



Future of Hawaii's Community Correctional Centers

Volume 7 – Neighbor Island CCC Housing Projects Advance

July 2019

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.



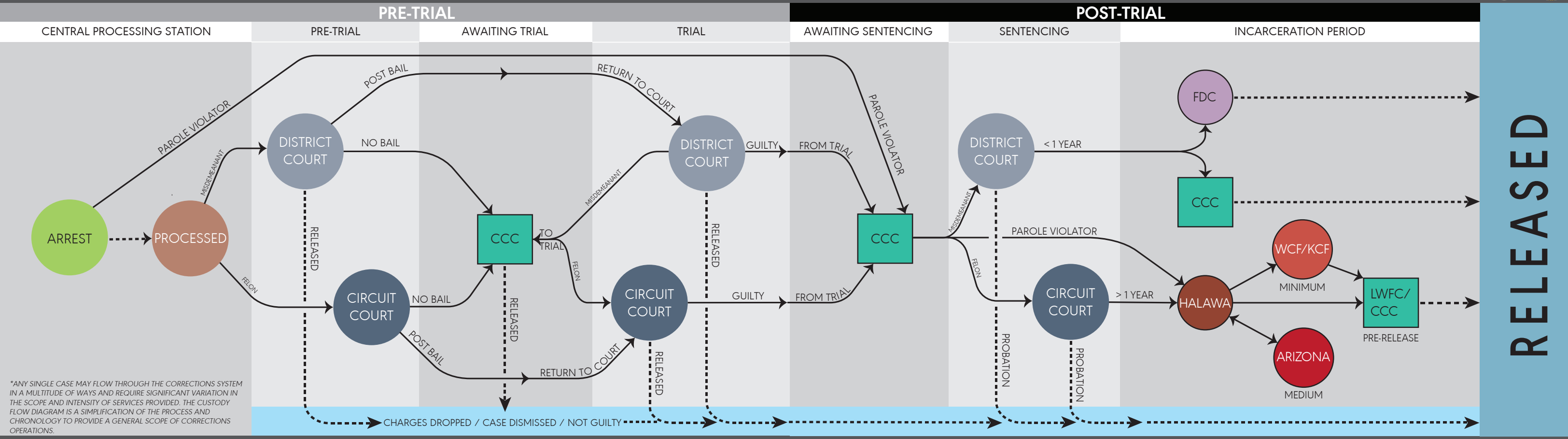
Draft EAs for Kauai, Maui, and Hawaii CCC Housing Projects Undergoing Review

To alleviate the persistent and significant crowded conditions in its jail facilities, PSD proposing new housing units 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.

On May 23, 2019, Draft Environmental Assessments (EAs) for each proposed housing project was published initiating a 60-day public comment period that will end on July 23, 2019.

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 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 new housing units will allow for inmates currently housed in inadequate conditions to be relocated to the proposed buildings.





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

Purpose, Function, and Operation of Hawaii's CCCs

Based on the comments and questions received by PSD over the years concerning its prison and jail facilities, there appear to be misunderstandings concerning the differences in the purpose, function, and operation of jails such as KCCC, MCCC, HCCC, and OCCC versus a prison such as the Halawa Correctional Facility. Understanding the differences between jails and prisons is crucial to recognizing the urgency and necessity for improving the existing CCCs with new housing units. While the differences between a jail and a prison may seem minor on the surface, the differences are significant in terms of the individuals they house, the types of services that inmates receive, and how the facilities are operated.

