

Meeting with Navy Command and Cultural Resources Staff regarding the Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project

July 22, 2009, 3.00 pm
Naval Station Pearl Harbor

(See attached sign-in sheet for meeting participants.)

The meeting was held in specific response to the Navy's invitation to the project team to discuss determinations of eligibility made as part of the project's Section 106 evaluations. The meeting also served as agency-to-agency consultation relating to the project and was in direct response to the request of Ms. Susan Tasaki of the Hawaii State Historic Preservation Division, who asked that the project team seek the opinion of Navy cultural resources staff, who attended the meeting, regarding the Section 106 determination of effect to Pearl Harbor National Historic Landmark.

Summary of Discussions

Project team staff began the meeting by describing the project's Section 106 process to date and summarizing the status of consultation, as well as the general status of all environmental documentation and project schedule.

The project team clarified that the Barbers Point resources about which the Navy had previously expressed concern regarding the determinations of eligibility were not in the project's Area of Potential Effects. No formal determinations of eligibility on the Barber's Point resources were made and no SHPD concurrence was sought for these buildings as part of the transit project work.

The Navy staff stated that they would like additional copies of the Historic Resources Technical Report, which included determinations of eligibility completed by Mason Architects, Inc., so that select staff who had not previously reviewed the eligibility determinations could understand under what National Register of Historic Places criteria Navy resources were determined eligible. Navy staff expressed dismay that Mason staff evaluated their resources without their knowledge and that State Historic Preservation staff did not include them in discussions regarding the determinations since they will now be charged with treating these resources as eligible and will be required to fulfill Section 106 obligations on any undertakings that may impact them. Navy staff stated that while they have not reviewed the Historic Resources Technical Report in detail, they believe that the Ossipoff Chapel may be the only resource that has received an eligibility determination as part of this project. Other resources may have all been previously determined eligible. The Navy pointed out that the chapel was not included in a new survey of Cold War/recent past resources that they completed.

Project team staff described recent changes to the project that serve to minimize direct impacts to the Pearl Harbor National Historic Landmark. The Navy staff stated that the

project does not have an adverse effect on any Navy resources, including the Pearl Harbor National Historic Landmark and by association, CINCPAC Headquarters and other National Register-eligible properties. Specifically, under Section 106, they do not believe that the project will have adverse visual impacts to the landmark. The Navy specifically requested that all commitments in the project's Programmatic Agreement relating to military lands and any Navy resources, including but not limited to Naval Station Pearl Harbor, Pearl Harbor National Historic Landmark, CINCPAC Headquarters, and any other National Register listed or eligible resources be removed. The Navy will not provide access to these resources for documentation and will conduct all cultural resources-related studies under the Navy's auspices.

The Navy also clarified the process under which they will offer comments on the Administrative Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). The Navy will be sending a letter supporting these statements and sending comments on the Administrative FEIS early next week.