

2nd ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT TO THE STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION,  
HIGHWAYS DIVISION, MATERIALS TESTING AND RESEARCH BRANCH  
(FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 01, 2021– JUNE 30, 2022)

**PROJECT TITLE:**

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

**DATE OF REPORT DUE:**

08/01/2022

**CONTRACT NUMBER:**

Task Agreement No.: 2020-QK-MOU.

Cooperative Agreement No.: DOT-10-030.

**CONTRACTOR:**

University of Hawai‘i, Hilo.

**PRINCIPAL AND CO-INVESTIGATOR:**

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

Dr. Peter Mills – Director Heritage Management MA Program, Anthropology Department, University of Hawai‘i at Hilo

**HDOT Project Manager:**

Dr. Pua Aiu

Hawaii District, Highways Division, HDOT.

**TOTAL COST OF CONTRACT**

\$1,250,000.

Account: 1Q41A/B.

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

**NEXT REPORT DUE:**

08/01/2023

## INTRODUCTION

The following document is the second 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 Ke‘elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language and the University of Hawai‘i, 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 COVID restrictions and staff turn-over continue to hinder projected full-staffing for digitization work and oral history work, accomplishments in granting scholarships, digitization, and formulation of graduate-student oral history projects point to a productive third year. In collaboration with the Kohala Center, year three will emphasize seeking out and recording additional oral histories of Kekaha residents. An advisory group of Kekaha residents is also being organized to discuss the oral histories and other aspects of the MOU, such as appropriate forms of dissemination for digitized archival materials. These efforts are intended to integrate 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

	TOTAL 5 YR BUDGET	YR1* EXPENDED	YR2 EXPENDED	Total Expended To Date	Balance Remaining
Personnel costs	\$494,123	\$6,276.54	\$31,354.32	\$37,630.86	\$456,492
Equip., supplies, food, remuneration, etc.	\$106,175	-	\$1,510.38	\$1,510.38	\$104,665
Travel	\$17,500	-	\$116.58	\$116.58	\$17,383
Contractual	\$69,000	-	-	-	\$69,000
Subtotal		\$6,276.54	\$32,981.28	\$39,257.82	
Indirect @ 10% (incl. 1 <sup>st</sup> \$25k of KC Contr.)	\$71,180	\$627.65	\$4,671.53	\$5,299.19	\$65,881
Subtotal w/ indirect cost added	\$757,978	\$6,904.19	\$37,652.81	\$44,557.01	\$713,421
Scholarship/Stipend	\$117,022	-	\$17,280.00	\$17,280.00	\$99,742
Sub-award: Kohala Center	\$375,000	-	\$13,734.05	\$13,734.05	\$361,266
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,250,000</b>	<b>\$6,904.19</b>	<b>\$68,666.86</b>	<b>\$75,571.06</b>	<b>\$1,174,429</b>

*\*YR1 expenditures are adjusted from the 2021 annual report to reflect actual dates of final payments on purchases/disbursements based on the amended annual contractual dates 7/1 to 6/30.*

## **WORK COMPLETED/OBJECTIVES ACHIEVED IN YR2:**

Despite staffing setbacks, progress to date includes the completion of some of the proposed tasks and objectives defined for the project. Status on specific goals is presented below for the five areas contained in the MOU:

### *a. Native Hawaiian Anthropology/Archaeology.*

The UHH is strengthening its Hawaiian and Hawai'i-related anthropology courses through three main pathways: 1) building capacity between the anthropology department and the College of Hawaiian language; and 2) increasing the quality of information available for studying the archaeology of the Kekaha region through digitization of archaeological reports from the Kekaha region; and 3) organizing and analyzing a large collection of archaeological material from Kekaha collected by William Barrera.

Dr. Kathy Kawelu, Associate Professor of Anthropology, received "buyout" funds to take Hawaiian language classes (\$22,186) to complete 4 semesters of Hawaiian language classes (KHAW103, 104, 203, 204) at Ka Haka 'Ula between the fall semester 2020 to the spring semester 2022. Dr. Kawelu was born in Keaukaha and is a third-generation Vice President of the Merrie Monarch Festival, following her mother Luana Kawelu, and her grandmother, Auntie Dottie Thompson. Professor Kawelu's own daughter has been taking immersion classes, but Dr. Kawelu was raised speaking English with little time to take the opportunity to receive her own instruction in Hawaiian language. By investing in Dr. Kawelu's Hawaiian language skills, a stronger connection in student advising and recruitment across the two programs (Hawaiian Language, Anthropology) will be possible.

