

**Ted H.S. Hong**  
**Attorney at Law**

*Employment, Workplace Law & Litigation*

**Sue L.K. Lee Loy**  
Planner and Legal Assistant

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
STATE OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -7 PM 2:51

November 2, 2012

The Honorable Bobby-Jean Leithead Todd, Director  
The Honorable Zendo Kern, Chairman  
and Members of the Windward Planning Commission  
101 Pauahi Street, Suite 3  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

**RE: CONNECTIONS NEW CENTURY PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL; PONOHAUAI,  
KUKUAU 2<sup>ND</sup>, SOUTH HILO, HAWAII  
TAX MAP KEY(3)2-5-006:141**

Dear Director Leithead-Todd, Chairman Kern and Members of the Windward Planning Commission:

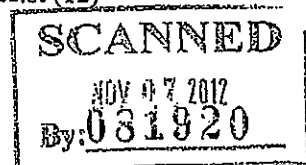
Allow this correspondence to provide a report on activity associated with the above referenced property.

**Progress of Lease/Special Permit/Extenuating Events – Timeline**

Connection Public Charter School, hereinafter “Connections” has committed enormous hours and resources to realizing this site as campus.

March 2008	Connections received approval in principal from BLNR (1)
2009 thru 2010	Connections prepares and revises an Environmental Assessment
June 2009 to present	Community meetings and community input (2)
October 2010	Office of Environmental Quality Control issues a Finding of No Significant Impact for the project (3)
January 2011	BLNR issues unanimous approval of item D-4 “issuance of Direct Lease to Connection” (4)
March 2011	Request for Metes and Bounds survey
April 11, 2012	Transmittal of Metes and Bounds description to DLNR (payment for publication) (5)
May 1, 2012	Public Notice of Direct Lease (6)
June 2012	Request for Topographic Survey
July 18, 2012	Connection request for status of Lease Agreement to DLNR (7)
July 18, 2012	Connection Request of Right-of Entry DLNR (8)
July 14 - 30, 2012 <sup>1</sup>	Connections is a victim of company’s gross negligence Connections files Police Report of property damage and theft (9) Connection (Sue Lee Loy) notifies DLNR of property damage and theft
August 1, 2012	Cease and desist letter to company (10)
August 15, 2012	DLNR Notice of Cease and Desist to Connection (11)
August 17, 2012	Connections acknowledges DLNR Notice of Cease and Desist (12)

<sup>1</sup> Various reports, emails and calls related to issues



The Honorable Bobby-Jean Leithead Todd, Director  
The Honorable Zendo Kern, Chairman  
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RE: CONNECTIONS NEW CENTURY CHARTER SCHOOL, TAX MAP KEY (3)2-5-006:141  
October 24, 2012  
Page 2

August 31, 2012	Complaint filed with Office of Regulated Industries (13)
August 31, 2012	Grading Violation Issued by the Department of Public Works (14)
October 10, 2012	New information – drywell/possible connection to Kaumana Cave
October 18, 2012	Vandalism at Connections Charter School (15)
October 26, 2012	BLNR Hearing – Remedy of violation approved
November 2, 2012	Supplemental Kaumana Cave Report from Rowland Reeves, Archeologist (16)
November 5, 2012	Submittal of Grading/Grubbing Permit – Remedy for violation

#### Regulatory Process with the County (Special Permit Application)

On July 31, 2012 the County of Hawaii Planning Department acknowledged receipt of a Special Permit Application (SPP12-000138) to develop a K - 12 Charter School Campus with dormitory facilities, intergenerational programs, a sustainable agriculture program and a forestry/conservation program. The Planning Department has reviewed the application and the Planning Director recommends that the Planning Commission send a favorable recommendation to the State Land Commission.

#### Fencing Activity

In May 2012, Connections prepared a request for proposal to: 1) assist with the cutting of a 10-foot wide edge around the perimeter of the property for the preparation of a boundary survey and metes and bounds map and 2) fence the makai portion of the property.

In June 2012, Connections prepared a second request for proposal providing more level of detail of the type of clearing that was to be done related to the property. The fencing proposal clearly noted we would follow all string that was put up (by the surveyor) and would only create a blades width from the property line and no more. The proposal also noted that no types of turn-around areas were permitted that would ruin the property. Copies of the instruction related to the proposal and the company's contractor's license are attached for your information and files.

Unfortunately, Connections was the victim of a company that was grossly negligent. It was discussed clearly on several occasions what type of work was permitted. The company used access at the property to unlawfully remove Ohia trees/logs and used the earthmoving equipment to cover up the activity. Outraged by the gross negligence, professional incompetence and actions of willful, wanton reckless and indifference to consequences, Connections initiated a police report of theft of the Ohia tress and property damage. The police report is identified as #C12018558.

The Honorable Bobby-Jean Leithead Todd, Director  
The Honorable Zendo Kern, Chairman  
and Members of the Windward Planning Commission

RE: CONNECTIONS NEW CENTURY CHARTER SCHOOL, TAX MAP KEY (3)2-5-006:141

October 24, 2012

Page 3

In addition, on August 31, 2012, Connections initiated a Contractor Complaint with the State of Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs Regulated Industries Complaints Office Consumer Resource Center.

In an attempt to hold the company accountable for their negligence, on August 2, 2012 our office transmitted a letter to the company demanding they provide a copy of Business Liability Policy and/or the name of their liability insurance agent. The August 2, 2012 letter also placed the company on notice that our office would seek indemnification in the event that the State of Hawaii were to impose any fine or other penalty against Connections and also reserved the right to file a lawsuit against the company and criminal charges against those individuals involved. We also warned the company that anyone associated with their company is to stay off the property or we would file a criminal trespass action against them. We are currently in negotiations with the company's legal representatives.

To further compound the gross negligence of the company, on August 31, 2012 Connection was issued a Grading Violation from the County of Hawaii Department of Public Works. On November 5, 2012 engineer Paul Nash transmitted to the Department of Public Works a grading application with the appropriate set of plans to remedy this issue. We are currently awaiting Public Works and other agency review and approval of these plans.

Proactively, Connections has engaged David Miranda to assist with preparing a reforestation plan to assist the natural growth of native plants and address invasive species on the property. Reforestation continues to be a goal and an educational offering for this site and Connections is supportive of this reforestation component be made part of the Conditions of Approval for the Special Permit. In addition, the Board of Land and Natural Resource (BLNR) has made the preparation and submittal of a reforestation plan part of the remedies for the unauthorized land clearing.

#### Status of the Lease

On January 3, 2011, under agenda item D-4, the Board of Land and Natural Resources approved a request for a general lease for the subject property for charter school purposes. In May of 2012 a Public Notice of Direct Lease to Public Charter Schools was published when a copy of the metes and bounds description and map was provided to DLNR. In July of 2012, our office corresponded with DLNR regarding the status of the General Lease and provided the additional information requested with the understanding that the General Lease was with the Attorney General Office for review. We patiently wait for the finalizing of the General Lease and should there be any additional information required, please let our office know so we may address it as soon as possible.

#### New Information

On or about October 12, 2012, new information related to a cave/lava tube within a drywell on the mauka side of Edita was presented to the Planning Department and the Applicant. The Applicant presented this new information to Dr. Stone, Speleologist and Dr. Stone, could not find any definitive evidence that the drywell was connected to Kaumana Cave. In addition, Archeologist, Rowland Reeve was also presented with the new information. Based on his review, "it would appear from the evidence presented above that

The Honorable Bobby-Jean Leithead Todd, Director  
The Honorable Zendo Kern, Chairman  
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RE: CONNECTIONS NEW CENTURY CHARTER SCHOOL, TAX MAP KEY (3)2-5-006:141

October 24, 2012

Page 4

the drywell located along Edita Road is not directly connected to the Kaumana Cave and does not form part of the lave tube complex" A copy is attached as item 16.

We hope this summary report was helpful and provides you and your staff with a comprehensive understanding of the activity associated with this project and property. Should you have any questions, please feel free to call our office at 933-1919.

Respectfully,

Ted H. S. Hong, Esq.

c: Client





## **AECOS, Inc.**

45-939 Kamehameha Highway, Suite 104 ♦ Kaneohe HI 96744  
Telephone: (808)234-7770 ♦ Fax: (808)234-7775 ♦ Email: aecos@aecos.com

### **DAVID MIRANDA**

David Miranda received a B.S. degree in Horticulture Technology in 1978 from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. He has worked in a variety of horticulture enterprises and has undertaken botanical surveys for the National Park Service, Connections PCS and *AECOS*. David currently owns and operates his own native plant/gardening business and works part time for *AECOS* and on-call for Connections PCS. His part time work for *AECOS*, includes conducting botanical field surveys and stream water quality monitoring. David has over 35 years of experience in the field of horticulture and botany. His experience includes:

- Identifying native and ornamental plants in the field.
- Using taxonomic keys to identify plants not easily identifiable in the field.
- Surveying in remote and varied terrain throughout the state of Hawai'i.
- Developing propagative methods for native plants and ornamentals.
- Evaluating and monitoring crops for disease and nutrient problems through observation and experimental plots.
- Navigating varied terrain with compass, map and GPS (familiar with Trimble and Garmin).
- Collecting water samples and performing field measurements for stream monitoring programs on the island of Hawai'i.
- Assisting with aquatic and riparian stream and shoreline flora and fauna surveys.
- Basic knowledge and use of Microsoft Word and Excel.

Recent projects that David has completed for *AECOS*, Inc. include botanical surveys for the Auwahi Wind Farm, botanist for the Waikoloa Military Training Area soil sampling project, biological survey and water quality for the Kapiolani Road extension project, and botanist for the Pahala Timber project. Recent projects completed for Connections PCS included miles of transect surveys and trails on the Connections PCS Kaumana project site.

David has completed the 40-hour basic health and safety training required for hazardous waste workers under OSHA 1910.120.

David has a keen interest in Hawaiian and biblical history and archaeology. He has an avid interest in the natural history of Hawai'i and is adept at sighting and identifying rare native plants and native birds. He is an avid hiker and hunter of feral pigs and promotes hunting and gun safety. David shares his knowledge and mentors teens and young adults interested in the natural history of Hawai'i, hunting and native plant propagation.

**CELIA SHEN**  
Senior Planner  
Wil Chee – Planning, Inc.

Ms. Shen holds a BArch (1991), a Graduate Certificate in Historic Preservation (2000) and a MURP in Urban and Regional Planning (2004) from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Her 14 years of professional experience includes working as a land use planner and as an independent consultant specializing in the research and preparation of nomination forms for the Hawai'i Register of Historic Places. She has additional experience as a University of Hawai'i graduate research assistant where she conducted traffic safety studies and a marine aquaculture siting study, both of which required the extensive use of GIS. Ms. Shen joined Wil Chee – Planning, Inc. (WCP) in April of 2004.

**Work Experience**

**April 2004 – current Wil Chee – Planning, Inc.**

Ms. Shen's responsibilities at WCP include land use, conceptual, and master planning; space/facility planning; permitting; and environmental impact documents. While at WCP, she has been involved with educational facility projects for St. Francis School, St. Louis School, Connections Public Charter School, and the University of Hawai'i. She was the lead planner for several master planning projects for new resorts and residential developments in China and headed a team that prepared two Environmental Assessments (EAs) for a road reconstruction project in Aceh, Indonesia, following the disastrous tsunami of December 2004. Her background in preparation of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and HRS Chapter 343 documents is extensive, having been involved in EAs and Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) for a wide range of project types.

Key projects at WCP include:

- 2011 Project manager and lead author for the 202K Grow the Force EA, Marine Corps Base Hawai'i - Kāne'ohe
- 2011 Project Manager for the MILCON Projects P-749 and P-750 Bachelor Enlisted Quarters Supplemental EA, Marine Corps Base Hawai'i - Kāne'ohe
- 2011 Project planner and contributing author for the Construction of a Flood Mitigation Project (PN 56024) at Fort Shafter Flats EA
- 2011 Project planner and contributing author for the Technology Demonstration for Remotely Operated Underwater Munitions Recovery System (ROUMRS) and Energetic Hazard Demilitarization System (EHDS) EA, Ordnance Reef, Wai'anae, Hawai'i
- 2010 Project manager and lead author for the Long Range Development Plan Revision and Update, and Supplemental EIS, University of Hawai'i Center – West Hawai'i
- 2010 Project manager and lead planner for the Conditional Use Permit for St. Francis School
- 2010 Planner and primary author for the Bachelors Enlisted Quarters Feasibility Study, Marine Corp Base Hawai'i - Kāne'ohe
- 2009 Project manager and lead planner for the Minor Modification and Zoning Variance for the St. Louis School Ching Technology & Learning Center
- 2009 Project manager and lead planner for the University of Hawai'i Holmes Hall Facility Renovations, Technical Assistance to Prepare a Proposal Package to the Recovery Act NIST Construction Grant Program
- 2009 Project manager and lead author for the MILCON Projects P-749 and P-750 Bachelor Enlisted Quarters EA, Marine Corps Base Hawai'i - Kāne'ohe

- 2008 Project Manager and primary author for the Proposed Construction of the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command Facility EA, Hickam Air Force Base
- 2008 Project planner and contributing author for the Central O'ahu Wastewater Facilities Plan EIS
- 2007 Lead planner for the St. Louis School Lower School Space Study
- 2007 Lead planner for the St. Louis School Classroom Study
- 2007 Lead planner and primary author for the Kuntz Ballfield Area Site Survey Report, Hickam Air Force Base
- 2007 Project planner and contributing author for the Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, Marine Corps Base Hawai'i
- 2005 Project planner and primary author for the John Rodgers Tank Farm Phase I Environmental Baseline Survey Report
- 2005 Project planner and primary author for the Band Aceh to Meulaboh Road Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Project Phase I and Phase II EAs, Island of Sumatra, Indonesia

**Jan 2001 – May 2003 University of Hawaii, Dept. of Urban and Regional Planning (Honolulu, HI)**  
*Graduate Research Assistant*

Aquaculture Feasibility Study - Responsible for conducting the literature review; collecting oceanographic data from various government agencies, researchers, etc.; modifying data for use in a geographic information system (GIS); generating spatial data layers; generating a demonstration model; and writing the final project report (*Using Geographic Information Systems to Survey Offshore Aquaculture Sites in Hawaii*).

Bicycle Observation Study - Responsible for conducting the literature review, analyzing data collected from field observations, and writing the final project report (*Bicycle Observation Study*).

Pedestrian Observation Study - Responsible for conducting the literature review, collecting observational data in the field, analyzing observational data, and writing the final project report (*Assessing the Potential for Utilizing Video Technology in Pedestrian Studies*).

**Aug 2001 – Aug 2003 Independent Consultant**

Responsible for researching and preparing State Register of Historic Places nomination forms.

- Completed nomination forms for the Andrews, Miller, Potter, Reed, Snyder, and Davis Residences as part of the College Hills thematic nomination; and the Petersen Residence for The Contemporary Museum. All residences were successfully nominated to the Hawai'i Register of Historic Places.

**Nov 2000 – Jan 2001 Independent Consultant**

Assisted the O'ahu Metropolitan Planning Organization in carrying out various activities related to the public input process undertaken to complete the 5-year update of Oahu's 25-year transportation plan (*Transportation for Oahu Plan 2025*).

- Assisted participants at public input and focus group meetings to complete public preference surveys, and compiled post-meeting summaries that highlighted critical issues, concerns and ideas raised during these meetings.
- Compiled, analyzed and organized for publication, the survey data gathered during the public input meetings.

**Apr 1997 – Aug 1997 Historic Preservation Division, State of Hawai'i (Honolulu, HI)**

**June 1998 – Aug 2000**

*Historic Preservation Specialist Intern*

Responsible for maintaining the historic architectural properties database. Assisted in the research and preparation of nominations to the State Register of Historic Places.

- Implemented the successful conversion of the historic architectural properties database into Access and enhanced the inventory's usability and accessibility.
- Cataloged the architectural properties photograph collection and added it to the historical architectural properties database.
- Assisted in the preparation of State Register nomination forms including the University of Hawaii's East-West Center.

**Apr 1992 – Dec 1995 Alexander & Baldwin Properties, Inc. (Honolulu, HI)**

***Land Planning Analyst***

Responsible for the development of land use alternatives, objectives, design concepts, written narration and supporting graphics in order to aid management in developing land planning strategies and evaluating land use options.

- Coordinated the preparation of zoning amendment petitions for the Port Allen Industrial Expansion (Kauai) and the Grocery Warehouse lot (Kaua'i), and assisted in the preparation of the Kukui'ula Planned Community Revised Phase I (Kaua'i) zoning amendment petition. All three projects received County approval for a change in zoning.
- Coordinated the preparation of the Kaunoa II Agricultural Subdivision (Maui) SMA application. Project received County approval of the SMA permit.
- Contributed to the development and refinement of A&B Properties' Port Allen/Eleele Master Plan (Kaua'i) for company-owned lands in the region.
- Prepared Capital Expenditure Requests (CER) requiring executive management approval, to facilitate the progression of land development projects. CER amounts ranged from \$15,000 to \$170,000.

**Education**

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Major: Architecture

Degree: Bachelor's of Architecture, December 1991

University of Virginia - Charlottesville

Major: Urban and Environmental Planning, 25 graduate semester credits completed

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Major: Historic Preservation

Degree: Graduate Certificate in Historic Preservation, May 2000

Major: Urban and Regional Planning

Degree: Master's of Urban and Regional Planning, May 2004

**Professional Affiliations**

American Planning Association – National and Hawaii Chapter

# PHILLIP J. ROWELL, P.E.

Principal, Phillip Rowell and Associates

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<b>EDUCATION</b>	BS, Civil Engineering, 1971, Clemson University MS, Civil Engineering (Transportation & Traffic Engineering), 1972, Clemson University
<b>REGISTRATION</b>	Professional Civil Engineer in California (1975) & Hawaii (1989)
<b>MEMBERSHIPS</b>	Institute of Transportation Engineers (Life Member)
<b>EXPERIENCE RECORD</b>	
1995 to Present	<p>Phillip Rowell and Associates, Honolulu, Hawaii Principal of consulting firm specializing in transportation planning and traffic engineering projects in Hawaii and California. The following are representative recent projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Piilani Promenade (Kihei)</li><li>• Saddle Road Extension TIAR</li><li>• KIC Resort Area 26 TIAR (Kailua-Kona)</li><li>• Puunene Heavy Industrial Subdivision</li><li>• Cosco, Lihue, Kauai</li><li>• Fort Shafter Flats Drainage Improvements Traffic Management Plan</li><li>• Kapa'a Light Industrial Park (Oahu)</li><li>• Stryker Brigade Combat Team Facilities at MCBH</li><li>• Onizuka Space Center Museum at Keahole Airport</li><li>• Hyatt Regency Master Plan (Kaanapali)</li><li>• Target (Salt Lake)</li><li>• Puunene Avenue-Mokulele Highway Widening</li><li>• UH West Hawaii Campus</li><li>• Oahu Commercial Harbors 2020 Master Plan</li><li>• NMFS Honolulu Laboratory Renewal</li><li>• Pico-Union Neighborhood Traffic Protection Plan (Los Angeles)</li><li>• American Dental Association Convention Traffic Management Plan (Honolulu)</li><li>• Lions Clubs International Convention Traffic Management Plan (Honolulu)</li><li>• First Hawaiian International Auto Show Traffic Management Plan</li><li>• No. 1 Capital District Building Traffic Impact Analysis</li><li>• China - U.S. Center Traffic Impact Analysis (Hilo)</li></ul>
1995	<p>Parsons Engineering Science, Inc., Honolulu, Hawaii Senior Traffic Engineer - Responsibilities included business development in the areas of traffic engineering and transportation planning and coordination of traffic studies with other disciplines and offices. Manager of traffic engineering projects conducted by the Honolulu office. Manager of traffic engineering projects conducted by the Honolulu office, including traffic studies for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hawaii Convention Center Traffic Analysis</li><li>• Walmart Traffic Impact Study, Waialakea, Hilo, Hawaii</li></ul>
1989 to 1995	<p>Barton-Aschman Associates, Inc., Honolulu, Hawaii Principal Associate - Manager of the Honolulu office and project director for all projects conducted in that office. Served as Project Manager on the following representative projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Castle Junction Interchange Study</li><li>• Aloha Tower Traffic Study</li><li>• Maui Business Park, Phase 2, Kahului, Maui</li><li>• Maui Lu Traffic Study, Kihei, Maui</li><li>• Makena Resort Master Plan Traffic Impact Study</li><li>• Kona Coast Resort TIS and Ali'i Drive Design, Kona</li><li>• Kahului Town Center TIAR and Basis of Design Study, Kahului, Maui</li><li>• Aloha Tower Traffic Impact Studies, Honolulu</li><li>• Traffic and Parking Studies for Honolulu International Airport</li><li>• Traffic and Parking Study for Guam International Airport Expansion</li><li>• Construction Traffic Management Plan for Honolulu International Airport</li></ul>

- 1984 to 1989 **Barton-Aschman Associates, Inc., Pasadena, CA**  
**Senior Associate** - Performed traffic impact and parking studies in California, Hawai'i, Arizona, and Nevada. Representative projects include:
- General Telephone Co. HQ Traffic Study, Thousand Oaks, CA
  - Citywide Traffic Impact Mitigation Fee Study, Carlsbad, CA
  - Ave. R/Ave. S Corridor and Impact Fee Study, Palmdale, CA
  - HUSITE Transportation Planning Study, Las Vegas, NV
  - CBD Redevelopment Transportation Study, Las Vegas, NV
  - Harbor Gateway Transportation Study, Los Angeles, CA
  - West Hollywood City-wide Parking Study, West Hollywood, CA
  - Hollywood Parking Study, Los Angeles, CA
  - Tucson Mall/Tucson Place Traffic Study, Tucson, AZ
- 1982 to 1984 **Department of Transportation, Beverly Hills, CA**  
**City Traffic Engineer and Assistant Director of Transportation** - Beverly Hills, CA - Responsibilities included the day-to-day operations of the engineering and parking sections of the DOT; review of all traffic impact studies submitted to the City; installation and maintenance of traffic signals; independently conducting traffic studies for City projects; and implementation of the City's street and alley lighting program, public shuttle bus programs, and Street Master Plan.
- 1980 to 1982 **Wilbur Smith and Associates, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia & Hong Kong**  
**Project Design Engineer** - Conducted traffic studies and prepared preliminary geometric plans for 11 interchanges along the Jitra-Butterworth Toll Road in Malaysia. Subsequently prepared final plans for the interchanges. In Hong Kong, prepared plans for a new interchange connecting mainland China with Hong Kong.
- 1978 to 1980 **Wilbur Smith and Associates, Lexington, Kentucky**  
**Project Design Engineer** - Prepared plans and specs for the following:
- Main Street Interchange, Lexington, KY
  - Edgewood Boulevard, Lansing, MI
  - I-40/I-640 Interchange, Knoxville, TN
  - Kenwood Subdivision, Lexington, KY
- 1974 to 1978 **Wilbur Smith and Associate, Los Angeles, CA**  
**Senior Transportation Planner** - Major projects worked on were:
- Walt Disney World Transportation Study, Orlando, Florida
  - City-Wide Circulation Study, Santa Maria, California
  - San Gabriel Valley Transit Study for SCRTRD, Los Angeles, CA
  - West Los Angeles Transit Study for SCRTRD, Los Angeles, CA
- 1974 to 1974 **Wilbur Smith and Associates, Columbia, SC**  
**Design Engineer** - Representative projects include:
- South Mountain Retirement Resort, Burke County, NC
  - Waccamaw Plantation, Waccamaw, SC
  - Monroe Downtown Redevelopment Project, Monroe, NC
  - Seaboard Park Redevelopment Project, Columbia, SC
- 1971 to 1972 **Civil Engineering Department, Clemson University, Clemson, SC**  
**Graduate Teaching Assistant** - Graduate teaching assistant in the Civil Engineering Department. Classes included transportation planning and traffic engineering.

# Rowland Reeve, M.A.

Etia

reeve@pacificlegacy.com

## Project Director

### Summary of Qualifications

Mr. Reeve has worked in the field of archaeology for 38 years (1974-present). He has conducted archaeological investigations in Hawaii and the Solomon Islands, as well as being involved in projects in Australia, Southeast Asia, Central and South America, and Europe. Mr. Reeve has been a Visiting Researcher at the Australian National University and held the post of Provincial Archaeologist for the Western Solomon Islands Government. His experience in Hawaiian archaeology includes all aspects of field investigation. He has directed and participated in reconnaissance surveys, inventory survey and testing, and data recovery excavations on O`ahu, Hawai`i, Maui, Moloka`i and Kaho`olawe. Mr. Reeve is also experienced in conducting archival research and oral history interviews. He has researched and prepared reports on Hawaiian place names and traditional places for the National Park Service and the Kaho`olawe Island Conveyance Commission. Mr. Reeve has worked closely with Native Hawaiian groups and is familiar with both federal and state historic preservation laws. Mr. Reeve is course certified in *Introduction to Section 106* (National Preservation Institute, 2012), and *NAGPRA and ARPA: Applications and Requirements* (National Preservation Institute, 2012). He is certified (40-hr HAZWOPER) to work at sites where hazardous waste/materials are of concern.

### Education

M.A., Archaeology, Institute of Archaeology, University of London, 1980  
B.A., Anthropology, Dartmouth College, 1977

### Recent Key Projects

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 2011-2012 | Prepared the Historic Preservation Plan and Burial Treatment Plan for a 25 acre Historic Preserve in the <i>ahupua`a</i> of Keahuolu, district of North Kona on the island of Hawai`i. This project was supported in part by federal funding and involved consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Protection Act.  |
| 2012      | Project Supervisor for an archaeological reconnaissance survey of 235 acres of Kamehameha Schools lands located within the <i>‘ili</i> of Honohonou in the South Hilo District on the windward side of the island of Hawai`i. The survey identified a total of 26 archaeological sites, both pre and post-Contact. Among the sites documented were traditional fishponds, residence sites, and a possible burial monument or small shrine.   |
| 2012      | Project Supervisor for the archaeological inventory survey of 68 acres in the valley of Waipi`o in the district of Hamakua on the windward coast of the island of Hawai`i. The survey identified a total of 33 archaeological sites located throughout the 68 acre property. These sites included both agricultural and residential structures, as well as a high walled enclosure that may have served as a historic corral, and a possible pre-Contact ceremonial enclosure.                       |
| 2011      | Project Supervisor for the archaeological inventory survey of 700 acres of Queen Lili`uokalani Trust lands in the <i>ahupua`a</i> of Keahuolu, district of North Kona on the island of Hawai`i. In addition to numerous surface archaeological structures that included habitation sites, ceremonial structures and petroglyph fields, the survey also revealed a number of subsurface lava tubes, some of which were found to contain human remains.  |
| 2010      | Project Supervisor for the archaeological inventory survey of a 25 acre Historic Preserve in the <i>ahupua`a</i> of Keahuolu, district of North Kona on the island of Hawai`i. The survey was undertaken to fully document the archaeological resources present within the 25 acres, and to provide information that could be used in developing a preservation plan for the Preserve. The survey resulted in the recording of 96 archaeological sites containing a total of 489 component features. |
| 2010      | Project Supervisor for archaeological data recovery along the southern   |

- end of the proposed Ane Keohokālole Highway Corridor in the district of North Kona on the island of Hawai'i. Sizeable areal excavations carried out at both traditional Hawaiian habitation and agricultural structures revealed much about the chronology and use of the project area during the pre-Contact period.
- 2009 Project Supervisor for the archaeological reassessment and geographic positioning system mapping of previously identified sites within a 546 acre portion of inland Keahuolū, South Kona on the island of Hawai'i. The survey relocated and documented 31 previously recorded archaeological sites and discovered 16 additional sites. The survey was undertaken to assist the Queen Lili'uokalani Trust in planning development of the property.
- 2009 Project Supervisor for an archaeological inventory survey of 353 acre property in coastal Makalawena, Kona on the island of Hawai'i. The survey identified 236 archaeological structures ranging from pre-contact Hawaiian residential structures to historic corrals. The survey was undertaken for Belt Collins Hawai'i on behalf of the Kamehameha Schools.
- 2009 Project Supervisor for the archaeological inventory survey of a 628 acre parcel in coastal Keahuolū, Kona on the island of Hawai'i. The survey revealed the presence of 322 archaeological structures, including the remains of pre-contact Hawaiian house complexes and possible religious structures. Test excavations conducted at several residential structures yielded a range of traditional artifacts as well as various food remains providing information on the diet of the early residents of coastal Keauhou. The survey was undertaken for the Queen Lili'uokalani Trust.
- 2009 Project Supervisor for an archaeological inventory survey of the southern portion of the proposed Ane Keohokalole Highway. This section of the highway corridor contained numerous traditional Hawaiian agricultural and residential sites, which were mapped and documented. Test excavations conducted at several sites yielded abundant cultural remains. The inventory survey was undertaken for Belt Collins Hawai'i to assist both State and Federal Highways in the planning of the proposed Ane Keohokalole Highway.
- 2009 Project Supervisor for an archaeological reconnaissance survey of the Keahuolū Archaeological Preserve in Kona on the island of Hawai'i. Numerous archaeological sites were identified within the preserve area. These included pre-contact Hawaiian residential complexes, religious sites, human burials, and an extensive but informal traditional agricultural field system. The survey was undertaken at the request of Queen Lili'uokalani Trust to help determine the components and boundaries of the Keahuolū Archaeological Preserve.
- 2008 Project Supervisor for an archaeological reconnaissance survey of a 110 acre property in the *ahupua'a* of Kealia I in South Kona on the island of Hawai'i. The survey revealed the presence of an extensive pre-contact agricultural system consisting of walled fields, trails and associated residential structures. The survey was undertaken for Kamehameha Schools to assist them in determining the location of a logging road.
- 2008 Project Supervisor for the archaeological assessment and geographic positioning of sites within the proposed University of Hawaii West Hawaii Campus in the district of Kona on the island of Hawai'i. GPS (geographic positioning system) equipment was used to more accurately locate previously recorded archaeological sites within a large lava tube complex that extended across the property. The work was undertaken to assist Wil Chee Planning in preparing an Environmental Assessment for the State of Hawaii.



# Rowland Reeve, M.A.

Errd

reeve@pacificlegacy.com

## Project Director

- 2007-2008 Project Supervisor for archaeological survey and data recovery conducted along the Proposed Main Street Road at the University of Hawaii West Hawaii Campus in Kona on the island of Hawai'i. The survey revealed the presence of a petroglyph cluster, as well as stone structures situated within a large lava tube. Excavations at one structure within the tube, the only feature scheduled to be impacted by road construction, revealed that it did not contain a human burial. The survey and excavations were conducted for Mitsunage and Associates.
- 2004-2008 Project Supervisor for the monitoring and mitigation of archaeological sites during ordnance clearance and removal operations within the Former Waikoloa Maneuver Area, district of South Kohala on the island of Hawai'i. The former maneuver area was utilized as a U.S. Marine Corps live fire training range during the Second World War. Investigations involved the survey of over 7,900 acres, and the documentation of 1,520 archaeological sites. Sites ranged from traditional Hawaiian dwellings and agricultural fields to the World War II era Marine base of Camp Tarawa. All sites were monitored to ensure that they were not disturbed by the ordnance clearance activities undertaken at the request of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District.
- 2008 Project Supervisor for the archaeological inventory survey of an agricultural property located along the slopes above Kealakekua Bay on the island of Hawaii. The survey revealed the presence of pre-contact stone house foundations, as well as stacked stone mounds that may contain human burials.
- 2007 Project Supervisor for the archaeological inventory survey of a segment of the Mud Lane Road Corridor within the district of Hamakua, island of Hawai'i. Survey and test excavations were conducted along the route of the historic era road corridor. Excavations revealed the presence of a buried pavement that proved to be a cobbled road bed constructed sometime in the 1920s or 30s to provide vehicle access to the nearby sugar mill at Kukuihaele.
- 2007 Project Supervisor for archaeological assessment survey of a 25 acre Department of Hawaiian Home Lands property at Waiakea, South Hilo, island of Hawai'i. The property, adjacent to the Hilo Airport, had formed part of the Hilo Naval Air Station during the Second World War. World War II era building foundations were identified and documented during the survey, which was conducted to assist PBR Hawaii in preparing an Environmental Assessment of the property.
- 2005-2007 Supervised archaeological monitoring of construction activities at the Shores at Kohanaiki, a 450 acre residential development on the Kona coast of the island of Hawai'i. Several human burials were discovered during construction and their in-situ preservation was coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Division and the Hawaii Island Burial Council.
- 2005-2008 Project Supervisor for the archaeological monitoring of road widening along a stretch of the Queen Ka'ahumanu Highway near Kailua, Kona on the island of Hawai'i. Construction activities related to the highway widening exposed a number of subterranean lava tubes which were investigated and found not to contain human burials. The monitoring was undertaken for Hawaiian Dredging at the request of State Highways.

## Professional Employment

- 2004 - Present Senior Archaeological Supervisor for Pacific Legacy, Inc. Management of all archaeological projects conducted on the island of Hawai'i.
- 2002-2004 Supervisory Archaeologist, International Archeological Research Institute Inc. Maui, Hawai'i. Conducted survey and excavation of archeological

## Project Director

sites resting within the boundaries of the Kipahulu section of Haleakala National Park.

Freelance Writer and Photographer in Bangkok, Thailand. Traveled throughout East and Southeast Asia writing and photographing.

- 2000-2002 Historic Preservation Quality Control Manager for the Kaho'olawe Island Ordnance Clearance Project. Provided oversight for all archaeological work being conducted on the island during unexploded ordnance removal operations undertaken for the U.S. Navy by Parsons/UXB Joint Venture.
- 1993-2000 Independent researcher, editor, and author publishing scholarly articles and books, including the book titled: *Kaho'olawe: Na Leo O Kanaloa*. Also participating in preparing the museum exhibits titled: *Kaho'olawe: Ke Aloha Kupa'a I Ka 'Aina* (Steadfast Love of the Land) and *Kaho'olawe: Rebirth of a Sacred Island*.
- 1991-1993 Contracted by the federally appointed Kaho'olawe Island Conveyance Commission to research and prepare reports on the traditional places and place names of the island of Kaho'olawe.
- 1988-1980 Research Associate for University Kebangsaan, Malaysia and Northern Territory Museum of Australia. Collaborated with local archaeologists in the excavation of a 1st century A.D. village site in coastal mangrove swamps in Perak, Malaysia. Participated in the excavation of a 20,000 year old cave site in the MacDonal Ranges of Central Australia.
- 1987-1988 Provincial Archaeologist, Western Province Government, Solomon Islands. Established a regional archaeology program and instructed local trainees in the art of surveying ancient sites and recording oral traditions.
- 1985-1986 Archaeologist for Operation Raleigh (Solomon Islands and Honduras) and the Ecuadorian Government. Surveyed and recorded oral traditions of ancient sites lying within the Mase valley on the island of New Georgia, Solomon Islands. Survey of pre-Columbian sites on Mosquito Coast. Excavation of a pre-Columbian religious site on the Ecuadorian coast.
- 1980-1982 Excavation Supervisor for Bernice P. Bishop Museum. Supervised the survey and excavation of indigenous Hawaiian sites of Waimea on the island of Hawaii.
- 1979-1980 Archaeologist for Mary Rose Trust as well as Scottish and French Governments. Underwater excavation of the wreck of Henry VIII's flagship, the Mary Rose. Excavation of a Neolithic settlement and agricultural site on the island of Westray. Excavation of two Paleolithic cave sites within the Dordogne river valley.
- 1977-1978 Archaeologist for Bernice P. Bishop Museum. Participated in various archaeological surveys and excavations conducted throughout the Hawaiian chain.

## Selected Reports Publications & Accomplishments

- 1999 A Piece of Kaho'olawe Comes Home. In *Honolulu Magazine*.
- 1998 Kaho'olawe: An Archaeological Landscape. In *Preserving Hawai'i's Traditional Landscapes*.

# Rowland Reeve, M.A.

Emd

reeve@pacificlegacy.com

## Project Director

- 1996 To Preserve An Island. In the *Approaches to Heritage* issue of *Cultural Resource Management*, a publication of the National Park Service.
- 1995 *Kaho`olawe: Na Leo O Kanaloa*. 'Ai Pohaku Press.
- 1991 *Sharks Hawai'i*. Co-author, Bernice P. Bishop Museum Press.
- 1990 Pulau Kulit Kerang: Islands in the Sea of Time. In *Wings of Gold*.
- 1990 The Early History of the Western Province: Results of Recent Investigations. In *'O'O: A Journal of Solomon Island Studies*.
- 1989 Recent Work on the Prehistory of the Western Solomons, Melanesia. In the *Indo-Pacific Prehistory Association Bulletin*.
- 1983 Archaeological Investigations in Section 3. In *Investigations of the Mudland-Waimea-Kawaihae Road Corridor, Island of Hawai'i*. Bernice P. Bishop Museum.

## Additional Publications and Experience

Author, co-author or contributor to numerous technical reports and professional presentations. Mr. Reeve is also an experienced archaeological photographer whose images have appeared in numerous exhibits and publications. These include *Legacy in Stone*, the Hawai'i State Department of Land and Natural Resources Calendar for 2001. His photographs are in the collection of the Hawai'i State Foundation of Culture and the Arts.

## Professional Affiliations & Memberships

Society for Hawaiian Archaeology

**DENNIS I. HIROTA, PhD, PE, LPLS**

**EMPLOYER**

President, Sam O. Hirota, Inc. 1986-Present  
 Executive VP 1971-1986  
 USAF (Capt) 1968-1971

**YEARS OF EXPERIENCE**

41

**EDUCATION**

Diploma Punahou School 1958  
 BS (CE) University of Michigan 1963 Civil Engineering  
 MS (CE) University of Michigan 1964 Sanitary Engineering  
 PhD (CE) University of Michigan 1970 Civil Engineering

**ACTIVE REGISTRATION**

Civil Engineering 1973 Hawaii #3377  
 Land Surveying 1997 Hawaii #9141  
 Land Court 2004 Hawaii #289

**EXPERIENCE/QUALIFICATIONS**

**Professional Qualifications**  
 Active duty military civil engineering officer experience  
 35 years of practical Pacific military, federal project experience  
 Principal in Charge for 10 federal design/build/REP projects

**University of Hawaii.** Dr. Hirota has served as Regent for the University of Hawaii (2008-2012), Director, Research Corporation of UH (2009-2012), Ex-Officio Member, Board of the Office of Mauna Kea Managment (2009-2012), Regent member, UHawaii Steering Committee for Thiry Meter Telescope (2009-2012).

**Smithsonian Institution SMA Base Facility, Hilo, Hawaii (2001-2003)** Civil engineering and surveying services were provided for the design of a new astronomy base facility located at the University of Hawaii Hilo Research Technology Park. The building houses offices and laboratories to support the activities and personnel at the Science Group's Sub-millimeter Array (SMA) antennas project on the summit of Mauna Kea. **2004 AIA Award of Excellence** Engineering Cost \$500,000 (Principal Civil Engineering)

**Punahou School Kindergarten and First Grade, Honolulu, Hawaii (2008).** Civil engineering services were provided for the Kindergarten and First Grade Facilities, Roadway and Parking. This facility included spaces for administration, learning, music, art, drama, chapel, gathering, physical education and play. This project consists of 5 buildings and renovation of 3-story Wilcox Hall of approximately 22,000 sq ft. Civil engineering services included site investigation, site layout plan, site grading plan, erosion control plan, NPDES Permit, specifications, and construction services. This project obtained LEED Platinum Certification. As part of the LEED Platinum Certification, multiple LID techniques were used including: rainwater harvesting, bioswales, and permeable pavements.

**Army Residential Communities Initiative (RCI) 6 Army Bases, Coast Guard, Oahu, Hawaii (2004-2012)** Civil Engineer of Record for infrastructure design documents as Infrastructure Engineering Consultant team leader with design/builder Actus Lend Lease. Work includes design document preparation for utilities, grading, roads, and walk-ways. Aerial mapping of all Army bases on Oahu (approximately 2,000 acres). Construction Cost \$1,700,000,000 Engineering Construction Cost \$400,000,000



**Sam O. Hirota, Inc.**



**Connections Public Charter School  
Special Permit Application (12-000138)  
Table of Exhibits**

March 2008	Connections received approval in principal from BLNR	1
June 2009 to present	Community meetings and community input	2
October 2010	Office of Environmental Quality Control issues a Finding of No Significant Impact for the project	3
January 2011	BLNR issues unanimous approve of D-4 "issuance of Direct Lease to Connections"	4
April 11, 2012	Transmittal of Metes and Bounds description to DLNR (payment of publication)	5
May 1, 2012	Public Notice of Direct Lease	6
July 18, 2012	Connections request status of Lease Agreement to DLNR	7
July 18, 2012	Connection request of Right-of-Entry DLNR	8
July 14 -30, 2012	Connection is a victim of company's gross negligence; Connections files Police Report of property damage and theft	9
August 1, 2012	Cease and desist letter to company	10
August 15, 2012	DLNR Notice of Cease and Desist to Connections	11
August 17, 2012	Connections acknowledges DLNR Notice of Cease and Desist	12
August 31, 2012	Complaint files of Office of Regulated Industries	13
August 31, 2012	Grading Violation Issued by the Department of Public Works	14
October 18, 2012	Vandalism at Connection Charter School	15
November 2, 2012	Supplemental Kaumana Cave Report from Rowland Reeves, Archeologist	16



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
Land Division  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

March 28, 2008

Board of Land and Natural Resources  
State of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii

PSF No.: 08HD-018

HAWAII

Approval in Principle of Direct Lease to Connections New  
Century Public Charter School for School Purposes, Kaumana,  
Hawaii, Tax Map Key: (3) 2-5-6:141.

APPLICANT:

Connections New Century Public Charter School, whose business and  
mailing address is 174 Kamehameha Avenue, Hilo, Hawaii 96720.

LEGAL REFERENCE:

Section 171-95(a)(2) and 95.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as  
amended.

LOCATION:

Government lands situated at Ponahawai, Kaumana, Kukuau 2nd,  
South Hilo, Hawaii, identified by Tax Map Key: (3) 2-5-6:141, as  
shown on the attached map labeled Exhibit A.

AREA:

72.43 acres, more or less.

ZONING:

State Land Use District:                   Agriculture  
County of Hawaii CZO:                    A-1A

TRUST LAND STATUS:

Section 5(b) lands of the Hawaii Admission Act  
DHHL 30% entitlement lands pursuant to the Hawaii State  
Constitution: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO   x  

CURRENT USE STATUS:

Vacant.

Encumbered by Grant of Non-Exclusive Easement bearing Land Office Deed No. S-28322, GTE Hawaiian Telephone Co. Inc., for telephone circuit facilities purposes.

Encumbered by Grant of Non-Exclusive Easement bearing Land Office Deed No. S-28353, GTE Hawaiian Telephone Co. Inc., for telephone transmission purposes.

CHARACTER OF USE:

School purposes.

LEASE TERM:

Sixty-five (65) years

COMMENCEMENT DATE:

The first day of the month to be determined by the Chairperson.

ANNUAL RENT:

To be determined upon final submittal to the Land Board upon satisfactory compliance with Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended.

METHOD OF PAYMENT:

Semi-annual payments, in advance.

RENTAL REOPENINGS:

To be determined upon final submittal to the Land Board upon satisfactory compliance with Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended.

PERFORMANCE BOND:

Twice the annual rental amount.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS:

Utilities - utilities are available.

Slope - 4% to 6%

Elevation - 725-900 ft.

Rainfall - 193.2 inches per year.

SCS Soil Series - Lava flows, pahoehoe.

Land Study Bureau - D3C0 has a productivity rating of "c" for grazing, "d" for sugarcane and orchard and "e" for vegetables and forage.

Legal access to property - Staff has verified that there is legal access to the property off of Kaumana Drive and Edita Street.

Subdivision - Staff has verified that the subject property is a



legally subdivided lot.

Encumbrances - Staff has verified that the following encumbrances exist on the property: Grant of Non-Exclusive Easement bearing Land Office Deed No. S-28322, GTE Hawaiian Telephone Co. Inc., for telephone circuit facilities purposes and Grant of Non-Exclusive Easement bearing Land Office Deed No. S-28353, GTE Hawaiian Telephone Co. Inc., for telephone transmission purposes.

CHAPTER 343 - ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

This is a request for the Land Board's approval in principle of a lease to Connections New Century Public Charter School and for Connections New Century Public Charter School to comply with Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended.

DCCA VERIFICATION:

Place of business registration confirmed:	YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO	<input type="checkbox"/>
Registered business name confirmed:	YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO	<input type="checkbox"/>
Applicant in good standing confirmed:	YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO	<input type="checkbox"/>

APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS:

Applicant shall be required to:

- 1) Prepare and process, at its own cost, all necessary studies and documentation for compliance with Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended.

REMARKS:

The subject property is currently vacant. Besides 2 easements, we have no records of any past dispositions.

The current zoning is agriculture. The proposed use is allowed.

Applicant qualifies for a direct lease pursuant to Section 171-95(a)(2) and 95.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended. Charter signed by Governor, Chairperson of the Board of Education and Superintendent of Education on May 5, 2000.

The school is in the process of hiring a consultant to prepare the environmental assessment, and if necessary, any other approvals. The site plan for the property is still in the early stages of development. The educational facility that the school envisions requires learning environments that support curiosity, as well as literacy. The future campus is to be built with a focus on creating an environment that is personalized, learning-focused, collaborative, connected to the community and adaptable and flexible. The authors of Architecture for Achievement: Building Patterns for Small School Learning define 26 design "patterns" in creating buildings that are "in harmony with geography, climate, context, and the culture of place." The

patterns, listed below, are grouped according to their primary focus:

Personalized  
Human Scale  
Greeting and Gatekeeping  
Wayfinding and Streetscapes  
Distributed Resources  
Safety  
Lifelong Fitness

Collaborative  
Clusters of Learning  
Gathering Spaces  
Professional Work Areas

Community-Connected  
Siting in Context  
Community Resources

Learning-Focused  
Signature  
Display  
Transparency  
Varied Spaces  
Studios and Specialty Labs  
Presentation  
Integrated Technology  
Indoor/Outdoor Connections  
Optimal Light  
Acoustic Balance

Adaptable and Flexible  
Multi-Use Classrooms  
Learning Supports  
(Furniture and Storage)  
Flexible Boundaries  
Adaptable Utilities  
Living Buildings

Applicant has not had a lease, permit, easement or other disposition of State lands terminated within the last five years due to non-compliance with such terms and conditions.

If Land Board approval in principal is obtained, the Connections New Century Public Charter School will pursue compliance with Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended and incorporate agencies and community comments.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board:

1. Approve in principle, a new direct lease to Connections New Century Public Charter School, subject to the following:
  - A. At its own cost Connections New Century Public Charter School shall pursue satisfactory compliance with Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended, and obtain a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) within twenty-four (24) months of the Land Board's approval;
  - B. Should Connections New Century Public Charter School fail to obtain satisfactory compliance with Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended, within twenty-four (24) months, the Land Board's approval shall be considered rescinded;
  - C. Connections New Century Public Charter School acknowledges the following:
    - 1) All costs associated with the necessary compliance

with Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended, shall be borne by Connections New Century Public Charter School;

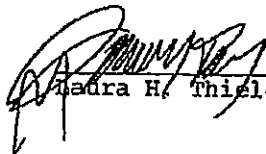
- ii) That this action is an approval in principle and does not provide any assurance of a direct lease and such approval of a direct lease shall be subject to consideration by the Land Board under a separate action after satisfactorily complying with Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended;
  - iii) That there has been no representations or assurance made regarding the annual rent to be paid under a direct lease. Connections New Century Public Charter School agrees to provide a proposal for rent and justification for such rent in connection with the Land Board's final consideration of a direct lease after satisfactorily compliance with Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended.
- D. Such other terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Chairperson to best serve the interests of the State.

Respectfully Submitted,

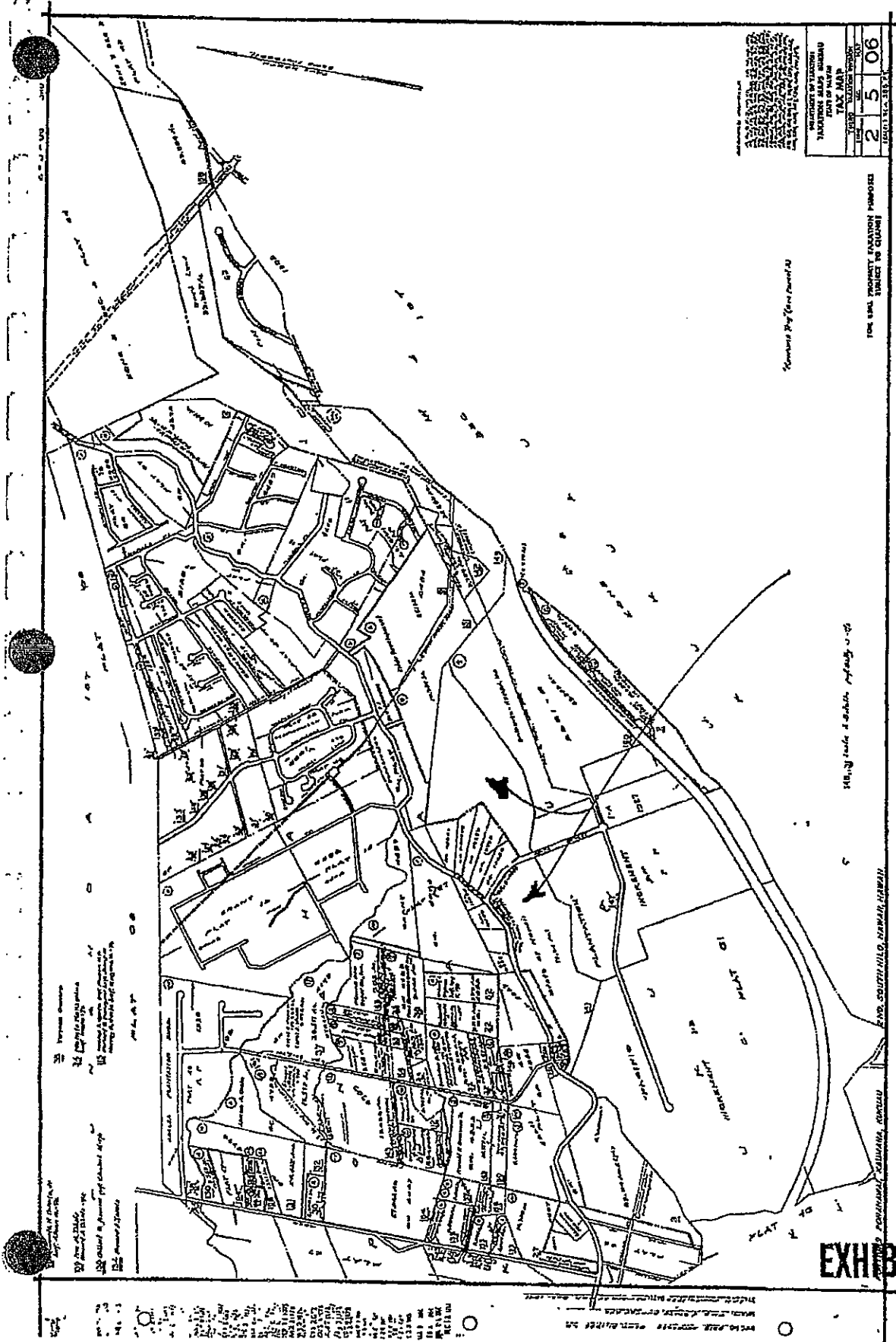


Charlene E. Unoki  
Assistant Administrator

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:



Sandra H. Thiel, Chairperson



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FOR SMALL PROPERTY, PARAVATION PURPOSES  
(SUBJECT TO CHANGES)

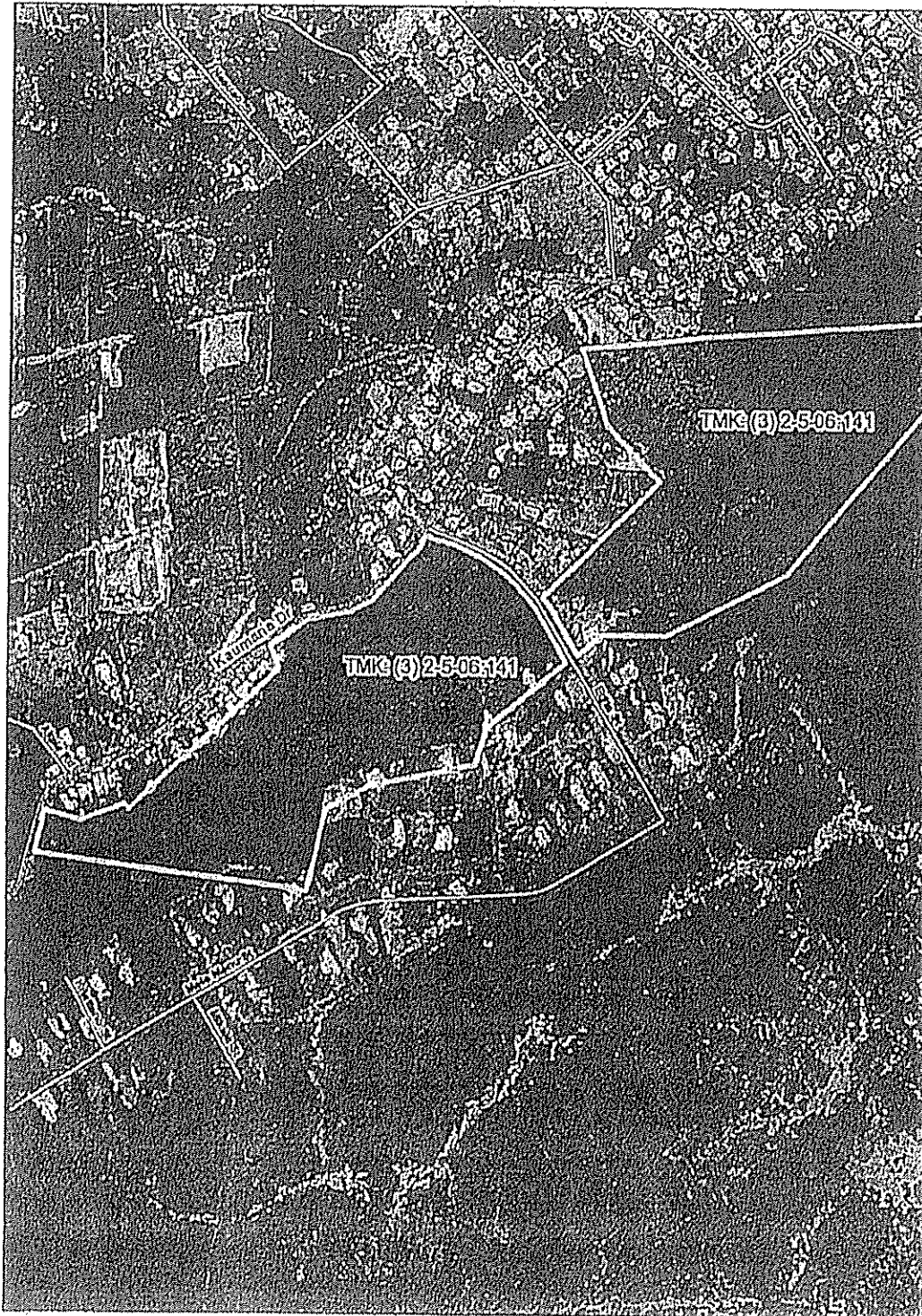
Copyright © 1995 Tarrant County, Texas

2000 Tarrant County, Texas

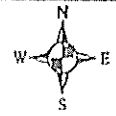
2000 TARRANT COUNTY, TEXAS

EXHIBIT "A"

# Kaumana Parcel



0 230 460 920 1,380 1,840 Feet



RECEIVED  
APPLICATION

APPLICATION AND QUALIFICATION QUESTIONNAIRE

(Non-Profit)

Write answers in the spaces provided. Attach additional sheets as necessary, clearly indicating the applicable section number.

