



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE**  
P.O. BOX 150  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

**TESTIMONY BY RODERICK K. BECKER**  
**DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE**  
**TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**  
**ON**  
**SENATE BILL NO. 77, S.D. 1**

**February 22, 2019**  
**10:50 a.m.**  
**Room 211**

**RELATING TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS**

Senate Bill No. 77, S.D. 1, appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds in FY 20 for the Ala Wai Flood Risk Management Project. The purpose section of the bill describes the appropriation as being based upon the United States Army Corps of Engineers' cost payment plan.

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) strongly supports the Ala Wai Flood Risk Management Project. If a funding mechanism, other than general obligation (G.O.) bonds, is used to fund the local match, it is recommended that the following section be added to the bill to authorize B&F to enter into a financing agreement:

"SECTION X. The Department of Budget and Finance is authorized to enter into a financing agreement pursuant to Chapter 37D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, in an amount not to exceed \$125,000,000 for the purpose of funding the local match for the Ala Wai Flood Risk Management Project."

In addition, Section 2 (the appropriations section) should be amended to authorize general fund appropriations to fund financing agreement payments for both FY 20 and FY 21.

B&F notes that the estimated cost of a cost payment plan approach, rather the lump sum approach proposed by the Administration, would be approximately twenty basis points higher than the debt service on a \$125,000,000 G.O. bond issuance.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

Testimony of **Ford Fuchigami**  
Administrative Director, Office of the Governor

Before the  
**Senate Committee on Ways and Means**  
February 22, 2019  
10:50 a.m., Conference Room 211

In consideration of  
**Senate Bill No. 77, SD1**  
**RELATING TO CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS**

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and committee members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the executive branch in support of Senate Bill 77 SD1. We suggest that amendments be made to the bill to provide for a better source of funding.

Senate Bill 77 SD1 proposes to (1) appropriate an unspecified amount of general funds to the Department of Budget and Finance (Department) to satisfy the thirty-five percent required match of the local entity for the Ala Wai Flood Risk Management Project and (2) Require the City and County of Honolulu (City) to enter into the project partnership agreement with the United States Army Corps of Engineers and to accept all the project features identified in the Ala Wai Flood Risk Management Project upon completion.

Hawaii's tourism industry is the major driver of the State's economy, with Oahu attracting significantly more visitors than any of the other islands. We recognize the importance of the Ala Wai Flood Risk Management Project in ensuring the health, safety and general welfare of our residents and visitors. Although implementing flood control improvements is a county function, we believe this project will benefit the people and economy of the entire State of Hawaii. We are hopeful in moving this project forward and continuing to work with the City and the Legislature to provide the local matching funds for the project. We recommend the following amendments to accomplish this goal:

In section 1 of the act, in the sentence setting forth the purpose of the Act, change the word "and" at the end of subsection (1) to "or."

Add in a new section 2 to read as follows:

The State anticipates raising the federal mandated thirty-five percent share of the costs of the Ala Wai flood risk management project through the use of a financing agreement and issuance of certificates of participation as authorized pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes chapter 37D. The State's obligation to make payments under the financing agreement will be subject to, and payable solely from, moneys appropriated from time to time by the Legislature. The Legislature will not be obligated to appropriate or make money's available for the payments under the financing agreement.

The State's obligation to make payments under the financing agreement will not be secured by the full faith and credit of the State.

The financing agreement and the related certificates of participation will not constitute bonds under the Constitution and will not count towards the total amount of outstanding State General Obligation Bonds or the issuance by the State of future General Obligation Bonds permitted under the Constitution.

We believe the interest on the certificates of participation will be exempt from gross income for federal income tax purposes and thereby provide the State a less expensive method of financing the thirty-five percent share of the costs of the Ala Wai flood risk management project.

Lastly, we recommend the current section 2 be renumbered as section 3.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify and will be available to answer your questions should you have any at this time.



## DIAMOND HEAD/KAPAHULU/ST. LOUIS HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 5

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 925 DILLINGHAM BOULEVARD #160 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96827  
PHONE (808) 768-3710 • FAX (808) 768-3711 • INTERNET: <http://www.honolulu.gov/nco>

### **Resolution Relating to the Proposed Ala Wai Canal Project**

**WHEREAS**, in the past several decades approaching climate change, catastrophic flooding events have occurred more frequently in the United States and the rest of the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Army Corps of Engineers ("USACE") has developed plans for the Ala Wai Canal Project (the "Project"), also referred to as the Ala Wai Flood Mitigation Project, in response to a 1% potential of a 100-year storm catastrophic flooding event within the Ala Wai Watershed; and

**WHEREAS**, the Project includes among other proposals the construction of large detention basins within the Ala Wai Golf Course, Kanewai Park, Ala Wai Park, Hausten Ditch, Makiki, and Manoa and Palolo Valleys; a reinforced solid concrete wall extending as high as four and a half feet along the perimeter of the Ala Wai Canal and the Ala Wai Promenade, and 45-foot high pump stations within and around the Ala Wai Golf Course; and

**WHEREAS**, the Ala Wai Watershed contains within it such areas of Honolulu as Kapahulu, St. Louis Heights, Palolo Valley, Kaimuki, Moili'i, McCully, Ala Wai, Waikiki, Kapiolani, Ala Moana, Makiki, Manoa Valley and Tantalus; and

**WHEREAS**, following the Project's single area-wide public presentation by the USACE on November 5, 2015, the Diamond Head/Kapahulu/St. Louis Heights Neighborhood Board voted on November 12, 2015, to disagree with the USACE determination that the Project would have "no adverse effect"; and

**WHEREAS**, 'Iolani School, located on the Ala Wai floodplain, stated in a letter to the USACE in 2015 that area stakeholders were not adequately engaged in evaluation of the Project, and urged that the Draft Report/EIS be reviewed and reissued for further public comment; and

**WHEREAS**, public concerns relating to the Project at area Neighborhood Board meetings have centered on the proposed detention basins consuming private properties; proper maintenance of the detention basins to protect the public health; industrial pump stations proposed to be 45 feet high in and around the Ala Wai preservation area; and concrete walls along the perimeter of the Ala Wai Canal, which is listed on the Hawaii State Register of Historic Places; and

**WHEREAS**, property owners and residents who live next to or within proximity to a proposed detention basin are now reported to have not received proper notice of the Project and were not given an opportunity to respond to the Project's Draft Report/Environmental Impact Statement ("EIS"); and

**WHEREAS**, in the fall of 2018 Congress appropriated funding for the federal portion of the proposed cost of the Project, leaving only the State funding as the final hurdle before commencement of construction; now, therefore,

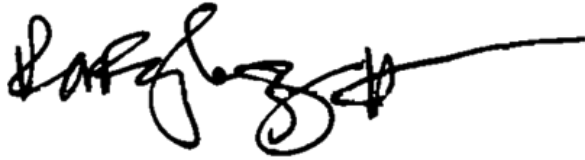
**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Diamond Head/Kapahulu/St. Louis Heights Neighborhood Board agrees that public input and full public awareness of the impacts of this Project have been insufficient to have the Project move forward; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Diamond Head/Kapahulu/St. Louis Heights Neighborhood Board agrees that the USACE should put a hold on any further advancement of the Project until the people directly impacted by the Project have had the opportunity to consider and respond to the proposed Project and all alternatives; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Diamond Head/Kapahulu/St, Louis Heights Neighborhood Board joins the Manoa Neighborhood Board in requesting that the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019 defer appropriating any funds for the Project during this calendar year; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the USACE, the Hawaii Congressional delegation, the Governor of Hawaii, all members of the Hawaii State Legislature, the Mayor of Honolulu, the Honolulu City Council, and all area Neighborhood Boards.

Richard Figliuzzi, Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Figliuzzi', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 10:50:43 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cheyenne	Testifying for Halau Ku Mana new century public charter school	Oppose	No

## Comments:

I am a Halau Ku Mana student in tenth grade and I recently heard about a project to ease up the 100 year flood. The proposed Ala Wai Canal project covers the area, that my school resides in, completely in water. I would like to request that you reconsider your other options or slow down on the construction of the plan. A lot of schools that hold importance in our community will be affected by this damn, as well as the communities around it.

Sincerely,

Cheyenne Kamele Hattori,

2101 Makiki Heights Drive

Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822

(808)945-1600

[cheyenne.hattori@halaukumana.org](mailto:cheyenne.hattori@halaukumana.org)

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:47:31 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Devan Wilhelm	Testifying for Halau Ku Mana	Oppose	No

Comments:

**Before the Senate Committee On Ways And Means (WAM)****RE: SB77****February 22, 2019, 10:50 AM, Rm 211****Committee on Ways And Means (WAM)****Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair****Senator Gilbert S.C Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair****Ala Wai Dam Project****In Opposition****Dear Hawaii State Legislature,**

**This is a call to action from Meakala Wilhelm in regards to the Ala Wai Dam Project. I currently go to school at Halau Ku Mana Public Charter School in Makiki Valley. Our school resides on the basin of where the Ala Wai Canal Project is planning to build a Dam. The opportunity to offer my input on this project has not been given to me, nor the community of Makiki, so I would like to share my input. It says the Feasibility Study and Environmental Impact Statement requires public input from those most affected.**

**The effects of the Ala Wai Canal Project, will greatly impact my school, Halau Ku Mana. We have spent 6 years on the land just below Makiki Heights Drive cultivating the 'aina and creating a positive learning environment on our campus. I am a Sophmore now and have been at Halau Ku Mana since the eighth grade.**



Our eighth grade curriculum is based off of the watershed of Makiki, where we spend Thursdays in the Makiki stream right next to our campus, clearing out invasive plants, planting native species and clearing out trash, which has continued since our first years on this campus. As eighth graders, we help to plan a community stream cleanup called Makiki Aloha Aina, inviting all community members and schools of Makiki, as well as outside of the community. This has continued for the last 5 years at Halau Ku Mana. Over time, we have seen the progression of the Makiki stream and the positive impact that it has had on the surrounding environment. The impact of the Ala Wai Dam will eradicate and destroy all of what we have cultivated over the years and our involvement in the community.

In addition to that, it will greatly impact communities not just in Makiki, but in the districts of Manoa and Palolo. Schools, community centers and house residents will be drastically changed, and in some part removed in these districts due to the Ala Wai implementation.

It is also important that we see the impacts that could possibly occur in the one hundred year flooding on the districts below the watersheds, such as Waikiki. They will be greatly impacted and it is important that we take into consideration the impacts of all districts.

I believe that the best solution is for us to slow the momentum of this project to give more time for community input as well as to partner with the Ala Wai Watershed Association to agree on a solution that would be best for us all.

It is for this reason that I oppose SB77 Bill.

Thank you for your consideration,

Meakala Wilhelm

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:19:16 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kelika Barbieto	Testifying for Halu Ku Mana	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:19:03 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
caeden yasuhara	Testifying for Halau Ku Mana	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:16:57 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jenna Tamashiro	Testifying for Halau Ku Mana NCPCS	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 10:54:50 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
kaleolani Kaiwi-Lehano	Testifying for halau ku mana	Support	Yes

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:15:13 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leanna Ka'ai	Testifying for Halau Ku Mana	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:15:29 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kawaiola Kauhane	Testifying for Halau Ku Mana	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:15:18 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Likolehua Fujiwara	Testifying for halau Ku Mana	Oppose	No

Comments:



**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:15:39 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kamuali'i Estrada	Testifying for Halau Ku Mana	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:15:49 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rell	Testifying for Halau Ku Mana	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:15:48 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
irie-Yana Reyes-Duffey	Testifying for Halau Ku Mana NCPCS	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 8:43:10 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Bagnall	Testifying for The Outdoor Circle	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

The US Army Corps of Engineers proposed Ala Wai Canal Flood Plan is seriously flawed

High concrete walls along the canal are not needed and will damage the entire community that uses the canal daily.

Modern high power flood pumps located at the ocean end of the canal will empty the excess water without any need for massive walls

This project must be stopped to allow much more community and expert input

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 1:30:13 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dave Watase	Testifying for <a href="http://www.stopalawaproject.com">www.stopalawaproject.com</a>	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

Attached are some slides which are self explanatory but demonstrates that the 100-year flood model is unrealistic and flawed.

Also, with the selected alternative plan only Waikiki is shown as protected and many Mauka areas are still shown as flooded.