Funds were used to hire a replacement instructor for Dr. Kathy Kawelu that allowed her to engage in Hawaiian language courses. The faculty support is aimed at building faculty Hawaiian language capacity for the Anthropology department. Dr. Mills (co-PI on this project) in the anthropology department, has taken first-year Hawaiian language classes on his own, but only has a few years before he retires. Investment in professor Kawelu allows for a long-term capacity building outcome between the College of Hawaiian Language and anthropology that should be in place for well over a decade.

Digitizing archaeological reports has focused primarily on the William Barrera reports. A high-quality Epson scanner with multi-page feeder capacity was acquired in the anthropology department and devoted to the scanning of archaeological reports from the Kekaha region (some with original photos). In September 2021, Heritage Management graduate student Leilani Waldron was hired to begin digitizing the archaeological reports and editing the optical character recognition (OCR) text (\$8,585 yr2). All 36 Barrera reports that pertain to the Kekaha region are now digitized, and since February of 2022, digital files have been being edited to improve the searchable text produced by the OCR. To date, this process has involved 625 hours and \$10,846 in wages. There are an additional 41 archaeological reports by other authors that are also available for scanning in the Barrera library. Originally, we had envisioned hiring undergraduates to assist with the editing and other archival materials from the Barrera collections from Kekaha (slides, B/W photos, negatives), but the confined laboratory space did not make this conducive to University COVID protocols. With improved COVID conditions and more established community partnerships, we intend to expand the workforce involved in the digitization process on campus this year, or have some digitization completed at other locales. The funds for this work have not been entirely spent, and we hope to continue to emphasize the documentation of materials from the Kekaha region in Barrera's collections and archives.

Dr. Timothy Scheffler, an adjunct faculty member in the anthropology department, was hired on June 7, 2021 in the role of QK/HDOT Project Associate (near the end of the last fiscal reporting period). He was employed at 37.5%

FTE on a salary of \$1919/month. This position was intended to oversee the expansion of student hires and facilitate coordination with the Kohala Center in the completion of oral history interviews. Unfortunately, Dr. Scheffler resigned from the position at near the end of the calendar year (December 15, 2021). Multiple re-postings of the position through RCUH (beginning in January) did not produce any new job candidates. Consequently, only approximately one-third of the funds allotted for the project associate position were spent in year 2 (\$6,859, 1 month YR 1 and YR2), and many initiatives (recruiting, hiring, community outreach) could not be met with the position unfilled. Two new candidates have expressed interest, and a new job posting through RCUH is planned for this month.

*b. Native Hawaiian Studies Scholarship Program.*

Two of the new students admitted to the Department of Anthropology's Heritage Management Graduate (MA) Program in the Fall of 2021 have committed to completing graduate work in the Kekaha region. Their proposed thesis projects both align with the objectives herein and focus on the engagement of Kekaha community members. These students are receiving tuition scholarships for the two-year period of fall 2021 to spring 2023. Full tuition scholarships (\$12,632 in total) for the 2021-2022 academic year were to both students. Each student (both Native Hawaiian, and one from Kona) successfully completed the first year of the graduate program and are beginning the second year of the MA in August 2022. Their tuitions are being paid in disbursements directly to the UHH cashier's office each semester.

Due to COVID, internships for Hawaiian Studies students was moved to begin in the Fall of 2022. Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani has developed an intership project that will bring together the participation of undergraduate and graduate Hawaiian Studies students. The internship will further develop Hawaiian traditional knowledge and language skills while enhancing research skills and Hawaiian language capacity. The internship will further develop materials that will be used for Hawaiian medium curriculum. The coordinator for the curriculum project has been hired and will oversee the internship project. Participating students will receive internships stipends for their work and participation. The internship topics will focus on traditional knowledge and literature of the Kona and Kekaha region.

*c. Hawaiian Immersion/Charter School Support.*

Regular project meetings have begun with participating entities to initiate the development of Hawaiian medium materials with the Hale Kuamo'o (of Ka Haka 'Ula) and The Kohala Center. The curriculum materials will include an electronic storyboard of resourcecs that reflect community and traditional knowledge around themes such as 'āina, wahi pana, mo'olelo, culture, language of the Kona and Kekaha region with input from the community and Hawaiian Immersion/charter schools.

