



Oahu Community Correctional Center Replacement

Volume 1 - New Oahu Community Correctional Center

July 2016

New Oahu Community Correctional Center Planned

The Oahu Community Correctional Center (OCCC) is the largest jail facility in the State of Hawaii. OCCC houses pre-trial detainees and in addition to its jail functions, provides reintegration programming for male sentenced felons. The Hawaii Department of Public Safety (PSD) oversees operation of OCCC as well as the nearby Laumaka Work Furlough Center (LWFC) where inmates assigned to the LWFC are either actively seeking employment or working in the community. The current OCCC is out of date, inefficient and no longer meeting PSD needs. Outmoded design and site layout make day-to-day operations of OCCC more difficult and costly than necessary. Laumaka is also out of date and inefficient and lacks additional capacity to support a growing demand for re-entry facilities.

PSD is proposing to replace OCCC with a new state-of-the-art facility. To assist with the planning for replacement of OCCC, the State of Hawaii has assembled a team with representatives of PSD, the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS), and specialized consultants led by Architects Hawaii, Ltd.



Existing OCCC

Hawaii Department of Public Safety

PSD is responsible for carrying out judgments of the state courts whenever a period of confinement is ordered. Its mission is to uphold justice and public safety by providing correctional and law enforcement services to Hawaii's communities with professionalism, integrity and fairness. Currently, approximately 5,500 offenders are housed within State of Hawaii jail and prison facilities located within Hawaii and in private contractor facilities on the mainland. Additional information concerning PSD can be found at: **www.Hawaii.gov/PSD.**

PSD operates community correctional centers (CCCs) on the islands of Oahu, Maui, Hawaii and Kauai. Each CCC houses short-term sentenced (felons, probation, and misdemeanor), pretrial (felon and misdemeanor), other jurisdiction, and probation/parole violators. CCC's provide the customary county jail function of managing both pre-trial detainees and locally-sentenced misdemeanant offenders and others with a sentence of one year or less. CCCs also provide an important pre-release preparation/transition function for prison system inmates who are transferred back to their county of origin when they reach less than a year until their scheduled release. Most of these former prison inmates are transferred to a dedicated work furlough unit where they are able to begin working in the community on supervised work crews or in individual placements as determined by needs and classification assessments and individualized pre-release plans.

With increasingly aged and obsolete correctional facilities, PSD has proposed improving its corrections infrastructure through modernization of its existing facilities and construction of new institutions to replace others. Among its priority projects is the replacement of OCCC.

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Located at 2109 Kamehameha Highway in Honolulu, OCCC is currently the largest county jail facility in the Hawaii system and can be expected to remain so as it serves the entire Honolulu/Oahu population. Constructed in 1975 as a part of the county-based community corrections system concept, OCCC is obsolete and no longer meeting the needs of the State of Hawaii. Over the past decade, various studies have been conducted that have confirmed the necessity to replace OCCC.

PSD is proposing to address capacity, treatment, and service needs through development of new facilities. A key element of the PSD strategy involves replacing the existing OCCC with a state-

of-the-art facility that will have sufficient bedspace capacity while broadening its custody and treatment scope and capability with county/community-based correctional services. Under PSD's plan, the scope of future correctional services in Honolulu County would include:

- A multi-custody secure Community Correctional Center (minimum, medium, maximum, and special management) for adult males who are either in pretrial status or sentenced to the facility to replace the current OCCC.
- Renovate the WFC for inmates to prepare for the responsibilities of independent living and working in freedom.

Both the proposed OCCC replacement facility and the renovated LWFC are collectively described as the "OCCC project" which would continue to be managed and operated by PSD. The proposed OCCC would include areas for building administration and security, food preparation, medical services, program services, housing, visitation, and spaces for building support with technology and building systems and maintenance functions. All spaces would be sized and organized to meet applicable American Correctional Association standards.

A renovated LWFC will provide guidance in a more normative staff-secure setting to help eligible inmates prepare for their release from confinement and the

strict controls of a correctional institution to independent community living. Spaces for counseling, individual and small group activities, applicable treatment and transitional/re-entry focused programs and housing would be provided within the new WFC. A renovated LWFC will improve conditions under which inmates practice living skills and responsibilities not used during prison confinement and control. Fixing their own meals, doing their own laundry, rehearsing for job interviews, meeting the daily requirements of employment, and other normal expectations for daily routines of independent living will be facilitated with a renovated facility.

Compliance with State of Hawaii Regulations

Hawaii law (HRS Chapter 343) requires that government agencies (such as PSD) give systematic consideration to the environmental, social, and economic consequences of proposed projects prior to construction. Equally important, HRS 343 assures the public the right to participate in planning projects that may affect their community.

In recognition of concerns associated with development of new or expanded correctional facilities, HRS Chapter 353 was adopted by the Hawaii Legislature. HRS Chapter 353 (Section 16.37) requires PSD to develop and implement a community partnering process when undertaking planning for new or expanded correctional facilities.