Dave Watase

Dave Waiatise reference to my testimony



## 'IOLANI SCHOOL

HEAD OF SCHOOL

November 9, 2015

Honolulu District, USACE  
ATTN: Ala Wai Canal Project  
Building 230, CEPOH-PP-C  
Fort Shafter, HI 96858

RE: Ala Wai Canal Project ("Project") – Draft Feasibility Study Report with Integrated Environmental Impact Statement dated August 2015 (the "Draft Report/EIS" or "Report")

Dear Sir or Madam:

'Iolani School respectfully submits these comments in response to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ("USACE") and State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources' ("DLNR") (USACE and DLNR, collectively, are the "Agencies") request for public input regarding their Draft Report/EIS.<sup>1</sup> We request that these comments and attachments be included in the administrative record.<sup>2</sup>

As of the date of submission of this letter, the Project website ([www.alawaicanalproject.com](http://www.alawaicanalproject.com)) requested that written comments regarding the Draft Report/EIS be submitted to the USACE pursuant to NEPA and DLNR pursuant to HEPA, with a postmark no later than November 9, 2015. 'Iolani School is submitting its comments within the deadline prescribed and advertised by the Agencies.<sup>3</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> 'Iolani School requests that it be a consulting party and/or stakeholder under both NEPA and HEPA.

<sup>2</sup> We understand that comments may be submitted separately by government agencies, members of the public, community organizations, and the like. All of those comments are hereby incorporated by reference.

<sup>3</sup> Note that the presentation distributed at the public meeting on September 30, 2015 also notes a public comment deadline of November 9, 2015 for both the USACE under NEPA and DLNR under HEPA. Accordingly, 'Iolani School believes that its comments are timely under both NEPA and HEPA and must be considered and responded to.

## Executive Summary.

At the request of the DLNR Division of Engineering, the USACE has conducted a feasibility study for the proposed Ala Wai Canal Project, Oahu, Hawaii. The purpose of this Project in its current scope is to reduce riverine flood risks in the Ala Wai Watershed. After considering several alternatives, the USACE has identified **Plan 3A** in the Report as its preferred plan ("Tentatively Selected Plan" or "TSP"). The analyses produced as a result of this study show the 1-percent annual chance exceedance ("ACE") floodplain extending into approximately 1,358 acres of the watershed with modeling results indicating resultant damages to more than 3,000 structures and approximately **\$318 million in structural damages**, not including loss to business income or loss of life.

ʻIolani School, with 1,900 students, over 300 faculty and staff, and significant real property, assets and resources, is a critical stakeholder in this plan and stands to be dramatically and negatively impacted by the proposed plan specifically due to the potential for flooding and damage to ʻIolani's campus. In addition, the campus serves many more members of the community through numerous academic, arts and sporting events that are open to educators and students from throughout the state and beyond. The school is also the frequent site for conferences, summits, and meetings. In the Tentatively Selected Plan, the potential for flooding ʻIolani School has been identified as an acceptable risk. We strongly disagree.

### **The Report states:**

The risk of flooding ʻIolani School could be further reduced by extending the floodwalls to protect the school, but it would induce higher water surface elevations on the Waikiki side of the Ala Wai Canal, as well as limit the effectiveness of the Ala Wai Golf Course detention improvement. The modeling results indicate that this would be an unacceptable trade-off, as the additional induced damages in Waikiki would greatly exceed any benefit associated with ʻIolani School. Nonstructural solutions were evaluated as a means of providing additional protection in lieu of extending the floodwalls, but none were found to be economically feasible.

See Report at 8-6. Additionally, Appendix B to the Report notes: "One area of significance that does not stand to benefit from a reduction in flood damages and risk of loss of life, as the project is now formulated (under the Tentatively Selected Plan), is the ʻIolani School buildings and campus grounds."

While two other plans that were considered included floodwalls to protect ʻIolani School, those plans were not selected and the floodwalls are not included in the Tentatively Selected Plan being proposed by the USACE. The Report further explains that while other schools and properties will be protected, ʻIolani School will remain in the 1% annual chance exceedance (ACE) floodplain:

In addition to reducing health and safety risks to the affected population, critical infrastructure and other public facilities would be removed from the



1-percent ACE floodplain, thus contributing to health and safety through increased resiliency in response to flood events (IMP SAF-2). Specifically, the project would provide protection for 2 of the 4 fire stations, the police station, both medical clinics, and 6 of the 9 emergency shelters that are currently in the 1- percent ACE floodplain. Critical infrastructure that would remain in the floodplain includes 2 fire stations (the Makaloa station in Ala Moana and the Wilder station in Makiki), and 2 emergency shelters (Lunalilo Elementary and Washington Intermediate in McCully/Mō'ili'ili). In addition to the three schools that serve as emergency shelters, the only other school that would remain in the 1-percent ACE floodplain would be a portion of 'Iolani School; the other 7 schools that are currently in the floodplain would be protected by the project.

See Report at 5-80.

'Iolani School has reached out to the USACE and the State sponsor, DLNR, in hopes of working towards a collaborative solution that permits the Project to move forward while still adequately protecting the 'Iolani community and area residents. While 'Iolani School supports the overall intent of this flood mitigation project, we do not support the Project in its current scope with Plan 3A as the TSP as the TSP is based upon engineering that lacks scientific integrity. The TSP erroneously excludes significant economic impacts not considered by the Agencies, as well as includes unacceptable risk to the life and safety of the students and surrounding community.

'Iolani School also believes that the Agencies did not adequately engage 'Iolani School or other stakeholders since the October 2012 re-scoping of the Project. For these reasons and others discussed in further detail below, we believe that the Draft Report/EIS must be significantly revised and reissued in a separate draft for further public review and comment.

#### **NEPA.**

The National Environmental Policy Act ("**NEPA**") requires all federal agencies to prepare an environmental impact statement ("**EIS**") for all "major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment." 42 U.S.C. § 4332. "The primary purpose of an EIS is to serve as an action-forcing device to insure that the policies and goals defined in the Act NEPA are infused into the ongoing programs and actions of the Federal Government." 40 C.F.R. § 1502.1. An EIS must "provide full and fair discussion of significant environmental impacts and inform decision makers and the public of the reasonable alternatives which would avoid or minimize adverse impacts or enhance the quality of the human environment." *Id.* Among other things, an EIS must discuss the environmental impact of the proposed federal action, any adverse and avoidable environmental effects, any alternatives to the proposed action, and any irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources involved in the proposed action. 42 U.S.C. § 4332(2)(C) and (2)(E).

Exploring alternatives is at the heart of the EIS. Federal agencies must, among other things, (1) rigorously explore and objectively evaluate all reasonable alternatives, and



for alternatives which were eliminated from detailed study, briefly discuss the reasons for their having been eliminated, (2) devote substantial treatment to each alternative considered in detail including the proposed action so that reviewers may evaluate their comparative merits, and (3) include appropriate mitigation measures not already included in the proposed action or alternatives. 40 C.F.R. § 1502.14.

Under NEPA, federal agencies must, to the fullest extent possible, encourage and facilitate public involvement in decisions which affect the quality of the human environment, and use all practicable means, consistent with the requirements of NEPA and other essential considerations of national policy, to restore and enhance the quality of the human environment and avoid or minimize any possible adverse effects of their actions upon the quality of the human environment. 40 C.F.R. § 1500.2(d) and (f).

### **HEPA**

The Hawaii Environmental Policy Act ("HEPA"), Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 343, is intended to ensure that environmental concerns are given appropriate consideration in decision making along with economic and technical considerations. Hawaii Administrative Rules ("HAR") § 11-200-1. Specifically,

Chapter 343, HRS, directs that in both agency and applicant actions where statements are required, the preparing party shall prepare the EIS, submit it for review and comments, and revise it, taking into account all critiques and responses. Consequently, the EIS process involves more than the preparation of a document; it involves the entire process of research, discussion, preparation of a statement, and review. The EIS process shall involve at a minimum: identifying environmental concerns, obtaining various relevant data, conducting necessary studies, receiving public and agency input, evaluating alternatives, and proposing measures for avoiding, minimizing, rectifying or reducing adverse impacts. An EIS is meaningless without the conscientious application of the EIS process as a whole, and shall not be merely a self-serving recitation of benefits and a rationalization of the proposed action. Agencies shall ensure that statements are prepared at the earliest opportunity in the planning and decision-making process. This shall assure an early open forum for discussion of adverse effects and available alternatives, and that the decision-makers will be enlightened to any environmental consequences of the proposed action.

HAR § 11-200-14.

Consultation is critical to the HEPA process. Accordingly, agencies are required to endeavor to develop a fully acceptable EIS prior to the time the EIS is filed with the appropriate office, "through a full and complete consultation process." HEPA requires that proposing agencies not rely solely upon the review process to expose environmental concerns. HAR § 11-200-15.

**The Agencies did not take a "hard look" under Either NEPA or HEPA.**



A federal agency must take a "hard look" at the environmental consequences of the proposed action before the decision to proceed is made. Earth Island Inst. V. U.S. Forest Serv., 351 F.3d 1291, 1300 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2003); see 40 C.F.R. § 1500.1(b). Under state law, state agencies must ensure that environmental concerns are given appropriate consideration in decision making. HAR § 11-200-1. In this instance, the Agencies failed to meet these standards.

Modeling for the TSP 3A was based on erroneous topographical analysis which does not reflect the current elevation and building structures at 'Iolani School. This resulted in an improper projection of environmental consequences and economic damage.

**The Tentatively Selected Plan lacks scientific integrity and should be rejected.**

NEPA recognizes that sound methodology and scientific accuracy are paramount to the integrity of the NEPA process. Section 1502.24 specifically provides,

**Agencies shall insure the professional integrity, including scientific integrity, of the discussions and analyses in environmental impact statements. They shall identify any methodologies used and shall make explicit reference by footnote to the scientific and other sources relied upon for conclusions in the statement.**

40 C.F.R. § 1502.24 (emphasis added). Section 1500.1(b) further affirms that,

NEPA procedures must insure that environmental information is available to public officials and citizens before decisions are made and before actions are taken. **The information must be of high quality. Accurate scientific analysis, expert agency comments, and public scrutiny are essential to implementing NEPA.**

40 C.F.R. § 1500.1(b) (emphasis added).

**In this case, it is clear that the scientific analysis, modeling and methodology are flawed and cannot be relied upon. 'Iolani School requested and attended a meeting with USACE and DLNR on October 30, 2015. Upon being questioned at the meeting regarding the engineering analysis and validity of the inundation area modeling associated with the TSP, Mike Wong, P.E. USACE, admitted that the modeling was flawed, contained artifacts and represented flood boundaries as 1 ft. deep edges. Gayson Ching, P.E. DLNR, graphically illustrated how their model represented a completely unrealistic model of what would happen in a flood. Given the lack of scientific integrity and low quality of the information utilized in the Project analysis, the TSP cannot be accepted in its current form and the Report must be significantly revised and reissued after further public review and comment.**

**The Agencies should have involved 'Iolani School in the NEPA and HEPA process.**

**Federal agencies are required by NEPA to "make diligent efforts to involve the public in preparing and implementing their NEPA procedures." 40 C.F.R. § 1506.6. Further, for any proposed action, NEPA requires that there be an early and open process for**



determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying the significant issues related to a proposed action. This process is known as the scoping process. As part of the scoping process the lead agency must, among other things, invite the participation of affected agencies, any affected Indian tribe, the proponent of the action, and "other interested persons (including those who might not be in accord with the action on environmental grounds) . . ." 40 C.F.R. § 1501.7 (emphasis added).

Similarly, HEPA requires the involvement of the public and concerned individuals. HEPA provides that a proposing agency must "seek, at the earliest practicable time, the advice and input of the county agency responsible for implementing the county's general plan for each county in which the proposed action is to occur, and consult with other agencies having jurisdiction or expertise as well as those citizen groups and individuals which the proposing agency reasonably believes to be affected." HAR § 11-200-9(a)(1) (emphasis added). Pursuant to HAR Section 11-200-15, "[I]n the preparation of a draft EIS, proposing agencies . . . shall consult all appropriate agencies . . . and other citizen groups, and concerned individuals as noted in sections 11-200-9 and 11-200-9.1." HAR § 11-200-15(a). Concerned individuals include those individuals which the proposing agency reasonably believes to be affected. See HAR § 11-200-9.

In this instance, the Agencies failed to properly reach out to `Iolani School and include it in the NEPA and HEPA process despite the fact that the Draft Report/EIS clearly indicates that `Iolani School will be affected. Project records show that `Iolani School was involved at a minimal level when the Project was focused on watershed restoration. However,

`Iolani School was neither involved in nor contacted regarding the re-scoping of the Project, despite the fact that the Project included negative impacts on the school and prominent mention in the Report. While two emails regarding the Project were sent to `Iolani School in 2014 and three emails in 2015, the USACE and DLNR failed to make any meaningful effort to communicate with `Iolani School beyond sending these emails between 2009 and 2015. USACE and DLNR did not respond to `Iolani School's requests for an extension to the public comment period or requests for additional meetings with the `Iolani School community. It is clear the attempts to communicate and collaborate with `Iolani School were insufficient.

