estimated costs compare with those of undergrounding of utilities on 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and information on the specific sources of funding.

Strongly support the phasing of undergrounding the utilities first in the more hazardous Sections 1 and 2, then Sections 3 and 4, followed by Section 5.

Request information on the expected length of time for project completion, and recommend penalty clauses in the project contracts for any completion time delays.

Oppose replacing the traditional grass planting strips along Diamond Head Road with tree wells.

In consideration of safety, ADA accessibility, and unobstructed scenic quality,

express concern about placing tree wells and light poles in the sidewalks along Diamond Head Road following removal of hazardous utility poles from the mauka side of the road.

Support relocating the light poles to the makai side, but recommend that they be relocated away from the road.

Recommend that no gateway/entrance signage be installed, and that any signs be limited to interpretive signs at the Lookouts and consistent with the Diamond Head State Monument Plan park graphic design standards.

Page 2, Board No.5 Recommendations Draft EA Diamond Head Road Recreation Project

Support the elimination of the parking spaces along the wall on the makai side to improve safety conditions and provide open views to the ocean.

Request additional consideration of the impacts of tour buses and specific bus parking alternatives.

Recommend the continued maintenance of the naupaka landscaping on the mauka side of Diamond Head Road.

The above were compiled by the Planning, Land Use, and Transportation Committee of the Diamond Head/Kapahulu/St.Louis Heights Neighborhood Board at it's meeting on October 18, 2001, Chair Pro Tem Michelle Matson presiding, and prepared by Chair Pro Tem Michelle Matson, and Committee Member, Christen Mitchell.

The above was presented to and approved by a majority of a legal quorum of Neighborhood Board Number 5. Members at a Special Meeting of the Board on October 18,2001, Chair Margo Ige presiding.

Submitted for the Diamond Head/Kapahulu/St.Louis Heights Neighborhood Board Number 5 by Marguerite G. Ige , Chair.

# TOWNSCAPE, INC.

Environmental and Community Planning

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900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160, Honolulu, HI 96813  
Telephone (808) 536-6999 Facsimile (808) 524-4998  
email address: townscap@lava.net

November 9, 2001

Ms. Margo Ige  
Chair  
Neighborhood Board No. 5  
3031 Kaunanoa Street  
Honolulu, HI 96815

Dear Ms. Ige:

RE: Comment Letter on the Draft Environmental Assessment – Diamond Head Road Makai Recreation Master Plan, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii

Thank you for your comment letter dated October 19, 2001, in response to the Diamond Head / Kapahulu / St. Louis Heights Neighborhood Board's review of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the above-referenced project. For your information, we offer the following:

1. The comments received on the Draft Environmental Assessment will be taken into consideration during the design phase.
2. The Draft Environmental Assessment discusses the proposed Diamond Head Road Makai Recreation Master Plan and related potential impacts, and the historical significance of the area surrounding Diamond Head Road, the "project area", including the monument status of Diamond Head. The "Final Diamond Head Road Makai Recreation Master Plan" report will elaborate on the significance of Diamond Head, which will be completed after the conclusion of the environmental review process.
3. The paved road pull-off areas are considered part of the roadway system. The Department of Planning and Permitting has reviewed the Draft Environmental Assessment regarding the project area and the relative required permits and land use designations.
4. The cost estimates presented in Figure 2-9 "Construction Cost Estimates" represent order-of-magnitude costs based on the conceptual Master Plan. It is beyond the scope of the Diamond Head Road Makai Master Plan Environmental Assessment to compare cost estimates with the work that was done to underground utilities along 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
5. The Draft Environmental Assessment discusses funding sources, which reflects the extent of the information that was available in the "Draft Diamond Head Road Recreation Master Plan". Eventual funding sources and funding availability will be re-evaluated during the design phase.
6. The length of time for project completion would depend on the scope of work to be completed and availability of funding. City contracts typically contain penalty clauses.

7. The placement of tree wells and street light poles will be determined during the design phase, in accordance with City regulations, which takes into consideration ADA accessibility.
8. Signage design and placement will be addressed during the design phase. The Department of Design and Construction has and will continue to coordinate with the State Department of Land and Natural Resources.
9. Tour bus parking is an operational issue and will be reviewed following completion of the improvements.

A copy of your comment letter and this response letter will be included in the Final Environmental Assessment. Should you have any further questions, please contact me at 536-6999.

Sincerely,



Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Rae Loui, Director, Department of Design and Construction  
Mr. Don Griffin, Project Manager, Department of Design and Construction



**EAST DIAMOND HEAD ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 10045, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816-0045

## Board Members:

Clark Hatch  
PresidentSheila Watumull  
Vice PresidentGunther Von Hamm  
Co-TreasurerAllen Chee  
Co-TreasurerOther Board  
Members:

Kerry Cloward

Sara Dudgeon

Frances Larsen

Celia Podorean

Carolyn Rankin

October 25, 2001

**RECEIVED**  
10/25/01Townscape, Inc.  
900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Attn: Mary O'Leary, AICPSubject: Diamond Head Road Makai Recreation Master Plan,  
Draft Environmental Assessment, September 2001

Reference is made to a letter being sent to you from the Diamond Head/Kapahulu/St. Louis Heights Neighborhood Board #5, dated October 2001. This letter is very significant because it addresses the very issues that the members of the East Diamond Head Association are most concerned with. Many of the residents in our area use Diamond Head Road Makai to come and go from their homes. We fully concur that the first and foremost concern is placing overhead utilities underground. The utilities (telephone and cable lines) run overhead only between Poni Moi Road and the Diamond Head Lighthouse. This is a combined length of about 2,650 linear feet. From the Diamond Head Lighthouse to Triangle Park the utility lines are already placed underground. Undergrounding can be done within the resources and funds available, if it is properly prioritized.

We support widening the sidewalks; however, we feel that it would be best to retain and restore the planting strips.

Regarding signs, we feel that minimum signs should be considered and that the approved ones should be consistent with the design standards of the Diamond Head State Monument Plan.

We feel that it is very important that the City and County of Honolulu vision team efforts be closely coordinated with the State's Master Plan for this area. The State DLNR and the Diamond Head Citizens Advisory Committee should review the plans. A coordinated effort can help ensure better results and could possibly lead to combined funding and other benefits. Our association participates on the advisory committee so we are aware of the many years of research and hard work that this committee has been engaged in. They are a very valuable resource.

# EAST DIAMOND HEAD ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 10045, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816-0045

Board Members:

Clark Hatch  
President

Sheila Watumull  
Vice President

Gunther Von Hamm  
Co-Treasurer

Allen Chee  
Co-Treasurer

Other Board  
Members:

Kerry Cloward

Sara Dudgeon

Frances Larsen

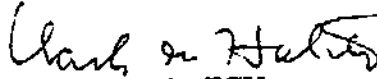
Celia Podorean

Carolyn Rankin

The East Diamond Head Association strongly supports the need to control oversized commercial vehicles in this area, and the implementation of traffic calming measures.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted by

  
CLARK G. HATCH  
President of East Diamond Head Association

CC: Mr. Don Griffin  
Project Manager  
City and County of Honolulu  
Department of Design and Construction  
650 South King Street, 9th Floor  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**TOWNSCAPE, INC.**  
Environmental and Community Planning

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900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160, Honolulu, HI 96813  
Telephone (808) 536-6999 Facsimile (808) 524-4998  
email address: townscap@lava.net

November 9, 2001

Mr. Clark Hatch  
President  
East Diamond Head Association  
PO Box 10045  
Honolulu  
HI, 96816-0045

Dear Mr. Hatch:


RE: Comment Letter on the Draft Environmental Assessment – Diamond Head Road Makai  
Recreation Master Plan, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii

Thank you for your comment letter dated October 25, 2001, in response to your review of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the above-referenced project. For your information, we offer the following:

1. The comments received on the Draft Environmental Assessment will be taken into consideration during the design phase.
2. The cost for under grounding utilities will be determined during the design phase.
3. The comments received on the Draft Environmental Assessment will be taken into consideration during the design phase.
4. The Department of Design and Construction will coordinate with the Department of Land and Natural Resources regarding special signage, other than typical street signs.
5. The Department of Design and Construction has and will continue to coordinate with the Department of Land and Natural Resources regarding the Diamond Head Road Makai Recreation Master Plan.

