

Technical Memorandum # 1 Replacement Facility Preferred Search Area

Oahu Community Correctional Center

August 18, 2016



State of Hawaii
Hawaii Department of Public Safety

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Acronyms

DAGS	Hawaii Department of Accounting and General Services
HART	Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation
LWFC	Laumaka Work Furlough Center
OCCC	Oahu Community Correctional Center
PSD	Hawaii Department of Public Safety

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM #1

Oahu Community Correctional Center Replacement Facility Preferred Search Area

1.0 BACKGROUND

The Oahu Community Correctional Center (OCCC) is the largest jail facility in the State of Hawaii. The OCCC houses pre-trial detainees and in addition to its jail functions, provides reintegration programming for male sentenced felons. The Hawaii Department of Public Safety (PSD) oversees operation of the OCCC as well as the nearby Laumaka Work Furlough Center (LWFC) where inmates assigned to the LWFC are either actively seeking employment or working in the community. Hawaii PSD is proposing to replace the OCCC with a new state-of-the-art facility. To assist with the planning for replacement of the OCCC, the State of Hawaii has assembled a team consisting of representatives of PSD, the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS), and a team of specialized consultants led by Architects Hawaii Ltd. (together the "Project Team").

Replacement of the aging OCCC may occur at its current location in the Makai portion of Kalihi; it may also occur at another location on the Island of Oahu. To provide an equal and unbiased opportunity to all areas of Oahu, the entire island is currently under consideration as alternative locations for the proposed OCCC. Prospective sites that can meet some or most of the key OCCC facility siting criteria anywhere on Oahu will be screened for possible use. However, there are portions of Oahu that are more preferable for locating a new OCCC facility. Therefore, when considering alternative sites, it is necessary to determine a preferred search area within which such sites would be favored and, conversely, sites beyond the preferred search area would be less favored, although still subject to consideration.

Currently, approximately 585 staff make up the permanent workforce at the OCCC. In the event of a relocation away from Kalihi, the ability of PSD to retain existing skilled staff and to recruit staff to operate a new OCCC could be adversely affected. Therefore, in determining the preferred search radius, a chief factor to be considered is the potential impacts on OCCC employees involving their daily commute to and from any potential new facility location on Oahu. In addressing this aspect of the proposed project, this Technical Memorandum #1 documents an analysis performed to help determine the preferred search area for the potential facility location.

Determining a preferred search radius considered the place of residence for the current OCCC workforce at the zip code level. While analysis of the distribution of employee residence throughout Oahu was the primary method of evaluating a geographic preference for new facility locations, consideration was also given to the influence of public transit services and major roadways, which provide access for staff to the current OCCC location as well as prospective site locations. Access considerations included major highway routes such as H-1, H-2 and H-3, as well as bus transit services operated by the City and County of Honolulu. Plans for an elevated train line from East Kapolei to the edge of Waikiki along the southern coast of Oahu, currently under construction by the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART), were also considered.

Secondary to the OCCC workforce is the potential for impacts to family members as well as to the judiciary and medical community within which OCCC operates. Since the OCCC acts as the local detention center for the First Circuit Court, proximity to the courthouse and the associated legal infrastructure is an important factor. This is also the case for proximity to medical facilities which provide treatment and care not available within the OCCC itself. So, although sites identified anywhere on Oahu will be considered, it is important to give consideration to locating a new OCCC in reasonable proximity to where the First Circuit Court and major medical facilities are located.

2.0 BASIS FOR THE ANALYSIS

To provide a basis for the preferred search area analysis, Oahu was divided into six distinct geographic areas as follows:

- Central Oahu
- Greater Honolulu (includes the area encompassing OCCC and Halawa Correctional Facility)
- West Oahu
- Windward Oahu
- East Oahu
- North Shore

Table 1 presents the 39 zip codes included in the analysis and the number of current OCCC employees residing within those zip codes. All 39 zip codes are shown in Exhibit 1 and each zip code associated with the six geographic areas is shown in Exhibit 2.