#### Specific questions regarding the Project and TSP.

`Iolani School has several questions and comments related to the Tentatively Selected Plan and is hereby requesting specific answers and/or responses to the following questions and/or comments:

1. Page ES-7 states that the Tentatively Selected Plan "allows for 2 feet of freeboard."
  - a. Because the proposed floodwalls are four feet tall, a 2-foot freeboard would result in a backwater effect upstream in the Mānoa-Pāloalo Drainage Canal and cause floodwaters to



overtop the drainage canal's west bank. Such flooding is not indicated in Figure 12b. Note that the elevations of the Ala Wai Golf Course and east bank of the Mānoa-Pālolo Drainage Canal are significantly higher than the elevations of the 'Iolani School, Ala Wai Elementary School, and east bank of the drainage canal.

2. Page ES-12 states that implementation of the Tentatively Selected Plan would substantially reduce the 1-percent ACE floodplain, with decreased water surface elevations of approximately 2.2 feet.

- a. Is the 2.2 feet reduction an average value? What is the range in the reduction of the water surface elevation across the watershed? Stating a 2.2 feet reduction over the entire 1-percent ACE floodplain oversimplifies the true benefit of the Tentatively Selected Plan. Table 10 clearly shows a wide range of reduced flood depths so that some areas in the watershed clearly gain more benefits than other areas.
- b. When the Report says a reduction in water surface elevation, does the Report mean a reduction in the base flood elevation? Will this Report or the data in the Report be used by DLNR, USACE or other government agencies to change the accepted FIRMs in the Ala Wai Canal Watershed? Does the hydrologic and hydraulic analysis, surveying data, and mapping comply with FEMA standards?
- c. Are there any areas where the proposed measures of the Tentatively Selected Plan would actually increase flood elevations from current conditions?

3. Figure 12b Tentatively Selected Plan (Alternative 3A-2.2).

- a. This figure shows flooding of the southern end of 'Iolani School's campus. In addition to 'Iolani School, Ala Wai Elementary School would also be at risk to flooding. The extent of the flooding shown on this figure does not correspond to existing topography at either the school campus or the immediately adjacent areas. The topography in this area is flat. However, this figure shows the floodwaters stopping arbitrarily along several buildings and an athletic field. If floodwaters overtopped the existing west bank of the Mānoa-Pālolo Drainage Canal, the topography at 'Iolani School and Ala Wai Elementary School is relatively flat such that the floodwaters would extend further than the area shown in this figure, perhaps even as far as Kamoku Street. No depressions, basins or other structures to detain floodwaters are in this area as indicated in the figure.

- b. This figure shows the Ala Wai Golf Course as a multi-purpose detention basin with an earthen berm only along the east and northeast perimeter of the golf course. The figure also shows the golf course being almost completely underwater. The elevations of the golf course and the east bank of the Mānoa-Pālolo Drainage Canal are significantly higher than the elevation at 'Iolani School and Ala Wai Elementary School. Both schools would be flooded before the golf course could act as an effective detention basin. Floodwaters detained on the golf course would raise the floodwater elevations at both schools, further exacerbating the flooding beyond that shown in the figure.
- 4. Page 8-4 states that a limited level of protection for 'Iolani School is "provided not by the Ala Wai Canal floodwalls, but through detention of floodwaters upstream and within the adjacent Ala Wai Golf Course."
  - a. Did the hydraulic analysis assume all measures were constructed and operating under optimal conditions? Or did the analysis account for reduced capacity or effectiveness of the measures due to inadequate or infrequent maintenance?
  - b. Did the detention basin measures incorporate capacity to account for sediment accumulation so as not to reduce the flood attenuation capacity of the basins?
  - c. If a factor of safety was not incorporated into the hydraulic model to account for inadequate or infrequent maintenance of or sediment accumulation with the various detention basin measures, then the figures in the report do not accurately represent real world conditions and flooding would be more severe and extensive than that presented in Figure 12b. See previous comment on Figure 12b.
- 5. Page 3-4 provides a range of sea-level rise but doesn't state the specific value that was used in the hydraulic model.
  - a. What is the actual value of the sea-level rise assumed in the model?
  - b. What was the basis of the sea-level rise estimates?
  - c. Did the sea-level rise estimates match or correspond to values estimated by other organizations and scientists working on sea-level rise in Hawaii?
  - d. Did the hydraulic analysis incorporate storm surge effects in addition to sea-level rise?



6. What was the model used to conduct the hydraulic analysis? Was it a one-dimensional model like HEC-RAS? Was a 2-dimensional model used to conduct a hydraulic analysis or even considered for the analysis? Two-dimensional hydraulic models tend to give better, more accurate representation of actual flooding conditions.
7. How was the hydraulic model quality controlled? The results presented in the Report and by USACE's own admission appear to be flawed. Was a third-party evaluation of the hydraulic model conducted? Because the selected alternative will affect such a large number of businesses, residents, and visitors, should not that the hydraulic model undergo a more rigorous quality control procedure than USACE may normally conduct?
8. The executive summary (page ES-5) states that life safety considerations were taken into consideration. However, the Tentatively Selected Plan still leaves schools with children within the 1% ACE. How do you reconcile this statement on page ES-5 with the Tentatively Selected Plan that falls to provide protection for some of the schools within the watershed?
9. Was the survey used for the hydraulic analysis ground-truthed and when? What was the method used for the ground-truthing? Ground-truthing of the 'Iolani School and Ala Wai Elementary School campuses does not appear to have been conducted based on the results of the model.
10. Figure 21: Potential Areas of Shallow Flooding due to Overtopping of Floodwalls/Berms or Failure of Interior Drainage Systems.
  - a. This figure shows the inundation due to overtopping of the floodwalls along the north bank of the Ala Wai Canal. This figure contradicts the floodwater extent shown in Figure 12b, which limited flooding at 'Iolani School to the southern portion of the campus. Furthermore, Page 8-9 states that "There is no bathtub effect in any overtopping area and ponding is expected to be in the 1-to 2-foot range. Damages would be related to those at the 2-foot depth for those overtopping areas illustrated." The flooding extent in Figure 12b does not reflect the existing topography at either 'Iolani School or Ala Wai Elementary School.
  - b. Figure 21 illustrates a condition with zero freeboard at the floodwalls and shows that the flooding would be extensive north of the floodwall. A 1- to 2-foot depth would result in a large volume of water in the shaded area shown in Figure 21 and result in significant damage to school property. As the water surface elevation in the Ala Wai Canal would increase to the full height of the floodwall, floodwaters would overtop the west bank of the Mānoa-Pālolo Drainage Canal (even before the floodwalls are overtopped) on to 'Iolani School

and Ala Wai Elementary School property. Because "there is no bathtub effect" in this area, floodwaters would flow relatively freely across the flat terrain of the two schools. Any sediment and debris carried with the floodwaters would remain on the school properties as floodwaters either infiltrated or receded. The cleanup of the properties would be expensive and reduce the usefulness of the inundated areas for an unknown period, potentially harming the educational missions of both schools to our island's keiki. In addition, the waters of the Ala Wai Canal and sediment and debris may attract nuisance vectors and pose potential health risks to schoolchildren, depending on the nature and quality of the water, sediment and debris.

**Conclusion:**

Iolani School understands the importance of flood risk management and appreciates the USACE and DLNR's efforts to mitigate flooding in the Project areas. However, in evaluating a plan to address flooding, **NEPA and HEPA must be followed and the environmental impacts of the action must be appropriately and accurately considered. The Agencies must follow the correct process, take a hard look at the environmental effects of the proposed action, analyze reasonable alternatives, utilize proper scientific methods, and mitigate negative environmental impacts to the extent practicable. Because NEPA and HEPA were not adhered to in this case, the Draft Report/EIS must be significantly revised and reissued in a separate draft for further public review and comment.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. R. Cottrell", with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Timothy R. Cottrell  
Head of School



*Done Wlatise reference to my testimony*

**ALA WAI CANAL PROJECT - PHASE IV  
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN v.04**

**June 2013**

## **2 Public Involvement**

Several public participation techniques will be used to reach out to various stakeholder groups at different points in the process. Different techniques should be used depending on the group targeted and the purpose of the involvement. The following is a list of proposed techniques that may be employed during this phase of the project.

### **2.1 Individual Interviews and Small Group Meetings**

**Purpose:** To get early feedback on specific flood reduction measures. This input will inform the alternatives analyses that result in the tentatively selected plan (TSP).

**Participants:**

- Townscape (lead)
- USACE (support)
- CH2M Hill (support)
- Landowner and community leaders
- Community and private organizations
- Public agencies
- Quasi-governmental organizations
- Elected officials (possibly)

**Process:** Two or three potentially controversial flood reduction measures will be identified. A Focus Group meeting will be held on each measure identified to get input on user concerns, potential "deal-breakers," and acceptable conditions or mitigation measures. Specific groups and individuals will be invited to participate.

### **2.2 Briefings to Stakeholder Groups**

**Purpose:** To update key stakeholders on the project.

**Participants:**

- USACE (lead)
- Remaining PDT members (support)

**Process:** Briefings may be scheduled based on a formal request from an entity or individual representing a key constituency (e.g., elected official). Alternatively, a briefing might be proposed by the PDT. If a briefing is determined to be beneficial and/or necessary, USACE will coordinate and conduct the briefing with support from the rest of the PDT, as needed.



**ALA WAI CANAL PROJECT - PHASE IV  
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN v.04  
June 2013**

### **2.3 Open House Meetings**

**Purpose:** To provide community members with opportunities to learn about the Ala Wai Canal Project and the Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP), and to build community support for project implementation.

**Participants:**

- Townscape (logistics and coordination)
- USACE (presentation)
- CH2M Hill (support)
- All stakeholders would be invited to attend

**Process:** Hold two public meetings in an "Open House" format to present preliminary project concepts to the public. The Open House would begin with a brief overview presentation and question and answer session. After the presentation and discussion, attendees may circulate and view maps and other graphics illustrating preliminary project concepts. Project staff would be on hand to answer questions and hear comments. Comment sheets would provide a way for participants to submit written questions and comments.

### **2.4 EIS Public Meeting**

**Purpose:** To gain public feedback on the proposed alternatives and TSP and to satisfy the requirements of HRS Chapter 343 and NEPA.

**Participants:**

- Townscape (logistics and coordination)
- USACE (presentation)
- CH2M Hill (support)
- All stakeholders would be invited to attend

**Process:** One public meeting on the Draft EIS will be held at an accessible location within the watershed. The various alternatives will be presented and feedback from the public will be recorded for consideration when developing the Final EIS and preferred alternative.

### **2.5 Project Information Sheet/FAQs**

**Purpose:** To introduce the project to stakeholders and provide them with basic information.

**Process:** A Project Information Sheet will be developed as a concise handout to use in stakeholder meetings that includes information such as the project purpose, goals, process, map of the project area, and contact information.

**ALA WAI CANAL PROJECT - PHASE IV  
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN v.04  
June 2013**

## **2.6 Project Website**

**Purpose:** To provide the larger public with background information and materials to keep them apprised of project progress, next steps, and how they can provide input.

**Participants:**

- CH2M Hill (lead)
- Remaining PDT members (support)

**Process:** A project website will be developed and regularly updated to provide information on the project, including project background, purpose, upcoming meetings and events, contact information, and review materials. Materials for download from the website could include the project information sheet, notes from the public meeting, the Notice of Intent and EIS Preparation Notice, and the Draft and Final Feasibility/EIS Report.

## **2.7 Email Updates**

**Purpose:** To alert key stakeholders and interested parties of project milestones and to direct them to the project website for materials and information.

**Participants:**

- CH2M Hill (lead)
- Remaining PDT members (support)

**Process:** Periodic updates will be sent to interested parties using project email list that will be compiled and maintained. Email topics may include milestone highlights, announcements of meetings and comment deadlines, and notifications of new materials on the project website. Townscape will provide a spreadsheet of previous project contacts.

## **2.8 News Media**

**Purpose:** To notify the general public of highlights and progress of the project.

**Participants:**

- USACE (lead)
- Remaining PDT members (support)

**Process:** All media requests will be referred back to the USACE for comment. If press releases are determined to be necessary or beneficial, the appropriate team member(s) will draft the content of the piece and review it with the PDT before forwarding it to USACE and DLNR for final approval and release.

