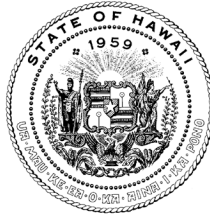


EXHIBIT I

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION
KAKUHIHEWA BUILDING
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SUZANNE D. CASE
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ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

November 10, 2022

Craig K. Nakamoto
Executive Director
Hawaii Community Development Authority
547 Queen Street
Honolulu, HI 96817
craig.k.nakamoto@hawaii.gov

IN REPLY REFER TO:
Project No. 2017PR25661
Doc. No. 2211GG01
Archaeology

Dear Mr. Nakamoto:

SUBJECT: **Chapter 6E-42 Historic Preservation Review
Victoria Ward Limited (VWL) Block A Project
Request for Concurrence with 2-Step Verification Process
Kaka'ako and Honolulu Ahupua'a, Honolulu (Kona) District, Island of O'ahu
TMK: (1) 2-1-056:001**

The State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) received a letter dated June 14, 2022, from the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) notifying our office that Victoria Ward Limited (VWL), proponent of the Block A Project intends to submit a HCDA Development Permit Application and that prior to issuance of the permit, HCDA requires SHPD's concurrence with the project proceeding under a 2-step verification process, as defined in HAR §13-284-9(d)(1). SHPD received copies this letter on October 17 and 19, 2022, and email communications on October 21, 2022 [Daniel Akiyama (CSH) to Garry Guan (SHPD)], on October 28, 2022 [Alexandra Bennicas (CSH) to Garry Guan], and on November 2, 2022 [Alexandra Bennicas to Garry Guan].

HCDA's letter indicates that pursuant to HRS §6E-42, HAR §6E-43, and HAR §13-284-3(b)(1-5), Victoria Ward Limited (VWL) has completed the following five of the six historic preservation review procedural steps, including (1) identification and inventory of historic properties, (2) evaluation of significance, (3) effect determination, (4) mitigation commitments, and (5) detailed mitigation plans to carry out the mitigation commitments.

- (1) Identification and Inventory. On June 29, 2017, HCDA submitted to SHPD a draft archaeological inventory survey (AIS) report, pursuant to HAR §13-284-5(e), for the Block A Project. Pursuant to HAR §13-284-3(b)(1), the AIS documented three historic properties: State Inventory of Historic Places SIHP # 50-80-14-7579, consists of twentieth century subsurface infrastructure remnants along the southeast and southwest edges of the Block A project area, generally overlaying fill material associated with Kaka'ako land reclamation activities; SIHP # 50-80-14-7580, subsurface cultural deposits with associated features including human burial sites. Cultural material within the A horizon largely consists of traditional Hawaiian cultural material, although some post-Contact foreign-introduced artifacts of domestic function were identified within the upper portion of the layer and some features. In addition to the features associated with these cultural deposits, a previously disturbed, isolated human skeletal element was recovered from excavated sand deposits at the south corner of Block A (SIHP # 50-80-14-7580 Feature 129); and SIHP # 50-80-14-7655, post-Contact salt pan remnants, including cultural deposits. Within Block A, SIHP # 50-80-14-7655 consists of laminated salt pan basins, man-made berm structures, and land modifications associated with the salt complex edge.
- (2) Evaluation of Significance. Pursuant to HAR §13-284-3(b)(2) and HAR §13-284-6, SIHP # 50-80-14-7579 is

significant under Criterion d (information content). SIHP # 50-80-14-7580 is significant under Criteria d (information content) and e (significance to Native Hawaiians). SIHP # 50-80-14-7655 is significant under Criteria c (excellent example of site type), d (information content), and e (significance to Native Hawaiians).

- (3) Effect Determination. Pursuant to HAR §13-284-3(b)(3), the project effect determination is “Effect, with agreed upon mitigation commitments.”
- (4) Mitigation Commitment. Pursuant to HAR §13-284-3(b)(3), the mitigation commitments comprise archaeological monitoring for the entire project area and burial treatment for SIHP # 50-80-14-7580 Feature 129 (isolated human skeletal element).

In a letter dated September 18, 2017 (Log No.: 2017.02003; Doc. No.: 1709JA06), SHPD accepted the AIS report (Sroat et al. 2017), pursuant to HAR §13-284 and HAR §13-276-5. As a result of this acceptance, Steps 1-4 of the historic preservation review process for the Block A project area have been completed, pursuant to HRS §6E-42 and HAR §13-284-3.

- (5) Mitigation Plans.

