

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

OFFICE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES AND SUPPORT SERVICES

June 1, 2016

Mr. Max Solmssen
Project Manager
Community Planning and Engineering, Inc.
1286 Queen Emma Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Lima Ola Workforce Housing Development, Eleele, Kauai, TMK No. 2-1-001:054

Dear Mr. Solmssen:

The Department of Education (DOE) Facilities Development Branch has only recently learned about the Lima Ola Workforce Housing project (Project) proposed for Eleele, Kauai. All requests for pre-consultation and review of Draft and Final Environmental Assessments (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement should be sent to the DOE Superintendent.

The DOE has reviewed the EA for the Project and noticed there is almost no reference to public schools in the document. There is no doubt the project will have a major impact on Eleele Elementary School. Public schools were not considered a public service like the police and fire services. The EA should have identified all the schools that would serve the proposed project. It would have also been important to get current enrollment and classroom capacity figures from the DOE.

Eleele Elementary is very close to its enrollment capacity. The DOE is concerned that the Lima Ola Project will eventually, at the Project's mature stage, increase the Eleele enrollment by approximately 77 students. We estimate the impact of Phase 1 of the Project will be approximately 25 additional elementary students.

There is sufficient space at Waimea Canyon Middle School and Waimea High School to accommodate all phases of the Project's estimated impact of 22 more students at the middle school and 40 at the high school.

Exhibit 15-A

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It is important for the DOE to go on the record as saying the proposed project would take up all possible excess capacity at Eleele Elementary. As other projects in the area get developed, DOE will have to consider methods for handling additional enrollment beyond what the school is currently capable of handling. If the anticipated growth is significant, the DOE will consider imposing school impact fees in the area.

If you have any questions, please contact Heidi Meeker of the Facilities Development Branch at (808) 784-5080.

Respectfully,



Kenneth G. Masden II
Public Works Manager
Planning Section

KGM:jmb