A copy of your comment letter and this response letter will be included in the Final Environmental Assessment. Should you have any further questions, please contact me at 536-6999.

Sincerely,

  
Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Rae Loui, Director, Department of Design and Construction  
Mr. Don Griffin, Project Manager, Department of Design and Construction

October 22, 2001

Ms. Mary O'Leary  
Townscape, Inc.  
900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RECEIVED  
10/22/01

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment, Diamond Head Road  
Makai Recreation Master Plan, September 2001

Dear Ms. O'Leary:

The subject report is well organized and shows a good degree of consistency in its presentation. The recommendations hold much promise.

The Diamond Head State Monument Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) has had opportunities to become acquainted with the subject matter at various times. Thank you for this opportunity to comment. Repeatedly the subject EA recommends underground utility lines (1.5 miles) as the first priority of the recommendations. The group unanimously supports this recommendation and further urges it be maintained and strengthened as the foundation of other important improvements being proposed.

A second comment regards phasing and although not fully presented to all members, it is being assumed we do agree that work begin a Poni Moi or "Section 1. Diamond Head Road between Poni Moi Road and Coconut Ave." and "Section 2, continuing Diamond Head Road to Diamond Head Beach Road" for considerable functional improvement in most matters including utilities and safety issues. We ask you further consider this order of phasing so as to address some very key issues that occur in this narrow section.

Some if not all CAC members have expressed concern regarding eliminating a planter between curb and sidewalk. Those commenting point out that light posts, signage and trees in the planted strip will soften the rather urban effect of abutted curb to sidewalk, wherever possible to so design.

We look for progress to continue in this very worthwhile project that can add so much to the Diamond Head experience.

Please call on me or chairman Alison Kay if you have questions or any concerns. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Sidney E. Snyder, Jr., AIA  
Vice Chairman, Citizen Advisory Committee

cc: CAC members

# TOWNSCAPE, INC.

Environmental and Community Planning

900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160, Honolulu, HI 96813  
Telephone (808) 536-6999 Facsimile (808) 524-4998  
email address: townscap@lava.net

November 9, 2001

Mr. Sidney Synder  
Vice Chairman, Citizen Advisory Committee  
Diamond Head State Monument  
C/o Ossipoff, Snyder & Rowland  
900 Fort Street Mall, #1705  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Mr. Synder:

RE: Comment Letter on the Draft Environmental Assessment – Diamond Head Road Makai  
Recreation Master Plan, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii

Thank you for your comment letter dated October 22, 2001, in response to the Committee's review of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the above-referenced project. For your information, we offer the following:

1. The comments received on the Draft Environmental Assessment will be taken into consideration during the design phase.
2. The implementation of improvements to Sections 3 and 4 is based on funding availability and permit requirements.

A copy of your comment letter and this response letter will be included in the Final Environmental Assessment. Should you have any further questions, please contact me at 536-6999.

Sincerely,



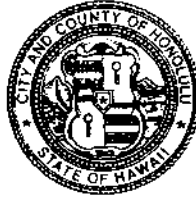
Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Rae Loui, Director, Department of Design and Construction  
Mr. Don Griffin, Project Manager, Department of Design and Construction

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TELEPHONE: (808) 523-4414 • FAX: (808) 527-6745 • INTERNET: www.co.honolulu.hi.us

JEREMY HARRIS  
MAYOR



RANDALL K. FUJIKI, AIA  
DIRECTOR

LORETTA K.C. CHEE  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

2001/CLOG-3733(ry)

October 16, 2001

Ms. Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Townscape, Inc.  
900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RECEIVED  
10/18/01

Dear Ms. O'Leary:

Draft Environmental Assessment for Diamond Head Road Makai Recreation Master Plan, Diamond Head Road Right-of-Way Between Poni Moi Road and Kahala Avenue

This letter supercedes the previous letter sent October 10, 2001 and incorporates clarification to paragraph 3, page 2 reached as a result of informal conversations between your office and Geri Ung of the Urban Design Review Branch, Department of Planning and Permitting.

We have reviewed the above document and have the following comments to offer:

1. Primary Urban Center Development Plan

The project is located within the Primary Urban Center Development Plan (PUCDP). The project is consistent with the provisions of the PUCDP with respect to recreational facilities, enhancement and accessibility of open space areas, attractiveness of the urban setting, and preservation of the mauka to makai orientation.

The proposed improvements are considered minor and an amendment to the Public Facilities Map is not required.

2. Special Management Area

Under Page 63, Section 8, Permits Required, the discussion regarding Special Management Area states that under ROH, Sec. 25-1.3, "the proposed improvements within the existing right-of-way, including the under grounding of utility lines, do not require a Special Management Area Permit." However, please be advised that another exemption described under Sec. 25-1.3 (2)(M) states that:

Ms. Mary O'Leary, AICP  
October 16, 2001  
Page 2

"Installation of underground utility lines and appurtenant above ground fixtures less than four feet in height along existing corridors". Therefore, except for the installation of new streetlights, the proposed work is exempt from SMA requirements.

Please include an exhibit which shows the location of proposed improvements relative to the existing Diamond Head Road right-of-way boundaries.

With respect to project phasing, Sections 3 and 4 are the only phases for which funding has currently been allocated and design work begun. Although it appears that no SMA approvals will be required for work in Sections 3 or 4, other sections of the project may require SMA approval(s), and that the DPP should be consulted prior to initiation of design work.

3. Diamond Head Special District

The project is located within the core area of the Diamond Head Special District. We confirm that Special District (minor) permits will be required for each phase of work, and that consultation with DPP should occur at the initiation of design work.

4. Civil Engineering

Some of the properties fronting the affected portions of Diamond Head Road have existing walls encroaching into the right-of-way. Although some of the properties have variances allowing the encroachments to remain, the City can require that they be removed if the encroachment adversely impacts the project. You may wish to research the records of surface encroachment variances for the project area. They are filed with the Civil Engineering Branch.

For your information, wall encroachments variances fronting 3233 and 3241 Diamond Head Road are presently under review.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If you have any questions, please contact Raymond Young of our staff at 527-5839.