Table 1: OCCC Staff Place of Residence by Zip Code and Geographic Area

Zip Code	Staff Population by Geographic Area					
	Central Oahu	Greater Honolulu	West Oahu	Windward Oahu	East Oahu	North Shore
96701		26				
96706			59			
96707			39			
96712						0
96717						6
96730						0
96731						5
96734				17		
96744				47		
96762						12
96782		25				
96786	17					
96789	33					
96791						3
96792			50			
96795				15		
96797			39			
96813		8				
96814		10				
96815		8				
96816		22				

Zip Code	Staff Population by Geographic Area					
	Central Oahu	Greater Honolulu	West Oahu	Windward Oahu	East Oahu	North Shore
96817		30				
96818		35				
96819		36				
96821					6	
96822		15				
96823		2				
96825					7	
96826		12				
96837		1				
96858		0				
96861		0				
96863				0		
96857			0			
96797			0			
96820		0				
96853		0				
96860		0				
96844		0				
Total Staff Population	50	230	187	79	13	26
Percent of Total Staff	8.5%	39.3%	31.9%	13.5%	2.2%	4.4%

Note: Zip codes shaded in gray do not fall within that study area.

Source: Hawaii Department of Public Safety, May 2016.

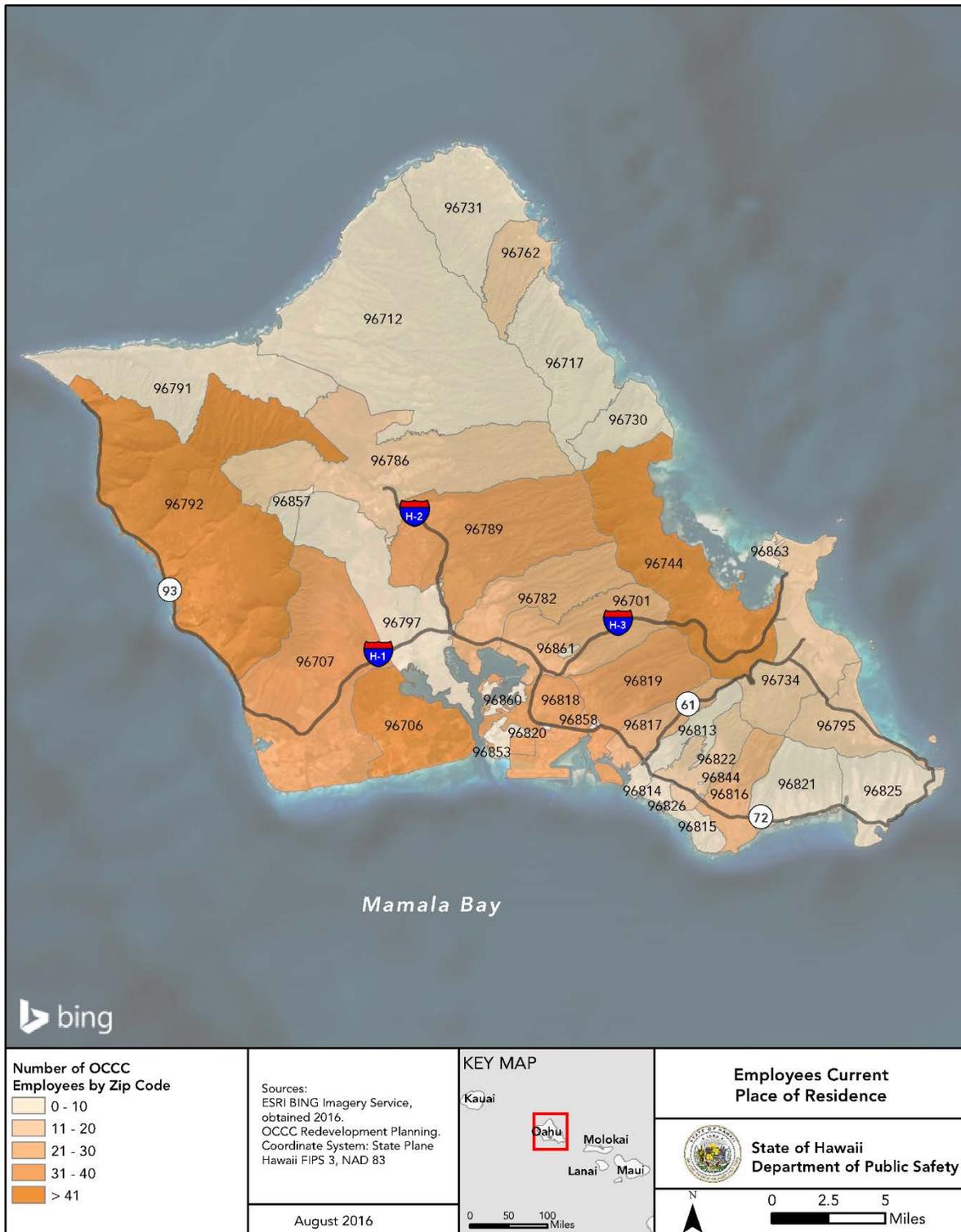


Exhibit 1: OCCC Staff Density by Zip Code of Residence

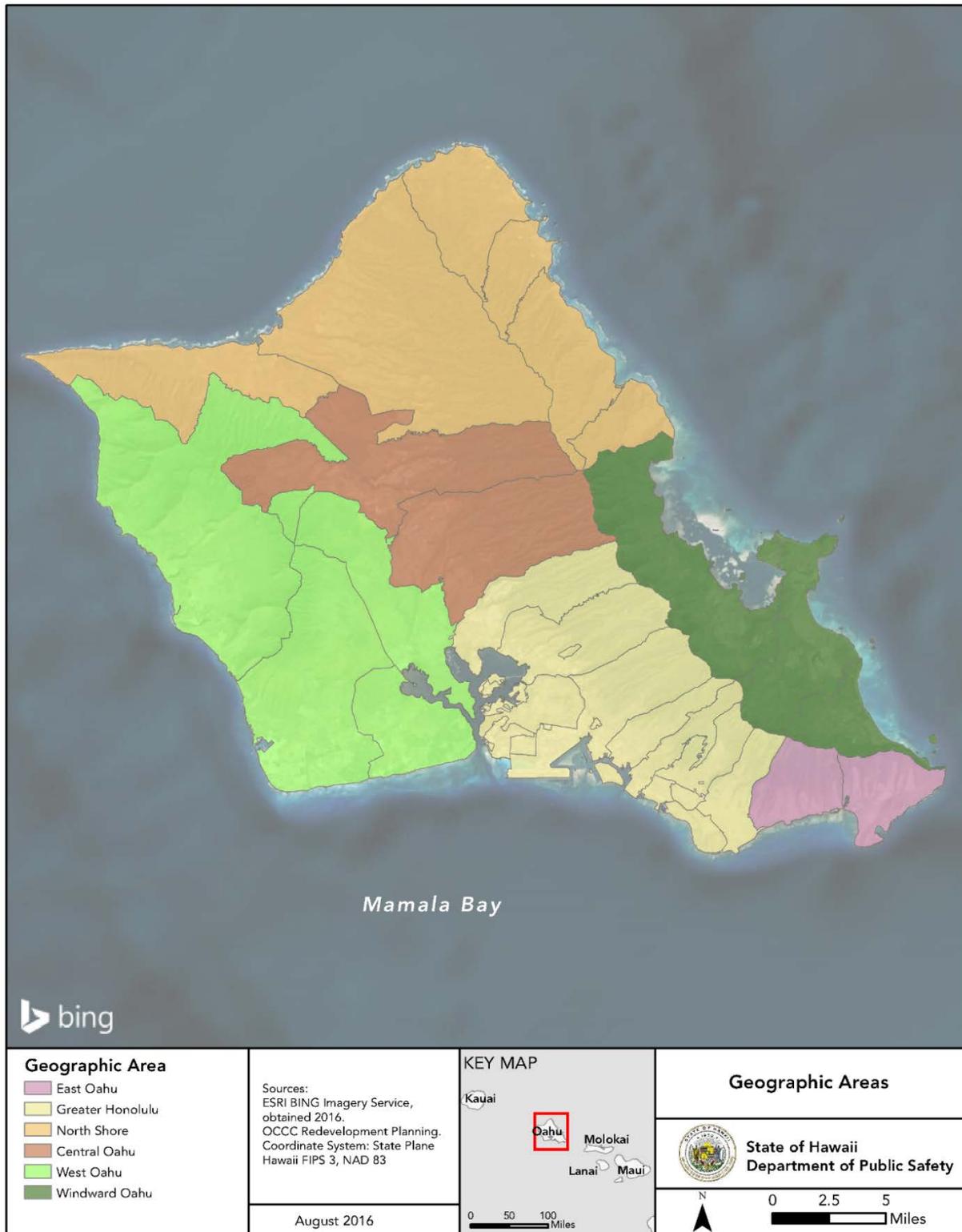


Exhibit 2: Zip Code-Based Geographic Areas

3.0 FINDINGS

Upon review of OCCC staff residence data, several salient characteristics of staff distribution are evident, as described below.

- As would be expected, nearly 40% of the total 585 OCCC staff (239) reside within the 19 zip codes that compose the Greater Honolulu area. A large percentage of island residents live within the Greater Honolulu area and, not surprisingly, a majority of the