

1st ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT TO THE STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION,
HIGHWAYS DIVISION, MATERIALS TESTING AND RESEARCH BRANCH
(FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 01, 2020 – JULY 01, 2021).

PROJECT TITLE:

Impact Mitigation for Queen Ka`ahumanu Highway Widening Project, Phase 2.

DATE OF REPORT:

07/30/2021 (r1)

CONTRACT NUMBER:

Task Agreement No.: 2020-QK-MOU.

Cooperative Agreement No.: DOT-10-030.

CONTRACTOR:

University of Hawai`i, Hilo.

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

Dr. Keiki Kawai`ae`a - Director, Ka Haka `Ula O Ke`elikōlani College, University of Hawai`i.

DOT SPONSOR:

Ms. Julann M. Sonomura

Design Engineer, Hawaii District, Highways Division, HDOT.

TOTAL COST OF CONTRACT

\$1,250,000.

Account: 1Q41A/B.

Source of Funding: NH-019-1(047).

NEXT REPORT:

07/30/2022

INTRODUCTION

The following document is the first annual progress report for a planned five-year research program funded by the HDOT. The project seeks to mitigate the adverse effects of the Queen Ka`ahumanu Highway Widening, Ph. 2. The program is intended to benefit North Kona (Kekaha) communities through projects and activities managed by the Ka Haka `Ula O Keelikōlani College of Hawaiian Language and the University of Hawaii, Anthropology Department and their partners which include the Kohala Center. HDOT has indicated its desire to implement programs which benefit Native Hawaiian archaeology and anthropology, fund scholarships and research activities of undergraduate and graduate students in those fields as well as native Hawaiian Studies at UH. Furthermore, the funds are intended to serve the interests of local Hawaiian language immersion and Hawaiian focused charter school education efforts. While we fell short of some of our year one goals, we have established a solid footing upon which to accelerate progress in our second year. We will be seeking out and recording oral histories of Kekaha residents and will be digitizing archived archaeological resources for use in community outreach. These efforts are intended to integrate with and enrich cultural programming that interprets native Hawaiian culture of the region and promotes Hawaiian language. Our efforts to date on these multiple fronts are summarized below.

I. BUDGET SUMMARY/FUNDS DISBURSED

	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	YR1 BUDGETED	TOTAL BUDGETED
Personnel costs	\$14,764	\$110,2786	\$494,123
Equip., supplies, food, remuneration, etc.	\$0	\$22,750	\$106,175
Travel	\$0	\$3,500	\$17,500
Contractual	\$0	\$7,000	\$69,000
Subtotal		\$143,528	\$686,798
Indirect @ 10% (incl. 1 st \$25k of KC Contr.)		\$16,853	\$71,180
Subtotal w/ indirect cost added		\$160,381	\$757,978
Scholarship/Stipend	\$8,047	\$0	\$117,022
Sub-award: Kohala Center	\$0	\$75,000	\$375,000
TOTAL	\$22,810	\$235,381	\$1,250,000

In YR1, resources were spent to support UHH Anthropology faculty in their Hawaiian language enrichment. With these funds (\$14,764) Kathy Kawelu, Ph.D. – Associate Professor of Anthropology, was able to complete two semesters of Hawaiian language classes last academic year. Administrative delays prevented the hire of Timothy E. Scheffler, Ph.D. as a Project Manager until June 7, 2021. The negligible salary payments for the final weeks of June are not included in the summary figures for YR1, above. Two scholarships (\$8,047 in total) were awarded to T. Waldron and K. Mikayla. These two UH Heritage Management Program Graduate Students tuitions were paid in May 2021 for the following 2021-2022 academic year. Monies for Community Contractual obligations are unspent, as the Kohala Center Sub-

agreement was still pending final approval as of July 1, 2021. Given the late finalization of the KC Sub-award agreement, and the delay in hiring the Program Manager, no equipment expenditures were made. We therefore have a significant surplus for the year. As stipulated in the MOU, these funds will simply roll over into the following year.

WORK COMPLETED/OBJECTIVES ACHIEVED IN YR1:

Progress to date includes the completion of most of the proposed tasks and objectives defined for the initial year of the project. These goals were outlined in terms of five areas:

a. Native Hawaiian Anthropology/Archaeology.

The UHH has begun to strengthen its Hawaiian and Hawai'i related anthropology courses by educating its anthropology faculty in the Hawaiian language. Dr. Kathy Kawelu was identified as the appropriate candidate and in 2020/2021 academic year completed two semesters of Hawaiian language classes (KHAW103 and 104) at Ka Haka `Ula. Funds were used to hire a replacement instructor for Dr. Kathy Kawelu that allowed her to engage in Hawaiian language courses.

Two graduate students (Ms. Leilani Waldron and Ms. Mikayla Kia) have been admitted and enrolled in the Department of Anthropology's Heritage Management Graduate (MA) Program. Their proposed thesis projects (while remaining tentative) align with the objectives herein and focus on the engagement of Kekaha community members. These students will also receive tuition scholarships for the two-year period of fall 2021 to spring 2023.

b. Native Hawaiian Studies Scholarship Program.