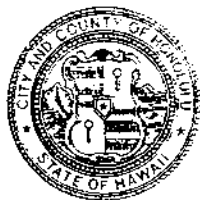
Sincerely yours,



RANDALL K. FUJIKI, AIA  
Director of Planning and Permitting

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TELEPHONE: (808) 523-4414 • FAX: (808) 527-6742 • INTERNET: www.cc.honolulu.hi.us



JEREMY HARRIS  
MAYOR

RANDALL K. FUJIKI, AIA  
DIRECTOR

LORETTA K.C. CHEE  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

2001/CLOG-3733(ry)

October 10, 2001

Ms. Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Townscape, Inc.  
900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Dear Ms. O'Leary:

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment for Diamond Head Road Makai  
Recreation Master Plan, Diamond Head Road Right-of-Way Between  
Poni Moi Road and Kahala Avenue

We have reviewed the above document and have the following comments to offer:

1. Primary Urban Center Development Plan

The project is located within the Primary Urban Center Development Plan (PUCDP). The project is consistent with the provisions of the PUCDP with respect to recreational facilities, enhancement and accessibility of open space areas, attractiveness of the urban setting, and preservation of the mauka to makai orientation.

The proposed improvements are considered minor and an amendment to the Public Facilities Map is not required.

2. Special Management Area

Under Page 63, Section 8, Permits Required, the discussion regarding Special Management Area states that under ROH, Sec. 25-1.3, "the proposed improvements within the existing right-of-way, including the under grounding of utility lines, do not require a Special Management Area Permit." However, please be advised that another exemption described under Sec. 25-1.3 (2)(M) states that: "Installation of underground utility lines and appurtenant above ground fixtures less than four feet in height along existing corridors". Therefore, except for the installation of new streetlights, the proposed work is exempt from SMA requirements.



Please include an exhibit which shows the location of proposed improvements relative to the existing Diamond Head Road right-of-way boundaries.

With respect to project phasing, Sections 3 and 4 are the only phases for which funding has currently been allocated and design work begun. Although it appears that no SMA approvals will be required for Section 4 work, other sections of the project may require SMA approval(s), and that the DPP should be consulted prior to initiation of design work.

3. Diamond Head Special District

The project is located within the core area of the Diamond Head Special District. We confirm that Special District (minor) permits will be required for each phase of work, and that consultation with DPP should occur at the initiation of design work.


4. Civil Engineering

Some of the properties fronting the affected portions of Diamond Head Road have existing walls encroaching into the right-of-way. Although some of the properties have variances allowing the encroachments to remain, the City can require that they be removed if the encroachment adversely impacts the project. You may wish to research the records of surface encroachment variances for the project area. They are filed with the Civil Engineering Branch.

For your information, wall encroachments variances fronting 3233 and 3241 Diamond Head Road are presently under review.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If you have any questions, please contact Raymond Young of our staff at 527-5839.

Sincerely yours,

  
RANDALL K. FUJIKI, AIA  
Director of Planning and Permitting

**TOWNSCAPE, INC.**  
Environmental and Community Planning

---

900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160, Honolulu, HI 96813  
Telephone (808) 536-6999 Facsimile (808) 524-4998  
email address: townscap@lava.net

November 9, 2001

Mr. Randall Fujiki  
Director  
Department of Planning & Permitting  
City & County of Honolulu  
650 South King Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Mr. Fujiki:

RE: Comment Letter on the Draft Environmental Assessment – Diamond Head Road Makai  
Recreation Master Plan, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii

Thank you for your comment letter dated October 16, 2001, in response to your Department's review of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the above-referenced project. For your information, we offer the following:

1. The statements regarding permit's associated with the project are noted. The Department of Design and Construction will consult with the Department of Planning and Permitting during the design phase.
2. The statements that work in Sections 3 and 4 does not require SMA approvals and that other sections may require SMA approvals is noted. The Department of Design and Construction will consult with the Department of Planning and Permitting during the design phase.
3. The statement that Diamond Head Special District minor permits will be required for each phase of work is noted. The Department of Design and Construction will consult with the Department of Planning and Permitting during the design phase.
4. The statement that some properties fronting Diamond Head Road have existing walls encroaching into the right-of-way is noted. The Department of Design and Construction will consult with the Civil Engineering Branch of the Department of Planning and Permitting during the design phase.

A copy of your comment letter and this response letter will be included in the Final Environmental Assessment. Should you have any further questions, please contact me at 536-6999.

Sincerely,

  
Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Rae Loui, Director, Department of Design and Construction  
Mr. Don Griffin, Project Manager, Department of Design and Construction

**BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY**

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
630 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET  
HONOLULU, HI 96843



October 8, 2001

JEREMY HARRIS, Mayor

EDDIE FLORES, JR., Chairman  
CHARLES A. STED, Vice-Chairman  
JAN M.L.Y. AMII  
HERBERT S.K. KAOPUA, SR.  
BARBARA KIM STANTON

BRIAN K. MINAAI, Ex-Officio  
ROSS S. SASAMURA, Ex-Officio

CLIFFORD S. JAMILE  
Manager and Chief Engineer

Townscape, Inc.  
900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Attention: Ms. Mary O'Leary

Gentlemen:

Subject: Your Transmittal of September 4, 2001 of the Draft  
Environmental Assessment for the Diamond Head Road  
Makai Recreation Master Plan, Honolulu, TMK: Vicinity of 3-1



Thank you for the opportunity to review the subject document for the proposed roadway improvements projects.

We have the following comments to offer:

1. We have no objections to the proposed project. The construction plans should be submitted for our review to minimize any potential impacts to our water system facilities in the area.
2. We recommend the use of drought tolerant/low water use plants and xeriscaping principles for landscaping. We also recommend the installation of an efficient irrigation system which should incorporate moisture sensors to prevent unnecessary irrigation.
3. If additional water is required, the availability will be determined when the Building Permit Application is submitted for our review and approval. If water is made available, the applicant will be required to pay our Water System Facilities Charges for resource development, transmission and daily storage.
4. The proposed project is subject to Board of Water Supply cross-connection control requirements prior to the issuance of the Building Permit Application.

If you have any questions, please contact Scot Muraoka at 527-5221.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Clifford S. Jamile".  
for CLIFFORD S. JAMILE  
Manager and Chief Engineer

cc: Department Design Construction (Don Griffin)

# TOWNSCAPE, INC.

Environmental and Community Planning

900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160, Honolulu, HI 96813  
Telephone (808) 536-6999 Facsimile (808) 524-4998  
email address: townscap@lava.net

Novmeber 9, 2001

Mr. Clifford Jamile  
Manager & Chief Engineer  
Board of Water Supply  
630 South Beretania Street  
City & County of Honolulu  
Honolulu, HI 96843

Dear Mr. Jamile:

RE: Comment Letter on the Draft Environmental Assessment – Diamond Head Road Makai  
Recreation Master Plan, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii

Thank you for your comment letter dated October 8, 2001, in response to your review of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the above-referenced project. For your information, we offer the following:

1. During the design phase, drawings will be submitted as required for review.
2. The recommendations regarding drought tolerant plants and efficient irrigation system are noted and will be addressed during the design phase.
3. The statements regarding potential Water System Facilities Charges and cross-connection control requirements are noted and will be addressed during the design phase.

A copy of your comment letter and this response letter will be included in the Final Environmental Assessment. Should you have any further questions, please contact me at 536-6999.