OCCC staff have chosen to reside within a relatively short distance to their place of work. Enhancing the appeal of this area is the easy access to the regional highway network and as well as public transit services (The Bus). Also located within this geographic area is the Halawa Correctional Facility.
- Approximately 32% of the OCCC staff (187) reside within the six zip codes comprising the West Oahu area. H-1 serves as the major freeway providing access between West Oahu and the Greater Honolulu area (and the OCCC and Halawa Correctional Facility). With the rapid pace of development and more affordable cost of living in the West Oahu area, island residents in large numbers are moving to this area. When completed, the light rail system currently under construction would enhance access between West Oahu (and Kapolei) and the Greater Honolulu metropolitan area.
- Approximately 28% of the OCCC staff (168) reside within the 14 zip codes comprising the remainder of Oahu. Of that total, 50 staff (approximately 9%) live in the two zip codes in the Central Oahu; 79 staff (approximately 14%) live in the four zip codes comprising the Windward Oahu; 13 staff (approximately 2%) live in the two zip codes comprising the East Oahu area; and 26 staff (approximately 4%) live in the six zip codes comprising the North Shore area of the island.

From the more remote and distant areas of the island, access to metropolitan Honolulu and the current OCCC involves a greater level of difficulty (drive distance and drive time) for employees compared to employees already residing in the Central Oahu and Greater Honolulu areas. The distance involved in a daily commute could increase if the OCCC was relocated to West Oahu area, however, travel would be a reverse commute (away from the peak hour congestion) and would not be expected to result in a significant adverse impact on OCCC staff.

With approximately 40% of staff residing in the Greater Honolulu area, replacing the OCCC at its current location or relocating the CCC within the Greater Honolulu area (including at the Halawa Correctional Facility) would have little or no adverse impact upon the commuting patterns or travel time by current OCCC employees. By contrast, staff located in northern Oahu, who account for only 4% of the total workforce, would continue to experience relatively long travel times regardless of where the replacement facility is eventually sited.

4.0 RECOMMENDATION

Based on these findings, a preferred search area is proposed that would encompass Greater Honolulu and the East Oahu and West Oahu areas. This area generally extends westward to encompass Kapolei, southeast to Ward Avenue to encompass the First Circuit Court, and extend north of H-1 to include the Halawa Correctional Facility. The recommended preferred search area is illustrated in Exhibit 3.

The recommended preferred search area encompasses an area of Oahu which would provide reasonable access for nearly 80% of current OCCC staff. This area also encompasses large population centers on Oahu and would be expected to be accessible to any facility location. Most potential replacement facility locations within this area would also be accessible to public transit, court facilities and other institutional facilities providing for administrative support to the OCCC.