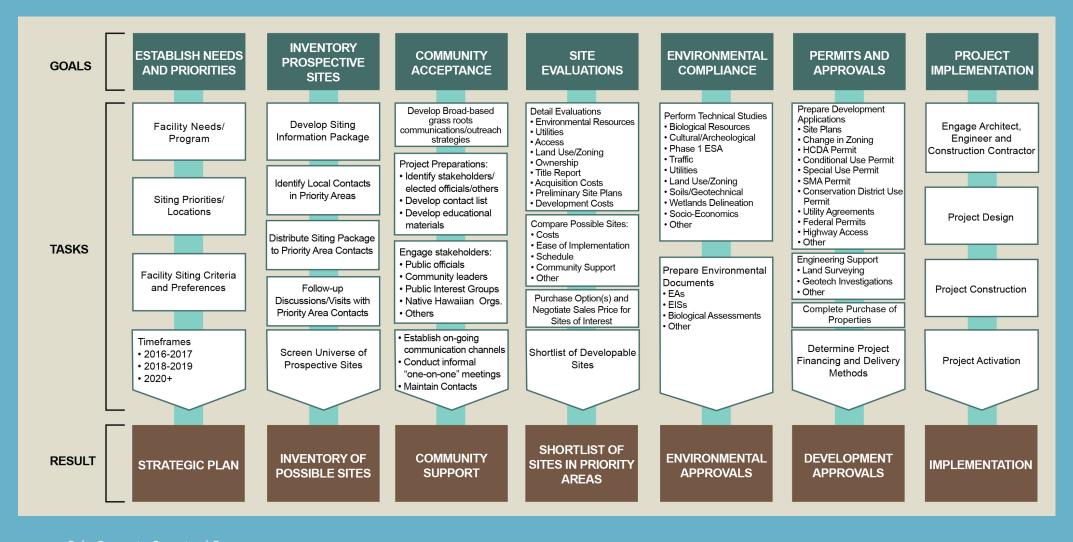
PSD intends to ensure that its environmental impact studies and public involvement activities fully comply with HRS 343 and HRS 353 requirements.

Planning Process for OCCC Replacement

At its most basic level, the process of planning for a new CCC facility is similar to developing a large school campus, medical complex, business park, or industrial park. However, the unique issues and challenges surrounding correctional facility development often make the process more complex, time-consuming and costly than other public projects of a similar scale.

A successful planning process involves a well-defined plan forward; a transparent and inclusive approach defensible decision-making; and a public information and outreach effor that builds towards a consensus on the outcome. PSD is advancing a plan to replace OCCC with a new facility using a process summarized in the adjacent exhibit. PSD has already begun the process of determining its needs and priorities and the well-defined set of criteria it will use to identify and evaluate prospective replacement sites. Soon thereafter, PSD will begin identifying and evaluating prospective sites.

Devising the best option for developing new state correctional facilities will ensure that Hawaii's criminal justice system in general and the Department of Public Safety in particular continues to function in a high quality manner while addressing the need for modern, efficient and cost effective institutions for current and future inmate populations. Development of a new facility to replace OCCC will allow PSD to accomplish its mission to uphold justice and public safety, meet the needs of current and future inmate populations and provide for the continued security of inmates, staff and island communities.



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OCCC Replacement - Progress to Date

PSD has begun notifying key state and local officials and regulatory agencies of the need to replace OCCC and its intent to partner with such officials and agencies in planning for a new OCCC. One-on-one and small group meetings with key officials, agencies, and other stakeholders to explain the need for a new OCCC and PSD's planning process and schedule are planned over the coming weeks.

With the onset of the planning process, PSD and its consultants have begun gathering information about prospective locations under consideration as potential OCCC replacement sites. This includes redevelopment at the current OCCC location as well as on property comprising the Halawa Correctional Facility. These and other sites will undergo initial evaluations to determine suitability relying upon previously gathered information, published data sources, as well as field investigations. PSD is also soliciting interest and potential sites that could accommodate the OCCC development. Sites that most closely address PSD's requirements will be subjected to in-depth study that will eliminate less suitable sites until only the most suitable sites remain for further in-depth study.



Halawa Correctional Facility

Upcoming Activities

PSD is moving ahead with the OCCC replacement planning process with these activities planned in the months ahead:

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July 2016	Notify key officials, regulatory agencies and stakeholder groups about the purpose and need for the proposed replacement facility and the planning process and schedule.
	Determine PSD current and future facility needs based on projected future inmate populations and program requirements; identify space needs, floor space requirements, minimum site and infrastructure requirements.
	Establish site search area and criteria for use in identifying and evaluating potential sites for OCCC development. Initiate site identification and evaluation process.
	Initiate public outreach and engagement process.
August 2016	Develop inventory of prospective sites based on minimum facility and infrastructure requirements (to include current OCCC and Halawa Correctional Facility sites). Continue public outreach and engagement process.
September 2016	Initiate environmental impact study process by publishing EA/EIS Preparation Notice. Continue public outreach and engagement process.

Interested in Learning More?

For additional information about the PSD visit www.Hawaii.gov/PSD or contact:

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