Sincerely,

  
Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Rae Loui, Director, Department of Design and Construction  
Mr. Don Griffin, Project Manager, Department of Design and Construction



DEPUTIES  
JANET E. KAWELO  
LINNELL NISHIOKA

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION  
Kakuhinewa Building, Room 555  
601 Kamokila Boulevard  
Kapolei, Hawaii 96707

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES  
ENFORCEMENT  
CONVEYANCES  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

October 2, 2001



Ms. Mary O'Leary, AICP  
c/o Townscape, Inc.  
900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

LOG NO: 28284 ✓  
DOC NO: 0109EJ32

Dear Ms. O'Leary:

**SUBJECT: Chapter 6E-8 Historic Preservation Review – Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) City and County of Honolulu 21<sup>st</sup> Century Vision Project for the Proposed Diamond Head Road Makai Recreation Plan Waikiki, Kona, O`ahu  
TMK: 3-1 various**

---

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the DEA for the "21<sup>st</sup> Century Vision Project's" proposed Diamond Head Road Makai Plan. We provided comment during the pre-EA consultation phase. Our complete comments are included in Section 10 of the DEA.

Archaeology Concerns: Section 3.8 B summarizes our comments that archaeological monitoring is recommended during the construction phase of the proposed improvements for excavations that penetrate into or through the Jaucus sand deposits which are evident in Section 1 and part of Section 2 of the proposed plan. These deposits are known to contain traditional Hawaiian sites such as cultural layers and human burials. Since the subject action has the potential to have an "adverse effect" on significant historic sites, we recommend that archaeological monitoring be conducted to mitigate any adverse effect this project would have on buried subsurface historic sites. Prior to beginning construction, an acceptable monitoring plan shall be prepared for review and approval by the State Historic Preservation Division. SHPD has not yet received an archaeological monitoring plan for review and approval.

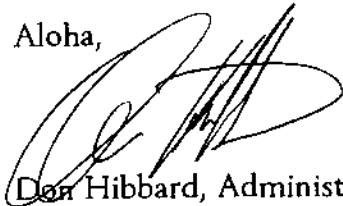
Section 9 ¶ 1 should also be clarified to state that archaeological monitoring will take place in order to mitigate any adverse effect the project might have on subsurface historic sites.

Ms. Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Page Two

Architecture Concerns: While our previous questions are not directly addressed in the DEA, a telephone conversation with staff indicated that there will be no bike railings due to the width of the sidewalk. Therefore, we believe that the overall plan to widen the sidewalks within the County right-of-way will have no affect on the historic sites along the road. However, since the site and design for the proposed sign on the Kapiolani Park side of the project is not clearly established, we would appreciate the opportunity to review the design and location as it progresses.

Should you have any questions regarding archaeology, please feel free to call Sara Collins at 692-8026 or Elaine Jourdane at 692-8027. For any architectural concerns please call Tonia Moy at 692-8030.

Aloha,



Don Hibbard, Administrator  
State Historic Preservation Division

EJ:jk

c: Mr. Don Griffin, Project Manager, Department of Design and Construction,  
City & County of Honolulu, 650 S. King Street, 11th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**TOWNSCAPE, INC.**  
Environmental and Community Planning

900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160, Honolulu, HI 96813  
Telephone (808) 536-6999 Facsimile (808) 524-4998  
email address: townscap@lava.net

November 9, 2001

Mr. Don Hibbard  
Administrator  
DLNR, State Historic Preservation Division  
Kakuhihawa Building, Room 555  
601 Kamaokila Boulevard  
Kapolei, HI 96707

Dear Mr. Hibbard:

RE: Comment Letter on the Draft Environmental Assessment – Diamond Head Road Makai  
Recreation Master Plan, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii

Thank you for your comment letter dated October 2, 2001, in response to your Division's review of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the above-referenced project. For your information, we offer the following:

1. Section 3.8 B of the Environmental Assessment will be further clarified to state that prior to construction in Section 1 or Section 2 of the Diamond Head Road Makai Recreation Master plan, a monitoring plan will prepared for review and approval by the State Historic Preservation Division. SHPD has not yet received an archaeological monitoring plan because work on Section 1 and Section 2 has not yet been funded.
2. Section 9, paragraph #1 will be further clarified.
3. Signage for this project is not proposed within the boundaries of Kapiolani Park. The location of signage along Diamond Head Road will be addressed during the design phase.

A copy of your comment letter and this response letter will be included in the Final Environmental Assessment. Should you have any further questions, please contact me at 536-6999.

Sincerely,



Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Rae Loui, Director, Department of Design and Construction  
Mr. Don Griffin, Project Manager, Department of Design and Construction

FIRE DEPARTMENT  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

3375 KOAPAKA STREET, SUITE H425 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96819-1869  
TELEPHONE: (808) 831-7761 • FAX: (808) 831-7750 • INTERNET: www.co.honolulu.hi.us



JEREMY HARRIS  
MAYOR

ATTILIO K. LEONARDI  
FIRE CHIEF

JOHN CLARK  
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

September 26, 2001

RECEIVED  
10/10/01

Ms. Mary O'Leary, AICP, Senior Planner  
Townscape, Inc.  
900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Ms. O'Leary:

Subject: Proposed City and County of Honolulu  
Diamond Head Road Makai Recreation Master Plan Project

We received your letter dated September 4, 2001, regarding the above-mentioned project.

The Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) requests that you comply with the following:

1. Maintain fire apparatus access throughout the construction site for the duration of the project.
2. Maintain access to existing fire hydrants and notify the Fire Communication Center (523-4411) of any interruption in the existing fire hydrant system during the project.
3. Submit civil drawings for the speed tables to the HFD for review and approval.

Should you have any questions, please call Battalion Chief Kenneth Silva of our Fire Prevention Bureau at 831-7778.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Attilio K. Leonard in cursive.

ATTILIO K. LEONARDI  
Fire Chief

AKL/SK:jo

cc: Mr. Don Griffin, Project Manager, Department of Design and Construction



# TOWNSCAPE, INC.

Environmental and Community Planning

900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160, Honolulu, HI 96813  
Telephone (808) 536-6999 Facsimile (808) 524-4998  
email address: townscap@lava.net

November 9, 2001

Mr. Attilio Leonardi  
Fire Chief  
Fire Department  
City & County of Honolulu  
3375 Koapaka Street, Suite H425  
Honolulu, HI 96819-1869

Dear Mr. Leonardi:

RE: Comment Letter on the Draft Environmental Assessment – Diamond Head Road Makai  
Recreation Master Plan, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii

Thank you for your comment letter dated September 26, 2001, in response to your Department's review of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the above-referenced project. For your information, we offer the following:

1. The project description in the Draft Environmental Assessment is that of a conceptual master plan. During design phase, drawings will be submitted to the appropriate City Departments and agencies for review.

A copy of your comment letter and this response letter will be included in the Final Environmental Assessment. Should you have any further questions, please contact me at 536-6999.

Sincerely,



Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Rae Loui, Director, Department of Design and Construction  
Mr. Don Griffin, Project Manager, Department of Design and Construction



## DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 101 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814  
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V/TDD) • Fax (808) 586-8129

October 5, 2001

RECEIVED  
10/9/01

Ms. Mary J. O'Leary, AICP  
Senior Planner  
Townscape, Inc.  
900 Fort Street Mall  
Suite 1160  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Regarding: Proposed City and County of Honolulu  
Diamond Head Road Makai Recreation Master Plan Project  
Draft Environmental Assessment

Dear Ms. O'Leary,

The Draft Environmental Assessment for the Diamond Head Road Makai Recreation Master Plan Project has been submitted to our office for comment. The purpose for our request to review the proposed Plan at this time is to ensure that final master plan of this project will take into account accessibility for persons with disabilities.