Part I: General Information

1. Applicant's legal name: Connections New Century Public Charter School
2. Applicant's full mailing address:  
174 Kamehameha Ave.  
Hilo, HI 96720
3. Name of contact person: John Thatcher  
Contact person Phone No.: 808-935-2395 Fax No.: 808-961-2665
4. Applicant is interested in the following parcel:  
Tax Map Key No.: (3) 2-5-6:141 Location: Kaumana in Hilo  
If Applicant is current lessee: General Lease No.: \_\_\_\_\_
5. When was Applicant incorporated? chartered in 2000
6. Attach the following:
  - A. Articles of Incorporation
  - B. Bylaws
  - C. List of the non-profit agency's Board of Directors
  - D. IRS 501(c)(3) or (c)(1) status determination
  - E. Tax clearances from State of Hawaii and respective county Real Property Tax Office.
  - F. Audited financial statements for the last three years. If not audited, explain why.  
If Applicant is a new start-up, attach projected capital and operating budgets.
  - G. Any program material which describes eligibility requirements or other requirements to receive services

Part II: Qualification

7. Is Applicant registered to do business in Hawaii: Yes

8. Has Applicant received tax exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service? Yes
9. Is Applicant licensed or accredited in accordance with federal, State or county statutes, rules, ordinances, to conduct the proposed activities? Yes

List all such licenses and accreditations required: Charter signed by Governor, Chairperson of the Board of Education and Superintendent of Education

10. Is Applicant in default or otherwise not in good standing with any State (e.g. POS agency, DCCA, DLNR, etc.)? No

If yes, explain:

11. Has Applicant had a State of Hawaii lease, permit, license, easement or sale in fee cancelled within the last five years? If yes, list: No

<u>Doc. No.</u>	<u>Type of Agreement</u>	<u>Term of Agreement</u>

12. Does Applicant have any policies which discriminate against anyone on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex or physical handicap? No

If yes, explain:

13. Has Applicant received funding from a federal, State, or county government agency, the Aloha United Way, and/or a major private foundation within the last three years? Please list all such contracts below: Yes

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Contract Term</u>	<u>Contract Amount</u>
<u>State of Hawaii per pupil allocation</u>	<u>2005-2006 school year</u>	<u>\$1,886,046.00</u>
<u>Federal Title I</u>	<u>2005-2006 school year</u>	<u>\$83,447.00</u>
<u>Federal Impact Aid</u>	<u>2005-2006 school year</u>	<u>\$92,475.00</u>
<u>State of Hawaii per pupil allocation</u>	<u>2006-2007 school year</u>	<u>\$2,435,250.00</u>
<u>Federal Title I</u>	<u>2006-2007 school year</u>	<u>\$73,673.00</u>

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Contract Term</u>	<u>Contract Amount</u>
<u>Federal Impact Aid</u>	<u>2006-2007 school year</u>	<u>\$85,246.00</u>
<u>State of Hawaii per pupil allocation</u>	<u>2007-2008 school year</u>	<u>\$2,925,789.00</u>
<u>Federal Title I</u>	<u>2007-2008 school year</u>	<u>\$15,000 (to 1/25/08)</u>
<u>Federal Impact Aid</u>	<u>2007-2008 school year</u>	<u>\$97,558.00</u>

14. If Applicant has not received funding from a federal, State or county government agency, the Aloha United Way and/or a major private foundation during the past three years, describe Applicant's qualifications to effectively perform the proposed services, including but not limited to, grants or subsidies received from non-major, private funders and/or staff or Board members who possess significant experience in Applicant's service field.
- 

Part III: Program Activities and Persons to be Served

15. What activities will be conducted on the premises to be leased?

K-12 educational program as defined in chartering document

16. What are the specific objectives of these activities?

Vision: To establish and sustain a community, business, and learning 'ohana (family). Within this framework, inquiry and project-based curricula will stress independent thinking, development of the individual's mind and talents, cooperative learning, sense of self within the neighborhood and the world-wide community with particular attention to the precious and unique environment of Hawaii, both as an island ecology and a place where ethnic diversity is the norm.

Mission: Our mission is to create an 'ohana which is conducive to the recognition and development of individual talents. Thematic and experiential learning experiences are provided which focus on how students construct knowledge using creative and critical thinking. A forum



for the development of the ability to recognize and differentiate a quality result or product is offered. Classroom experiences are connected to real life experiences so that students can grow in the understanding of themselves in relation to their community and the world.

Outcomes/goals: Instruction is guided by five powerful student-centered goals. Students demonstrate mastery through exhibitions, successful projects, and demonstrations of content mastery. The focus is on fully informing and preparing students for their future, particularly in fostering careers that sustain the economy on this island.

Goal 1 - Caring, Responsible Community Members: Students shall develop their abilities to become responsible members of a family, work group, or local/global community within the framework of democracy.

Goal 2 - Creative, Critical Thinkers: Students will think creatively, critically, and strategically to make effective decisions, solve problems, and achieve goals in their academic, personal and social lives, in and out of school.

Goal 3 - Effective Communicators: Students will write, speak and listen effectively in a variety of situations for a variety of audiences and purposes.

Goal 4 - Users and Producers of Technology: Student will understand, use, and evaluate technologies as well as produce new innovative uses and applications in a variety of contexts for a variety of audiences and purposes including academic, personal and social.

Goal 5 - Stewards of Hawaii's Unique Environment: Students will understand a variety of eco-systems, natural energy flows and the natural environment in order to preserve and design systems to renew natural resources and habitats.

17. Describe the community need for and the public benefit derived from these activities.

Charter schools are nonsectarian public schools of choice that operate with freedom from many of the regulations that apply to traditional public schools. The "charter" establishing each such school is a performance contract detailing the school's mission, program, goals, students

served, methods of assessment, and ways to measure success. Charter schools are accountable to their sponsor to produce positive academic results and adhere to the charter contract. The basic concept of charter schools is that they exercise increased autonomy in return for this accountability. They are accountable for both academic results and fiscal practices to several groups: the sponsor that grants them, the parents who choose them, and the public that funds them.

18. Describe the targeted population for these activities by: 1) age group, 2) gender, 3) ethnic background, 4) income level, 5) geographic location of residence, 6) special needs/disability, and 7) other applicable characteristic(s).

The school serves families coming from a range of geographical locations on the Big Island. The communities presently served include Hilo extending northward to the Hamakua district and Waimea; upper Puna district to Volcano Village; and the lower Puna district to Pahoa. There are currently 359 students enrolled. The school serves an ethnically and economically diverse population. Ethnically the 2007-2008 student population is as follows in descending order: 35% White, 28% Hawaiian or Part Hawaiian, 15% - Mixed (Other), 4% Portuguese, 4% Hispanic, 4% Japanese, 3% Native American, 3% Filipino, 2% Black, 1% Samoan, 1% Korean, and 1% Chinese. Fifty-five percent of the students receive free or reduced lunches.

Connections has a significant population of students with special needs (12% of total population). Special education students are integrated into the classrooms using an inclusion model. A little over 1% of the students within the school have section 504 accommodations. The school also has a growing ELL (English Language Learner) population.

19. Describe all eligibility requirements of clients to participate in the activities, e.g. age, income level, ethnic background, income level, disability, etc.

None

20. Do you require membership to participate in these activities? Yes

If yes, list the requirements of becoming and remaining a member:

Enrollment in the school

21. How many unduplicated persons will engage in the activities annually?

Activity

Persons Per Year

The population of the school is currently 359 students. The school currently has 52 employees.

22. Is State funding made available for the activities to be conducted on the leased premises? Yes

If yes, by which State agency: The Hawaii State Charter Schools Administrative Office

23. List all activities to be conducted on the leased premises which require payment of excise taxes, e.g. subleasing, sale of products or services. Include an estimate of annual gross revenues from each activity.

None

Development of the Land

24. Describe the proposed site development plan for the property, indicating the location and size of buildings, parking areas, landscaped areas and related uses. Attach sketch of plan if available.

The site plan for the property is still in the early stages of development. The vision has been highly influenced by Randall Fielding an award-winning educational facility planner who specializes in holistic, vision-driven designs for tomorrow's learners. The educational facility that the school envisions requires learning environments that support curiosity, as well as literacy. The school will integrate a new understanding of learning for the 21st century that

extends beyond traditional building solutions. Fortunately, a substantial, readily accessed database of educational architecture over the last decade has resulted in a rapidly emerging language of best practices for planning and designing 21st century schools. The emerging language of educational design supports both the foundational skills of literacy with the demands of a global economy, which require that learners are curious, self-directed, and able to work across platforms. Six aspects of best practice offer essential elements that support the requirements of the school's educational framework:

1. Supporting teaching and learning

2. Maximizing physical comfort and well being

3. Demonstrating environmental responsibility

4. Serving the community

5. Establishing design principles that make buildings work better, last longer, cost less to renovate and maintain, and inspire and adapt to changing needs

6. Applying open, transparent and collaborative processes that allow the school and community to assume ownership of planning and design

25. What improvements to the land do you intend to make and at what cost?

We are in the process of hiring a consultant to prepare the EA (environmental assessment).

That information will be included in the EA.

26. How will the improvements be funded?

Same as #25.

27. Describe all environmental, land use and other permitting requirements which must be met to develop the land as proposed.

EA is needed for the use of State lands. Our consultant during the consultation process with other government agencies, will incorporate any permits/approvals required.

28. Will you be subleasing any portion of the property? If yes, describe the sublease uses:

No

Part V: Notarized Certification

I/We hereby certify that the statements and information contained in this Application and Questionnaire, including all attachments, are true and accurate to the best of my/our knowledge and understand that if any statements are shown to be false or misrepresented, I/we may be disqualified from receiving a lease or my/our lease may be canceled.

John L. Thatcher      Connections Public Charter School  
Applicant Name                      Applicant Name

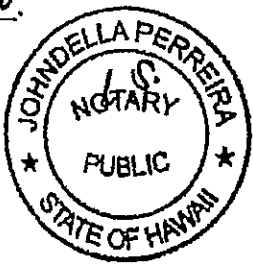
By: John L. Thatcher                      By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: CEO    Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 1/28/08

Subscribed and sworn to before me this  
28 day of January, 2008.

[Signature]  
Notary Public JOHNDELLA PERREIRA




County of: Hawaii

State of: Hawaii

My commission expires: 04/08/2011





**Community Meeting**  
June 3, 2011

Historic Kress Building  
174 Kamehameha Avenue, Hilo

5:00-5:30 p.m. Light Refreshments  
5:30-7:00 p.m. Community Input

Your input is invited regarding *Connections*  
Public Charter School's future campus in  
Kaunana. Please join us.

Special Guests: Wil Chae Planners, Urban  
Works, Mira Image Construction, and  
Shain & Associates

**Connections**  
Public Charter School

[epcs@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:epcs@hawaii.rr.com)  
Call 961-3664 for more information.



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hālau ka'ōkapi*  
**Connections Public Charter School**  
*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

June 6, 2011

Aloha

On behalf of Connections Public Charter School, we would like to sincerely thank you for attending the June 3, 2011 community meeting regarding 'Connections' plans for a future campus. Your input and opinions are greatly appreciated, and will help determine our direction as we move forward with our project.

We will continue to invite the input of the Kaumana Community. If you would like to provide the mailing addresses of neighbors whom we missed in our last mailing, it would be very helpful in reaching a broader Kaumana population.

Again, thank you for attending and for sharing your thoughts.

Sincerely,

Heather McDaniel  
Connections Public Charter School  
Local School Board Chair  
Kaumana Campus Committee



# June 3, 2011 Community Meeting

Input regarding Connections Public Charter School's future campus

Please Print

	Name	Address	email address	Contact #	owner or renter
1	Jan Yokoyama	1300 Kaunama Dr. Hilo			owner
2	MARK CHAN	250 EDIATA ST			owner
3	Patsy Inasaki	232 Edith St			owner
4	Marianne Takemura	250 Edith St.			owner
5	Erika Boyd	25-129 Pukana La St.	E.BOYD@YAHOO.COM		owner
6	Sid + Aileen Fuke	1358C Mele Maui			owner
7	Paul + Sharon Paiva	1169 Kaunama Dr			owner
8	David Miranda	11-3719 Alaohie St Volcano			owner
9	Pam Thatcher	1188 Kaunama Dr.			owner
10	LESTER + JUNE SARAMDES	1439 MELE MAUI ST.			OWNERS
11	John + Gail Kimura	1300 Mele Maui St.			owner
12	Glen + Kathryn Tada	259 Edith St	gtadahi@hotmai.com		owner
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					
19					
20					
21					
22					
23					
24					

Kaumana Community Meeting

Connections Charter School

June 3, 2011

#### Questions, Concerns and Comments

- What is the likelihood of the permit being approved? **We don't know, that is why this meeting is being held so we can find out your concerns**
- Resident concerns: (1) This is the first opportunity you folks have given us to voice our concerns (We advertised in the paper about a meeting 2 years ago) (2) Were the conditions of the land Board met? ( so far they have ) (3) How will you address the change to our quality of life, this is an old neighborhood. (The community will be able to have use of the gymnasium and other ideas can be discussed)
- What about access to the property? There may be access from Puainako extension and the first thing we will do is fence the property.
- If you don't have places for easement then it looks like you won't have it Edita Street and Melemanu will be affected. Traffic was monitored and reported in the EIS. It would be at acceptable levels. It may be recommended to have a dedicated left turn lane on Edita to minimize impact to neighborhood.
- How do you intend on getting for an alternate entrance? Are you Serious? A priority for the school is to get that easement.
- The permitting process is how long? Once County accepts completed application it could be up to 8 months.
- How long does a construction permit last? **A couple of years.**
- What is the estimated cost to the school? **20 Million**
- Where would the funds come from? **Private sources**
- There are already two elementary schools in the area. Where do your students come from? **50% Hilo and 50% Puna**
- Would students from the neighborhood have preference? **Right now an enrollment form is accepted and you are put on the wait list.**
- What are the conditions to get into Connections? **If we have the space.**
- If you have a waitlist and Connections will be a community school, why don't you have just community students?
- Would the community have a say in what is taught at the school? The neighborhood should benefit, if it's in our neighborhood we should have a say. **The Local School Board makes decisions. It is a collaboration based on our charter documents. We have a working relationship with CRDG and are a demonstration site; steel guitars are being made through the Makery program.**

Kaumana Community Meeting  
Connections Charter School  
June 3, 2011

- What measures will be taken that will assure the privacy of the community is maintained? **Fence and monitoring those on campus**
- Do you have the title to the property? **We have been granted a 65 year lease. The Attorney General is working on the documentation.**
- If it is denied what will you do? **agriculture projects**
- John Iida, the architect, commented that we will work to make sure the land is sustainable. The school will be 100 feet from the property line, and use of cisterns, catchment. The project will keep in line with the kinds of things that fit into the area. Raise the buildings off the ground to minimize the impact on the land and Ideas of that sort.
- When will the first building be inhabited? **2013, 2014**
- Will the phases take longer? **It depends on permitting. It could be up to 2017 and the ability to raise the funds.**
- Some residents who were within 500 feet of the proposed school property were not notified ( **Māhānu area**). Will you be notifying them next time? **Yes we will.**
- When would you like to have the question of easement solved ? **Make some progress this summer.**
- I can't give you my support unless I know that the easement (another entrance to property) is a high priority. **We hope to have some questions answered by the end of summer.**
- There are 60 lots with one road to the subdivision and to have a school at the beginning, the traffic and the quality of life will be seriously affected. **What the real concern is the easement.**



**Legend**

- Project Location
- 300-foot Buffer
- 500-foot Buffer
- TMK Parcels
- Agriculture
- Urban



TMK	Owner(s)	Owner's Mailing Address	Street Address of TMK
2-5-006:003	State of Hawaii	N/A	
2-5-006:052	Segawa, Wesley R Segawa, Phyllis E	19 Puuko Street. Hilo, Hawaii 96720	N/A
2-5-006:061	Kidds Development c/o James Pappas, Treasurer	616 Moaniala Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96821	N/A
2-5-006:160	Brilhante-Hawaii, Inc.	1342 Kilauea Avenue Hilo, Hawaii 96720	Puainako Street Ext.
2-5-006:151	Pappas, Marilyn J. Trust	616 Moaniala Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96821	N/A
2-5-061:033	Riley, Randell A	282 Edita Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	282 Edita Street
2-5-061:032	Batailla, Roxanne-Joy Cano	272 Edita Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	272 Edita Street
2-5-061:031	Yamashiro, Lorna Y Yamashiro, Neil	50 Manulele Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	264 Edita Street
2-5-061:029	Iwasaki, Alan Iwasaki, Patsy	232 Edita Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	232 Edita Street
2-5-061:028	Mochida, Ivan S. Trust	77 Kukila Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	224 Edita Street
2-5-061:001	Gomes, Jeffrey, Kalani Gomes, Wendy Keiko	281 Edita Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	281 Edita Street
2-5-061:002	Tada, Glenn K Tada, Karyn N Y	259 Edita Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	259 Edita Street
2-5-061:003	Sakamoto, Ernest A Trust	1416 Pu'u Ale Place Hilo, Hawaii 96720	N/A
2-5-061:012	Akamine, Chun Y Trust	1360-D Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1360 D Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:011	Araujo, Lorrin T Araujo, Margareta	1358-D Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1358 D Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:010	Fuke, Aileen S Fuke, Sidney M	1358 Mele Manu Street, Apt. C Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1358 C Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:013	Shiro, Douglas T	1360 C Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1360 C Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:014	Bevington Family Trust	1360 Mele Manu Street #B Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1360 B Mele Manu Street

2-5-061:017	Camacho, Brenda M K Camacho, David W Jr.	1414-A Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1414 A Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:018	Nishimoto, Nelson N Omoto, Patty Kiyoko	1414 Mele Manu Street, Apt. B Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1414 B Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:019	Novak, Allen L Novak, Layne Y M Ludoff, Elaine L H	1414 C Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1414 C Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:020	Wilhelm, Steve K Wilhelm, Patricia J	1416 C Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1416 C Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:021	Takata, Brice Hiroshi Takata, Christine Leiko	c/o 777 Ainako Avenue Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1416 B Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:030	Chun, Mark Richard Takamiya, Marianne Yasuko	250 Edita Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	250 Edita Street
2-5-061:022	Herzog, Markus 2010 Trust	P.O. Box 5915 Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1416 A Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:041	Mok, TR	1464 Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1464 Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:042	Arzaga, Noemi L Arzaga, Rudy D	1468 Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1468 Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:043	Hudak, Daniel Robert	1488 Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1488 Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:044	Veniatto, Franklin D Veniatto, Virginia L	1500 Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1500 Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:045	Murai, Gary Murai, Jacqueline K	299 A, Alu Road Waialuku, Hawaii 96793	1510 Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:046	Kanahela, Kip Masao Kanahela, Valerie-Ann Leiko	1520 Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1520 Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:106	Brilhante-Hawaii, Inc.	1342 Kilauea Avenue Hilo, Hawaii 96720	Kristiano Street
2-5-061:105	Brilhante-Hawaii, Inc.	1342 Kilauea Avenue Hilo, Hawaii 96720	Kristiano Street
2-5-061:104	Brilhante-Hawaii, Inc.	1342 Kilauea Avenue Hilo, Hawaii 96720	Kristiano Street
2-5-061:103	Brilhante-Hawaii, Inc.	1342 Kilauea Avenue Hilo, Hawaii 96720	Kristiano Street
2-5-061:102	Brilhante-Hawaii, Inc.	1342 Kilauea Avenue Hilo, Hawaii 96720	Kristiano Street

2-5-061:107	Brilhante-Hawaii, Inc.	1342 Kilauea Avenue Hilo, Hawaii 96720	Kristiano Street
2-5-061:049	Truesdell, Joel W Truesdell, Elizabeth French	250 Kristiano Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	250 Kristiano Street
2-5-061:048	Santos, Robert J Tr Santos, Celeste G Tr	1540 Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1540 Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:047	Wilson, Lee Michael Morita Wilson, Adrian Misae Morita	1536 Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1536 Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:068	Kimura, Larry L	243 Mikala Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	243 Mikala Street
2-5-061:069	Ogawa, Glenn Kouchi-Ogawa, Gail H	1495 Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1495 Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:070	Bishop, Michael K/zak, Pamela V Trust Botelho, Lee Uilani	1485 Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1485 Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:071	Yamane, Raymond Iwao Trust	1473 Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1473 Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:072	Yamashita, Gary M Yamashita, Rochelle A	1457 Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1457 Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:073	Iida, Erwin Y Lam-Iida, Julie C Y	1449 Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1449 Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:026	Sakamoto, Lester S Trust	1439 Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1439 Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:025	Ignacio, Michael L Ignacio, Claudia D	1411 Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1411 Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:024	Tokuuke, Jon P Taira-Tokuuke, Patti H	1395 Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1395 Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:016	Shozuya, Eric M Shozuya, Barbara L	1380 Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1380 Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:015	HIHL Melemanu LLC	c/o Dana Kenny Hawaiian Island Homes Ltd 162 Kinoole Street, Ste 201 Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1360 A Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:008	Yokota, Melvin H Yokota, Jan	1358-A Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1358 A Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:009	Kanemoto, Wayne K Trust Kanemoto, Amy Emiko Trust	1358B Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1358 B Mele Manu Street

2-5-061:007	Sugiyama, Bryan Hiroaki Family Trust Kimura, John T TTEE Kimura, Gail K Trust	72 Palua Loop Hilo, Hawaii 96720 1300 Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720 1290 Mele Manu Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	N/A 1300 Mele Manu Street 1290 Mele Manu Street
2-5-061:005	Leong, Kelly / Alyson Y Kakugawa Trust Hirano, Wataru Sano, Phyllis Anne Hirano-Ornizo, Naomi Y Trust Hirano, Shinae various various	235 Edita Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	235 Edita Street Road Road
2-5-061:004			
2-5-061:038			
2-5-061:039			
2-5-061:080	County of Hawaii	25 Aupuni Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	Road
2-5-011:011	Nagai, Masaru/Nancy Trust Nagai, Nancy	1035 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1035 Kaumana Drive
2-5-011:012	Cling, Carroll D Cling, Donnie Faye	1045 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1045 Kaumana Drive
2-5-011:013	Papalimu, Joseph Kaimi Papalimu, Kahiciani Juanita	1053 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1053 Kaumana Drive
2-5-011:014	Fegerstrom, Norma R Fegerstrom, Arnold TR	1065 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1065 Kaumana Drive
2-5-011:015	Crivello, Ronald Anthony Crivello, Loreita Alejandro	1073 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1073 Kaumana Drive
2-5-011:016	Sato, Mark M Sato, Melissa A	P.O. Box 529 Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744	N/A
2-5-011:017	Fegerstrom, Arnold TR	20 Wawal Loop Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1139 Kaumana Drive
2-5-011:018	Rushlow, John Howard	1147 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1147 Kaumana Drive
2-5-011:019	Spencer, Thomas S Trust Spencer, New Tan Dec'd	1110 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1110 Kaumana Drive
2-5-011:020	Wilson, Aiko T Wilson, Cyrus H	1090-A Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1090 Kaumana Drive
2-5-011:038	Carvalho, John G	1131 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	N/A (flume R/W)



2-5-011:039	Carvalho, John G	1131 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1131 Kaumana Drive
2-5-011:043	Correa Family Trust	c/o Barbara Brickwood-Correa 1068 B Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1074 Kaumana Drive
2-5-011:009	Hardenbrook, Christopher Graves Seats, Leslie Elizabeth Sasamura, Theodore Hajime Sasamura, Janet Reiko Leong, Sandra H Sasamura, Craig T	1013 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1013 Kaumana Drive
2-5-011:010		1023 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1023 Kaumana Drive
2-5-011:021	Correa Family Trust	c/o Barbara Brickwood-Correa 1068 B Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1068 Kaumana Drive
2-5-011:022	Correa Family Trust	c/o Barbara Brickwood-Correa 1068 B Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1064 Kaumana Drive
2-5-011:023	Zane, Clifford K S Zane, Linda K O	563 Hillel Place Wailuku, Hawaii 96793	1056 Kaumana Drive
2-5-011:024	Kusch, Matthias Walfrid	P.O. Box 166 Pepeekeo, Hawaii 96783	1040 Kaumana Drive
2-5-011:025	Phillips, William J Jr Sweet-Phillips, Drenna M	1036 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1036 Kaumana Drive
2-5-011:044	Nakano, Sharon Matsuyo Nakano, Owen Tadashi	1005 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1005 Kaumana Drive
2-5-011:048	Hinck, Steven James Hinck, Krystn Lee	4646 Fort Davis Street Simi Valley, California 93063	1058 Kaumana Drive
2-5-011:050	Arruda, Jo Ann R Trust	993 C Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	993 C Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:021	Carvalho Family Trust	P.O. Box 2463 Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740	1253 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:001	Mitsunaga, Edith S Trust	3572 Nipo Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96822	1265 A Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:002	Yamamoto, Fujie F Trust	c/o Yamamoto, Elise CO-TTEE 1245 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1245 Kaumana Drive

2-5-027:003	Okutsu, Randal S Trust	1876 Hale O Kea Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1223 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:058	Mitsunaga, Edith S Trust	3572 Nipo Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96822	1265 B Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:059	Mitsunaga, Edith S Trust	3572 Nipo Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96822	1265 C Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:060	Mitsunaga, Edith S Trust	3572 Nipo Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96822	1265 E Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:061	Mitsunaga, Edith S Trust	3572 Nipo Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96822	1265 D Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:062	Mitsunaga, Edith S Trust	3572 Nipo Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96822	1265 F Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:063	Mitsunaga, Edith S Trust	3572 Nipo Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96822	1265 G Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:064	Mitsunaga, Edith S Trust	3572 Nipo Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96822	1265 H Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:065	Mitsunaga, Edith S Trust	3572 Nipo Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96822	1265 M Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:066	Mitsunaga, Edith S Trust	3572 Nipo Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96822	1265 L Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:067	Mitsunaga, Edith S Trust	3572 Nipo Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96822	1265 K Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:024	Otani, Katsuko Trust	1215 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96822	1215 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:025	Otani, Jean S Trust	1215-B Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1215 B Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:026	Ushijima, Dean K Ushijima, Elise H	1215 Kaumana Drive Apt. C Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1215 C Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:027	Segawa, Rodney Macy F Segawa, Susan Marie	1215 D Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1215 D Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:068	Ebesu, Royce T Jr Ebesu, Jane L A	1215 G Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1215 G Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:069	Ebesu, Janey L A Trust	1215 G Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	N/A (road??)
2-5-027:070	Segawa, Rodney M F Segawa, Susan Marie	1215 D Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	N/A (road??)

2-5-027:005	Sato, Sandra	1213 A Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1213 A Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:046	Hasegawa, Edward K Hasegawa, Caroline G C	250 N Judd Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96817	1211 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:043	Perez, Catalina A	1209 A Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1209 A Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:044	Okuhara, Henry S Okuhara, Norine N	P.O. Box 945 Hilo, Hawaii 96721	1209 B Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:045	Turner, Jason Phillip Turner, Jennifer Sims	1209C Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1209 C Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:053	Tsuchiya, Kari K	823 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1175 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:054	Paiva, Paul P Paiva, Shawn M	1169 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1169 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:055	Komatsu, Garret T	1155 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1155 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:056	Inouye, Tatsuo Trust Inouye, June Trust	2230 Apoepoe Street Pearl City, Hawaii 96782	N/A
2-5-027:047	Goya, Melvin H Trust Goya, Kiyono Trust	1170 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1170 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:057	Kuwahara, Bryson T Kuwahara, Lorna T	1142 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1142 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:007	Kuwahara, Bryson T Kuwahara, Lorna T	1142 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	N/A
2-5-027:008	Oliveira, Mary Jane Oliveira, Manuel III Oliveira, Manuel Jr	1150 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720 98-458 Hoono Street Pearl City, Hawaii 96782	1150 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:009	Yahata, Michiko	P.O. Box 5599	1162 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:042	Mattos, David J Mattos, Lauri M	Hilo, Hawaii 96721	1209 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:052	Luiz, Ezekiel Harvey Trust Luiz, Noreen Mai Luiz Trust	P.O. Box 116 Pepeekeo, Hawaii 96783	1193 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:034	Nakamura, Bryce H Nakamura, Sharyl S	P.O. Box 294 Captain Cook, Hawaii 96704	1240 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:035	Robledo, Paulette A Trust	1260 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1260 Kaumana Drive

2-5-027:036	Perreira Family 2008 Trust	1266 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1266 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:014	Hoshide, Miyoko M	1280 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1280 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:040	Shinjo, Hajime Shinjo, Aileen C	1272 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1272 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:037	Kaneko, Ryan T Kaneko, Aimee A	1294 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1294 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:038	Yokoyama, Jan K Fujisawa, Stanley K Fujisawa, Tammy L Fujisawa, Curtis S Fujisawa, Minerva S State of Hawaii	1300 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1300 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:023	Nakamoto, Tsuruyo Trust	1348 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1348 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:016	Otani, James M	1360 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1360 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:041	Matsu, Russell Matsu, Lorraine H	1352 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1352 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:020	Ota, Hiroshi/Shizoho Trust	6 Pokole Way Hilo, Hawaii 96720	N/A
2-5-027:013	Site Engineering, Inc.	c/o Masutani M K 545 Kaaahi Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96817	1230 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:032	Quioccho, Leandro Jr Quioccho, Wanda A	1222-A Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1222 A Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:076	Chock, Kyle Trust	1100 Launa Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1242 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:012	Chock, Laura Y Trust	555 Naniakea Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1258 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:072	Chock, Laura Y Trust	555 Naniakea Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1256 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:073	Chock, Theone Keam Yung	1051 Hoomaikai Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96817	1254 Kaumana Drive

2-5-027:079	Chock, Theone Keam Yung	1051 Hoomaikai Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96817	1252 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:030	Takai, Wesley T Takai, Sandra Y	1222 E Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1194 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:010	Long, Kerry Keith	P.O. Box 1481 Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1188 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:011	Takai, Wesley T Takai, Sandra Y	1222 E Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1190 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:028	Thatcher, John L II Thatcher, Pamela R	1188 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1178 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:022	Thatcher, John L II Thatcher, Pamela R	1188 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	N/A
2-5-027:071	Segawa, Herbert A		N/A roadway
2-5-027:004	Segawa, Kay K various		roadway
2-5-027:074	Chock, Lorrin S K Trust Takemoto-Chock, Naomi Trust	1978 Komohana Ext Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1250 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:080	Chock, Lorrin S K Trust Takemoto-Chock, Naomi Trust	1978 Komohana Ext Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1248 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:081	Chock, Kyle Trust	1100 Launa Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1246 Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:077	Chock, Laura Y Trust		N/A roadway
2-5-027:078	Chock, Laura Y Trust		N/A roadway
2-5-027:033	Abril, Carole Y Abril, Mark A	1222 B Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1222 B Kaumana Drive
2-5-027:019	Ahia, Lily Auld Ahia, William Kalaemakani		N/A roadway
2-5-040:011	Leao, Tara Kalelehuakaleilani Lee, Doreen Kanani	1503 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1503 Kaumana Drive
2-5-040:010	Tomota, Kelli Jennifer Lehua	98 Kulaloa Road Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1493 Kaumana Drive
2-5-040:009	Otani, Noriaki Otani, Fujie Otani, Brad Hiro Otani, Max Norio Paiva, Shawn Morie	1489 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1489 Kaumana Drive

2-5-040:008	Hirayama, Ellen Etsuko Hirayama, Ellen Setsuko Kitamura, Kimiko Kitamura, Susan Setsuko Kitamura, Tadayuki Kitamura, Wayne Kazuyuki	1479 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1479 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720
2-5-040:007	Oldfield, Frances Oldfield, Richard	1473 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1473 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720
2-5-040:006	Almeida, Jewels Anuenue Almeida, Mark Kaiipo	561 Aliihi Place Kailua, Hawaii 96734	1461 Kaumana Drive
2-5-040:036	Hennessey, Brendan J Johnson, Melissa Ann	1447 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1447 Kaumana Drive
2-5-040:005	Yoshimura, Chiseko Yoshimura, Gary K	1441 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1441 Kaumana Drive
2-5-040:035	Hasegawa, David A C Trust	250 N Judd Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96817	1433 Kaumana Drive
2-5-040:004	Tiogangco, Anne A Tiogangco, Jordan L	1391 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1391 Kaumana Drive
2-5-040:003	Enoki, Calvin H Trust Sayama-Enoki, Sandra H Trust	1381 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1381 Kaumana Drive
2-5-040:002	Kaitoku, George M Kaitoku, Joyce H	1375 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1375 Kaumana Drive
2-5-040:040	Hinez, Matthew F Oblero, Dain M	P. O. Box 4306 Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1369 Kaumana Drive
2-5-040:001	Oblero, Sean W Rezentes, Henry J Rezentes, Raquel K	1367 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1367 Kaumana Drive
2-5-040:039	Toma, Bryson	1374 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1374 Kaumana Drive
2-5-040:041	Shaver, James R	1027 Kagawa Street Pacific Palisades, California 90272	1394 Kaumana Drive
2-5-040:015	Lee-Ching, Richard Trust Fujimoto, Byron S	1468 Kaumana Drive Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1468 Kaumana Drive
2-5-040:014	Iwase, Shirley T	142 Puhili Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720	1486 Kaumana Drive



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hualau ka'okali*

## ***Connections Public Charter School***

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

# **Informational Dinner Night**

Presented By: Connections Future Visionary Association (CFVA)

**When: Thursday April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

**Where: Connections Public Charter School  
(Kress Building) Entrance on Kamehameha Ave.**

**5:30pm- 7:30pm**

**5:30pm Complimentary Dinner**

**6:00pm- 7:30pm Meeting**

**Why: New Facility Development**

**“Kaumana Property”**

**Guest Speakers:**

**Wil Chee Planning and Development**

174 Kamehameha Ave., Hilo, Hawai'i - Phone 1-866-961-3664 FAX 1-808-961-2665  
Email: [cpcs@aloha.net](mailto:cpcs@aloha.net)



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka Palau ka'ohala*

**Connections Public Charter School**  
A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana

August 22, 2011

Aloha Kaumana Community Residents,

We are pleased to invite you to a community meeting regarding our plans for a new facility on a 73-acre parcel of State land on Edita Street. We will meet at the Kaumana Elementary School Cafeteria on Friday, September 2, 2011 at 5 p.m. to discuss the project, and to hear your input.

Please share this information with other community residents who may not have gotten this mailer.

We hope to see you there!

Sincerely,  
Heather McDaniel  
Local School Board Chair  
Connections Public Charter School

174 Kamehameha Ave., Hilo, HI 96720 - Phone 1-808-961-3664  
cpcs@hawaii.rr.com FAX 961-3664



FORM BO-1, Rev. 7/09

Application No. 9 (School)

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - STATE OF HAWAII  
APPLICATION FOR USE OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS, FACILITIES, OR GROUNDS  
(Application must be received by the School at least 10 working days prior to requested date of use.)

Date Aug. 12 20 11

WE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THE USE OF:  CLASSROOM  AUDITORIUM  LIBRARY  
 DINING ROOM  GYMNASIUM  OTHER \_\_\_\_\_  
AT Kaunaka Elementary SCHOOL, ON THE FOLLOWING DATE(S) August 20, 2011 9/2/11  
(month/day/year)  
FROM 4:30 P.M. TO 7:30 P.M.

FOR THE PURPOSE OF (GIVE INFORMATION ON USE): Community meeting for Connections' new facility  
APPLICANT'S NAME AND ORGANIZATION: Heather McDaniel, Connections PCS  
ADDRESS: 174 Kamehameha Ave. PHONE: Home: 937-1478  
BUS: 935-3504

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AND AFFIX YOUR SIGNATURE:

- IS YOUR ORGANIZATION TAX-EXEMPT NON-PROFIT? (TAX I.D. NUMBER: 99-0347398)  YES  NO
- IS THIS A GOVERNMENT SPONSORED ACTIVITY? (SPONSORING AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_)  YES  NO
- IS THIS A SCHOOL-OR SPONSORED ACTIVITY? (SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION: Connections PCS (Dr. Thatcher))  YES  NO
- HAS YOUR ORGANIZATION LEASED THIS SITE REGULARLY IN THE PAST?  YES  NO  
If "yes", you are hereby notified that leases may be renewed annually but not exceeding five (5) years. You are expected to make a good faith effort to obtain a more permanent or alternative location for your activities during the period of the lease. If such a good faith effort is lacking, your lease may not be renewed.  
Total number of years your organization has been using the school's facilities: \_\_\_\_\_
- IS THIS A PERSONAL OR PRIVATE BUSINESS ACTIVITY?  YES  NO
- IS THERE A FEE, TUITION, OR DONATION COLLECTED? (AMOUNT: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ PER DAY/PER HOUR)  YES  NO
- DO YOU PLAN TO SUBLEASE THE FACILITY? (Craze Fairs and Carnivals)  YES  NO  
IF SUBLEASING, ARE ALL SUBLESSEES TO BE COVERED BY APPLICANT'S LIABILITY INSURANCE?  YES  NO

I, the undersigned, on behalf of the organization I represent, have answered the above questions truthfully and accurately. If the school facilities, equipment or grounds are not properly maintained by the applicant, the State of Hawaii Department of Education will deny further use of school facilities, equipment or grounds to the individual or organization and seek appropriate restitution for damages incurred. The applicant further understands that the school facilities and grounds are to be alcohol and tobacco free, meaning that the use of any alcohol or tobacco substances are prohibited at all times on school grounds or at any school activities. Furthermore, I understand that as a user of school facilities the activity being conducted shall be lawful, should disabled persons wish to participate in the requested use, applicants must make reasonable modifications and/or programmatic accommodations to permit such participation.

Heather McDaniel 8/12/11  
Signature Date

(To be filled in by the school)

ACTUAL FEES AND CHARGES: TYPE OF REQUEST:	(To be filled in by the school)			CODES FOR CASH RECEIPTS:		
	TYPE I	TYPE II	TYPE III	Org. I.D.	Source/Object	Program I.D.
RENTAL:	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ _____	000	1240	37307
CUSTODIAL:	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	488	2208	42113
UTILITIES:	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ _____	\$ _____	000	5001	37320
TOTALS:	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	(Checks payable to: DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION)		

POLICE AND/OR LIFEGUARD REQUIRED! (NUMBER OF POLICE AND/OR LIFEGUARDS REQUIRED: \_\_\_\_\_)  YES  NO  
LIABILITY INSURANCE REQUIRED: (\$1,000,000 liability insurance for craft fairs, carnivals, and certain athletic events)  YES  NO  
Policy No. \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR REQUEST FOR USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES OR GROUNDS IS HEREBY:  APPROVED  DISAPPROVED  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 8/18/11  
(Principal/Designee)

REASON FOR DISAPPROVAL:  FACILITY REQUESTED NOT AVAILABLE  OTHER \_\_\_\_\_  
 CUSTODIAN/STAFF NOT AVAILABLE \_\_\_\_\_

DISTRIBUTION: ORIGINAL-School, COPY-Requestor

### FACILITIES ACCESSIBILITY DISCLOSURE NOTICE AND AGREEMENT

#### NOTICE

This disclosure notice is to inform user applicants under Chapter 8-39, Hawaii Administrative Rules, that some of the facilities at this school may not be accessible to persons with disabilities. The facilities that are accessible and not accessible are noted below on this form.

#### AGREEMENT

By signing this disclosure and agreement, the user applicant (1) acknowledges that s/he was informed of the accessibility status of the facility requested for use, and (2) agrees to be responsible for the non-discrimination and accessibility requirements of Title II, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), if a state or local government agency, or the non-discrimination and accessibility requirements of Title III, ADA, if a private entity providing public accommodations, as defined by the ADA, with the use of school facilities. If a school facility is not accessible, the user/renter must announce ahead of time to participants that the school facility is not accessible and the user must provide an accommodation which allows any handicapped person to still attend the activity if the user is notified ahead of time.

#### SCHOOL FACILITY REQUESTED

- 1) Kaunana Elementary School Auditorium
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

Connections PCS/Heather McDaniel  
 Lessee/Renter  
Aug. 11, 2011  
 Date

Acknowledged by: [Signature]  
 School Principal/Designee

8/18/11  
 Date

The following facilities are accessible (A) or not accessible (NA) at this school:

- |                         |       |                |       |
|-------------------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| Administration Building | _____ | Athletic Field | _____ |
| Library                 | _____ | Stadium        | _____ |
| Cafeteria Dining Room   | _____ | Playground     | _____ |
| Cafeteria Kitchen       | _____ | Auditorium     | _____ |
| Classroom               | _____ | Gymnasium      | _____ |
| Playcourt               | _____ | Other          | _____ |

FORM 60-2, Rev. 5/09

Application No. \_\_\_\_\_ (Complex)

Application No. \_\_\_\_\_ (School)

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION—STATE OF HAWAII  
STATEMENT INDEMNIFYING STATE AGAINST LIABILITY CLAIM; CIVIL DEFENSE EMERGENCY  
NOTICE; SPECIAL PROVISIONS; AND NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION  
SYSTEM (NPDES) NOTICE

(Application for Use of School Buildings, Facilities or Grounds)

School: Kaunua Elementary

**INDEMNIFICATION STATEMENT**

The undersigned individual(s), group and/or organization, his or their heirs, personal representative and assigns, or its officers, directors, members, agents, employees, successors and assigns, for and in consideration of the State of Hawaii Department of Education permitting and allowing the use of the designated school rooms, buildings, and/or facilities jointly and severally agree(s) to indemnify and save harmless the State of Hawaii Department of Education against any and all loss, liability, demands, claims, suits, action or proceedings of every name, character and description which may be suffered or incurred by or brought against the State of Hawaii Department of Education for or an account of any injuries or damages to any person or property received or sustained by any person, directly or indirectly, by or in consequence of the use of the facilities by the undersigned individual(s), groups and/or organization.

**NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) NOTICE**

The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) is a regulatory program administered by the United States Environmental Protection Agency that calls for the control and management of storm water pollution. In Hawaii, our storm water drainage systems were designed to prevent flooding by channeling storm water into drains that discharge through outlets along the coastline.

However, the storm water drainage systems were not designed for the disposal of waste or pollutants. In order to protect the environment and fulfill our pollution prevention (P2) responsibilities, the Department of Education must implement best management practices (BMPs) as part of a storm water management plan (SWMP).

**CIVIL DEFENSE NOTICE**

In the event of a Civil Defense declared emergency during non-school hours, the undersigned is responsible for the safety of their program participants. The Department of Education is not obligated to provide for Civil Defense emergencies during non-school hours except what the applicable school is designated for use as a shelter by the American Red Cross.

The undersigned understands that every effort should be made to prevent pollution as a consequence of using school facilities. Waste and pollution if not controlled will enter storm drains and eventually make its way to the ocean. Organizers and participants can help by preventing litter and minimizing the use of autos on campus by carpooling, riding bikes, and using public transportation. Report any illegal dumping and observed violations by calling the City Illegal Dumping Hotline at 288-5656 (Honolulu) or the respective county offices (neighbor islands).

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

(to be completed by school administrator as needed)

**ACCEPTANCE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY USER**

The undersigned hereby accepts and acknowledges the above (statement, notices, and special conditions).

Heather McDaniel 8-12-11  
Signature Date

Connections Public Charter School  
Name of Organization

**NOTARIZATION (OR) SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR SIGNATURE**

Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ Judicial Court.

Notary Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Notary License No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Notary Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Commission Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

-OR-  
[Signature] 8/28/11  
School Principal or Vice-Principal Date

DISTRIBUTION: ORIGINAL: School, COPY: Requestor

Kaumana Community Meeting  
 Friday, September 2, 2011 5:00 p.m.  
 Kaumana Elementary School Cafeteria

WELCOME!  
 PLEASE SIGN IN

PRINT Name	Address
Donald Ikeda	966 Kaumana Dr
Lily + Steadmy Chow	857 U'ilani Pl. Hilo
Kaholo Daguman	POB 133 Ninole
Ann Mima	25 Aupuni St.
LET JUNE SAKAMOTO	1439 MELE MANU ST. HILo
Melvin Yokota	1358-A Mele Manu St. Hilo
Patsy Iwasaki	232 Edita St. Hilo
Ryoko KANEKO	1294 KAUMANA DR Hilo
Mark Chin	250 Edita St, Hilo
RANDAL OKUNESU	1223 KAUMANA DR
Glenn + Gail Ogawa	1495 Mele Manu St.
Mario R. HAO	92 Cheng st.
Calvin ENOKI	1381 Kaumana Dr.
Raymond YAMANE	1473 Mele Manu St
Elise Yamamoto	1245 Kaumana Drive
Aileen Fuke	1358c Mele Manu St
Sidney Fuke	"
	"
Chris Brillhante	280 Ponehawaii St. Hilo, HI 96720
Nelson Nishimoto	1414 B Mele Manu St.
Patti Nishimoto	
Kiani Nishimoto	

Kaumana Community Meeting  
 Friday, September 2, 2011 5:00 p.m.  
 Kaumana Elementary School Cafeteria

WELCOME!  
 PLEASE SIGN IN

PRINT Name	Address
Brenda Camacho	1414-A Mele Manu St
David Camacho	1414-A Mele Manu St
Judy Bevington	1360-B Mele. Manu St
Mel Bevington	" "
Lee Wilson	1536 Mele Manu St.
MING PENG/MALYN ANG	1547 Mele Manu St.
Dan Hudak	1488 " "
Pam Thatcher	1188 Kaumana Dr.
Susan Segawa	1215 Kaumana Dr.
Aileen Shingo	1272 Kaumana Dr
Ruth Perreira	1266 Kaumana Dr.
Karyn + Glenn Tada	25A Edifu St
DEBRA SILVA	1265 H Kaumana Dr. <span style="float: right;">map</span>
Joseph Botelho, Jr	1485 MELE MANU ST

Kaumana Community Meeting

Kaumana Elementary School Cafeteria, 5:00 pm

September 2, 2011

- Have you considered Edita Street to go through to Puainako extension?
- Did you do a Traffic Study? A study was done by Will Chee and is in the Environmental Assessment Report
- Are there plans for a light at the intersection of Kaumana Drive and Edita St? No plan that we know of
- Where do your students come from? About ½ from Puna and ½ Hilo and surrounding area.
- With your projection of 370 students, how can you justify this big of a project when other schools are closing? Using area for demonstration projects
- Because we are concerned about traffic, how will you eliminate the option for HS students to drive to campus? Council Person Leite-Todd asked how many of our current HS students drive to school, answer 3.
- If the Land Use Commission denies the application, it stops. Council Person Leite-Todd commented that that is highly unlikely that the Land Use commission will deny the application.
- A road out to Puainako Extension would be really good access.
- What are you doing about not meeting AYP? We have a restructuring plan approve by the Charter School Review Panel.
- How can the new campus enhance the learning? Mr. Thatcher explained plans for forestry projects, use of land for gardening etc.
- If you have a 20 mil budget, a suggestion would be to use part of the 20 mil and earmark for an Edita Street to Puainako Extension road. We are some years away before the school is built and are looking at all kinds of grants. One grant is related to fiber optics. We can assist in bringing to the community (comment by audience member that fiber optics are already available)
- How much have we raised? Not much
- What is the cultural significance of the property? Lava created Kaumana Cave which runs under the upper portion of the property. No building will be there. Culturally the property will provide information centered on Science and Geology. An Archeology study found no artifacts.
- Council person Leite –Todd stated that the school is looking to build only on the lower property. The upper portion may collapse because of Kaumana Cave. The upper portion is also mostly native forest.

Kaumana Community Meeting  
September 2, 2011  
Kaumana Elementary School Cafeteria, 5:00 pm

- How can you say you will be good neighbors when we had to find out about your school from the newspaper?
- Do you have a contingency plan if the use permit is denied? **We will use the property for Agriculture, Forestry Conservation, green houses, Hydroponics, etc.**
- My property is next to the property where the proposed dormitory is to be located. How high will the fence be? **6 feet**
- Have you done any studies on how our property values will be affected? **No**
- You only talk about the good and not about the negative impact on this little community.
- Council person Leite-Todd led a discussion about a traffic analysis report regarding a left turn lane onto Edita Street and a discussion about encouraging the school to find another access to the school property. Also stated that there is a copy of the draft EIS at the County Building.
- Can the permit say that the school cannot use Edita Street as an entrance? **Council Person Leite-Todd answered no, if no other option is available.**

Any communications to the community will also be sent to the community association and the leadership and get the work out.

**Subject:** New Facility  
**From:** HawaiiJim <hawaiijim@yahoo.com>  
**Date:** Wed, 14 Sep 2011 18:56:48 -0700 (PDT)  
**To:** cpcs@hawaii.rr.com

Connections Public Charter School  
Attn: Heather McDaniel

Sept. 14, 2011

Dear Ms. McDaniel,

I attended the community meeting you held last week regarding plans for a new Connections facility on Edita Drive. I'm a long time Hilo resident and have lived on Kaumana Drive (between Hokulani and Chong) for nearly 2 decades.

I spoke at the meeting, and voiced my concern about the added traffic your school will bring to Kaumana Drive. (I'm sure you are aware that Kaumana is an old dangerous road, with high speed traffic and many accidents.) I recommended that you aggressively pursue extending Edita Street to connect with the Ponahawai Extension. This would create a safe route that would allow school traffic to bypass Kaumana entirely. It would also shorten driving time for parents and administration, as well as bus traveling time for your students.

I have talked with other Kaumana neighbors, all agree that keeping additional traffic off of Kaumana Drive should be made a priority within your plans. Every resident I spoke to expressed real concern about the impact of additional vehicles on Kaumana, for both the safety of the Connections student body, and that of our neighborhood. We want to keep our streets as safe as possible.

Thank you for your consideration. Would you please include me in any updates you email out in regards to your plans?

Sincerely,  
William J. Phillips Jr.  
1036 Kaumana Dr  
Hilo, HI 96720  
934-8888

*hawaiijim@yahoo.com*

Fair winds and blue skies. Aloha, Jim Phillips

No virus found in this message.  
Checked by AVG - [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)  
Version: 10.0.1410 / Virus Database: 1520/3898 - Release Date: 09/15/11





*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hualau ho'ohahi*

**Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Kaumana Community Informational Meeting  
(Connections Public Charter School's future facility)

Friday, April 27, 2012, 5 pm

Kaumana Elementary School Cafeteria

Attached is the sign-in sheet that was not signed by all of the approximately thirty people who attended.