Burial Treatment Plan

On October 18, 2017, HCDA submitted to SHPD a draft burial treatment plan (BTP) for an isolated human skeletal element (SIHP # 50-80-14-7580 Feature 129) identified during AIS fieldwork for Block A. On December 20, 2017, the O‘ahu Island Burial Council (OIBC) made the determination that the isolated human skeletal element be preserved in place. This determination was confirmed by SHPD in a letter dated May 24, 2018 (Log No.: 2017.02323; Doc. No.: 1802RKH25). In the same letter, SHPD accepted the draft BTP (Welser et al. 2017). The BTP was then converted to a final Burial Site Component of a Preservation Plan (BSCPP), pursuant to HAR §13-300-38(e). The interim protection strategy elected for this burial, with the consent and acceptance of the cultural decedents, to be landscaping over the location and now has been completed. This SHPD acceptance contributed to the completion of Step 5 of the historic preservation review process, pursuant to HRS §6E-42 and HAR §13-184.

Archaeological Monitoring Plan

In accordance with SHPD’s comments on the AIS report for Block A and pursuant to HAR §13-284-3 and §13-284-8, HCDA transmitted to SHPD on October 18, 2017, a draft archaeological monitoring plan (AMP). In a letter dated January 25, 2018 (Log No.: 2017.02322, Doc. No.: 1801KM17), SHPD accepted the draft AMP (Sroat et al. 2018), pursuant to HAR §13-279-4(b) and HAR §13-284-3(e). With SHPD’s acceptance of the AMP and the previously mentioned acceptance of the BTP, Step 5 of the historic preservation review process for Block A was completed, pursuant to HRS §6E-42 and HAR §13-184.

Archaeological Monitoring Reports

The SHPD-accepted AMP (Sroat et al. 2018) covers both the demolition and constructions components of the project. However, a separate archaeological monitoring report (AMR) will be prepared and submitted to SHPD for review and acceptance at the conclusion of each of these components. SHPD accepted the AMR for the Ward Plaza Demolition component (Sroat et al., September 2022) on November 10, 2022 (Project No. 2017PR25661, Doc. No. 2210GG01). The AMR for the construction component will be submitted following completion of archaeological monitoring for the construction phase.

As the above indicates, for the Block A Project, SHPD has exercised its responsibility, pursuant to HRS §6E-42 and HAR §13-284, to comment on potential project impacts to significant historic properties and burial sites (consistent with HRS §6E-43) and upon the appropriate mitigation of these impacts on historic properties, including burial sites.

With SHPD’s acceptance of the AIS report, AMP, and BTP for Block A, the project proponent has completed HAR §13-284-3(b), Steps 1-5, for the Block A project area.

- (6) Verification of Completion. HAR §13-284-9 Verification of Completion of the Detailed Mitigation Plans:

Upon receipt of a letter from SHPD, agreeing that Steps 1-5 of the historic preservation review process have been completed and that construction may proceed, VWL will initiate implementation of all pre-construction provisions of the SHPD-accepted AMP. Once construction has commenced, VWL will implement archaeological monitoring fieldwork following the SHPD-accepted AMP. Upon completion of construction for the Block A Project, a separate archaeological monitoring report (AMR) for the construction component will be written. It will be submitted to SHPD for review and acceptance within six months of the completion of monitoring. Project completion of Step 6 of the historic preservation review process, verification of completion of the mitigation commitments, requires SHPD acceptance of the AMR. A burial site component of a preservation plan (BSCPP; Welser et al. 2017) addressing SIHP # 50-80-14-7580 Feature 129 was accepted by the SHPD in a letter dated May 24, 2018 (Log No. 2017.02323, Doc. No. 1802RKH25).

Based on the above, SHPD indicates that it has reviewed and commented on the effect of the proposed project pursuant to HRS §6E-42 and HAR §13-284-3; that it is SHPD's determination that VWL has completed Steps 1 through 5 pursuant to HAR §13-284-3(b)(1-5); and that **SHPD concurs** with HCDA's request for the project to proceed under the 2-step verification process detailed in HAR §13-284-9(d) and with the procedures and schedule VWL has proposed to complete Step 6 (verification of completion) per HAR §13-284-3(b).

Please contact Susan A. Lebo, Archaeology Branch Chief, at Susan.A.Lebo@hawaii.gov or Garry Guan, O'ahu Lead Archaeologist, at Garry.Guan@hawaii.gov for any matters regarding this letter.

Aloha,

Alan Downer

Alan S. Downer, PhD
Administrator, State Historic Preservation Division
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

cc: Ka'iulani Sodaro, The Howard Hughes Corporation, kaiulani.sodaro@howardhughes.com
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