Leeward Bikeway Project location: The Federal Highway Administration and State of Hawai‘i Department of Transportation Highways Division (HDOT), propose a project to construct the Leeward Bikeway, from Philippine Sea Road to Waipahu Depot Street in the Waikele, Hoaææ, Honoiiuli Ahupuaa, Ewa District, Island of Oahu, Hawaii (see attached map).

Leeward Bikeway Project overview: The approximately 3-mile-long 8-10 foot-wide asphalt concrete bikeway would be built within the 40-foot wide former Oahu Railroad & Land Company (OR&L) right-of-way (ROW) and provide a dedicated, shared use path for pedestrians and bicyclists. The bikeway would consist of two sections connected by the existing approximately 2-mile West Loch Bike Path on either end to form a continuous path. The first section of the bikeway would begin at Philippine Sea Road and extend approximately 10,500 feet east to connect with the southwest end of the West Loch Bike Path. The second section of the bikeway would begin at the northeast end of the West Loch Bike Path and extend approximately 6,900 feet east to its terminus at Waipahu Depot Street. At its terminus, the bikeway would connect with the existing 5.8-mile-long Pearl Harbor Historic Trail (PHHT). Along most of its length the bikeway would be separated from vehicular traffic. However, where the bikeway crosses existing roadways (i.e., Kapolei Parkway and Fort Weaver Road) the bikeway users would be guided by signs to new or existing signalized pedestrian roadway crossings.

Design and construction components of the Leeward Bikeway Project include:
- Construction of the Leeward Bikeway facility beginning at Philippine Sea Road in Ewa and extending east to Waipahu Depot Street in Waipahu;
- Replacement of two historic railroad bridges (i.e., Kapakahi and Waikele Stream Bridges);
- Improvements to storm drain near Kapolei Parkway;
- Relocation of utility lines and poles;
- Construction of retaining walls;
- Relocation and replacement of existing fencing; and
- Installation of bollards, signage and striping.

Purpose and need of the Leeward Bikeway Project: Several current regional and development plans define the need for a shared use path that links the neighborhoods in West Oahu to beach parks, recreation areas, regional attractions, historic sites, and nature habitats. They include the 2003 Pearl Harbor Historic Trail Master Plan; 2002 Central Oahu Sustainable Communities Plan; 2012 O‘ahu Bike Plan; and 2013 Ewa Development Plan. Furthermore, these plans identify the former OR&L ROW as a resource where a safe and continuous bicycle and pedestrian path could be provided. The current project would utilize the former OR&L ROW to connect to the existing West Loch Bike Path and PHHT to provide a continuous, accessible, and safe shared-use path between Ewa and Aiea. In doing so, the proposed project would complete important components of past and current regional and development plans. Additionally, by connecting the communities from Ewa to Aiea, the Leeward Bikeway would address major residential, business, and commercial growth in the Ewa and Central Oahu areas occurring over the past several decades and in the future by providing an outstanding recreational resource and non-motorized transportation facility.

Background for the Leeward Bikeway Project: The implementation of the project is in response to the 1980 transfer of title of an approximately 14-mile long section of the former OR&L ROW from the U. S. Government to the State of Hawaii that requires the HDOT to use the transferred land for highway purposes, i.e. bicycle lanes or paths and pedestrian walkways.

The project limits, Philippine Sea Road to Waipahu Depot Street, connect logical termini identified in past and present regional and development plans and are of sufficient length to provide independent utility (i.e., usable and reasonable expenditure even if no additional transportation improvements in the area are made).

Construction is expected to commence in late 2018. Approximately 12 months will be required for construction.

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