**Visual aids: overview site plan**

mauka parcel site plan

makai parcel site plan

artist's renderings of proposed buildings

bus participation, demographics graphs

**Presenters: Ted Hong, Attorney, facilitator**

Eric Boyd, Connections' Administrative Assistant, project spokesman

John Ida, Urban Works Inc., architect

Celia Shen, Wil Chee Planning and Environmental, Inc.,

planning and consulting services

5:00 p.m.

Ted: (Welcomed attendees.)

The project team is focused on community interest, and will continue to be transparent in the planning and implementation process.

The project is intended to be low-impact, developing about 15 acres of the 73 in the lease.

Charter schools background: charter schools are schools of choice. They receive less funding per pupil than regular DOE public schools, and must acquire, develop and fund their own facilities.

Regarding the concern for potential crime impact: there is much less potential for criminal activity than in downtown Hilo, and there have been no complaints of criminal activity related to the presence of the school in downtown Hilo.

Referenced the handout that includes a "comment card", and invited feedback, concerns and questions.

Eric: referenced questions and concerns from the last meetings. Shared results of the traffic impact study ("no significant impact", and although it isn't required, the project team will consider a dedicated turn-out lane.) Explained the bus participation graphics and dynamics.

Community Member Question: How is the school's bus system funded? What about the DOE's plans to downsize existing bus services?

Eric: Connections funds and runs its own bus service internally, separate from the DOE.

CMQ: How many staff does the school employ? How many students are from the Hilo area? How do they travel?

Eric: There are approximately 60 school employees, of which about 40 are full-time. About 143 of our students are from the Hilo area, and they travel by private vehicle. We hope to increase bus travel for Hilo residents.

John: The school plans to develop about 17 of the 73 acres in the lease. The property is bisected by Edita Street, and a portion of only the makai (lower) parcel will be hand cleared developed. The mauka (upper) parcel will be fenced as well, but will have only a minimal network of elevated walking paths, and will be used as an observation example of native species habitat.

The plot plan on the makai parcel is basically circular in its design, and will include one-story post-and-pier building (classrooms in 3 "pods" to accommodate elementary, middle and high school students; administration building; library; dormitory; caretaker's cottage), and post-and-pier elevated, covered walkways connecting buildings.

The project will work toward LEED certification, and will utilize sustainable (solar and wind) power sources.

Eric: addressed the concern of the dormitory. It will be a maximum 30-bed building, used for short-term stays for students and chaperones directly affiliated with school programs.

Celia: Explained the location of the parcel relative to Edita Street and Kaumana Drive. Referenced the search for a suitable property, and the history of the relationship with DLNR and lease acquisition: Environmental Assessment accepted by the DLNR in late 2010, BLNR approved the lease in January 2011. Talked about the evolution of the project in terms of the initial plan, and changes due to cave concerns, and preservation of native species on the mauka parcel. Talked about the plot plan: elementary, middle and high school students in "pods", with shared buildings (cafeteria, library, gymnasium\*, agricultural facilities).

CMQ: Is the parcel zoned for agricultural use?

Celia: We will be submitting an application for a Special Use Permit, to include agricultural use. A public hearing will be part of that process. The Civil Engineer will assess drainage, water usage and infrastructure concerns. We will continue to hear and address community concerns.

Ted: How close to the boundaries will the project development be?

Celia: Water tanks will be about 50'-60' from boundaries; buildings about 500'.

Ted: Will buffers be included in the design?

John: We will be including landscape buffer options.

CMQ: What about alternative access options? Are you still looking at coming in from the Puainako Extension?

Ted: That is a property privately owned by Brilhante-Hawaii LLC. We spoke to Mr. Brilhante again this past Monday. He is willing to continue to discuss the possibility of an easement through that property.

CMQ: I'm concerned because both Edita and Kaumana are so narrow.

Celia: The traffic assessment showed no significant impact. Although not required, we will continue to look at dedicated turn lanes.

Ted: Were there any recommendations from the traffic assessment engineer?

Celia: No, they found no significant impact.

CMQ: We first talked about the alternative access question in June 2011 and again at the next meeting here in Kaumana, and you're only now talking to Mr. Brilhante? At both those meetings you said it was a priority!

Eric: That was the most recent opportunity we have had to talk to him. Mr. Thatcher did talk to him after those meetings.

CMQ: How much of the fund-raising project is earmarked for alternative access?

Ted: If we commit to an alternate access, then will you support the project? We will do that if we have to.

CMQ: I'm concerned because there is only one way in and out.

Mr. Fuke: The planning commission can make occupancy conditional on an alternate access. Will that issue be resolved by the time of the Public Hearing?

Ted: Don't keep presenting hurdles as we jump over them.

CMQ: With the possibility of Puainako access, will you consider moving the project closer to that side of the property?

Celia: This is all a project concept, and changes can happen as necessary.

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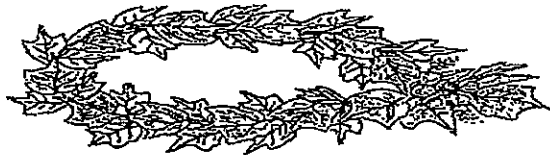
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Ted: The next meeting will be the Public Hearing.

Eric: Please notice the new contact information on the handout. We will have a new phone number on May 4: 808-935-2195. Thanks to everyone for attending.

6:00 p.m.



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hualau ka'ohala*

**Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

**Kaumana Community Informational Meeting  
(Connections Public Charter School's future facility)**

**Friday, April 27, 2012, 5 pm**

**Kaumana Elementary School Cafeteria**

Attached is the sign-in sheet that was not signed by all of the approximately thirty people who attended.

Visual aids: overview site plan  
mauka parcel site plan  
makai parcel site plan  
artist's renderings of proposed buildings  
bus participation, demographics graphs

Presenters: Ted Hong, Attorney, facilitator  
Eric Boyd, Connections' Administrative Assistant, project spokesman  
John Ida, Urban Works Inc., architect  
Celia Shen, Wil Chee Planning and Environmental, Inc.,  
planning and consulting services

5:00 p.m.

Ted: (Welcomed attendees.)

The project team is focused on community interest, and will continue to be transparent in the planning and implementation process.

The project is intended to be low-impact, developing about 15 acres of the 73 in the lease. Charter schools background: charter schools are schools of choice. They receive less funding per pupil than regular DOE public schools, and must acquire, develop and fund their own facilities.

Regarding the concern for potential crime impact: there is much less potential for criminal activity than in downtown Hilo, and there have been no complaints of criminal activity related to the presence of the school in downtown Hilo.

Referenced the handout that includes a "comment card", and invited feedback, concerns and questions.

Eric: referenced questions and concerns from the last meetings. Shared results of the traffic impact study ("no significant impact", and although it isn't required, the project team will consider a dedicated turn-out lane.) Explained the bus participation graphics and dynamics.

**Community Member Question:** How is the school's bus system funded? What about the DOE's plans to downsize existing bus services?

Eric: Connections funds and runs its own bus service internally, separate from the DOE.

**CMQ:** How many staff does the school employ? How many students are from the Hilo area? How do they travel?

Eric: There are approximately 60 school employees, of which about 40 are full-time. About 143 of our students are from the Hilo area, and they travel by private vehicle. We hope to increase bus travel for Hilo residents.

John: The school plans to develop about 17 of the 73 acres in the lease. The property is bisected by Edita Street, and a portion of only the makai (lower) parcel will be hand cleared developed. The mauka (upper) parcel will be fenced as well, but will have only a minimal network of elevated walking paths, and will be used as an observation example of native species habitat.

The plot plan on the makai parcel is basically circular in its design, and will include one-story post-and-pier building (classrooms in 3 "pods" to accommodate elementary, middle and high school students; administration building; library; dormitory; caretaker's cottage), and post-and-pier elevated, covered walkways connecting buildings.

The project will work toward LEED certification, and will utilize sustainable (solar and wind) power sources.

Eric: addressed the concern of the dormitory. It will be a maximum 30-bed building, used for short-term stays for students and chaperones directly affiliated with school programs.

Celia: Explained the location of the parcel relative to Edita Street and Kaumana Drive. Referenced the search for a suitable property, and the history of the relationship with DLNR and lease acquisition: Environmental Assessment accepted by the DLNR in late 2010, BLNR approved the lease in January 2011. Talked about the evolution of the project in terms of the initial plan, and changes due to cave concerns, and preservation of native species on the mauka parcel. Talked about the plot plan: elementary, middle and high school students in "pods", with shared buildings (cafeteria, library, gymnasium\*, agricultural facilities).

**CMQ:** Is the parcel zoned for agricultural use?

Celia: We will be submitting an application for a Special Use Permit, to include agricultural use. A public hearing will be part of that process. The Civil Engineer will assess drainage, water usage and infrastructure concerns. We will continue to hear and address community concerns.

Ted: How close to the boundaries will the project development be?

Celia: Water tanks will be about 50'-60' from boundaries; buildings about 500'.

Ted: Will buffers be included in the design?

John: We will be including landscape buffer options.

CMQ: What about alternative access options? Are you still looking at coming in from the Puainako Extension?

Ted: That is a property privately owned by Brilhante-Hawaii LLC. We spoke to Mr. Brilhante again this past Monday. He is willing to continue to discuss the possibility of an easement through that property.

CMQ: I'm concerned because both Edita and Kaumana are so narrow.

Celia: The traffic assessment showed no significant impact. Although not required, we will continue to look at dedicated turn lanes.

Ted: Were there any recommendations from the traffic assessment engineer?

Celia: No, they found no significant impact.

CMQ: We first talked about the alternative access question in June 2011 and again at the next meeting here in Kaumana, and you're only now talking to Mr. Brilhante? At both those meetings you said it was a priority!

Eric: That was the most recent opportunity we have had to talk to him. Mr. Thatcher did talk to him after those meetings.

CMQ: How much of the fund-raising project is earmarked for alternative access?

Ted: If we commit to an alternate access, then will you support the project? We will do that if we have to.

CMQ: I'm concerned because there is only one way in and out.

Mr. Fuke: The planning commission can make occupancy conditional on an alternate access. Will that issue be resolved by the time of the Public Hearing?



Ted: Don't keep presenting hurdles as we jump over them.

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LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

October 22, 2010

LAURA H. THIELEN  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

PAUL J. CONRY  
ACTING FIRST DEPUTY

LENORE N. GHYE  
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONSERVATION  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAWAHAU ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

Katherine Puana Kealoha, Esq., Director  
Office of Environmental Quality Control  
235 South Beretania Street, Suite 702  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Ms. Kealoha,


Subject: Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for Connections Public Charter  
School Master Plan, TMK (3) 2-5-006-141, South Hilo, Hawai'i

The Department of Land and Natural Resources has reviewed the comments received during the thirty (30) day public comment period which began on August 23, 2010. The agency has determined that this project will not have significant environmental effects and has issued a FONSI. Please publish this notice in the next available OEQC Environmental Notice.

We have emailed a completed OEQC Publication Form to your office and submitted one hard copy and one .pdf format of the Final Environmental Assessment.

If there is anything we can help you with or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Charlene Unoki from my Land Division at 587-0433. Thank you

Sincerely,

  
for Laura H. Thielen  
Chairperson

4

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
Land Division  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

January 13, 2011

Board of Land and Natural Resources  
State of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii

PSF No.: 08HD-018

HAWAII

Issuance of Direct Lease to Connections New Century Public Charter School for School Purposes, Kaumana, Hawaii, Tax Map Key: (3) 2-5-6:141.

APPLICANT:

Connections New Century Public Charter School, whose business and mailing address is 174 Kamehameha Avenue, Hilo, Hawaii 96720.

LEGAL REFERENCE:

Section 171-95.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended.

LOCATION:

Government lands situated at Ponohawai, Kaumana, Kukuau 2nd, South Hilo, Hawaii, identified as Tax Map Key: (3) 2-5-6:141, as shown on the attached map labeled Exhibit "A".

AREA:

72.430 acres, more or less.

ZONING:

State Land Use District: Agriculture  
County of Hawaii CZO: A-1A

TRUST LAND STATUS:

Section 5(b) lands of the Hawaii Admission Act  
DHHL 30% entitlement lands pursuant to the Hawaii State Constitution:  
YES  NO

D-4

CURRENT USE STATUS:

Vacant.

Encumbered by Grant of Non-Exclusive Easement bearing Land Office Deed No. S-28322, GTE Hawaiian Telephone Co. Inc., for telephone circuit facilities purposes.

Encumbered by Grant of Non-Exclusive Easement bearing Land Office Deed No. S-28353, GTE Hawaiian Telephone Co. Inc., for telephone transmission purposes.

CHARACTER OF USE:

School purposes.

LEASE TERM:

Sixty-five (65) years

COMMENCEMENT DATE:

The first day of the month to be determined by the Chairperson.

ANNUAL RENT:

\$480 per annum (Minimum Rent Policy approved by the Land Board on May 13, 2005, Agenda Item D-19.)

METHOD OF PAYMENT:

Semi-annual payments, in advance.

RENTAL REOPENINGS:

At the 10th, 20th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th years of the lease term, by staff or independent appraisal.

PERFORMANCE BOND:

Twice the annual rental amount.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS:

Utilities utilities are available.  
Slope - 4% to 6%  
Elevation - 725-900 ft.  
Rainfall - 193.2 inches per year.  
SCS Soil Series - Lava flows, pahoehoe.  
Land Study Bureau - D300 has a productivity rating of "c" for grazing, "d" for sugarcane and orchard and "e" for vegetables and forage.  
Legal access to property - Staff has verified that there is legal access to the property off of Kaumana Drive and Edita Street.  
Subdivision - Staff has verified that the subject property is a legally subdivided lot.  
Encumbrances - Staff has verified that the following encumbrances exist on the property: Grant of Non-Exclusive Easement bearing Land Office Deed No. S-28322, GTE Hawaiian Telephone Co. Inc., for telephone circuit facilities purposes and Grant of Non-Exclusive Easement bearing Land Office Deed No. S-28353, GTE Hawaiian Telephone Co. Inc., for telephone transmission purposes.

CHAPTER 343 - ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

The Final Environmental Assessment for the subject project was published in the OEQC's Environmental Notice on November 8, 2010 with a finding of no significant impact (FONSI).

DCCA VERIFICATION:

Place of business registration confirmed:	YES <u>X</u>	NO <u>   </u>
Registered business name confirmed:	YES <u>X</u>	NO <u>   </u>
Applicant in good standing confirmed:	YES <u>X</u>	NO <u>   </u>

APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS:

Applicant shall be required to:

- 1) Pay for the costs of public notice pursuant to section 171-16 and
- 2) Provide survey maps and descriptions according to State DAGS standards and at Applicant's own cost.

BACKGROUND:

The Land Board at its meeting of March 28, 2008, under agenda Item D-5, granted approval in principle of a lease to Connections New Century Public Charter School for school purposes and authorization for Connections New Century Public Charter School to comply with Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended. One of the conditions placed by the Land Board was that should the Connections New Century Public Charter School fail to



obtain satisfactory compliance with Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended, within twenty-four (24) months, the Land Board's approval shall be rescinded.

The Land Board at its meeting of December 11, 2009, under agenda Item D-5, granted Connections New Century Public Charter School until December 31, 2010 to obtain satisfactory compliance with Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended. By letter dated November 12, 2009, Ms. Celia Shen, Planner for Wil Chee-Planning, Inc. on behalf of Mr. John Thatcher, Chief Executive Officer of Connections Public Charter School, requested seven to eight months extension to revise the conceptual master plan and environmental assessment. During the 30-day public comment period of the draft environmental assessment, they were informed that a significant segment of Kaumana Cave underlies the upper portion of the project site (above Edita Street), and could be impacted by the development as represented in the conceptual master plan. After reviewing the information shared by concerned speleologists, Connections New Century Public Charter School decided to revise the conceptual master plan to avoid impacting Kaumana Cave by limiting development of the major school facilities to the lower portion of the project site (below Edita Street).

The Final Environmental Assessment for the subject project was published in the OEQC's Environmental Notice on November 8, 2010 with a finding of no significant impact (FONSI). The 30-day challenge period ended on December 8, 2010.

BACKGROUND ON APPLICANT:

Connections Public Charter School was chartered by the State Board of Education in 2000, and authorized under signature of the Governor of the State of Hawaii, the President of the State Board of Education and the State Superintendent of Schools. Connections opened in August 2000, with 184 students in grades K-6. By August 2001, the school has expanded to a K-12 program with a total of 360 students. The need and desire for this unique charter school is evidenced by an enrollment waiting list and is further illustrated by the broad-based community representation in the operation of the school.

The school's faculty has been recognized for their innovative work, which has resulted in the school being designed as a "Demonstration Site" for the University of Hawaii Manoa Curriculum Research and Development Group. This designation has resulted in Connections becoming a major clearinghouse for emerging curriculum, as well as a center for teacher development.

Connections is based in the Hilo area. Currently, the elementary and middle school is located in the Kress Building on Kamehameha Avenue in downtown Hilo. The Kress building is owned by the school's affiliated non-profit organization. The high school is presently located in leased facilities at the Nani Mau Gardens, just outside of Hilo town

For long-term planning and budgeting, the school would prefer to not lease property from private owners. The desire to vacate the leased facilities in which the high school operates has provided the impetus to explore options for consolidating all of Connections academic programs at a single location. Consolidation provides an attractive option for management, operational, and financial reasons. Thus, began a search for suitable properties on which to develop new facilities for the school. In coordination with DLNR, the Kaumana property was identified by the school as a potential site for the new campus.

The master plan was prepared to guide the development of the new campus that would co-locate its elementary, middle, and high schools on a single property, would allow for program expansion, and improve the quality of education the school can provide its students. Connections would like to add a sustainable agricultural program to their academic offerings. At present, Connections does not have a pre-kindergarten program, but may choose to implement one in the future if demand exists and if adequate facilities can be provided.

ANALYSIS:

The subject property is currently vacant. Besides 2 easements, we have no records of any past dispositions.

The current zoning is agriculture. The proposed use is allowed.

Applicant qualifies for a direct lease pursuant to Section 171-95(a)(2) and 95.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended. Charter signed by Governor, Chairperson of the Board of Education and Superintendent of Education on May 5, 2000.

The master plan would guide development of a new campus. The new campus would consolidate all of Connections existing academic programs at a single location, plus provide land area, and facilities to expand their academic offerings. Facilities included in the master plan would accommodate the elementary, intermediate, and high school programs and supporting services; an agricultural program; a small dormitory facility; and a pre-Kindergarten (pre-K) program. The master plan proposes facilities to support approximately 380 K through grade 12 students, 30 non-traditional students, and 25 pre-K students.

The proposed campus is intended to be a school within a forest. The lower parcel consists of 35 acres where all of the major school facilities are proposed to be located. The upper parcel consists of 37 acres where a proposed walkway would be constructed to provide access and viewing opportunities within the forested area. This area will support educational programs including reforestation projects.

Applicant has not had a lease, permit, easement or other disposition of State lands terminated within the last five years due to non-compliance with such terms and conditions.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board:

1. Find that the public interest demands the issuance of a new direct lease to the Connections New Century Public Charter School for School Purposes.
2. Subject to the Applicant fulfilling all of the Applicant requirements listed above, authorize the issuance of a direct lease to the Connections New Century Public Charter School, covering the subject area under the terms and conditions cited above, which are by this reference incorporated herein and further subject to the following:
  - A. The standard terms and conditions of the most current non-profit lease document form, as may be amended from time to time;
  - B. Review and approval by the Department of the Attorney General; and
  - C. Such other terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Chairperson to best serve the interests of the State.

Respectfully Submitted,



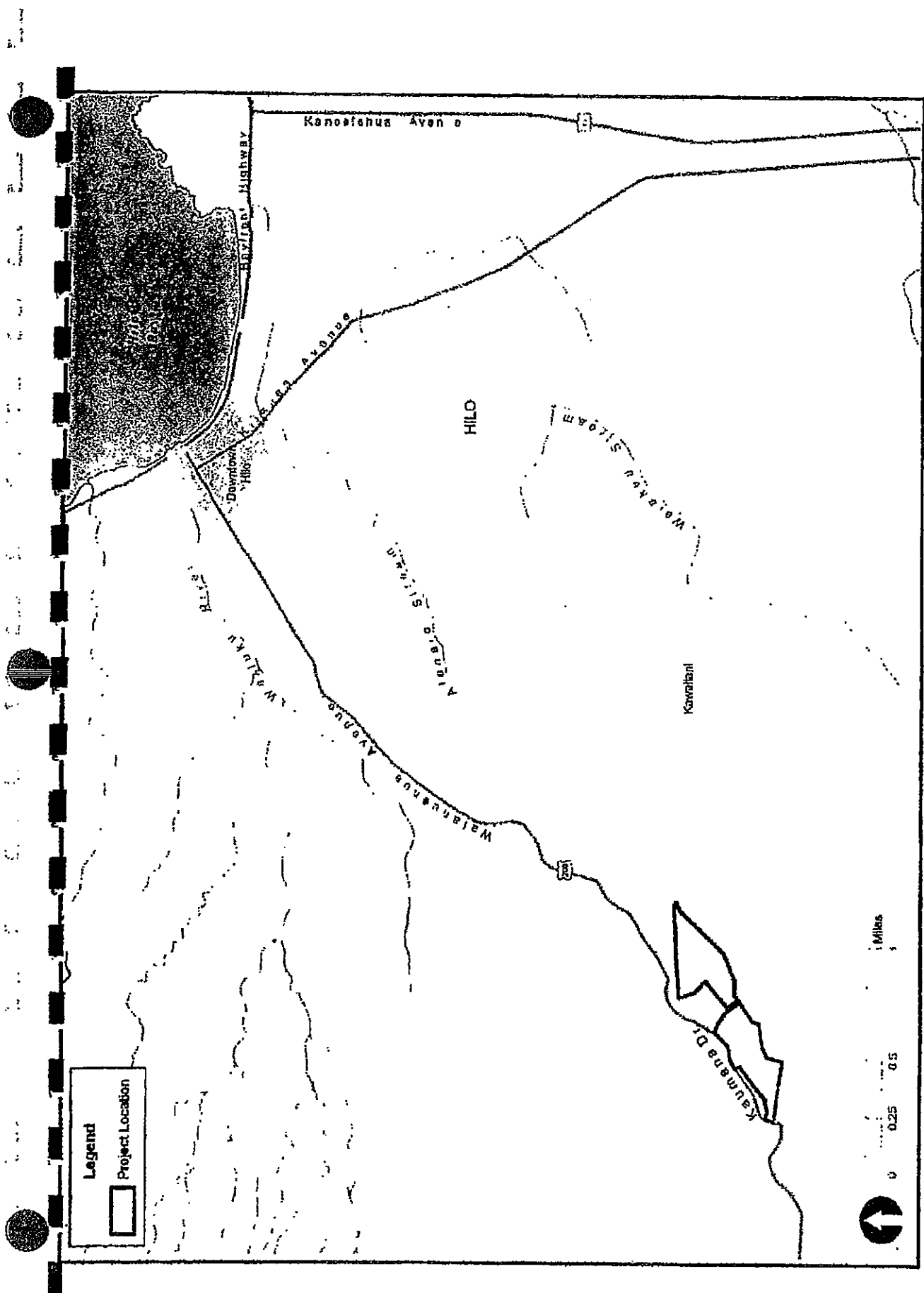
Charlene Unoki  
Assistant Administrator

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:



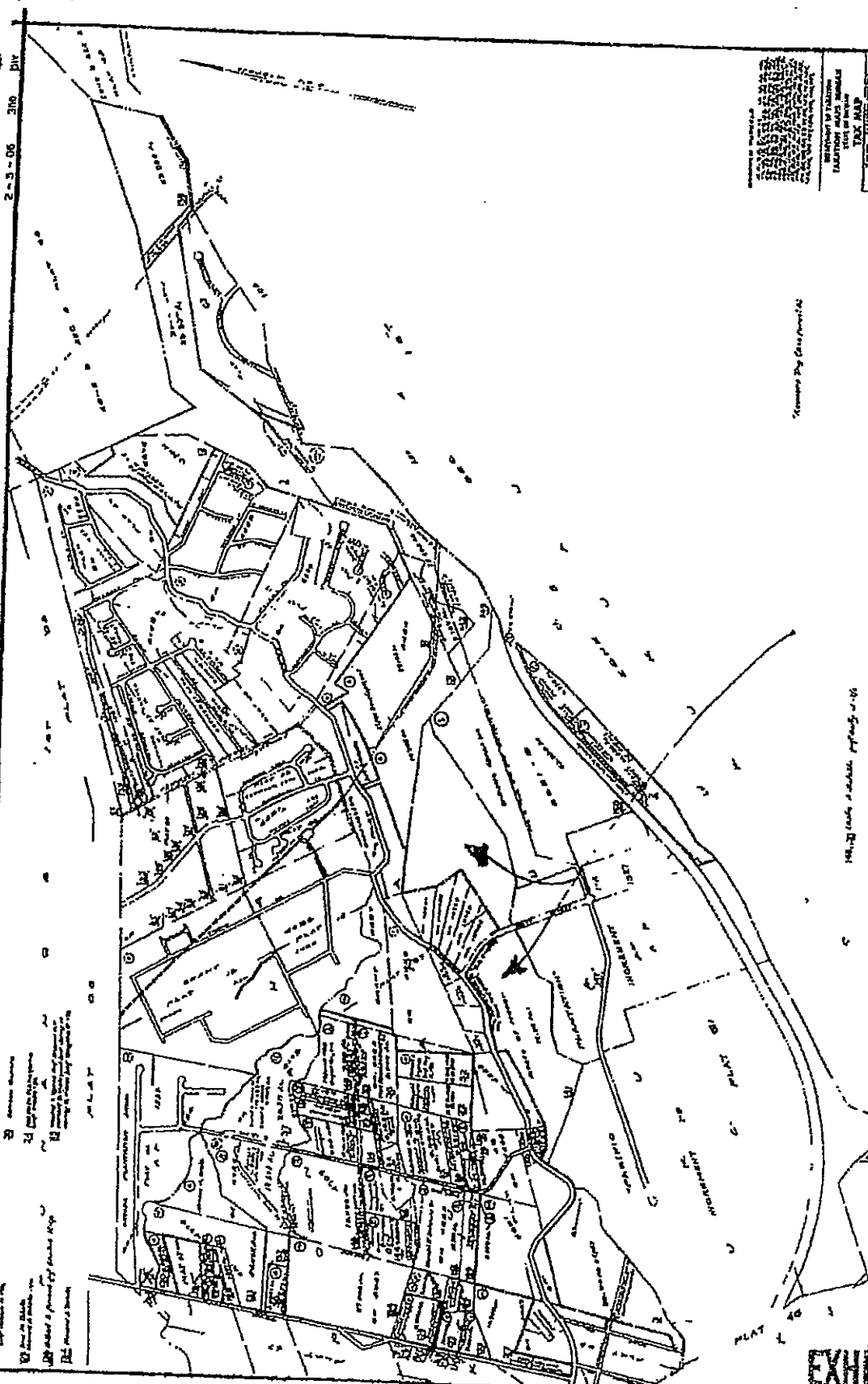
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William J. Aifa, Jr., Interim Chairperson



**PROJECT VICINITY**  
 Final EA -- Connection Public Charter School  
 Kaunani, South Hilo, Hawaii

2-3-06 Div



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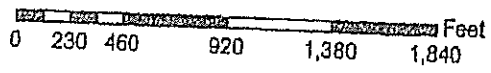
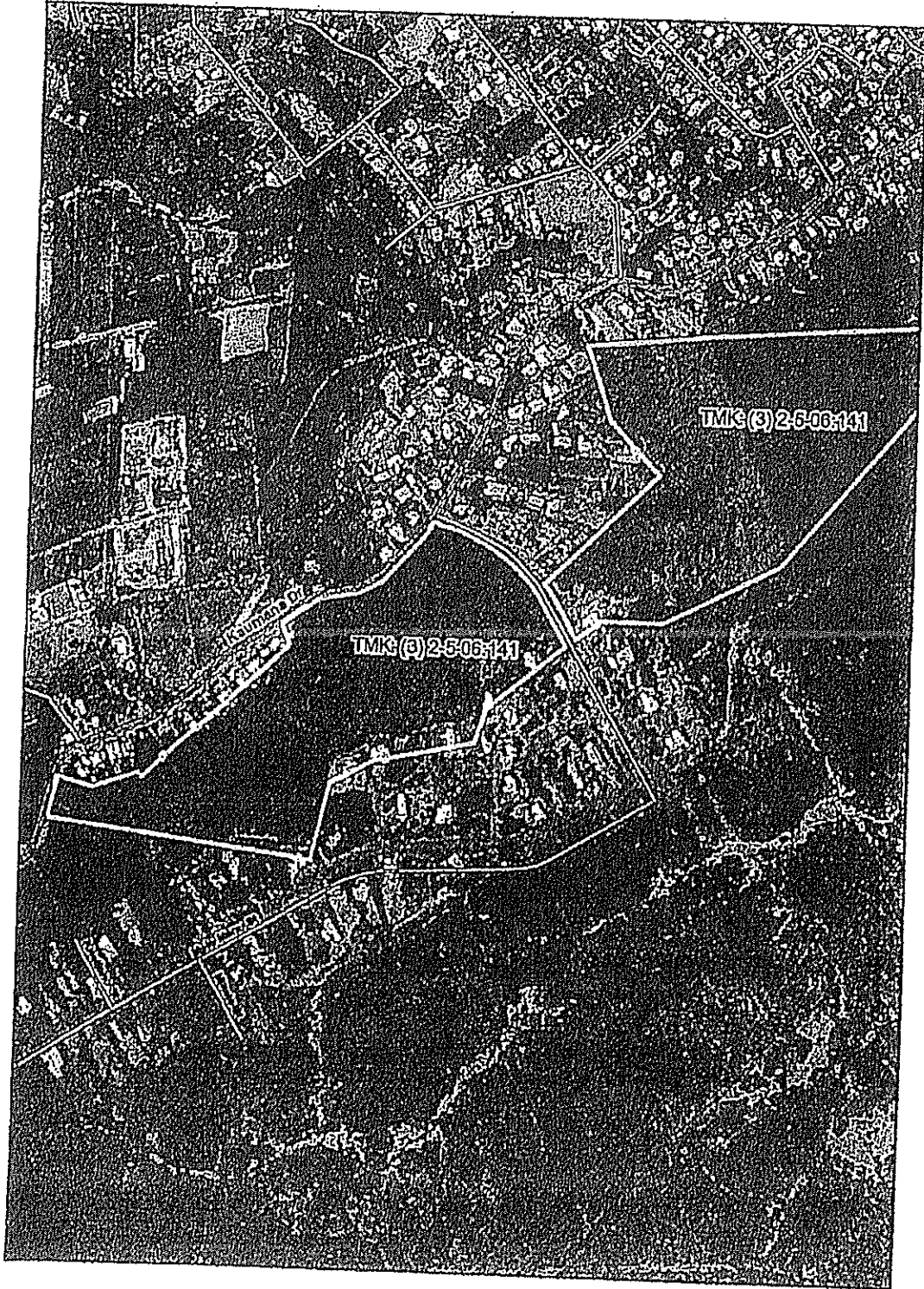
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CONTACT THE CHIEF

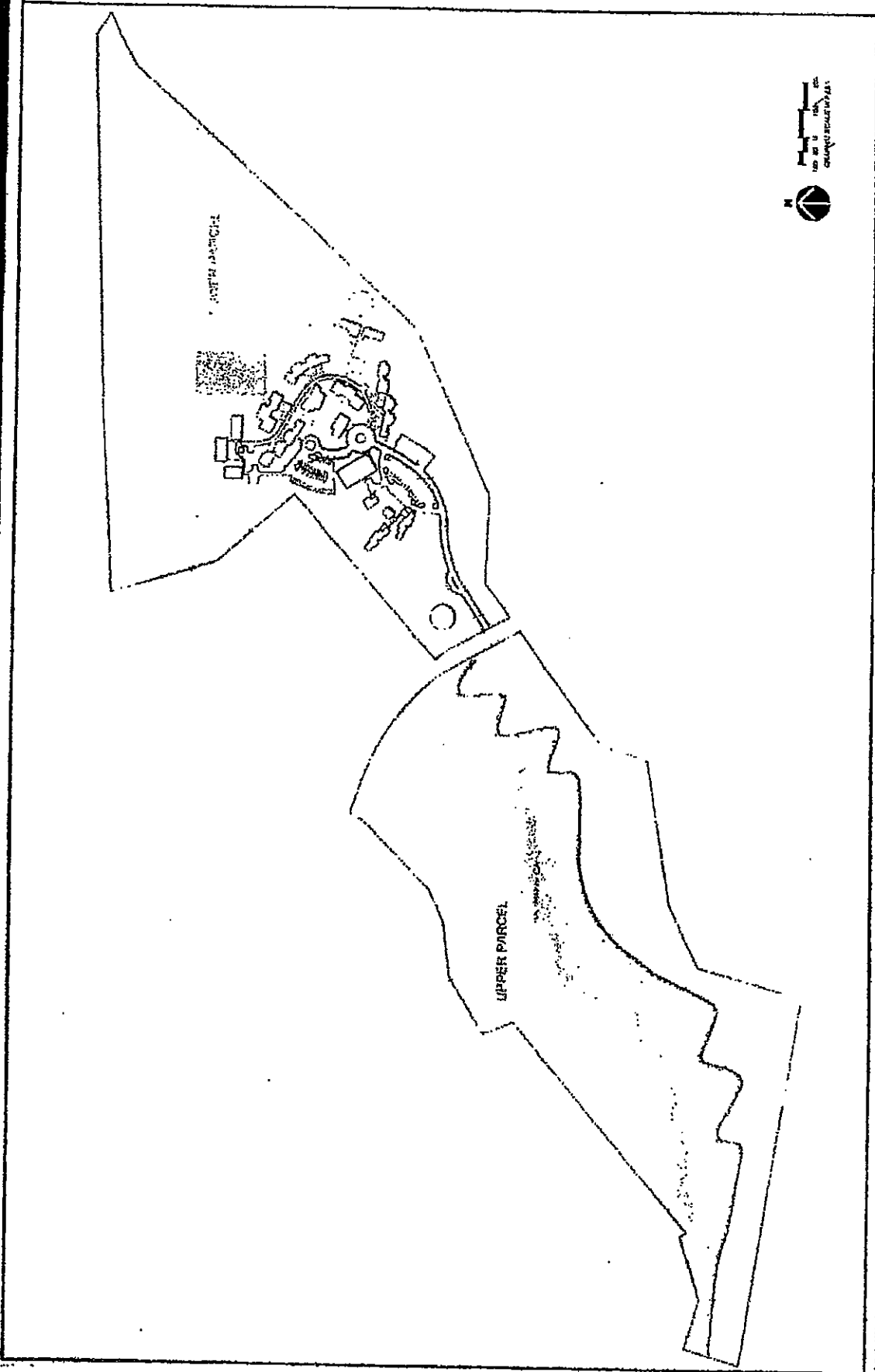
1950-51 made available by the

SOUTH HILLS, MARIANA, MARIANA

EXHIBIT #6 A 79

# Kaumana Parcel





**FIGURE 2 - 3**  
Koomoo, South Side, Hawaii

**PROJECT SITE PLAN**  
Final EA - Connected Public Charter School

APPLICATION AND QUALIFICATION QUESTIONNAIRE

(Non-Profit)

Write answers in the spaces provided. Attach additional sheets as necessary, clearly indicating the applicable section number.

Part I: General Information

1. Applicant's legal name: Connections New Century Public Charter School
2. Applicant's full mailing address:  
174 Kamehameha Ave.  
Hilo, HI 96720
3. Name of contact person: John Thatcher  
Contact person Phone No.: 808-935-2395 Fax No.: 808-961-2665
4. Applicant is interested in the following parcel:  
Tax Map Key No.: (3) 2-5-6:141 Location: Kaumana in Hilo  
If Applicant is current lessee: General Lease No.: \_\_\_\_\_
5. When was Applicant incorporated? chartered in 2000
6. Attach the following:
  - A. Articles of Incorporation
  - B. Bylaws
  - C. List of the non-profit agency's Board of Directors
  - D. IRS 501(c)(3) or (c)(1) status determination
  - E. Tax clearances from State of Hawaii and respective county Real Property Tax Office.
  - F. Audited financial statements for the last three years. If not audited, explain why.  
If Applicant is a new start-up, attach projected capital and operating budgets.
  - G. Any program material which describes eligibility requirements or other requirements to receive services

Part II: Qualification

7. Is Applicant registered to do business in Hawaii: Yes

Rev. 08/30/05

Non-Profit Application Form 157-66  
**EXHIBIT B** 99



8. Has Applicant received tax exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service? Yes
9. Is Applicant licensed or accredited in accordance with federal, State or county statutes, rules, ordinances, to conduct the proposed activities? Yes

List all such licenses and accreditations required: Charter signed by Governor, Chairperson of the Board of Education and Superintendent of Education

10. Is Applicant in default or otherwise not in good standing with any State (e.g. POS agency, DCCA, DLNR, etc.)? No

If yes, explain:

11. Has Applicant had a State of Hawaii lease, permit, license, easement or sale in fee cancelled within the last five years? If yes, list: No

<u>Doc. No.</u>	<u>Type of Agreement</u>	<u>Term of Agreement</u>

12. Does Applicant have any policies which discriminate against anyone on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex or physical handicap? No

If yes, explain:

13. Has Applicant received funding from a federal, State, or county government agency, the Aloha United Way, and/or a major private foundation within the last three years? Please list all such contracts below: Yes

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Contract Term</u>	<u>Contract Amount</u>
<u>State of Hawaii per pupil allocation</u>	<u>2005-2006 school year</u>	<u>\$1,886,046.00</u>
<u>Federal Title I</u>	<u>2005-2006 school year</u>	<u>\$83,447.00</u>
<u>Federal Impact Aid</u>	<u>2005-2006 school year</u>	<u>\$92,475.00</u>
<u>State of Hawaii per pupil allocation</u>	<u>2006-2007 school year</u>	<u>\$2,435,250.00</u>
<u>Federal Title I</u>	<u>2006-2007 school year</u>	<u>\$73,673.00</u>

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Contract Term</u>	<u>Contract Amount</u>
<u>Federal Impact Aid</u>	<u>2006-2007 school year</u>	<u>\$85,246.00</u>
<u>State of Hawaii per pupil allocation</u>	<u>2007-2008 school year</u>	<u>\$2,925,789.00</u>
<u>Federal Title I</u>	<u>2007-2008 school year</u>	<u>\$15,000 (to 1/25/08)</u>
<u>Federal Impact Aid</u>	<u>2007-2008 school year</u>	<u>\$97,558.00</u>

14. If Applicant has not received funding from a federal, State or county government agency, the Aloha United Way and/or a major private foundation during the past three years, describe Applicant's qualifications to effectively perform the proposed services, including but not limited to, grants or subsidies received from non-major, private funders and/or staff or Board members who possess significant experience in Applicant's service field.
- 

Part III: Program Activities and Persons to be Served

15. What activities will be conducted on the premises to be leased?

K-12 educational program as defined in chartering document

16. What are the specific objectives of these activities?

Vision: To establish and sustain a community, business, and learning 'ohana (family). Within this framework, inquiry and project-based curricula will stress independent thinking, development of the individual's mind and talents, cooperative learning, sense of self within the neighborhood and the world-wide community with particular attention to the precious and unique environment of Hawaii, both as an island ecology and a place where ethnic diversity is the norm.

Mission: Our mission is to create an 'ohana which is conducive to the recognition and development of individual talents. Thematic and experiential learning experiences are provided which focus on how students construct knowledge using creative and critical thinking. A forum

for the development of the ability to recognize and differentiate a quality result or product is offered. Classroom experiences are connected to real life experiences so that students can grow in the understanding of themselves in relation to their community and the world.

Outcomes/goals: Instruction is guided by five powerful student-centered goals. Students demonstrate mastery through exhibitions, successful projects, and demonstrations of content mastery. The focus is on fully informing and preparing students for their future, particularly in fostering careers that sustain the economy on this island.

Goal 1 – Caring, Responsible Community Members: Students shall develop their abilities to become responsible members of a family, work group, or local/global community within the framework of democracy.

Goal 2 - Creative, Critical Thinkers: Students will think creatively, critically, and strategically to make effective decisions, solve problems, and achieve goals in their academic, personal and social lives, in and out of school.

Goal 3 - Effective Communicators: Students will write, speak and listen effectively in a variety of situations for a variety of audiences and purposes.

Goal 4 - Users and Producers of Technology: Student will understand, use, and evaluate technologies as well as produce new innovative uses and applications in a variety of contexts for a variety of audiences and purposes including academic, personal and social.

Goal 5 - Stewards of Hawaii's Unique Environment: Students will understand a variety of eco-systems, natural energy flows and the natural environment in order to preserve and design systems to renew natural resources and habitats.

17. Describe the community need for and the public benefit derived from these activities.

Charter schools are nonsectarian public schools of choice that operate with freedom from many of the regulations that apply to traditional public schools. The "charter" establishing each such school is a performance contract detailing the school's mission, program, goals, students

served, methods of assessment, and ways to measure success. Charter schools are accountable to their sponsor to produce positive academic results and adhere to the charter contract. The basic concept of charter schools is that they exercise increased autonomy in return for this accountability. They are accountable for both academic results and fiscal practices to several groups: the sponsor that grants them, the parents who choose them, and the public that funds them.

18. Describe the targeted population for these activities by: 1) age group, 2) gender, 3) ethnic background, 4) income level, 5) geographic location of residence, 6) special needs/disability, and 7) other applicable characteristic(s).

The school serves families coming from a range of geographical locations on the Big Island. The communities presently served include Hilo extending northward to the Hamakua district and Waimea; upper Puna district to Volcano Village; and the lower Puna district to Pahoa. There are currently 359 students enrolled. The school serves an ethnically and economically diverse population. Ethnically the 2007-2008 student population is as follows in descending order: 35% White, 28% Hawaiian or Part Hawaiian, 15% - Mixed (Other), 4% Portuguese, 4% Hispanic, 4% Japanese, 3% Native American, 3% Filipino, 2% Black, 1% Samoan, 1% Korean, and 1% Chinese. Fifty-five percent of the students receive free or reduced lunches.

Connections has a significant population of students with special needs (12% of total population). Special education students are integrated into the classrooms using an inclusion model. A little over 1% of the students within the school have section 504 accommodations. The school also has a growing ELL (English Language Learner) population.

19. Describe all eligibility requirements of clients to participate in the activities, e.g. age, income level, ethnic background, income level, disability, etc.

None

20. Do you require membership to participate in these activities? Yes

If yes, list the requirements of becoming and remaining a member:

Enrollment in the school

21 How many unduplicated persons will engage in the activities annually?

Activity

Persons Per Year

The population of the school is currently 359 students. The school currently has 52 employees.

22. Is State funding made available for the activities to be conducted on the leased premises? Yes

If yes, by which State agency: The Hawaii State Charter Schools Administrative Office

23. List all activities to be conducted on the leased premises which require payment of excise taxes, e.g. subleasing, sale of products or services. Include an estimate of annual gross revenues from each activity.

None

Development of the Land

24. Describe the proposed site development plan for the property, indicating the location and size of buildings, parking areas, landscaped areas and related uses. Attach sketch of plan if available.

The site plan for the property is still in the early stages of development. The vision has been highly influenced by Randall Fielding an award-winning educational facility planner who specializes in holistic, vision-driven designs for tomorrow's learners. The educational facility that the school envisions requires learning environments that support curiosity, as well as literacy. The school will integrate a new understanding of learning for the 21st century that

extends beyond traditional building solutions. Fortunately, a substantial, readily accessed database of educational architecture over the last decade has resulted in a rapidly emerging language of best practices for planning and designing 21st century schools. The emerging language of educational design supports both the foundational skills of literacy with the demands of a global economy, which require that learners are curious, self-directed, and able to work across platforms. Six aspects of best practice offer essential elements that support the requirements of the school's educational framework:

1. Supporting teaching and learning

2. Maximizing physical comfort and well being

3. Demonstrating environmental responsibility

4. Serving the community

5. Establishing design principles that make buildings work better, last longer, cost less to renovate and maintain, and inspire and adapt to changing needs

6. Applying open, transparent and collaborative processes that allow the school and community to assume ownership of planning and design

25. What improvements to the land do you intend to make and at what cost?

We are in the process of hiring a consultant to prepare the EA (environmental assessment).

That information will be included in the EA.

26. How will the improvements be funded?

Same as #25.

27. Describe all environmental, land use and other permitting requirements which must be met to develop the land as proposed.

EA is needed for the use of State lands. Our consultant during the consultation process with other government agencies, will incorporate any permits/approvals required.

28. Will you be subleasing any portion of the property? If yes, describe the sublease uses:

No

Part V: Notarized Certification

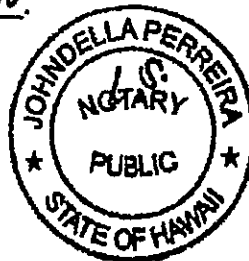
I/We hereby certify that the statements and information contained in this Application and Questionnaire, including all attachments, are true and accurate to the best of my/our knowledge and understand that if any statements are shown to be false or misrepresented, I/we may be disqualified from receiving a lease or my/our lease may be canceled.

John L. Thatcher      Connections Public Charter School  
Applicant Name                      Applicant Name  
By: John L. Thatcher      By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Its: CEO                      Its: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: 1/28/08

Subscribed and sworn to before me this

28 day of January, 2008

[Signature]  
Notary Public JOHNDELLA PERREIRA



County of: Hawaii

State of: Hawaii

My commission expires: 04/08/2011

**HAWAII (HRS 343)**

**7. Connections Public Charter School Master Plan (FEA)**

**Island:** Hawaii  
**District:** South Hilo  
**TMK:** (3) 2-5-06:141  
**Permits:** Special Permit, NPDES, Wastewater system, Water reuse, Building, Grading  
**Applicant:** Connections Public Charter School, 174 Kamehameha Avenue, Hilo, HI 96720. John L. Thatcher II, CEO; (866) 961-3664  
**Approving Agency:** Dept of Land and Natural Resources, Land Division, 1151 Punchbowl Street, Room 220 Honolulu, HI 96813. Charlene Unoki, 587-0426  
**Consultant:** Wil Chee - Planning & Environmental, 1018 Palm Drive, Honolulu, HI 96814. Cella Shen, 596 4688; cshen@wcpohawaii.com  
**Comments:** FEA accepted by the Approving Agency. There is no comment period

A conceptual master plan to guide the development of a new campus in Kaumana, South Hilo, Hawaii, has been developed for Connections Public Charter School. The new campus would consolidate all of Connections' existing academic programs (elementary, intermediate, and high schools) at a single location, plus provide land area to expand their academic offerings to include an agricultural program and a forestry/conservation program. The campus would accommodate approximately 400 students.

The project is not expected to cause any significant adverse long-term impacts to the environment. However, potential short-term, temporary impacts could occur during the construction period. These include impacts on the acoustical environment, air quality, soils, fauna, and lava tube collapse. Adherence to all applicable regulations and permit conditions, and implementation of construction site BMPs and other protective/mitigation measures would minimize the effects of any construction-related impacts. Though the project site is in the State Land Use Agriculture district and is zoned Agriculture by the County of Hawaii, no loss of agricultural lands will occur as the site is undeveloped. The project would not adversely affect traffic and circulation in the project area.

The project would result in beneficial impacts by improving educational services and opportunities for Hilo's children. A new campus would allow Connections to continue teaching at its high educational standards and the proposed agricultural program would provide local children with marketable skills for working in and developing small sustainable agricultural operations.

**8. The Villages of Aina Lea (FEIS)**

**Island:** Hawaii  
**District:** South Kohala  
**TMK:** (3) 6-8-01:25, 36, 37 (por.), 38, 39 and 40 (por.) and (3) 6-8-02:19 (por.)  
**Permits:** Special Permit to permit construction of the project's Wastewater Treatment Plant, subdivision approval, and various construction related permits, County approval to a change from the existing multiple zoning designations to a single "Project District" zoning  
**Applicant:** DW Aina Lea Development, LLC, 68-4747 Queen Kaahumanu Highway, Kamuela, HI 96743. Email: [management@ainalea.com](mailto:management@ainalea.com), 845-9945  
**Accepting Authority:** Hawaii County Planning Department, 101 Pauahi Street, Suite 3, Hilo, HI 96720. B J Lathhead Todd, Planning Director, Phone: (808) 961-8288 FAX: (808) 961-8742  
**Consultant:** J M Leonard Planning, LLC, James M. Leonard, AICP, 1100 Ainalako Road, Hilo, HI 96720. Email: [jmleonard@mac.com](mailto:jmleonard@mac.com), 896-3459  
**Comments:** FEIS accepted by the Accepting Authority. There is no comment period





**Ted H.S. Hong**  
**Attorney at Law**

*Employment, Workplace Law & Litigation*

**Sue L.K. Lee Loy**  
Planner and Legal Assistant

April 11, 2012

Mr. Gordan Heit  
Department of Land and Natural Resources  
75 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

RE: **Connections Public Charter School**  
**TMK (3)2-5-006:141**

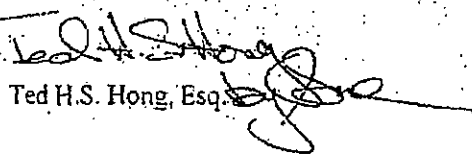
Dear Mr. Heit:

On behalf of Connection Public Charter School, hereinafter "Connections", enclosed please find a metes and bounds description and map for Tax Map Key (3)2-5-006:141, hereinafter "Property."

By way of back ground, Connection prepared and processed an Environmental Assessment for the Property and on October 22, 2010 was issued a Finding of No Significant Impact by the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Since that time, Connections has prepared this metes and bounds descriptions and map for the Property to complete the submittal requirements to secure and enter into a lease with the Board of Land and Natural Resources for the Property.

We look forward to your review of this information and the future execution of a lease agreement with the Board of Land and Natural Resources. Should you have any questions, please feel free to call our office at 933-1919.

Sincerely,

  
Ted H.S. Hong, Esq.

c) Connections PCS

WILLIAM A. BERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



WILLIAM J. AYLA, JR.  
COMMISSIONER  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
1555 KALANIANAʻOHE AVENUE, SUITE 204  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
LAND DIVISION

75 Aupuni Street, Room 204  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
PHONE (808) 961-9590  
FAX (808) 961-9599

April 25, 2012

Ref. No.: 08HD-018  
Author: LD-GH

Connections New Century Public Charter School  
174 Kamehameha Avenue  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Dear Applicant:

Subject: Advertising Costs for Direct Lease to Connections New Century Public Charter School for Educational Purposes, Pono Hawaii, Kukuau, 2<sup>nd</sup>, South Hilo, Hawaii Tax Map Key: 3<sup>rd</sup>/2-5-06:141.

We have obtained the cost of the public notice required pursuant to Section 171-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for the above referenced disposition (attached for your reference).

Please remit a check in the amount of \$486.61 for the ad cost. The check should be made payable to the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

You are requested to remit this amount as soon as possible to avoid any price changes by the newspaper agencies.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me at the Hawaii District Land Office at 974-6203. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gordon C. Heit".

Gordon C. Heit  
District Land Agent

Enclosure

cc: Land Board Member  
Central Files  
District Files  
Ted H. S. Hong

6

## Public Notice - Direct Lease to Public Charter Schools

PUBLIC NOTICE  
INTENTION TO DIRECT LEASE

Pursuant to Sections 171-16(c) Hawaii Revised Statutes the Board of Land and Natural Resources hereby gives notice of its intent to lease 70 150 acres of State land situate at Ponoehaia Kukuau 2<sup>nd</sup> SouthHilo Hawai'i, and identified as Tax Map Key: (3) 2-5-06 141 to the Connections New Century Public Charter School [§ 171-95.5] This lease shall enable the lessee to utilize said parcel for its school

Pursuant to Section 171-43 Hawaii Revised Statutes and the minimum rent policy established by the Board at its meeting of May 13 2005 Under Agenda Item D 19 the annual rent will be set at \$480.00

Information related to this proposed direct lease may be reviewed during office hours at the Department of Land and Natural Resources Land Division, 75 Aupuni Street Rm #204 Hilo Hawai'i, and at the offices of the Land Division on the Islands of Kaa'i Maui, and O'ahu. Call or write to any of these offices to request information in an alternate format

DONE at the office of the Department of Land and Natural Resources this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2012


Date of Publication: Tuesday, May 1, 2012

→ [Download Notice and Bid Packet](#)

7

**Ted H.S. Hong**  
**Attorney at Law**

Employment, Workplace Law & Litigation

**Sue L.K. Lee-Loy**  
Planner and Legal Assistant

July 18, 2012

Gordon C. Heit, Land Agent  
Department of Land and Natural Resources  
State of Hawaii  
75 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

**SUBJECT: CONNECTION PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL - LEASE AGREEMENT**  
Tax Map Key (J)2-5-006:141 South Hilo, Hawaii

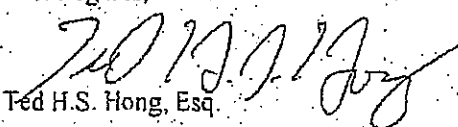
Dear Mr. Heit:

Our office is assisting Connections Public Charter School, hereinafter "Connections PCS" navigate the entitlement and regulatory process to develop a charter school camps at TMK (J)2-5-006:141, hereinafter "Property". Could you kindly provide an update on progress of the Lease Agreement between the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) and Connection PCS for the Property? As part of the land use process Connections PCS will need to secure a Special Permit from the County of Hawaii Planning Department, hereinafter "County" for the Property and this information will be helpful as we move through the Special Permit process with the County.