**ALA WAI CANAL PROJECT - PHASE IV  
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN v.04  
June 2013**

**3 National Flood Risk Management Program Public Involvement Pilot Project**

The AWCP was selected as one of five flood risk management projects nation-wide to be the recipient public involvement services to complement public involvement efforts already planned as a part of the project. The scope of these services are yet to be determined.

**Purpose:** To work with the tourism industry, and Waikiki interests in particular, to raise their awareness about flood risks in the Ala Wai Watershed and to improve their understanding of their role in mitigating those risks.

**Participants:**

- USACE (lead)
- Waikiki and Tourism Industry Interests:
  - Hawai'i Tourism Authority
  - Hawai'i Hotel and Lodging Association
  - Waikiki Business Improvement District
  - Waikiki Improvement Association
  - National Disaster Preparedness Training Center

**Process:** To be determined.

**ALA WAI CANAL PROJECT - PHASE IV  
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN v.04  
June 2013**

## **4 Townscape Effort**

The current phase of the AWCP has been broken down into four major tasks: (1) Project Management, (2) Draft Integrated Feasibility/EIS Report, (3) Public Involvement, and (4) Final Integrated Feasibility/EIS Report.

### **4.1 Task 1: Project Management**

Townscape will participate in the various project management meetings (PDT, TAT, and Stakeholder), as needed, providing support to USACE and CH2M Hill.

### **4.2 Task 2: Draft Integrated Feasibility/EIS Report**

Townscape currently has no activities associated with this task.

### **4.3 Task 3: Public Involvement**

Townscape will solicit public involvement through small group meetings (focus groups) and open houses to better understand community concerns regarding specific proposed flood mitigation measures and a public meeting on the Draft Integrated Feasibility/EIS Report.

#### **4.3.1 Focus Group Meetings**

Focus group meetings will be held on up to three specific flood mitigation measures or groups of measures in order to identify public concerns about each measure or measure grouping that should be taken into account during measure design, alternatives analysis, and selection of TSP. The measures selected for discussion will be those that are potentially the most controversial for the public.

The PDT will agree upon up to three measures/measure groupings that are anticipated to be controversial. Measures preliminarily proposed for focus group meetings include the following:

1. Mānoa Detention
  - Wet/Dry Dam in Mānoa Valley
  - Detention Basins in Mānoa Valley
  - Multipurpose Detention at Mānoa District Park
2. Ala Wai Golf Course
  - Multipurpose Detention at Ala Wai Golf Course
  - Ala Wai Golf Course Sediment Basin (DLNR)
3. Ala Wai Canal modifications
  - Widen Mouth of Canal
  - Modify McCully Street Bridge
  - Levees around the Canal
  - Pump System



**ALA WAI CANAL PROJECT - PHASE IV  
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN v.04  
June 2013**

Townscape, with assistance from other members of the PDT as needed, will present the overall project purpose, goals, and objectives. After briefly outlining the list of proposed measures, Townscape will describe the specific measure that the focus group is convened to discuss. This description should include location, need, potential benefits, and tradeoffs. After this, the focus group will be asked the following questions:

- What concerns do you have about this proposed measure
- Is this measure a "deal-breaker" for you?" What about it makes it a "deal-breaker?"
- What conditions or mitigation measures would make the measure acceptable to you?

Discussion from the focus group meeting will then be taken back to the PDT for incorporation into the project. It is anticipated that the feedback will inform design of the measures to make them more acceptable to the community and alternatives analysis during selection of TSP.

#### **4.3.2 Public Meeting**

The public meeting will aid in understanding potential impacts and concerns associated with the project alternatives, and is also mandated by NEPA. One public meeting will be held within the watershed, possibly at the Hawai'i Convention Center, where the EIS Scoping Meeting was previously held, or at an area school.

Townscape, with the assistance of the PDT, will present the project purpose, goals, objectives, alternatives, potential impacts, proposed mitigation measures, and TSP. The public will then be provided an opportunity to ask questions and comment on the project, possibly through verbal comment, one-on-one discussions with project team members in an "open-house" format, and/or written feedback. Attendees should be informed of how they may provide further comment on the Draft Integrated Feasibility/EIS Report, and of the deadline for public comment. This information, as well as notes from the public meeting should be posted to the project website.

The PDT should use the feedback from the public meeting along with any other comments received on the Draft Integrated Feasibility/EIS Report to select a preferred plan.

#### **4.3.3 Briefings to Stakeholder Groups**

Townscape will coordinate a limited number of briefings to key stakeholder groups that the PDT identifies. Depending on the nature of the update, other members of the PDT may be needed to present project material and/or answer questions.

**ALA WAI CANAL PROJECT - PHASE IV  
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN v.04  
June 2013**

**Appendix A: Stakeholder Groups**

The range of potential stakeholders is large and includes land owners, community members, environmental and community organizations, elected officials, and public agencies. The following is a listing of individuals and groups that the project team should consider contacting as part of the public involvement process, as well as a short description of who they are and why they should be included.

**A.1. Community at Large**

The community at-large includes anyone that may have an interest in the project; they do not represent anyone or anyone's interests other than their own.

**A.2. Landowners and Community Leaders**

Landowners and other individuals to be contacted as a part of the stakeholder involvement process have a particular interest in the project, but may not have a formal organization to represent them. Private landowners include those that either have been impacted by previous flooding or will be impacted by the implementation of one or more measures proposed by this project. This group may share maintenance responsibilities, or may need to be approached to negotiate easements through their property or for land acquisition. Community associations may be able to represent the interests of several individual landowners.

Because it will not be possible to meet individually with everyone who might be affected by the project, it would be beneficial to target those individuals that residents have been identified as being representative of their community, or have significant knowledge of certain aspects of the community. These may include long-time residents, or other individuals who have been active in the Ala Wai Watershed, but may not necessarily hold official leadership positions in organizations at this time.

**A.3. Businesses**

This group includes businesses whose operations either were previously impacted by flooding or will be affected by the implementation of one or more measures proposed by this project. This group may share best management practices and maintenance responsibilities, or they may need to be approached to negotiate easements through their property. Business associations may be able to represent the interests of several individual businesses.



**ALA WAI CANAL PROJECT - PHASE IV  
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN v.04**

**June 2013**

**A.4. Community and Private Organizations**

Community and private organizations are formally organized 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations as well as less formal groups with a membership and a focus of interest that may be related to or affected by the project, but are not necessarily landowners in the watershed. These organizations range in purpose and demographics and offer a way to sample various perspectives within the community. Examples of Community and Private Organizations include the Ala Wai Watershed Association (AWWA), Canoe and Rowing Clubs, Hawai'i Transportation Association, Kapi'olani Park Preservation Society, Makiki Stream Stewards, Mālama Mānoa, Pālolo Community Council, The Outdoor Circle, Waikīkī Yacht Club, and others.

**A.5. Public Agencies**

Public agencies are a part of the executive branch of government at the Federal, State, and local levels. Several public agencies are a part of the sponsoring team that is developing the project. In addition, some agencies currently have other projects or initiatives within the watershed that should be coordinated with the planning of this project, and some agencies will also be responsible for actions throughout this phase of the project, as well as during implementation and subsequent operations and maintenance.

**City Agencies and Affiliated Entities**

Because the City administers several permits that may be necessary to complete the project, they should be included in the process to ensure that final designs conform with permit restrictions and requirements, thus improving the likelihood of implementation. Portions of the streams and surrounding areas are owned by the City and some of the recommended project features may be sited on these lands. Some of these features may also require the City to operate and maintain them, thus making the City's participation critical to this process.

The City Department of Environmental Services is also a sponsor of the AWCP. Additionally, the City was also a local sponsor in the Mānoa Watershed Project (MWP) and may have special insight into what might be appropriate regarding the planning and design of the AWCP.

**State Agencies**

Like the City, the State also administers permits that may be required for implementation of the project, thus making it important that they participate in the planning and design phase. The State, through the DLNR, is also a local sponsor in this phase of the project and will provide input on planning and design. Project sponsors are expected to participate in planning and technical meetings, as appropriate, and offer guidance to ensure that the project is implementable, as well as to ensure that the project features address their needs and standards.

**ALA WAI CANAL PROJECT - PHASE IV  
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN v.04**

**June 2013**

The Ala Wai Canal and portions of its tributaries and surrounding areas are owned by the State and some of the recommended project features may be sited on these lands. If needed, the State may also be responsible for land acquisition costs, construction costs related to modifications to infrastructure such as roads and bridges, and operation and maintenance of features on their lands.

The University of Hawai'i is also considered a State Agency and can provide local expertise on several aspects of the project including watershed ecosystems, invasive species impacts, hydrology, etc. Additionally, the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa campus is located along Mānoa Stream, was previously impacted by flooding, and has implemented projects to protect themselves from future flood events.

**Federal Agencies**

Federal agencies will participate primarily in the environmental review process through various consultations and assessments. Early consultation with agencies regarding Federal permits and EIS requirements will benefit project implementation. Some agencies also have data records and expertise in developing an understanding of the area and past flood events, and designing for future occurrences. Other agencies have expertise on ecosystem restoration best practices. One federal agency, USACE, is a project co-sponsor and is responsible for funding, technical assistance, project management, and stakeholder consultation. Other federal agencies, i.e., the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, were or are sponsors of other related projects in the watershed.

**A.6. Quasi-Governmental Organizations**

A quasi-governmental organization is one that is linked to or supported by a public agency, but acts as an independent entity. Some of these organizations have areas of focus that extend beyond the Ala Wai Canal Watershed. Examples of Quasi-Governmental Organizations include the Neighborhood Boards, Ala Wai Marina Board, the Ko'olau Mountains Watershed Partnership, and others.

**A.7. Elected Officials**

Elected officials are persons that are voted into public office to represent the community at the local (City Council), State (State House of Representatives and Senate), and Federal (U.S. Congress) levels. It is important to keep elected officials apprised of the project and to have their support because they will be critical in getting permit approvals, implementation funding, and maintenance agreements. Their interest in the project will ensure that it maintains a high priority for agencies. Also, as representatives of the community, they should be approached for an overall understanding of the major issues that need to be considered, as well as details that should be addressed.



**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:43:47 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pi'imoku Keahi	Testifying for Hui maka`ainana a Kalawahine	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Halau Ku Mana Hawaiian Charter School, Alumni

Hui Makaaainana a Kalawahine, Member

Aloha mai kakou, `O Pi'imoku Keahi ko`u inoa. Noho au ma ka aina ho`opulapula o Kalawahine. He haumana au, he po`e hoe wa`a au, a me ke keiki `o ka wahi `o Makiki. My name is Pi'imoku Keahi. I live on the Hawaiian Homelands of Kalawahine where I am a member of the nonprofit Native Hawaiian organization, Hui Makaaainana a Kalawahine. I am also a graduate of Halau Ku Mana Hawaiian charter school and current student of the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I have ties to all areas of Makiki, Manoa, and Palolo. These places are where I have been a student of, where my ohana works, and where my ohana are stewards for the wetland kalo at ka Lo'i o Moleka in Makiki Valley.

This project stands against the values and lifestyle that I have been fostered in as a continuing student and makaaainana of these areas. The issue has highlighted the many reasons haumana like myself are continuing to grow through the knowledge of our kupuna to be able to be active members of our communities and protectors of our aina. Allowing us to use the value makawalu, many perspectives in these types of issue engaging with our current government and leaders.

As a maka`ainana and kama`aina who voluntarily cares for our aina and all that lives on it understands the negative impact that this project will cause. The property of the only Hawaiian focused charter school in Makiki will be affected and the hard work our people have put into restoring the ancient lo'i kalo and natural streams systems will be affected. This is our education, our resources, our culture, and native stream life that will be affected. We are continuing the act and lifestyle of malama aina to make sure

generations now and generation to come can continue to have resources and continue to be caretakers our land.

A an aspiring educator, resident of Makiki, and kamaaina, I am strongly opposed to S.B NO. 77, S.D 1, relating to the CIP funding for the Ala Wai flood RISK Management project, detention basin. Mahalo for your time and allowing me to share my stance in opposition to this project.

Me ke aloha,

Pi'imoku Keahi

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 8:54:10 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
pamela	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

- The public, community and stakeholders were not properly engaged;
- The public not have a chance to ask questions and get answers;
- The public did not have a chance to recommend better alternatives;

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 9:20:32 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steve Holmes	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

My house is located on Pukele Stream and is situated about 150 yards below the proposed 30 foot "detention dam" which is intended to act to slow the rush of water towards Waikiki during an anticipated 100 year flood. My property will not be condemned by the State of Hawaii to build the proposed structure BUT my home and at least 50 others are in the path of a 30 foot wall of mud and debris should the structure fail. That would be at least 100 people.

