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Daniel A. Grabauskas
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CEO

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December 28, 2015

The Honorable Ernest Y. Martin, Chair
and Members
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Martin and Councilmembers:

Subject: Status Update #8, Tree Relocation Activities
Honolulu Rail Transit Project (H RTP)
Resolution 11-111, CD1

The Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART) is providing an update on tree disposition activities associated with the H RTP as requested in Resolution 11-111, CD1. This report is for the period from February 1, 2015, through July 31, 2015.

Mr. Steve Nimz, Certified Arborist, oversees all field changes for active construction. All added trees are treated according to the Final Environmental Impact Statement/Record of Decision mitigation commitments T01-T06 described in the H RTP Mitigation Monitoring Program.

The status of tree disposition activities and community group coordination for period covered by this report is as follows:

West Oahu/Farrington Highway Section (East Kapolei to Pearl Highlands)

- HART continued to coordinate with the Leeward Community College regarding the transplant of trees that would be affected by guideway and station construction.

Kamehameha Highway Section (Pearl Highlands to Aloha Stadium)

- At the Neal S. Blaisdell Park, HART contractors relocated two monkeypod trees from the Aloha Stadium and two rainbow shower trees from the parking lot at Pearlridge Shopping Center.
- At the Patsy T. Mink Central Oahu Regional Park, HART contractors relocated two rainbow shower trees from the Pearlridge Shopping Center. HART worked closely with the Department of Parks and Recreation and local community representatives to use the transplanted trees as a landscaped buffer between the Central Oahu Regional Park and adjacent homes.
- At the Waiiau District Park, HART contractors relocated two monkeypod trees from Aloha Stadium. These trees were requested by park users and officials to provide shade along the soccer fields.

Airport Section (Aloha Stadium to Middle Street)

- HART contractors removed four rainbow shower trees along Kamahemaha Highway near Halawa Stream, and transplanted them to the Pearl Harbor Interchange. HART staff continued coordination with the State of Hawaii Department of Transportation regarding transplanting of other rainbow shower trees within the Pearl Harbor Interchange and along the Nimitz Viaduct.
- Along Monsarrat Avenue fronting the Kapiolani Park Bandstand parking lot, HART contractors relocated six Narra trees from Keehi Lagoon Beach Park.
- At the Ala Wai Golf Course along Date Street at Olokele Avenue, HART contractors relocated three additional Narra trees from the Keehi Lagoon Beach Park.
- HART planted mitigation for two monkeypod trees that are to be removed from the Keehi Lagoon Memorial, as well as mitigation for other trees removed from Aloha Stadium.

City Center Section (Middle Street to Ala Moana Center)

- HART continued coordination with the Hawaii Community Development Authority regarding mitigation of trees to be removed along Queen Street at Kolowalu Park.

Community Group Coordination

- HART staff met with The Outdoor Circle staff in May 2015, to provide updates on project activities, tree relocation efforts, and other mitigation efforts.

HART appreciates the continued cooperation and assistance of the Department of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Enterprise Services for identifying transplant locations that provide shade and other benefits for park users as well the surrounding communities.

HART is also pleased to note that Mr. Masatomo Murata, Certified Arborist and Landscape Architect, has joined its Planning and Environmental staff. Mr. Murata has over 20 years of professional landscape architecture experience in Hawaii and is now assisting with project tree disposition activities.

The next update will cover the period from August 2015 through January 2016. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Ryan Tam at Local 86189.

Sincerely,



fw Daniel A. Grabauskas
Executive Director and CEO

cc: HART Board of Directors
Mr. Roy Amemiya Jr., Managing Director

Enclosure

Honolulu Rail Transit Project - Tree Transplant Activities
February to July 2015

Figure 1: Central Oahu Regional Park – 2 Rainbow Shower trees



Figure 2: Waiau District Park – 2 Monkeypod trees



Figure 3a: Neal S. Blaisdell Park – 2 Monkeypod Trees

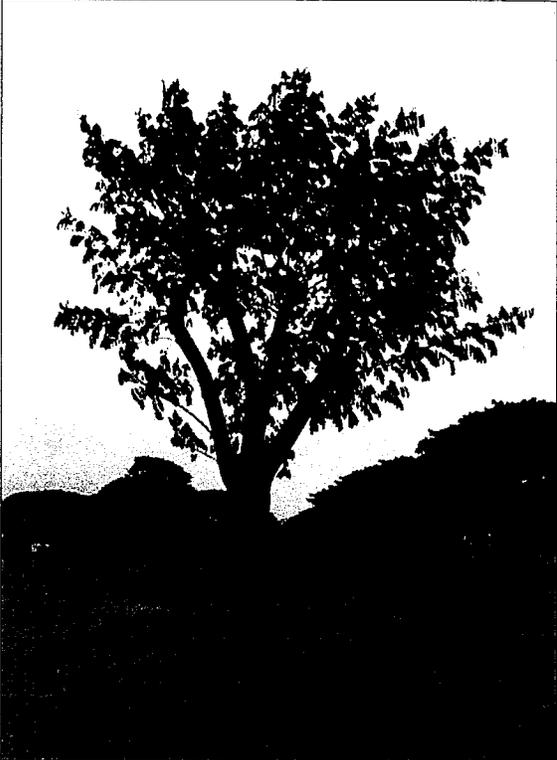


Figure 3b: Neal S. Blaisdell Park – 2 Rainbow Shower trees



Figure 4: Pearl Harbor Interchange – 4 Rainbow Shower Trees



Figure 5: Ala Wai Golf Course/Date Street – 3 Narra Trees



Figure 6: Monsarrat Avenue/Kapiolani Park – 6 Narra Trees

