



Resolution 26-165 O'ahu Subsea Cable Telecommunication Project SMA Major Permit/Shoreline Setback Variance

Honolulu City Council Committee on Zoning & Planning July 16, 2026

Submitted by ICF for Resolution 26-165
Committee on Zoning & Planning | July 16, 2026

MISC. COM. 313(26) ZON

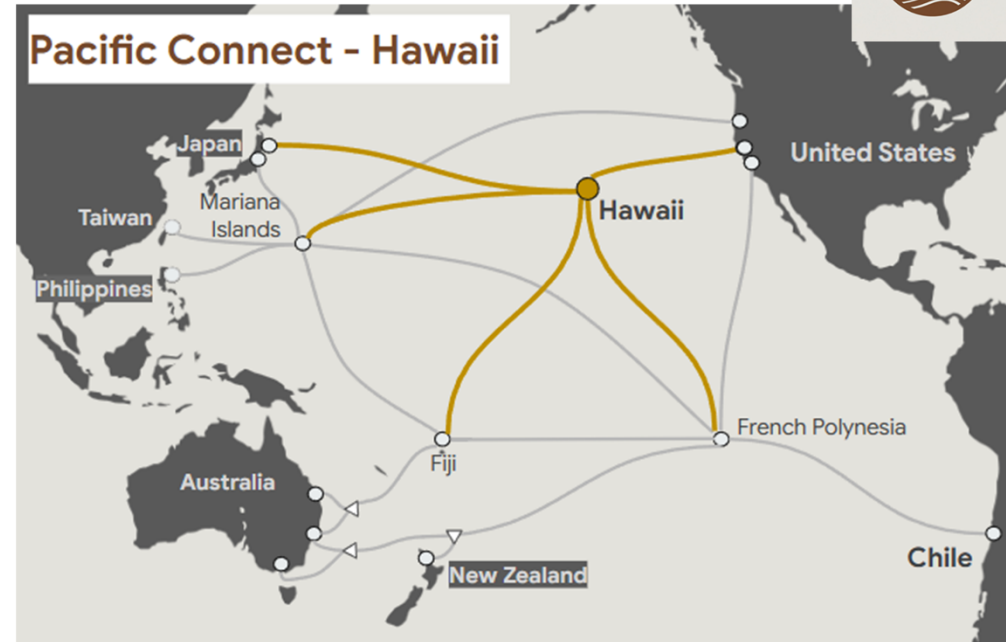
Agenda

- Project Purpose and Benefits
- Project Overview
- Development in the SMA
- Project Updates
- Project Timeline
- Thank you



Project Purpose and Public Benefit

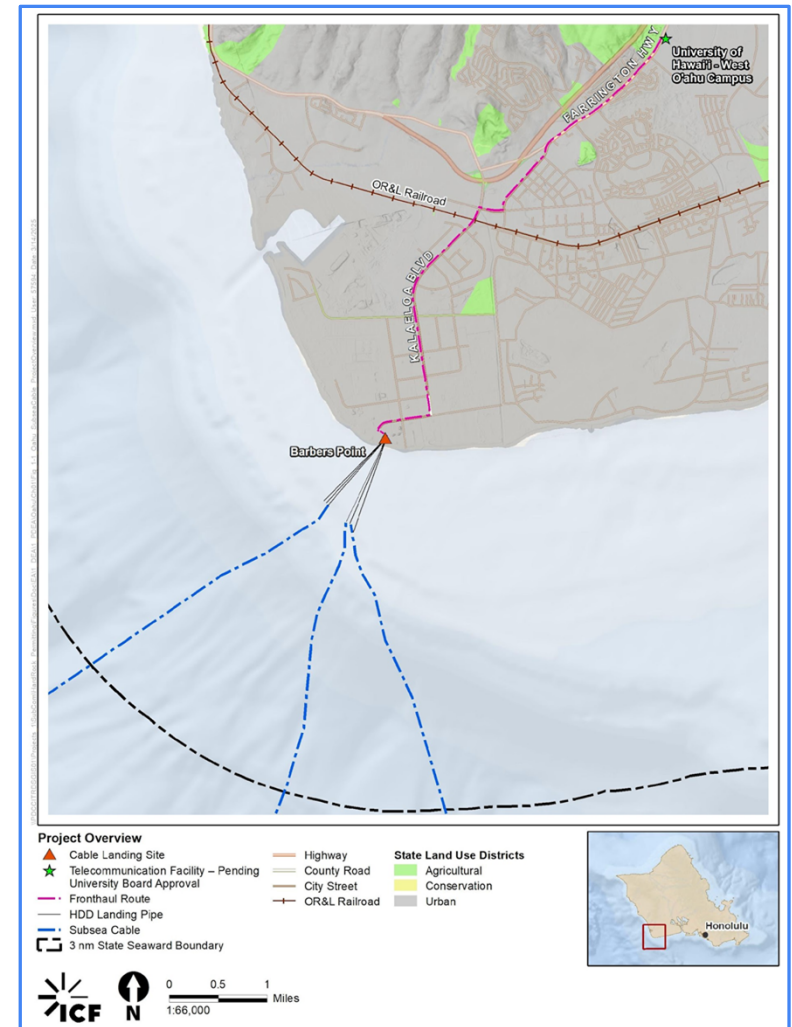
- **Project Overview:** Telecommunication project connecting long-haul subsea fiber optic cables to a new telecommunication facility at the University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu
- **Purpose** of the project is to provide reliable and diverse internet connectivity between Hawai'i, the continental United States, other Pacific Islands, Australia, and Japan.
- **Project Benefits:** Will expand broadband capacity on O'ahu and improve redundancy, resiliency, and reliability of the Internet.
- **Connect Kākou | Connecting 'All of Us Together'.** The Project responds to the need identified by the Hawai'i Broadband Initiative to develop the State's broadband infrastructure through increased telecommunications speed and reliability.



