



Future of Hawaii's Community Correctional Centers

Volume 6 – Neighbor Island Draft Environmental Assessments Published

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Hawaii Department of Public Safety

The 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 5,400 offenders are housed within State of Hawaii jail and prison facilities located within Hawaii, at the Federal Detention Center in Honolulu, and in private contractor facilities on the mainland.

PSD operates Community Correctional Centers (CCC's) on the islands of Kauai, Maui, Hawaii and Oahu. Each CCC provides the customary county jail function of housing short-term felons, offenders on probation, and misdemeanor offenders with a sentence of one year or less, pretrial detainees (felonies and misdemeanors), offenders from other jurisdictions, and probation violators. CCC's 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.



Site of HCCC housing unit

Draft EAs for Kauai, Maui, and Hawaii CCC Housing Projects Completed

PSD is proposing to alleviate the persistent and significant crowded conditions by developing a medium security housing unit for inmates who are currently housed at KCCC, MCCC and HCCC. Since the proposed housing unit projects involve the use of State funds and State lands, each is subject to the State environmental review process. PSD has completed separate Draft Environmental Assessments (EAs) for KCCC, MCCC and HCCC pursuant to the requirements of Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), and Chapter 200, Title 11, State of Hawaii Department of Health Administrative Rules (HAR), State Department of Health. Each of the three Draft EAs is available for public review from the Office of Environmental Quality Control (OEQC) during a 60-day comment period.

The Draft EAs, the assessments in each, and the procedures by which environmental investigations are conducted and incorporated in decision-making are parts of a process established by Hawaii's environmental impact statement law (HRS 343) to ensure that the environmental consequences of state actions, such as developing medium security housing units at Hawaii's neighbor island jail facilities, are considered. The process is designed to ensure that public officials make decisions based on an understanding of the environmental impacts of proposed actions and take appropriate steps to "protect, restore and enhance the environment."

The housing units proposed for KCCC, MCCC and HCCC are representative of PSD's overall program of improving Hawaii's community correctional centers. The proposed medium security housing units are intended to provide additional beds in appropriate settings to address the current crowded conditions; provision of such housing is not intended to increase the inmate population at the facilities beyond their current number. Instead,

inmates housed in cramped conditions and in spaces not well suited for inmates, would be accommodated in housing units designed and constructed to State of Hawaii and national standards. Development of the medium security housing units will allow for inmates currently housed in inadequate conditions to be relocated to the proposed buildings.



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Public Invited to Comment on Draft EAs

The 60-day public comment period on each Draft EA begins on May 23, 2019 and ends on July 23, 2019. Copies of the reports are available for downloading or viewing from the following sources:

- OEQC's The Environmental Notice for May 23, 2019 (links to each separate Draft EA provided within the Notice)
 - OEQC direct link to the KCCC document: http://oeqc2.doh.hawaii.gov/EA_EIS_Library/2019-05-23-KA-DEA-New-Housing-at-Kauai-Community-Correctional-Center.pdf
 - OEQC direct link to the MCCC document: http://oeqc2.doh.hawaii.gov/EA_EIS_Library/2019-05-23-MA-DEA-New-Housing-at-Maui-Community-Correctional-Center.pdf
 - OEQC direct link to the HCCC document: http://oeqc2.doh.hawaii.gov/EA_EIS_Library/2019-05-23-HA-DEA-New-Housing-at-Hawaii-Community-Correctional-Center.pdf
- PSD's Neighbor Islands Jail Projects website where all three documents are available: <https://dps.hawaii.gov/neighbor-island-jails-project/>

Printed copies are also available at the following public libraries:

Hawaii State Public Library
478 South King Street Honolulu, HI 96813

Lihue Public Library
4344 Hardy Street
Lihue, HI 96766

Wailuku Public Library
251 South High Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

Hilo Public Library
300 Waiianuenue Avenue
Hilo, HI 96720

For those interested in submitting comments on any of the Draft EAs, send your comments by mail or email to:

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Also send a copy of your comments on any of the Draft EAs by mail or email to:

Robert J. Nardi, Vice President
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The May 23, 2019 issue of OEQC's The Environmental Notice will also provide contact information (mailing and email addresses) for submitting public comments. All comments sent by mail or email to DAGS will be reviewed by representatives from DAGS, PSD, and Louis Berger U.S., Inc. in the course of preparing the Final EAs which are scheduled to be published in late 2019. Comments that are not sent to DAGS or Louis Berger U.S., Inc., may not receive a response.

Plans for Women's CCC Improvements Moving Forward

Over the past several months, PSD, DAGS and the Consultant Team have been advancing plans for improvements to WCCC. As reported since 2017, PSD is planning to relocate female offenders from the Oahu Community Correctional Center (OCCC) to WCCC to improve living conditions and access to programs and other support. Doing so involves:

- Constructing a new housing unit that can accommodate up to 180 female offenders
- Constructing a new Administration Building to replace the current obsolete structure
- Improving internal circulation and ingress/egress from Kalaniana'ole Highway
- Expanding and reconfiguring on-site parking for employees and visitors
- Demolishing the existing warehouse/storage building

At this time, the schematic design phase is well underway with completion of final design expected in late 2019. At that time the State of Hawaii will seek Competitive Sealed Bidding or Invitation for Bidding (IFB) for constructing the improvements. The start date of construction is projected to be late 2020 with completion and occupancy expected in late 2022. Approximately \$35 – \$40 million has already been appropriated by the Legislature for design and construction.

