

SOUTH KOHALA, ISLAND OF HAWAII
STATE OF HAWAII
FEDERAL-AID PROJECT NO. BR-NH-019-
1(45)

KAWAIHAE ROAD, REPLACEMENT OF WAIKA BRIDGE AND REALIGNMENT OF APPROACHES

Hawaii State Department of Transportation
Highways Division

April 2022

WELCOME!

Thank you for joining our
Public Meeting



INFORMATION

Information from the
presentation will be available
after at:

[HIDOT.hawaii.gov/presentations](https://hidot.hawaii.gov/presentations)

Email your questions to:

andrew.j.hirano@hawaii.gov

Comment Deadline: April 23, 2022



- Teams tools
- Everyone is muted
- Any comments given should be respectful
- Any comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) must be received in writing by April 23, 2022 to be considered in the Final EA.



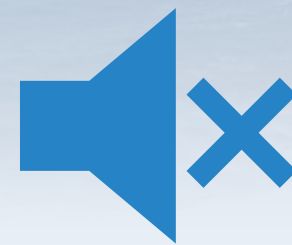
Meeting will be actively facilitated



Participation is welcomed and encouraged



Treat everyone with kindness and respect



When not speaking, please mute yourself to minimize background noise



Telephone call-ins must dial *5 to raise/lower hand



If you need technical assistance, please type in the chat box



If you are experiencing technical issues, try leaving the meeting and rejoining

GROUND RULES

AGENDA

- Project Location/Overview
- Purpose and Need
- Issues Considered
- Project Alternatives
- Technical Reports & Evaluations Presented in Draft EA
- Construction Considerations
- Project Schedule
- Question and Answer Session

PROJECT LOCATION

The project is located near Waimea in the South Kohala district on the Island of Hawaii.

Waiaka Bridge is located along Kawaihae Road at mile post 58.88 east of the Kawaihae Road and Kohala Mountain Road Intersection.

The State of Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT), Highways Division, is proposing to replace Waiaka Bridge and realign the roadway approaches to the Kawaihae Road and Kohala Mountain Road intersection.