Simply put, jails such as KCCC, MCCC, HCCC, and OCCC are where individuals (detainees) are held for trial. These may be persons who did not qualify for bail according to the courts or could not meet their bail. In certain cases, a jail may also house individuals who have been to court, convicted, and sentenced to short-term incarceration – usually less than one

year. The graphic above offers a look at how CCCs fit into the greater State of Hawaii criminal justice system, from arrest, to various court appearances, to release or incarceration in one of the State's jail or prison facilities, to eventual release. It must be emphasized that offenders housed at all of Hawaii's CCCs are under the jurisdiction of the Courts and not PSD. Detainees in jail can only be released, placed in outside programs, or assigned to other alternatives to incarceration by the Courts and not by PSD. While most offenders assigned to Hawaii's CCCs are housed for relatively short periods during the pre-trial and trial processes (days or weeks as opposed to the multi-year sentences served at Hawaii's prisons), they are nonetheless provided with resources and services to address their health care, mental health, and substance abuse needs while detained. This could include structured and enhanced mental health treatments, education classes, volunteer and religious programs, recreation programs, and other services to help detainees.

Among the challenges to the operation of a jail are the unknowns. Detainees may have a chemical dependency or suffer from an as yet undiagnosed mental health issue. In both cases, the detainee is not yet receiving treatment and it is the responsibility of the jail staff to provide a diagnosis

and recommend and implement the appropriate treatment program. However, the relatively short stays at a CCC limit the number, extent and depth of programs and services afforded to detainees. Since most individuals housed in a CCC are undergoing the pre-trial or trial process and have not been convicted of a crime, jails are not able or intended to provide the long-term medical, mental health, or rehabilitation services that individuals convicted of a crime and serving a prison sentence are offered.

On the other hand, a prison (or correctional facility) is exclusively populated by individuals who have been convicted of a crime and are serving an extended sentence – typically several years. Given the length of most prison sentences, inmates have more time to participate in medical and mental health treatments, on-the-job training and education classes, substance abuse and anger management programs, and other services that are intended to rehabilitate inmates and prepare them for their eventual release and return to the community.

Because a large portion of the jail population is undergoing the trial process and has not been convicted of an offense, individuals housed in a jail are not classified in the same way

that they would be if held in a prison. For example, there may be detainees who are being held on very serious charges located in the same housing unit with detainees accused of less serious crimes. This situation creates challenges for PSD to maintain the safety and security of all detainees. Similarly, it is also important that pre-trial detainees are kept separate from sentenced inmates. For these reasons, a jail is usually operated so that detainees or inmates remain separated within their housing units with meals, drug treatment, counseling, and even minor medical treatments delivered to them.

With the services offered at Hawaii's CCCs, individuals who arrive at prison to serve their sentence will have been diagnosed and likely have begun a treatment program, if necessary. Because of the much longer term of prison sentences, the focus in prison is on vocational training, education, substance abuse and sex offender treatment services, religious practices, and rehabilitation with program offerings involving trades and education that help inmates acquire their GED or secondary degrees.

Public Invited to Comment on Draft EAs

The 60-day public comment period on the three Draft EAs will end 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 Waiianuenu 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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Email: Daniel.jandoc@hawaii.gov

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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Morristown, New Jersey 07962

Email: rnardi@louisberger.com

All comments sent by mail or email to DAGS will be reviewed by representatives from DAGS, PSD, and Louis Berger U.S., Inc. (a WSP Company) in the course of preparing the Final EAs. Comments that are not sent to DAGS or Louis Berger U.S., Inc., may not receive a response.

Facing the Challenges of Change

Creating better environments in detention to effect better results.

Best Practices Research

“As justice designers, we are always learning and educating ourselves, our clients, our communities, and law-making agencies across the country in justice architecture. Many things need to occur to turn these places of detention into safety and healing for inmates and their families all while keeping staff and communities safe and well. We are just now beginning to see evidence-based results of facilities and programs that combine to create healthier and rehabilitative environments for offenders. What we are doing on these Community Correction Center projects, is using all our knowledge of best practices research and design such as views to nature, daylight and quality of environment, and are confident that they will result in improved outcomes for detainees and staff alike. We are committed to architectural design as an element of change in detentions to effect better results.”

