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# County of Hawai'i PLANNING DEPARTMENT

BJ Leithead Todd Director

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## Special Management Area Minor Permit No. 12-000219

Project:	Construction of an Agricultural Building	
Applicant:	Jonathan & Nancy Sechrist	
Land Owner:	Jonathan & Nancy Sechrist	
Location:	Kaawaloa (Makai), South Kona, Hawai'i	
TMK:	8-1-9:25	Land Area: 5.001 acres

#### **Applicant's Request**

#### 1. Project Description:

Proposed is the construction of an agricultural building for the storage, processing, roasting, and packing/packaging of coffee, a farm office with workroom, and private (non-public) restroom. The building will be used by the current owner/farmer and their contracted farm help and will not be open to the general public. It will be located on an existing graded gravel pad and tied into the existing septic, water line and electrical systems.

#### 2. Purpose of Project:

The new building will provide a structure for farming and agricultural activities that are currently done in the existing farm residence. The intent is to enhance and increase the efficiency of the existing farming processes.

#### 3. Project Valuation: \$150,000

#### 4. Determination:

According to Chapter 205A-22, HRS, and Planning Commission Rule No. 9-4(e)(1)(E) relating to the Special Management Area, "Construction, reconstruction, demolition, or alteration of the size of any structure" is not exempt from the definition of "development." Therefore, the proposed project requires a SMA Minor Permit.

#### **State and County Plans**

#### 1. State Land Use District: The subject property is designated Agricultural.

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- 2. Kealakekua Bay Historical District: Although the subject parcel is within this district, new construction will be limited to an existing permitted graded and graveled pad. The new building will be surrounded by the existing permitted greenhouse/workshop building, the farm residence and coffee trees.
- **3. Historic Sites:** The proposed structure is over 270 feet from the Kaawaloa road trail and 203 feet from a preservation area.
- 4. General Plan: The parcel is designated Important Agricultural Land by the General Plan Land Use Pattern Allocation Guide (LUPAG) Map.
- 5. Kona Community Development Plan: Guiding Principles No. 7 is to "Encourage a diverse and vibrant economy emphasizing agriculture and sustainable economies".
- 6. County Zoning: It is zoned Agricultural (A-5a).
- 7. Special Management Area (SMA): Although the subject property is in the SMA, it is over a mile from the coastline. Therefore, it is not located in a "shoreline area" as defined by Section 205A-41, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS).
- 8. Flood Zone: Flood Zone "X"

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### Compliance with Objectives and Policies of Chapter 205A, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), Regarding the Special Management Area

The subject parcel is over a mile from the coastline. Therefore, the proposed improvements will not affect public access to the shoreline or negatively affect shoreline recreational resources available to the public.

Check all objectives and policies found to be consistent with proposed development. Issuance of SMA Minor Permit requires that activity be consistent with all objectives & policies.

The proposed development is consistent with the following objectives and policies:

- Development will not have any significant adverse environmental or ecological effect, except as such adverse effect is minimized to the extent practicable and clearly outweighed by public health, safety, or compelling public interest. Such adverse effect shall include, but not be limited to, the potential cumulative impact of individual developments, each one of which taken in itself might not have a substantial adverse effect and the elimination of planning options.
- The proposed development is consistent with the Hawaii County General Plan and the Zoning Code.
- The proposed development does not conflict with the following objectives of Chapter 205A, HRS, to:
  - Provide coastal recreational opportunities accessible to the public.
  - Protect, preserve, and where desirable, restore those natural and man-made historic and pre-historic resources in the coastal zone management area that are significant in Hawaiian and American history and culture.