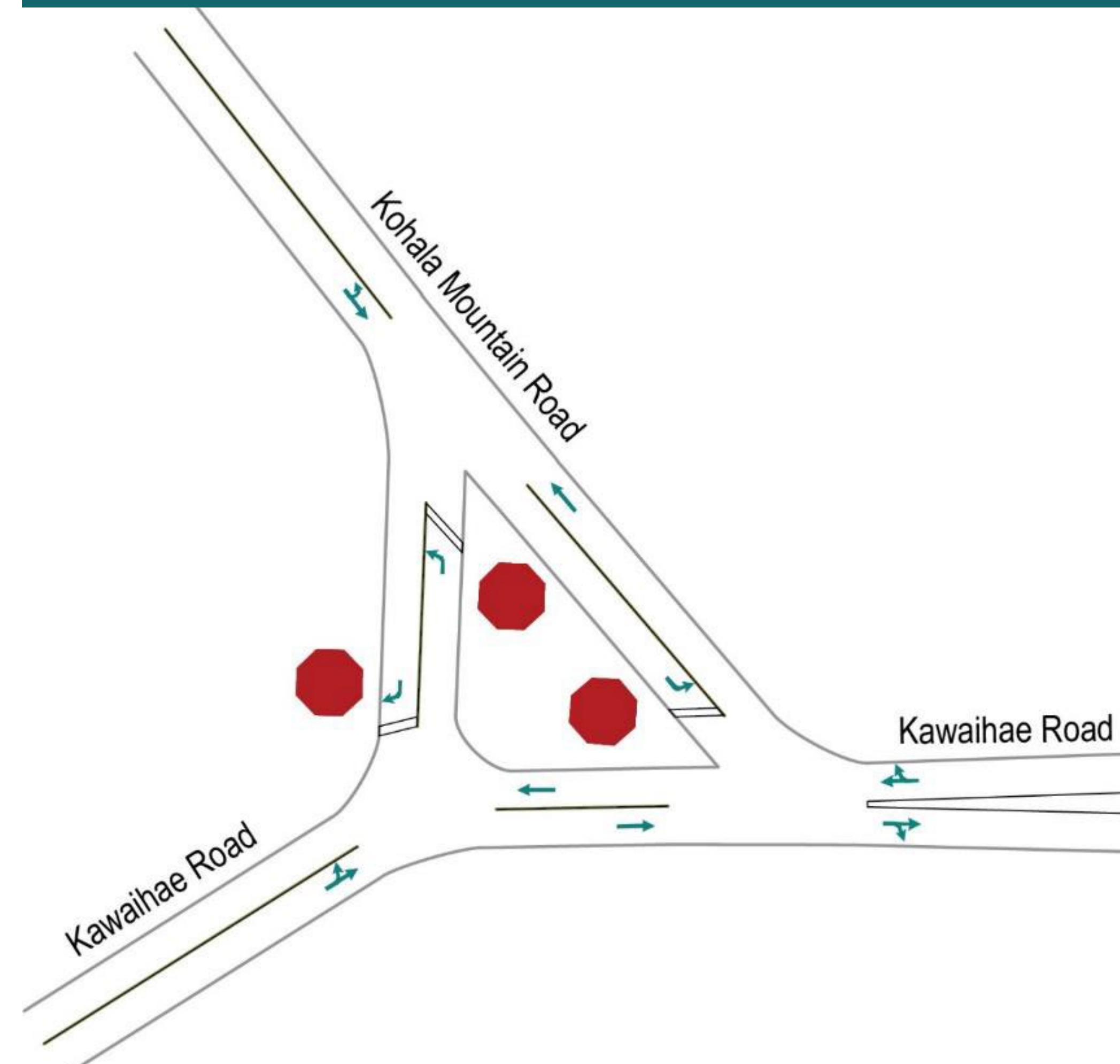
PROJECT PURPOSE & NEED

The purpose of this project is to bring Waiaka Bridge up to current standards for roadway width, load capacity, bridge railings, and bicycle and pedestrian access.

THE PROPOSED PROJECT

WILL:

- Provide a replacement Waiaka Bridge
- Improve safety by realigning existing approaches to intersection and increasing line-of-sight distances
- Improve the alignment of roadway approaches to the bridge
- Reduce the stop-and-go nature of the existing intersection
- Realigned intersection will provide clearer directions, contributing to improved safety and traffic operations



LANE CONFIGURATIONS FOR EXISTING INTERSECTION

ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED/ADDRESSED BY PROJECT:

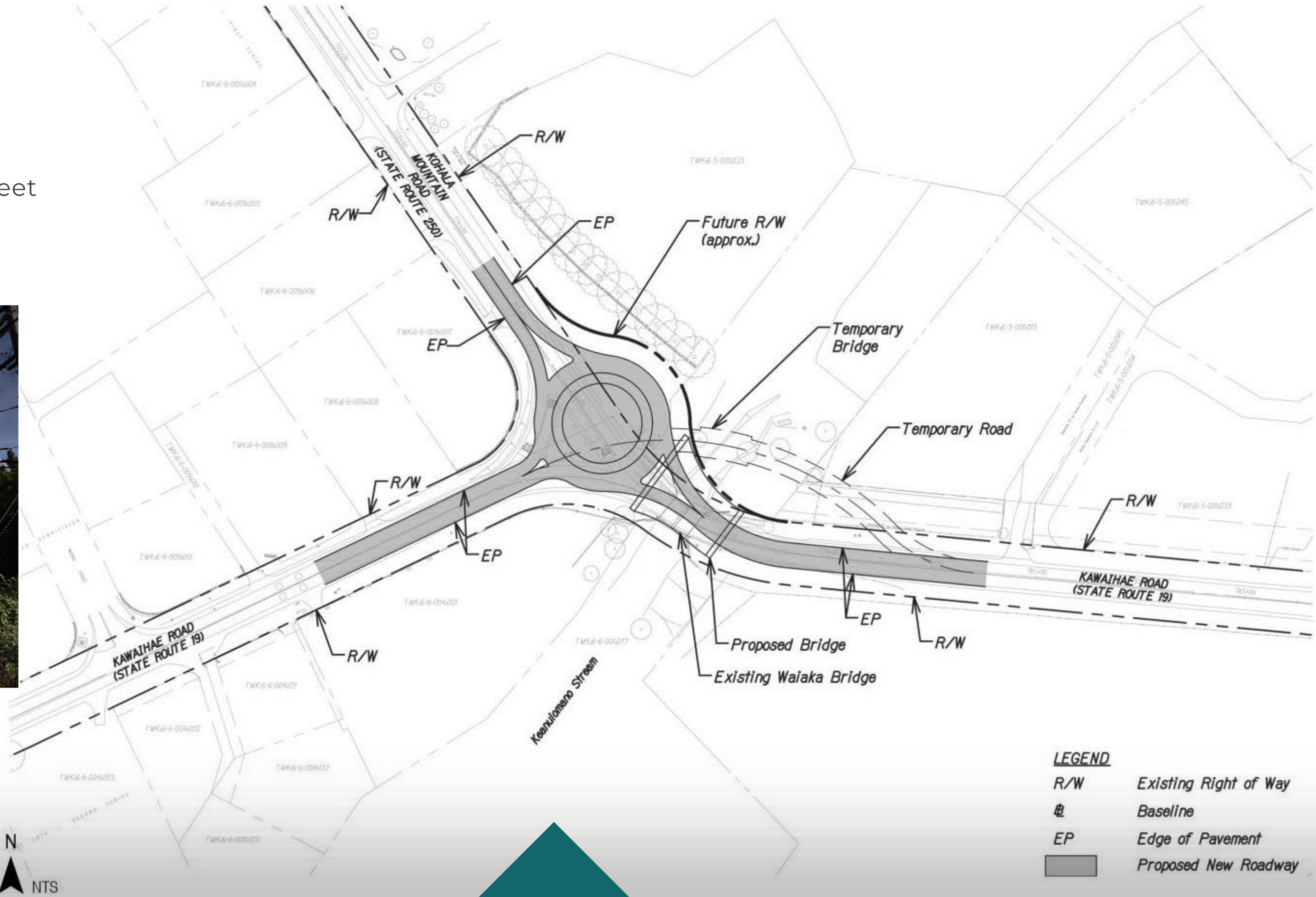
- Bridge replacement to bring bridge to current standards
- Increase sight distance at the intersection
- Assist in maintaining traffic flow at each point within the intersection
- Ease decision-making at this dynamic intersection for motorists to better navigate
- Address the long delays for left-turns from Kohala Mountain Road to Kawaihae Road



View approaching Waiaka Bridge from Waimea

APPROXIMATE ACQUISITIONS

TMK 6-5-002:023 – 0.21 acre / 9,350 square feet
Northeast of current intersection