The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is not well known for its successful projects but for those that have failed in the past. The most notable of these is the Mississippi River flood control system in Louisiana where faulty design and substandard construction have been cited in the failure of the system in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Hundreds of people lost their lives during this "100 year" catastrophe not to mention the loss of structures. In addition, the USACE sought to impede investigation into the design problems of the system, casting further doubt of their expertise.

The State of Hawaii and The City of Honolulu have a long record of not being able to maintain existing streams and rivers and their hardened control systems which contributed in part to the Manoa system failure that cost many millions of dollars damage. IF the proposed Ala Wai flood control system is well-designed how can we be confident that it will be maintained in such a way as to make it effective and serve its purpose?

For these reasons it is difficult to accept the decisions of government as pertains to our safety and it is reasonable to stop this project NOW so that much greater diligence to design and alternatives can be practiced. Will we trade the lives of persons living in the path of a design-caused flood for the economic well being of Waikiki?

Steve Holmes

Palolo Valley

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 8:49:26 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joanna Pasion	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I'm against the upstream detention basin (for safety and health reasons, or water quality and sedimentation concerns, or destruction of thousands of feet of natural stream)

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 9:46:29 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sharie souza	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

*I oppose the Ala Wai canal project!*

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 10:22:19 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Mitsuda	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB77 - OPPOSE**

The Senate should not approve SB77 funding for the current plan of the Ala Wai Canal Project. The flood control strategy needs to be re-evaluated and alternatives considered before proceeding with a plan which will have such dramatic impacts, both immediately and in the future.

The densely populated project area absolutely needs a flood crisis plan but the current version of the plan is alarmingly unconvincing, especially if you have walked the streets and streams, and neighborhoods that will be impacted.

I have lived in various parts of the project area for the last 50 years — Manoa, Kaimuki, Tantalus/Makiki, and Palolo. Many thousands of us consider this whole area, including Waikiki, to be our home and well-loved stomping grounds. Will the Project as currently outlined provide the desired flood mitigation or will it create more crisis and failure points?

There are no guarantees in life or in nature and no one can expect a failure proof safety net, but there should at least be a collective sense that we are making the best safety net possible — one that realistically anticipates and balances the risks and strategies.

Aloha,

Mary Mitsuda  
2448 Halelaau Place  
Honolulu, HI 96816  
[contact@marymitsuda.com](mailto:contact@marymitsuda.com)

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 10:01:58 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dee Wakabayashi	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:



**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 10:27:06 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Leoni	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 10:29:19 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jesse Christensen	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

SB77- OPPOSE

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 10:55:13 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kama	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

Aloha, my name is Kama Kanahele-Nations I am a student at Halau Ku Mana Public Charter School which is located in Makiki. This message is regarding the Ala Wai Dam Project. The Makiki Debris and Detention Basin Plan should not be in action. A lot pf people will lose their homes and the people that live in the valley will be devastated if they were to lose their homes.

The dam will also replace my school and I don't want that to happen. Halau Ku Mana has been a place that has taught not only me but other haumana as well a lot of new things about our culture. Although I have only been here for one year I have learned a lot more things that a public school can teach you.

Halau Ku Mana was founded by Keola Nakanishi and Noelani Goodyear-Ka'opua. The vision of Halau Ku Mana is to make Hawaiian cultural knowledge and practices (hula, sailing, fishpond, restoration, and taro cultivation). Haumana here at Halau Ku Mana love going here. We would all be devastated if a dam was to be built here and we would lose our shcool. We would all also be devastated if we have to go to another school. I don't think none of use wants to start over at a new school and make new friends. Where haumana at Halau Ku Mana have basically become our family and like brothers and sisters to us. Haumana here would all be devastated if our school was to be taken away to that they could build a dam here in Makiki.

Sincerely,

Kama Kanahele-Nations

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 8:23:12 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nathan Bingham	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**I oppose sb77 because I'm against the 4-feet solid reinforced concrete wall around the Ala Wai Canal and believe there are better and more environmentally friendly alternatives.**

**Thank you very much.**

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 11:08:33 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
ryan sugihara	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose sb77. I think there are better ways to prepare for the perfect storm that's not as intrusive to the land.

Thank you!

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 6:58:57 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ryan Oshita	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I am against the Ala Wai Canal Project. Thank you.

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 5:12:28 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Holmes	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

- The public, community and stakeholders were not properly engaged;
- The public not have a chance to ask questions and get answers;
- The public did not have a chance to recommend better alternatives;
- Destruction of natural streams and acres of natural habitat;
- Increase in sedimentation and runoff;
- Detention basins are huge, unnatural and ugly;
- Detention basins upstream are difficult to keep clear from debris and subject to clogging;
- Detention basins, if clogged, will be breached from smaller storms;
- Detention basins when actively filled can be a safety hazard;
- These detention basins will affect view and property values around and downstream of them;
- Some of these detention basins will impact parks and schools;
- Kaimuki/Kapahulu stormwater is intercepted at the Ala Wai Canal and pumped into the aquifer near the end of the Canal;
- The 4ft solid concrete wall (as high as 4.5 feet tall) surrounding the Canal is an eyesore, will block views for residents and tourist;
- Against seizing and using private properties and lands near public schools;
- Question the accuracy of the 100-year flood model and property damage figures;

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 7:26:43 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Donna Hashimoto	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Oppose. There is not enough evidence that this is necessary or that those downstream from the Palolo project will be safe.



**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 11:18:42 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kai	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**Dear Senators,**

I am student from Halau Ku Mana Charter school, and I am writing to you about the Ala Wai Canal project. I recently learned about this enormous project taking place in my area of where I live and go to school. As a student we attended a class that shared information about what process will take place for the construction of the dam/debris and detention basin. As a student and resident of the area, I am shocked on how the city and state are choosing to create such a negative impact on the land where we attend school or live, especially without a town meeting or allowing the public to hear more about this major project. Having a dam that can retain 8.7 million gallons of stormwater above homes and directly in the path of our school is unacceptable, not to mention irresponsible. Creating a concrete wall of mess, that will no doubt change the landscape of the area, depreciate the home values and more importantly possible removal of homes and natural dwellings of protective animals can only mean trouble for all involved.

I am writing you to take action and hear our plea to protect our lands. I encourage you to reach out to your constituents, those in your area and surrounding areas, to explain more of this project and or understand our concerns. The government tends to do things without having an impact study done, reaching out to the people it impacts and or ignores their voices. Please become more involved in your community and begin to reach out to your audience before the project begins and it will be too late to do anything.

**Mahalo for your time and understanding,****Kai Uta****Halau Ku Mana Public Charter school****10th Grade**

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 12:07:44 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
diana tusher	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

I oppose the funding of SB77 until there has been opportunity for additional public review, notification of landowners directly affected as well as the general public, and a re-evaluation of the Ala Wai Flood Control Project.

Planning for disaster level rainfall, as well as ocean inundation, is certainly important and can be accomplished in ways that reflect cultural, environmental, landowner, and aesthetic considerations as well as engineering realities. Both locations and design of retention basins and the Ala Wai Canal concrete walls are areas of specific concern to our social, cultural, and tourism networks. There are potential solutions not included in the proposed project. Information about whether they were considered is not available.

The public has not been well informed about this project, and it has not easy to find out whether there has been coordination with efforts underway to address future sea level rise, an obviously important consideration, or use of bio engineering options and community involvement to address debris removal and unusually heavy water flow.

Please delay funding of SB77 to allow for complete and transparent review by Hawai'i citizens. Stakeholders include everyone, not just state and city employees.

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 12:10:06 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kanoe Kina	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I am a student at HÄ• lau KÄ« MÄ• na Public Charter School. My school provides quality community, culture, and kaina (land/ocean)-based education for middle and high school students.

I've been attending charter schools since I was in the 2nd grade. I love the environment of a charter school; there is an 'ohana feeling among us, and that feeling extends to our neighborhood community, where we malama aina (take care of our land) by having regular stream and trash clean ups and community events. My school doesn't just teach me to be a student; it's a school that teaches us to be part of our community.

Where the charter school falls short is lack of stable structures for classes. Our school is housed in temporary, portable trailers and tents that haven't been upgraded over the years. A large canopy tent is the only area where the entire student body fits for assemblies and with the heat, many times students have fainted, me included. We also operate restroom facilities on a septic tank system that needs major help. With the limited structures, our school doesn't have many classrooms so student have classes outside because of the lack of rooms. Our bathrooms are too small but we make do with what we have. This is why we need more funding for our school.

Sincerely,

Kanoe Kina,

Halau Ku Mana PCS

2101 Makiki Heights Drive

Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822

**(808)945-1600**

**[kanoe.kina@halaukumana.org](mailto:kanoe.kina@halaukumana.org)**

Manoa Neighborhood Board          2/5/19

Re: The Ala Wai Canal Project ( Woodlawn Detention Basin )

Dear Chair and Board Members.

I am in opposition to the development of the Ala Wai Canal Project, as how it affects & impacts the many local families, properties, and environment.

My name is Hubert Minn and I've lived in Manoa Valley for 65 yrs..  
Like many other Kamaaina's , one's Home is the most precious asset we have and families futures are based on our personal properties and resources.  
Years of personal relationships and lives are now impacted in the local communities in order to protect Waikiki from a 100 yr storm that has a 1 % chance of occurring?

Someone once said. "before we undertake a project, ask these three questions.

1. DO WE NEED IT?

1% CHANCE ...& WHAT ABOUT A TSUNAMI ON THE FRONT  
SIDE THAT ENCOMPASSES A ZONE ALL THE WAY UP TO THE FREE WAY?  
ISNT THERE A 1 % CHANCE IT COULD ALSO OCCUR?

2. CAN WE AFFORD IT?

I GUESS THE STATE HAS A \$100 MILLION OF OUR TAXES  
TO PLACE US IN THIS SITUATION.. AND MY QUESTION IS BASED AFTER  
SOMEONE'S FAMOUS CAMAPAIN SLOGAN..

**“ Is this the right thing to do.....  
for the right reason -....  
at the right time? ”**

3. CAN WE MAINTAIN IT?

WHEN HAS THE CITY EVER MAINTAINED ANYTHING  
LET ALONE A BASIN OF THIS MAGNITUDE AS WELL AS THE LIABILITY  
FACTOR, WHICH NO ONE HAS FOCUSED ON.

So my No 1 question is “How did we come to this mess?”

I’m sure our Congressional delegation had good intent in passing this Legislation and obtaining the funding took much effort.....

but what they didn’t do in terms of Due Diligence is to

**MONITOR AND INSURE THAT THE ORGANIZATIONS THAT WOULD BE CARRYING THIS PROJECT OUT FOLLOW ALL NEPA & HEPA RULES AND PROCEDURES... WHICH PRIORTIZES THAT ALL STAKEHOLDERS BE INVOLVED AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE , WITH THIS PROJECT.**

Im sure that Tulsi and Brian, etc .didnt mean to take away our personal property and cause financial damage, but now that they have heard our issues, I look forward to them coming forward, as credible “Representatives,” and correcting the problems occurring with this project.

How can a Project of this magnitude, and the impact it will have on communities, not have more transparency in terms of Communication?

My property is adjacent to the basin and till today, I haven’t had one contact.

Pls raise your hand if you were contacted by someone re this project?

It’s disrespectful to our citizens, our Community, and more impt..the Aina.

**I support the resolution calling for a delay in this project until the Communities and individuals involved have all had adequate communication and what ever else the National and Environmental Protection agencies deem required.**

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 1:26:56 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Winona T Holmes	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

I am opposed to the Ala Wai project in its current form. We were not get a chance to recommend alternative options. I believe this was shoved through without enough community input and the possible safety issues esp. since I live down stream of this proposed berm. Its overkill in size and scope, and I feel it will damage the enviroment/the aina and all that surrounding land as well as presenting a danger to others esp. if these retention basins/ berms aren't maintained - they are really ugly, huge, and unnatural.

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 1:43:15 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sean W. Scanlan, Ph.D.	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

I was the one on the front page of the paper opposing this, so I'll be brief.

The plans were changed and included my property in the construction. I found out about it by word of mouth. Now I hear you guys might fund it? Without the residents even knowing about it?

My stream runs through my property, and they plan to make it concrete. I live 3.5 miles away from Waikiki, which was built on wetlands. Water will go there regardless of how much concrete they pour in the mountains. Sounds like the government taking land from small landowners yet again...