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- Protect, preserve, and where desirable, restore or improve the quality of coastal scenic and open space resources.
- Protect valuable coastal ecosystems from disruption and minimize adverse impacts on all coastal ecosystems.
- Provide public or private facilities and improvements important to the State's economy in suitable locations.
- Reduce hazard to life and property from tsunami, storm waves, stream flooding, erosion, subsidence and pollution.
- Improve the development review process, communication, and public participation in the management of coastal resources and hazards.
- Stimulate public awareness, education, and participation in coastal management.
- $\square$  Protect beaches for public use and recreation.
- Promote the protection, use, and development of marine and coastal resources to assure their sustainability.
- The proposed development is consistent with the following policies of Chapter 205A, HRS, relating to:
  - Image: Recreational Resources
  - Historic Resources
  - Scenic and Open Space Resources
  - Coastal Ecosystems
  - Economic Uses
  - 🗵 Coastal Hazards
  - Managing Development
  - **Example 1** Public Participation
  - Beach Protection
  - Marine Resources
- The proposed development conforms to the requirements of Chapter 343, HRS, regarding Environmental Impact Statements.

#### Findings

As discussed above, the proposed development will not have any significant adverse environmental or ecological effect, except as such adverse effect is minimized to the extent practicable and clearly outweighed by public health, safety, or compelling public interest.

The proposed development is consistent with the Hawai'i County General Plan and Zoning Code.

The proposed development is consistent with the objectives, policies, and SMA guidelines of Chapter 205A, HRS.

The estimated project cost of approximately \$150,000 is not in excess of \$500,000.

The enclosed Department of Public Works, Engineering Division memorandum dated April 25, 2012 states the following:

"We reviewed the subject application and our comments are as follows:

We have determined that the subject property is located within Flood Zone 'X' according to the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The above information is based on the most recent FIRM for the County of Hawai'i. Zone 'X' is not a designated Special Flood Hazard Area. A Zone 'X' designation does not imply that the referenced property will be free from flooding or flood damage. A property not in a Special Flood Hazard Area may be damaged by a greater flood than that predicted on the FIRM or from a local drainage problem not shown on the map. Should a watercourse affect the property, it shall not be altered without first obtaining approval from DPW and a grading permit. A flood study may be required under Chapter 27 of Hawai'i County Code for watercourse alterations."

Pursuant to Planning Commission Rule Section 9-10(E), **Special Management Area Minor Permit No. 12-000219** is hereby approved for the construction of an agricultural building on the subject parcel. This approval is subject to the applicant's compliance with the conditions of approval as specified below.

**Conditions of Approval** 

The Planning Director has approved SMA Minor Permit No. 12-000219 subject to the following conditions:

- 1. The applicant, its successors or assigns shall be responsible for complying with all stated conditions of approval.
- 2. The applicant shall secure all required permits from affected state and county agencies as necessary to comply with all applicable laws and regulations.
- 3. The construction of the agricultural building shall be completed within two (2) years from the date of approval of this permit.
- 4. Should any unidentified sites or remains such as artifacts, shell, bone, or charcoal deposits, human burials, rock or coral alignments, pavings, or wall be encountered, work in the immediate area shall cease and the Planning Director shall be immediately notified. Work may proceed with an archaeological clearance from the Planning Director. The archaeological clearance requires a finding that sufficient mitigative measures are taken for the discovery; with written guidance from the State Historic Preservation Division of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

- 5. An extension of time for the performance of the conditions contained herein may be granted by the Planning Director upon the following circumstances:
  - a) The non-performance is the result of conditions that could not have been foreseen or are beyond the control of the applicant, successors or assigns, and that are not the result of their fault or negligence;
  - b) Granting of the time extension would not be contrary to the original reasons for the granting of the permit; and
  - c) The time extension granted shall be for a period of not to exceed the period originally granted for performance (i.e., a condition to be performed within one year may be extended up to one additional year).
- 6. Should any of the conditions not be met or substantially complied with in a timely fashion, the Planning Director shall initiate procedures to revoke the permit.

If you have questions, please contact Esther Imamura of this office at (808) 961-8139.

APPROVED: αρ τόρρ Planning Director

MAY 18 2012

Date