*d. Recording of Oral Histories.*

As mentioned above, two heritage management graduate students are working in the Kekaha region. They plan to be intensively engaged in the collection of oral histories over the coming year. University protocol requires that graduate students have their human subjects research reviewed by the Institutional Review Board (IRB) before it is initiated, but over the course of the 2021-2022 academic year, the IRB formed new regulations that exempted "Oral histories" from full IRB review. Both graduate students on scholarships will receive funding through the project to complete their oral histories related to Kekaha, but this will only begin to cover the target of 25 oral histories in the MOU. Additional oral histories are being planned with community input from a community advisory group, which is still being finalized. Initial discussions with Kekaha residents and cultural practitioners on July 7, 2022

(organized through The Kohala Center) is facilitating the formation of this advisory group. Once community input on oral history participants has been finalized, the collection of oral histories is expected to move rapidly.

*e. Cultural Programming Support.*

The Kohala Center Sub-Agreement proposal builds on the goals of the Ka Haka 'Ula and UH Anthropology with their "Traditional Pathways Project". This sub-award integrates the five foci of the project by creating a cohort of funded undergraduate, graduate, and 'āina-based practitioners that emphasize the documentation of traditional land routes (e.g., ala hele, ala nui, ala loa). For expenses and accomplishments under the sub-award, see Appendix I.

While progress has been slow over the first two years with COVID and staffing, the intent is to build the appropriate conditions to follow through with the goals of the project.

**WORK PLANNED FOR YR3:**

The implementation of the third year's objectives is anticipated to proceed smoothly from the foundations set in the first two years. Beyond scheduling of expenditures, there are no changes to the original proposal. Similarly, these next steps are described for the five core-areas of emphasis as follows:

a. First and foremost, at least one new project associate will be hired as soon as possible to oversee additional student hires, community outreach, and project spending. In the anthropology department, the Barrera collections will continue to be organized, and additional incorporation of Kekaha material into anthropology classes is planned. In the Fall of 2022, Dr. Mills (co-PI) will be teaching an upper division undergraduate course in "Archaeometry" (Science in Archaeology, ANTH 481), and will be using archaeological materials from the Barrera collections in Kekaha (shell midden, fishbone, volcanic glass, adze production material) to teach about Hawaiian subsistence. At least one field-trip to Kekaha is proposed. Digitization work on the Barrera archives will continue, and expand to undergraduate student hires. Sample completed scans will be sent to Ulukau staff for feedback on compatibility for uploading, if appropriate.

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. A new cohort of graduate students is planned for the Fall of 2023, and we will attempt to recruit at least one more graduate student who could receive funding at least for the first year of their graduate program.

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 and engage in developing and testing Hawaiian language materials.

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, graduate students have submitted the necessary applications to the UH Institutional Review Board (IRB) for the protection of human subjects, and additional consultation covering participants beyond the graduate projects will be facilitated by the Kohala Center and project associate.

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.

#### **ATTACHMENT A:**

**University of Hawai'i Subrecipient: The Kohala Center**  
**Project Title: The Traditional Pathways Project**

Federal Award No: DOT-10-030, TA 2020-QK-MOU

Subaward No: HI1663

Budget Period: 07/01/2021-06/30/2024

Reporting Period: 07/01/2021-06/30/2022 Report Type: Annual

The main purpose of this project is to 1) support UH-Hilo in fulfilling existing MOU between DOT and UH-Hilo to "promote educational and other activities that will mitigate such adverse effects [of the "Kaloko Intersection Project" and the "Queen K Project" and help perpetuate the Hawaiian culture"; and 2) provide project leadership to unify the five programs as listed in the agreement under one project named, "The Traditional Pathways Project", through Pathways Research and Design. Specific objectives include:

1. Provide applied research and other relevant, experiential learning opportunities for grant-funded undergraduate and graduate students majoring in Native Hawaiian studies and/or Native Hawaiian anthropology.
2. Collaborate with UH-Hilo grant-funded undergraduate and graduate students to conduct oral histories with community members from the Kekaha region of Hawai'i Island.
3. Support UH-Hilo in the development and outreach of educational/enrichment materials to Hawaiian Immersion/Charter Schools and to community members in Kekaha that capture and interpret Native Hawaiian cultural practices in the Kekaha region
4. As a Pathways Research Cohort a) conduct historical and cultural research on Kekaha with a focus on traditional pathways; and b) share the mo'olelo and research findings for informational and feedback purposes
5. As a Pathways Design Cohort, initiate new or integrate into existing curriculum (e.g Native Hawaiian archaeology and/or anthropology courses at UH-Hilo, Hawaiian immersion/charter schools, Hawai'i Island community-based organizations) drawing on research through arts and other media
6. Finalize project by creating a mo'oku'auhau (genealogy) of this Traditional Pathways Project to serve as a model for Hawai'i-based private/public partnerships and shared leadership.