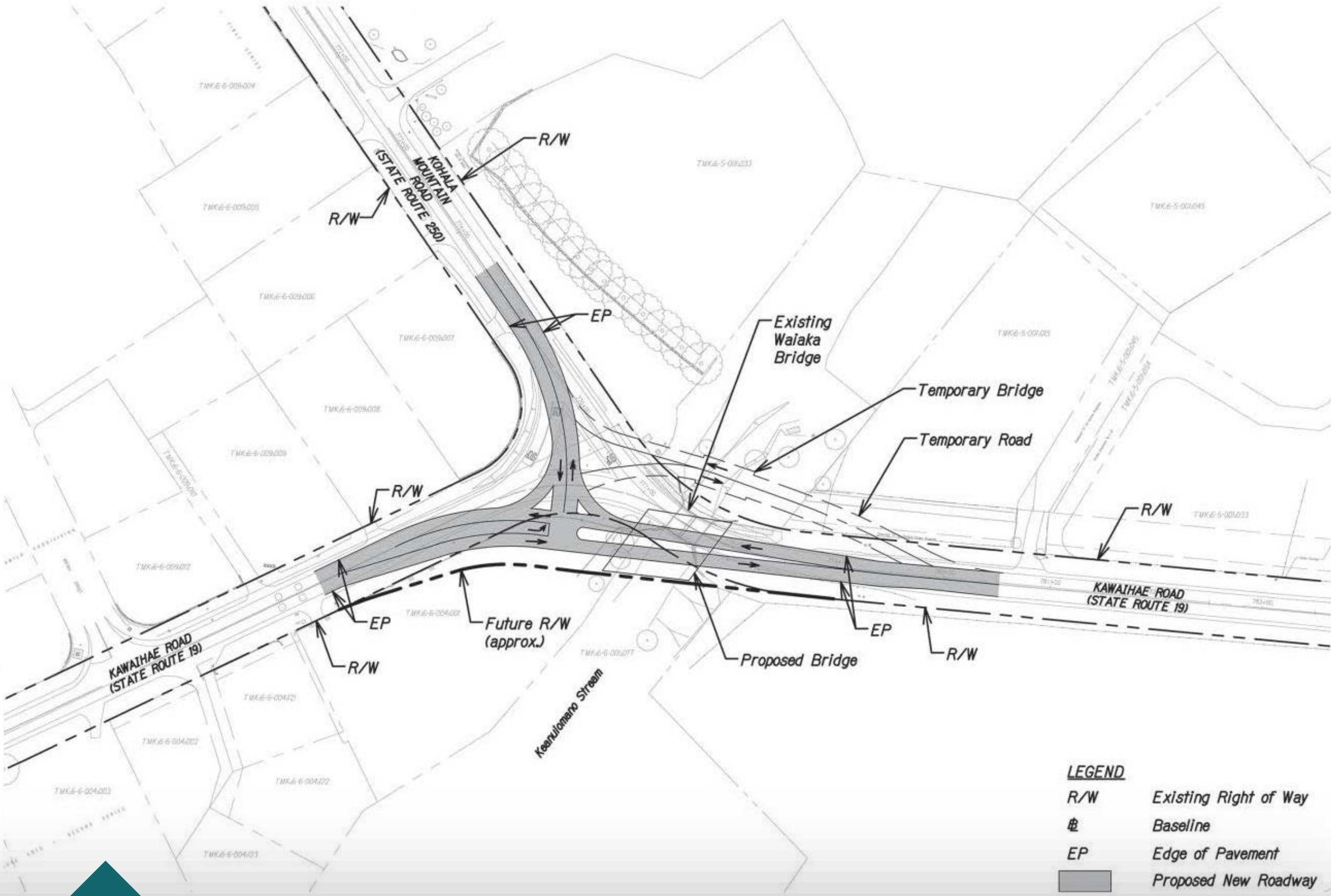


PROPOSED BUILD ALTERNATIVE

REPLACEMENT BRIDGE WITH A ROUNDABOUT

APPROXIMATE ACQUISITIONS

TMK 6-6-001:077 – 0.06 acre / 2,574 square feet
TMK 6-6-004:001 – 0.17 acre / 7,623 square feet
Two properties south of current intersection