- Gary Retel, Design Leader, Principal, DLR Group



Skagit County Community Justice Center | Mount Vernon, WA

Officer and Inmate Wellness with Post Occupancy Data

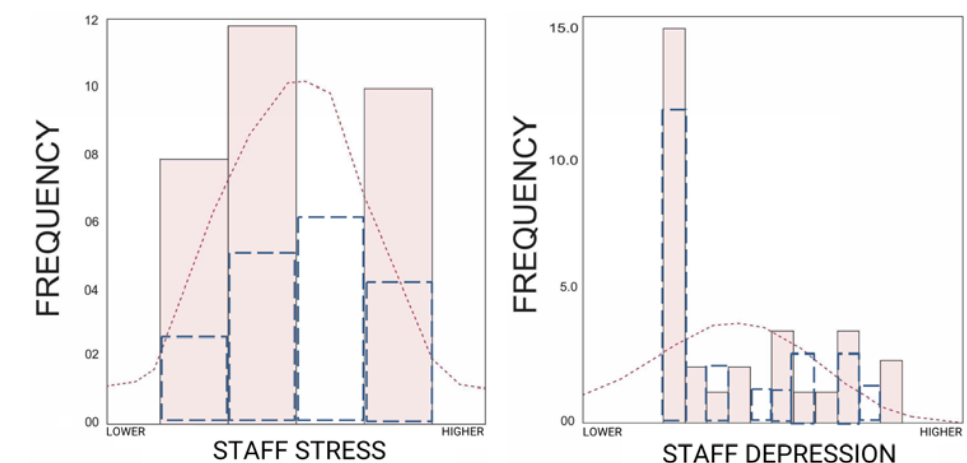
From the International Corrections & Prisons Association 19th Conference “Best Practices for Creating A Therapeutic Treatment Environment In A Secure Setting,” we know providing indoor and outdoor spaces with views of nature contribute to successful outcomes for staff and detainees.

The new housing for the Neighbor Island Community Correction Centers are designed with staff and inmate populations in mind. Much is discussed of the high rate of detainees in our country's detention and corrections systems with behavioral health issues, but little is discussed about the mental health of the staff who work in these facilities. A 25-year officer spends 56,250 hours, or six years of their life in the facility before they retire, often significantly more time than inmate populations serve in a jail.

Studies by the design team on a recently completed Skagit County Community Justice Center show access to natural daylight, views to nature, improved acoustics, thermal comfort, and adequate staff spaces reduce the levels of stress, depression, and fear of being victimized for both staff and inmates.

Baseline data collected from both staff and inmates in an existing jail were compared to data collected one year following the opening of the new jail with focus on the effect on stress and depression from environmental elements, including natural daylight, views to nature and acoustic levels.

These results support the design goals for creating spaces with reduced noise, increased daylight and views to nature to enhance the feeling of safety and lower stress levels for all occupants. The design team used these results to design the new Community Corrections Centers with access to natural daylight, views to nature, improved acoustics, and thermal comfort, to ensure it supports the wellness of both staff and inmates.



The dashed blue box represents the old jail, while the pink box represents the new jail in the graphs above. For staff, as daylight levels increased, stress levels decreased, and as better acoustics increased, depression decreased. Decreased stress and depression correlate to higher feelings of safety and security and lower levels of fear. This was also true for inmates surveyed.



Upcoming Activities

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

<p>July 2019</p>	<p>60-day comment period on Draft EAs for KCCC, MCCC, and HCCC ends on July 23, 2019. Review of public comments received on Draft EAs begins thereafter.</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>
<p>August 2019</p>	<p>Review of public comments received on Draft EAs continues. Preparation of Final EAs for KCCC, MCCC and HCCC begins.</p> <p>Publish Newsletter Vol. 8.</p> <p>Look to PSD/Neighbor Island Jail Projects website for Draft EAs and other project-related documents, announcements, and upcoming activities.</p>
<p>September 2019</p>	<p>Preparation of Final EAs for KCCC, MCCC, and HCCC continues.</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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