The improvements planned for WCCC will be similar in scale and appearance to a small community college campus with spaces devoted to administration, inmate housing, visitation, inmate services, among others. Visitor and employee parking will remain situated near the facility entrance. The images below depict the planned Housing Unit and Administration Building and their locations within the WCCC property.



Conceptual images of planned WCCC Housing Unit (left) and Administration Building (right).



Views of WCCC improvements along Kalaniana'ole Highway will be shielded by topography and monkeypod trees.



Conceptual site plan showing locations of planned WCCC Housing Unit and Administration Building (shaded).



2019 Comprehensive Offender Reentry Plan Released

The Hawaii State Legislature established the Reentry Commission (RC) in 2009 (SLH 2009 – Act 24) within PSD to monitor and review the comprehensive offender reentry program, including facility educational and treatment programs, rehabilitative services, work furloughs, and the Hawaii paroling authority’s oversight of parolees; and ensure that the comprehensive offender reentry system under HRS Chapter 353H, is implemented as soon as practicable to provide programs and services that result in the release of inmates on parole when their terms have been served instead of delaying the release for lack of programs and services.



As part of the effort to help individuals reenter the community after incarceration, PSD and RC recently released the 2019 Comprehensive Offender Reentry Plan (CORP). The CORP goal is to build a successful and sustainable reentry process by

ensuring the implementation, monitoring, and review of the comprehensive offender reentry system, while making recommendations for evidence-based improvements to existing programs and for additional, new programs and services.

The CORP’s Reentry Strategies for Success include four phases of reentry, six areas of focus, and 51 strategies to produce desired objectives and outcomes for reentry success. The four phases of reentry include: intake, prison and jail planning phase, transition and release planning phase, and the parole and post-release phase, while the areas of focus are: Victim Support, Public Safety, Housing, Health Care, Education/Employment/Vocational Training, and Family/Community Support. To view the CORP, visit:

<http://dps.hawaii.gov/about/reentry-commission/reentry-commission-approved-documents/>

Ho’okipa Makai Cottage Improvements Progressing

Ho’okipa Makai Cottage is also part of WCCC, the only all-female detention facility in Hawaii. It serves the needs of sentenced female offenders. As a low security facility, the State of Hawaii is seeking to create an environment that focuses on rehabilitation, normalization and providing life skills for successful transition out of custody, leading to lower rates of recidivism.

The design of the Main Cottage and its Support Building focuses on materials that are normative and similar to that found in a home environment, while standing the test of time and ease of maintenance. Both buildings will be naturally ventilated with the help of ceiling and exhaust fans to ensure a pleasant environment for living. A warm color palette with natural patterns and exposed wood inspired by Hawaiian natural environments evokes nature and provides a sense of biophilia and a large Lanai connected to the dayrooms brings the outdoors in.



The renovated cottage will include two dayrooms where staff and residents can interact.



Conceptual rendering of renovated Ho’okipa Makai Cottage at WCCC.



Residents will be housed in a dormitory setting with room for their belongings.



The Support Building will be renovated to provide space for daily dining, special events and other gatherings.

Louis Berger U.S., Inc. now a WSP Company

The Louis Berger company has been assisting the State of Hawaii with various projects for many years and is proud of its achievements and accomplishments. Recently, Louis Berger joined forces with WSP to become one of the largest consulting practices in the world. We look forward to continuing to serve our clients and build upon our rich heritage, reputation, and combined portfolios.





Upcoming Activities

PSD is moving forward with these activities in the months ahead.

May 2019	<p>Draft Environmental Assessments for KCCC, MCCC, and HCCC published; 60-day comment period begins.</p> <p>Publish Newsletter Vol. 6.</p> <p>Look to PSD/Neighbor Island Jail Projects website for Draft EAs and other project-related documents, announcements, and upcoming activities.</p>
June 2019	<p>60-day comment period on Draft Environmental Assessments for KCCC, MCCC, and HCCC continues throughout month.</p> <p>Look to PSD/Neighbor Island Jail Projects website for Draft EAs and other project-related documents, announcements, and upcoming activities.</p>
July 2019	<p>60-day comment period on Draft Environmental Assessments for KCCC, MCCC, and HCCC ends. Review of public comments received on Draft EAs begins.</p> <p>Publish Newsletter Vol. 7.</p> <p>Look to PSD/Neighbor Island Jail Projects website for Draft EAs and other project-related documents, announcements, and upcoming activities.</p>

Interested in Learning More?

For additional information visit <https://dps.hawaii.gov/neighbor-island-jails-project/> or contact:

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