We offer the following comments:

1. This project falls within the scope of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Title II, covering state and local governments, and §103-50 Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS). Although the technical requirements are nearly identical, there may be areas of difference. Also, §103-50 HRS, contains a requirement for a review process by the Disability and Communication Access Board.
2. The proposed project is located within the State Land Use Designation for the Diamond Head Road right-of-way, which is designated as "Urban". The proposed Plan is intended to enhance outdoor recreation activities, including, but not limited to lookouts, outdoor recreation access routes for pedestrians and joggers, bicycle paths, and provisions for marked designated off-road parking as well as standard street parking. Public transportation has not been addressed. The Plan should ensure that all the features and routes will incorporate appropriate walking surfaces starting not only from accessible parking but also from public transportation stops and the newly striped parking include accessible parking at the lookouts. For your reference, the U.S. Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board has available published recommendations of the Public Rights-of-Way Access Advisory Committee "Building a True Community, Final Report," published January 10, 2001.

For further information contact Ms. Lois Thibault, Office of Technical and Information Services, U.S. Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board, 1331 F Street N.W., Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20004-1111. Ms. Thibault can be reached at (202) 272-5434; (202) 272-5449(TTY). E-mail address to access the publication is: [www.access-board.gov](http://www.access-board.gov).

Ms. Mary J. O'Leary, AICP  
October 5, 2001  
Page 2

3. Provide a general accessibility statement in the Final Recreation Master Plan:

*"All facilities will be designed to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the requirements of §103-50 Hawaii Revised Statutes. Buildings, facilities, and sites shall also incorporate the best design practices as noted in the recommendations from the U.S. Access Board's Final Report of the Public Rights-of-Way Advisory Committee, January 10, 2001, or other current documents providing for access to public rights of way."*

The above reflects staff's technical assistance comments. They do not reflect our Board's approval or disapproval of the Plan, per se. There are no further comments to offer at this time. Thank you for giving us this opportunity to provide comment.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Mr. Gary Batcheller, Facility Access Specialist, or Mr. Ben Gorospe, Facility Access Coordinator, at 586-8121.

Sincerely,



FRANCINE WAI  
Executive Director

c: Don Griffin  
Department of Design  
and Construction  
City and County of Honolulu

# TOWNSCAPE, INC.

Environmental and Community Planning

900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160, Honolulu, HI 96813  
Telephone (808) 536-6999 Facsimile (808) 524-4998  
email address: townscap@lava.net

November 9, 2001

Ms. Francine Wai  
Executive Director  
State Disability & Communication Access Board  
919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 101  
Honolulu, HI 96814

Dear Ms. Wai:

RE: Comment Letter on the Draft Environmental Assessment – Diamond Head Road Makai  
Recreation Master Plan, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii

Thank you for your comment letter dated October 5, 2001, in response to your agency's review of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the above-referenced project. For your information, we offer the following:

1. The Final Environmental Assessment will have a general statement regarding the City's standards for providing accessibility for persons with disabilities.
2. The comments in paragraph #3 of your letter refer to federal and state mandates that will be incorporated into the project during the design phase in accordance with City procedures to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Hawaii Revised Statutes Section 103-50.

A copy of your comment letter and this response letter will be included in the Final Environmental Assessment. Should you have any further questions, please contact me at 536-6999.

Sincerely,



Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Rae Loui, Director, Department of Design and Construction  
Mr. Don Griffin, Project Manager, Department of Design and Construction



**UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII  
ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER**

**RECEIVED**  
10/8/01

A UNIT OF THE WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH CENTER

October 8, 2001

EA: 0272

Don Griffin  
City and County of Honolulu  
Department of Design and Construction  
650 South King Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Mr. Griffin:

Draft Environmental Assessment  
Diamond Head Road Makai  
Recreation Master Plan  
Honolulu, Oahu

The Department of Design and Construction of the City and County of Honolulu proposes improvement to a 1.5-mile section of Diamond Head Road between Poni Moi Road (Kapiolani Park) and Kahala Avenue (Triangle Park). Improvements include relocation of utilities to underground, widening sidewalks, installing traffic calming devices, widening planting strips, landscaping, signage, marked parking spaces at the Lookout Area, and modifying the street to accommodate bicycle lanes. This project is part of the City and County of Honolulu's community based "21<sup>st</sup> Century Vision". The purpose of this project is to support and enhance the recreational experience for users.

This review was conducted with the assistance of Peter Flachsbart, Urban and Regional Planning; and Renee Thompson, Environmental Center.

**General Comments**

The overall project seems to be well thought out and will benefit the users of the area. We would like to offer a few brief comments.

**Signage Improvements**

We applaud the recommendation on page 15 to install signs at Makalei and Leahi Beach Parks regarding the area history and cultural points of interest. If the final EA contained more detailed information regarding the content of the signs, this would enable the reviewer to assess if the signs are historically accurate, appropriate, and adequate.

Mr. Griffin  
October 8, 2001  
Page 2

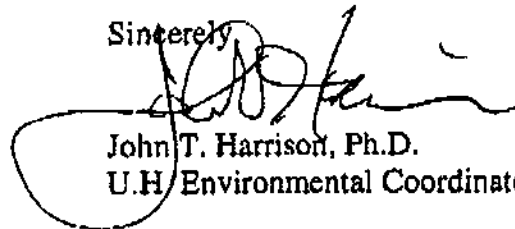
We recommend additional signs. Bicyclists are in danger of parked car doors being opened on them. A good rule of thumb for a bicyclist, is to ride 3-feet away from parked cars. This allows time for a cyclist to get out of the way if a car door opens unexpectedly. This potential hazard is presented as a result of parking designs proposed in sections 3, 4, and 5. Signage may help to reduce this hazard, e.g., "Motorists, look for bicyclists before opening door!" Also, related to this concern, what clearance is planned between parked cars and the bike lanes in the above mentioned areas?

### Parking

Given that parking already poses problems, especially during times of favorable conditions for ocean recreation, loss of any parking spaces will have a detrimental impact on users of beach resources at Diamond Head. Our reviewers suggest establishment of an off-site parking area, perhaps near Triangle Park, and provision of a shuttle service designed to accommodate surfboards as a means of mitigating this impact.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this draft EA.

Sincerely,



John T. Harrison, Ph.D.  
U.H. Environmental Coordinator

cc: OEQC  
James Moncur, WRRC  
Mary O'Leary, Townscape, Inc.  
Peter Flachsbart  
Renee Thompson

# TOWNSCAPE, INC.

Environmental and Community Planning

900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160, Honolulu, HI 96813  
Telephone (808) 536-6999 Facsimile (808) 524-4998  
email address: townscap@lava.net

November 9, 2001

Mr. John Harrison  
UH Environmental Coordinator  
University of Hawaii  
Environmental Center  
2500 Dole Street, Krauss Annex 19  
Honolulu, HI 96822

Dear Mr. Harrison:

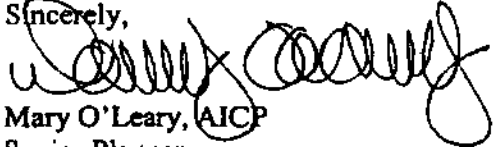
RE: Comment Letter on the Draft Environmental Assessment – Diamond Head Road Makai Recreation Master Plan, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii

Thank you for your comment letter dated October 8, 2001, in response to the Center's review of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the above-referenced project. For your information, we offer the following:

1. The comments received on the Draft Environmental Assessment will be taken into consideration during the design phase.
2. Signage design and placement will be addressed during the design phase. The Department of Design and Construction has and will continue to coordinate with the State Department of Land and Natural Resources.
3. The Draft Environmental Assessment states that the bike lanes proposed for Diamond Head Road varying from four to five feet wide and are located on both sides of the street. The design phase will address appropriate signage and bicycle lane width and clearances with parked cars.
4. As discussed on page 53 of the Draft Environmental Assessment, the provision of on-street parking in Section 5 provides an alternate parking area adjacent to the Lookout Area. Comments received on the Draft Environmental Assessment will be taken into consideration during the design phase.