By way of timeline, Connection PCS plans to transmit the Special Permit Application, hereinafter "Application" to the County of Hawaii Planning Department by the end of July 2012. Assuming the Application is accepted, the Application could be reviewed by the Planning Commission sometime in October or November 2012. In addition, due to the development area and size of the Property, the Application will then be transmitted to the State Land Use Commission for their review and approval. We are hopeful to complete this land use process by December 2012.

We trust this information is helpful and should you have any additional questions or have other inquiries about Connections CPS plans for the Property, please don't hesitate to contact me or Sue Lee Loy of my office at 933.1919

Best Regards,

  
Ted H.S. Hong, Esq.

c: Connection CPS

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



WILLIAM J. AHLA, JR.  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
LAND DIVISION

75 Aupuni Street, Room 204  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
PHONE: (808) 961-9590  
FAX: (808) 961-9599

July 24, 2012

Ref. No.: 08HD-018  
Author: LD-GH

Mr. Ted H. S. Hong  
For Connections New Century  
Public Charter School  
P.O. Box 4217  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Dear Mr. Hong:

Subject: Connections New Century Public Charter School, Pono Hawaii, Kukuau,  
2<sup>nd</sup>, South Hilo, Hawaii Tax Map Key: 3<sup>rd</sup>/2-5-06:141.

We are in receipt of your letter dated July 18, 2012, requesting an update on the progress of the direct lease to Connections New Century Public Charter School for educational purposes.

The file is currently with the office of the Attorney General for the drafting of the lease document. Upon completion of the draft lease, we will forward it to the school for signature. However, there is one question the AG's office is asking. They note that the school is not registered with the DCCA and were inquiring for execution purposes, who will be signing the lease? Please provide this information so that I may pass it along to the appropriate Deputy AG.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me at the Hawaii District Land Office at 961-9590 Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gordon C. Heit".

Gordon C. Heit  
District Land Agent

cc: District Files



8

**Ted H.S. Hong**  
**Attorney at Law**

Employment, Workplace Law & Litigation

**Sue L. K. Lee Loy**  
Planner and Legal Assistant

July 18, 2012

Gordon C. Heit, Land Agent  
Department of Land and Natural Resources  
State of Hawaii  
75 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

**SUBJECT: CONNECTION PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL - TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY**  
Tax Map Key (3)2-5-006:141 South Hilo, Hawaii

Dear Mr. Heit:

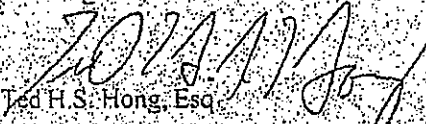
I am Ted H.S. Hong, Esq. and my office is assisting Connections Public Charter School, hereinafter "Connections PCS" navigate the entitlement and regulatory process to develop a charter school campus at TMK (3)2-5-006:141, hereinafter "Property." Part of the regulatory process requires various studies and reports and recently Connections PCS secured the services of license surveyor Bob Shirai to prepare a topographic survey of the Property. Information and data collected from the topographic survey will be used to develop future building and construction plans for the development of the charter school campus.

Please allow this letter to provide you notice that Mr. Shirai and his survey crew will be on the Property beginning August 2012 through the end of September 2012. Kindly note the Property is separated by Edita Street (a mauka parcel and a makai parcel) and Mr. Shirai will focus his topographic survey on the makai parcel and will be doing some minor hand-clearing of vegetation to secure the topographic equipment to complete the survey.

I have also enclosed a Right-of-Entry for the Property for your review and signature and trust that this will assist Connection PCS to continue the process of securing various technical studies, entitlement and regulatory permits for the development of a charter school in anticipation of approval of the Lease Agreement by the Board of Land and Natural Resources. I have enclosed a self-address envelope for your ease to return the executed Right-of-Entry.

We trust this information is helpful and should you have any additional questions or have other inquiries about Connections CPS plans for the Property, please don't hesitate to contact me or Sue Lee Loy of my office at 933-1919.

Best Regards,

  
Ted H.S. Hong, Esq.

c: Connection CPS.

RIGHT-OF-ENTRY AUTHROIZATION

Tax Map Key: (3)2-5-006:141  
South Hilo, County and State of Hawaii

Connection Public Charter School (Connections PCS) and/or Community Based Education Support Services (CBESS-- Friends of Connections) and their designees or agents are permitted Right-of-Entry to above said real property.

A photostatic or facsimile copy of this executed authorization shall also be considered as effective and valid as the original.

---

It's:

9

William P. Kenoi  
Mayor



Harry S. Kubojiri  
Police Chief

Paul K. Ferreira  
Deputy Police Chief

## County of Hawaii

### POLICE DEPARTMENT

349 Kapiolani Street • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-3998  
(808) 935-3311 • Fax (808) 961-8865

September 19, 2012

Mr. William Boyd  
Administrative Assistant  
Connections Public Charter School  
714 Kamehameha Avenue  
Hilo, HI 96720

Subject: Report Request

Report requested is not available as:

- more information is needed; unable to locate report.
- written authorization required from party in interest.
- a subpoena duces tecum is required.
- it involves a juvenile.

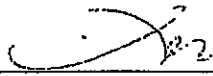
Report(s): Per your request of 8-22-12, enclosed are reports:

C12018558

Other:

If you have any questions regarding this information, please call Lt. Randal M. Ishii of our Records and Identification Section at (808) 961-2232.

HARRY S. KUBOJIRI  
POLICE CHIEF

BY   
RANDAL M. ISHII, LIEUTENANT  
RECORDS AND IDENTIFICATION

RMI:ss

Enc.



*'O'ohie paa hoo 'Ohe i ka hoolau hoo'ohie*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

Hawai'i Police Department  
349 Kapiolani Street  
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720  
Attn: Lt. Randal Ishii, Records Dept.  
FAX: 961-8870

August 22, 2012

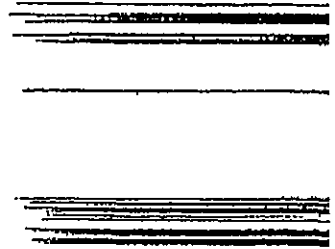
Lt. Ishii,

I am requesting a copy of police report #C12018558, issued on 7/14/2012 by Officer Pacheco. The incident was theft.

I understand that this request is taken in the order that it is received and can expect to wait 10 days to 2 weeks. I also understand that I may be billed for copying and postage. Please mail the report to 174 Kamehameha Avenue, Hilo HI 96720, to my attention or call 895-6857 if I am able to pick up the report.

Sincerely,

William Boyd  
Administrative Assistant  
Connections Public Charter School  
174 Kamehameha Ave.  
Hilo, HI 96720



# HAWAII POLICE

Incident ID: C12018558  
Page: 1

## Incident Data Sheet Report

ORI Number: HAWAII  
Printed On: 7/21/2012 15:04 (Sat)

Incident ID: C12018558		Offense Code: THEFT 4 (708-0833)	
Occurred Address: EDITA ST HILO, HI 96720			
District: HL	Post: 131	Source:	
Log#:	File#:	Case#:	
Situation Found:		Disposition:	
Date Reported: 7/14/2012 12:40		Disp Date:	
Date Occurred: 7/12/2012 17:00 TO 7/12/2012 17:00		Case Status: Investigation Continuing	
		Status Date: 7/14/2012 00:00	
Shooting: <input type="checkbox"/>	Domestic Violence: <input type="checkbox"/>	Hate Crime: <input type="checkbox"/>	Follow-Up: <input type="checkbox"/> Reclassify: <input type="checkbox"/>
Date Approved By Supervisor: 7/21/2012 15:01		Supervising Officer: CHONG, MILES # 181250	
Division:		Reporting Officer: PACHECO, ZENAS PAUL # 4595	
Date Assigned To Investigator: 7/14/2012 13:19		Investigator Assigned: PACHECO, ZENAS PAUL # 4595	
<p>Synopsis:</p> <p>ON 07-14-2012: JUSTIN THATCHER M-32, REPORTED OBSERVING A WHITE PICKUP TRUCK (UNKNOWN PLATE) LEAVING FROM A PROPERTY BEING LEASED BY CONNECTIONS CHARTER SCHOOL, WITH A LOAD OF OHIA TREES IN THE BACK. UPON THATCHER INSPECTING THE PROPERTY HE OBSERVED NUMEROUS OHIA TREE'S (FRESH CUT) TO BE REMOVED. UPON CONTACT WITH CONNECTIONS PRINCIPLE JOHN THATCHER HE RELATED NO ONE WAS GIVEN PERMISSION TO REMOVE ANY TREES FROM THE PROPERTY.</p> <p>THE VALUE &amp; THE EXACT AMOUNT OF REMOVED OHIA TREES IS UNDETERMINED.</p> <p>INV: CONTINUING</p> <p>WPC 07-21-2012/1332 HRS</p>			

### Clearance Information

Clearance Date	Incident Reference	Cleared By	Clearance Type

CONFIDENTIAL

FOR YOUR AGENCY'S USE ONLY  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH 92F-19 HRS.

# HAWAII POLICE

Incident ID: C12018558  
Page: 2

## Incident Data Sheet Report

ORI Number: HAWAII  
Printed On: 7/21/2012 15:04 (Sat)

### Associated Names

Victim		Vict/Susp Rel:			Name: CONNECTIONS CHARTER SCHOOL,		
DOB	Age/Time: UNKNOWN	Juv:	Sex:	SSN:	Race:		
Home Phone:		Work Phone:		Other Phone:			
Arrest#	FBI:			SBI:	State		
Appr	Appr By:			Charges:			
Circumstance: ,							
Visitor: <input type="checkbox"/>	Military: <input type="checkbox"/>	Police Dept Associate: <input type="checkbox"/>		Justif. Homicide:			
Follow-Up:				Weap:			
Injured: <input type="checkbox"/>	Reasons for Treatment: ,					Treated: <input type="checkbox"/>	Voluntary: <input type="checkbox"/>
Hospital:			Physician:				
Transported By:				Confined: <input type="checkbox"/>	Refused Admission: <input type="checkbox"/>	Sent Home: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Condition:				Other Action:			
Injuries , , , ,							
Breath Test: <input type="checkbox"/>	Blood Test: <input type="checkbox"/>	Refused Test: <input type="checkbox"/>	Test Results:				
Drivers License State:		Expiration:		Number:			
Primary Address:							
Primary Mailing:							
Second Address:							
Second Mailing:							
Advice of Victims Rights Provided <input type="checkbox"/> How Notified :							

Comment:

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
FOR YOUR AGENCY'S USE ONLY  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH 92F-19 HRS.



# HAWAII POLICE

Incident ID: C12018558  
Page: 3

## Incident Data Sheet Report

ORI Number: HAWAII  
Printed On: 7/21/2012 15:04 (Sat)

### Associated Names

Reporting Person		Vict/Susp Rel:			Name: THATCHER, JUSTIN		
DOB 9/22/1979		Age/Time: 32	Juv: N	Sex: M	SSN: 576413220	Race: WHITE	
Home Phone:		Work Phone: (808) 959-6037		Other Phone:			
Arrest# HH-74952		FBI: 363670PC5			SBI:		State
Appr		Appr By:		Charges:			
Circumstance: ,							
Visitor: <input type="checkbox"/>	Military: <input type="checkbox"/>	Police Dept Associate: <input type="checkbox"/>		Justif. Homicide:			
Follow-Up:				Weap:			
Injured: <input type="checkbox"/>	Reasons for Treatment: ,				Treated: <input type="checkbox"/>	Voluntary: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Hospital:			Physician:				
Transported By:				Confined: <input type="checkbox"/>	Refused Admission: <input type="checkbox"/>	Sent Home: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Condition:				Other Action:			
Injuries , , , ,							
Breath Test: <input type="checkbox"/>	Blood Test: <input type="checkbox"/>	Refused Test: <input type="checkbox"/>	Test Results:				
Drivers License State:		Expiration:		Number: NONE			
Primary Address:							
Primary Mailing:							
Second Address:							
Second Mailing:							
Advice of Victims Rights Provided <input type="checkbox"/> How Notified :							

Comment:

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
FOR YOUR AGENCY'S USE ONLY  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH 92F-19 HRS.

# HAWAII POLICE

## Incident Data Sheet Report

ORI Number: HAWAII

Printed On: 7/21/2012 15:04 (Sat)

Incident ID: C12018558

Page: 4

### Associated Names

OTHER	Vict/Susp Rel:		Name: THATCHER, JOHN		
DOB 6/6/1954	Age/Time: 58	Juv: N	Sex: M	SSN: 563406307	Race: WHITE
Home Phone: (808) 935-4234	Work Phone: (808) 959-6037		Other Phone: (808) 895-6856		
Arrest#	FBI:	SBI:		State	
Appr	Appr By:		Charges:		
Circumstance:					
Visitor: <input type="checkbox"/>	Military: <input type="checkbox"/>	Police Dept Associate: <input type="checkbox"/>		Justif. Homicide:	
Follow-Up:			Weap:		
Injured: <input type="checkbox"/>	Reasons for Treatment:			Treated: <input type="checkbox"/>	Voluntary: <input type="checkbox"/>
Hospital:		Physician:			
Transported By:			Confined: <input type="checkbox"/>	Refused Admission: <input type="checkbox"/>	Sent Home: <input type="checkbox"/>
Condition:			Other Action:		
Injuries , , , ,					
Breath Test: <input type="checkbox"/>	Blood Test: <input type="checkbox"/>	Refused Test: <input type="checkbox"/>	Test Results:		
Drivers License State: HI	Expiration: 6/6/2010 12:00	Number: H00623396			
Primary Address:					
Primary Mailing:					
Second Address:					
Second Mailing:					
Advice of Victims Rights Provided <input type="checkbox"/> How Notified :					

Comment:

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### Vehicles

### Stolen Vehicles

# HAWAII POLICE

Incident ID: C12018558  
Page: 5

## Incident Data Sheet Report

ORI Number: HAWAII  
Printed On: 7/21/2012 15:04 (Sat)

### Property

Tag#: 1	Brand:	Model:
Action: <b>STOLEN</b>	Prop Type:	
Units: Amt/Unit	Est Value:	
Disposition: <b>PENDING RECOVERY</b>	Occurred 7/12/2012 00:00	Reported On: 7/14/2012 00:00
Serial Number:	UCR Code: <b>Miscellaneous</b>	NCIC Code:
Secondary Action:	Secondary Location:	
Secondary Value:	Secondary Reported On:	Secondary Occurred

Description : OHIA TREES

Comment :

### Citations

<u>Ticket#</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Ordinance</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Officer</u>

### Field Interviews

<u>Field Interview #</u>	<u>Date/Time Occurred</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Vehicle Plate</u>	<u>Vehicle VIN</u>

### Accidents

<u>Report Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>

### Suspects (Unknown)

### Victim to Suspect Relationships

<u>Victim #</u>	<u>Victim Name</u>	<u>Suspect #</u>	<u>Suspect Name</u>	<u>Relationship</u>

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# HAWAII POLICE

Incident ID: C12018558  
Page: 6

## Incident Data Sheet Report

ORI Number: HAWAII  
Printed On: 7/21/2012 15:04 (Sat)

### Offense Codes

Code: THEFT 4		Rank:	Attempt	Dom Violence:
Date Occurred ( FROM ):		Date Occurred ( TO ):		Date Reported:
Code Section:	Bias:	Statute:		
Location: OTHER - OPEN FOR FREE		Final Location:	Rape Location:	
Entry Type: Other	Entry Area: Unknown		Instrument Used:	
# Premises Entered:	Entry Method: NFORCE	Entry Point 1: Other	Entry Point 2:	
Exit Point 1: Other	Exit Point		Method Of Exit: TRUCK	
Area Target:		Property Target 1: Other		
Property Target 2:		Property Target 3:		
Victim Target:		Time Of Day:		
Circumstance:		Security 1:	Security 2:	
Weapon 1: OTHER	Automatic:	Weapon 2:	Automatic:	
Weapon 3:		Automatic:		
Criminal Act 1:		Criminal Act 2:	Criminal Act 3:	
Suspected Use 1:		Suspected Use 2:	Suspected Use 3:	
Susp. Action to Prem. 1: Other		Susp. Action to Prem. 2:	Susp. Action to Prem. 3:	
Susp. Action on Vict.		Susp. Action on Vict. 2:	Susp. Action on Vict. 3:	
Susp. Other Action 1:		Susp. Other Action 2:	Susp. Other Action 3:	
Susp. Solicit/Offered 1:		Susp. Solicit/Offered 2:	Susp. Solicit/Offered 3:	
Victim Use 1:		Victim Use 2:	Victim Use 3:	
Victim Activity:		Victim Condition:	Precip. Circumstance:	
Vehicle Locked:		Keys in Ignition:	# Louvers Removed:	
Photographed: Y		Dusting:	Arson:	
Remarks:				

**Incident Supplement**  
**Officer Hours**

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CONNECTIONS NEW CENTURY 07-12-2012  
PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL Ofcr. Z. PACHECO  
174 Kamehameha Avenue  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

C12018558  
HL  
THEFT 4

PAGE 1 OF 3 PAGES

ASSIGNMENT

07-14-2012: Approximately 1248 Hrs.: While working patrol in the District of South Hilo, I was assigned by Central Dispatch to a reported theft of Ohia trees from a property located off of Edita Street in the District of South Hilo.

07-14-2012: Approximately 1253 Hrs.: I arrived on Edita Street to contact the reporting party.

REPORTING PARTY IDENTIFIED/STATEMENT

07-14-2012: Approximately 1253 Hrs.: While on Edita Street at a large undeveloped agricultural lot (unknown numerics), I contacted the reporting party who was identified as:

Justin William THATCHER, M-32  
DOB: 09-22-1979  
SSN: 576-41-3220  
Address:  
1188 Kaumana Drive  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
Ph.: 935-4234

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THATCHER reported on 07-12-2012 at approximately 1700 hours, while walking his dog on Edita Street, he observed a white Ford pickup truck (unknown license plate) leaving the property which is being leased by "Connections Charter School" and traveling north (toward Kaumana Drive) on Edita Street with a truck bed full of Ohia trees. THATCHER related upon seeing this, he immediately became concerned and made a connection to the property in which is being leased to Connections Charter School from the State of Hawaii located off of Edita Street. THATCHER related the property has numerous Ohia trees within.

THATCHER, who stated that he is a former employee of Connections Charter School and is the son of the principal of Connections Charter School who he identified as John THATCHER, M-

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PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL Ofcr. Z. PACHECO  
174 Kamehameha Avenue  
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C12018558  
HL  
THEFT 4

PAGE 2 OF 3 PAGES

58, related that acting on behalf of his father, who was currently in the mainland, he proceeded to conduct an visual inspection of the 33-acre property and at this time he noted numerous Ohia trees to be removed from the property. THATCHER related that the Ohia trees that were removed appeared to be have been freshly cut down, not more than a day to a week old.

THATCHER related that Connections had hired a fencing company, identified as "On The Line Fencing" to construct a perimeter fence around this property being leased. THATCHER related that a property perimeter line was cleared by a land clearer being that the fencers had difficulty placing a fence without the bulldozer flattening and removing the foliage. THATCHER related that he believes that the responsible party/parties had removed Ohia trees, unknown amount, which had been earlier knocked down by the bulldozer when the perimeter was cleared. THATCHER also believed that the responsible party/parties had also cut and removed fresh Ohia trees which had not been affected by the bulldozer clearing the land. THATCHER related that the pickup truck in which he seen the Ohia trees to be in the back of did not bear any logo or identifying marks as being associated with On The Line Fencing. THATCHER stated that it was related to him by his father John THATCHER that no one had permission to remove any trees or material from this property.

I asked THATCHER if he had any further description on the pickup truck in which he had seen on 07-12-2012 in which he stated that it was a white Ford pickup truck, late 80s or early 90s model, again unknown license plate.

CONNECTIONS CHARTER SCHOOL PRINCIPAL CONTACTED

07-15-2012: Approximately 1000 Hrs.: I contacted the principal of Connections Charter School. He is identified as

John L. THATCHER, M-58  
DOB: 06-06-1954  
SSN: 563-40-6307

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CONNECTIONS NEW CENTURY 07-12-2012  
PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL Ofcr. Z. PACHECO  
174 Kamehameha Avenue  
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PAGE 3 OF 3 PAGES

Address:

1188 Kaumana Drive  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
Ph.: 935-4234  
895-6856  
Principal  
Connections New Century Public Charter School  
174 Kamehameha Avenue  
Hilo, Hawaii

Upon contact with THATCHER, THATCHER related he had just returned from the U.S mainland and had been informed of what had occurred at the leased property located off of Edita Street by his son, Justin THATCHER. THATCHER stated that no one had permission to remove any trees or material from this property which is being leased from the State of Hawaii by Connections Charter School which he is the principal and handles the administrative responsibilities. THATCHER stated that a fencing company identified as "On The Line Fencing" was hired by Connections School to place a perimeter fence around the property, although he did not give no one permission to remove any of the tree material from this property. THATCHER stated that at this time he has not yet contacted On The Line Fencing to speak with a supervisor/owner to inquire as to the missing trees. John THATCHER requested that I speak to another Connections employee who he identified as Eric BOYDE, Phone No. 895-6857, in which he believes BOYDE might have new information to provide to me.

ERIC BOYDE CONTACTED

07-18-2012: Approximately 1100 Hrs.: I contacted a male party who is employed by Connections Charter School. He was identified as:

Eric BOYDE, M-40  
DOB: 05-29-1972  
174 Kamehameha Avenue  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

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PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL Ofcr. Z. PACHECO  
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PAGE 4 OF 3 PAGES

Ph.: 895-6857

Upon contact with BOYDE, I asked BOYDE if he is familiar with the investigation regarding the theft of Ohia trees from the Connections property located off of Edita Street. At this time BOYDE stated that he was. He was informed by the Connections principal, John THATCHER, of what had happened. BOYDE related that he himself does not have any personal information as to who possibly was responsible, although he stated he spoke to the owner/supervisor of On The Line Fencing who he identified as John GONSALVES and asked him if he knew anything about the removed Ohia trees from the property. BOYDE related to me at this time that upon speaking with GONSALVES, GONSALVES stated that he did not have any information nor any involvement in the removal of the Ohia trees from this property. At this time BOYDE related that he did not have any further information to provide.

SCENE

The scene is identified as Edita Street at an undeveloped agricultural property approximately 30 to 40 acres being leased by Connections New Century Public School from the State of Hawaii. The property is described to have numerous Ohia trees and other types of vegetation on the property with no permanent structures built at this time.

VALUE

Upon speaking with Connections Charter School Principal John THATCHER, he related at this time he did not have a value of the Ohia trees that were removed from the property, although he would work on obtaining a value on the trees. John THATCHER related that these trees were important to Connections Charter School as it would be used by the students for various woodworking projects.

PHOTOGRAPHS

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[188623] on 08/12/2012 1027



CONNECTIONS NEW CENTURY 07-12-2012  
PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL Ofcr. Z. PACHECO  
174 Kamehameha Avenue  
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PAGE 5 OF 3 PAGES

07-14-2012: While on scene, photographs were taken of the scene. Photographs also depict several areas where noted fresh Ohia cuttings were made by the suspect(s).

SUSPECT VEHICLE DESCRIPTION

The suspect vehicle in which was seen leaving the area with a bed full of Ohia trees is described as a white late 80s/early 90s Ford pickup truck, unknown plates, unknown other distinguishing characteristics.

DISPOSITION

This investigation will remain continuing pending obtaining the value of the removed trees and identifying suspect(s) or witness(es).

INV. CONTINUING

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Zenas PACHECO

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HL

07-21-2012

1332 HRS

DATE:

07-25-2012 WED 0907 HRS

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Approved By: TOLENTINO, DARRYL M. [188623] on 08/12/2012 1028

PAGE 1 OF 3 PAGES

INFORMATION

08-07-2012: Approximately 1200 Hrs.: I was contacted by a female party via telephone who verbally identified herself as Sue LEELOY. LEELOY informed me that she is representing Connections Charter School in regard to this investigation of theft of ohia trees from the leased property located off of Edita Street. Upon speaking with LEELOY, she related that the property located off of Edita Street, which is the future site for Connections Charter School, that the lease has not yet been officially finalized. LEELOY related that it is 90 percent completed but there are several steps in the lease process before finalization of the lease agreement between the State of Hawaii and Connections Charter School. LEELOY related that Connections Charter School has been granted "right of passage" on the undeveloped property. It should be noted that the ohia trees that were reported to be taken without permission from this property legally belongs to the State of Hawaii and not to Connections Charter School as I mentioned in an earlier reported submitted by me. LEELOY related that she would provide further documentation regarding this property to police in the near future to submit as part of this investigation.

NEIGHBORHOOD CHECKS

08-07-2012: Approximately 1330 Hrs.: I arrived at 1188A Kaumana Drive and I contacted a female party, who was a possible witness to this incident. She is identified as:

Stacy STAR, F-52  
DOB: 05-03-1960  
1188A Kaumana Drive  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
Res. Ph.: 808-485-7264

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STAR reported that sometime in June while walking her dog on Edita Street and as she was passing the property on Edita Street, which is the future site of the Connections Charter School, she observed a black flat trailer parked in the front

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PAGE 2 OF 3 PAGES

portion of the property with approximately 15 to 20 cut ohia trees on top. STAR related that she observed several parties in the area; although she did not take notice and could not provide an accurate description at this time due to the fact that at that time she did not think anything was suspicious being that a fence was being constructed around the property. STAR related that the trailer was black in color and she could not provide any further information. The interview was concluded at this time being that STAR had no further information to provide.

I proceeded to a property located north from the scene and I contacted a male party, who identified as:

Kimokeo BOWDEN, M-37  
DOB: 07-26-1975  
SSN: Last four digits 3437  
1265K Kaumana Drive  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
Res. Ph.: 640-9902

I informed BOWDEN that I was investigating a theft of Ohia trees from the property located south of his residence. BOWDEN stated that he had no prior knowledge of any theft occurring on the property. BOWDEN explained that he works off island for the Hawaii carpenters union and is sometimes gone for weeks at a time. BOWDEN reiterated that he had no information nor knowledge of any trees being taken from the property located south of his property. This interview was concluded at this time being that BOWDEN had no further information to provide.

I proceeded to another residence located north of the scene and I contacted a male party, who resides within, and is identified as:

Paul Y. MOTONAGA, M-57  
DOB: 04-04-1955  
SSN: Last four digits 5514  
1265E Kaumana Drive  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

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[188623] on 8/12/2012

1030

PAGE 3 OF 3 PAGES

Res. Ph.: 969-1845  
Jas Glover  
890 Leilani Street  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
Bus. Ph.: 935-0871

MOTONAGA reported that sometime in the month of June or July during the late afternoon hours, he observed a possible Dodge or Ford unknown color pickup truck passing his residence headed toward Kaumana Drive with a bed full of what appeared to be cut ohia trees. MOTONAGA related that he did not actually see the truck exit from the property, which is located south of his property but he saw this vehicle leaving and thought it was suspicious. MOTONAGA related that he did not see the license plate nor see the driver of the vehicle, MOTONAGA that his wife also observed something similar. Due to the fact that MOTONAGA had no further information to provide regarding this incident, this interview was concluded and I proceeded to contact his wife.

While at the residence of Paul MOTONAGA at 1265 Kaumana Drive, I contacted his wife, identified as Venus MOTONAGA. She also related that she saw a large pickup truck with a bed full of ohia trees traveling toward Kaumana Drive passing their residence. Venus MOTONAGA could not provide any information as far as vehicle license plates or a description of the operator of the vehicle. MOTONAGA related that on three separate occasions she observed pickup trucks with cut Ohia trees in the bed area to past her residence. MOTONAGA was unsure of the dates and times of these sightings. MOTONAGA related that she did not observed anyone placing Ohia trees from the property onto these trucks. It was at this time that this interview was concluded being that MOTONAGA had no further information to provide regarding the descriptions.

DISPOSITION

I recommend this investigation remain continuing.

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[4595] on 08/12/2012  
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1031

STATE OF HAWAII

07-12/14-2012  
Ofcr. Z. PACHECO

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PAGE 4 OF 3 PAGES

INV. CONTINUING

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DATE:

08-09-2012 THU 1208 HRS

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1032

Connections Public  
Charter School  
174 Kamehameha Avenue  
Hilo, Hawaii

07-12-2012  
Ofcr. C. ACOB

C12018558  
HL

THEFT 4

PAGE 1 OF 5 PAGES

ASSIGNMENT/ARRIVAL

On 08-01-2012 at approximately 1045 Hrs, myself and other Police units were assigned to head to Edita Street on a theft of trees report.

Dispatch related that the property in which the trees were being removed from belonged to the Connections Charter School and that the reporting party who is also the school's Principal was there now and wanted to meet with Officers as the responsible was there also.

Myself, Officers C. KANEKO and B. RAGOCOS arrived at approximately 1050 Hrs.

REPORTING PARTY/PRINCIPAL CONTACTED

On 08-01-2012 at approximately 1054 Hrs, I contacted the Connections Charter School's Principal. He verbally identified himself as:

John L. THATCHER, M-58, White  
DOB: 06-06-1954  
SSN: 563-90-6307  
1188 Kaumana Drive  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
808-895-6856  
Connections Public Charter Sch.  
174 Kamehameha Avenue  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
808-961-3664

THATCHER stated that there was a Police Report already made with Ofcr. Z. PACHECO relative to trees being stolen from this property here on Edita Street.

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Approved By: HORIO, DARREN

[180035] on 09/06/2012  
[182929] on 9/7/2012

1033

Connections Public  
Charter School  
174 Kamehameha Avenue  
Hilo, Hawaii

07-12-2012  
Ofcr. C. ACOB

C12018558  
HL

THEFT 4

PAGE 2 OF 5 PAGES

Note that this property is currently under construction as this property will be their school's new location.

THATCHER then stated that he came here today at approximately 10:30 a.m. (1030 Hrs) after he was called by the school's Admin. Assistant, Eric BOYD who informed him to come here to Edita Street as his daughter, Ipo BOYD drove by and observed an unknown colored truck (unknown license plate) connected with a trailer that had trees on it. She further stated that she observed approximately (8) trees that were exceeding the trailer's size and the truck left with the trees.

THATCHER also added that the school contracted John GONSALVES, owner of "On the Line Fencing" to do the construction. During this contract, GONSALVES have been keeping in touch with BOYD.

Note that GONSALVES was present at this time and he was interviewed by Ofcr. C. KANEKO.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

On 08-01-2012 at approximately 1101 Hrs, via telephone, I contacted:

William Eric BOYD, M-40, White  
DOB: 05-29-1972  
SSN: 496-74-6095  
161 B Lanikaula Street  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
808-895-6857  
Connections Public Charter Sch  
174 Kamehameha Avenue  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
808-961-3664

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07-12-2012  
Ofcr. C. ACOB

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THEFT 4

PAGE 3 OF 5 PAGES

BOYD stated that John GONSALVES called him this morning at about 9:00 a.m. (0900 Hrs) and GONSALVES basically told him about the progress on the job and that the job would be complete by the end of this week. He also informed him that the bulldozer guy was here and that the bulldozer guy wanted Ohia trees.

BOYD stated that he clearly told GONSALVES that nothing is to be removed from the property. GONSALVES then told him that he would be letting the bulldozer guy know that nothing is to be removed from the property.

BOYD then stated that approximately 3 minutes later he receives a phone call and apparently it is the bulldozer guy. The guy introduces himself as only Chad at this time.

BOYD states that Chad asked him on what the problem was with taking the trees and that the trees would be smashed anyway. He replied that he already had told GONSALVES that nothing is to be taken off the property and that they had already made a Police report regarding trees being removed from the property.

BOYD then states that Chad replies that it is ignorant on their part and if they are trying to preserve the trees then why not take them somewhere and replant them. He then tells Chad that regardless of what he thinks, it is the school's decision and nothing should be removed.

BOYD states that he called his daughter, Ipo BOYD and asked her to just drive by the property this morning just to check. Apparently she had told him that she observed an unknown make or model, white colored pickup truck with unknown license plate to have a trailer attached with an undetermined number of trees loaded on it. She added that there were some guys standing around, but did not know who they were. <sup>Can she able</sup>

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[180035] on 09/06/2012  
[182929] on 9/7/2012

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Connections Public  
Charter School  
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07-12-2012  
Ofcr. C. ACOB

C12018558  
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THEFT 4

PAGE 4 OF 5 PAGES

to determine how many guys were actually there. She was unable to give him any names or descriptions to him at this time.

MALE CONTACTED/ID/AOR

On 08-01-2012 at approximately 1135 Hrs, on Edita Street, I contacted the bulldozer guy that called BOYD. Note that this male was able to produce a valid Hawaii State Drivers License to this Officer upon identification request. He is identified as:

Chad A. SOARES, M-47, Ptgse  
DOB: 10-16-1966  
SSN: 575-82-2632  
No Permanent Address  
No Mailing Address  
808-769-3442  
Self Employed/C&S Landclearing

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Note that when SOARES was asked for his current address information he stated that he comes and goes and does not really stay at one place.

Due to the phone call made to BOYD today, SOARES was rendered his rights off of the Hawaii Police Department Advice of Rights form (HPD/PAT-022). This form was read to him verbatim. With his initials he acknowledged that he understood his rights, he did not want a lawyer now and that he was willing to tell this Officer what happened.

SOARES stated that he did make a phone call to Eric this morning and asked Eric about the Ohia trees and that it was silly not to be able to take them elsewhere to preserve them, because they are going to be destroyed by the bulldozer anyway.

I then asked SOARES to see if it was he or anyone he might know who took the trees. He replied that he did not know

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Approved By: HORIO, DARREN .

[180035] on 09/06/2012  
[182929] on 9/7/2012

1036

Connections Public  
Charter School  
174 Kamehameha Avenue  
Hilo, Hawaii

07-12-2012  
Ofcr. C. ACOB

C12018558  
HL

THEFT 4

PAGE 5 OF 5 PAGES

who took the trees all he knows is that he did not take any of it.

Refer to the Advice of Rights form for further details.

DISPOSITION

In view of the above information, I recommend that this report be left continuing and that a copy be routed to the Lead Investigator, Ofcr. Z. PACHECO for his information.

ROUTE COPY OF THIS REPORT TO OFCR. Z. PACHECO

INV. CONTINUING

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FOR YOUR AGENCY'S USE ONLY  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH 92F-19 HR'S

STATE OF HAWAII  
Dept. of Land &  
Natural Resources

07-12-2012

C12018558  
HL  
THEFT 4

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGE

INFORMATION

09-05-2012: I was informed by Officer Joseph FELICIANO of South Hilo Patrol that he conducted a follow-up investigation, in which he contacted the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) land agent, who he identified as Gordan HEIT.

Officer FELICIANO was informed that this particular investigation of the theft of trees from the property located off of Edita Street, which was owned by the State of Hawaii, was currently being investigated by DLNR Officer Edwin SHISHIDO.

HEIT informed Officer FELICIANO that this investigation was to be forwarded to SHISHIDO for his information.

DISPOSITION

In view of the above information, I recommend this investigation be closed, referred to other agency. Route a copy of this report to the Department of Land and Natural Resources Officer Edwin SHISHIDO for his information and final disposition.

ROUTE COPY OF REPORT TO DEPT. LAND/NATURAL RESOURCES

CLOSED: REFERRED TO OTHER AGENCY

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
FOR YOUR AGENCY'S USE ONLY  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH 92F-19 HRS.

APPROVED

Zenas PACHECO  
PO  
09-05-2012

3W

#271  
HL  
1938 HRS

DATE:

09-13-2012 THU 1209 HRS

-----529175733  
Reviewed By: PACHECO, ZENAS PAUL A.  
Approved By: CHONG, MILES

[4595] on 09/13/2012  
[181250] on 9/13/2012

1038

**HAWAII POLICE DEPARTMENT  
ADVICE OF RIGHTS**

REPORT NO.	C12018558
DISTRICT	HL

I am a Police Officer. I want to inform you of your rights.

1. You have the right to remain silent. You do not have to answer any questions.
2. Anything you say may be used against you in a court of law.
3. You have the right to talk to a lawyer before we ask you any questions and to have him with you during questioning.
4. If you cannot afford a lawyer, one will be appointed for you before any questioning if you wish.
5. If you decide to answer the questions now without a lawyer present, you will still have the right to stop answering at any time and talk to a lawyer.

The Advice of Rights was administered to <b>CHAD A. SOARES</b>			
Location <b>EDITH STREET, HILO, HI</b>			
By Police Officer <b>C. ACOB</b>	Employee No. <b>180035</b>	Date <b>08-01-12</b>	Time <b>1137</b>

**WAIVER OF RIGHTS**

	INITIAL	
	YES	NO
1. Do you understand the rights that I have just read to you?	C.S.	
2. Do you want a lawyer now?	<del>C.S.</del>	C.S.
3. Would you like to tell me what happened?	C.S.	

Subject's Signature <b>Chad Soares</b>	Date <b>8/1/12</b>	Time <b>11:39</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Refused to sign	<b>CONFIDENTIAL</b> FOR YOUR AGENCY'S USE ONLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH 92F-19 HRS.	
Witness Signature		
Location	Date	Time

All of the foregoing was translated into		
By: Translator's Signature	Date	Time

**POLICE DEPARTMENT - PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD**

Report No. C12018558 DIST: HL

Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
( For Internal Use )

RECEIPT # 1

Occurred On: 07/12/12 17:00 PAGE: 1 of 1

Action: OTHER

Offense Code / Literal 708-0833 - THEFT 4	Master Report #	Status Investigation Contin	UCR Clearance	Disposition
VICTIM Last Name, First Name, Middle Name CONNECTIONS CHARTER SCHOOL,,	Address 174 KAMEHAMEHA AVE HILO HI 9		Res Phone / Bus Phone	
Recovering Officer PACHECO - 4595	Recovery Location EDITA STREET		Recovery Date / Time 07/14/12 00:00 to 00:00	

ITEM	QTY	Description	Tag	Category
1	7	YELLOW ENVELOPE CONTAINING A MAGNAVOX CD-R DISC, DIGITAL PICTURES OF THE SCENE	362600	Photos
ITEM		Photo Type: DIGITAL	Photographer: PACHECO, ZENAS PAUL	
1-1		Description: FRONT OVERALL VIEW FROM EDITA STREET TOWARDS THE FRONT PORTION OF THE SCENE		
1-2		Description: FRONT OVERALL VIEW FROM EDITA STREET TOWARDS THE FRONT PORTION OF THE SCENE		
1-3		Description: VIEW OF CUT OHIA TREE STUMP ON PROPERTY		
1-4		Description: VIEW OF CUT OHIA TREE STUMP ON PROPERTY		
1-5		Description: VIEW OF CUT OHIA TREE STUMP ON PROPERTY		
1-6		Description: VIEW OF CUT OHIA TRRE STUMP ON PROPERTY		
1-7		Description: VIEW OF DAMAGED OHIA TREE ON GROUND AREA		

CHAIN OF CUSTODY      RELEASE AUTHORIZED BY: \_\_\_\_\_      DATE: \_\_\_\_\_      TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

ITEM (from)	ITEM (to)	FROM (SIGNATURE) / EMPLOYEE #	RECEIVED BY (SIGNATURE) / EMPLOYEE #	DATE	TIME

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
FOR YOUR AGENCY'S USE ONLY  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH 92F-19 HRS

OFFICER	EMPLOYEE #	DATE	TIME	APPROVED BY	EMPLOYEE #	DATE	TIME
ZENAS PAUL PACHECO	4595						

10

**Ted H.S. Hong**  
**Attorney at Law**

Employment, Workplace Law & Litigation

**Sue L.K. Lee Loy**  
Planner and Legal Assistant

7011 3500 0001 7147 9521

August 2, 2012

John Gonzales, Owner  
On the Line Fencing  
Post Office Box 1810  
Keaau, Hawaii 96749

RE: CONNECTIONS CHARTER SCHOOL

Dear Mr. Gonzales:

My name is Ted H.S. Hong and I represent Connections Public Charter School, hereinafter "Connections." Today, August 2, 2012, I was notified by the leadership of Connections that you and/or workers associated with you and/or your company, On The Line Fencing, removed trees (Ohia) from a property located off of Edita Street, owed by the State of Hawaii and further identified by TMK (3)2-006:141.

Effective immediately, you are only to go onto the subject property after notifying and receiving the approval of either myself or someone in a position of authority with Connections. Any violation of this instruction will be considered a trespass onto the property.

The removal of high value trees (Ohia) without permission from the State is a criminal and civil violation of Hawaii Revised Statutes and under contract with Connections you are hereby required and further demanded to provide my office with a copy of your Business Liability Policy and/or a name of your liability insurance agent within ten (10) days of receipt of this letter. Information can be directed to my office at Post Office Box 4217, Hilo, Hawaii 96720.

This letter also serves as notice that we will seek indemnification from your company in the event that the State of Hawaii imposes any fine or other penalty against Connections. We reserve the right to file a lawsuit against you, your company and criminal charges against those individuals involved.

Should you fail to provide my office with the information requested above within ten (10) days, I will proceed on behalf of my client to pursue any and all legal remedies afforded under the law.



Postage	\$	Postmark Here
Certified Fee		
Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required)		
Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required)		
Total Postage & Fees	\$	

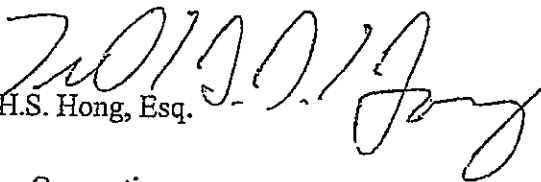
Sent To: John Gonzales  
Street, Apt. No. or PO Box No.: P.O. Box 1810  
City, State, ZIP+4: Keaau Hawaii 96720

7011 3500 0001 7147 9521

John Gonzales, Owner  
RE: CONNECTIONS CHARTER SCHOOL  
August 2, 2012  
Page 2

In addition, my office will work collaboratively with the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, and the State of Hawaii Enforcement Division to ensure you and/or workers associated with you and/or your company will held liable for violation of Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Sincerely,

  
Ted H.S. Hong, Esq.

c: Connections  
State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources



SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION	COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Complete Items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete Item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired.</li> <li>■ Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.</li> <li>■ Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.</li> </ul>	<p>A. Signature  <i>Dorcas Alvarez</i>  <i>X Dorcas Alvarez</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Agent <input type="checkbox"/> Addressee</p> <p>B. Received by (<i>Printed Name</i>)</p> <p>C. Date of Delivery</p>	
<p>1. Article Addressed to:</p> <p><i>John Gonzalez</i>  <i>On the hillside</i>  <i>Post Office Box 1800</i>  <i>Honolulu, Hawaii</i>  <i>96749</i></p>	<p>D. Is delivery address different from item 1? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No          If Yes, enter delivery address below:</p> <p>3. Service Type  <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Express Mail  <input type="checkbox"/> Registered Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt for Merchandise  <input type="checkbox"/> Insured Mail <input type="checkbox"/> C.O.D.</p>	
<p>2. Article Number          (Transfer from service label)</p>	<p>4. Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><i>7011 3500 0001 7147 9521</i></p>	

PS Form 3811, February 2004

Domestic Return Receipt

102595-02-M-1540



NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

August 15, 2012

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

PAUL J. CONRY  
INTERIM FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TANI  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONSERVATION  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
EDUCATION  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAIKOLAHI ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

NOTICE AND ORDER

Connections Public Charter School  
174 Kamehameha Avenue  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

SUBJECT: Illegal Activity on Public Lands Identified as Tax Map Key: 3<sup>rd</sup>/ 2-5-06:141, Kukuau, South Hilo, Hawaii

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that you are in violation of Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR) Title 13, Chapter 221, entitled "Unencumbered Public Lands" providing for the control of public activities on unencumbered public lands, enacted pursuant to Chapter 171, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS).

An inspection of the premises on which the illegal activity has been conducted was made on August 10, 2012 by the Department of Land and Natural Resources. We have determined that:

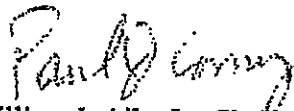
- 1) The subject property, identified as tax map key: 3<sup>rd</sup>/ 2-5-06:141, is unencumbered public lands;
- 2) The following uses were conducted on the subject premises: bulldozing perimeter of property, construction of hog wire fence along perimeter of property;
- 3) These uses were not authorized by the Department of Land and Natural Resources under Chapter 13-221, HAR.

YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED TO CEASE any further activity on the subject premises. Should you fail to cease such illegal activity immediately, you will be subject to fines up to \$5,000 for a first violation plus \$1,000 per day in which the violation continues, \$10,000 for a second violation plus \$2,000 per day in which the violation continues, and \$20,000 for a third or subsequent violation plus \$4,000 per day in which the violation continues, pursuant to Chapter 13-221, HAR, in addition to administrative costs incurred by the Department.

NOTICE AND ORDER  
Connections Charter School  
Kukuau, South Hilo, Hawaii  
TMK: (3) 2-5-06:141

Please contact Gordon Heit of the Land Division at (808) 961-9590 to clear this matter.

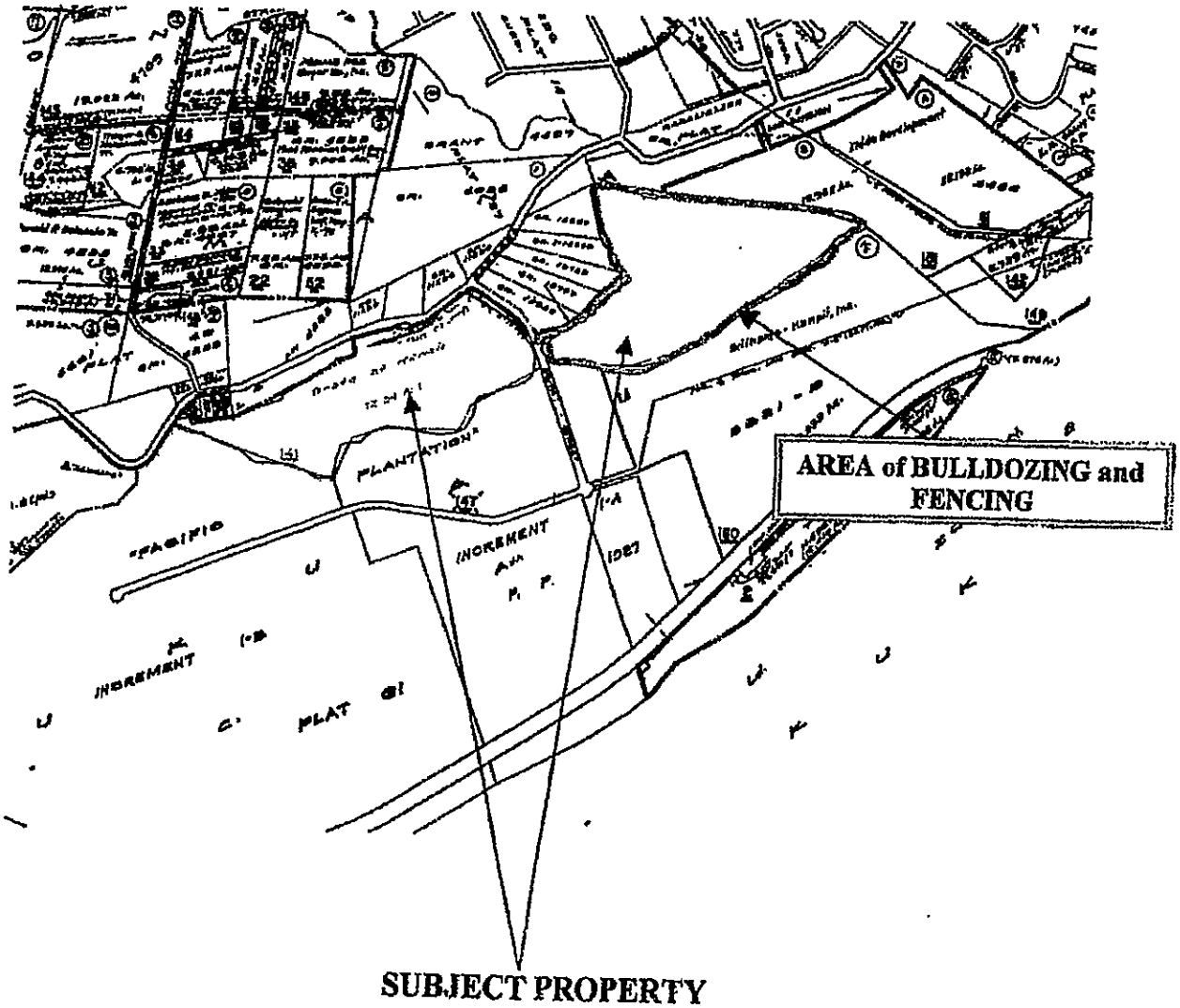
By:

  
William J. Aila, Jr., Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources

cc: District Board Member  
District Branch  
Ted H. S. Hong

**EXHIBIT A**

**CONNECTIONS PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL  
TMK: 3<sup>rd</sup>/2-5-06:141**



12

iea H.S. Hong  
Attorney at Law

*Employment Workplace Law & Litigation*

Sue L.K. Lee Loy  
Planner and Legal Assistant

August 17, 2012

The Honorable William J. Aila, Jr. Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
Post Office box 621  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809

Mr. Gordon Heit  
Land Division - Island of Hawaii  
75 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

RE: ILLEGAL ACTIVITY ON PUBLIC LAND  
TMK(3)2-5-006:141, KUKUAU, SOUTH HILLO, HAWAII

Dear Mr. Aila and Mr. Heit

On behalf of Connections Public Charter School, hereinafter "Connections". I acknowledge receipt of your letter Notice and Order dated August 15, 2012. As a matter of record, Connections has ceased activity on the subject property.

By way of background, Connections is eager and committed to secure the property and has been working with the Department of Land and Natural Resources for some time now to secure a direct lease with the Board of Land and Natural Resources. Gordon Heit has and continues to be helpful and supportive assisting Connections through the process.

On October 22, 2010, Chairperson Laura H. Thielen, issues a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and since that time Connections completed additional studies which included a metes and bounds descriptions and map for the subject property. A copy of the metes and bounds descriptions and map was transmitted to Mr. Heit on April 11, 2012 and a Public Notice of Direct Lease was published on May 1, 2012.

The Honorable William J. Aila, Jr. Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources

Mr. Gordon Heit

August 17, 2012

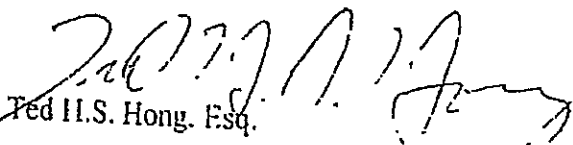
Page 2

On July 18, 2012, on behalf of Connections our office continued with a follow up letter to the Department regarding a right-of-entry for the property to complete a topographic survey of the property and a progress report of the Lease Agreement between the Board and Connections and notice that Connection would be submitting a Special Permit Application to continue the regulatory and entitlement process needed for the establishment of a charter school campus on the subject property.

On July 24, 2012, Mr. Heit quickly responded with the need for additional information for the Lease Agreement and Connection replied with the additional information and at the same time, a follow-up call with Mr. Heit revealed that the right-of-entry was forward for review by others within the Department.

Connections has been able to secure grants and loans to help with the development of the property, and some funds have timing elements which has Connections eager and committed to streamline the communications and continue working the Department. At this juncture, it would be prudent for our offices to meet and discuss the various issues and how to best address them in a synchronized matter to avoid any other inappropriate activities. I am available the week of August 27, 2012 thru August, 31, 2012, to meet with you and Mr. Heit to discuss the various issues. I look forward to your reply.

Regards,

  
Ted H.S. Hong, Esq.

Client.



13

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
REGULATED INDUSTRIES COMPLAINTS OFFICE  
CONSUMER RESOURCE CENTER  
OAHU OFFICE  
235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, 9TH FLOOR  
HONOLULU, HI 96813  
www.hawaii.gov/dcca/rico

For Official Use Only

CONTRACTOR COMPLAINT FORM  
Case No.

The contractor you complained against will be informed of this complaint to facilitate resolution of this matter. Your complaint may also be referred to mediation, if appropriate. This complaint will not be processed unless this form is complete, legible, signed, dated and includes copies of all available evidence.

