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| **FINAL Notes** | | | | |
| **Meeting Name**  Consulting Party Meeting | **Meeting Date**  November 1, 2022 | **Attendees**  Trisha Kehaulani Watson, Honua Consulting, LLC  Paka Harp, Vice President Makani Hou  Rick Gmirkin, NPS  Susan Lebo, SHPD  Pua Aiu, HDOT, HWY-P  Harry Takiue, HDOT, HWY-H  Fred Cachola  Charlie Young, Aha Moku  Deborah Chang, Consulting party  George Abcede, HDOT-Highways Administrator  Lisa Powell, FHWA  Tanya Lee-Greig, ʻĀina Archaeology  Jackson Bauer, Nā Ala Hele  Rick Gmirkin, Ala Kahakai Historic Trail  Mandy Johnson-Campbell, Ala Kahakai Historic Trail  Leilani Waldron, UH Hilo  Aric Arakaki, NPS, Na Ala Hele |  |  |
| **Time**  5:00 PM | **Prepared by**  Ethan McKown, Honua Consulting |
| **Meeting Location**  Via Zoom / Teleconference |  |

| Responsibility: | Action Items: | Deadline: |
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| All CPs | Review documentation on sharefile; share thoughts via email | End of year |
| Hōnua Consulting | Open consultation period for synthesized documentation by Kepā. | Through end of year |
| HDOT | Determine budget for signage and share with group | End of year |

1. **CP Meeting PowerPoint**
   1. Trisha Watson (Honua Consulting): Presented slides on project timeline and project status. Ms. Watson asked if the buffer zones included the 30 feet on each side of the trail. Their understanding was that the area they looked at was 10 feet of trail with 30 feet on each side.
      1. Paka Harp (Makani Hou): Yes, that is how I understand it.
   2. Dr. Watson: Kumu Pono has put together ~200 page word document that synthesizes available documentation. This will be the basis for the interpretive work and signage. Asked CPs to take a closer look at the documentation in the sharefile for review preferably by end-of-year.
   3. Dr. Lebo (SHPD): It would be good to feel the documentation is adequate before the preservation plan is turned it, so we don’t hold up the preservation plan asking for more documentation.
      1. Ms. Watson: We can do a consultation period through January 31 with the CPs. It can be packaged and sent out as a standalone document with the link. The package will include a list of references.
   4. Mr. Harp: The restoration plan is a component of the preservation plan.
      1. Dr. Lebo: At this point we are discussing what will go into the preservation plan, which includes the restoration plan. Under 6E, the identification of the title under the rules is called the Preservation Plan, which includes rehabilitation, maintenance, access, etc. It all falls under §13-277.
   5. Dr. Watson: What parts of the site are you looking to repair, reconstruct, or restore? Are there elements of the site where you want to do actual restoration and rehabilitation of features?
      1. Rick Gmirkin (NPS): I believe the conversation involved the section that was cleared (2,500-foot section). Fred’s desire was to clear the trail and repair it so people could use it (specifically the 2,500-foot section).
      2. Deborah Chang: Is there funding to do rehabilitation or preservation?
         1. Mr. Harp: We intended for the trail to be rehabilitated to the extent it could be utilized by people in the future.
         2. Dr. Lebo: There aren’t SOI standards for traditional rock-building trails, so we’d have to look at what we think is appropriate based on the consultation.
      3. Mandy Johnson-Campbell: It would be helpful if we could have an overview from Tanya on the most recent condition after the clearing has taken place.
      4. Mr. Gmirkin: There have been several breaches from the previous highway widening work and where vehicles have crossed the trail. In these places, you would want to demonstrate curbing again to keep people from doing that in the future. There are also standing causeways that will deteriorate if not addressed in the near future.
   6. Mr. Harp: What is the extent of the mauka-makai trails preservation? How much of the trail would be preserved?
      1. Ms. Watson: With what is in the contract, it would just be the 70 feet. However, this is something that could be discussed.
      2. Mr. Gmirkin: There are some other projects that have been done in the area that could be referenced, some of which include the mauka-makai trails.