A copy of your comment letter and this response letter will be included in the Final Environmental Assessment. Should you have any further questions, please contact me at 536-6999.

Sincerely,

  
Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Rae Loui, Director, Department of Design and Construction  
Mr. Don Griffin, Project Manager, Department of Design and Construction

# KAPIOLANI PARK PRESERVATION SOCIETY

P. O. BOX 90183. HONOLULU, HAWAII 96835

RECEIVED  
10/6/01

October 6, 2001

To: Townscape, Inc.  
900 Fort St. Mall, Suite 1160  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
Attn: Ms. Mary O'Leary, AICP,  
Senior Planner

Copy: City & County of Honolulu  
Dept. of Design & Construction  
650 S. King St., 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
Attn: Mr. Don Griffin,  
Project Manager

Subject: PROPOSED CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
DIAMOND HEAD ROAD MAKAI RECREATION MASTER PLAN

We applaud this plan for its comprehensive approach to recreation associated with the Diamond Head Road corridor, including aesthetic components as well functional and safety concerns. We are especially pleased to see that putting the visually intrusive utility lines underground is included. The proposed accommodation of bike lanes and a wider makai sidewalk by slightly narrowing the auto traffic lanes and removing the utility poles in the right of way through Sections 1 and 2 near Kapiolani Park appears workable and welcome. As you know, the narrow road in this area with its turns, a blind intersection at Makalei Place, and the mix of bicycle and vehicular traffic makes this stretch of road particularly dangerous.

We are concerned, however, that you propose that only the items in Section 4 be implemented at first. We realize that you are only looking at the limited funds that have already been budgeted for the funds designated by the Waikiki-Kapahulu-Diamond Head Vision Team, \$1.1 million. We feel that the improvements planned for Section 4, the Lookout Area, while worthy are too limited to make much impact and are not likely to generate the same momentum for completion of the whole package that the bike lane, sidewalk, and underground utility improvements proposed for Sections 1 and 2 will.

We urge you to reconsider the proposed order of implementation and begin with Sections 1 and 2. First of all, this project is not primarily a "local" Waikiki-Diamond Head concern; the Diamond Head Road corridor from Kapiolani Park to the Lookout Area and on to Kahala is an important part of the infrastructure supporting the visitor industry in Waikiki, the most important component of the state's economy. As such, the funding

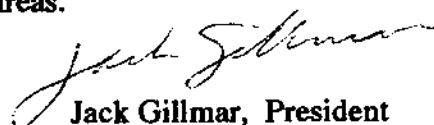


should not be constrained by what has been allotted to the Waikiki-Kapahulu-Diamond Head Vision Team. Second, it is in Sections 1 and 2 where the existing narrow sidewalks, lack of bike lanes, and fast-moving cars generate the greatest number of safety problems for pedestrians, joggers, and bicycle riders. Finally, it would seem from the discussion of funding options for putting utilities underground on page 27 that HECO might be sharing that cost equally with the city, resulting in a potential savings of about \$1.6 million out of the approximately \$5.2 million total. If this cost-sharing is possible, the price tag for Sections 1 and 2 would be a more affordable \$3.6 million, or \$2.2 million beyond the Vision Team funds.

Another concern is that the proposed street trees be given the best possible chance for success. This would mean providing optimal growing conditions in their planting holes, minimizing the risk of their roots damaging adjacent pavement, and protecting them from being hit by cars as many of the present ones have been. Street trees in general face these extra difficulties, and given their aesthetic importance in the Diamond Head Road corridor, every effort should be made to maximize chance of success here, beginning with including the needed directives and provisions in this master plan. There has been a great deal of valuable research in recent years related to street tree growth and pavement strategies, we need to utilize the best current knowledge and practice here, and it cannot be assumed that otherwise knowledgeable landscape architects and contractors are as familiar with this specialized area as they should be.

Finally, we are not certain what is meant in the last sentence of the third paragraph on page 43, "As much as possible, native plants identified with the area should be used to maintain the compatibility of the project landscaping with the existing landscaping." Much of the land along the road here consists of well-established single family residential property. On page 24 the stated intent is "to create a street that has the scale and characteristics of a typical residential street", and the plan on page 25 shows that very well, with the landscape bulbouts very nicely softening the view of cars parked along the road. With regard to the plants, though, those that are now indigenous on the slope of Diamond Head are mostly kiawe trees and introduced grasses. Neither are true natives in the sense of the state law which encourages the use of native plants on public projects nor would they appear compatible with the existing landscape plantings on the residential properties along the road. What is very much needed in that hot dry area is more shade over the sidewalks and roadside. While planting native plants is commendable, in a case such as this the choice should not be too constrained. There may not be enough choice of native trees with shade canopies suited to this leeward coastal strand environment's micro-climate and alkaline soil conditions that are also able to survive the extra challenges street trees face.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this long-needed master plan of one of Hawaii's most beautiful and important areas.



Jack Gillmar, President  
Kapiolani Park Preservation Society

# TOWNSCAPE, INC.

Environmental and Community Planning

900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160, Honolulu, HI 96813  
Telephone (808) 536-6999 Facsimile (808) 524-4998  
email address: townscap@lava.net

November 9, 2001

Mr. Jack Gillmar  
President  
Kapiolani Park Preservation Society  
PO Box 90183  
Honolulu, HI 96835

Dear Mr. Gillmar:

RE: Comment Letter on the Draft Environmental Assessment – Diamond Head Road Makai Recreation Master Plan, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii

Thank you for your comment letter dated October 6, 2001, in response to your organization's review of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the above-referenced project. For your information, we offer the following:

1. The comments received on the Draft Environmental Assessment will be taken into consideration during the design phase.
2. The implementation of improvements to Sections 3 and 4 is based on funding availability and permit requirements.
3. The Draft Environmental Assessment discusses funding sources, which reflects the extent of the information that was available in the "Draft Diamond Head Road Recreation Master Plan". Eventual funding sources and funding availability will be re-evaluated during the design phase.
4. The placement of tree wells will be determined during the design phase, in accordance with City regulations, which takes into consideration ADA accessibility. At the appropriate time, a street tree planting plan will be submitted to the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) for review in accordance with the City's "Standards and Procedures for the Planting of Street Trees" (DPP, July 1999). The Procedures address such issues as proper tree well size, spacing between street trees, irrigation, minimum tree size, tree location, etc. Additionally, the Land Use Ordinance Diamond Head Special District Design Controls (Section 21-9.40-4, item #4) states that, "Species and spacing shall be chosen from an approved tree list on file with the Department of Parks and Recreation."
5. The selection of plant materials will be addressed during the design phase of each Section. The comments received on the Draft Environmental Assessment will be taken into consideration during the design phase.

Environmental Assessment - Diamond Head Road Makai Recreation Master Plan  
Letter to Mr. Jack Gillmar  
Kapiolani Park Preservation Society  
November 9, 2001  
Page 2 of 2

A copy of your comment letter and this response letter will be included in the Final Environmental Assessment. Should you have any further questions, please contact me at 536-6999.