YOUR NAME

<input checked="" type="radio"/> Mr.	(Last)	(First)	(Middle)
<input type="radio"/> Ms.	Boyd	William	Eric
<input type="radio"/> Mrs.			
Address: Connections Public Charter School 174 Kamehameha Avenue Hilo, Hawaii 96720		Telephone number where you may be contacted (8:00am-4:30pm): 808-895-6857	
		Residence Number:	
		Business Number: 808-961-3664	

NAME OF CONTRACTOR YOUR COMPLAINT IS AGAINST

Name: John Gonsalves - On The Line Fencing	
Address: Post Office Box 1810 Keaau, Hawaii 96749	Phone Number: 808-982-6074
	License Number: LIC #C=30989
	Name of person you dealt with: John Gonsalves

1. Have you contacted the contractor to try and resolve your complaint?

If you have not done so, please attempt to resolve your complaint with the contractor before you file this complaint

Unable to contact the contractor.

Yes (Please tell us what happened. Include names of persons contacted and dates of contact.)

1. Spoke with J. Gonsalves regarding work not done to standards.  
2. Letter to J. Gonsalves

## PROJECT INFORMATION

2. OWNER OF CONSTRUCTION SITE State of Hawaii leased to Connections Charter School		3. CONSTRUCTION SITE ADDRESS: street and number Edita Street		
ADDRESS:	PHONE	CITY/ZIP Hilo, Hawaii	PHONE	
4. Describe briefly the work included with the contract: Fencing that would only clear a 10-foot wide property perimeter, following survey line/string with clear instruction not to make all types of turns that will ruin property				
5. CONTRACT DATE 5-21-12 and 6-12-12	6. AMOUNT 80,000	7. AMT PAID ON CONTRACT 40,000	8. DATE WORK STARTED on or about June 25, 2012	9. DATE WORK CEASED July 14, 2012

10. Why did you choose this contractor?

- Regular Contractor    
  Door-to-door Solicitation    
  Advertisement (enclose copy of the ad if possible)  
 Referred by someone    
 Other (explain) Request for proposal

11. BRIEFLY STATE YOUR COMPLAINT (Attach a separate sheet if necessary):

The contractor displayed gross negligence, professional incompetence and actions of willful, wanton, reckless and indifference to consequences. Contract called for 10-foot or no more than "a blades width." On average areas cleared with 25-30 feet and in some areas cleared areas of approximately 150-feet. In addition some areas cleared were on the adjacent landowners property. Photos attached. There is evidence of the unlawful cutting and taking of Ohia trees from the Property and evidence of deliberate attempts to cover the unlawful cutting and taking of Ohia trees. A County of Hawaii Police Report No. #C12018558 has been filed for theft of Ohia trees and property damage. Because the contractor failed to follow the contract, it was determined by County of Hawaii that a grading and grubbing permit is required and the contractor failed to secure those permits. The County of Hawaii has issued a grading violation to Connections.

12. Is this project a:     Residence      Commercial Building      Other
13. Is this project a:     Addition      Repair/Replace      New Construction      New Purchase
14. Is contract:     Written      Oral      New Home Purchase Agreement
15. Are there any change orders?     Yes      No
16. Is your complaint:     Failure to complete      Workmanship      Other      Gross Negligence
17. Building permit obtained by:     Contractor      You      Do not know
18. Who presented the contract? (name):      Salesperson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Do not know  
 Contractor
19. Does this contractor have any employees?     Yes      If so, how many? \_\_\_\_\_     No      Do not know
20. Were employees, subcontractors, or materialmen paid?     Yes      No      Do not know
21. Are any liens filed on this job?     Yes      By whom? \_\_\_\_\_     No      Do not know



22. Did you obtain an estimate from another contractor to complete or correct the job? Yes  No   
If yes, please provide name, address, phone number of the contractor and a copy of the estimate.

23. What would resolve your complaint? Please remember that what you want as a resolution may not be within the jurisdiction of this office.  
Return monies paid and pay for any fees and fines that are assessed against Connection based on John Gonsalves gross negligence. Any and all attorney fees and costs associated with this matter.

Please attach complete COPIES of the following documents, if applicable. Do not send originals, they will not be returned to you.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONTRACT  | <input type="checkbox"/> CHANGE ORDERS                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> RECEIPTS   | <input type="checkbox"/> CANCELED CHECKS (FRONT AND BACK) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CORRESPONDENCE  | <input type="checkbox"/> PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS         |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (PLEASE LIST) <u>Photos, Police Report No., Grading Violation Letter, Illegal Activity Letter</u> |   |

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION:**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| A. RICO cannot direct an unlicensed contractor to complete or correct a project.   | C. RICO cannot represent private citizens in court nor collect any money for you. Please contact an attorney for advice on filing such an action            |
| B. In addition to this complaint, you may also file an action in civil court. Please get advice from an attorney on filing such a complaint.<br>If your dispute involves an amount of \$5,000 or less, you may consider filing a claim in Small Claims Court | D. You may be able to file a claim through the Recovery Fund. Please contact your attorney for details. (Refer to Section 444-26, Hawaii Revised Statutes). |

If you believe this complaint involves issues particularly affecting the elderly, please check here.

The information contained in this form is true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that RICO is unable to represent private parties in court.

Sign here:

 Date: 8/31/12

Please submit this form with your ORIGINAL signature (failure to do so may delay the processing of your complaint).

THANK YOU FOR ASSISTING OUR EFFORTS TO REVIEW YOUR COMPLAINT

This printed material can be made available for individuals with special needs in braille large print or audio tape. Please submit your request to the Complaints & Enforcement Officer at 586-2666.

Charter School

On The Line Fencing

LIC# C-30989

PROPOSAL/CONTRACT

Page 1

PO Box 1810  
Keaau, HI 96749

Hilo: John Gonsalves  
Pone: 808-854-0213

Phone Number: 808-982-6074  
Fax Number: 982-6100

Kona: Scott Muller  
Phone: 808-854-7184

(6-12-12)

Customer Information:

Job Information:

( EXTRA CHARGE TO SUB CONTRACT CNB excavation per Donald soars' and Chadwick soars' )  
(kaumana edit a street Hilo hi)

Notes:

On The Line Fencing proposes to sub contract CNB Excavation to bulldoze at kaumana charter school entire fence line so that Otlf can access there vehicles and also smooth out were needed so fence will be more efficient and not so groundy . also they will not charge more then \$10.000.00. to complete all sides and back of property were Otlf says need to be cleared this bulldozing is being done so that Otlf can drive all trucks and machine to erect fence line total linear feet is around 6.800. feet ~~they will follow all~~  
~~OTLF IS SURVEYORS we are just following the string and pins they have provided~~  
~~make all lands on either side of the road and to be as close as possible~~  
OTLF WILL PAY c n b AND TAKE CARE OF ALL PAYMENTS NEEDED WITH THEM A DEPOSIT HAS BEEN  
PAYED TO THEM TO START OF \$5.000.00 AND BALANCE WHEN I SAY THEY ARE DONE AND I APPORVE  
IT.

Approved & Accepted for CUSTOMER

*[Handwritten Signature]*

Contract Amount: \$(10.000.00)

HALEDOWN ( \$5000.00 )

Accepted for On The Line Fencing:

BALANCE ( \$5000.00 )

*[Handwritten Signature]*

Date: 6-13-12

TERMS & CONDITIONS Page 2

On The Line Fencing agrees to guarantee above fence to be free from defects in workmanship for one year. Any defect in workmanship will be repaired at Or. The Line Fencing's expense during that period. Warranties do not apply to any damage

caused by negligence, misuse or accident. This contract, including all attached documents, which are incorporated herein by reference, constitutes the entire agreement of the parties. THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES WHICH EXTEND BEYOND THE DESCRIPTION OF THOSE CONTAINED IN THIS CONTRACT.

**PROPERTY LINES:** On The Line Fencing shall advise the customer as to local zoning regulations and responsibility for complying with said regulations and obtaining any required permits shall rest with the customer. On The Line Fencing will assist the customer, upon request, in determining where the fence is to be erected, but under no circumstance does On The Line Fencing assume any responsibility concerning property lines or in any way guarantee their accuracy. If property pins cannot be located it is recommended that the customer have the property surveyed.

**UTILITIES:** On The Line Fencing will assume the responsibility for having underground public utilities on PUBLIC land located and marked. However, On The Line Fencing assumes no responsibility for unmarked sprinkler lines, or any other unmarked buried lines or objects. The customer will assume all liability for any damage caused by directing On The Line Fencing to dig in the immediate vicinity of known utilities.

1. **THE HAWAII MECHANIC'S LIEN LAW:** Under Hawaii's Mechanic's Lien Law, any contractor, laborer, supplier, or other person who helps to improve your property but is not paid for his work or supplies, has a right to enforce a claim against your property. This means that after a court hearing your property could be sold by a court officer and the proceeds of the sale used to satisfy the indebtedness. This can happen, even if you paid your contractor in full, if the subcontractor, laborer, or supplier remains unpaid. To avoid any fears of possible liens or claims against your property, On The Line Fencing, at buyer's request, will provide a lien release upon final payment as specified in this contract.
2. **INSPECTION OF GOODS:** The Buyer shall inspect the goods immediately upon delivery or when picked up at the Seller's place of business by the Buyer and shall within 2 (two) days of such delivery or pickup give written notice to the Seller of any damaged goods or nonconformance of goods as those set forth in the contract. Failure to make such claim within the stated period shall constitute an irrevocable acceptance of the goods and an admission that they fully comply with all the terms, conditions and specifications of this agreement.
3. **DELAYS:** The seller shall not be held responsible for any delay or failure to make delivery, if this contract provides for delivery rather than pick-up of goods by the Buyer, of all or part of the merchandise due to any cause beyond the control of the Seller.
4. **BUYER'S REMEDY:** Should Buyer reject the goods for a good cause, the Buyer's sole remedy is replacement of the goods and the Seller is not liable for incidental or consequential damages as a result thereof.
5. **CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES:** If the Buyer accepts the goods, within a reasonable time after s/he discovers or should have discovered any breach of warranty, Buyer shall notify the Seller of such breach in writing. The measure of damages for any such breach shall be the difference at the time and place of acceptance between the value of the goods accepted and the value they would have had if they had been warranted. No claim shall be made for proximate damages, nor may any recovery be had for incidental or consequential damages. The foregoing remedy shall be the exclusive remedy to the Buyer for the Seller's failure to make delivery or repudiation or for the Buyer's rightful rejection of the goods.
6. **INSTALLATION:** Should the Buyer elect to have On The Line Fencing install the goods and if during the installation On The Line Fencing encounters unusual conditions such as underground obstructions, utility company lines, pipes, unnecessary impediment or damaged wood (as in deck or railing installations), On The Line Fencing will inform the buyer and discontinue installation until such conditions are resolved. (Unforeseen or unusual conditions are not covered by On The Line Fencing normal installation charges and will be billed at the hourly rate of \$75.00 per man hour plus any material and equipment rental fees).
7. **ACCESS:** Buyer shall obtain permission from adjoining property owners for reasonable access to their property during the construction project.
8. **PAYMENT:** Unless otherwise expressly provided for in this contract, the Buyer shall pay the purchase price to the Seller upon completion of the job. After three (3) days the Buyer shall pay interest at the rate of 11% per annum on any amount remaining due if, in the opinion of the Seller, the financial condition of the Buyer warrants such action. The Seller may demand payment in cash before the delivery of any parts of the goods, and upon the failure by the Buyer to make such payment within ten days after demand in writing, the Seller in addition to all other remedies allowed by law, may cancel the contract or sell all or part of the undeliverable goods without notice, at public or private sale, holding the Buyer responsible for any deficiency. If the Seller deems it necessary to employ an attorney or collection agency to collect this account, or any part thereof, Buyer agrees to pay actual, reasonable attorney's fees or collection costs.
9. **SECURITY INTEREST:** The Buyer herein grants to the secured party, the Seller herein, a security interest in the goods described in the front of this contract. A copy of the contract constitutes a security agreement and may operate as a financing statement. - - -
10. **BUYER'S RIGHT TO CANCEL:** You are entitled by law to cancel this agreement, excluding special order items, before midnight of the third day (excluding Sundays and holidays) after the date of this contract by notifying On The Line Fencing by mail or fax within the three-day rescission period. Special order items cannot be cancelled. A restocking fee of 35% of the value of the contract will be applied to cancellations after the three day rescission period.

CUSTOMER Initial ASB

SALESPERSON Initial [Signature]



A



William P. Kenoi  
Mayor

William T. Takaba  
Managing Director



Warren H. W. Lee  
Director

Brandon A. K. Gonzalez  
Deputy Director

**County of Hawai'i**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**  
Aupuni Center  
101 Pauahi Street, Suite 7 • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4224  
(808) 961-8321 • Fax (808) 961-8630

August 31, 2012

**CERTIFIED MAIL**

Connection New Century Public Charter School  
175 Kamehameha Avenue  
Hilo, HI 96720

**SUBJECT: GRADING VIOLATION**  
Location: Ponahawai, Kaumana, Hawaii  
Tax Map Key: (3) 2-5-006: 141

Our attention has been called to the grading work recently performed on the subject property. A search of our records shows that neither a grading nor grubbing permit was issued for this work.

The grading work performed in violation of the Hawaii County Code, specifically, Section 10-9(a)(1) which states no grading shall be commenced or performed without a permit.

You are directed to cease any further work on the subject property and submit a completed copy of the enclosed grading permit application within forty-five (45) days of the above date. Three (3) sets of grading plans shall accompany the application as required by Hawaii County Code. The plans shall include property lines, location of any features, limits of grading, existing and proposed contours, and any drainage patterns.

Approval of the application by the State Historic Preservation Division and the Planning Department are required prior to approval and issuance of the permit by this department.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Mr. Kelly Gomes, P.E. of the Engineering Division at (808) 961-8327.

*for Kelly Gomes*  
BEN E. ISHII, P.E.  
Engineering Division Chief

KG

Enclosure

c: Ted H. S. Hong, Attorney at Law

(

(



5

**Ted H.S. Hong**  
**Attorney at Law**

*Employment, Workplace Law & Litigation*

**Sue L.K. Lee Loy**  
Planner and Legal Assistant

October 18, 2012

FILE COPY

Harry S. Kubojiri  
Chief of Police  
Hawaii County Police Department  
349 Kapiolani Street  
Hilo, HI 96720

**RE:** Connections Charter School  
Vandalism - Hate Crime  
Police Report No.

Dear Chief Kubojiri:

Please be advised that I represent Connections Charter School. My client informs me that overnight, someone vandalized my client's property at the Kress Building. My client called the police and made a police report.

The vandalism was particularly upsetting to many students, parents and staff who came to school this morning. The vandalism was directed at my client's students, parents and staff and this incident needs to be taken seriously. I have enclosed copies of pictures of vandalism for your reference.

Given the demographics of the school's student body, this act of vandalism borders on being a "Hate Crime" as defined by Section 846-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes:

"Hate crime" means any criminal act in which the perpetrator intentionally selected a victim, or in the case of a property crime, the property that was the object of a crime, because of hostility toward the actual or perceived race, religion, disability, ethnicity, national origin, gender identity or expression, or sexual orientation of any person. (Emphasis added)

The purpose of this letter is to respectfully request that this incident of vandalism be taken seriously with the understanding that this may develop into a "Hate Crime" violation. I suspect that this is only the beginning of a series of criminal acts targeting the school, its students and staff. I don't need to tell you that this vandalism was designed to intimidate and bully school aged children and this criminal misconduct should not be tolerated.

I want to emphasize that many parents regard this act as an attack against their children and this act has gotten many parents upset. If the Police Department fails to act in a prompt and responsive manner, I am concerned that things may get out of hand and in a misguided act of defending their child, a parent or staff member may strike out against someone, even though that person may justifiably deserve it. But that is a lose-lose situation and something that my client's students, parents and staff have been cautioned against. Failure to take this event seriously will only result

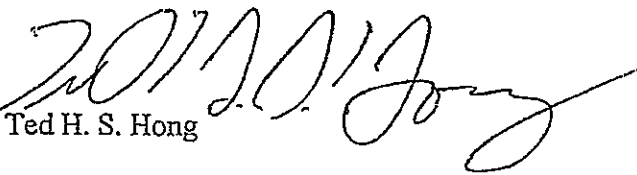
Letter to Chief Kubojiri  
October 18, 2012  
Page 2.

in an unnecessary escalation of hostile and criminal acts.

I know you share our concern and our expectation that this criminal act and future criminal acts against my client will be professionally handled and addressed promptly.

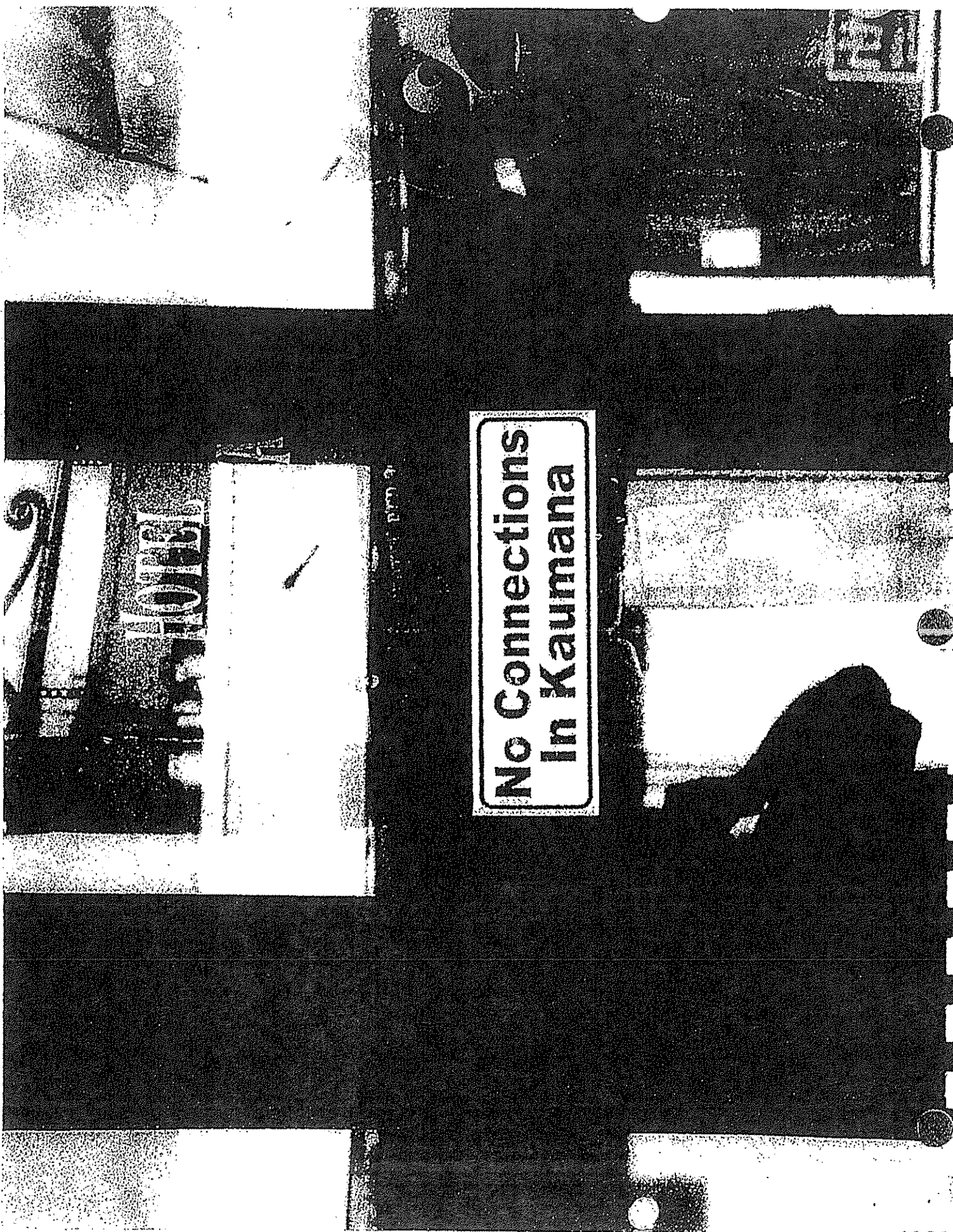
Thank you for your anticipated cooperation in this matter.

Respectfully,

  
Ted H. S. Hong

Encl.

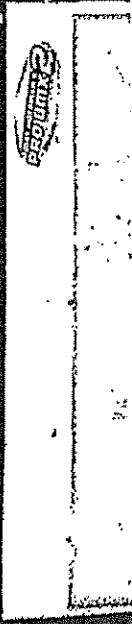
cc: Hawaii County Police Commission  
The Hon. David M. Louie, Esq.  
Attorney General, State of Hawaii



THE HOTEL

No Connections  
In Kaumana

No Connections  
In Kaumana



Cambridge



1000  
Kamehameha Ave

Hilo, HI 96720

akmainsindianfood.com

Wed. & Sat. 10:30am-1:30pm

Fri. 5:00pm-9:00pm

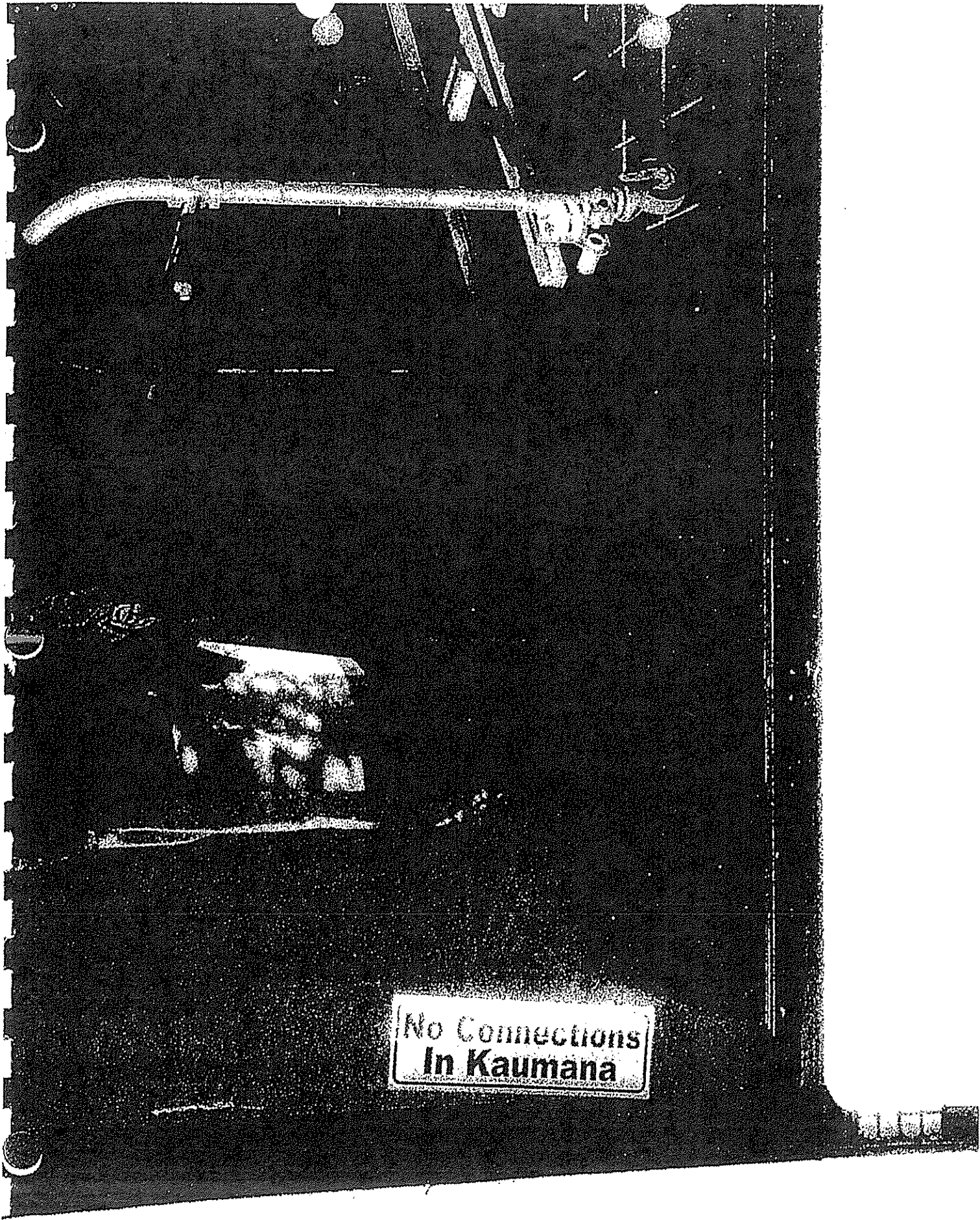


Akma's  
Drops

No Connections  
In Kaumana

1000  
KAMEHAMEHA AVE  
HISTORIC SITE  
S. H. KRESS BUILDING  
1932





No Connections  
In Kaumana





W



Pacific Basin — Hawai'i Island  
 900 Kumukoa Street  
 Hilo, HI 96720

Phone: 808.351.9560  
 www.pacificlegacy.com

### The Kaūmana Lava Tube Complex

This letter report has been prepared by Pacific Legacy Inc. to address the question of whether a dry well located along Edita Street may connect with the Kaūmana lava tube complex.

#### Kaūmana Caves

The principle entrance to the Kaūmana lava tube complex is located across Kaūmana Drive to the west of the Connections Charter School Kaūmana property's upper parcel. This opening is situated within Kaūmana Caves County Park. From here, the Kaūmana lava tube runs both *mauka* (upslope) and *makai* (down slope). The *makai* section crosses Kaūmana Drive and passes under the Charter School's upper parcel (Figure 1). It runs down the length of the upper parcel and exits the property at Edita Street. A map of Kaūmana Cave prepared in 1953 by the Hilo Lions Club (Stone 1992:3) shows the lava tube extending for approximately half a mile beyond this point. During the construction of Edita Street, however, the section of the tube located beneath the street was collapsed, sealing off the lower portion of the tube. At present this lower section of Kaūmana Cave is not accessible. By overlaying the 1953 Lions Club survey map of the lava tube onto a map of the area's surface property boundaries, Wil Chee Planning has projected that the lower section of the tube passes under the northern corner of the Charter School's lower parcel (Figure 1).

The present *makai* opening to Kaūmana Cave is located along the southwestern edge of Edita Street. This opening has been barred to prevent access, and a culvert has been dug to divert flood waters flowing out of the cave from crossing Edita Street. This cement lined culvert runs southeast along the *mauka* side of Edita Street. It ends at a dry well near the southeastern edge of the Connections Charter School's upper parcel. It has been suggested that this dry well connects directly to Kaūmana Cave and should be considered part of the cave complex.

As part of their archaeological inspection of the Connections Charter School Kaūmana property, Pacific Legacy archaeologists walked the length of Kaūmana Cave from its entrance in the County Park to its exist at Edita Street. All side tubes were investigated. No side tube was found that extended in the direction of the dry well or connected to it. A detailed map of the cave drafted in 1993-96 by the Hawai'i Speleological Survey also shows no side branches extending in that direction (Figure 2).

#### The Dry Well at Edita Street

During times of heavy rainfall, water is known to flow through Kaūmana Cave. Dr. Fred Stone who prepared a report on the cave in 1992 as part of the Puainako Road Extension Environmental Impact Study indicated that, "According to residents across the road from this entrance [the Edita Street entrance to the tube], during heavy rains in the mid-1970s, Kaūmana Cave flooded and water gushed from the cave and covered Edita Street" (Stone 1992:5). It was for this reason that the diversion culvert was constructed.

Pacific Basin - O'ahu  
 30 Aulike Street, Suite. 301  
 Kailua, HI 96734  
 808.263.4800 Phone  
 808.263.4900 Fax

Business Office  
 2641 Hwy 4  
 PO Box 6050  
 Arnold, CA 95223  
 209.795.4481 Phone  
 209.795.1967 Fax

Bay Area  
 900 Modoc Street  
 Berkeley, CA 94707  
 510.524.3991 Phone  
 510.524.4419 Fax

Sierra/Central  
 4919 Windplay Drive, Suite 4  
 El Dorado Hills, CA 95762  
 530.677.9713 Phone  
 530.677.9762 Fax

Lancaster  
 44702 10<sup>th</sup> Street West  
 Lancaster, CA 92534  
 661.729.9395 Phone  
 661.729.9417 Fax

In more recent conversations with local residents, Pacific Legacy was told that during times of heavy rainfall, water flowing out of the cave will be channeled along the culvert and into the dry well along Edita Street. If the rain persists, the dry well will gradually fill up with water and eventually overflow. This would indicate that the dry well (whose entrance probably feeds into a section of lava tube) is a self contained unit that does not connect with a larger tube complex such as Kaūmana Cave. If it did connect with Kaūmana Cave, somewhere further *makai*, then the floodwaters would not fill up the well and overflow, but would be drained away.

The overflow water from the dry well is channeled under the road and empties out in a shallow depressed area on the *makai* side of the Edita Street. This area is located outside the Connections Charter School property. Also outside, but near the property is the opening to a small lava tube. During the archaeological inspection of the school property, Pacific Legacy archaeologists entered this tube and traced it for a short distance. The tube was found to run *makai*, away from the school property, and did not appear connected to the Kaūmana Cave. During periodic flooding, water from the overflowing dry well that finds its way across Edita Street often flows down into this tube. The dry well and this lava tube likely represent small sections of tubes that originally flowed parallel to the larger Kaūmana Cave tube complex. It is not unusual in lava flows of this kind to encounter several parallel lava tubes all oriented along the line of the flow.

It would appear from the evidence presented above that the dry well located along Edita Road is not directly connected to the Kaūmana Cave and does not form part of that lava tube complex.

#### REFERENCES

Halliday, William R.

1997 The Hilo Lions Club 1953 Kaūmana Cave Expedition. Report 97-02, Hawai'i Speleological Survey of the National Speleological Society. Typescript in the University of Hawai'i Hilo Library.

Stone, Fred D.

1992 Puainako Road Extension Environmental Impact Study: Kaūmana Cave.

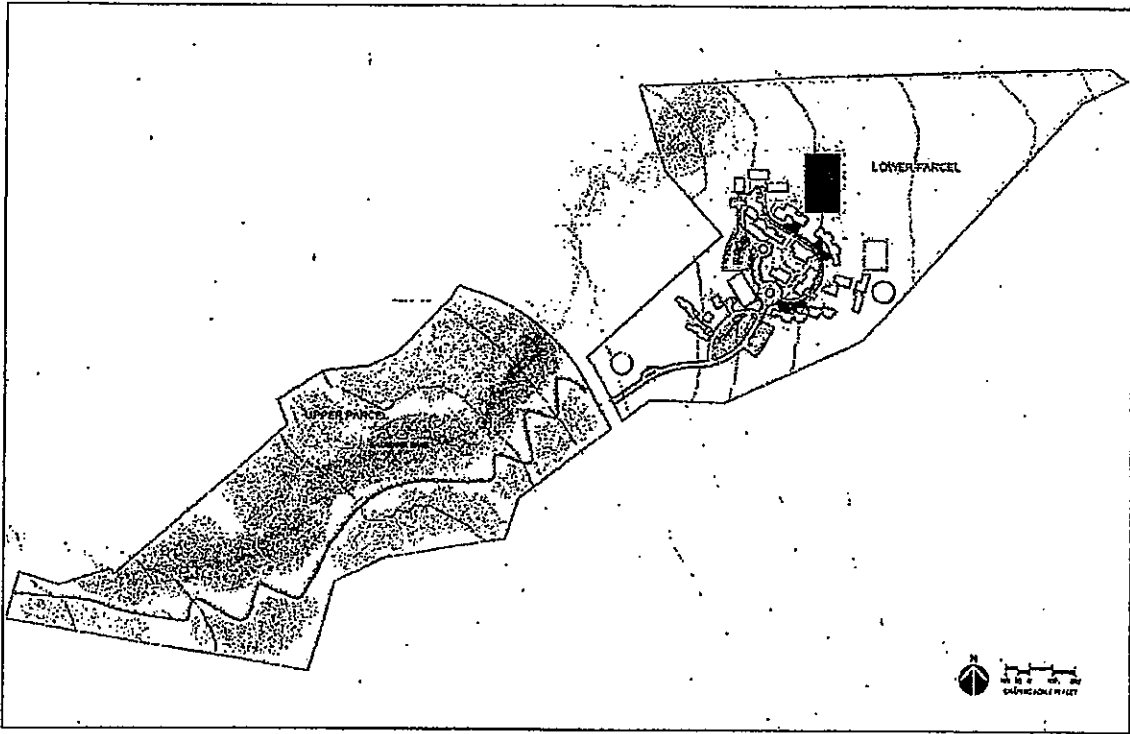


Figure 1. Map of the Kaūmana lava tube showing its relationship to the surface property boundaries (prepared by Wil Chee Planning from existing sources, including both the 1953 Lions Club survey and a 1992 Hawai'i County survey of the lava tube).

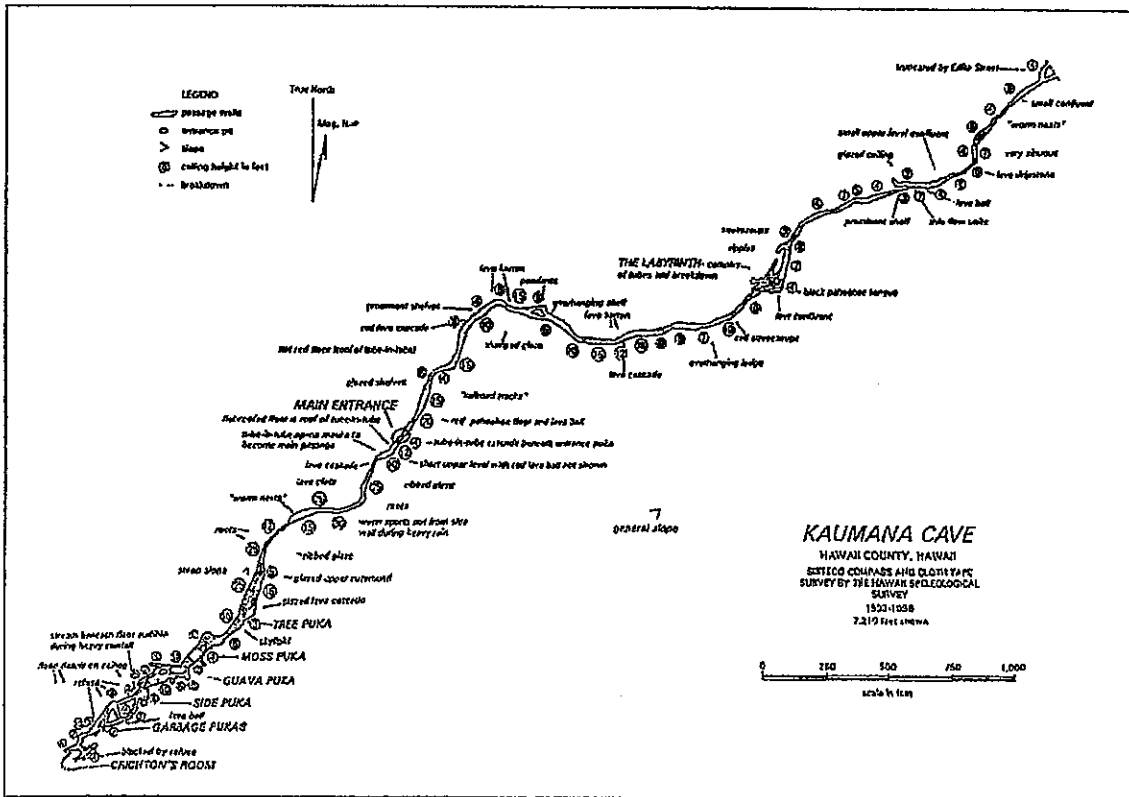


Figure 2. Map of Kaūmana Cave prepared in 1993-96 by the Hawaii Speleological Survey.

Nov. 2, 2012

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3:00

Dear Windward Planning Commission,  
Connections Public Charter  
School means a lot to me. I  
like to do the activities <sup>like</sup> what  
we do during Imagine Learning.  
I want to build a new  
school so we can be protected  
from the title wave that  
reaches the highway in town.  
Approximately, we can be 100%  
alive instead of 100% deadly  
drowning. We heard on Saturday  
that there was a tsunami. People  
was on a lookout for the  
waves. How to make a tsunami  
is the inner body of the Earth  
is like two things. When some-  
thing falls on it, it rubs to-  
gether and it makes the  
Earth, sea, and buildings shake.  
So that's why we want to have  
a new school in Kaunani Drive  
up the mountain.

I am a taro plant lover.  
I am a planter who likes  
to plant taros. My idea is  
to cook, pound, and eat <sup>them</sup>. The  
school has a yard where  
planters can plant their own  
taro. My talent  
is to plant a taro. Mahalo! 082072  
From the ~~Elementary~~ Grade Students  
Kawanna Kabeira

2012 NOV -3 PM 3:02

Nov. 2, 2012

Dear Windward Planning Commission,  
Connections Public Charter  
School means a lot to me. I  
like to do the activities <sup>like</sup> what  
we do during Imagine Learning.  
I vote to build a new  
school so we can be protected  
from the title wave that  
reaches the highway in town.  
Approximately, we can be 100%  
alive instead of 100% deadly  
drowning. We heard on Saturday  
that there was a tsunami. People  
was on a lookout for the  
waves. How to make a tsunami  
is the inner body of the Earth.  
is like two things. When some-  
thing falls on it, it rubs to-  
gether and it makes the  
Earth, sea, and buildings shake.  
So that's why we want to have  
a new school in Kawananani Drives  
up the mountain.

I am a taro plant lover.  
I am a planter who likes  
to plant taro. My idea is  
to cook, pound, and eat <sup>them</sup>. The  
school has a yard where  
planters can plant their own  
taro of planting. My talent  
is to plant a taro. Mahalo!  
From a Third Grade Student,  
Rachelle Robinson

SCANNED  
NOV 15 2012  
B082086

November 2, 2012

Dear Windward Planning Commission  
Connections Public Charter School

Means a lot to me because there are  
great activities. It is so fun  
and people are so nice here.

Building a new school will be  
amazing! I would like the walls and  
the quietness and niceness because  
we will have a big field  
and a gym, and also a quiet library.  
So please! make our new  
school!!!

From,

Drake Harper

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF RECORDS  
2012 NOV - 8 PM 3:00

082072

November 2, 2012

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV 8

8:20 AM  
Windward Planning Commission

Connections Public Charter School

means a lot to me because there are  
great activities. It is so fun  
and people are so nice here.

Building a new school will be  
the best! I would like the walls to  
be quietness and nice because  
we will have a big field  
and a gym and also a quiet library.  
So please! make our new  
school!!!

From,

Drake Harper

SCANNED

NOV 15 2012

By: 082084



Dear Windward Planning  
Commission,

Connections Public Charter  
School means a lot to me. I  
like having, I imaginee learning  
with my friends. A<sup>n</sup> another  
thing that I like about  
Connetion public charter  
school is having my  
best friends.

We should build a  
new school. In my <sup>my</sup>  
class their are little pecies  
on the wall are ripping.

Another reason that we  
should build a new school.  
Is that we I would like a  
horses, libray, gym like basketball,  
yogo, volleyball, and field for football.  
Thank you for building Connections  
Public Charter new school.

Sincerely,  
Thelma Jacob

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
2012 NOV - 2 PM 3:01

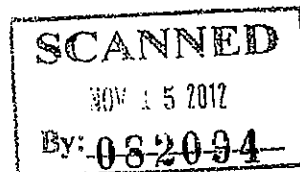
082072

NOV. 2 2012

Dear Windward Planning  
Commission,  
Connections Public Charter  
School means a lot to me. I  
like having, I imagine learning  
with my friends. Another  
thing that I like about  
Connection public charter  
school is having my  
best friends.

We should build a  
new school. In my  
class their are little pieces  
on the wall are ripping.  
Another reason that we  
should build a new school  
is that we I would like a  
horses, libray, gym like basketball,  
yogo, volleyball, and field for football.  
Thank you for building Connections  
Public Charter new school.

Sincerely,  
Thelma Jacob



2012 NOV -5 PM 3:02

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

DEAR WINDWARD PLANNING COMMISSION NOV - 8 PM NOVEMBER 2, 2012  
CONNECTIONS PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL  
MEANS SO MUCH TO ME.

I REALLY LIKE THE COMPUTERS IN  
OUR 3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE CLASSROOM. WE HAVE 8  
COMPUTERS, BUT ONLY 4 OF THEM WORK  
CORRECTLY. 😞

I ALSO LIKE THE DESIGNS ON THE  
WALLS. THEY HAVE VINES WITH GREEN LEAVES  
ON THEM. I LIKE THE AIR CONDITIONING  
IN OUR CLASSROOM, BUT THE ONE IN  
THE CAFETERIA IS TOO COLD FOR ME.

I LIKE SOME OF THE BOOKS IN THE  
SCHOOL, BUT NOT ALL OF THEM. ADVENTURE  
COMIC BOOKS ARE COOL. PLEASE PUT A  
LOT OF THOSE KIND OF BOOKS.

I HOPE WE HAVE LONGER RECESSES  
AT THE NEW SCHOOL BECAUSE WE ONLY  
HAVE LIKE 20-30 MINUTES. PLEASE MAKE  
BETTER LUNCES, OR AT LEAST A CHOICE!  
PLEASE SQUEEZE JUICE INSTEAD OF MILK  
BECAUSE I GET A HEADACHE AND FEEL  
A LITTLE SICK. WE WON'T HAVE ANY  
THEATER UPSTAIRS. 😞 BUT, THAT'S KIND OF  
ALRIGHT. 😊

I AM EXCITED FOR THE GYM  
BECAUSE IT MIGHT HAVE A VOLLEYBALL  
NET. I LOVE VOLLEYBALL! I AM ALSO  
EXCITED FOR THE LIBRARY BECAUSE  
READING IS SOMETIMES ACTUALLY  
FUN! I WILL BE REALLY HAPPY FOR THE 082072  
CHANGES YOU WILL MAKE. ESPECIALLY THE  
BATHROOMS. WE HAVE ONLY 2 STALLS.

THE BOYS HAVE (they say) 3 STALLS. I HOPE  
WE HAVE BIGGER BATHROOMS! PLEASE HELP  
MAKE MY DREAMS COME TRUE! THANKS!!

SINCERELY,  
LAURYN AMORMINO

STUD

2012 NOV 18 PM 3:02

NOVEMBER 2, 2012

DEAR WINDWARD PLANNING COMMISSION,  
CONNECTIONS PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL  
MEANS SO MUCH TO ME.

I REALLY LIKE THE COMPUTERS IN  
OUR 3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE CLASSROOM. WE HAVE 8  
COMPUTERS, BUT ONLY 4 OF THEM WORK  
CORRECTLY. :(

I ALSO LIKE THE DESIGNS ON THE  
WALLS. THEY HAVE VINES WITH GREEN LEAVES  
ON THEM. I LIKE THE AIR CONDITIONING  
IN OUR CLASSROOM, BUT THE ONE IN  
THE CAFETERIA IS TOO COLD FOR ME.  
I LIKE SOME OF THE BOOKS IN THE  
SCHOOL, BUT NOT ALL OF THEM. ADVENTURE  
COMIC BOOKS ARE COOL. PLEASE PUT A  
LOT OF THOSE KIND OF BOOKS.

I HOPE WE HAVE LONGER RECESSES  
AT THE NEW SCHOOL BECAUSE WE ONLY  
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BETTER LUNCES, OR AT LEAST A CHOICE!  
PLEASE SQUEEZE JUICE INSTEAD OF MILK  
BECAUSE I GET A HEADACHE AND FEEL  
A LITTLE SICK. WE WON'T HAVE ANY  
THEATER UPSTAIRS. :( BUT THAT'S KIND OF  
ALRIGHT. :(

I AM EXCITED FOR THE GYM  
BECAUSE IT MIGHT HAVE A VOLLEYBALL  
NET. I LOVE VOLLEYBALL! I AM ALSO  
EXCITED FOR THE LIBRARY BECAUSE  
READING IS SOMETIMES ACTUALLY  
FUN! I WILL BE REALLY HAPPY FOR THE  
CHANGES YOU WILL MAKE. ESPECIALLY THE  
BATHROOMS. WE HAVE ONLY 2 STALLS.

SCANNED  
NOV 15 2012  
BY 82025  
1080

THE BOYS HAVE (they say) 3 STALLS. I HOPE  
WE HAVE BIGGER BATHROOMS! PLEASE HELP  
MAKE MY DREAMS COME TRUE! THANKS!!

SINCERELY,  
LAURYN AMORMINO

5/10/00

1-2-12

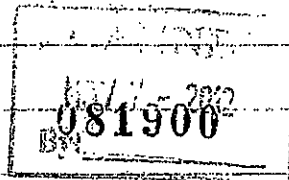
The good things about Connections  
is my teacher and her helper.  
Also that we learn alot in  
class.

I want to move to the new  
school because now we dont  
have windows, no play grounds,  
we dont have walls in betweens  
us, and our building is small.

Sincerely,  
Michael a fourth  
grader at Connections

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF BURLINGAME

2012 NOV -5 PM 4:20



November 2, 2012

I like Connections because it has great teachers, like mine.

She is a nice, fun, funny, and smart teacher.

The school is great but I want the new school to be built because we don't have window in class, a good place to run, walls in my class room, and we don't have a big cafeteria.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -5 PM 4:20

Sincerely,

Fa, a 4<sup>th</sup> grader at

☆ Connections ☆



081900



November 3, 2012 11-B-12

I Want To Move To The  
New connections public Charter  
School Because atleast We have  
a Window To look out at. and also connections  
has great teachers to.

Sincerely,

Talen a 4<sup>th</sup> grader at  
The great School connections.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
PROPERTY OF K-12

2012 NOV -5 PM 4: 20

081900

November 2 2012

Good things about connections

We don't bother other people.  
We don't pick on people and not noisy.

We want the new connections because

We could have a bigger school.  
We wouldn't have to share our school  
with a movie theater. There could  
be more places to play and learn.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -5 THU 4:20

Sincerely,

Benquth Grajergat Conker + E

081900

11/2/12

I want to move to that new school

because we can't see the sky and

birds. We don't have a library close

to us. I want a open place to play.

I want to play on soft ground so we

don't get hurt on concrete. I like

my school, because there are lots to

see and do. There is a snack shop

and snack area that you can eat

from that is also a cafeteria.

Sincerely, Kiana

a 4<sup>th</sup> grader at connections

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

2012 NOV - 5 PM 4: 20

081900

November 2, 2012

Connections is an awesome place because sometimes it gets so quiet I can get more things done. I don't know about the upper grades like 9<sup>th</sup> grade. But the elementary people have no windows in our classrooms and when it's recess we only have a hall way to play in also we have some really nice teachers.

I think it's awesome having a big school.

Sincerely

Dalino K. Arce, a 4<sup>th</sup> grader  
at Connections.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
NOV 2 2012

2012 NOV -5 PM 4

081900

11/2/12

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -5 PM 4:19

I think connections is a great school because we get to do awesome things and we have cool teachers. I love this school but I want the new school to be built because we don't have a place to run for recess and we don't have any windows to see out of in our classrooms.

Sincerely,  
Jette, a 4<sup>th</sup> grader at  
connections

081900

November 2, 2012.

Connections is a important part of my life because after school tutoring really helps and that we learn a lot of new things that we have not learned about. And that we have awesome teachers here at Connection and we do a lot of cool things here at Connections.

I really want to move because I really want a classroom that has a wall to make it our own class. And I really want a library and a gym and a horse barn.

Sincerely,  
Jizele a 4<sup>th</sup> grader at  
Connections

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
CONFERENCE ROOM III

2012 NOV -5 PM 4:

081900

11/2-12

2012 NOV -5 PM 4:19

The good things about  
having a new connections  
is that we will have windows  
and we will be able to  
run in a playground  
and we will have our separate  
classroom and even better food.

Connections is a good  
school let us be in  
Kau mana sincerely, Elijah a fourth  
grader at Connections

081900

November 2, 2012

2012 NOV -5 PM 4: 19

Connections is fun because we can do a lot of things like going to take swimming lessons. We get to go walking in the morning. We have reading with pillows, and we don't get that much homework. We even get to watch video clips. We even get to do a lot of projects. We always have a lot of good food.

If we just had the Connections in Kaunana we would have three times as much as the regular Connections building that's in the Kress building. A few of the good things we get to have at the Kaunana Connections is that we can have a library, a playing field and a large dining room.

Sincerely,  
Logan, a 4<sup>th</sup> grader at Connections



11-2-12

I love connections but I would  
love it even more if we had  
windows and a field to play  
in. and a gym. But we  
don't have any of those things

Now I sincerely - m e k h i -

a faith based - at connections

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF HAWAII  
2012 NOV -5 PM 4:19

081900

November 2, 2012

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -5 PM 4-19

Connections has been a really good influence in my life because from third grade to fourth my multiplication was bad to really, really good. I've been reading more, and school is so fun!

My parents never taught me how to play chess and finally I know how.

Sincerely,  
Katy, a fourth grader at  
Connections.

081900

November 2, 2012

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -5 PM 4:19

I like Connections because of the education. Also, I feel free and it's a positive influence because nobody is that bad. I also feel safe here.

I want to move schools because I want to play outside. It's also farther away from from the ocean, so when a tsunami warning goes off, parents don't have to worry about their children.

Sincerely,  
Thurugam, a 4<sup>th</sup> grade  
at Connections.

581900

Malati  
11/2/12

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

Out of all the teachers I've  
had I had lots of different teachers  
but they are still the best teachers  
I've ever had been with. I want to go to  
the new campus because it will be  
a whole other life for me ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> teacher is  
always looking out for me and my class be  
safe.

sincerely

Malati, a 4<sup>th</sup> grader at connections

081900

November 2, 2012

The good things about Connections are that you get to go on excursions and get to get smarter and you have some teachers at Connections. I want to go to the new Connections because I want to have fields to run in and take care of and ride a horse.

Sincerely, Trystan 4th  
grader at Connections

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
SCHOOL OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -5 PM 4: 19

081900

November 2, 2012.

I like Connections because we have nice teachers, and go on lots of excursions and we ~~can~~ learn a lot in school.

I think it would be good for Connections to have another campus because we can have our own room. We can have a bigger Cafeteria, and a bigger play area, and better food.

Sincerely,  
Talon, a 4<sup>th</sup> ~~grader~~ <sup>grader</sup> at Connections.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
SCHOOL OF HAWAII  
2012 NOV -5 PM 4:19

081900

NOVEMBER 2, 2012 11-2-12

I think the connections ~~students~~ and teachers would want to move to the new school because they will have windows and a nice green field instead of play in a cafeteria.

Sincerely, DYLAN G. 4th  
grades at connections.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -5 PM 14:19

081900

11-2-2012

connections has very nice teachers of all grades. There are no windows in my classroom to look out of. We stay inside the building to play for one recess and then we play inside our classroom and play board games. It would be fun to have a nice big play field.

If connections moved to Kaumana for a new campus there would be separate classrooms. We would have walls between to. Instead of having a library in each classroom there will be one big library and course center in the middle of our campus in Kaumana.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

2012 NOV -5 PM 4:19

Sincerely,

Abbie, A 4th Grader at connections.

081900



November 2, 2016

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -5 PM 4:20

I like that we learn a lot and

we get to do all kinds of

stuff like going on lots of

excursions and going to plays.

I would like a place to run and

a bigger cafeteria and a

bigger room with windows and

a bigger campus and I would want

better food.

Sincerely, Alicia,  
a 4th grader at Connections

081900

November 2, 2012

I used to go to another school and it was  
really hard and then I went to connections and  
they influenced me to learn and now all my  
friends and family ask me for help

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
7000 15th Ave S

2012 NOV -5 PM 4:20

Sincerely, Malcolm H. H.  
Grader at connections

081900

November 2, 2012

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -5 PM 4:20  
The good things about Connections  
is that we are really nice  
and you guys might think  
that we will vandalize your  
stuff but we won't.

We have a lot of nice  
teachers we are not bullies at  
all and we have lots of  
fun. We go swimming pools,  
the Zoo, movies and all other  
stuff

Sincerely,  
Jenna 4<sup>th</sup> grader  
at Connections

081900

Sarah Stevens  
c/o Connections High School  
174 Kamehameha Ave.  
Hilo, HI 96720  
November 2, 2012

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

2012 NOV -7 PM 3:35

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni St.  
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission,

I am a student at Connections High School. In this letter I would like to discuss the problems that our beloved high school is facing at our current location and facilities. I would like to share with you just how the new campus in Kaumana will benefit our school and future students. I would like to share my ideas on just how Connections will be a good neighbor and benefit the community around it. I'm deeply concerned with my school and hope you will listen to my letter in hopes to help my school.

The problem my school has been facing for so long is the location. We are located at Nani Mau Gardens yet it's not the best facilities or location for a school. All last year tourists have tours right in the middle of our school disturbing our learning environment. The buildings we are currently located at (for CPCS high school students) are broken down. The building used to be a salon originally but ended up being our school. The walls are patched with odd colors, walls are crumbling down, and there are random sinks and mirrors everywhere. There is hardly enough space for students to learn. The school has to pay a high rent just to stay in this unsuitable learning environment.