Project Overview

The Project includes:

- Three subsea fiber optic cables landing at Barbers Point Beach Park
- Six directionally drilled landing pipes installed beneath the shoreline
- Underground conduit system in public road rights-of-way
- Beach manholes, ocean ground beds, and underground vaults
- Telecommunication facility at the University of Hawai‘i – West O‘ahu
- No permanent aboveground structures are proposed within the Special Management Area or the Shoreline Setback Area



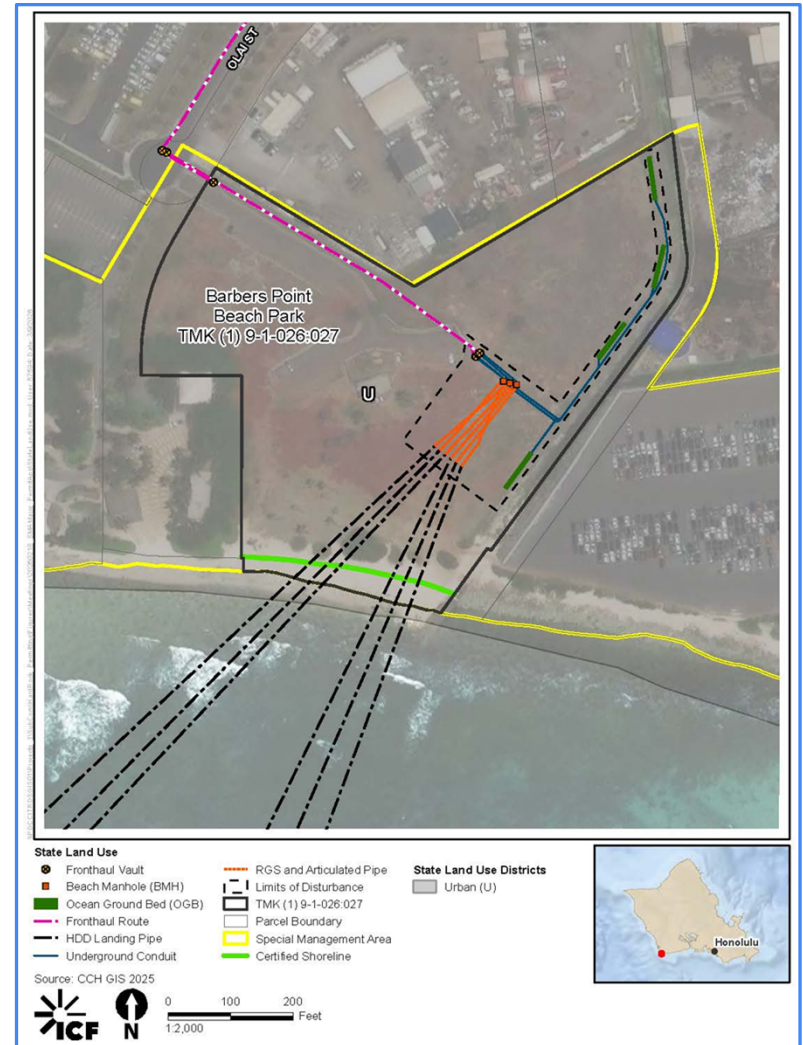
Development in the SMA and Shoreline Setback Area

Within the SMA and Shoreline Setback area:

- 6 landing pipes installed via horizontal directional drilling (HDD).
- 3 beach manholes (BMH).
- 4 ocean ground beds (OGBs).
- Underground conduit and vaults.
- Temporary construction access and work areas.