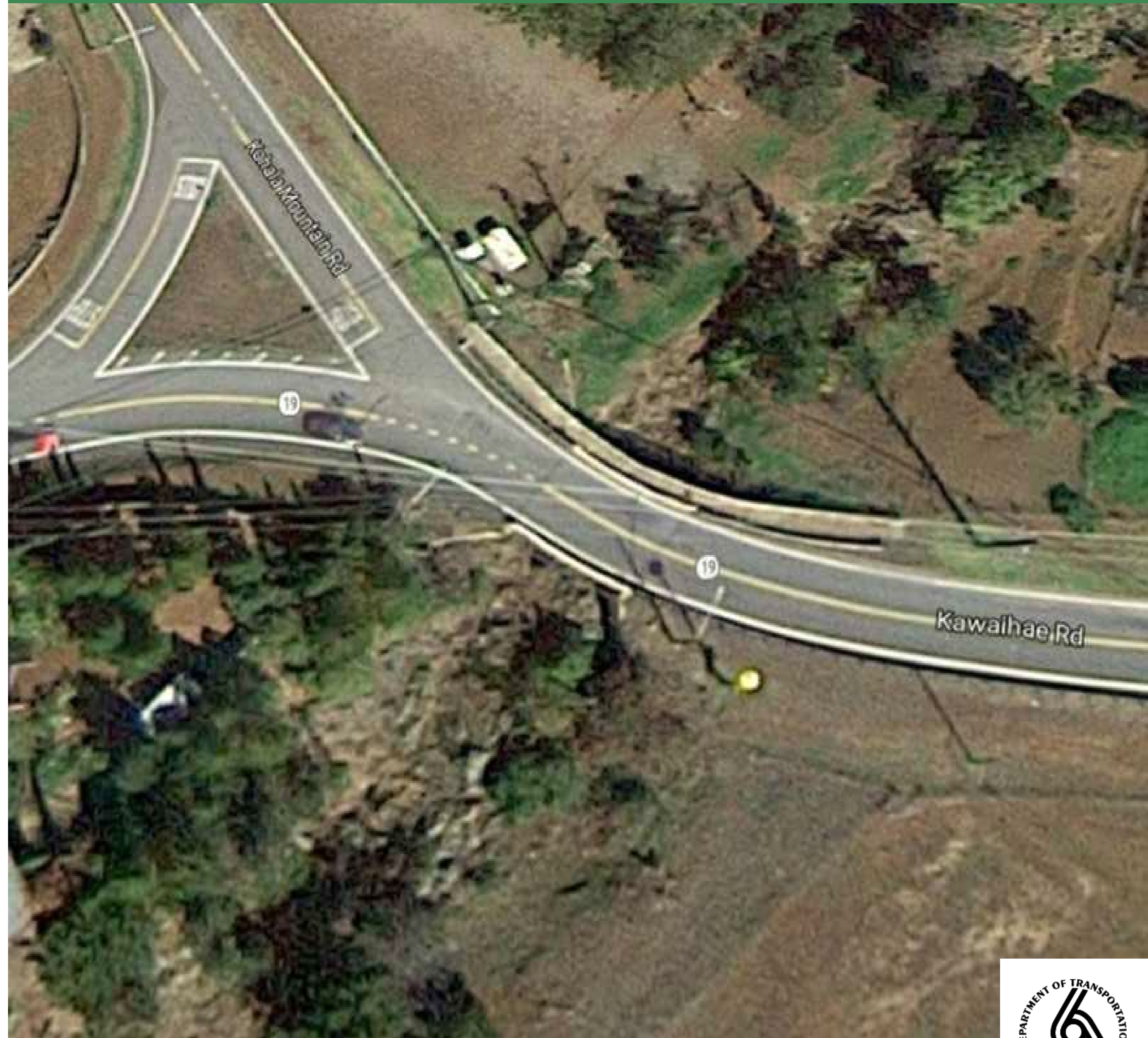
ALTERNATIVE TO THE PROPOSED ACTION

REPLACEMENT BRIDGE WITH T-INTERSECTION

TECHNICAL REPORTS AND EVALUATIONS

The Draft EA includes the following:

- Traffic Impact Analysis
- Noise Technical Report
- Historic Properties Assessment
- Cultural Impact Assessment
- Flora and Fauna Survey



TECHNICAL
REPORTS AND
EVALUATIONS

Traffic Impact Analysis

- Roundabout Alternative provides best operating conditions for all approaches.