**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 2:02:04 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sheralynn	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 2:26:08 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
KALEO	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 2:26:12 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Hayden Atkins	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 2:26:12 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
hiilei	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 2:26:13 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Hulali	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 2:26:13 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Keaulani	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 2:26:13 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
ha?aiipo	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 2:26:14 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ko?i	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:



**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 2:26:15 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
manamahiai	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 2:26:15 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
xzayvier	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 2:26:21 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kaimana gouveia	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 2:26:22 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
sonny	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 2:28:01 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
hula kala	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 3:16:11 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laurie Luczak	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

Rather than focus on the 1% chance that a natural disaster will happen, lets focus on the 99% that it won't and fund education instead.

Rather than disrupt the many communities by erecting monstrous structures that might not be used, explore responses that are more aligned with the existing Ahapua'a thereby protecting native plants and animals.

Rather than disrupting lives without engaging us who will be impacted, please include all role groups in the community and engage in dialogue before making decisions that will destroy homes, families, schools, public parks, and natural streams.

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 3:39:57 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
LaVache Scanlan	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

Please oppose this Ala Wai Flood Risk Management Project. Pukele Stream in PÄ• lolo Valley has never flooded, even with 40 days and nights of rain. I have lived on the stream for 10 years and it has never even gotten close to damaging levels. Building of a dam here will put my home in a flood zone and create more problems for the surrounding areas. Please look at the history of PÄ• lolo Valley and why we should not disrupt the natural flow of water.

The state will not be able to maintain a structure like this. Spending the money on removing debris from the streams would make so much more sense. It would give people jobs and would cost a fraction to provide. Our state cannot afford this project. Yes, tourism is important to our economy, but this project is not the solution to save Waikiki. I believe the ocean rising is more likely to happen in the next 100 years. How will we pay for that?

But above all, people were not notified of these plans and the plan keeps changing without notification of that either.

I am a Native Hawaiian living on land I purchased so my family can remain in Hawai'i. Please don't take that away. Please oppose the Ala Wai Flood Risk Management Project.

Mahalo for your consideration

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 4:02:52 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William Caron	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, members of the committee,

I am a Palolo Neighborhood Board member and have lived in various neighborhoods within the greater Ala Wai watershed for more than a decade. At our most recent board meeting, dozens and dozens of our neighbors came forward to express their opposition to the current watershed improvement plan. Most of them would be directly affected by the infrastructure project. Their concerns, I believe, are more than valid. Some of these concerns that I noted at the meeting include the following:

- The public, community and stakeholders were not properly notified or brought to the table to discuss the project;
- The public, community and stakeholders have not had an adequate chance to ask questions and get answers about the project's scope and impact;
- The project would cause the destruction or severe impact of natural streams and acres of natural habitat;
- The project would increase the rates of sedimentation and runoff within the watershed;
- Detention basins upstream are difficult to keep clear from debris and subject to clogging;
- Detention basins, if clogged, can be breached during relatively small storms;
- If breached, detention basins become an extreme safety hazard;
- These detention basins will affect property values around and downstream of them;
- Some of these detention basins will impact parks and schools;
- The proposed solid concrete wall (as high as 4.5 feet tall) surrounding the Ala Wai canal would be an eyesore, blocking views for residents and tourists alike;
- The project could require the use of eminent domain, a controversial policy that should only be employed in times of extreme emergency need;
- There remain substantial questions concerning the validity and the accuracy of the 100-year flood model and property damage figures;
- A valid alternative exists that would side-step most of these concerns and would, according to some, be of greater benefit to both the communities impacted, and the tourism-based economy, which is to restore the current Ala Wai Golf Course to its natural wetland state. More broadly speaking, this idea presents an opportunity to restore some land to its natural condition, through which the



regulation of natural phenomena like severe weather, can be safely and beneficially processed. I support this alternative idea for its benefits to the natural environment, its higher degree of safety for the community, and its sustainable impact on our society here in the islands.

The community throughout the impacted watershed area has spoken out against this project at neighborhood board meetings for these and other reasons. I have never seen as many people at a board meeting as I saw at the last one. The project should be placed on hold and re-evaluated with full community input and the willingness to pivot to other ideas, like restoring the natural wetland catchment system at the Ala Wai Golf Course site.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 4:58:09 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Courtney Mattson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 4:58:19 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nicole Yoshimoto	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Written on Sept 30, 2015

To the Ala Wai Canal Project members and the Army Corps of Engineers,

I am a resident of Moiliili and the editor and writer of the book *Moiliili—The Life of a Community*, and I have been observing the community, and especially the water patterns, for over 35 years.

I was also one of the community “experts/consultants” queried at the outset of this project. I told of the high water incidents that I had witnessed and the mitigation steps that might be taken to protect the community—and the Waikiki economic engine. Unfortunately, the Army Corp of Engineers took very little of what I, or others, said seriously.

Further, at the more recent meeting presenting the ACE plans I made comments on the mistaken proposals with specifics for mitigation. And, now the 2015 version of the ACE’s plans show no evidence that it has listened to the community experts/consultants. I wish to testify before all committees hearing this Ala Wai Watershed re-formation.

This email will not be exhaustive so I will present a few bullet points:

“ multi-purpose detention basins in open space areas in the urbanized portion of the watershed”

- Add 3 more “detention basins,” that is open field areas to contain and slow storm waters—1) Kaimuki High School field; 2) the Ala Wai Park area Ewa of the juncture of the Manoa stream and the Ala Wai Canal (with low berm around the edges of Ala Wai School, as well as berms at Hokulani School and Iolani School); 3) the entire Ala Wai Park area between the Ala Wai School and the Ala Wai Clubhouse. (2) and 3) already have captured previous storm waters—with water dissipating naturally after a storm event.)

“Floodwalls along the Ala Wai Canal (including 3 associated pump stations)”

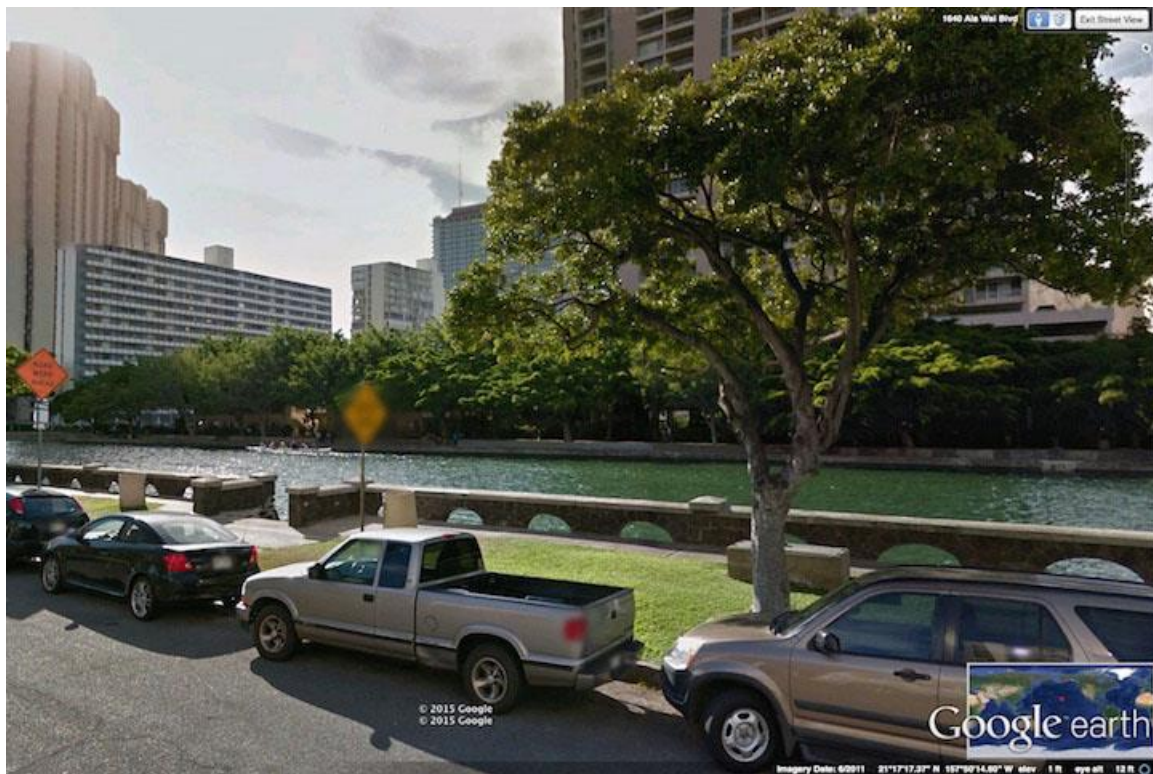
- The only floodwalls that might be appropriate to “save” the Waikiki economic engine are on the Waikiki side of the canal. Unfortunately, the ACE’s solutions are overkill, visually off-putting, difficult, and scary to navigate. Instead hide the floodwall inside the berm and a raised-up canal wall and build the railing/parapet with blue stone (moss rock is not appropriate, nor as it ever been used for canals, bridges, or walls). Please see the example of the open (though it could be closed) parapet/railing located closer to Kalakaua. And put the pedestrian and bike paths on top of the berm (with the “protection” for the parapet/railing). Floodwalls do not need to be installed elsewhere in Moiliili.

- I'm not sure about pumping stations—they appear huge and ugly with a gable roof topknot. Put the whole pumping station underground. The sewage spill remediation dug a huge hole between the canal and community gardens. And please look to Tokyo's solutions.

“In-stream improvements to restore passage for native aquatic species as compensatory mitigation for impacts to aquatic habitat”

- This is something of a mystery: has the ACE looked closely at the aquatic species in the Manoa Stream, let alone the canal? Is the ACE suggesting that it remove all the invasive species such as tilapia and armored catfish and restore the fresh and brackish native species? Further, where are the ACE plans to more fully remediate the polluted water with such riparian plants as *akulikuli*? An experimental test has already been done.
- One other point, has the ACE designed the “sluice gates” (I assume these are backflow preventers) as a way to keep the waters from backing up and popping many storm drain covers on higher ground? This water surge does happen in hurricanes and other fierce storms.

Again, please invite me to be a member of a serious review panel. Thank you,  
Laura Ruby  
509 University Ave. #902  
947-3641  
[lruby@hawaii.edu](mailto:lruby@hawaii.edu)



Nov 20, 2018  
comments on Ala Wai Canal Dredging and Improvements

to Vera.B.Koskelo

Hi Vera,

--I have previously made comments on the inadequacies of the ACE plans for the Ala Wai Canal these include the blight on the visual landscape resulting in the loss of tourist revenues, the encapsulating rising waters with prison like walls, suggestions for open areas for water spill over requiring minimal construction such as the whole golf course and much of the Ala Wai Park (small berms will suffice around Ala Wai School and Iolani) etc.

--What was missing, but has now been added are huge locks to close off the canal from tsunami/hurricane surges--please contact me for almost 40 years of observations of the canal and Manoa Stream.

--The new HECO cables are only beneficial to the Waikiki side of the canal--right now this large white truck with huge cylinders on its bed spews very toxic exhaust from its oversized chimney. This impacts out quality of living on the Moiliili side of the canal. I and other neighbors called HECO, but the only redress was a phone call on the days of the construction activity.

--re the dredging--the last dredging was whole inadequate--the barge with scoop shovel went up the Manoa Stream only about 100 feet (not to the Date Street Bridge). the scoop itself had only about a 10 foot max reach into the waters and silt below (the scoop must go down to the original 20+ feet to make any difference.

--the main area to dredge is at the bend where the Manoa Stream joins the Canal--this is where the "island" builds up as silt, etc is dropped--this depth should be cleared regularly.

--employees--I believe there was only one worker driving the barge and operating the excavator--taking huge amounts of time to complete--double or quadruple the men and equipment please.

--the noise impact to the students at Ala Wai School is distracting, if not harmful.

--wall replacements are only as good as you have the whole Canal plan in mind--I suggested lava rock "railings" such as those makai of the McCully bridge--if these walls are to be raised with the proper sub-footing they will contribute to the overall visual quality of the viewing planes and contain extra water.

comments on ala wai watershed project--from Mike Molloy who lives up stream:  
October 22, 2018

Dear Councilwoman Ann Kobayashi:

I am grateful to write to you regarding a matter that you will consider and influence. It is the plan for protecting Waikiki from flood waters that might come from the Ko'olau range.

Plans for the protection of Waikiki are important. The current proposal could be a step in the right direction. However, there are tradeoffs.

The first consideration is to seek a long-range situation. In this the current proposal is inadequate. The reality is that the rise of ocean levels is inevitable. The real danger is from the ocean. What will the inevitable next step be? Will it be to build dikes around the ocean side of Waikiki? Will it be to allow any new construction in Waikiki to be built on stilts (a realistic solution that is already demanded in places on the North Shore of O`ahu)?