Sincerely,



Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Senior Planner

Cc. Ms. Rae Loui, Director, Department of Design and Construction  
Mr. Don Griffin, Project Manager, Department of Design and Construction

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 10TH FLOOR • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
PHONE: (808) 523-4182 • FAX: 527-5725 • INTERNET: www.co.honolulu.hi.us

JEREMY HARRIS  
MAYOR



WILLIAM D. BALFOUR, JR.  
DIRECTOR

EDWARD T. "SKIPPA" DIAZ  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

October 3, 2001

RECEIVED  
10/5/01

Ms. Mary O'Leary, AICP  
c/o Townscape, Inc.  
900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Ms. O'Leary:

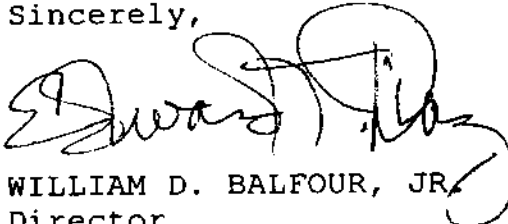
Subject: Proposed Diamond Head Road Makai Plan  
Pre-Consultation in Preparation of a Draft  
Environmental Assessment

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the pre-consultation in preparation of a Draft Environmental Assessment relating to the Diamond Head Road Makai Plan.

The Department of Parks and Recreation supports the proposed Diamond Head Road Makai Plan.

Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. John Reid, Planner, at 547-7396.

Sincerely,

  
for WILLIAM D. BALFOUR, JR.  
Director

WDB:cu (2624)

cc: Mr. Don Griffin, Department of Design and Construction

# TOWNSCAPE, INC.

Environmental and Community Planning

900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160, Honolulu, HI 96813  
Telephone (808) 536-6999 Facsimile (808) 524-4998  
email address: townscap@lava.net

November 9, 2001

Mr. William Balfour, Jr.  
Director  
Department of Parks & Recreation  
City & County of Honolulu  
650 South King Street, 10th Floor  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Mr. Balfour, Jr.:

RE: Comment Letter on the Draft Environmental Assessment – Diamond Head Road Makai  
Recreation Master Plan, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii

Thank you for your comment letter dated October 3, 2001, in response to your Department's review of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the above-referenced project. The Department of Parks & Recreation's support of the proposed project is noted.

A copy of your comment letter and this response letter will be included in the Final Environmental Assessment. Should you have any further questions, please contact me at 536-6999.

Sincerely,

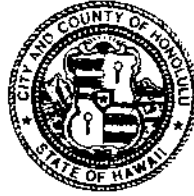


Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Rae Loui, Director, Department of Design and Construction  
Mr. Don Griffin, Project Manager, Department of Design and Construction

POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 - AREA CODE (808) 529-3171  
<http://www.honolulu.org>  
[www.co.honolulu.hi.us](http://www.co.honolulu.hi.us)

JEREMY HARRIS  
MAYOR



LEE D. DONOHUE  
CHIEF

MICHAEL CARVALHO  
ROBERT AU  
DEPUTY CHIEFS

CS-KP

OUR REFERENCE

October 1, 2001

RECEIVED  
10/2/01

Ms. Mary O'Leary, AICP, Senior Planner  
Townscape, Inc.  
900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Ms. O'Leary:

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Draft Environmental Assessment for Diamond Head Road Makai Recreation Master Plan Project.

Based on the information provided, this proposal should have a minimal impact on calls for police service. It should be noted that only a small portion of this project is in District 6 (Waikiki). The section that lies east of Coconut Avenue, which is the majority of the project, is in District 7 (East Honolulu).

If there are any questions, please call Ms. Carol Sodetani of the Support Services Bureau at 529-3658.

Sincerely,

LEE D. DONOHUE  
Chief of Police

By   
EUGENE UEMURA  
Assistant Chief of Police  
Support Services Bureau

cc: Mr. Don Griffin, Project Manager  
Department of Design and Construction

**TOWNSCAPE, INC.**  
Environmental and Community Planning

---

900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160, Honolulu, HI 96813  
Telephone (808) 536-6999 Facsimile (808) 524-4998  
email address: townscap@lava.net

November 9, 2001

Mr. Lee Donohoe  
Assistant Chief of Police  
Police Department  
City & County of Honolulu  
801 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Mr. Donohoe:

RE: Comment Letter on the Draft Environmental Assessment – Diamond Head Road Makai  
Recreation Master Plan, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii

Thank you for your comment letter dated October 1, 2001, in response to your Department's review of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the above-referenced project. The statement that the proposed project should have a minimal impact on calls for police service is noted. The Final Environmental Assessment will identify that the portion of the project area that lies east of Coconut Avenue is in District 7 (East Honolulu). Thank you for the clarification.

A copy of your comment letter and this response letter will be included in the Final Environmental Assessment. Should you have any further questions, please contact me at 536-6999.

Sincerely,



Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Rae Loui, Director, Department of Design and Construction  
Mr. Don Griffin, Project Manager, Department of Design and Construction

**RAND E. POTTS**  
3165 Diamond Head Rd. #4 Kuumakana  
Honolulu, HI 96815  
(808) 926-8771

RECEIVED  
10/3/01

To: Mary O'Leary, A&CP - Sr. Planner  
Townscape, Inc.  
900 Fort St. Mall, Suite 1160  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Copy: C & C Honolulu Dept. Design & Construction  
650 S. King St., 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Attention: Don Griffin, Project Manager.

SUBJECT: Proposed C & C Honolulu - Diamond Head Road Recreation Master Plan  
Project.

Dear Mary:

Your Environmental Assessment Draft for Diamond Head Road Recreation Master Plan is received, thank you. Vision Team #17 appreciates the countless hours Townscape and you devoted in developing the DHR Makai plan and now the EA draft. With consideration of the many desires and suggestions from our Vision Committee participants, and the requirement to work with in the C & C of Honolulu right-of-way boundaries of DHR, your Master Plan embodies the elements of safety, beautification, traffic and access ability for ALL users.

Undergrounding utilities, calming traffic, widening sidewalks, bike lanes, landscaping and signage were popular recommendations of our neighbors and are included in your plan.

In view of the above I endorse your plan and concur with your E.A. Draft.

Sincerely,



Rand E. Potts  
For Vision Team #17



# TOWNSCAPE, INC.

Environmental and Community Planning

900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160, Honolulu, HI 96813  
Telephone (808) 536-6999 Facsimile (808) 524-4998  
email address: townscap@lava.net

November 9, 2001

Mr. Rand Potts  
3165 Diamond Head Road, #4  
Honolulu, HI 96815

Dear Mr. Potts:

RE: Comment Letter on the Draft Environmental Assessment – Diamond Head Road Makai  
Recreation Master Plan, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii

Thank you for your comment letter received on October 3, 2001, in response to your review of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the above-referenced project. Your comments in support of the project are noted.

A copy of your comment letter and this response letter will be included in the Final Environmental Assessment. Should you have any further questions, please contact me at 536-6999.

Sincerely,



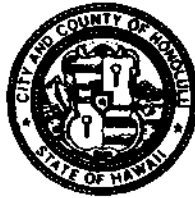
Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Rae Loui, Director, Department of Design and Construction  
Mr. Don Griffin, Project Manager, Department of Design and Construction

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 10TH FLOOR \* HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
PHONE: (808) 523-4182 \* FAX: 527-5725 \* INTERNET: www.co.honolulu.hi.us

JEREMY HARRIS  
MAYOR



WILLIAM D. BALFOUR, JR.  
DIRECTOR

EDWARD T. "SKIPPA" DIAZ  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

September 24, 2001

RECEIVED  
9/24/01

Ms. Mary O'Leary, AICP, Senior Planner  
Townscape, Inc.  
900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Ms. O'Leary:

Subject: Diamond Head Road Makai Recreation Master Plan Project

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the Recreation Master Plan relating to Diamond Head Road Makai.