PROJECTED 2024 LEVEL OF SERVICE						
MOVEMENT	A.M. PEAK			P.M. PEAK		
	COMPARISON					
	NO BUILD	TRAFFIC SIGNAL	ROUND-ABOUT	NO BUILD	TRAFFIC SIGNAL	ROUND-ABOUT
Kawaihae Road EB Approach	B	B	A	B	B	A
Kawaihae Road WB Approach	Free Move-ment	C	A	Free Move-ment	B	A
Kohala Mountain Road SB Approach	E	B	A	F	C	A
Overall	N/A*	B	A	N/A*	B	A

*No overall delay provided for stop-control intersection with free movements.

Level of Service (LOS) is a term used to qualitatively describe operating conditions on a roadway on an A (best) - F (worst) scale.

Noise Technical Report

- Future worst-hour traffic noise levels under the No Build would approach or exceed the Noise Abatement Criterion (NAC) at 4 of the 11 modeled sites representing 4 residences.
- Affected residences would experience an increase of 1-2 dBA under both Build and No Build.
- Three noise barrier walls and re-construction of an existing wall are proposed to mitigate these impacts.



TECHNICAL REPORTS AND EVALUATIONS (CONTINUED)

Historic Properties

Assessment

- Field inspections taken on October 14, 2020. Findings compared with the 2012 archaeological inventory survey report (AIS). AIS remains generally accurate. *No new archaeological features or sites observed.*
- Based on new information, Site 23313 (concrete foundation/stream gauge) is no longer considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).
- *Waiaka Bridge (Site 29221) is eligible for the NRHP, and likely adversely affected.* Consultation will continue with SHPD and Section 106 consulting parties to resolve or mitigate the impact.
- Archaeological monitoring during construction is recommended by SHPD.

Cultural Impact

Assessment

- Sixteen individuals believed to have genealogical ties, long-standing residency, or knowledge of the project area and greater Waimea District were contacted. Of those contacted, five individuals contributed to the Cultural Impact Assessment (CIA) preparation.
- *No traditional cultural practices were identified by the CIA within the current project area.*
- There are, however, traditional cultural practices occurring along and within the stream further mauka and makai from the project area. *The Contractor will be advised and care will be taken to avoid these areas and/or affecting these practices during construction.*