The current proposal appears rational. However, it is artificially encouraged by the fact that federal tax money is available. It is also supported by the Army Corps of Engineers, which needs construction projects for its employees and students.

The positive reasons are that the project would seem to be doing



something useful--at least for Waikiki landowners and their employees. The negative reasons, though, must also be considered. Among the negative considerations are these:

--The land that would be taken over in Palolo, Manoa, and Makiki is not simply unused land. The parcels contain trees, birds, and other forms of life that need protection, particularly in congested Honolulu.

--The catchment basins will need regular cleaning and examination.

Despite protestations to the contrary by state and city agencies, regular maintenance is truly uncertain.

--the dams at one side of the basins could fail. Flooding of houses below would be the result, with possible loss of life.

After reading the proposal and considering both sides of the issue, I have concluded that the proposed project should be opposed. I hope that our legislators and other people of influence will, after examining the evidence, also oppose this proposed project.

Thank you for your work for the community.

With best wishes,

Michael Molloy, Ph.D.

Written on Sept 30, 2015

To the Ala Wai Canal Project members and the Army Corps of Engineers,

I am a resident of Moiliili and the editor and writer of the book Moiliili--The Life of a Community, and I have been observing the community, and especially the water patterns, for over 35 years.

I was also one of the community "experts/consultants" queried at the outset of this project. I told of the high water incidents that I had witnessed and the mitigation steps that might be taken to protect the community--and the Waikiki economic engine. Unfortunately, the Army Corp of Engineers took very little of what I, or others, said seriously.

Further, at the more recent meeting presenting the ACE plans I made comments on the mistaken proposals with specifics for mitigation. And, now the 2015 version of the ACE's plans show no evidence that it has listened to the community experts/consultants. I wish to testify before all committees hearing this Ala Wai Watershed re-formation.

This email will not be exhaustive so I will present a few bullet points:

" multi-purpose detention basins in open space areas in the urbanized portion of the watershed"

- Add 3 more "detention basins," that is open field areas to contain and slow storm waters--1) Kaimuki High School field; 2) the Ala Wai Park area Ewa of the juncture of the Manoa stream and the Ala Wai Canal (with low berm around the edges of Ala Wai School, as well as berms at Hokulani School and Iolani School); 3) the entire Ala Wai Park area between the Ala Wai School and the Ala Wai Clubhouse. (2) and 3) already have captured previous storm waters--with water dissipating naturally after a storm event.)

"Floodwalls along the Ala Wai Canal (including 3 associated pump stations)"

- The only floodwalls that might be appropriate to "save" the Waikiki



economic engine are on the Waikiki side of the canal. Unfortunately, the ACE's solutions are overkill, visually off-putting, difficult, and scary to navigate. Instead hide the floodwall inside the berm and a raised-up canal wall and build the railing/parapet with blue stone (moss rock is not appropriate, nor as it ever been used for canals, bridges, or walls). Please see the example of the open (though it could be closed) parapet/railing located closer to Kalakaua. And put the pedestrian and bike paths on top of the berm (with the "protection" for the parapet/railing). Floodwalls do not need to be installed elsewhere in Moiliili.

- I'm not sure about pumping stations—they appear huge and ugly with a gable roof topknot. Put the whole pumping station underground. The sewage spill remediation dug a huge hole between the canal and community gardens. And please look to Tokyo's solutions.

"In-stream improvements to restore passage for native aquatic species as compensatory mitigation for impacts to aquatic habitat"

- This is something of a mystery: has the ACE looked closely at the aquatic species in the Manoa Stream, let alone the canal? Is the ACE suggesting that it remove all the invasive species such as tilapia and armored catfish and restore the fresh and brackish native species? Further, where are the ACE plans to more fully remediate the polluted water with such riparian plants as akulikuli? An experimental test has already been done.

- One other point, has the ACE designed the "sluice gates" (I assume these are backflow preventers) as a way to keep the waters from backing up and popping many storm drain covers on higher ground? This water surge does happen in hurricanes and other fierce storms.

Again, please invite me to be a member of a serious review panel. Thank you,

Laura Ruby

509 University Ave. #902

366-0847 947-3641

lruby@hawaii.edu

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 6:33:55 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
colette fujii	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this bill

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 6:34:00 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kamuela Park	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

- The public, community and stakeholders were not properly engaged;
- The public not have a chance to ask questions and get answers;
- The public did not have a chance to recommend better alternatives;
- Destruction of natural streams and acres of natural habitat;
- Increase in sedimentation and runoff;
- Detention basins are huge, unnatural and ugly;
- Detention basins upstream are difficult to keep clear from debris and subject to clogging;
- Detention basins, if clogged, will be breached from smaller storms;
- Detention basins when actively filled can be a safety hazard;
- These detention basins will affect view and property values around and downstream of them;
- Some of these detention basins will impact parks and schools;
- Kaimuki/Kapahulu stormwater is intercepted at the Ala Wai Canal and pumped into the aquifer near the end of the Canal;

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 8:07:00 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kawaiuluhonua	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

Having lived along Pukele stream for most of my life, I know that because of how the stream flows, the construction of these basins will cause more damage than not. Haven't we learned from the Ala Wai to never try to control the natural flow of water? Concrete is not the solution. Maybe focus all this time and money on an actual solution to the environmental problems we are facing. Oahu could be the world's model for sustainability if we actually focused on important environmental issues. A couple of million dollar dams to prevent a flood that may or may not happen is not productive at all. Waikiki was once a marsh. If a once in a hundred year flood happens, then if anything, that is what Waikiki needs. We've been in denial about the harmful disrespect to our aina for too long. It's time that the people in power start to actually make pono choices. This is bigger than you think. Please consider what everyone has to say.

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 8:29:42 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Hannah Aldridge	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 8:40:39 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alicia Scanlan	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

I am a homeowner on Ipulei Place and am in the zone of condemned land. I love my home and feel that the government has given me no say or due process in this project. Thus, I oppose the Ala Wai Canal Project due to the following:

- The public, community and stakeholders were not properly engaged;
- The public not have a chance to ask questions and get answers;
- The public did not have a chance to recommend better alternatives;
- Destruction of natural steams and acres of natural habitat;
- Increase in sedimentation and runoff;
- Detention basins are huge, unnatural and ugly;
- Detention basins upstream are difficult to keep clear from debris and subject to clogging;
- Detention basins, if clogged, will be breached from smaller storms;
- Detention basins when actively filled can be a safety hazard;
- These detention basins will affect view and property values around and downstream of them;

Mahalo nui,

Alicia Scanlan

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 8:53:54 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ashlyn Okamoto	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 9:02:12 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
wes porter	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

The public, community and stakeholders were not properly engaged.

Had the stakeholders been engaged, the bill sponsors would learn the significant impact of the bill as compared to the extremely low likelihood of the event the bill seeks to prevent against.



**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 9:23:00 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nanea Lo	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Hello,

My name is Nanea Lo and I'm a resident of Kaimukā and was born and raised on O'ahu. I am a native Hawaiian and a full-time urban and regional planning masters student. I am writing because I STRONGLY OPPOSE this bill and I'm hoping you all do to.

This bill has all these reasons below why it shouldn't be passed:

- The public, community and stakeholders were not properly engaged;
- The public not have a chance to ask questions and get answers;
- The public did not have a chance to recommend better alternatives;
- Destruction of natural streams and acres of natural habitat;
- Increase in sedimentation and runoff;
- Detention basins are huge, unnatural and ugly;
- Detention basins upstream are difficult to keep clear from debris and subject to clogging;
- Detention basins, if clogged, will be breached from smaller storms;
- Detention basins when actively filled can be a safety hazard;
- These detention basins will affect view and property values around and downstream of them;
- Some of these detention basins will impact parks and schools;
- Kaimuki/Kapahulu stormwater is intercepted at the Ala Wai Canal and pumped into the aquifer near the end of the Canal;
- The 4ft solid concrete wall (as high as 4.5 feet tall) surrounding the Canal is an eyesore, will block views for residents and tourists;
- Against seizing and using private properties and lands near public schools;
- Question the accuracy of the 100-year flood model and property damage figures;

All of this is EXTREMELY alarming to me as I care about the water resources of this land and the sustainability of the 'Āina that we live on and that includes the streams and the water.

Please oppose this bill.

Thank you,

Nanea Lo

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 9:24:22 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Macy Uyehara	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 9:31:40 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
lori hadlock	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 9:36:24 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Misty Lam	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 9:38:38 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cameron Pascua	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 9:40:11 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alyssa Ujimori	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 9:44:40 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Carter Uechi	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I think that this will bring with it negative environmental implications and we should not build a dam.



**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 9:51:03 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
C	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**I oppose SB77 the Ala Wai Canal Project. I feel that this project may not have been studied thoroughly and the impact to save Waikiki and displace hard working, tax paying citizens of our State at the cost of building Detention Basins which will destroy natural habitats, disturb lwi, and could have further ramifications such like the nuuanu reservoir hitting capacity which put 10,000 people's homes in jeopardy and requiring emergency pumping.**

**IF this project is to prepare for the 100 year storm, has the EIS taken in to consideration the rising sea levels? Also with any storm, it is not only the rain that could be threat to cause flooding, but it was also be the turbulent seas that can pose a problem. I think threats such as Tsunami's are more of a threat to Waikiki.**

**I also do not believe that with the controversy over the rail and the state possibly having to reimburse the Federal Government Millions of dollars for not meeting the agreement, as a taxpayer, I do not believe that it is in the best interest to invest 130+ million dollars to this project. I do believe that our State dollars can be invested in to better resources that will serve the people of Hawai'i better.**

**Also, has the state taken in to consideration the maintenance costs of these Detention basins and the concrete walls bordering the Ala Wai Canal? If the state, tasked with maintaining our streams are unable to assure that our current streams are maintained, how can the State assure the public that maintenance will be performed regularly to prevent debris from clogging the streams?**

**This is just a small list of my concerns and I hope you take into consideration the impact this will have on the tax paying citizens whom live and work Hawai'i and are contributing members to society.**

**Thank you**

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 9:51:35 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kaley Kelling	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 9:59:56 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sarah OBrien	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

I am writing as a resident of Honolulu and Palolo Valley specifically, to oppose funding for the Ala Wai project - SB77.

I have worked for the Federal government for a number of years and am currently employed by an environmental non-profit organization. That experience has taught me the importance of stakeholder engagement and working authentically to find mutually beneficial solutions to environmental and economic challenges. The two often go hand in hand, and as such should be considered together. Sacrificing the environment for the sake of, in this case, fears of potential economic loss to the State, is short-sighted.

Obviously the tourist hub of Waikiki is important to Honolulu, the State and all of the residents that work there, but sacrificing your local communities, forest habitats, streams and residencies through the construction of a detention basin is a poor solution to this perceived threat and one that my family and I strongly oppose.

If protecting the Ala Wai is a priority to the county and state, there should be a collaborative, public process to identify a solution that will have minimal impact on local residents and the environment. From our perspective it feels like the Army Core is carrying a hammer in search of a nail.

Please don't be persuaded to fund this project out of fear, but stand up and oppose SB77 on behalf of the public, the mountains and our streams. Commit to tapping into our local expertise to find a new and better way to protect Waikiki in the event of a 100 year storm. I question whether that should be our top priority, but at the very least, if you do want to move forward with an Ala Wai project, don't let it be this one.

Thank you for your time and consideration of these comments.

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 10:12:19 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stuart Scott	Individual	Oppose	Yes

## Comments:

I am a resident of Palolo Valley for the past 30 years. I oppose this bill with the perspective of someone who has been involved internationally with the immense problem of climate change. I am somewhat of an expert on the subject, in fact.

The effort to dam streams in the backs of valleys is an ill-conceived way of dealing with the flooding that will happen more frequently and severely. There is no level of preparation that will be adequate for the flooding that will be occurring in coming years. The project is stated as protection from a 100-year flood event. That alone indicates to me that the project is couched in obsolete ways of thinking. Climate change is going exponential, just as the provocation by human civilization has gone exponential over the decades. What used to be a 100-year flood event will be occurring every 10-20 years and what used to be a 500-year event will be occurring every 5 to 10 years before long. And those time estimates may prove to be underestimates of the problem as well.

We have already see the results of death and destruction from dams that were breached by forces greater than what they were designed for. It would be fool-hardy to think that we could design something to hold back water in excess of anything we have seen historically in the Hawaiian Islands.