      3. Mr. Harp: The County is planning a regional park but I’m unsure if they have done any archaeological work.
   7. Dr. Watson: Who does the preservation of the trail at NPS?
      1. Mr. Gmirkin: There are various ways to go about it. We work with the landowner, State, descendants, etc. Through a study we determine what should be done and what is desired to be done. That’s why having the Preservation Plan in place will facilitate future work. We have master masons on staff in addition to the Hawaiʻi Legacy Program. We are hoping to work with Jackson (Na Ala Hele) in the future.
   8. Dr. Watson: HDOT no longer uses herbicides. When we developed the vegetation plan, we included herbicides because it’s the most efficient way to manage the resources. In the plan I can note what will transfer to DLNR and therefore be at DLNR’s discretion. Do people have comments or recommendations?
      1. Mr. Harp: In other instances we have cleared vegetation with herbicide. It is usually necessary.
      2. Harry Takiue (HDOT): Yes, all herbicides.
         1. Jackson Bauer: How is DOT-H maintaining the roads?
         2. Mr. Takiue: We’re looking at alternatives but right now we’re just cutting vegetation with weed eaters and side cutters.
         3. Mr. Bauer: What would be proposed for this?
         4. Mr. Takiue: They would have to cut it by mechanical means (weed whacking, etc.).
      3. Dr. Watson: Uncle Fred said the goal is for the trail to be walkable and usable again. In theory, doesn’t it help to restore the trail for access in order to mechanically remove vegetation?
         1. Mr. Bauer: At this point there aren’t a lot of weeds coming up, so the amount of herbicide used will be minimal.
         2. Ms. Watson: Ed Sniffen said he was fine with very minimal herbicide use. Can we use herbicide for the 10 feet of the trail?
         3. Mr. Harp: Previously for koa haole we cut the tree and put herbicide into the stump. This was effective.
         4. Ms. Chang: The mechanical removal of vegetation needs to be careful as to not damage the rocks in the trail. Also, glyphosates may not be effective against koa haole.
         5. Mr. Harp: I’ve heard a lot of people have used Clorox.
      4. Ms. Johnson-Campbell: I’m happy to share another preservation plan project where we’ve used preservation as treatment under SOI standards.
   9. Mr. Bauer: How would the group feel about horse traffic? If the trail were restored, would we want to allow horse traffic as an accepted use?
      * 1. Mr. Harp: Human foot traffic only. Pets would be okay as long as they are on leash and owners clean up after animals.
   10. Mr. Harp: Fred mentioned early in the process that we provide for handicap access in the parking lot and potentially the trail. Is there some way to address access for people in wheelchairs and walkers?
       1. Mr. Bauer: The preliminary schematic includes an accessible route paralleling the trail.
   11. Mr. Bauer: Maybe we should include language in the plan that includes the flexibility to close the parking lot.
       1. Ms. Watson: This is an excellent point. We can include that language.
       2. Mr. Gmirkin: We should include drone footage along the trail as well for those who can’t physically access it.
2. Parking Lot Discussion
   1. Dr. Watson: Our contract calls for interpretive signage and marker signage. What is the marker signage?
      1. Mr. Harp: Marker signage would be similar to what we have installed in the park. Silhouette figures are used to depict the trail use.
      2. Mr. Gmirkin: Markers is also a term we used for route identification as well. Just a reminder of where you’re supposed to be on the trail for wayfinding purposes.
      3. Mr. Bauer: We can have conversations about options for marker signage when we have more of a budget
   2. Mr. Takiue: [Showed graphic of plan for parking lot].
   3. Dr. Watson: Can we set a deadline for determining a budget on signage?
      1. Mr. Takiue: I will get back to you on the budget.
3. Wrap Up
   1. Ms. Chang: Can we discuss the terrain model at the next meeting?
      1. Mr. Harp: Makani Hou has ownership of terrain documentation.
      2. Ms. Chang: Is there a plan for the terrain model we might hear about?
      3. Mr. Harp: We discussed sharing the terrain model. We’re open to loaning the terrain model to schools, etc.
      4. Ms. Chang: Will it continue to be housed at West Hawaiʻi Civil Center?
      5. Mr. Harp: Yes. As of now that is its semi-permanent home. I am hoping it will have a permanent home in the regional park.