Impact Avoidance and Minimization:

- HDD avoids open trenching across the beach and shoreline.
- Public shoreline access will be maintained during and after construction.
- No permanent aboveground structures are proposed in the park or shoreline setback area.
- BPMs, erosion and sediment controls, and a drilling contingency plan protect water quality.
- Cultural and archaeological resources will be addressed through SHPD coordination, construction monitoring, and discovery protocols.

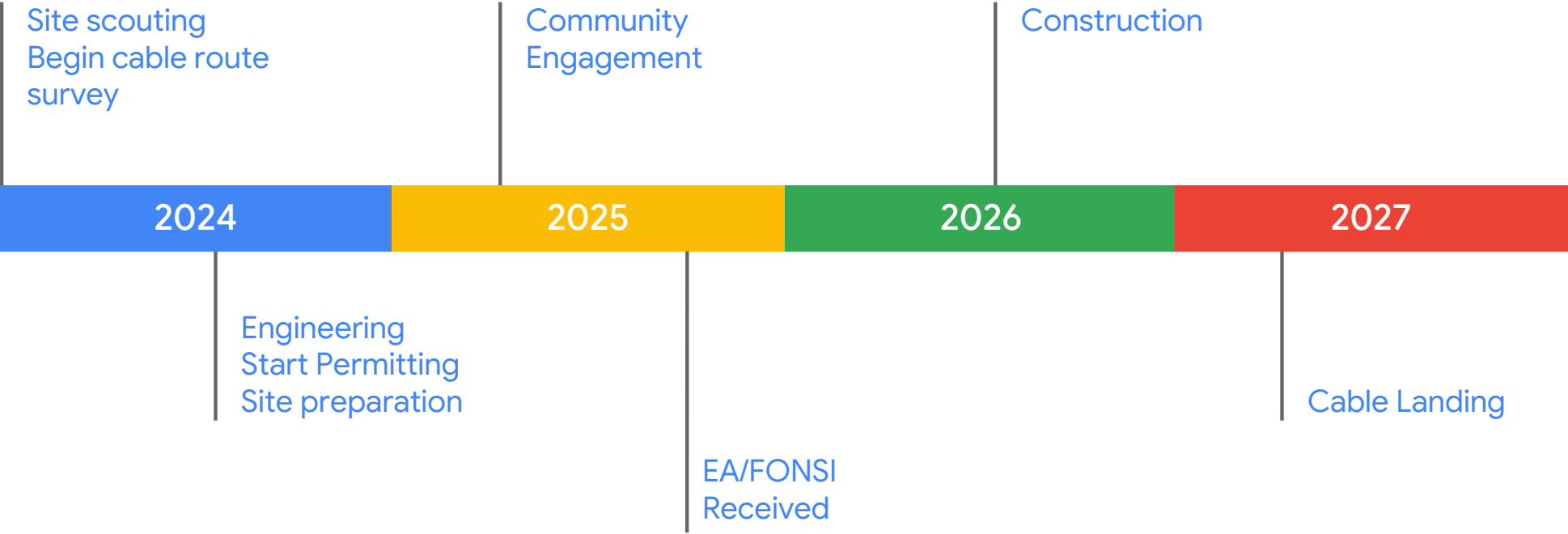


Project Permitting Status



- Final EA & Finding of No Significant Impact published October 2025
- Conservation District Use Permit – issued April 24, 2026
- Submerged Land Easement – approved April 24, 2026
- USACE NWP 57 verifications received in 2025
- AIS testing completed; AIS report submitted to SHPD March 2026 – revised AIS report addressing SHPD comments submitted June 30, 2026.
- Easement agreements (CCH DPR) – in-process (finalizing Q3 2026)
- Proposed Community benefit package (CCH DPR) for Barbers Point Beach Park – in process; part of easement agreement

Project Timeline





Requested Committee Action