## **Organization/Program Achievements: what was accomplished in connection to this project?**

### Summary:

- Over 260 documents gathered, reviewed, stored to be shared on Traditional Pathways Project drive from research efforts on-line and in the Kekaha and oral history community
- Strengthened relationships with key partners NPS Alakahakai, lineal descendants Cindi Punihaole and Ku'ulei Keakealani, Kona Historical Society, E Mau Nā Ala Hele, Nā Maka Onaona, Kepa Maly, UH-Hilo and others

### Highlights for Quarter 1: July 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021

- Conducted preparation and project set-up activities towards our desired objectives. The subaward between UH-Hilo and The Kohala Center (TKC) was executed on September 1, 2021. TKC's Project Assistant, Chris 'ODonnell, attended the first team meeting held on September 23, 2021.
- Created a Traditional Pathways Project shared drive between TKC and UH-Hilo student researchers to compile information from literature review of historical and published documents and oral histories pertaining to Kekaha
- Started research process including mo'olelo, historical maps, olelo no'eau, historical accounts, and oral histories that deepen the understanding of Kekaha to prepare for oral history interviews with residents of Kekaha

### Highlights for Quarter 2: October 1, 2021 December 31, 2021

- Community members adding to research this quarter included NPS Rick Gmirkin, Nā Maka Onaona Pelika Andrade, Cindi Punihaole Kekaha lineal descendant, Kepa Maly
- Conducted literature review of AIS for Kaloko-Honokohau and recently published Barrera reports and compared historical boundary commission testimonies with current state-established ahupua'a boundary lines to ensure accuracy of current documented ahupua'a boundaries within Kekaha.
- Building knowledge on conducting oral histories including attending Oral History Association Conference

### Highlights for Quarter 3: January 1, 2022 – March 31, 2022

- Community members adding to research this quarter included Board members from E Mau Nā Ala Hele - a non-profit dedicated to protecting and preserving Hawai'i Island's Historic Trails.
- Conducted literature review of Fornander Collection focused on mo'olelo connected to Kekaha, accessed University of Hawaii's Hawaiian Legends Index to research new mo'olelo, oli, mele, and 'olelo noe'au related to Kekaha; and did a more historical-style review of Kekaha including information pertaining to past ali'i, events, or other versions of documented history.
- Building knowledge on traditional pathways including recording Hawaiian words that keep appearing during literature reviews and reviewing mo'olelo and historical reports in order to research other trails outside of Kekaha to gain a better understanding of how people on Hawai'i Island use trails, their value, and their underlying meaning

### Highlights for Quarter 4: April 1, 2022 – June 30, 2022

- Community members adding to research this quarter included Alexis Ching on Oral History and Ku'ulani Auld from

Kona Historic Society.

- Supported UH graduate student, Leilani Waldron, including two gatherings and sharing with NPS Ala Kahakai staff (Aric Arakaki, Rick Gmirkin & Keko‘o Brown) and Kekaha community members, Ku‘ulei Keakealani and daughter Nahe.
- Joined NPS Ala Kahakai staff and members of Hui Aloha Kiholo (Ku‘ulei Keakealani & Sandy Kamaka) to work on ala Māmalahoa inland from Weliweli and discuss TPP and future work related to Kekaha
- Drafting an Introduction to Kekaha summary sheet from both funder and ‘āina accountability lenses

**BUDGET TO ACTUAL**

July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Year-to-Date Actual 07-01-2021 thru 6-30-2022</b>	<b>Balance Remaining</b>
Project Lead	100,000	8,851	91,149
Project Assistant	60,000	0	60,000
Employee Benefits & Taxes	44,800	2,478	42,322
Contract Services	40,000	0	40,000
Program Supplies	6,400	0	6,400
Marketing	12,500	0	12,500
Honoraria	5,000	0	5,000
Travel & Transportation	6,300	0	6,300
Meetings & Events	51,087	741	50,346
Total Direct Expenses	326,087	12,070	314,017
IDC @15%	48,913	3,220	45,693
Total Expenses	375,000	15,290	359,710