Due to our school's conditions we sought for a larger campus for our future students. We found the perfect place to build a bigger, more efficient campus in Kaumana. It had less rent and more space. We could build more educational environment for the students, such as a gym field and playground. We couldn't build these things at our old campus. Connections would be an exceptional neighbor to the Kaumana community. The community, if they chose to, could send their students to a closer and safer school compared to other schools. The school would be nearby their homes if there were an emergency or just some other need for them to go home. Please help Connections move to Kaumana.

Sincerely,

*Sarah Stevens*

Sarah Stevens



PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -7 PM 3:36

Loretta & Jason Okamoto  
HCR 2 Box 6040  
Keaau, HI 96749

November 2, 2012

Connections Public Charter School  
174 Kamehameha Avenue  
Hilo, HI 96720

County of Hawaii Planning Department  
Planning Commission Committee  
Aupuni Center, 101 Pauahi Street, Suite 3  
Hilo, HI 96720

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing to you in support of Connections Public Charter School Kaumana Project; we humbly ask that you show your support and approve our educational building project in Kaumana so that we can build a permanent foundation for our students. Our wish is to create a school for the community by setting a firm foundation and learning environment where students can voice their own opinions to help further their own education.

We are parents of two children, ages 10 and 12 who have been attending Connections Public Charter School for the last 3 years. We have been extremely happy with their staff and curriculum. Both our children have Type 1 diabetes and the staff at Connections Public Charter School has been extremely supportive in assisting with their diabetes management over the last 3 years.

We ask you for your support and approval to move forward with the Connections Public Charter School Kaumana Project; it will benefit the entire community of Hilo.

Sincerely,

*Loretta Okamoto*  
*Jason Okamoto*

Loretta & Jason Okamoto





**UNIVERSITY  
of HAWAII**  
MĀNOA

College of Education  
Office of the Dean

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

2012 NOV -7 PM 3:37

November 2, 2012

Mr. John Thatcher  
Connections Public Charter School  
Hilo, HI


Dear Mr. Thatcher:

Thank you for informing us of your intent to submit a proposal to the Windward Planning Commission for a special use permit to build a new campus for Connections School in Kaumana. On behalf of the College of Education at UH Manoa I want to state that we fully support this major development and I believe it is a good next step for you and Connections Public Charter School to pursue.

Ours has been a long-standing relationship as you and your faculty have pursued education excellence. Under our existing Memorandum of Agreement supporting our collaboration on curriculum development, professional development, and educational research we have accomplished much over the past 15 years. Your successful implementation of the CRDG-developed programs provide the foundation for the next generation curriculum efforts. Further, I believe there is a place in your proposed work to consider the Makery in designing and engineering systems that would focus on farm-to-school technologies, including designing and building greenhouses, efficient gardens, aquaponic systems, etc. Engaging students in these engineering projects will further their education in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields that will contribute to preparing college and career ready graduates. The proposed site at Kaumana will serve as a model of twenty-first century education.

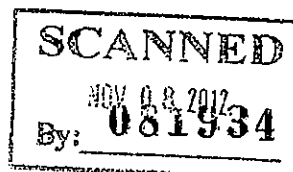
Our Curriculum Research & Development Group (CRDG) stands ready to assist in any facility and curriculum design and development that might be required as described in our MOA with Connections School. And our College of Education faculty would welcome this opportunity to support your developing plans. As you know, the CRDG, including its associated K-12 University Laboratory School, is an organized research unit established in 1966 whose mission is creating, evaluating, disseminating, and supporting quality educational programs for all students and teachers, preschool through grade 12. We pledge our support and assistance as you move forward with the Kaumana plans and we urge the Windward Planning Commission to favorably consider your application for special permit use.

Sincerely,

  
Donald B. Young, Dean

1776 University Avenue  
Every Hall, Room 128  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822  
Fax: (808) 956-3106

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution



PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -7 PM 3:36

Joan Derbyshire  
27 Elm Drive  
Hilo, Hi. 96720

November 2, 2012

RE: Testimony for Connections Public Charter School

To Whom It May Concern:

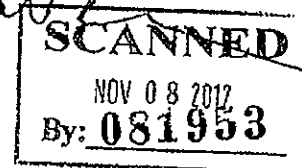
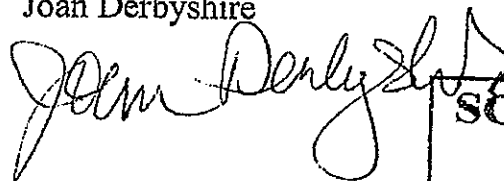
This letter is in support of the above referenced school's planned campus in the Kaumana area. Thirteen years ago, my children went to the Kress Building daily to be taught by this dedicated community of staff and teachers. My children found a home in this community and, although the high school lasted only a year at that time because of space, my older child refused to go back to DOE public schools.

For the past several years, the high school and elementary and middle schools of Connections has been divided. This is not an optimal situation for a small school. The advantages of having older students modeling for the younger ones is invaluable and the hope of having a united campus has kept that High School dream alive.

Connections has persevered through funding malfeasance, including less per pupil allotment money for their students ( less than the Department of Education gives non-charter schools), no facilities funding and less support for students in the way of sports or extracurricular activities. Yet, Connections continues to offer viable alternative education to those in need of something different.

Give these folks a break. They have more than paid their dues in this system and deserve to follow through on this dream of a sustainable, green campus that will serve the entire community of the Big Island.

Joan Derbyshire



PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
NOV 08 2012

2012 NOV -7 PM 3:35

Thomas Mooney  
25 Aununi St.  
Hilo HI 96720  
November 2, 2012

Dear Windward Planning Commission.

I am student at Connections High School. My name is Thomas Mooney. A problem we are facing at Connections High School is our main building is at Kress, which is located in downtown Hilo right next to the ocean. This is a problem because if there was a tsunami (which could happen as we just had a tsunami warning this past week) then the building would most likely be totally destroyed. But if we move to Kaumana this will not be a issue since we are in Kaumana.

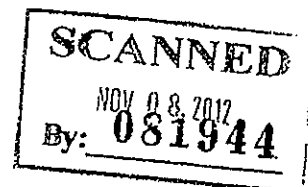
Connections PCS will be a good neighbor in Kaumana by first going green. We are planning on building environment friendly buildings and running our energy on solar panels which we never had here at this Connections campus. Another way Connections will help the community and be a good neighbor is by spreading positive messages around the community such as a 'drug free' school and 'no littering.' These are two of the many ways we will be a good neighbor.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

*Thomas Mooney*

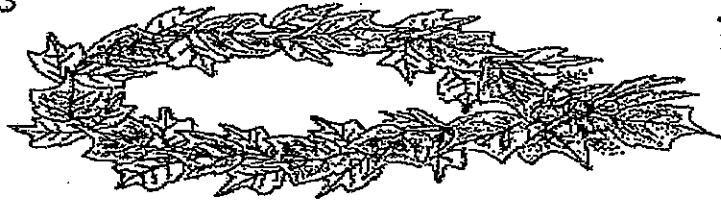
Thomas Mooney





PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3: 03



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hālau ho'ohāki*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission,

Connections Public Charter School does not like bullying. Connections is a school that is an ohana. We help people, not hurt people. Connections helps people when they are mad or sad. If you are getting bullied, we will stop the bullying and give you mediation when there is a big problem. We are a bully free school, and we stop bullying. We are an anti-bullying school.

Connections loves to give kids the teaching they need so they learn best. Connections is a school of choice. We do not want to force you to come to this school. If you come to Connections, you should not be sad because we all are friends in this school. We all know the kids because this school is an ohana.

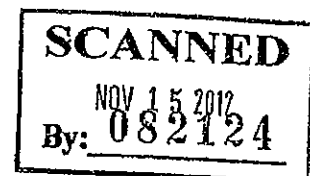
Connections is an ohana because we all are a second family. We all work together and we play together and we eat lunch together. Connections is a big ohana, but we have two different campuses, one at Nani Mau and one at the Kress building. The Kress building has three floors. The first floor has kindergarten through sixth grade, the second floor has seventh grade through eighth grade, and the third floor is where the principal and all the administration are. The high school is all the way at Nani Mau. We really want to be together on one campus.

Connections is the best school in the world. Please help us build Connections in Kaumana.

Sincerely,

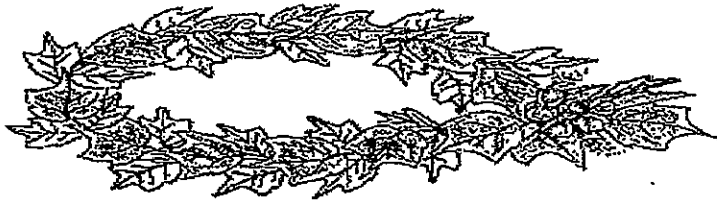
*Trent Saragosa*

Trent Saragosa  
Sixth Grade



PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3:03



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hālau ho'ohāki*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo Hawaii 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission Members,

What happens to my feelings when these people say things like, "No Connections" is that it makes me really mad. Why would they assume that the students from Connections would harm their homes? They are the ones who put stickers all over our school saying, "No Connections in Kaumana." All of our students are hard workers, and I don't think that they would want to miss important things in their classes.

The thing about our school is that they are positive about us. We help each other if we need help. When someone is hurt, everybody goes to help that person because we want our community to be safe. Our school is very friendly, too, because we don't bully. Every time someone is new, we help them out and show them around if they don't know their way. That's an important rule for students, which is be friendly to each other.

Another thing about our school is that we don't allow bullying of any kind. We have an anti-bullying program. Cyber-bullying, physical bullying and all other kinds of bullying are not allowed in this school because we want to keep our school safe. We don't want other people to hurt one another so we do not allow bullying in this school.

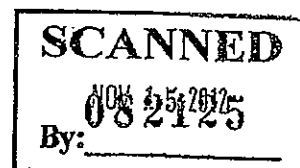
The last positive fact about our school is that our students never disrespect any one, elders or each other. If a teacher or staff member asks one of the students to do something, they do it instead of just crying or arguing.

This is why our school is a good school, why they shouldn't hate us, and why they should stop bullying us.

Sincerely,

*Falaniko Kaleo Ramos*

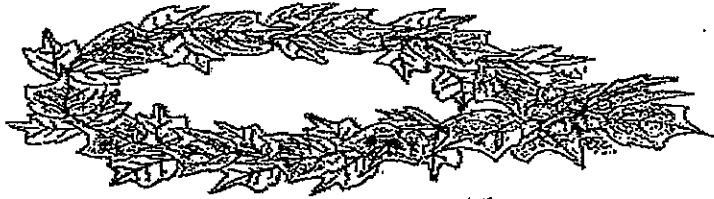
Falaniko Kaleo Ramos  
Sixth Grade



1109

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3: 03



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka haldie ho'ohani*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission Member,

I really feel upset about the people that are protesting because the Connections School is a huge ohana to me.

This school is a very green school because we help out the aina by recycling everything we're not using. For example, we take extra wood up to the Makery, so that we can make gifts for love ones. Students are making doll houses, 3-D blocks, and other things.

When we have a hard time, like peer trouble, we call our peer mediation team. It's when you have two people mediate, one takes notes and the other asks questions. Sometimes a person hands out five cards to everyone who is in the mediation. Then when they speak, they hold up one card. They put it down when they're done speaking. We have less bullying than other schools. We have fewer fights than other schools.

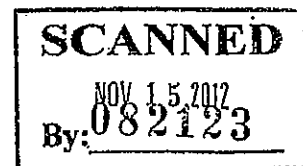
We also get to do hands-on things like science fair and project-based learning in social studies. We work with friends. When we don't know something and we need help, every one contributes to help that person who is struggling.

Connections has fun things, like for Halloween we had a Halloween party at the Kress Building. We had a beach clean-up and fun field trips to the UH for a play. It was about courage. We get to go to the park and the theater because it is really close to us. We can just walk there. The scary thing is that we are in a tsunami zone.

I think that it will be a great opportunity if you will help and let us build our school in Kaunana so that every child that goes to Connections can have a safer place to learn and play.

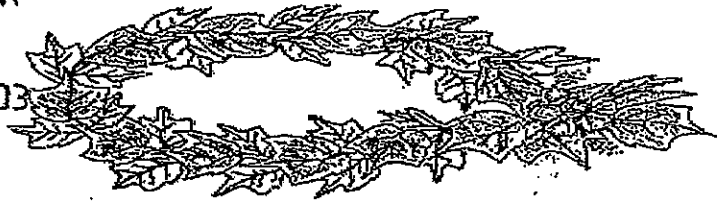
Sincerely,

Leilehua Pakele  
Sixth Grade



PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3: 03



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hualau hio'okali*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission members:

I am angry because the residents of Kaumana are protesting the building of Connections Public Charter School in Kaumana. They do not know what or how we learn! When I first came to this school, I was shy. With a little help, I made friends and was not scared to share my work. I chose this school and I'm glad I did. So, shame on them for judging us before they have seen what we learn and how we learn.

Sincerely,

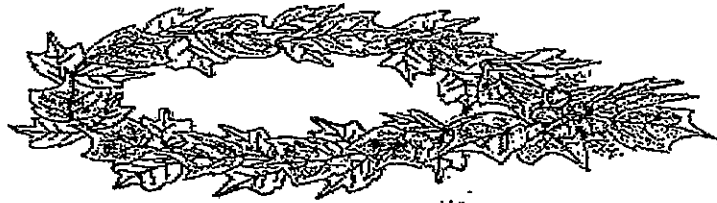
**Mackenzie Barona-Kahoonei**

MacKenzie Barona-Kahoonei  
Sixth Grade



PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3: 03



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hualau ka'okahi*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission,

I feel mad about the protesters opposing our school because I've been Connection for six years, and I know this school will not do anything bad. The protesters are wrong about Connections. We just want a school in Kaumana to avoid being in the tsunami zone and to learn about agricultural things.

Connections is a caring environment because students and staff helps each other to succeed and to learn. Our school has an anti-bullying program which teaches kids not to bully each other. We have peer mediators and counselors to help out kids with their feelings and to stop bullying. Students have amazing teachers who teach and care for them; this school is an OHANA.

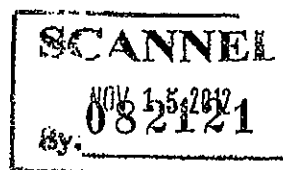
Connections has a lot of opportunities, like sixth-graders having ukulele classes with Uncle Cyril Pahinui, an ukulele legend, every Tuesday. Students also go to a lot of fun field trips. Students also have opportunities, like middle school students can choose makery class for their elective. Other opportunities like electing a class president and forming committees makes the school more fun.

So therefore, please support us in building a new campus in Kaumana. Connections Public Charter School should have chance to build a new school so all grades can be on one campus. Help us succeed through this challenging time. Thank you for listening to my letter

Sincerely

*Marcin Enoch*

Marcin Enoch  
Sixth Grade



PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3: 03



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hualau hoo'ohani*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission Members,

Connections Public Charter School wants to move to the Kaumana campus because we want to be able to do agriculture-related projects. Connections wants to be able to walk on our own property without having to walk around people that we do not know in downtown Hilo. Connections wants to be able to run around and not be crowded in one big building.

Our ohana wants to be together, and not have the elementary and the middle school students in Hilo and the high school at Nani Mau Gardens. I think Connections Public Charter School is great because they give us great education, fun activities, and other opportunities.

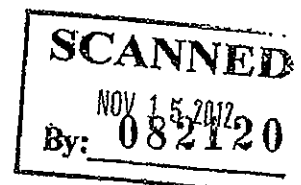
This school has great opportunities like having Cyril Pahinui, son of Gabby Pahinui, come and teach us every Tuesday for the sixth- graders and middle school.

Connections Public Charter School takes care of all of us in the school, so please say yes so we can move to Kaumana.

Sincerely,

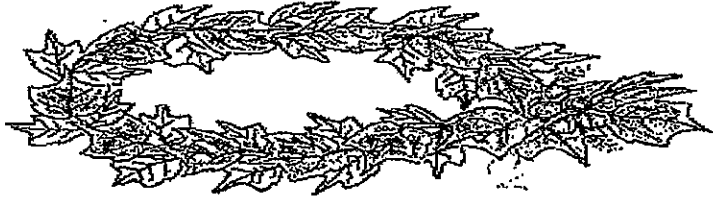
*Naomi Burt*

Naomi Burt  
Sixth Grade



PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3:03



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hualau ka'ohala'i*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission Members,

I really do not like how the protesters are putting up signs on the side of the road in their neighborhood, in town, and on the Kress building. That is vandalism to the school and that is illegal.

I think Connections Public Charter School is a great school because it has great opportunities like having Uncle Cyril Pahinui, son of Gabby Pahinui, come to this school every Tuesday to teach and play ukulele with the sixth grade and middle school. He also teaches steel guitar to the high school students.

The good thing about Connections Public Charter School is that you can stay with your friends all year and sometimes for multiple years. Connections is a school of choice; children choose to come to this school. A lot of children are in Connections Public Charter School, so that must mean this is a good charter school.

The best thing about this school is that it is a bullying-free zone, or anti-bullying charter school. The peer mediators always help you out if you have a problem. This helps students understand how to control their actions. They can continue with their learning, and they don't distract their peers.

Thank you for reading this letter and please support Connections Public Charter School.

Sincerely,

Kyrin Young  
Sixth Grade

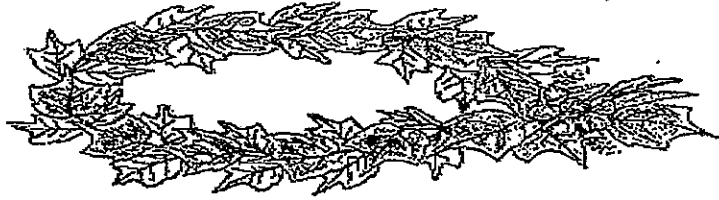
**SCANNED**

NOV 15 2012

By: 082119

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3:03



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka pālaiā hā'ohāki*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni St.  
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission Members,

Connections is a great school, and I do not know why people bully it for trying to move to Kaumana. This school is really great, and when people bully, it makes me really mad and sad. Connections is really neat. So those who comment about our school should at least come in here and visit us.

Connections is my favorite school, and it makes learning fun. Instead of using textbooks all the time, which is really boring, we have awesome projects like science fair and PBL (project-based-learning). Connections also takes care of us when we are in need, and if you have a problem you can always talk to the teachers, counselors and friends. Some of us have been here longer than others, and we still stick together throughout the years. When someone else new comes to school we always make them feel comfortable.

Connections has provided us with fun, educational and interesting opportunities. Some of the opportunities involve traveling to different states, countries and cities. They have also provided us with a famous musician, Cyril Pahinui, to teach us. He is an excellent ukulele player.

The opportunity to move to Kaumana would be great, especially since here we are right next to the ocean. Tsunamis could come and destroy our school, so if we move to Kaumana we will be at higher ground during a tsunami.

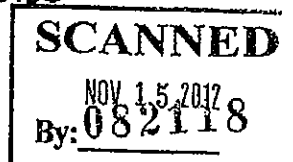
Connections has put a lot into our anti-bullying program to help stop bullying around our school. Moving to Kaumana will give us more quality education. Our school will have more space and an actual playground for children to play on. We will also have dorms for exchange students. Connections has planned to have an educational garden and other cool activities.

The signs in Kaumana that say "No Connections in Kaumana" are putting a bad reputation on this school. This school is my life, so please think about it.

Sincerely,

*Arcturus Kainalu Yroni*

Arcturus Kainalu Yroni  
Sixth Grade



1115



PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3: 03



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hualau ho'ohala'i*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission Members:

I feel a little uncomfortable with the people who are putting up the signs and stickers that say "No Connections in Kaumana." Little kids come to this school and see those signs, and they take it to heart. They do not know what they did wrong; they just want to come here and have a fun time learning.

I love learning here especially with Cyril Pahinuhi, Gabby Pahinuhi's son, on Tuesdays. It is very fun, we learn new songs, we get to be taught by a celebrity, and most of all we have great time. Another way we have fun is our activities.

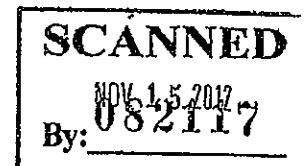
We have a Leadership Committee. Our Leadership Committee works hard to give us fun activities such as: Spirit Week, Halloween party, etc. The Leadership Committee does not cut into our class time; we have our meeting while eating our lunch in the afternoon.

Our lunches are delicious. Our cafeteria worker does a fantastic job at giving us the best lunches. Sometimes they let the students help out, and, yes, we wash our hands and put on gloves.

So please let Connections move to Kaumana because here tsunamis can get us, and if we move there, there will be more space to play at recess. We also can have more space to do agricultural stuff. Thank you for reading this.

Sincerely,

Alec Owen  
Sixth Grade



PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3: 03



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hahau ko'okahi*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission Members,

The group of people who are protesting against Connection Public Charter School's move up to Kaumana does not understand the good things about this school.

I like this school because it has a good learning system like: project-based learning which makes learning come to life, Caught'ya, which is an interactive grammar learning system, and Cyril Pahinui who teaches ukulele and is a famous musical artist. I also like this school because I used to have anger problems. Then peer mediators helped me with that, and now I do not have tempers any more. I like how this school has an anti-bullying program because then the people are really nice, and there's not as much gossip going on.

I think we should move up to Kaumana so we can have more agriculture, more land, a play ground, be out of the tsunami zone, and have all the grades on one campus.

Please support our school, Windward Planning Commission Members, so we can move up to the Kaumana campus.

Sincerely,

*Samuel Fuzier Jenkins*

Sam F. Jenkins  
Sixth Grade

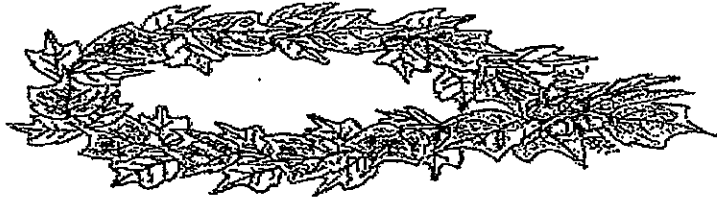
**SCANNED**

NOV 15 2012

By: 082116

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3: 03



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hualau ko'ohiki*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission,

Our school is currently separated in two campuses. The elementary and middle schools are in the Kress Building, and the high school is at the Nani Mau Gardens. I think that building a new school for Connections is a great idea for three reasons.

One, Connections students would be able to have deeper friendships at a bigger school made for all students. Everyone will be on one campus. Students will be with older and younger siblings. Being split on two campuses is like splitting up a family. Having elementary, middle, and high school all on one campus will be like putting a family back together.

Second, Connections would have a lot of new educational opportunities like an agriculture program and an intergenerational center where kids could learn how to take care of elderly people and pre-school children. The intergenerational center could prepare students for careers or for when they have to take care of their elderly relatives.

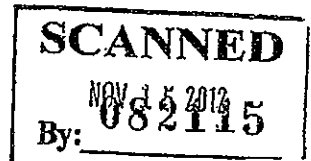
Third, Connections would be safer in Kaumana because there would not be the tsunami threat. If there is a tsunami warning, we need to evacuate within five minutes. Parents could also send their kids to school without having to worry about their children.

Thank you for reading my letter, and I hope you will let Connections' new school campus be built.

Sincerely,

*Isabelle Tempany*

Isabelle Tempany  
Sixth Grade



PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3: 03

*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hualāu ka'ohala'i*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission Members:

The people talking negatively about Connections PCS are making me feel sad. It hurts me that they have put up signs saying, "No Connections in Kaumana." I do not understand why people do not want Connections in Kaumana.

I love this school in many ways; the classes have twenty to twenty-eight kids in each class. In the classes, we get close to each other by being with the same people for years. You can get close to the teachers because you stay in their class for three years. In Connections you can go up and show the class your work even though you need help because the class will work together to make sure you understand it.

The learning program in Connections is great. We have this math program called Measure-up where you learn the problem really deep by analyzing it instead of doing a bunch of the problems and learning it on a "surface" level. We visualize what we are doing not just memorize a formula. We do project-based learning where we do a project on a social studies or science topic. The grammar program in my class is called "Caught Ya!" It is a story, and every day you get part of the story that you have to correct.

The anti-bullying program that Connections has is very great. The teachers and other staff members make sure nobody is getting bullied, and if someone is getting bullied, the teachers try to fix it right away. We have peer mediators that help solve some problems that people have, too.

There are a lot of new possibilities that Connections would get if we were able to move to Kaumana. The teachers could teach agriculture to the kids. There would be chances for kids to learn how to take care of pre-school kids or the elderly because there would be an intergenerational center for them to stay at. We would be able to have a field to play in so the kids could get more exercise.

So I ask you, please let Connections move to Kaumana. Thank you for reading my letter.

Sincerely,

*Carmel Wolff*

Carmel Wolff  
Sixth Grade

**SCANNED**

NOV 15 2012  
By: 082114

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3:03



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hualau 'ao'ao*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohaña*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, Hi 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission Members:

The Kaumana neighborhood has been campaigning against our school for some time now. They think that we are going to disturb their houses or the natural sights around their houses.

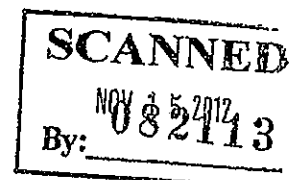
I know that if we were to move to a bigger campus we could grow back the trees that were chopped down during the fencing company accident, one day at a time.

I've only been in Connections for a few years and already taken a particular liking to the kids, teachers, and the education the teachers provide. I went to multiple schools before this one. I did not feel at place until I found Connections. The reason why I feel at place or feel like I fit in, in Connections, is because the people here do not just educate you, they support you no matter what disability you have or social problem you have.

Connections Public Charter School is a family, a family of people who will not steal from houses or disturb property as accused. I believe that if we were to move to Kaumana we could offer more to the students, such as greater opportunities. So please don't reject us, support us.

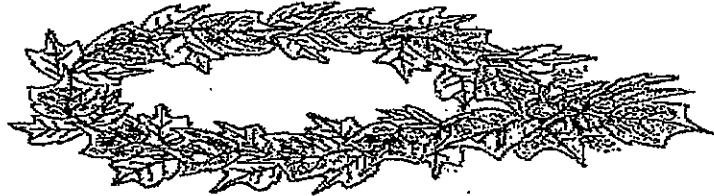
Sincerely,

Sena Short  
Sixth Grade



PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3: 03



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hualau ka'okahu*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, HI, 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission members,

You see, I feel really upset and insulted by the signs being put up about our school saying, "No Connections in Kaumana." I come to this school, and I choose to be here. The stickers (and signs) make me feel like I got slapped in the face.

I think it is worth it to come to Connections PCS because the students can have deep friendships, get to know their teachers, and are rarely bullied.

If the school moves to Kaumana the students will be good neighbors. The students will not bother the people who live in Kaumana. The students will not go and vandalize houses.

The students will be able to do agriculture. The school should move to Kaumana because the school is in the tsunami zone.

I learn better here at Connections PCS because of Project-Based Learning (PBL). The students do cool things such as: dissecting owl pellets, plays, Science Fair, and ukulele with Cyril Pahinui. The students do PBL because that is how we learn best. Connections is a school of choice. This gets the students engaged in learning.

Well, that is it for me. I hope you read this letter and take it seriously.

Sincerely,

*Naomi Lemieux*

Naomi Lemieux  
Sixth Grade

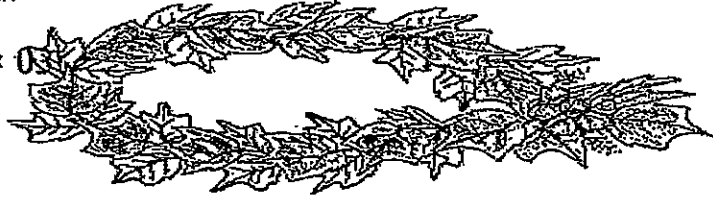
**SCANNED**

NOV 15 2012

By: 082112

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3: 03



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hualau hā'ōkahi*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni St.  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission,

I believe that most of the signs and negative things going on about Connections are junk. The signs personally hurt me because it's like they are insulting my family. They are not only insulting my family, but also my friends. The signs are saying "No Connections in Kaumana" and that's like saying "No Connections Having a School." If we don't get the new campus, then our school won't really be an actual school. It will just be a "temporary campus" forever.

I think that if we could agree on a plan that would work for everyone, then it would be a much happier environment. We could both go about our daily lives in peace. If we built an entrance off Puainako, then there wouldn't be as much traffic. If there are any other problems, then let us know and we can try and find a solution.

I think that this school should be built because our school has positive intentions, and it will provide new opportunities, for me and my peers, that will be exciting. It will give us a good education that we can use when we are done with college. It will provide new science and forestry programs as well as playing fields for sports.

There's no reason why the kids who live in Kaumana can't come to our school. In fact, they would be more than welcome in our school. Anybody is welcome in our school.

So, please allow us to build our school in Kaumana.

Sincerely,

*Noah Siderhurst*

Noah Siderhurst  
Sixth Grade



PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3:03



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hualau ho'ohahi*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni St.  
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission Members,

You may know about the protest against Connections in Kaumana. I think that the opposition against our school is misled. They are saying negative things about our school that are not true. I am agitated and annoyed.

When I came to Connections I loved it right away. The staff, the teachers, and the students are so welcoming and nice. I made friends right away and did not get bullied at all. We are like a family.

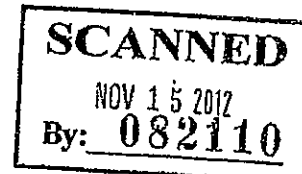
The learning is great and deep at Connections. We believe in "project-based learning" which is learning not in textbooks but in projects that are fun and engaging. We learn better this way because we are not bored, and the learning is not dull like just reading from textbooks. Our math program is different too. We learn to visualize things like fractions by using diagrams and models, and then we learn formulas and equations. This way we get a better understanding of things.

Here at Connections we have many great opportunities. Every Tuesday we go to music class with Cyril Pahinui, the famous musician. Twice a year we walk to Hilo Bay to do a beach cleanup in which we pick up all the trash. These are only some of the great opportunities Connections has.

I truly hope you support Connections. We are a great school so please help us.

Sincerely,

Dakota Kalvaitis  
Sixth Grade





PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3:55



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hualau ho'ohani*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission members:

I am a Connections Public Charter School student, and I have been going to this school since kindergarten. It hurts me so much that people really think bad and negative things about my school, my second family.

Connections has always been supportive to my friends and family through all of the years I have been going to this school. For example, when I had some personal family issues, the Connections ohana made me feel better, and they comforted me. Also, whenever my friends and/or I have new ideas or opportunities, we have always been supported and encouraged by the students, staff, and parents.

Through the many years I have been a Connections student, I have never felt like an outcast because of the school. For example, even when we go on to a new subject, and I, or others, have a hard time understanding this new subject, we do not get teased. Instead, we get helped by our peers. Also, this school is an anti-bullying school, so you never get bullied by anyone.

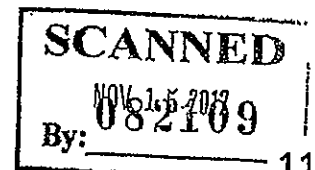
Connections has always encouraged us to embrace our differences, encouraged us to love ourselves the way we are. No matter what culture, religion, or nationality you are, you are taught to embrace it. You are always accepted no matter your style, appearance, or whether you are rich or poor.

Thank you for listening to what I have to say, and I hope that it made you think about your decision for Connections PCS.

Sincerely,

*Talia Rose Liepold*

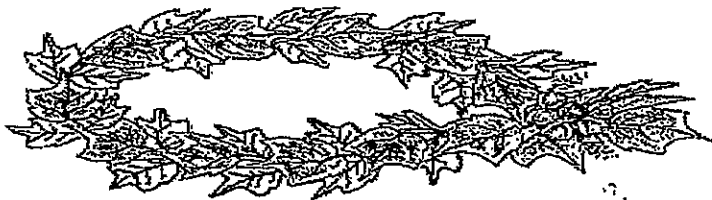
Talia Rose Liepold  
Sixth Grade



1124

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3: 02



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hualau hio'okāhi*

## **Connections Public Charter School.**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission members:

I choose to come, and to continue coming, to this school because I can see my peers year after year. This is because it is a small school where everyone is family. We all know each other like brothers and sisters.

We have many projects and different ways of learning, such as Project-Based Learning, or P.B.L. Our science class just had a project where we had to examine owl pellets. It was surprisingly fun, and fun projects like that contribute to me wanting stay here in Connections. If we do move to Kaumana, then we would have way more opportunities.

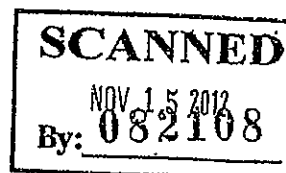
The school has an ANTI-BULLYING program, so any bullying here actually is really minor. It gets taken care of very fast. I am one of our peer mediators. That's why my friends and I chose to come to this school. This charter school is a school of choice.

So please support our school's building project in Kaumana.

Sincerely,

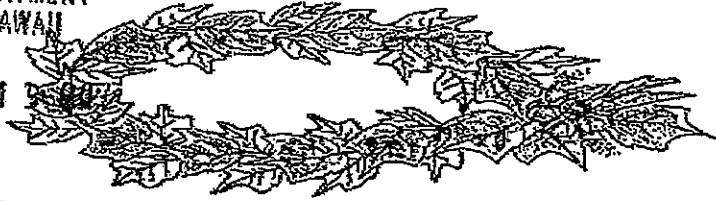
*Skyler De Mello*

Skyler De Mello  
Sixth Grade



PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 5:44



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hālau hā'ohāhi*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission members:

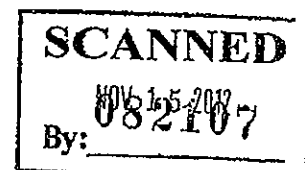
There are signs being put up in Kaumana that say, "No Connections in Kaumana." That's not right, and showing it to the public is still not right. We are kids, and to come to school and see that people put stickers on school windows is not cool. We just want to make a school, so we can have more opportunities. The Kaumana people should stop right now. We are a school of choice, and that is why we care so much.

The signs are really painful. Please support our school.

Sincerely,

*Aukoa marsh*

Aukoa Marsh  
Sixth Grade



PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

12 NOV -8 PM 3:04



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hālau 'ā'okali*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission,

Connections Public Charter School is a really great and fun School because it is caring. If you have a problem, you can always talk to the teacher. Our school also doesn't do boring school work. Connections makes learning fun.

Connections has given us kids awesome opportunities like field trips and good learning. When I go to this school it makes me feel good.

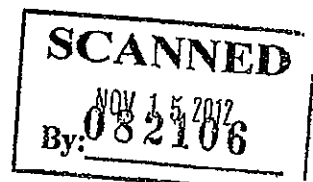
When people in Kaumana bully our school, I feel sad. I have been here since kindergarten, and I am now in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. I have been in Connections my whole life, and I have made a lot of friends along the way.

I hope our school can move to Kaumana because we will have more activities and a more educational area. The children will be so happy if we move because the campus will have more space and a playground.

I love this school, so will you please help us build this school?

Sincerely,

Joshua Evans  
Sixth Grade



PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3: 08

*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka Palau 'ao'ao*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission:

I like Connections. Before, I couldn't keep my temper down, but when I went to Connections they helped me. They are like another family.

Connections helps kids get a good education. We learn cultural things like Navajo studies, and we have Korean and Peruvian exchange students. We dissected owl pellets and fish. We have project-based learning which helps learn in an exciting way.

We want Connection to be in Kaumana, so we can work on plans and other things like agriculture. We will be able to have gardens and horses. I would like to work in a garden so I can bring vegetables home for my family.

Connections has good teachers and a good principal. They will always catch and stop bullying in this school. They never let bullying in this school. I think that the principal is good man. If a student gets bullied, he will solve the problem.

We have lots of fun in Connections, like ukulele class. Uncle Cyril Pahinui, a famous musician, is our teacher. We like having him because he is fun and joyful. He shares a lot of things with us.

Some of the students in Connection need a small school. Other schools have more bullying. The kids in connection have good talent and quality of work. Some people come to Connection because they need help during hard times. There is a lot of support in our school.

Please help us build our new campus.

Sincerely,

Hunter Cortez

Hunter Kekoa Cortez  
Sixth Grade

SCANNED

NOV 15 2012  
By: 082105

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3: 04



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hālau ka'ōkahi*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission Members,

I like this school because we do projects. You can make deep friendships by getting to know each other better because you can stay with them longer. Recess is also a good time for peers to gather and talk with each other.

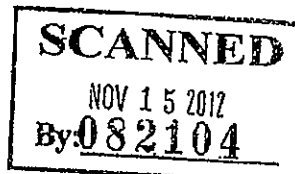
We are going to build a new school in Kaumana. Therefore, we will have new and exciting opportunities such as forestry and animal-based projects with actual animals. There will be lots of agriculture-based projects.

My feeling about the signs in Kaumana and on the front door of the school where kids come to school every day is that it is like bullying. In our school, we don't have bullying. We have mediators to solve bullying situations. Please help support our school.

Sincerely,

Mica Saronno

Mica Saronno  
Sixth Grade



PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3: 03



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hualau hua'ohiahi*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission Members:

As you know, people in Kaumana are putting up signs that say, "No Connections in Kaumana." That made me upset because they just do not understand how amazing this school is. Here is why I like this school.

We have fun things at this school: the sixth, seventh, and eighth graders have ukulele class by Cyril Pahinui. At recess, we have park time, PE, and more fun things. We do a lot of field trips in this school.

I love this school because it is a small school, like an ohana. There is no bullying allowed, but if it happens, it is dealt with fast. Everyone knows each other and can trust each other.

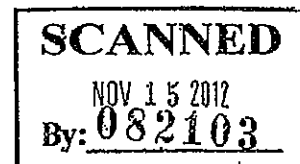
Connections Public Charter School should move to Kaumana because there will be a bigger place to play and learn. The whole school will be together, not separated like now.

We will help the community more by taking care of the land. We will share fruits and vegetables with the community.

We will be out of tsunami zone, so we will be safe. Thank you for listening. Please help us so we can build our school in Kaumana. This means a lot to us.

Sincerely,

Kylee Ramirez  
Sixth Grade



PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3: 03



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka pūlani ka'okali*

## ***Connections Public Charter School***

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo HI 967320

Dear Windward Planning Commission Members,

Connections Public Charter School is a really great and fun school. Why is that? Connections lets kids go on lots of field trips, do lots of activities, do lots of crafts, and have a lot of opportunities. I really like Connections because Connections has less children. This makes a lot of friendship last. Connections gives us love, and we give love back to Connections. Our school has done a lot of things for us.

Connections has given us joy and fun. This school provides us children and kids with lots of things to do. The opportunities that Connections gives are really making a lot of people happy and smarter. We learn a lot of things like history, cool minerals, rocks, and shells that are very old.

Connections Public Charter School's teachers have done a lot of work to keep Connections going, and we all have to give it a chance. I want to stand up for Connections. I get to work and stay focused and learn well.

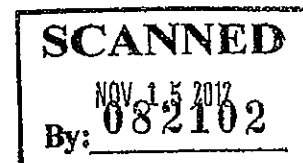
We all should move to Kaumana campus because the bigger campus the more the student can do. Also we will have more opportunities and activities at the Kaumana campus. There will be a lot of learning, farming, and playing. We have done a lot of work to plan for building the campus.

Please help Connections Public Charter School to build our new campus in Kaumana. Thanks for listening and reading my letter. It means a lot.

Sincerely,

*Jadelyn Kaleohano*

Jadelyn Kaleohano  
Sixth Grade





PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3:03



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hālau ka'ohala'i*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, HI 967320

Dear Windward Planning Commission members,

I am mad that some people do not want us to build our new school in Kaumana because they think that we will do bad things to their neighborhood. They are putting up signs around town, and they even put stickers on our school windows.

When I first came to this school, I was not good in math. Division, multiplication, and more, were hard, but now I am good at it because they taught me and helped me throughout the whole year. I really love Connections Public Charter School. They really helped me, so I am glad.

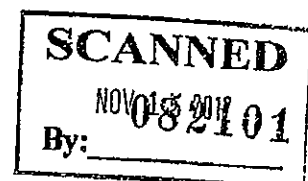
Connections is the kind of school that does not stand for bullying, so if there is bullying, Connections will find the problem and stop it. Connections does not have bullying because it is a small school, but it is a good school. Even though it is small many kids love it because their friendships can last long.

Connections is a small and good school. Why? Well the smaller the school, the better, when we look at the number of students. However, we need a bigger campus for the kids. I also think that it will be good for us to move to Kaumana because we will have a playground and all of the students will be on one campus. We will also learn how to take care of horses. It will have a center for elderly to be taken care of during the day. Students will be able to come and help. We will also be able to have more opportunities with a bigger campus.

Please help Connections Public Charter School to build our new campus in Kaumana. Thanks for listening and reading my letter. It means a lot.

Sincerely,

Kira Pavao  
Sixth Grade



PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3:03



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hālau hō'ohāki*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

Friday, November 2, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Dear Windward Planning Commission,

I love this school a lot because it is fun. Connections Public Charter School has a great thing called "Project-Based Learning." It means that my class and I do research on topics that we get to choose in social studies and science. We also get to do fun things such as: field trips to plays, beach cleanups, spirit week, science fair projects and a lot more.

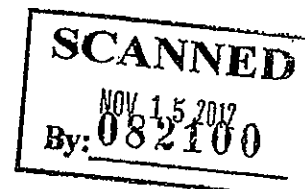
Connections also has an anti-bullying program. I do not need to be worried about being picked on all the time; I have not been bullied once in this school even though I am new. The kids do not know me very well, but they always include me in games and other activities. In Connections we are all friends and ohana. Connections is helping me become a better person.

We want to move to Kaumana because we will have a playground, green energy, a farm, and much more. The school means a lot to me. I know all the kids in my grade, and it's like a second home to me. All the kids are very nice to me. My school could be so much more with a campus in Kaumana. We are not criminals that rob houses; we are just a charter school that wants to help kids learn. It makes me feel bad that people say our school has "delinquents" for students, and they are putting signs on the road saying that "No Connections in Kaumana." Please show some support for my school. Thank you for reading this letter.

Sincerely

*Gabriel Quander*

Gabriel Quander  
Sixth Grade



Dear Windward Land Use Commission members,

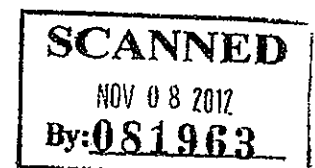
2012 NOV -7 PM 3: 37

This is only my second year teaching at Connections Public Charter School, but I can honestly say I love it here. I love the way the staff supports me 100%, all the time. I feel like I truly have a community, that I belong here. I know a lot of people who teach elsewhere, and most of them can't say the same. In other places, there is drama amongst the faculty members, or the administration doesn't support the teachers. And it might not happen all the time, but at least some of the time. I never feel that way here. Connections is truly a place where people—all people, staff, students, parents—can connect.

Personally, I look forward to having our campus in Kaumana. I look forward to being able to have all of the facilities that we are currently lacking. I look forward to being able to take the students out on the land and show them the endemic plant species growing in the environment. We don't have that opportunity now. We don't have a yard or field we can take the kids out on, and since we are in downtown Hilo, we certainly do not have native plants growing outside the classrooms that we can show the students. I teach English Language Arts and Literature; one might argue that it is not necessary to use the natural world to teach my subject matter. I would disagree. Nature has inspired countless writers, and countless classics, and it can do wonders in inspiring these students.

In all honesty, it is our keiki, our youth, who are really being impacted the most in this situation. They are neither deaf nor blind, and they know what is going on when people make cruel insinuations about them; when people put custom made bumper stickers on our school so that they have to walk by and see this very visual sign that they are unwanted by members in their community; when they hear that people are calling their school "Corrections," suggesting that they are bad kids, delinquents even, in need of correctional facilities; when people are bold enough to imply and even state that they and their families will rob and vandalize the homes that the school is situated near.

It is genuinely heart wrenching when a student, twelve years old, looks at you with the utmost sincerity and asks, "Is that really what people think of us?" And how am I supposed to respond to that? I am not going to lie to him and tell him that he is getting the wrong impression from all of this, because he's not. The impression he has made is the one that certain people want everyone in Hilo to make. So, instead, I tell him that the people who are saying these things are only saying them because they don't know him and his classmates. That they don't know how intelligent they are and how much potential each of them has within them. That they don't know how kind and considerate they can be, because they have never met them and they are making



assumptions based on their own fears. I don't know that my words really helped his crushed self-esteem; after all, no amount of justification can fix a bruised heart, and words certainly have the power to wound, especially when you are only twelve years old.

I don't have any bad kids in my classes. I have rowdy kids, kids with attitude, kids with too much energy... but I teach middle school. I don't expect anything else. I also have kids who volunteer their free time to do extra work, harder work at the high school level, simply because they want the opportunity to challenge themselves. I also have kids who come into my classroom to volunteer to clean my boards or ask if I need help with anything. I also have kids who come into my classroom after the school day has ended just to see if they can hang out and chat with me while they wait for their ride. No, I don't have any bad kids. My kids are amazing, and they honestly deserve more consideration than they are getting from people in the community. They don't deserve to be judged, measured, weighed, and found wanting. They are works in progress, and it is our responsibility, not as a school but as a community, to make sure that they get the best educational opportunities possible as they make their way into their futures. The children are the future, *our future*; why are we trying to short change ourselves?

At Connections, we care about the future of our children. That's why we want to build a better campus for them. We know that they will have superior opportunities at the Kaumana campus than they ever could have in the limited facilities we currently occupy. For all of these reasons, I implore you to give our school the opportunity to provide these children with a better education and a better tomorrow.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Lale Sugaruma  
Middle School Language Arts Teacher  
Nov 3, 2012

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
SCHOOL OF DISTANCE EDUCATION

2012 NOV -7 PM 3:37

November 4, 2012

To whom it may concern:

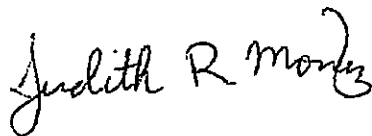
I am writing this letter in support of the new endeavor that Connections Public Charter School has begun. I have been part of the Connections Ohana since they first opened and have never been disappointed in the administration or leadership of the school.

The school has always been forward thinking and what I deem a good learning environment for it's students.

The new property is just another step to further the education of Connections students that I feel they would not be exposed to if in a traditional public school. The Charter School System has the ability to "think outside the box" and Connections surely does this.

Please consider their petition for Special Permit and help a successful school enter the future for the sake of the students.

Thank you,



Judith R. Moniz

SCANNED  
NOV 08 2012  
By: 081929

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -7 PM 3:36

P. Cabral  
PO Box 11325  
Hilo, HI. 96720

November 4, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, HI. 96720

Dear Planning Commission,

I have been with Connections PCS since their inception twelve years ago. Hired first as a kindergarten teacher, I then went on to teach 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. I know the importance of having the students work/learn by using their hands. Our science program, Developmental Approach to Science, Health and Technology (**DASH**), is an internationally recognized program. The students make sense of their environment by building/working with their hands. To study rainfall, they build rain gauges out of recyclables, place their instruments around the campus, read and graph their results, and make predictions about future readings. To learn about decomposition, the students bury food scraps/miscellaneous scraps of paper, plastic, and foil; and make predictions about the rate of decomposition. To study temperature, the students blow bubbles and observe the direction of the bubbles and make predictions as to what they have observed.

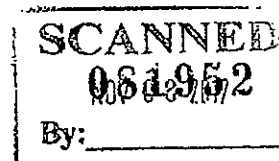
Presently, we are limited in servicing the students. We don't have the land or proper environment to do such exploring. Education should be fun...it should live in the minds of the children. By giving them the chance to experiment and explore, they become life-long learners. The Kaumana property would be a great place for discovering and learning. When given a situation, the students would be able to hypothesize, collect and analyze data, and come to a conclusion...steps in the Scientific Method...and higher level of thinking.

Change is always difficult to accept. By giving Connections the chance, we will show the community that the school would be a great learning institute for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Sincerely,



P. Cabral  
Title 1 Coordinator



November 4, 2012

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
CITY OF WASHINGTON

2012 NOV -7 PM 3: 37

To whom it may concern:

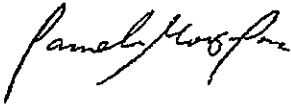
I am a supporter of Connections Public Charter School and am begging your consideration for their Application for Special Permit.

The school has been successful in looking to the future and implementing new and innovative ideas to further the education of the students.

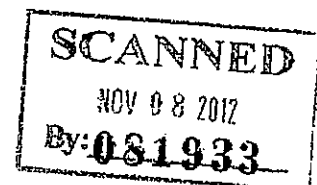
The new property and its functions would provide another stepping stone for the plan that the administration has to continue the success of the school.

Thank you again for your time and consideration in this matter.

Thank you,



Pamela Moniz



Planning Commission

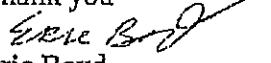
I am writing this letter of support for Connections Public Charter School. I have been working for Connections about 13 years now and have had the privilege to work with many student. This new Kaumana Campus would give us the opportunity to grow a very needed Agricultural program.

As you know, Graduates today have little or no knowledge of self sustainability. We at Connections want to give these students the knowledge that in the event it is needed, they will know how to take care of themselves and there community.

Charter Schools have had obstetrical over the years with finances and facilities. With this new campus it would give our family a stable home for many years and give us much more opportunity to give back to our community.

Please consider this request so that we here at Connections can pour out as much knowledge as we can on our future. The students are our future.

Thank you

  
Eric Boyd

2012 NOV -5 PM 3:47

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

081904



Carol Gray

HC3 box 11061, Keeaau, HI 96749

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
NOV 7 2012

2012 NOV -7 PM 3:35

Date: 11/5/2012

Windward Planning Commission

Dear Windward Planning Commissioners:

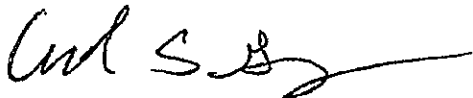
I am writing in support of Connections Public Charter School building a school at the Kaumana site leased to the school by the DLNR. Connections has an 18 year track record meeting the needs of the children and families of Hawaii County, in spite of being in two sets of repurposed buildings that are truly not well suited to teaching and learning. Our school has been patient with the drawbacks of our physical facilities, but the time has come to unite our school at one location in buildings actually designed to be a school. Where the walls go up to the ceiling and students are not distracted by the lessons in adjoining classrooms, where students will have natural light and opening windows for fresh air, and where K-8 students are not in a tsunami inundation zone.

The issue of suitable locations for Public Charter Schools in Hawaii has been a burden for Hawaii charter schools ever since the public charter school laws in Hawaii were first introduced. There are very few places suitably zoned for charter schools, resulting in charter school students being taught in tents, churches, community centers, and in the case of Connections, a former spa/salon and a former department store. These facilities make it hard for students and teachers to dedicate themselves to teaching and learning.

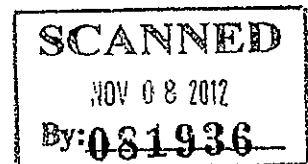
The Kaumana site is in a residential neighborhood, which is the perfect location for a school. Schools should be in residential neighborhoods, not forced into industrial or commercial zones. While the population of Connections currently draws from all over East Hawaii, from Waimea to Lapahoehoe to lower Puna, the probability of half our students continuing to come from outside Hilo once the permanent campus is built is low. As Hilo families who currently do not want their children educated in repurposed buildings get to know about the programs we will be able to offer at our new school location in Kaumana, Connections will draw more students from Hilo, including the Kaumana neighborhood.

My final point is that the students of Connections are some of the most responsible, caring, and community oriented students it has ever been my pleasure to teach. These wonderful young people have been very wounded by the rhetoric used by some opponents of the school. To take a disagreement about a land use issue and turn it into an indictment of the characters of our students and families as some of the opponents have done, to plaster our school and the roadways our students travel to school each day with "NO Connections in Kaumana" stickers and signs, to denigrate the children of this school because of their socio economic status, these are all inappropriate when working through a zoning and land use issue. Making children feel unwelcome in the community because of the neighborhoods they live in, taking that battle to the walls of their school, these are actions that show no aloha, no malama for the next generation, and no regard for the greater good of the East Hawaii community. Please allow Connections to build a beautiful new school on the Kaumana site, it will be a plus for East Hawaii and enhance the Kaumana neighborhood, not diminish it.

Sincerely,



Carol S. Gray, Connections PCS Social Studies Teacher



11-5-1

Dear Planning Commission,  
My name is Ethan and I've been at Connections Public Charter School since kindergarten and now I'm in fifth grade. I really like my school because it has a small class and the teachers give more attention to each student. The teachers are really dedicated and we can call or e-mail them if we have questions about our homework, even during the evening or weekends. After class, my parents can talk to the teacher without appointment.