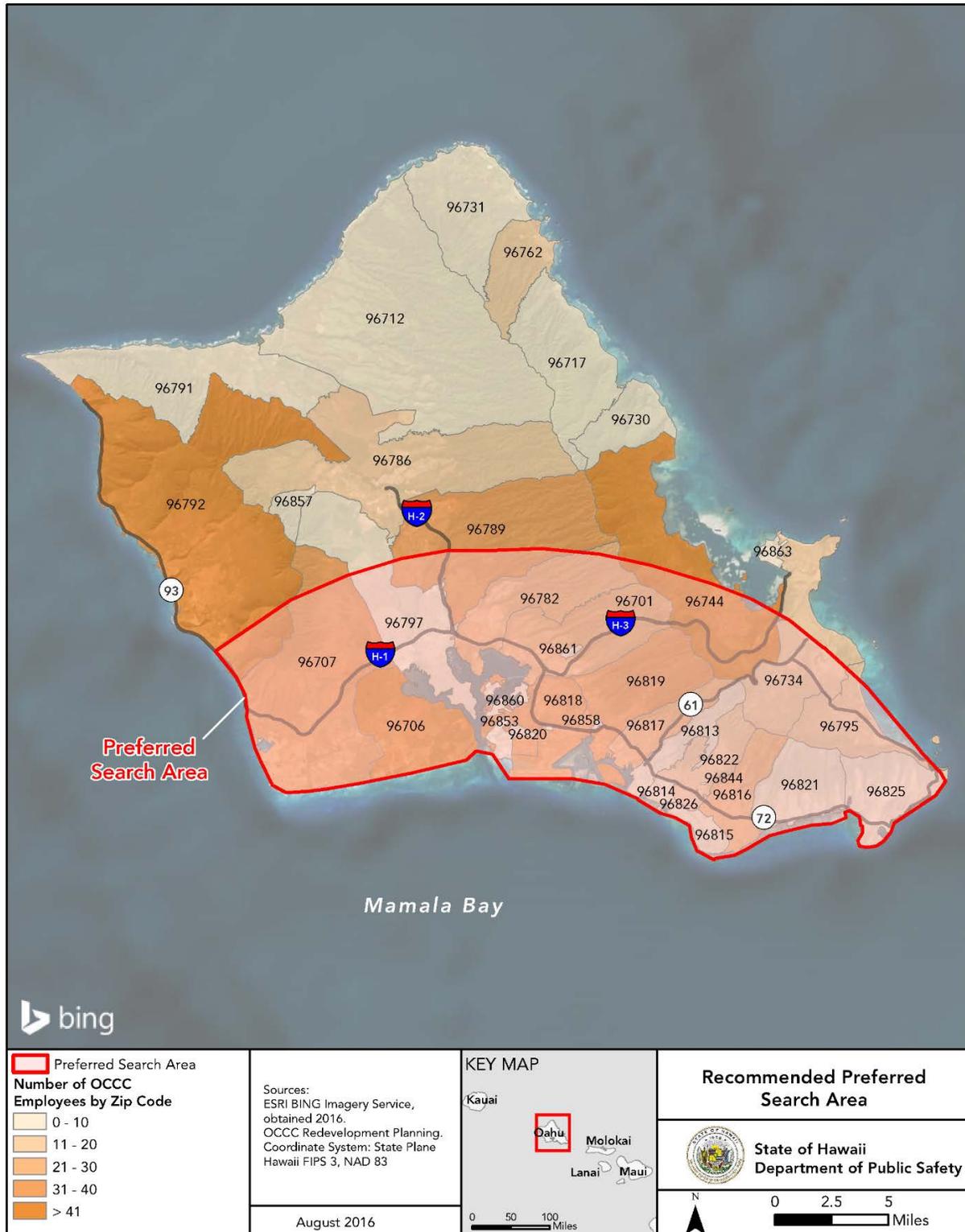


Exhibit 3: Recommended Preferred Search Area for OCCC Replacement Facility