The Department of Parks and Recreation strongly supports the proposed Recreation Master Plan.

Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. John Reid, Planner, at 547-7396.

Sincerely,

*W.D. Balfour*

WILLIAM D. BALFOUR, JR.  
Director

WDB:cu (3846)

cc: Mr. Don Griffin, Department of Design and Construction

# TOWNSCAPE, INC.

Environmental and Community Planning

---

900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160, Honolulu, HI 96813  
Telephone (808) 536-6999 Facsimile (808) 524-4998  
email address: townscap@lava.net

November 9, 2001

Mr. William Balfour, Jr.  
Director  
Department of Parks & Recreation  
City & County of Honolulu  
650 South King Street, 10th Floor  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Mr. Balfour, Jr.:

RE: Comment Letter on the Draft Environmental Assessment -- Diamond Head Road Makai  
Recreation Master Plan, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii

Thank you for your comment letter dated September 24, 2001, in response to your Department's review of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the above-referenced project. The Department of Parks & Recreation's support of the proposed project is noted.

A copy of your comment letter and this response letter will be included in the Final Environmental Assessment. Should you have any further questions, please contact me at 536-6999.

Sincerely,



Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Rae Loui, Director, Department of Design and Construction  
Mr. Don Griffin, Project Manager, Department of Design and Construction

BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO  
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

BRIAN K. MINAAI  
DIRECTOR  
DEPUTY DIRECTORS  
GLENN M. OKIMOTO  
JADINE Y. URASAKI

IN REPLY REFER TO:

HWY-PS  
2.4213

SEP 21 2001

RECEIVED  
9-25-01

Ms. Mary O'Leary  
Townscape, Inc.  
900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1600  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Ms. O'Leary:

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment, Diamond Head Road Makai Recreation Master Plan, Honolulu

Thank you for providing the subject Draft Environmental Assessment for our review.

The proposed roadway improvements will be constructed on roads under the jurisdiction of the City and County of Honolulu. State highway facilities will not be impacted.

If there are any questions, please contact Ronald Tsuzuki, Head Planning Engineer, Highways Division, at 587-1830.

Very truly yours,

  
BRIAN K. MINAAI  
Director of Transportation

**TOWNSCAPE, INC.**  
**Environmental and Community Planning**

---

900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160, Honolulu, HI 96813  
Telephone (808) 536-6999 Facsimile (808) 524-4998  
email address: townscap@lava.net

November 9, 2001

Mr. Brian Minaai  
Director  
Department of Transportation  
State of Hawaii  
869 Punchbowl Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813-5097

Dear Mr. Minaai:

RE: Comment Letter on the Draft Environmental Assessment – Diamond Head Road Makai  
Recreation Master Plan, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii

Thank you for your comment letter dated September 21, 2001, in response to your Department's review of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the above-referenced project. The statement that the proposed project will not impact State highway facilities is noted.

A copy of your comment letter and this response letter will be included in the Final Environmental Assessment. Should you have any further questions, please contact me at 536-6999.

Sincerely,



Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Rae Loui, Director, Department of Design and Construction  
Mr. Don Griffin, Project Manager, Department of Design and Construction

BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO  
GOVERNOR



GENEVIEVE SALMONS  
DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL  
235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET  
SUITE 702  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TELEPHONE (808) 586-4186  
FACSIMILE (808) 586-4186

RECEIVED  
9/7/01

September 7, 2001

Rae Loui, Director  
Department of Design & Construction  
650 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Attention: Don Griffin

Dear Ms. Loui:

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for Diamond Head Road Makai  
Recreation Master Plan

We have the following comments to offer:

Paving; landscaping: HRS 103D-407 requires the use of recycled glass in paving materials whenever possible, and HRS 103D-408 requires the use of native Hawaiian flora whenever and wherever possible. For the text of these sections of HRS contact our office for a paper copy or go to our homepage at <http://www.state.hi.us/health/oeqc/guidance/index.html>.

Cultural impacts assessment:

Act 50 was passed by the Legislature in April of 2000. This mandates an assessment of impacts to local cultural practices by the proposed project. In the final EA include such an assessment.

If the subject area is in a developed urban setting, cultural impacts must still be assessed. Many incorrectly assume that the presence of urban infrastructure effectively precludes consideration of current cultural factors. For example, persons are known to gather kauna'oa, 'ilima, 'uhaloa, noni or ki on the grassy slopes and ramps of the H-1 freeway and some state highways on the neighbor islands. Certain landmarks and physical features are used by Hawaiian navigators for sailing, and the lines of sight from landmarks to the coast by fisherman to locate certain fishing spots. Blocking these features by the construction of buildings or tanks may constitute an adverse cultural impact.

For assistance in the preparation refer to our *Guidelines for Assessing Cultural Impacts*. Contact our office for a paper copy or go to our homepage at <http://www.state.hi.us/health/oeqc/guidance/index.html>. You will also find the text of Act 50 linked to this section of our homepage

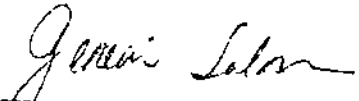
Rae Loui  
September 7, 2001  
Page 2

Time frame: What are the anticipated start and end dates of this project? If at all possible, please schedule roadway disruptions so that they will avoid the large annual sporting events in September (Hawaii Bicycling League's Century Bike Ride) and December (Honolulu Marathon), which places thousands of users on Diamond Head road.

Contacts: Consult with the Honolulu Marathon Association, allowing it sufficient time to review the draft EA and submit comments. This organization need to be apprized of this project in order to make alternate route arrangements for its event, if required.

If you have any questions, call Nancy Heinrich at 586-4185.

Sincerely,

  
GENEVIEVE SALMONSON  
Director

c: Mary O'Leary

# TOWNSCAPE, INC.

Environmental and Community Planning

900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1160, Honolulu, HI 96813  
Telephone (808) 536-6999 Facsimile (808) 524-4998  
email address: townscap@lava.net

November 9, 2001

Ms. Genevieve Slamonson  
Director  
State Office of Environmental Quality Control  
238 South Beretani Street, Suite 702  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Ms. Slamonson:

RE: Comment Letter on the Draft Environmental Assessment – Diamond Head Road Makai Recreation Master Plan, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii

Thank you for your comment letter dated September 7, 2001, in response to your Office's review of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the above-referenced project. For your information, we offer the following:

1. The selection of paving materials and landscaping materials will be addressed during the design phase.
2. The Final Environmental Assessment will elaborate on Section 3.8 Archaeological, Cultural, and Historic Resources of the Draft Environmental Assessment.
3. The length of time for project completion would depend on the scope of work to be completed and availability of funding.
4. A copy of the Draft Environmental Assessment was transmitted on September 8, 2001 to the Honolulu Marathon Association for review and comment.

A copy of your comment letter and this response letter will be included in the Final Environmental Assessment. Should you have any further questions, please contact me at 536-6999.

Sincerely,



Mary O'Leary, AICP  
Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Rae Loui, Director, Department of Design and Construction  
Mr. Don Griffin, Project Manager, Department of Design and Construction