Internships for Hawaiian Studies students are being planned to begin in the Fall of 2021 including both undergraduate and graduate Hawaiian Studies students of Ka Haka `Ula O Ke`elikōlani. The internship will further develop Hawaiian knowledge, language and research skills using primary resource materials. Dr. Hiapo Perreira will oversee the internship project. Participating students will receive internships stipends for their work and participation. The internship topics will focus on Hawai'i island knowledge including traditional trails, Hawaiian science, traditional literature and the Kona and Kekaha region.

c. Hawaiian Immersion/Charter School Support.

The Project Manager has begun regular monthly project meetings with participating entities to initiate work with the Hale Kuamo`o (of Ka Haka `Ula) and The Kohala Center for Hawai'i Island to begin gathering input from the community and support Hawaiian Immersion/charter schools.

d. Recording of Oral Histories.

As mentioned above, two heritage management graduate students have been offered positions in the program and will be intensively engaged in the collection of Oral History regarding the Kekaha region.

e. Cultural Programming Support.

A 37.5% FTE (15 hours per week) position, administered through the Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii was advertised. Applicants were reviewed and a highly qualified individual (Dr. Timothy E. Scheffler) was hired as Project Manager. In addition to the above described coordination with Ka Haka `Ula, vis a vis the educational mission, Dr. Scheffler will be involved in overseeing the inventory and digitization of the “Barrera Collection” archive.

The Kohala Center Sub-Agreement is in the final stages of approval and ready to move forward. Their proposal builds on the goals of the Ka Haka `Ula and UH Anthropology with their “Traditional Pathways Project”. This sub-award will integrate the five foci of the project by creating a cohort of funded undergraduate, graduate, and `aina-based practitioners that emphasize the documentation of traditional land routes (*e.g.* ala hele, ala nui, ala loa). A two-year fellowship has been awarded to Mr. Chris O’Donnell to facilitate the building of pilina (relationships) in this effort.

This initial year has been used to build the appropriate conditions to follow through with the goals of the project. Several items took longer to accomplish than anticipated due to the details of multi-agency coordination and the administrative approval process. This included the hiring of Project Manager and the finalization of our sub-award agreement with the Kohala Center (currently in final review by contracts and grants specialist Toni-Ann Samio of the Office of Research Services, UH Hilo).

Work is now on schedule. With all these pieces now in place, we anticipate a substantive leap forward in Year 2. These are described below.

WORK PLANNED FOR YR2:

The implementation of the second year’s objectives is anticipated to proceed smoothly from the foundations set in the first year. There are no changes to the original proposal. Similarly, these next steps are described for the five core-areas of emphasis as follows:

a.

Dr. Kathy Kawelu will continue with second year Hawaiian language classes. Additionally, a second UH Affiliate Faculty member (and now Program Manager) Dr. Tim Scheffler will also enroll in HAW103 for the Fall semester. These two regularly teach courses in both general Anthropology and with a Hawai`i focus.

b.

Support (financial and academic) will be extended to the scholarship recipients in graduate and undergraduate studies. The Heritage Management Program committee Chairs will be monitoring individual’s progress and performance in coursework and will work towards the refining of robust and targeted thesis topics.

Outreach will begin in earnest by the Kohala Center, Hawaiian Studies, Departments of Anthropology and History and campus organizations to encourage further scholarship and internship applications. In anticipation of these accelerations, Position Descriptions, minimum and desired qualifications for the student hire positions will be written and advertised. Preparations will also be made for an application to extend the KC agreement one year beyond the original five-year schedule, due to the delay in contracting approvals.

c.

Meetings and consultation with Immersion and Charter principals will continue, and develop further more detailed plans together. Hale Kuamo`o (of Ka Haka `Ula) will research, develop and produce curriculum materials in collaboration with The Kohala Center, for example. Qualified individuals have been identified to assist with this process, including former graduates of the UH HM Program who will engage in developing and testing Hawaiian language material such as elementary reading books for K-12 level learners.

d.

The process of identifying both specific populations and individuals for interviews is a delicate process that must be handled with tact and grace to ensure successful outcomes. It is critical to spend the time and patience to develop a solid rapport with informants and also to lay the critical (and legal) groundwork for successful and ethical research practice. To this end, students will be submitting the necessary applications to the UH Institutional Review Board (IRB) for the protection of human subjects. We expect to recruit informants and cultivate our relationship with them early this coming Fall.

e.

Through regular monthly meetings of principals, UH Anthropology and Ka Haka `Ula will follow-up, support, and coordinate with the Kohala Center to fulfill their sub-agreement. The Manager will work with The Kohala Center and graduate students to recruit and identify community participants in the project. Collectively, these individuals will serve to identify the broader goals of the communities themselves which we hope to facilitate through the collection and preservation of interviews, etc. The digitizing of the Barrera materials will commence in the second year. Hardware supplies including document and photo scanners will be purchased as budgeted. Pilot studies have been completed to gauge the speed and accuracy of student inventories and these methods will continue to be refined. Before full-scale processing occurs we will finalize the metadata matrix for reports, seeking to balance a richness of standardized data with the required speed of processing. Coordination and verification of data standards will also proceed.

The Barrera Inventory will be complete by mid-year and digitization will proceed concurrently. Continuous consultation will be maintained with Ulukau administrators in order to align data sets with their digital library's standards and structure, facilitating the eventual uploading of materials to this public platform. The Project Manager will train graduate students in the methodologies developed, and ultimately these graduates students will be overseeing undergraduates in the digitizing process.