

Reviewed and Approved by Executive Director: Wayne K. K. K.
October 5, 2022

FOR ACTION

I. REQUEST

Consider Authorizing the Executive Director to Expend General Obligation Bond Funds Appropriated to the HCDA pursuant to Act 248, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022 in an Amount Not to Exceed \$2,000,000.00 for Plans, Design, and Construction for Improvements for Kolowalu Park, identified by Oahu Tax Map Key No. 2-3-004-080, and located at 1150 Queen Street in Honolulu, Hawaii. The primary scope of the project is to create an off-leash dog park on the mauka side of Kolowalu Park.

II. BACKGROUND

The Hawaii Community Development Authority (“HCDA”) is the landowner of Kolowalu Park, located between Kamakee and Waimanu Streets in Honolulu, Hawaii. Kolowalu Park is divided by Queen Street into two separate areas. The northern portion is referred to as Kolowalu Mauka, and the southern portion is referred to as Kolowalu Makai. Kolowalu Mauka consists of a relatively underused grass area, benches, and sculpture. Kolowalu Makai consists of a playground and large grass area.

Kolowalu Makai is well used by the public and is often crowded with young families. Area residents are also frequently seen walking their dogs in and around Kolowalu Park in the mornings and late afternoons.

Kolowalu Mauka is much less used by the public and has frequent incidents with vandalism and other issues.

Act 248, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022 appropriated \$2,000,000 in general obligation bond funds for Plans, Design and Construction for Improvements for Kolowalu Park.

III. DISCUSSION

Through discussions with area residents and our community outreach efforts, off-leash dogs were identified as a constant source of conflict with park users. Current park rules require all animals to be leashed, unless in a designated dog park. These rules are posted on signs throughout Kolowalu Park; however, area residents report some dog owners continue to allow their dogs to run off leash. This has raised safety concerns, as some off-leash dogs run near the playground and young children.

The proposed solution is to build an off-leash dog park in Kolowalu Mauka with a portion of the appropriated funds. This would not only fulfill the need for a designated place for dogs to run off-leash, but would also activate the underused mauka side of Kolowalu Park.

The dog park would have separate areas for small dogs (under 30 lbs.) and large dogs. See Attachment 1, which is for illustration purposes only.

The Executive Director seeks approval to expend the funds appropriated by the legislature to plan, design, and build improvements at Kolowalu Park, which will enhance the safety in the area. After the dog park is constructed, subsequent projects will be developed based on the remaining balance.

IV. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board Authorize the Executive Director to Expend General Obligation Bond Funds Appropriated to the HCDA pursuant to Act 248, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022 in an Amount Not to Exceed \$2,000,000.00 for Plans, Design, and Construction for Improvements for Kolowalu Park.

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Proposed Kolowalu Mauka Small and Large Off-Leash Dog Park