Flora and Fauna

Survey

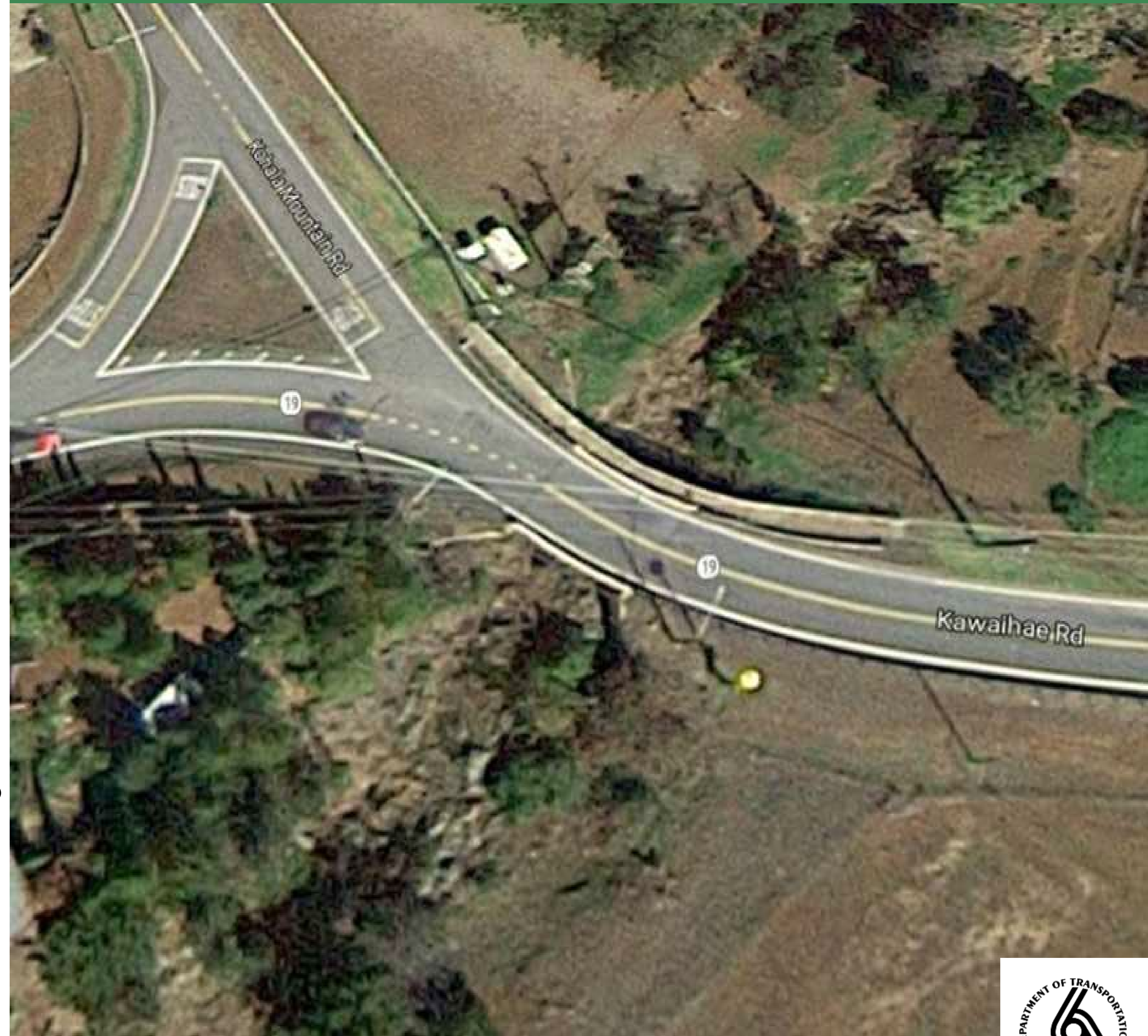
- Biological survey was completed on October 22, 2020.
- Project site mostly comprised of non-native alien plant species.
- *No threatened, endangered, or rare native animal species or plant species were found or encountered.*
- HDOT has committed to implement measures that minimize potential impacts to protected species that may be encountered based on recommendations from USFWS and DLNR.



CONSTRUCTION CONSIDERATIONS

Some disruptions to the surrounding area are anticipated, including:

- Traffic interruptions and lane closures
 - ✓ Temporary bypass road and bridge will be constructed to maintain existing traffic.
- Elevated noise levels
 - ✓ Quiet work procedures will be employed to control emissions from project site (i.e. strategic placement of stationary equipment, use of appropriate mufflers, etc.)
 - ✓ Corrective action program for complaints, including a designated contact and process to address deficiencies.
- Fugitive dust generated by ground disturbing activities
 - ✓ Best Management Practices will be utilized.



PROJECT SCHEDULE

01

Deadline for comments on the Draft EA is April 23, 2022. Comments received in writing during this timeframe will be addressed in the Final EA.

02

The Final EA is scheduled to be published on the ERP website in Summer 2022.

03

Advertisement for construction is scheduled for Spring 2023. Anticipated construction duration is 18 months with an estimated construction cost of \$15M.



PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION



HDOT PROJECT MANAGER

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DESIGN CONSULTANT (WSP USA INC.)

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HDOT PROJECT WEBSITE

<https://hidot.hawaii.gov/highways/waiaka-bridge-replacement/>

