

July 16, 1976

Mr. Milton Hakoda, Director  
Dept. of Parks and Recreation  
County of Hawaii  
Hilo, HI 96720

Re: SMA Use Permit Application  
Tax Map Key 9-5-14:1

The Planning Commission at its duly held public hearing on July 15, 1976 considered your application for a Special Management Area (SMA) Use Permit to allow certain improvements to Whittington Beach Park at Honuapo, Ka'u, Hawaii.

The Commission voted to approve your application effective July 15, 1976, subject to the following conditions:


1. That the improvements shall conform substantially to the plans submitted with this application and the representations made by the applicant.
2. That the petitioner shall obtain approval from the Board of Land and Natural Resources to allow the proposed facilities within the State Land Use Conservation District. Construction shall commence within one (1) year from the effective date of approval of the Conservation District Use application and be completed within two (2) years thereafter.
3. That all other applicable rules and regulations, including plan approval, shall be complied with.

Should any of the above conditions not be met, the Special Management Area Use Permit shall be deemed null and void.

JUL 16 1976

Mr. Milton Hakoda  
Page 2  
July 16, 1976

We will be forwarding the official Special Management Area Use Permit as soon as the document is prepared. In the meantime, should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Planning Department at 961-8288.

  
Leon K. Sterling, Jr.  
Chairman, Planning Commission

lat:sb

cc: Chief Engineer, Public Works

PLANNING COMMISSION

Planning Department  
County of Hawaii  
Hilo, Hawaii

Application for SPECIAL )  
MANAGEMENT AREA USE PERMIT )  
by )  
COUNTY OF HAWAII )  
DEPT. OF PARKS AND RECREATION ) SMA Use Permit No. 14  
for )  
RECONSTRUCTION OF PARK )  
FACILITIES )  
in )  
Honuapo, Ka'u, Hawaii )  
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SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA USE PERMIT

The County Planning Commission at a duly held public hearing on July 15, 1976 considered the application of the COUNTY OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION for a Special Management Area Use Permit in accordance with Rule No. 9, Rules and Regulations Relating to Environmental Shoreline Protection, to allow the reconstruction of park facilities damaged or destroyed by the tsunami of November 29, 1975 at Whittington Beach Park, Honuapo, Ka'u, Hawaii, Tax Map Key 9-5-14:1.

The Commission has found:

That the proposed action will not have any significant adverse effect on the environment or ecology of the area nor will it significantly affect the Special Management Area. The reconstruction will not involve any substantial alteration to existing landforms or vegetation or to any portion of the beachfront or shoreline. The proposed project will not involve any dredging or filling, in that the facilities to be reconstructed will be at the same sites as before the tsunami of November 29, 1975, and will utilize the existing foundations. The proposed project will not reduce access to or the size of the recreational area, but is intended to enhance it through the provision of the subject facilities. The proposed facilities will enhance the recreational utility of the existing park, thereby fulfilling one of the purposes of the Environmental Shoreline Protection Act and Rule 9, that of providing adequate and properly located public recreational areas. Whittington Beach Park is one of three readily accessible public recreational shoreline areas in the Ka'u District.

In addition, the approval of the subject request will not curtail the range of beneficial uses of the environment nor will it foreclose management options. The subject area has been committed to public recreational use since 1948. The

purpose of the subject request is to reconstruct the facilities which existed at the park prior to the 1975 tsunami. As such, the project does not foreclose management options but enhances the use to which the area has long been committed.

Although the approval of this application will in fact locate the reconstruction of facilities within a tsunami inundation area, the benefits to be derived by the public from the proposed facilities outweigh the potential risks based on the probability of occurrence of such natural hazards in the future.

Based on the above, it is determined that the proposed project is in keeping with the purpose of the Environmental Shoreline Protection Act and Rule 9 of the Planning Commission.


Therefore, the Commission hereby grants to the petitioner a Special Management Area Use Permit to allow the reconstruction of park facilities damaged or destroyed by the tsunami of November 29, 1975, pursuant to the authority vested in it by Rule No. 9, Rules and Regulations Relating to Environmental Shoreline Protection, subject to the following conditions:

1. That the improvements shall conform substantially to the plans submitted with this application and the representations made by the applicant.
2. That the petitioner shall obtain approval from the Board of Land and Natural Resources to allow the proposed facilities within the State Land Use Conservation District. Construction shall commence within one (1) year from the effective date of approval of the Conservation District Use application and be completed within two (2) years thereafter.
3. That all other applicable rules and regulations, including plan approval, shall be complied with.

Should any of the foregoing conditions not be met, the Special Management Area Use Permit shall be deemed null and void.

The effective date of this permit shall be July 15, 1976.

Dated at Hilo, Hawaii, this 29th day of July, 1976.

  
Leon K. Sterling, Jr., Chairman