Ethan Goodman  
Fifth Grade  
Connections Public Charter School

November 5, 2012

2012 NOV -8 PM 2:29

My name is Diana Chanca, and I have been apart of Connections Pcs for almost 3 years now. I am in full support of this petition, to finally get the chance for our ohana, at Connections Public Charter School to have a safe and stable educational facility, where both our locations: Kress Building (K-8 grade) and Nani Mau gardens (9-12 grade) can honor what we are all about, "Ohana", and live up to our mission statement, to our highest potential. If this special permit was to be granted, it would only allow us to Grow, Bond, and Unite as "One." Not only as a school, but also as a community, working our way into creating a "Green" future for everyone to benefit from.

As the only female security personnel on the Connections Pcs campus, having this opportunity to be blessed with a facility where both campus's would be combined into one, would be outrageously awesome! To come to work each day, and get to see, interact, and just to be physically there for all 350+ students without having to rotate between both campuses, to keep my students safe and in a secure learning environment. Where they can continue to expand their learning abilities and also keep our children interested in making a difference for our future.

giving our "Students of the future" the opportunity to give back and continue to maintain and take care of their environment, by our unique hands-on learnings and Sustainability.

I humbly ask that you'll allow our Ohana at Connections Pcs, as well as myself, Diana Charva, Security personnel at CPCS, a chance to show our commitment and dedication to a brighter future for other generations to come!

Thank you for your time and consideration,  
Diana Charva  
(Security, CPCS)

NOV 9 - 2012

082024

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

November 5, 2012

Steven Sayre

Puna Goat Cheese

2012 NOV -03 PM 3: 29

Box 1064

Kurtistown, Hi. 96760

To Whom It May Concern;

This letter is in support of Connections Public Charter School's plan for a campus in the Kaumana area. If one studies the plan, it is obvious that much planning and thought was used in creating a unique and environmentally innovative campus. Instead of clear cutting the land, the school buildings are interspersed with the native forest. A good portion of the land is kept in native ohia rainforest. Hiking trails are built to teach students and visitors about the feel and value of the natural landscape.

As a farmer I am especially pleased to see an area dedicated to agriculture. Gardens, greenhouses, orchards, and even buildings for livestock are included to demonstrate to the students, methods of growing our own food here in Hawaii. Hopefully some students will be encouraged to pursue agriculture in the future.

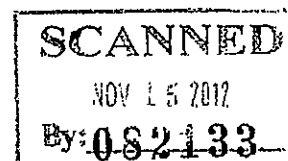
I was also impressed with the idea to include dormitories for visiting students. I feel it is a valuable experience for students to visit other schools to compare and contrast lifestyles different from their own.

Schools should help lead us into the future by educating our children into creating a world we desire. Connections are clearly trying to achieve this goal. I urge you to please help support their dream.

Sincerely,



Steven Sayre



PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

2012 NOV -7 PM 3:38



*'A'ole pau ka 'ike i ka hualau ho'ohāki*

## **Connections Public Charter School**

*A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana*

November 5, 2012

Aloha Windward Planning Commission,

I am the principal of Connections Public Charter School (CPCS). I was also one of the founders of Connections school-within-a-school in 1995. We opened as one of the first charter schools in Hawaii in September, 2000. For our first year our new charter school operated on the campus of Mt. View Elementary School. "Connections" had previously been a school-within-a-school on the Mt. View Elementary School's campus for five years. In 2001 the school was forced to find new facilities and moved to the Kress Building in downtown Hilo.

Charter schools have struggled with facilities issues, since their establishment in Hawaii in 2000, despite the fact that Section X of Hawaii's State Constitution clearly says, "The State shall provide for the establishment, support and control of a statewide system of public schools free from sectarian control, a state university, public libraries and such other educational institutions as may be deemed desirable, including physical facilities therefor." Funding for public charter schools does not include money for facilities and is not equivalent to funding for traditional public (DOE) schools. On a per-pupil basis, students attending charter schools receive about half of the funding for each their students as compared to the average per-pupil funding supporting students attending traditional (DOE) schools. There is also no support for utilities or repairs for public charter school facilities as there is for traditional DOE schools.

ACT 298 of the 2006 Legislature adopted many of the priority proposals developed by the Charter Schools Task Force on charter school governance that was established by Act 87, Session Laws of Hawaii 2005. SECTION 22 says, "Public charter schools have great difficulty with leasing affordable land on which to locate schools due to prohibitive costs and zoning restrictions. As public schools and state agencies, charter schools should have access to state-held lands and buildings and enjoy comparable rates and conditions as those afforded other state agencies. The purpose of this part is to encourage the State to enter into long-term leases of lands and buildings with charter schools for the location of school facilities."

The new law also amended Chapter 171, Hawaii Revised Statutes, by adding a new section:

"§171-95.5 Lease to public charter schools. Notwithstanding any limitations to the contrary, the board may lease to charter schools, at nominal consideration, by direct negotiation and without recourse to public auction, public lands and buildings under the control of the department. Except as provided in this section, the terms and conditions of sections 171-33 and 171-36 shall apply. The lands and buildings leased under this section

174 Kamehameha Ave., Hilo, Hawai'i - Phone 1-808-961-3664 FAX 1-808-961-2665

Email: [cpcs@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:cpcs@hawaii.rr.com)

081925

1145

shall be used by the charter schools for educational purposes only. This section shall not apply to conversion charter schools.”

In 2007 CPCS asked the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) for a list of properties that could be utilized by CPCS for the construction of a new campus. On August 28, 2007 CPCS informed DLNR of our interest in a Kaumana property for the development of future campus. An Approval in Principle of a Direct Lease to Connections New Century Public Charter School for School Purposes in Kaumana, Hawaii, Tax Map Key: (3) 2-5-6:141 was passed by the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) on March 28, 2008.

A Community meeting was held at the Kress Building on April 16, 2009 to discuss CPCS's Kaumana campus development plan and on October 22, 2010 the Environmental Assessment report for the project was approved by the BLNR. The issuance of a Direct Lease to Connections New Century Public Charter School for School Purposes, Kaumana, Hawaii, Tax Map Key: (3) 2-5-6:141 was approved unanimously by the BLNR on January 13, 2011 as submitted by board members Pacheco and Gon. Another community meeting was held on June 3, 2011 at the Kress Building.

After consultation with the County Planning Department and Councilman Donald Ikeda a community meeting was held at Kaumana Elementary School to discuss the CPCS Kaumana campus development. Community concerns were noted. One clearly articulated concern was for a fence to be erected around the part of the property that would be used as the main campus facility. On April 25, 2012 CPCS received a letter from Gordon Heith, of DLNR, advising the school about the annual cost for a Direct Lease of the Kaumana property. Another community meeting at Kaumana Elementary was held on April 27, 2012.

In June of 2012, CPCS hired On-the-Line Fencing to erect a fence around the perimeter of the lower portion of the property. After initial work began, On-the-Line-Fencing informed CPCS that there was a need for minimal bull dozing (not to exceed an acre). The contract with On-the-Line Fencing was amended to allow On-the-Line Fencing to hire a subcontractor to clear the area for the fence. Unfortunate personal circumstances left supervision of the fencing project under the jurisdiction of my assistant. Again, another medical emergency occurred and my assistant had to go to Oahu. A number of 'ohia trees were illegally removed from the Kaumana property. Several police reports were initiated by the school and our associated non-profit organization is suing On-the-Line Fencing to recover damages resulting from their involvement with the illegal removal of trees. A group of CPCS staff and students appeared before the BLNR on October 26, 2012 to answer questions about the illegal removal of trees from the Kaumana property.

The school is scheduled to appear before the Windward Planning Commission on November 9, 2012 regarding a special use permit to allow CPCS to develop a campus on agriculture zoned land. On October 13, 2012 the Director of DBEDT Office of Planning sent a letter to the County Planning Office stating that they had “no objections” to the development of CPCS Kaumana campus. On October 19, 2012 the County of Hawaii, Planning Department Director recommended that the Windward Planning Commission send a favorable recommendation to the State Land Use Commission for the approval of CPCS campus development. We also have other letters of support from the Dean of the College of Education at UH, Manoa; various faculty with UH, Hilo's School of

174 Kamehameha Ave., Hilo, Hawai'i - Phone 1-808-961-3664 FAX 1-808-961-2665

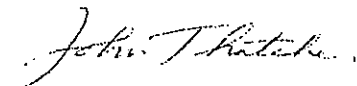
Email: [cpcs@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:cpcs@hawaii.rr.com)

Education; Dr. Maya Soetoro-Ng (President Obama's sister); CPCS staff, parents, and students; and other members of our community.

Our 'ohana and supporters know about our plans for the new campus in Kaumana. We have been working on this project for over five years. This year we initiated a K-12, school-wide exploration of Farm to School careers, agricultural operations, distribution systems, nutritional education and challenges for sustainable agriculture in the state of Hawaii. Students at all levels are attending structured fieldtrips to local farms, ranches, dairies, poultry operations, aquaculture and hydroponic enterprises, specialty crop operations, supporting (government and other) entities and regional open markets. The school is integrating award winning science and health curricula with experiential, enrichment-based experiences to move learning from deductive and prescriptive to inductive, self-selected, and investigative learning. Through applications of relevant knowledge, thinking, and interpersonal skills solutions to real-world problems in agriculture are being developed. This involves finding and focusing on problems, identifying relevant information, categorizing and critically analyzing information, and synthesizing and effectively communicating the results to authentic audiences.

The staff at CPCS has worked hard for the past 18 years to maintain the vision of the original founders of Connections. Our vision is, "To establish and sustain a community, business, and learning 'ohana (family). Within this framework, inquiry and project-based curricula will stress independent thinking, development of the individual's mind and talents, cooperative learning, sense of self within the neighborhood and the world-wide community with particular attention to the precious and unique environment of Hawaii, both as an island ecology and a place where ethnic diversity is the norm." The new campus will allow our school to also greatly enhance our ability to meet the goals originally outlined in our Charter 13 years ago. At Connections instruction is guided by five powerful student-centered goals. Students demonstrate mastery through exhibitions, successful projects, and demonstrations of content mastery. The focus is on fully informing and preparing students for their future, particularly in fostering careers that sustain the economy on this island. Our students have internalized these goals. Many of them have written testimony supporting the development of our new school. Although they are hurt by the negative propaganda campaign initiated by some of their new neighbors, they strive to maintain a positive perspective. They are anxious to demonstrate their commitment to bright personal futures. Please support their dreams by approving a special use permit for the construction of our new campus in Kaumana.

Sincerely,



John Thatcher  
CPCS Principal

174 Kamehameha Ave., Hilo, Hawai'i - Phone 1-808-961-3664 FAX 1-808-961-2665  
Email: [cpcs@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:cpcs@hawaii.rr.com)



November 6, 2012

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

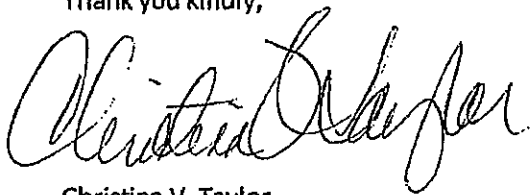
2012 NOV -7 PM 3: 37

To Residents of Kaumana, and Kaumana City in Hilo Hawaii,

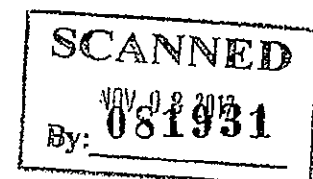
I am writing this letter on behalf of the Connections Public Charter School Students and Staff Members. We are graciously asking your support and blessings over the proposed project that is being put before you to approve the construction of our school.

My children have been attending Connections Public Charter School for the past three years. The students and staff members of Connections Public Charter School are very trustworthy and honest people. I hope and pray that you are able to find it in your heart to approve this project, so our future generations are able to continue to have a great education through the Public School Charter System.

Thank you kindly,



Christina V. Taylor



Date 11 - 7 - 12

Dear Windward Planning  
Commission,

Connections means a lot to  
me but the are reasons why  
I would like Connections to  
be in Kawana and reasons  
why I wouldn't like our  
school to be up in Kawana.

Right now, my life may  
be on the line because  
the tsunami could DESTROY  
our school. If we move up  
in Kawana we won't die!

A thing or two I would  
like is a giant play ground  
we dont have ANYTHING  
to play on. I've kinda been  
bothered by the other classes  
screaming. I would  
like the walls fully blocked  
and put in doors to have  
easy access through other class  
rooms, just like in Kamehameha  
School K.S. Please, Please, Please!

Build our new school. The walls in  
class room are just plain old

SCANNED

NOV 15 2012

08:20:22

white. It gives me a HEADACHE.  
At the new school, the high school  
building, Elementary building, and Middle  
school be together? The high school  
is ~~read~~ far apart  
from our elementary, I hardly  
see my brother. Please consider building  
a new school to welcome new  
or old people to make them  
feel special!

Love,  
Jesse Watanabe

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

2012 NOV -8 PM 3:00

2012 NOV - 3 PM 3:02

Date 11 - 7 - 12

Dear Windward Planning  
Commission,

Connections means a lot to  
me but there are reasons why  
I would like connections to  
be in Kawman and reasons  
why I wouldn't. I like our  
school to be up in Kawman.

Right now, my life may  
be on the line because  
the tsunami could DESTROY  
our school. If we move up  
in Kawman, we won't die!

A thing or two I would  
like is a giant playground  
we don't have ANYTHING  
to play on. I've kinda been  
bothered by the other classes  
screaming.

Specifically I would  
like the walls fully blocked  
and put in doors to have  
easy access through other class  
rooms, just like in Kamehameha  
School K.S. Please, please, please!

Build our new school. The walls in  
our class room are just plain old

SCANNED

NOV 08 2012

By: \_\_\_\_\_

white, It gives me a HEADACHE.  
At the new school, the high school  
building, Elementary building, and Middle  
school be together? The high school  
is ~~not~~ far apart  
from our elementary, I hardly  
see my brother. Please consider building  
a new school to welcome new  
or old people to make them  
feel special.

Love,  
Jesse Watanabe

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF SAKASHI

2012 NOV -8 PM 3:00

310520

November 7, 2012

Dear Windward Planning  
Commission,  
Here are lots of things I  
like about Connections Public  
Charter School. I would  
really like to have our school  
on the hill. We will not  
have any ~~sunrooms~~ also like  
horses and that's why you should  
~~let us~~ build our school on  
horse barn and a new on  
the hill. We need a new  
school building. Please help  
us.

Thank you,  
Drake Wilhelm.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
CITY OF HAWAII  
2012 NOV - 8 PM 3: 01

082072

2017 NOV -2 PM 3: 01

November 7, 2017

Dear Windward Planning  
Commission,  
here are lots of things I  
like about Connections Public  
Charter School. I would  
really like to have our school  
on the hill. We will not  
have any nuisances. I also like  
cross road, that's why you should  
let us build our school a  
horse barn and a new one  
the hill. We need a new  
school building. Please help  
us.

Thank you  
Diane Williams

SCANNED  
NOV 15 2017  
By: 032081

Nov 3, 2012

Dear Windward Planning  
Commission

Connections public charter  
School means a lot to me.  
You could get friends.

We should build a new school  
because what if we had a Tsunami?  
If we build a new school  
we will be more safe, so we  
don't get hurt. I would like a gym  
so we could play sports and  
walk. So it could be quiet  
and peaceful.

From: Isaac  
Isaac Ali-Safah  
Ali-Safah  
Nekob

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
2012 NOV - 03 PM 3:01

082072



2012 NOV -3 PM 3:01

NOV 3 2012

Dear Windward  
Commission

Planning

Connections public charter  
School means a lot to me.  
You could get friends.

We should build a new school  
because what if we had a Tsunami?  
If we build a new school  
we will be more safe, so we  
don't get hurt. I would like a gym  
so we could play sports and  
walls go up could be a big  
and beautiful.

From:  
Isabella Esquivel  
Alies  
Nekow

Alies

SCANNED  
NOV 25 2012  
By: 082080

Sequoia

11-7-12

Dear Windward Planning Commission,

There are lots of things I'd like about Connections Public Charter School. I like the horses, gym, field, full walls between the classrooms, forests, and stables.

I think you should build the new school because it has my favorite things like football, horses and volleyball. There are tons of reasons to build the new school!

Your Favorite Student,  
Sequoia Johnson

2012 NOV -03 PM 3:00

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

082072

Sequoia

11-7-12

Dear Windward Planning Commission

There are lots of things I'd like about Connections Public Charter School. I like the horses, gym, field, full walls between the classrooms, forests, and stables.

I think you should build the new school because it has my favorite things like football, horses, and volleyball. There are tons of reasons to build the new school!

Your Favorite Student,  
Sequoia Johnson

2012 NOV -3 PM 3:02

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

SCANNED  
NOV 15 2012  
By: 082087

11/7/12

Dear Windward Planning Commission,  
Connections Public Charter School means  
a lot to me. I like Imagine Learning, and  
I like this school because it's very big.  
I like my school. I like math a lot.  
I am learning to read in English.

Building a new school would  
be great. I would like walls  
between the classrooms. Then it  
would be quieter. I could learn  
better.

One Student,  
Jamelyn Ilelupeyano

2012 NOV -3 PM 3:01

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
CITY OF WINDWARD

032072

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE

2012 NOV -8 PM 3:02

11/7/12

Dear Windward Planning Commission,  
Connections Public Charter School means  
a lot to me. I like Imagine Learning and  
I like this school because it's very big.  
I like my school. I like math a lot.  
I am learning to read in English.

Building a new school would  
be great. I would like walls  
between the classrooms. Then it  
would be quieter. I could learn  
better.

One Student,  
Jamelyn Ilelupayano

SCANNED  
NOV 15 2012  
By: 082088

November 20

Dear Windward Planning Commission,  
Connections Public Charter School  
is everything to me. I like our great, fantastic  
teachers and how our students do their best.  
I also like our Measure up Math, reading,  
writing and other subjects.

Why I would like the new school  
is because it will have walls so we can focus!  
The playgrounds, an art and music building & stables,  
I know I'm okay with, but especially library! Yay!  
Also, the forestry, cafeteria, and yoga, absolutely sounds  
good! It's just that I would miss the old school.  
Our socialization would work better if  
you build a new school for us. Please do it!

From,  
Paisley Veilleux

Gr. 3

2017-11-20 - 3: PM 3: 01

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PLANNING

082072

2012 NOV -8 PM 3:02

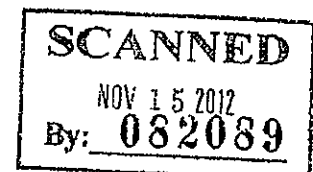
November, 21

Dear Windward Planning Commission,  
Connections Public Charter School  
is everything to me. I like our great, fantastic  
teachers and how our students do their best.  
I also like our Measure up Math, reading,  
writing and other subjects.

Why I would like the new school  
is because it will have walls so we can focus!  
The playgrounds, an art and music building, stables,  
I know I'm okay with it, but especially library! Yay!  
Also, the forestry, cafeteria, and yoga, absolutely sounds  
good. It's just that I would miss the old school.  
Our socialization would work better if  
you build a new school for us. Please do it!

From  
Paisley Veient

Gr. 3



11/7/12

Commission, What day you like  
about your school? Now  
I'd like to have a new school.  
It is cool for having a  
school on the hill because  
the tsunami is not going to get  
us on the top hill.

I would like a new water fountain  
because our school does not have  
one for the elementary part  
now. Please make sure that  
we can have a new school  
on the Kawmang hill.

Sincerely,  
Jehina Ramirez

2012 NOV -9 PM 3:01

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
1000 W. 10TH AVE  
DENVER, CO 80202

032072

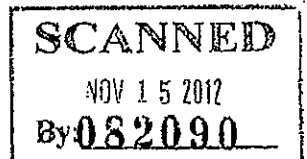


2012 NOV -3 PM 3:02

11/7/12

Commission, What day you like  
about your school? Now  
I'd like to have a new school.  
It is cool for having a  
school on the hill because  
the tsunami is not going to get  
us on the top hill.  
I would like a new water fountain  
because our school does not have  
one far the elementary but  
now. Please make sure that  
we can have a new school  
on the Kaumana hill.

Sincerely,  
Jehine Ramirez



DANIEL 11/7/12

Dear Winward Planning  
Commission  
Connections Public Charter  
School means a lot to me  
I like I like Learning,  
yoga is good for or  
body, library  
is good to read!

Building a new school is  
exciting to me. I would like  
to see the horse barn  
and the horses.

Please build my  
new school!

FROM  
DANIEL

2012 NOV - 3 PM 3:01

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
CITY OF DENVER

082072

Daniel 11/7/12

Dear Winawa Planning  
Connections Public Charter  
School means a lot to me  
I like I like Learning  
yoga is good for our  
body. library  
is good to read.

Building a new school is  
exciting to me. I would like  
to see the horse barn  
and the horses.

Please build my  
new school.

From  
Daniel

SCANNED  
NOV 15 2012  
By: 082091

NOV 7 2012



Dear Windward Planning  
Commission,  
Connections, Public  
Charter School, it's important  
to me. I like doing imagin  
learning on the computers. I  
also like that we get to  
bring Beyblades to school  
at recess. Building a  
new school would be a  
dream come true. Especially  
the new field. I can't wait to  
see it when it's done!

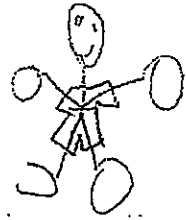
Sincerely,  
Drutahi Hancock

2012 NOV - 01 PM 3:01

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

082072

NOV 7 2012



Dear Windward Planning  
 Commission  
 Connections, Public  
 Charter School is important  
 to me I like doing things  
 around the school so I  
 also like that we get to  
 bring blades to school  
 or recess. Building a  
 open school would be a  
 great thing. I hope  
 the plan will work. I can't wait to  
 see it win it's done!

Sincerely,  
 Dr. Hancock

2012 NOV -03 PM 3: 02

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

SCANNED  
 NOV 15 2012  
 By: 082092

11-7-12

DEAR Winward planing  
Commission  
Competition public  
Charter School means  
a lot to me. I really  
like this school because  
we do lots of fun  
things and I think that  
it should be better  
at Kau Mana, because  
we would be off.

Tsunami grounds.  
Our school would be  
safe and we would  
not have to worry  
about a Tsunami. We  
would stay alive.  
We would like a  
library and our own  
place to do art  
and Music.

These are some reasons  
why I want a new  
school.

Sincerely  
Ethyn Quiantes

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

NOV 07 3:01 PM

082072

2012 NOV -6 PM 3:02

11-7-12

Dear Winwood planning  
Commission

Connection Public  
Charter School means  
a lot to me. I really  
like this school because  
we do lots of fun  
things and I think that  
it should be better  
at Kawana because  
we would be off

Tsunami grounds.  
Our school would be  
safe and we would  
not have to worry  
about a tsunami. We  
would stay alive!  
We would like a  
library and our own  
place to do art  
and Music.

These are some reasons  
why I want a new  
school.

Sincerely,  
Ethyn Quiantes

SCANNED  
NOV 15 2012  
By: \_\_\_\_\_

2012 NOV -8 PM 3:00

NOV. 7, 2012

Dear Windward Planning Commission,  
Connections Public Charter School  
means a lot to me and my  
classmates. I like my cool school because  
we can learn about a lot of cool  
math games and L.A. games in class.  
We also make alot of funny creations  
and really cool other things. I also  
love this school because I have  
alot of friends and cousins in my  
school. Also in our school we have  
yoga and we walk to the park  
to play and do P.E.

I bet that building a new  
school would be awesome! It will  
have horses, a big cafeteria, and a big  
gym to play in and do yoga in  
with Mrs. Booth. Mrs. Booth is our yoga  
teacher. She teaches us alot of cool  
stuff in yoga like a child  
lock. That is my 2<sup>nd</sup> favorite thing  
in school. I do not know my  
first favorite subject in our school.  
With the new school I just might  
learn more.

LOVE,

The Third grade  
and especially Mafearomi  
Joann Sundberg Villiarimo

002072



PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COMMUNITY OF WINDWARD

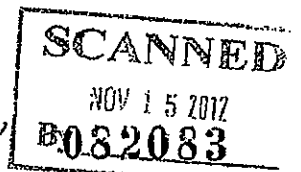
2012 NOV -8 PM 3: 01

Nov. 7, 2012

Dear Windward Planning Commission,  
Connections Public Charter School  
means a lot to me and my  
classmates. I like my cool school because  
we can learn a lot of cool  
math games and L.A. games in class.  
We also make alot of funny creations  
and really cool other things. I also  
love this school because I have  
alot of friends and cousins in my  
school. Also in our school we have  
yoga and we walk to the park  
to play and do P.E.

I bet that building a new  
school would be awesome! It will  
have horses, a big cafeteria, and a big  
gym to play in and do yoga in  
with Mrs. Booth. Mrs. Booth is our yoga  
teacher. She teaches us alot of cool  
stuff in yoga like a child  
lock. That is my 2nd favorite thing  
in school. I do not know my  
first favorite subject in our school.  
With the new school I just might  
learn more.

LOVE,  
The Third grade  
and especially Machealani  
Joanna & Lindberg Villiarimo



2012 NOV -8 PM 3:00

Nov 11 2012

Dear Winward Planning Commission,

Connections. Public Charter School means a lot to me. I like our school because they have easy homework. I like our school because you can bring toys to school. I like school because they have Measure Up Month.

I think you should build the new school because if there was a tsunami we'd be safe and more than a hundred people won't die. You should also make the new school because there is a wall between each classroom so we can focus better and at lunch we can pick the food because we will have a cafe area.

Sincerely,

LAIAKILA HOELWA FONTANA ILLA

082072

2012 NOV -3 PM 3: 01

Nov. 7 2012

Dear Winward Planning Commission,

Connections Public Charter School means a lot to me. I like our school because they have easy homework. I like our school because you can bring toys to school. I like school because they have Measure Up Math.

I think you should build the new school because if there was an tsunami we'd be safe and more than a hundred people won't die. You should also make the new school because there is a wall between each class room so we can focus better and at lunch we can pick the food because we will have a cafe area.

Sincerely,

LAURAKILA HOELWA FONTANILLA

SCANNED

NOV 15 2012

By: 082082

November 7, 2012

Dear Windward Planning Commission,  
Connections Public Charter School means  
a lot to me because I have lots of friends  
here and we do measure up math. I  
think it's fun. We also do yoga which I really  
like.

I think we should build a new  
school because we would have walls so  
we could hear the teacher, not the class-  
room next door. And, there would be horses  
and we might get to ride them. There  
would be a much bigger library and a much  
bigger selection of books, too. There would also  
be a grass area that we could play in  
that is the size of a foot ball field! We  
would also get to have a cafeteria  
and we might get to have better lunches  
and more choices. We wouldn't have to  
evacuate the the school when there was  
a tsunami and there would be a gym  
where we could play volleyball. There are  
lots of reasons why we should build a new school!

Love,  
Alicia Yamasaki

2012 NOV - 8 PM 3:00

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

082072

2012 NOV -3 PM 3:02

November 7, 2012

Dear Windward Planning Commission,  
Connections Public Charter School means  
a lot to me because I have lots of friends  
here and we do measure up math. I  
think it's fun! We also do yoga which I really  
like.

I think we should build a new  
school because we would have walls so  
we could hear the teachers not the class-  
room next door. And there would be horses  
and we might get to ride them. There  
would be a much bigger library and a much  
bigger selection of books, too. There would also  
be a grass area that we could play in  
that is the size of a foot ball field! We  
would also get to have a cafeteria  
and we might get to have better lunches  
and more choices. We wouldn't have to  
evacuate the school when there was  
a tsunami and there would be a gym  
where we could play vally ball. There are  
lots of reasons why we should build a new school!

Love,  
Alicia Yamasaki

SCANNED

NOV 15 2012

By: 082097

2012 NOV -8 PM 3:00

Tanner 11-17-12

Dear Windward Planning Commission,

There are lots of things I like about Windward Public Charter School. I like the nice teachers, I like the delicious food, I like the measure up math, I like the challenging LA, and I like my classmates. We should build a new school because our school is getting old, we don't have a playground, there are no walls between the classrooms, the walls are ripped, scraped, and scratched up. A new school would be safer because we wouldn't get hit by a tsunami. Please let us build a new school in Kaunama. It is important to us.

Sincerely,  
Tanner Ikeda

082072

Tanner 11-17-12

2012 NOV -3 PM 3:02

Dear Windward Planning Commission:

There are lots of things I like about my school. I like the teacher, I like the delicious food, I like the measure up math, I like the challenging A, and I like my classmates. We should build a new school because our school is getting old, we don't have a playground, there are no walls between the classrooms, the walls are ripped, and the seats are scratched up. A new school would be so good because we wouldn't get hit by a tsunami. Please let us build a new school in Kawahana. It is important to us.

Sincerely,  
Tanner Ikelo

SCANNED  
NOV 15 2012  
By: 082035

November 3, 2012

Dear Windward Planning Commission,  
Connections Public Charter  
School means a lot to me. I  
like having lots of friends  
and helping people. I also like  
math, science, social studies, and writing time.  
Building a new school would  
be terrific because it would be in  
Kaumana and it would have stables  
with horses. The cafeteria will be  
inside but "in another building". In  
the classroom there would be walls  
so we can't hear the other classes.  
There will also be a playground.  
It will be SUPER FUN! I could  
learn even more than I am now.

Loves,  
Rikki Lynn Kamae - Kamiey

082072



November 7, 2014

Dear Windward Planning Commission  
Connecticut's Public Charter

School means a lot to me. I like having lots of friends and helping people. I also like math, science, social studies and writing time.

Building a new school would be terrific because it would be in Kaumana and it would have stables with horses. The cafeteria will be inside but in another building. In the classroom there would be walls so we can't hear the other classes.

There will also be a playground. It will be SUPER FUN! I could learn all more than I can now.

Love,  
Rikki Lynn de la Kerville

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
2017 12/11 - 11:30 AM

SCANNED  
082006  
By: \_\_\_\_\_

Windward Planning Commission:

November 7, 2012

My name is Derek Kurisu. I support Connections Public Charter School's plans to build a new campus in Kaumana. Connections students have been featured on our "Living in Paradise" show. I have also spoken to many of their students, teachers and their Principal, John Thatcher, about their school and programs. I wholeheartedly support their plans for teaching students about diversified agriculture on the Big Island. KTA strongly supports the concept of grown-in Hawai'i foods and believes it offers local pride and sustainability to build on. To these themes, it adds the Hawaiian value of *lokahi*, or working together, and the Japanese principle of *kaizen*, or continuously striving for improvement.

KTA's response to the vision of sustainable agriculture was the creation of the Mountain Apple Brand® label. This vision is encapsulated in the "Mountain Apple" name itself. The mountain apple or 'ohi'a-ai, was one of the twenty-four "canoe plants" brought to Hawai'i by Polynesian voyagers 1,500 years ago. Like taro, coconut, breadfruit, bananas, sugar, bamboo and other island staples, the mountain apple was fundamental to the sustenance of the Polynesian culture newly transplanted to Hawai'i.

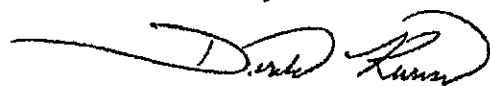
The Mountain Apple Brand® label consists of food products grown, processed or manufactured in Hawai'i. These products are priced competitively and their standards for quality are exceedingly high. KTA recognizes that Hawai'i shoppers will embrace these products if the quality, availability and price compare favorably to established mainland known brands.

KTA supports community partnerships and business opportunities for the people of the island. We are committed to the vast potential of the diversified agriculture and Hawai'i's determined and hard-working people. Purchasing locally produced and manufactured goods and supporting Hawai'i Island companies generates jobs, supports the local economy and helps improve this special place we call home. KTA Super Stores salutes the many Mountain Apple Brand® vendors who supply fresh farm products and unique island food preparations to the people of Hawai'i. This growing family of vendors truly "brings the goodness of Hawai'i home."

Connections' agriculture program on the new Kaumana campus will focus on agriculture as an industry and will utilize hydroponics, green/shade houses, aquaculture, and some traditional farming techniques. Some of the major goals will be to promote diversified agriculture and safe and healthy food products. Alternative methods of controlling invasive species and other environmental issues related to the production of food will be incorporated. Across the country "Farm-to-School" programs are bringing healthy food from local farms to school cafeterias. The way that food is grown, delivered, and consumed has created a disconnect with the land and our agricultural roots on Hawai'i Island. Students, their families and the local community will have an opportunity to support the resurgence of local farms while increasing access to fresh and healthy food grown on their Kaumana campus.

I urge you to approve the special use permit allowing Connections to build this new campus.

Mahalo,



Derek Kurisu  
Executive VP  
KTA Super Stores

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
2012 NOV -6 PM 3: 29

SCANNED  
#082136  
By: \_\_\_\_\_

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
STATE OF HAWAII

November 7, 2012

2012 NOV -8 PM 3:00

Attn: Zendo Kern, Chairman  
Windward Planning Commission  
Planning Department  
101 Pauahi Street, Suite 3  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Re: Support for Proposed Campus Site for Connections Public Chartered School

Dear Mr. Kern and Commissioners,

I am writing in support of the proposed plans to build the Connections Public Chartered School Campus (CPCS) in Kaumana. The recent tsunami scare on the evening of October 27, 2012, which tied up all the major roadways in down town Hilo and the coastal areas highlighted the imminent need to relocate the school campus to a higher ground. The property that has been designated for the CPCS campus in Kaumana will provide the safety net for our children from the potential destructive nature of tsunami.

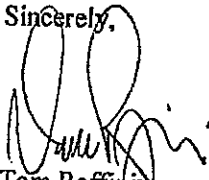
The current constricted facility that houses the CPCS in downtown Hilo limits the school's ability to develop creative curricula to immerse our young minds in the natural tropical and agricultural potentials of our island. The taros lining the island dividers of the Kamehameha Highway fronting the Kress Building where CPCS is currently located and the Hilo Farmers Market are evidences of the children's interest in sustainable agriculture. The proposed campus will provide the children more than island dividers to learn gardening and farming for sustainable living on this island.

Providing for environment and facilities conducive to learning for our children is not only the responsibility of the parents and government, but is a moral responsibility of every community members elected or otherwise. If we are to preach to our children that they are the future leaders then let's invest in them by making sure they have the proper facilities and resources they need to prepare themselves for that daunting task of leading our islands, State, and the Nation in the future.

I ask that you unconditionally support the construction of the Connections Public Chartered School Campus in Kaumana to provide the children the school facility and resources they need and deserve for better learning.

Thank you very much in advance for your support.

Sincerely,



Tom Rafferty  
Phone: (808) 217-1041



November 7, 2012

2012 NOV -3 PM 3: 29

To Whom it May Concern:

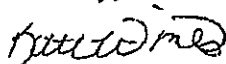
My name is Kate Wines, and I am a teacher at Connections Public Charter School. I am writing this letter in support of Connections and the plan to build our new school on the property in Kaumana.

This is my seventh year teaching here at Connections. To say that I love my job and school is an understatement. Being a teacher here allows me to fully experience the joy that is found in teaching as I see my students discover the joy and adventure of learning. I teach 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade, moving up with my students each year. This allows for consistency and greater learning to take place. As a school, teachers, staff and parents all work together to provide a safe, caring environment where students feel free to take risks and reach their goals. Being a Charter school means we have learned to make do with less—creating opportunities where some might find defeat. Through support, working collaboratively, and never giving up, Connections Public Charter School shines brightly. I am proud to be part of this school.

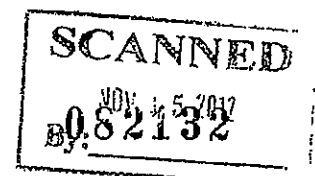
I am deeply saddened by the opposition to the school being built in Kaumana. Our projected school campus is set to not only be a place where students can learn and grow, but it will be a place for the community. I also feel threatened when I come to school and see anti-Connections bumper stickers on the school building. I know that we are doing good things here. Seeing those stickers not only on our building, but in the Kaumana area, and in Puna makes me uncomfortable. It makes me wonder if someone will actually hurt a student or staff member all because they don't want a school in their neighborhood? This is not a good feeling to have. I actually had a student of mine ask if Connections was a bad school because he saw the signs and wondered what was going on. When I told him that people did not want the new school to be built, he asked if they did not like children. I had no answer for him.

Children are literally our future. As adults, it is our responsibility and duty to provide the best education we can for them, in the best environment possible where the most learning will take place. The new campus in Kaumana will provide that opportunity. It is time for Connections to grow. Please don't put the lid on our children's future. Children need to be safe and given the best education possible. Thank you for opening up this door of opportunity for us and approving the plan to move forward with the building of Connections' new campus in Kaumana.

Sincerely,



Kate Wines  
Fourth Grade Teacher  
Connections Public Charter School



November 7, 2012

2012 NOV -8 PM 3: 29

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Kathleen Booth and I am the first grade teacher at Connections Public Charter School. Although I have lived on the Hilo side of the big island for 17 years I have only been teaching for six. A mid-life change of careers sent me back to school and into teaching. What a wonderful change I made. I truly enjoy what I do and I spend many hours doing it!

Teaching at a school located in downtown Hilo has both its advantages and disadvantages. I am willing to trade in all of the advantages (the view, unlimited food choices, and shopping convenience) in order to teach at a school surrounded by grass and trees! My students have indoor recess every day. We can't plant a garden in our backyard because we don't have one. When we go to Kalakaua Park for PE we have to be careful not to make eye contact with the homeless people hanging around. Our students deserve a safe learning environment and they should be able to enjoy the outdoors. They should be able to look out a window in their classroom to see the outdoors!

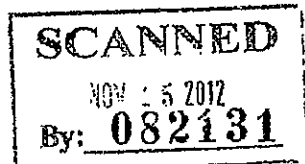
Connections Public Charter School will celebrate their 13th birthday this school year. The school is successful in spite of the facility challenges it faces. It is successful because the staff, students, parents, and supporters work hard and truly believe in it.

Please let us build our new campus on Edita Street. Our students deserve a safe place to learn, play, and grow into their future.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Booth

First Grade Teacher, Connections PCS



PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF MAUI

November 7, 2012

2012 NOV -7 PM 3:38

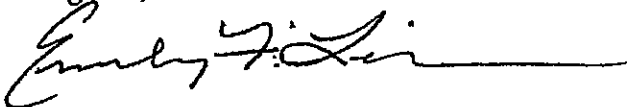
Dear Windward Planning Commission:

I am writing this letter in support of the proposed new Connections Public Charter School in Kaumana. I am a new teacher at the Connections High School. I have the honor of teaching math and science to our unique and diverse community of students. Prior to coming to Connections, I taught at University of Hawaii at Hilo and University of Oregon. From my experience with college-level teaching I have seen the benefits of providing faculty and facilities that utilize modern teaching styles and technology in college and at the high-school level. It is imperative that the students at Connections are provided these kinds of resources so that they may feel success and be successful in academics and life.

I believe the new campus will be of great benefit to our school, providing the facilities that will support our students as they grow into contributing members our community. In addition, the proposed campus will welcome a diverse group of students that will benefit our island. We are family of bright, creative, and ambitious students and teachers. As our student and faculty population grows we are in need of a new, larger, and updated facility.

The efforts to campaign against the proposed new campus are a disappointing reflection of an unwelcoming group of people. I am sure that this negative mentality does not represent the majority of the people who live in our community. I am in support of the proposed new Connections campus, and ask that the planning commission also support this needed development.

Regards,



Emily Lindstrum  
High School Science and Math Teacher  
Connections Public Charter School  
174 Kamehameha Avenue  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

081924

2012 NOV -7 PM 3:37

November 7, 2012

To whom this may concern:

Aloha! My name is Noelle Buffett and my son is currently a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student at Connections Public Charter School. He has been a student there since Kindergarten and if you asked me how I feel about his education, I'd say that it is beyond what I would expect!

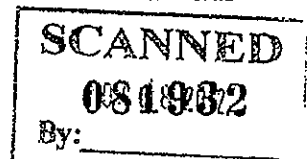
Connections takes great pride in their school with a noticeable reputation for taking care of their children first. My son has excelled a lot academically and if not for the caring, one on one style of the school staff I believe that my son would be another student left behind. The teachers don't just leave the students at "OK, we're finished" they make sure that the child understands the work which they are doing. They make sure that the students are thought the "Concept" of what they are doing.

Mrs. Tempany, the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher, takes time out from her after school hours to help my son and other students out with subjects in which they struggle in. If there's too much students she has a classroom assistant who help her to tutor the kids. My son came home one day and said "Mom, Mrs. Tempany called me a mathematician" with this big grin on his face. She instills self-worth in to her students. She lets them know, hey, you're not just learning things to do work, you're learning all this because it will make you who you will become one day!

Connections is well known for doing community service in and around the communities. They pick up rubbish around town, down the beach side. My son said "Don't worry mom, we use gloves" ;) I was born and raised on Hawaiian Homes Land in Keaukaha here on the Big Island and my kumu's at keaukaha Elementary School always told us always know where your home is & when you get your keiki one day, make sure you bring them home too. I didn't though with my son. Something caught my attention about Connections and the positive things I would hear made me anxious. I enrolled my son! When I saw one of my Kumu's, who had already gotten my son's District acception form completed, I

told him I enrolled my son at Connections and he looked at me and said, Noelle, that is a wonderful school. My heart then was content and I knew ever since then that I had made the right decision by sending my son there.

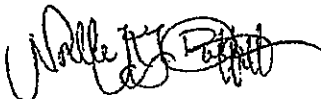
I guess what I am trying to get at in this letter is, By having the campus built in Kaumana for the school would be tremendously beneficial for all students who attend the school. This about the children! Everything that I mentioned above in this letter is not even the half of what this



school does or what they are capable of. Bigger campus= Bigger opportunities. They can have more students, especially because they usually have a good sized wait list of students wanting to get in to the school. I can see so many doors opening for our children that would make our communities and government proud to have allowed this to happen. Let's build a bigger campus so we can build new & bigger bridges and broaden a bigger horizon for our children!

In closing I would like to say that it's not all the time you can come across such devoted teachers and staff such as at Connections. When you have a good thing you shouldn't let it go to waste. So much can come out of this project. Our population is growing a lot bigger and very fast. There's all the talk about overcrowded classrooms, students with little to no one on one. Here's the solution. Connections currently only has one class per grade level which minimizes the amount of students. There's another reason to say that this would be very beneficial. The school will have much more room for a lot more students! So let's build a bigger campus, so we can build new and bigger bridges and broaden a new horizon for our children and their education!

Mahalo,



Noelle K.T. Buffett

nktbuffett@gmail.com

Parent of Ethyn J.K. Quirantes

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade/ Mrs. Tempany



# Connections In Kaumana

2012 NOV -7 PM 3: 36

Dear Windward Planning Use Commission,

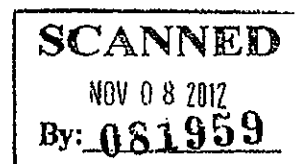
The community of Kaumana is protesting against our school being built there. They're assuming that just because we are a poor school that we are just a bunch of no good kids who will disturb them. That's why I'm writing this essay, to prove to the people that we are a school wanting a better place to learn. And the new school being built will give us much more freedom than we could have in a shared building. We need a bigger school campus. And all the kids are excited about it. But it's been made clear that the community will try hard not to let us move there.

Riding in the car on my way to school a few weeks ago was the first time I saw the sign. Right on the telephone pole was a poster. It had the word "Connections" with a red circle and a slash through it, and then under that, "In Kaumana." At first, I was in shock, then I got angry, but more than anything I felt hurt. "They are stating that we are disrespectful and that we will be hurtful to them. But they are the ones being rude. And they aren't being exactly good influences either." That was the first thing that I thought.

I don't know why people are against our school. We didn't do anything to them. Now, I'm not saying that we are perfect. Every school has at least a hand full of trouble makers. But I think that our school does a good job of dealing with our behavior. And we don't really have a problem mostly since we are a small school everyone knows each other and we are more of a community than anything. Even the teachers, we get along with the staff and they always have a close eye on us. Our school doesn't have much of a problem with fights, drugs, and theft, unlike most DOE schools.

I have been going to this school for my whole life and I've experienced a lot of fun times here. I have met a lot of cool people here too. So to hear people say that we are bad kids makes me angry. When the teachers announced about the bumper stickers and signs on our school, everybody was shocked. I personally think that they are the ones acting like stubborn children. And I think that it's wrong to judge others by their appearance. So those who are being rude and putting up posters against us should really consider our feelings. And the way it makes them look. Like I said, we are a school wanting a better place to learn. Can you please help us to get that?

Sincerely,  
Taylor Armormino, Grade 7



## Don't Judge a Book by its Cover PH 3: 36

Dear Windward Planning Commission,

Why would the people of Kaumana be so quick to judge the students of Connections PCS who have so much good and potential in them? One of the most well known quotes is "Don't judge a book by its cover." More than likely the residences of Kaumana know this quote, but still judge us by our cover. They don't know that we're respectful, kind, and hardworking students who deserve a better learning environment. Connections PCS student value education and want a place where we can focus on our learning.

We deserve to have a school in Kaumana because we've been living in a poor environment and have been looked down on as a low, petty, uneducated school. Our classrooms aren't fit for teaching; our walls don't go up all the way to the ceiling so classes disrupt each other. Our recesses are indoors because we don't have a playground of our own. If we moved to Kaumana we could play outside instead of indoors. So much good could come from moving our tiny school to Kaumana.

There are so many good possibilities that could come out of moving our school to Kaumana. We could have a chance to play outside. We could grow fresh food for our lunches. We could have separate classrooms instead of having connected classrooms with eight foot walls between them that allow classes to disrupt each other. We could possibly become friendly neighbors with the people of Kaumana. What's really sad is that just recently people put up horrible signs saying "No Connections in Kaumana".

I feel offended from these signs and that the Kaumana people are so sure that we're horrible kids. It feels horrible to walk into your own school and to see a sign that vandalises our building and discriminates our school's students. The people of Kaumana should give us a chance to prove our school is worthy and respectful enough to move our school to Kaumana. I hate the thought of the Kaumana people thinking that we're delinquent kids. Why would the Kaumana people think so poorly about us that they would create signs that disgrace our school? I really hope the Kaumana people will change their perspectives about our awesome school.

Connections PCS students love to learn and deserve a place where we can focus on our learning. Our school is old and is not the best environment for learning. So much good possibilities could come to our school if we move to Kaumana. It is sad that the Kaumana people wouldn't want our respectful school to move to Kaumana. I really hope the Kaumana people will change their minds about our school. Please help us have this opportunity!

Sincerely,  
Mesepa Short, Grade 7



Aloha Windward Planning Commission,

Please consider my strong support for Connections Public Charter School's request for Special Use Permit for the development of a new facility in Kaumana. I am a 12-year employee of the school. I know the potential that the project affords, in terms of increased opportunities for student successes in fields that are not currently available (agriculture, conservation), and growth of programs with which we have had great success (STEM, Makery, music and arts).

I have seen first-hand the confusion and sadness that Connections' students and families have had to endure because of the negative "campaigning" that misinformed Kaumana residents have produced. It's inexcusable.

I ask for your careful consideration of the request.

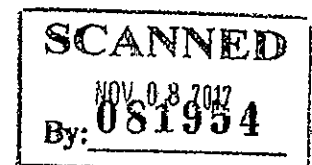
Thank you,



Heather McDaniel

2012 NOV -7 PM 3: 36

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



## Connections in Kaumana

2012 NOV -7 PM 3: 36

Dear Windward Land Planning Use Commission

Why would anyone want to deny children education? This is what Kaumana residents are doing. They are not letting us, Connections Public Charter School, build a new campus in Kaumana. Education is important to us and we need a building that was meant to be used as a school building so that we can focus on our education.

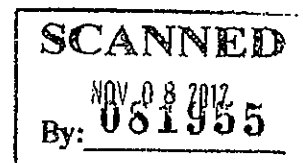
We are good kids; we won't rob your houses. It is prejudice to think that just because someone is from Puna, they will rob your house. Only some of our kids are from Puna, but they are not thieves. How will you know that we're going to rob your house if it has never happened before? We only want to learn, not steal.

We want to learn; that's all. We are the future, and for us to have a good future we need a good education. Children need a good education; there aren't that many good paying jobs out there for people who are uneducated. Connections is a great school with great teachers and great students; just give us a chance. We want to learn; but it's hard to do that in the environment that we're in.

We want to learn in a building that was made for learning. We don't have walls that reach the ceiling so it's hard to focus on our teachers because we can hear everything that's going on around us. We don't have doors that close so it is distracting when people walk by. We are right next to the ocean so if the tsunami sirens go off, we have to walk a mile to get out of the tsunami evacuation zone.

Education is very important to the students of Connections and that is why we want to build our new campus. We are good kids and it's not fair of others to judge us without getting to know us. We need good education for a good future. But it is hard to get that education in the environment we are in. So please help us; let us build our campus. Anything you do here will make all the difference in the world for us.

Sincerely,  
Taylor Schabell, Grade 7



# A Hope For Kaumana

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF SEAFORD

2012 NOV -7 PM 3: 37

Dear Windward Planning Commission,

Why would anyone want to prevent a child from having a bright and beautiful future? The people in Kaumana do just that. They put up signs to prevent our school from being built even though they don't know us. We have dreams, but how can we fulfill them with so many obstacles? We are good children and we deserve a place in Kaumana.

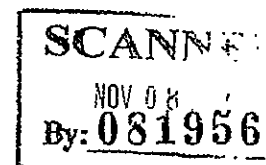
They put up signs that say "No Connections in Kaumana" but they don't know our people. Why do they put up these signs? I do not know. I'm just sad and mad that they would go to such a length to get our new school from being built. I value learning but is hard to learn in this school. I love this school and hopefully we can get this new one built.

They assume we are bad kids but we are just the opposite. Compared to a D.O.E school, we have hardly any problems. We have nearly no fights and no stealing. We have dreams that will only happen in Kaumana. Please help us make our dreams come true.

A place in Kaumana is needed because our school is very old and in bad conditions. It has pipes that leak in our classrooms, no doors on the second floor, and ceilings on the first floor that occasionally fall in in the middle of class. Our school is by the ocean so it is vulnerable to tsunamis. How can we learn in this environment? We can't anymore!

We need a new school. Our school is old and the environment is hard to learn in. We have good students who hardly get into any fights and we solve our problems by talking it out. We are respectful and responsible children. I wish everyone would put down the signs and support us. Please help us by allowing us to build our school in Kaumana.

Sincerely,  
Seneca Helfrich, Grade 7



## Connection kids care

2012 NOV -7 The people of Kaumana deny the education and the feelings of the kids by not letting us build our school. Why do people deny the education and the feeling of having a real school to the kids of Connections PCS? Everyone has rights and it is our right to learn and to build our school in Kaumana. Connections pcs students should be able to have a real school instead of half a building for a school to learn. We should be working together with Kaumana residents instead of working against.

We kids need to focus on our work instead of the noise around us. We can hear everyone talking and the other teachers speak. We have hard time focus on our work because of the noise. Sometimes kids lose focus because of all the noises that can be heard. We have constant noise and have to stop till the noise stops. The kid are trying their best to persuade Kaumana residents.

Connections students put efforts and their feelings in this essay to let the people of Kaumana know how much we care about the school that is being built up in Kaumana. The students are working hard to persuade residents of Kaumana to let us build our school. We care about our education but most important is what the next generation of kids have to learn with. We, the students care about the new school, but most important is that the little kid have a good place to learn. We want the younger generation of kids to have a good start and and a good school.

All the kids of Connections PCS want is to have the right environment for our education, but we are being held back by the people that don't want us in Kaumana. Signs are being posted up saying "No Connections." Bumper stickers are being posted on our buildings, some even calling us Corrections as an insult. These are keeping us from having a good environment for a school. I care deeply in this project and I want my younger brother to have a good start when he get to our intermediate.

The kids of Connections should be able to have a real school to learn, and to have the right education to prepare for the future. We kids have to try focus in classrooms when you can hear every teacher, even in other classrooms, talk. We care about our education and we care about what the next generation gets to learn with. We have been hurt by the signs and people calling us "Corrections" as an insult. All we want is a real school and the right environment to work. Please, for these reasons, allow us to build our school!

Sincerely,  
Kaipo Ramos, Grade 7



# Having Rights, Why Connections PCS Should be Able to Build in Kaumana

2012 NOV -7 PM 3: 37

Dear Planning Commission Board-

How would you feel if you found out an entire community of people didn't even know you, yet they still judged you? Well, this is basically what most of the Kaumana district is doing, not only this but they are also denying us, the students at Connections PCS, education. However, even with them doing this, I'm hoping to persuade the residents of Kaumana to change their minds, I love this school and I hope they learn to love us to.

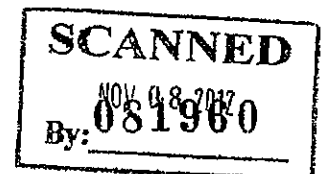
For one thing, our school can't go outside for recess! We only receive indoor recess, which isn't because we aren't allowed, it's because we can't. We don't get to exercise, we have to sit in the cafeteria, and well...Sit! It's unfair how we have to be cooped up and not get any vitamin D from the sun. Of course, since all we do is sit, that means no playful activities. It's not that we are bad children and deserve this, it's our location, which is my first reason we should be allowed to build in Kaumana.

Our learning environment isn't the best either. You can guess why....We're placed right beside a movie theater! Our middle school is only one HUGE room that has no doors and no walls. To separate our classes we have to use open walls, meaning, as we learn we also have to listen to the OTHER classrooms. It would be better if we had a better environment to learn. That's all we are asking for.

They don't know us. The fact that people are putting signs up in Kaumana, protesting that we build there is just....inconsiderate. We are a good school; just because of where we are placed doesn't mean we aren't. It is understandable that they think, since we are kids, that we will....Well, rob them. But, when will we have time to do that? We are such good kids, such great students, we really just want to focus on learning! Plus, why would we? Not to say the residents there are poor, but robbing people and having a record would really affect us. Why? Why would we do that to ourselves?

"Don't judge a book by it's cover." Let's say that we had already built our school there, let's just say that we had a very appealing look. Would you still think we were robbers? No. We are inside a movie theater! A movie. theater. We don't have outdoor recess and well, we deserve a better learning environment to study with our education. We deserve to build there; it's not fair that they are doing this. Kids that want education are pretty rare and we do. The way they are holding us back is rude. We're the future, asking for a better learning place, and people should support us, not deny us. The Kaumana district should let us build there... Not because they have to, but because they want to.

Sincerely,  
Zoe Tong, Grade 7



PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
2012 NOV

# Let Connections PCS in Kaumana!

Dear Planning Commission Board-

The past is not the same as the present. Perhaps you might have had bad school memories that make you think we're bad. We're not. Maybe classmates of yours did bad things at school. We don't do bad stuff. Times have changed and we, the students, know how to behave. Besides, have you even met the students of Connections? Connections new campus will help us learn more efficiently.

Connections' new school would help us focus because we won't be distracted by other classroom's noise. There would be different buildings, which is really helpful. The buildings will help us concentrate on our own work instead of another classroom's work. We also have more room to play outside, not inside a crowded place. If you think we would steal from your house, you're wrong.

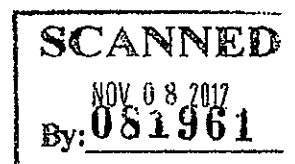
We would never steal because we instead would rather focus on learning so we can be smart. We know how to behave, so please don't treat us like we're dangerous. Not once would we bring guns to school. Also I doubt you have met any of the students of Connections PCS.

The past can change things so the future will improve. We students learned to behave because of the past. The past help us learn, and in order to help us learn better we need a school that will give us an environment that's good and a non-closed in space. The past is used as an example to teach us to trust also. So do you mind trusting us that we won't steal or do anything like that?

The new school will help us learn better. We don't do bad stuff. We're not bad either. Times change and this school is different than you think. The students are different too. So, please? We need our new school so we can learn better.

Sincerely,

Merle Yao, Grade 7





CONNECTIONS IN KAUMANA

Dear Windward Land Planning Use Commission-

How would you feel if a community was putting up signs that said they didn't want your school moving into their neighborhood even though they didn't know anything about you? The residents of Kaumana have started putting up derogatory signs that encourage people to inaccurately judge our school. Connections pcs kids value education, and we look forward to having a campus in Kaumana where we can focus on learning.

The residence of Kaumana don't want our school in their community, but the way they have expressed their feelings has been unnecessarily mean. They have put up signs that have led people to have negative feeling about our school. We do not appreciate the way they have led people to think of our school. recently they put stickers on our school that say "No Connections in Kaumana." It hurts that they're not even giving us a chance to express the true beauty of our school. We would really want to have a better learning environment, unlike we have here.

It's hard for us to learn because there are many noise issues. The walls don't go all the up so we disrupt other classes. None of the other classes have much of a good learning environment because they have to close their doors at recess. We also disrupt elementary because we have to have lunch right outside their classrooms. This building was not built to be a school. some of the pipes leak, it's noisy, and one time part of the ceiling fell in the middle of class. I understand that building a school there would take away some of the privacy of the residents in that area, but we need a better school.

We don't have a good learning environment, and all we want is a better one, but they're denying us that opportunity. I understand that they wouldn't want a school built right next to their houses, but they can say so in a more understanding, non insulting way. We are not bad or rebellious kids. We've all enjoyed and participated in island wide events like science fair, spelling bees, and fund raisers. I have never stolen or even thought about stealing anything from anybody. The way the people of Kaumana are seeing this is very short sighted. If they gave us the chance to express our school, I bet they would think differently.

Connections PCS kids value education. All we want is a better learning environment. We do not appreciate the signs and the stickers that inaccurately judge us. We deserve a better school. We do not have a good learning environment like those that other schools are lucky to have. We don't understand why the residence of Kaumana would want to deny us a better education. We believe that we can prove to them that we are good smart kids that just want to learn.

Sincerely,  
Gabriel Frazier-Jenkins, Grade 7

2012 NOV -7 PM 3:37  
MAILING DEPARTMENT

SCANNED  
NOV 08 2012  
By 081962

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

To Whom It May Concern,

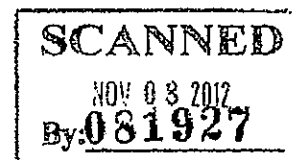
2012 NOV -7 PM 3: 38

My daughter is a kindergartener at Connections this year, and we are so grateful to have found this school. We just moved to Hilo in May of this year, and with everything else going on, I didn't plan on sending my daughter to school this year. I had decided to home school her because I didn't want to just throw her into any school. I really wanted her to have a positive first experience with formal schooling. I wanted her to have a teacher and a school environment that would recognize her as an individual with her own talents and strengths, and that her unique personality would be valued. I wanted to feel connected to the school myself so that I would have a presence and involvement in my daughter's education, and be able to ensure that her educational needs, as well as social and emotional needs were being recognized and met.

About a month into the start of Hawaii's school year, through a fortuitous turn of events, I was able to learn about Connections and that there were still openings for kindergarteners. After a tour of Connections, my husband and I realized that this was just the right place for our daughter. She lit up as soon as she walked into the kindergarten classroom. Upon learning about their philosophy of education and seeing how passionate everyone who works and teaches at Connections is, we felt that this was just the school we had been hoping for. Connections has been everything I had wanted for my daughter. She is having an extremely positive first experience with school. She is treated as a valued member of her class, and her teacher recognizes her strengths and encourages her development as a unique individual. Connections has the feel of an 'ohana to me, and I feel welcomed into the school environment whenever I am there. My daughter loves Connections, as do I. We wholeheartedly support this school, and the reasonable goal and desire of the school to grow and enhance their students' learning opportunities by moving to their own beautifully-planned campus in Kaumana.

Connections wants to provide the best educational opportunities possible for their students. I believe that that is just as it should be, and that they really need their own campus to be able to do this. This school is filled with good people, and the students are likewise good people. I know that the goal of teachers, students, and parents alike are to contribute good to the community around them. I want to do all that I can to support Connections, and support their goal to have their campus built in Kaumana.

Sincerely,  
Farrah Jensen  
854-5875





Pacific Basin -- Hawai'i Island  
 900 Kumukoa Street  
 Hilo, HI 96720

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
 COUNTY OF HAWAII

Phone: 808.351.9560  
 www.pacificlegacy.com

2012 NOV 7 AM 10:35

## The Kaūmana Lava Tube Complex

This letter report has been prepared by Pacific Legacy Inc. to address the question of whether a dry well located along Edita Street may connect with the Kaūmana lava tube complex.

### Kaūmana Caves

The principle entrance to the Kaūmana lava tube complex is located across Kaūmana Drive to the west of the Connections Charter School Kaūmana property's upper parcel. This opening is situated within Kaūmana Caves County Park. From here, the Kaūmana lava tube runs both *mauka* (upslope) and *makai* (down slope). The *makai* section crosses Kaūmana Drive and passes under the Charter School's upper parcel (Figure 1). It runs down the length of the upper parcel and exits the property at Edita Street. A map of Kaūmana Cave prepared in 1953 by the Hilo Lions Club (Stone 1992:3) shows the lava tube extending for approximately half a mile beyond this point. During the construction of Edita Street, however, the section of the tube located beneath the street was collapsed, sealing off the lower portion of the tube. At present this lower section of Kaūmana Cave is not accessible. By overlaying the 1953 Lions Club survey map of the lava tube onto a map of the area's surface property boundaries, Wil Chee Planning has projected that the lower section of the tube passes under the northern corner of the Charter School's lower parcel (Figure 1).

The present *makai* opening to Kaūmana Cave is located along the southwestern edge of Edita Street. This opening has been barred to prevent access, and a culvert has been dug to divert flood waters flowing out of the cave from crossing Edita Street. This cement lined culvert runs southeast along the *mauka* side of Edita Street. It ends at a dry well near the southeastern edge of the Connections Charter School's upper parcel. It has been suggested that this dry well connects directly to Kaūmana Cave and should be considered part of the cave complex.

As part of their archaeological inspection of the Connections Charter School Kaūmana property, Pacific Legacy archaeologists walked the length of Kaūmana Cave from its entrance in the County Park to its exit at Edita Street. All side tubes were investigated. No side tube was found that extended in the direction of the dry well or connected to it. A detailed map of the cave drafted in 1993-96 by the Hawai'i Speleological Survey also shows no side branches extending in that direction (Figure 2).

### The Dry Well at Edita Street

During times of heavy rainfall, water is known to flow through Kaūmana Cave. Dr. Fred Stone who prepared a report on the cave in 1992 as part of the Puainako Road Extension Environmental Impact Study indicated that, "According to residents across the road from this entrance [the Edita Street entrance to the tube], during heavy rains in the mid-1970s, Kaūmana Cave flooded and water gushed from the cave and covered Edita Street" (Stone 1992:5). It was for this reason that the diversion culvert was constructed.

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 530.677.9762 Fax

Lancaster  
 44702 10<sup>th</sup> Street West  
 Lancaster, CA 92534  
 661.729.9395 Phone  
 661.729.9417 Fax

08190 1198

In more recent conversations with local residents, Pacific Legacy was told that during times of heavy rainfall, water flowing out of the cave will be channeled along the culvert and into the dry well along Edita Street. If the rain persists, the dry well will gradually fill up with water and eventually overflow. This would indicate that the dry well (whose entrance probably feeds into a section of lava tube) is a self contained unit that does not connect with a larger tube complex such as Kaūmana Cave. If it did connect with Kaūmana Cave, somewhere further *makai*, then the floodwaters would not fill up the well and overflow, but would be drained away.

The overflow water from the dry well is channeled under the road and empties out in a shallow depressed area on the *makai* side of the Edita Street. This area is located outside the Connections Charter School property. Also outside, but near the property is the opening to a small lava tube. During the archaeological inspection of the school property, Pacific Legacy archaeologists entered this tube and traced it for a short distance. The tube was found to run *makai*, away from the school property, and did not appear connected to the Kaūmana Cave. During periodic flooding, water from the overflowing dry well that finds its way across Edita Street often flows down into this tube. The dry well and this lava tube likely represent small sections of tubes that originally flowed parallel to the larger Kaūmana Cave tube complex. It is not unusual in lava flows of this kind to encounter several parallel lava tubes all oriented along the line of the flow.

It would appear from the evidence presented above that the dry well located along Edita Road is not directly connected to the Kaūmana Cave and does not form part of that lava tube complex.

#### REFERENCES

Halliday, William R.

1997 The Hilo Lions Club 1953 Kaūmana Cave Expedition. Report 97-02, Hawai'i Speleological Survey of the National Speleological Society. Typescript in the University of Hawai'i Hilo Library.

Stone, Fred D.

1992 Puainako Road Extension Environmental Impact Study: Kaūmana Cave.

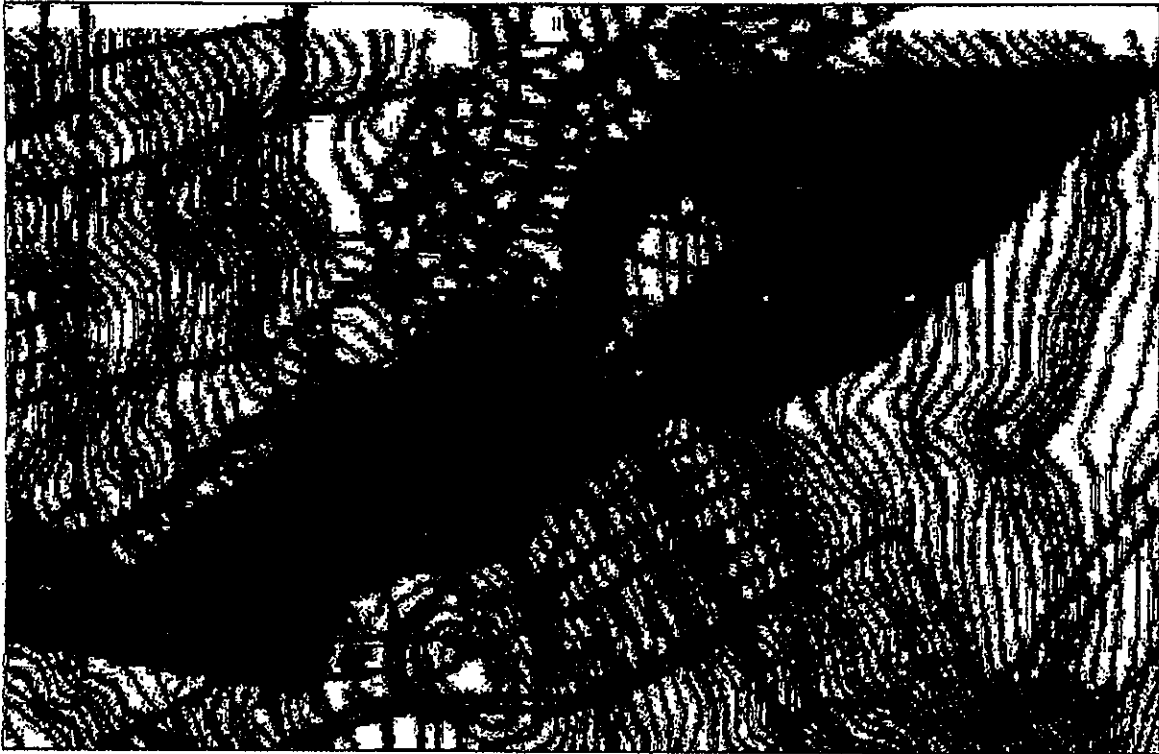


Figure 1. Map of the Kaūmana lava tube showing its relationship to the surface property boundaries (prepared by Wil Chee Planning from existing sources, including both the 1953 Lions Club survey and a 1992 Hawai'i County survey of the lava tube).

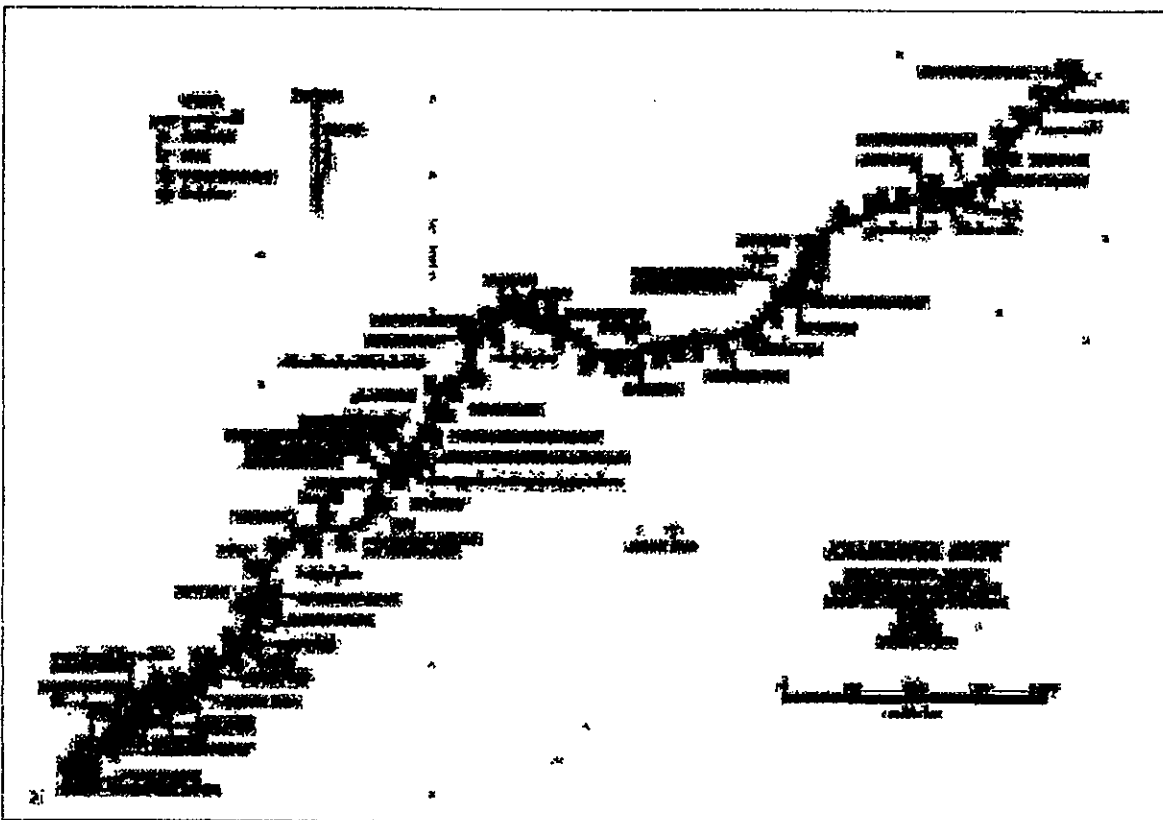
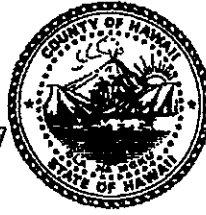


Figure 2. Map of Kaūmana Cave prepared in 1993-96 by the Hawaii Speleological Survey.

**Fred Blas**  
Council Member  
Council District 5

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII



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Mailing Address:  
Hawai'i County Building  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

2012 NOV -8 PM 2: 27

Business Address:  
15-2660 Pahoa-Village Road  
Pahoa Marketplace, Room 105  
Pahoa, Hawai'i 96778

*Hawai'i County Council*  
*County of Hawai'i*

November 8, 2012

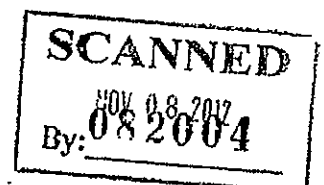
Zendo Kern, Chair and  
Windward Planning Commissioners

Subject: Support for Connections New Century Public Charter School

Aloha Chair Kern,

I am writing in strong support of the request for Connections New Century Public Charter School to develop a K-12 Charter School Campus with dormitory facilities and related uses on approximately 70 acres of land in the State Land Use Agriculture District in Kaūmana.

Mahalo





**UNIVERSITY  
of HAWAII**  
MĀNOA

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION  
Curriculum Research & Development Group

2012 NOV -9 PM 2:12

November 8, 2012

Windward Planning Commission  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, HI 96720

To Whom It May Concern:

I write this letter in support of Connections Charter School and their Special Permit Application, which will allow the school to grow and thrive and better serve its students, community, and mission as a state of Hawai'i public charter school.

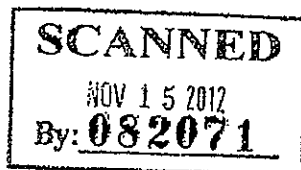
Connections School has been doing an outstanding job as a charter school. That job is to create new models of schooling and new programs that answer the educational needs of our children in Hawai'i, and then to share those innovations with other schools to help improve education for all students in the state. In this effort, Connections Schools has been a partner with the University of Hawai'i Curriculum Research & Development Group (CRDG), adapting curricula and programs developed at CRDG and used successfully at the University Laboratory School to the particular population of students on Hawai'i Island. We have worked closely with the Connections teaching staff, who have participated every year in professional development and continuous improvement of their school programs. These efforts include innovative mathematics teaching to develop algebraic thinking in elementary students, teaching science as inquiry, engaging students in engineering endeavors through the revolutionary "Makery" program under development at CRDG to motivate as well as teach concepts and skills in the STEM areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

John Thatcher, as the school's leader, is a visionary and an innovator who has helped create an educational environment that is responsive to the unique needs of Hawai'i's students and welcomes new ideas that can promote that purpose. He has been a catalyst for CRDG ideas and activities, and we count Connections as a partner in our educational research and development. The school thus serves as another laboratory for the invention of effective educational programs and approaches, fulfilling the role of public charter school to benefit our state and community.

We hope that the community will, in turn, support the efforts of Connections Charter School to improve the facilities and educational experiences for their students.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Berg, Director of CRDG



1776 University Avenue, Castle Memorial Hall 132  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822  
Telephone: (808) 956-7961  
Fax: (808) 956-9486  
<http://www.hawaii.edu/crdg/>

From: **Keala Lee Loy** keleeloy@ksbe.edu  
Subject: My name is Pauline Keala Kealoha Lee Loy. I regret I am not able to testify in person as I remain in isolation at the Queens medical center while undergoing chemotherapy for acute leukemia. I have been an educator for the past 33 years. I commend them ...  
Date: November 8, 2012 2:23 PM  
To: leeloyh002@hawaii.rr.com

---

My name is Pauline Keala Kealoha Lee Loy. I regret I am not able to testify in person as I remain in isolation at the Queens medical center while undergoing chemotherapy for acute leukemia. I have been an educator for the past 33 years. I commend them for their dedication. I feel that they deserve a new academic campus, however I feel that this is not a good location for the connections public charter school. Kaumana elementary school is located just 3/10 of a mile from this proposed project and has been servicing the community for over 100 years.

The County of Hawaii planning department says "from a planning perspective, the request has proven to be difficult in arriving at a position we are comfortable with. The greatest difficulty we encountered was determining whether or not this is an appropriate location for a public charter school whose student body largely consists of students who do not live in this particular section of Hilo. Currently there are approximately 50% of the student body coming from the Puna district and approximately 50% coming from different locations in South Hilo... In reviewing this land use request for a new K - 12 school we considered several factors. One factor is that a K - 12 school should be located in close proximity to where people live and near the center of probable student population for the proposed school... A school should not be located in an area where the students live a far distance from the school and require students to be transported via buses or vehicles. "

I believe contrary to the County planning Department's perspective the location of the school would NOT create a better neighborhood and a more livable community as the students will be transported a far distance via buses and vehicles increasing traffic congestion in our neighborhood that is already well served with existing public schools.

Again, as an individual dedicated to education in both public and private schools for the last thirty-three years. I applaud the efforts of charter schools for their diligence in meeting the needs of diverse learners. Indeed 21st Century Learning has gone beyond the traditional classrooms with innovation unimagined a trite decade ago.

What I oppose is the proposed location of the school. From personal experience, we teach our students to develop a "sense of place" for the community in which you live. That would suggest to me that the school should be located in alignment with pre-dominant demographics of the current student population.

Respectfully,

Pauline Ke'ala Kealoha Lee Loy  
Resident of Mele Manu St.

Ke'ala Lee Loy on iPad 2

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NOV 8, 2012

Dear Windward Planning Commission,

I have 3 children who attend Connections Public Charter School in grades 4th, 6th, and 3rd grade and they are doing awesome in school they love their school and so do I and my husband who support our children in their education 100%. The staff, teachers work hard to make sure our children are meeting their level of their grades and make sure they are successful and support them, in any way they can they all go beyond their jobs for not only my children but all the students in their school.

As a parent of Connections Public Charter School I am a proud parent, because this school has so many things to offer the students, they have hands-on experience with life skills for everyday life, they also can take college-course classes to get credit towards graduating I think that's awesome I don't know another school that did this or is doing it. They also have after school classes they can take as well like a culinary class, music audio & etc.

Another thing I love about this school is the staff teachers take the time to work with your child one-on-one in class also, the staff teachers are always there when you need the support for your child, the communication between parents and teachers are great they meet you have may or even more. They also have a bullying program and they ~~to~~ take this very seriously.

As you know Connections Public Charter School wants to expand their whole school to Kaunaha where there are some that live there are disagreeing with it in their neighborhood. As a parent I feel concerned and disappointed that these people feel this way everyone has their own opinions yeah we all know this. But connections deserves a bigger place to be and the whole school will finally be together on one campus not on two different campuses like they are now. We are not two different schools we are ONE like one big family. And they will have more things for the students to learn on that campus like agriculture & finally they will have a playground instead of going to parks to do P.E.

I feel what the Kaumana Neighborhood is doing by putting up these signs all over town is very childish and inappropriate and I feel harassed, and feel that my children <sup>are</sup> not being safe at school with these people doing & coming to the school and vandalizing our school with bumper stickers they need to stop.

If they feel so negative against our school they should walk a day in our students shoes at school and really see what connections is really about and they would love what they see at our school & they will stop with all this negativity. Our children are just trying to get a great education at school to be successful in life.

nomatter what anyone says me and my husband will support connections public charter school all the way they also have a principal that is doing a amazing job & work hard everyday to make sure our kids have a safe, positive environment for our children. Sincerely Jammy Ramirez

SCANNED  
 NOV 9 - 2022  
 BY: 082025

8 November 2012

Windward Planning Commission,

It gives me great pleasure to write this letter of support for funding the proposed Kaumana campus of Connections Charter School. I first became aware of the unique opportunities available at Connections when I was asked to attend a demonstration of the students' work as it related to their innovative math curriculum. As a university Math professor I was particularly interested in the subject matter, but I must say I was very impressed with the students' grasp of mathematical concepts beyond their years, and also with the ease with which the students presented their work in teams to the audience. I would later become more familiar with the methods that enabled this ease of presentation. Their innovative curriculum is presented as a collaborative effort with the UH Curriculum Development Center over at Manoa, and is based on a Russian model that works very well. The elementary students demonstrated a much better grasp of the concept of number value and placement than many students in high school. They could perform algebraic operations in various bases other than base 10, which then makes base 10 arithmetic not only easier, but more understandable and intuitive and probably more enjoyable. The material was removed far enough from the standard curriculum that even I had to give it some thought before I could do what they were doing, which is quite impressive for students still in elementary school! I realized right away that the methods enabled the students to come to a much deeper understanding of valuable concepts that would service them well as their math instruction progressed.

After attending this demonstration I immediately decided to try to enroll my daughter into Connections when she reached school age. She ended up attending Chiefess Kapiolani Elementary School for Kindergarten, since her older brother was in his last year there, but I was able to enroll her into Connections last year as a first grader. Since my flexible university schedule allowed, I was also able to volunteer in her class, which I wanted to do to show her that her father cares about her education, and to get to know more about the unique aspects of Connections. I volunteered for an hour each Wednesday, helping the students with their reading. Each week I worked with a group of Vanessa's peers, sometimes with Vanessa but mostly with other groups of students, and I supervised their reading and interacted with them in an intuitive manner. Her teacher, Ms. Booth, is a wonderful teacher. She always gave me a short written sheet with directions, including what to emphasize and the types of questions I might ask the

students as we read the stories. The students seemed to enjoy my presence and always offered a warm "Hi Dr. Anderson" when they saw me, both in the class and outside the school when we happened to run into each other. They still go out of their way to say hello now that Vanessa is in the second grade and my schedule no longer allows me time to volunteer. It is my plan that Vanessa continue with Connections at least through elementary school, but quite possibly through middle and high school.

What I have found about Connections is that in addition to the excellent academics that require students to go beyond the standard curriculum to make the necessary "connections" that lead to a deeper understanding, something I also require in all of my university courses, is that it is a very pleasant environment in which the students spend their academic life. I actually like taking Vanessa into the building every morning. Everyone that works there obviously enjoys working there. The kids like being there. I like talking to the staff, administrators, employees, and the kids that I now know. It's clear that they have gone out of their way to make Connections a unique and vibrant environment in which learning is encouraged and engaging. Vanessa misses school when she has time off and is happy when Monday comes along, and tells me about her happy day when I drive her home. I think this philosophy of a great work environment comes from the top and spreads to the very bottom. I am not the only one volunteering at Connections. It seems to be more of a philosophy of a better way of doing things at Connections than at other schools with which I have been associated. Get the parents involved and the kids will benefit.

When the administration became aware of my math teaching expertise they did not hesitate to ask me to give a presentation to the entire K-12 teaching staff, to pass along my thoughts on the challenges and opportunities facing them as they transition to the new national Common Core Standards. I was happy to oblige, as I was then preparing a talk on that very subject, and I hope everyone was able to take something home from that presentation. My point is, they went out of their way to utilize every resource to help them improve their school and also to meet their upcoming challenge. This is typical of the attention to detail I have noticed at Connections.

The one thing that Vanessa missed as a first grader, and still misses as a second grader, and the one aspect of Connections that is somewhat deficient, is open space for a playground for recess and exercising. It is certainly not enough to make me consider moving Vanessa elsewhere, but as a consequence the teachers must frequently take Vanessa's class on short excursions to the park and other venues for exercise. This is inadequate and Connections really needs a new facility. It is not as safe taking the students on walking excursions, and the fear of rain, which can occur frequently in Hilo makes any extended stay outside problematic. This would not be the case if they had a playground adjacent to their classrooms, where they could quickly return to class in the event of inclement weather. They could also use an auditorium with a stage and all

the other amenities found in schools with a "normal" venue. While I enjoy entering the historic Kress building and marvel that they had the insight to begin a school in such a great venue, in order for Connections to truly spread its wings and reach its full potential it needs the new Kaumana campus. It is also a major inconvenience having the high school physically located across town. Although I am as yet unfamiliar with the difficulties this presents, it's not hard to imagine that the Connections "family" atmosphere must suffer. The parents, teachers, administrators, staff, and Connections supporters are willing to do whatever we can to help this laudable effort. Please give your strongest consideration to this wonderful effort for this wonderful school, and do not hesitate in the least in contacting me if there is anything else I can do to assist you in your decision.

Sincerely



Dr. Mitchell Anderson  
Mathematics Professor  
University of Hawaii at Hilo  
mitch@hawaii.edu  
808-345-3331

1  
9  
Dear Winward Planning  
Commissions

Connections Public Charter

School means a lot to me.

I like that I have a lot of friends here and the teachers are really nice to us. I also like that every thursday we get to go up to the computer lab to play Achieve 3000.

I think we should get the new school in Kaunama because we would have walls and I would be able to concentrate instead of staring at the first grader's bunny. I also want the new school because we would have horses, and a gym and some forestry, plus, we might get to have choices for lunch. Also in the gym we would get to play volleyball which would be really fun. The new school would also be good because we would not be hit by a tsunami. There are over ~~6,000,000~~ reasons why we should have this new school!

From,  
Anika Yamasaki

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
NOV-12 PM 3:01

082072

2012 NOV -8 PM 3:02

Dear Winward Planning  
Commissioners

Connections Public Charter  
School means a lot to me.  
I like that I have a lot of  
friends here and the teachers  
are really nice to us. I also  
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would be really fun. The new school  
would also be good because we would  
not be hit by a tsunami. There are over  
~~6,000~~ reasons why we should have the  
new school!

From  
Ariak

SCANNED  
NOV 25 2012  
By: 082098



2012 NOV -8 PM 3: 29 Connections in Kaumana

There is a new kid in class and some kids don't like the new kid. They think she is no good just because of the way she looks. That is exactly what some people who live in Kaumana think of us. They don't want us building a school up there. Someone has even posted some bumper stickers on our doors. They say that we will vandalize their property when we are up there, so why come and vandalize our property. I think we should have a nice place to learn in. I bet, if Hilo and Waiakea DOE schools were to build a school up there, people would have no problem because they are a public school and we are a charter school.

Like I said before, we should have a nice place to learn. Not in a building that is falling apart. Our school is literally falling apart. We have pipes up above us. Did you know that our walls don't even go all the way up? We can hear the class next to us. It is sad knowing that we are not welcomed up in Kaumana. The people that don't want us up in Kaumana should give us a chance. When there is a fire drill it is difficult for Lauren to get out of the building. Lauren has bone cancer and it is hard for her to get out of the building because she has a hard time walking down the stairs to get out. When or if we get to build a school up in Kaumana it would have a preschool for your little ones.

Like I said we would be building a preschool up there. I bet that would be really helpful for your parents with little kids. It would help you get to work on time if there was a school right there for your kids. We would also have a dorms up there for our exchange students. It is so that parents don't have to keep the exchange students in their house. You know just because we are a charter school it doesn't mean that we are bad kids, whose parents are not all that wealthy. It just means that we would rather have our learning methods a bit different from regular public schools. If or when we build a school up in Kaumana it would really help some of you property owners.

If we were to build a school up in Kaumana then it would help out you land owners. Do you know what would happen? It would bring up your property value because there is a school up there. I know

there would be traffic because parents are trying to get their kids to school but it would also stop speeding. If any one is caught speeding near the school they would be given a ticket for speeding. Also traffic would not be all that bad because it would be at two different times. One at drop off, which is at 7am, and pick up which is at 2pm. Most of the people up there are either working or in school themselves.

We should be able to build a school up in Kaumana because we deserve a nice place to learn. That is what I am trying to say. We should be able to build a school up there because the place we are in right now is not the best place for people. Also we would have an eco-friendly school with a preschool and elderly care. People who live up in Kaumana don't know at what kinds of good things we could bring to their community. You know we should really be able to build a school up in Kaumana. I bet if Hilo Inter or any public or private school was to build a school up in Kaumana, the residents would not have a problem with them up there. What I am trying to get at is we should be given a chance to build school up there, and we will try our best not to do anything that will upset the people who live up there.

**By: Berlinda Sipinga**

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

Hi,

2012 NOV -8 PM 3: 29

My name is Shandon Pestano and I graduated from Connections back in 2009.

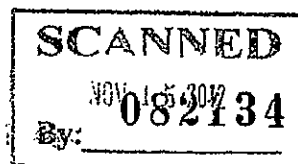
Connections would be such a better school if they were able to expand and build on the Kaumana property. One thing Connections was short on when I attended there was space. We were always so crowded and secluded. When we moved out to the Nani Mau gardens it got a little better but we still didn't have as much space as needed. We did what we could but sports were hard. Of course boys love sports so trying to play sports in the small areas we had were not enough. Kaumana would provide so much more space for the kids to get out and exercise, which would help fight obesity, one of the many important issues are country is focusing on fighting. The new property provides so much extra space and enables out door activities for everyone.

Also, it would be great for Connections to get regular classrooms. Although middle school at Kress was fun, I could hear the other kids and teachers in the other classes over the wall. Because the rooms are simply divided by a short wall in between the two it was easy to hear what was going on in the other class. Regular classes will provide a more focused learning experience for everyone.

Connections staff, students, and parents will all benefit from the new facility up in Kaumana.

Thanks for your time,

Shandon Pestano



*Every time you stop a school, you will have to build a jail. What you gain at one end you lose at the other. It's like feeding a dog on his own tail. It won't fatten the dog. ~Mark Twain*

How would you feel if your children were denied a quality place to learn? Well that's what certain residents of Kaumana are trying to do, by attempting to stop a new Connections Public Charter School from being built. But we deserve to have a nice place to learn that will increase the quality of our education.

Education benefits everybody, not just students. One of our most important rights stated in the UDHR (Universal Declaration of Human Rights) is the right to an education, and in order to do that, you must have schools.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
APR 27 11 50 AM

2012 APR -8 PM 3: 29

082031

Connections PCS in Kaumana!

Our school is not even a block away from the ocean, it is closer, and do you know that when we have a tsunami or earthquake out of the blue, we have a high risk of getting killed and getting injured. We should have a right to build a CPCS in Kaumana because we will be an eco-friendly school, and we need to be safety first at all times.

We should be able to build a Connections PCS in Kaumana because we need to need to be in a safe area, just like all the rest of the schools-(Waiakea, Hilo). If we get to build a school we will have a safe place for the little ones especially... we would have a place to play outsides which is a good—no a great thing because we should be apart to decrease child obesity in Hawaii. We would have a clean air environment and where grass grows where plants, trees grows etc. we need a bigger place for we want yo be active and safe and everything else. This is one reason why we should be a safe school and active and eco-friendly school.

Another reason why we should build a school in Kaumana because we will be a family school. What I mean by this is that we will have a preschool and that will be a new thing to our school because we only start with kindergarten. We will also have an elderly-care included to our school which is a good thing because you can just drop off your grandparents off at this new place and worry-free. We will be a better place for you people that is living in Kaumana because we could also improve your neighborhood. This is the second reason why we should be allowed to build our school in Kaumana.

The last reason why we should be able to build a school in Kaumana because they are judging us, but they do not even know us, we are not a bad school where we rob the houses, we do not do this kind of bad things. We won't create harm to our fellow neighbors.

We should be able to build school because our school is too close to the water and we would have a tsunami or earthquake out of the blue we need to be safety first. First reason is that we will be an eco-friendly school. The second reason why we should is that we will include an elderly care and preschool.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
CITY OF HONOLULU  
7:27 AM -8 PM 3: 29

082030

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

Having a School in Kaumana

2012 NOV -8 PM 3: 29

by Michael Scott

Do you ever get accused of being something your not? Or because of your race you aren't welcomed to an occasion, you'r poor and rich people don't invite you to places? This shouldn't happen, why do people always judge people on their appearance and what they think they are something based on where they live, or where they go to school. They don't take the chance to know them. "Don't judge a book by its cover".

People are putting bumper stickers on our school, saying that there's not going to be a school in Kaumana. Imagine how the little children in our school feel? The rich people in the Kaumana neighborhood are saying we're going to try to steal from their houses. This is a very good school and has always been a good school. We have a lot of good students, and even if we don't, we have 4 security guards. This is a very good school and the Kaumana people don't even know us. We are benefiting them more then we're hurting them.

We will make their property more valuable than it is. More people will want to come there and live there because theres a new school right there. They will get a lot more money because its a rich neighborhood. People with money will want more to live there because of being so close to the school. This school will be a very nice school and we will try to have a green school in order to have green energy.

We are going to be eco friendly. We are going to use solar panels so its clean energy right from the sun. this will be a good energy to use and we will recycle as much as possible. We are going to try to help the environment as much as possible. We will benefit the environment we are living in.

You shouldn't judge people by just what you think there like. People are trying to stop us just because just because they think were going to vandalize their property. We are benefiting them a lot with our school, people will want to live next to a new school. We are going to help their environment as much as possible. I don't like it when people accuse me of something I'm not about, do you?

082029

## Connections In Kaumana

by: Sierra Longley Kaaumoana

2012 NOV -8 PM 3:30

We need a new Connections campus in Kaumana. Some people think that we don't deserve this school but if we were to build, the students will be able to have more activities and we would have more of an opportunity for kids around the world to come and learn. Also the students would have a better opportunity of education because we would have more room to add more things to help the students. Some of the people think that we don't deserve to be up in Kaumana because they think we are going to steal. Don't judge us before you get to know us. Our students and families are nice and honest people.

We would be improving the neighborhood's value. We would be helping the community by growing gardens and plants. Connections school would be opening its doors to the community and entire world! They should give us a chance in Kaumana before they judge us about what they think we are going to do. We are not that kind of people. The people that are against Connections in Kaumana need to let us build a new school up there so we can get a good education.

Also the students need to be in a non-tsunami zone. For example there was recently a tsunami warning that was heading our way and imagine if that tsunami did hit we wouldn't even have a school right now. We are in danger if that tsunami, or in this case any tsunami, would hit, and not all of us would be able to make it to a safe spot with all of the students that go to this school.

There are many, many, many reasons for our school to be in Kaumana such as, Connections would have a much of a better environment for the students in Kaumana, and more, but we need this school and some people that are in Kaumana are in the way of us having a good education. We are nice, good, and honest people and with this school being able to get built we would be in a better community and be able to get a better education. But some of Kaumana's neighbors are in the way of that.

082028

2017 NOV -9 PM 3:30

## Connections in Kaumana

Connections should have a right to build a new school building. Most of the children and families are nice and local. Children at Connections can help improve Kaumana's community. Connections could help the community and the environment by planting plants and going solar, we could help the community by giving children a school close to their homes. Children at Connections should be able to get an education and build a school in Kaumana.

Someone is protesting that there shouldn't be a Connections in Kaumana. Someone stuck stickers on the Kress building saying "No Connections in Kaumana". People are putting up signs in their neighborhoods saying the same thing "No Connections". We should be able to have a place that was originally designed for a school. We need actual classrooms and more space to learn. We should be able to build a Connections in Kaumana.

Our school should be able to build a new improved school for us and other children. We should be able to have actual classrooms and more space to learn. Other children can have a more improved and better more child friendly neighborhood. But people keep protesting against it by putting up sign's in their neighborhood's saying "No Connections in Kaumana". If we could build a new Connections campus in Kaumana we would have actual classrooms and a better education. Connections can help the community by giving a school closer to their homes. If people keep protesting against Connections in Kaumana we might not be able to give children a safe and better community and school in their community. All the children that go to Connections or will go to Connections in the future deserve a new, more improved place to learn.

082027



2012 NOV -8 PM 3: 30

## Connections in kaumana

How would you feel if someone judged you by which school you go to? I think that people should get to know us before you start to judge us. How would you like it if someone that doesn't know you went and vandalized or put signs up on something you truly love? We just want to be educated, but if people are stopping us by vandalizing our school and putting up signs saying "No connections in Kaumana!!" We won't get our new school and might not be able to get educated.

We are nice people with a lot of respect for other people and we just want somewhere where we can learn and play outside. It feels like we are being stereotyped. We want to be educated and not start problems with people we don't know, but people are trying to stop us and it hurts every one of us that goes to Connections Public Charter school. You shouldn't be judging us if you don't even know us. We deserve to have a real school where we can actually go outside to learn and all that other stuff that other schools do outside for their learning time. We are hard working kids and shouldn't be going through this.

We don't deserve this, we work hard five days a week and it's hard for some of us especially when we have to wake up early in the morning and go straight to school work. We have little ones that come to school and have to listen to what is going on and it doesn't only hurt us it hurts them too. I think that you should let us build our school up in kaumana and we will show you how hard working kids we are, then you will think that it was wrong to judge us and also vandalize our school.

082026

To Whom It May Concern:  
Hello,

2012 NOV -8 PM 3: 29

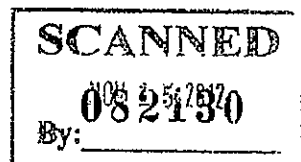
My name is Ipoleiokalani Boyd and I am a former graduate of Connections Public Charter School, class of 2008. Being both a student and now an outsider I am able to give my opinion from both sides not just one. As a student of Connections I know how much of a difference this property in Kaumana will make. I started at Connections when it first opened up in the downtown Kress building, at first it was cool because of all its history but as time went by it became just a building, a building that we were stuck in for 8 long hours. Don't get me wrong I enjoyed going to Connections but I can't imagine how much of a difference it would have been if we were on a regular campus able to do outside activities. The Kaumana property would make school so much more enjoyable for the kids not to mention educational. The agriculture program alone would open bigger possibilities for the children. Children need to be hands on and experience things first hand instead of just being told about it, the Kaumana property will enable this for their future students.

As an outsider I can say that these kids are calling out for bigger space. I currently serve the lunches to the students, so I watch them throughout the entire day. The Kaumana property would open up a whole new meaning to the word "RECESS". The kids are crying out for freedom here. Could you imagine playing and letting loose in a school cafeteria with over 50 other kids? You can imagine the "FUN" that they are able to have. The outdoors, the fields, the plants, the possibilities that lay within this property is endless. Connections Public Charter School would be able to provide their students with an entirely different meaning of education. Right now the kids do with what they got but imagine how they will feel when they are able to grow their own food and then prepare and eat it as well.

As a school we were always ONE ohana, which is a little hard when you are located on two different campuses. Being able to have the entire ohana on one campus would be like home, everyone together under one roof. The older students would be able to work with the younger ones and vice versa. Being separated was always a hard thing for us because we were constantly going back and forth to be with one another (assemblies, events, classes, etc), this would eliminate this problem, everyone in one area.

Needless to say I am completely for this property. I know how much it would mean and the differences it would make for all students. Connections has great ideas set up for this property, allowing their students with multiple educational learning methods.

-Ipoleiokalani Boyd



Being born and raised on the Big Island I wanted my children to have a positive, safe, unprejudicial education. Connections has provided that and more for my children for over four years now and they are excelling. My son started out at St Joseph and did not excel. I have also been teaching several dance classes at the school for over 3 years now and I know the children.

Connections is an excellent school with the same reputation. If it was not there would not be a waiting list for students to attend.

I am appalled that people from the Big Island, that are supposed to show equality and Aloha have decided to show their prejudiced judgmental behavior towards the children of Connections, the children of Hawaii. You should be immensely ashamed of yourselves.

My children are the grandchildren of Dr. Joseph Bratton whom is a highly regarded psychologist who has also worked with the children and people of Hawaii for decades. My mother has been a RN for the hospital and for Hawaii for years and is now a highly respected, recognized artist whom represents Hawaii.

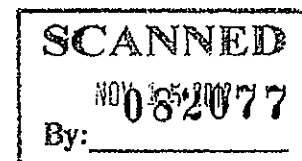
Are you saying that my children, their grandchildren are delinquents? My children are very good students and my oldest son, Alexandre is already making plans for attending university and beyond. He is also a green belt at Master Terry Canda's Tae Kwon Do Club. Are you also implicating that a 5<sup>th</sup> degree black belt teaches delinquents? Are you saying my son's friends that I have known for over 4 years are delinquents?

Are you aware in these unfortunate economic times that your property value will excel? When the school is built.

Aren't we supposed to support, encourage and educate our young children of Hawaii, for a improved future for us all?

*Kimberly Meyer*

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
2012 NOV -3 PM 3:00



Aloha,

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
STATE OF HAWAII

The purpose of this written statement is to outline the reasons why I support the construction of a Connections Public Charter School campus in Kaumana. As a product/graduate of the Hawaii Public school system; and now a father of two children who attend Connections, it is my opinion that the school should be built. My reasons are as follows:

*One:*

In general, charter schools have addressed a huge hole in Hawaii's Public School System. Geographically; charter schools have been and are able to, service communities where with out them, school children would have to travel outrageous distances to attend school. Academically, charter schools have the unique ability to steer their curriculum in ways that accommodate student needs that are lacking in other established DOE schools. Socially; charter schools have been and continue to be the catch all for students who are troubled, defined as needing SPED resources, and even those students that are just not motivated to perform in their current environment. Connections, in my opinion, is the poster child for what can be done through school, to address, and or solve these and many other issues surrounding the education and well being of the children of Hawaii.

*Two:*

Kaumana is an area where Connections will be able to continue to broaden its academic and social development capabilities. The campus in Kaumana will facilitate hands on learning by relating text book concepts to physical real world situations. For example, students will be able to see how math corresponds to farming and how reading and writing correspond to ones ability to explain and illustrate real world situations. In addition, students will be able to examine first hand the issue of invasive species, their effect on the environment, and will be able to use critical thinking skills as they attempt to address this issue. Suffice to say, a plethora of opportunities await the students of Connections if this campus is built. Moreover, it will allow the students of Connections the opportunity to spend time outside in a safe area; something that is very hard to accommodate at the moment with the current campuses.

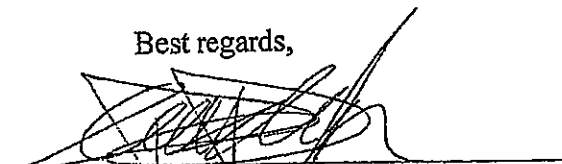
*Three:*

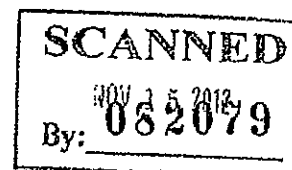
Kaumana will offer opportunities for students to experience things unlike any campus before it. It is obvious that we need to think outside of the box in regard to preparing students for life after school. This is a bold attempt to do just that. I encourage the opposition to read through the literature that outlines how Connections plans to use the campus, before blindly saying no to a project that has such a great deal of potential in regard to educating and preparing students for life after school.

*In Closing:*

It is impossible to list all of the amazing and wonderful opportunities having a campus in Kaumana will give the students of Connections. It is very unfortunate that this fact is lost upon those opposing the campus. Listing all of the possible adverse affects of having the school in Kaumana, most of which are unfounded and or simply illogical, by the opposition shows the lack of understanding and willingness to compromise for the betterment of our children. I strongly encourage you to support this endeavor.

Best regards,

  
Damien DeMello Jr.



2012 NOV -8 PM 2: 59

11-8-2012

To: Windward Planning Commission Meeting of 11-9-2012  
Re: Connections Public Charter School in Kaumana

My work schedule does not allow me to attend this meeting in person and I thank you for the opportunity to express myself via writing.

I am a parent of a child who attends Connections PCS. At considerable expense and sacrifice to my family, I have relocated part of my family to Hilo from Kau so that my son could have a better education. My family is separated during the week as my child and I rent a home in Hilo, and then, on the weekend we return to Kau where my son's father, my husband, remains to operate our ranch.

There are at least 4 other children, that I know of, from other families, that also incurred the expense and family sacrifice of moving part of their families from Kau to Hilo during the week to go to Connections PCS. Other families recognize the need for and are willing to make these sacrifices for a better education. And I know of over a dozen more families from Kau that would seek better educational opportunities for their children too, if possible.

There are many reasons why we chose to enroll our son in Connections PCS. Besides the obvious consideration for effective education, we chose Connections PCS so that our child could establish himself in a school that would eventually take him thru high school. Options for high school are extremely limited on this island. We want a safe place for our son and a school that puts education first.


Today, my son and his classmates are complementing their didactic education about US History, by learning about the legislative process first hand - he and his classmates are among the audience.

Please support the Connections PCS in Kaumana so that the children of this island have a choice for a safe and better education. With a good education, my son will have a bright future and maybe, some day, even participate on a commission such as this, and make important decisions for the good of his community.

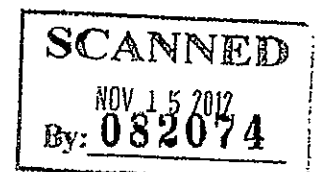
Mahalo,



Dr. Carol Zimmerman, DC, MAcOM, LAc



David Rudacille



November 8, 2012

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

2012 NOV -8 PM 3:00

Dear Windward Planning Commissioners:

I write this letter in support of Connections Public Charter School request to build their school in the Kaumana location. I am a resident of the Kaumana community, a science educator, and a parent of two young boys who attend Connections Public Charter School. There are three fundamental reasons why I wish for you to consider and approve their application to build their school on the Kaumana site.

1. Safety of students, staff and faculty-Current location of the kindergarten/middle school location is in a Tsunami evacuation zone, our students are at risk of life and injury if a natural disaster were to take place within a school day.
2. Quality of Education-The Kaumana site allows for science based inquiry to take place due to its location to natural resources. Science based inquiry is an essential component in promoting science literacy. The Kaumana site will allow for endless opportunities for teachers from various grade levels to articulate and create aligned curriculum centered on the unique environment of the location. Such learning opportunities are essential for student because they promote responsibility to land, responsibility to host culture, and responsibility to their community. At the current location, such activities are limited due to the high amount of traffic at the Kress Building site. Leaving educational site can be dangerous [e.g. crossing busy streets] and expensive since funding for bus transportation is limited.
3. Limited Funding and Resources: All charters schools in the State of Hawaii get less funding per pupil than the Department of Education Traditional Schools. Charter schools do not get any allocation for facilities; this money has to come from external resources such as grants. Such grants are limited and often difficult to obtain when funding is low. Having a site sponsored by two government agencies [State of Hawaii and the USDA] reflects a commitment to education by charter school students. The Kaumana site was selected because it was land we could afford due to not having 100% access of facility funds offered to Traditional DOE schools. We need vacant land to achieve our educational mission. The Kauman site is ideal because of its location and limited associated cost because of land donation by the State.

I understand there are reservations with those who directly live on or near the site of the schools location. Concerns related to traffic can be addressed with proper planning

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cooperation, and putting the interest of student's education first. We are talking about a school that is needed in our community, one that provides learning opportunities for a diverse population of students with special needs and interest. Such a school is not found in the Kaumana area, and this is why this specific school is attractive to parents that value a quality educational experience. This is the only school in this area that allows the environment to be part of the education curriculum. No other site promotes curriculum based on land management and sustainability. Considering our children are the future generation, they should have access to resources which promote their learning.

It is discouraging to see signs, which convey a message of "hate, anger, and lack of understanding" about the value of a school and education. This location is found in area in which the median household income is more than \$80,000.00/household. This population has benefited educational opportunities. We only ask that the same opportunities be provided to our students. The message of opponents was clearly stated in a recent town hall meeting where they accused our students of reducing their property value and increasing crime because a small percentage of our students come from high crime areas of our island. Most of our students come from central Hilo, Kaumana is as much as their backyard as those that reside on Edita street. The cave system that the school will be built on extends to many areas of the east side of this island, like the cave system, the school is also a connector of people. The opposition has not offered to give us land in other areas of our town, nor offered much alternatives for our school other than placing signs of HATE on their lawns. Our land was accessed in a legal and just manner. We just want the right to use it to achieve the mission of the school; educating children.

Please consider our request. It is the pono thing to do for our children, our future generation.

Aloha,



Mario Patiño, National Board Certified Teacher, Masters of Life Science-University of Maryland.  
Science Educator