Building these dams would be a foolish waste of taxpayer money, and would be a sacrifice of the commons of several streams and the species that inhabit them (like the ones whose life cycles take them from ocean to mountain) for the sake of commercial interests of corporations in Waikiki. Waikiki was built upon drained swamp. No amount of clever engineering will prevent the 'wai' and 'kai' from reclaiming it under the pressure of rising oceans and greater downpours that are the inevitable result of climate change.

Sincerely,

Stuart Scott

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 10:16:25 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jordan H Wong	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

I am in opposition of the funding of the Ala Wai Canal Project in its current form. We all realize the need for proper flood control with the increase in global warming but it must be done in a prudent and responsible way. With the construction of these detention basins, all of our streams that feed the Ala Wai Canal will be irreparably damaged forever. The current design being 150 feet wide with an 80 foot spillway at the top being 35 feet tall, the existing stream bed that is barely 10 feet wide in some places will be totally destroyed. It is an extreme over engineering feat which will raise questions of maintenance and safety (especially for those residents and schools downstream). The City and County will be hardpressed to maintain them as evidenced by the lack of maintenance of the Woodlawn Bridge which caused massive flooding of the UH Hamilton Library in the past.

I feel the Army corps needs to slow down and address the many community concerns and ask for additional stakeholder and public input to developing a more cost effective and ecological solution taking into considering our Hawaiian way of taking care of our natural resources instead of throwing concrete into our streams and taking private lands to control public waters. Please DO NOT ALLOW THE USACE TO RUSH THIS ALL IMPORTANT PROJECT THRU JUST BECAUSE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT APPROVED THE FUNDING. MORE "PONO" ALTERNATIVES NEED TO BE DEVELOPED!

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Wong

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 10:48:08 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Camryn Fujita	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 10:53:44 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
MEA Frantz	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

- The public, community and stakeholders were not properly engaged;
- The public not have a chance to ask questions and get answers;
- Against seizing and using private properties and lands near public schools;
- Question the accuracy of the 100-year flood model and property damage figures;

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 11:28:03 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lara Cowell	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

Our family lives close to the proposed Pukele Debris and Detention Basin and strongly opposes the Ala Wai Canal Project for several reasons.

- Affected residents, the Palolo community, and stakeholders were inadequately notified as to the scope and scale of the project. They were also denied the opportunity to provide input on the Feasibility Study and Environmental Impact statement or propose alternatives.
- The dam structure is not only an unnecessary eyesore, built for an unlikely event, but its construction will destroy nearly a thousand feet of natural stream and habitat, as well as increase sedimentation and runoff.
- The detention basin itself, without careful, ongoing maintenance and upkeep, will create hazardous conditions for our neighborhood. These safety hazards include, but are not limited to, drowning, exposure to contaminated water, and spikes in the mosquito population and associated disease vectors. Basins are difficult to clean, and if clogged with debris, will be breached by smaller, normal storms, causing flooding and property damage.
- It is highly morally reprehensible to seize and use private properties and lands near public schools. Good neighbors whose houses adjoin the stream are being forcibly evicted from their homes, disrupting our close-knit community. Public safety and the welfare of citizens have been woefully ignored in this case!



**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 11:40:05 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lisa Tengan	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 12:09:26 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Evan	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 1:19:52 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Cowell	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

*Our family lives close to the proposed Pukele Debris and Detention Basin and strongly opposes the Ala Wai Canal Project for multitudinous reasons.*

*Affected residents, the Palolo community, and resident stakeholders were inadequately notified in clear language as to the scope and scale of the project. Residents were also denied the opportunity to provide input on the Feasibility Study and Environmental Impact statement or propose alternatives. The notice that was given, many years ago, stated that the project was to "expand the stream to improve drainage." Now we find out this is not the case: it's to build a berm or dam in our backyard!*

*The proposed dam structure is not only a profound eyesore, and built for an unlikely event, but its construction will destroy nearly a thousand feet of natural stream and habitat, as well as increase sedimentation and runoff. What is the effect to the environment once you change the flow of a stream, a stream that has been operating successfully for hundreds of years?*  
*I,*

*The detention basin itself, without careful, ongoing maintenance and upkeep, will create hazardous conditions for our neighborhood. These safety hazards include, but are not limited to, drowning, exposure to contaminated water, and spikes in the mosquito population and associated disease vectors. Basins are difficult to clean, and if clogged with debris, will be breached by smaller, normal storms, causing flooding and property damage. No indication is given as to who, when, and how the "detention basin" will be maintained.*  
*I,*

*The Ala Wai Canal Project, which ironically, begins at the back of several O`ahu valleys, is a case of Hawai`i government trying to do "good," without fully taking into account the irreparable environmental degradation and social damage that forced displacement will cause upstream. In addition, it is highly morally reprehensible to seize and use private properties and lands near public schools. Good neighbors whose houses adjoin the stream are being forcibly evicted from their homes, disrupting our close-knit community. Public safety and the welfare of*

*citizens have been woefully ignored in this case! We are looking to a future beyond a a one-hundred-year event!*

*Please consider our sincere and serious concerns.*

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 1:29:37 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Krystal Mokuahi	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose SB77 SD1 because the public wasn't allowed a chance to plan and suggest alternative solutions.

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 7:03:14 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
SGT Shane Seggar	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

As a resident of Palolo Valley, I oppose SB77.

The reasons I oppose are:

- The public, community and stakeholders were not properly engaged;
- The public not have a chance to ask questions and get answers;
- The public did not have a chance to recommend better alternatives;
- I am against seizing and using private properties and lands near public schools - this alone will put an unnecessary fiscal burden on homeowners whose property will be condemned and taken at less than market value.
- I question the accuracy of the 100-year flood model and property damage figures. If this is to benefit Waikiki businesses, then Waikiki Businesses should shoulder the cost to buy private properties at market value.
- Detention basins upstream are difficult to keep clear from debris and subject to clogging;
- Detention basins, if clogged, will be breached from smaller storms;
- Detention basins when actively filled can be a safety hazard;
- These detention basins will affect view and property values around and downstream of them;
- Some of these detention basins will impact parks and schools.
- Safety and fiscal responsibility (oversight for the project and fair market value buyouts of private properties) are my biggest concerns. Until there is a genuine way to solve these concerns, there is no way that I would support this bill.

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 7:15:54 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Chrystal Tamera	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 7:23:08 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bart Kellner	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Sea level rising is more threatening. This is a stupid bill.



I oppose the funding of SB77 until there has been a re-evaluation of the needed Ala Wai Flood Control Project.

This project was started in 1998 by DLNR as an ecosystem restoration project of the Ala Wai Canal. In 2004 DLNR invited the USACE (US Army Corps of Engineers) in and the project grew to become the Ala Wai Flood Control project that we see today. USACE has strict guidelines about the cost value of a project and the infrastructure parameters that must be met before it can be involved.

### **“SOFT ENGINEERING” NOT INCORPORATED**

I am concerned that all the ‘soft engineering’ such as bioswales, legislation that would require more water absorption around houses in the valley ie. grasscrete filled with gravel or grass, green areas around each house is not being implemented, rather wall to wall concrete is being installed. Not only is there no water absorption, there is massive increase in heat as there are no trees or grass thus requiring the use of air conditioners. Yes, housing is a problem but it doesn’t have to be at such a detriment to the environment. Rainfall pours off the sides of the valley during rain events and goes into storm drains and into the canals. This waterflow happens DOWNSTREAM of these proposed basins.

Bioswales should be built into all medians. Sides of the public park along Palolo culvert should be turned into absorption areas and signage installed stating the purpose and potential dangers. Hardened culverts only speed the flow of water towards the Ala Wai and do not allow for absorption.

### **PLACEMENT OF BASINS – on public not private lands**

The basins themselves are massive structures – 30’ h x 75’w x 100’ thick with a 700 – 1000 foot basin above and a scouring basin below which will totally destroy the stream in that area. In Palolo the streams where these basins are tentatively scheduled to be built are 5’ – 10’ wide and in the middle of a residential area. If these must be built they should be build on BOWS or state/federal/city lands farther up the valley.

### **NECESSITY**

However, I question the necessity for these basins on the 2 streams in Palolo. We, who live on the stream, have over the years experienced the sudden, short, intense rainfalls and never have seen it rise above a certain point and if it did it would first flood a lot of the open land on either side of the valley. One of the reasons for the detention basins is to catch debris and silt. There are 2 bridges not far from the planned detention basin on Waiomao stream. Any debris would first catch at these bridges yet since 1920, when the first of these bridges was built, this has never happened.

### **MAINTENANCE**

In our association we are very aware of our responsibility of keeping our part of the stream clear and after each event remove any debris that has come down. I feel the city/state should actively engage and educate people & schools living along the streams to participate in keeping the streams clean. A neighbour told me his neighbour by 10<sup>th</sup> Ave bridge cut down his mango tree and dumped the whole thing in the stream. A detention basin will not catch that. The 808 Beach Cleanup program is highly successful. The City’s Adopt a Stream program has some support but in general gets little public exposure.

The largest issue with these detention basins is the necessity of never-ending timely maintenance by the City to remove the debris from these basins, otherwise they will become silted up, retain water and in the event of a large rain event can possible overflow and fail as they are not meant to be full time dams,

rather temporary water detention basins. The City is already overtaxed taking care of its current maintenance obligations. A relevant example is the Wailupe Stream in Aiea which flooded in April of this year. There is a city built 10' detention basin on the stream yet it flooded because of all the debris and silt that was DOWNSTREAM of the basin which the city had not cleaned up. The Woodlawn flood in 2004 was because the stream in that area was not kept clean.

**There absolutely must be in place never-ending funding for MAINTENANCE if this project proceeds and also a plan for monitoring. There should be some process for the public to check to see this monitoring and maintenance is actually done.**

#### **FLOOD DAMAGE MODELING – A NECESSITY**

There is nothing in the EIS on what will happen to residents downstream if any of these basins fail. USACE needs to provide this kind of modeling. This kind of modeling is crucial. I live above the 100 year flood line, not above a dam bursting flood line.

#### **VERACITY/COLLECTION OF DATA**

While I am sure USACE has done a thorough job, they also have an agenda and present 'facts' in a light which advocates for their project. One number tossed about for 'flood damage' is the reference to the damage to Manoa from the 2004 flood. It cites 94 million. However, a large part of that damage, about 25 million, was to irreplaceable historic documents that were stored in the basement of the Hamilton library. Not that 70 million is a small amount but if you don't drill down, at first glance it would seem there was 94 million in structural damage which is 1/3 more than the actual damage. Where is the data for the flood modeling gathered from? How many sites? For how long? Are these collection sites even working or reliable? It is my understanding that the basis for this flood modeling is always changing – today's 10 year flood could be tomorrow's 1 year flood.

In closing, there is no question there is a need for water management in the Ala Wai and Waikiki area. However, I feel there is a need for an overall re-thinking of the project incorporating sea level rise and more soft engineering rather than damming up our pristine small streams. And as a resident living directly below one of these proposed basins I do not feel safe having such a large structure requiring never ending maintenance built nearby. It should be on public land, away from a residential area.

Respectfully submitted,  
SIDNEY LYNCH  
2540 Makaulii Rd  
Palolo Valley  
Waiomao Stream

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 8:05:19 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Drew T Matsumoto	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

1. If basins must be buildt, no basins on private lands only on public or govt lands
2. do not fund this project has been reconsidered with atdding in more eco-friendly alternatives that don't destroy the stream bed
3. Incorporate sea level rise
4. If built maintenance assurance in perpetuity
6. Dam failure flood models needed

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 8:11:55 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kaitlyn Flores	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 8:25:08 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mike Doran	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 8:29:48 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Naomi Ignas	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

Regarding detention basins, there are clear public safety concerns outlined in this paper by scientists at the University of Colorado - Denver: [http://www.ucdenver.edu/faculty-staff/jguo/Documents/papers/\(SP6\)SAFETY%20OF%20DETENTION%20AND%20RETENTION%20PONDS.pdf](http://www.ucdenver.edu/faculty-staff/jguo/Documents/papers/(SP6)SAFETY%20OF%20DETENTION%20AND%20RETENTION%20PONDS.pdf)

Highlights of the article: steep sides pose a drowning hazard for anyone who may get caught in the basins, and many standard detention basins do not have adequate draining structures established. The article proposes a few ways to make the basins safer.

There are risks in building basins in the areas proposed, particularly that they may introduce more localized flooding to residential areas. More areas of standing water increase the likelihood of infection from leptospirosis, common in our fresh waterways that are not naturally rapidly moving.

I do agree that the Ala Wai canal needs an update of some sort, but building a tall wall (limiting the already-strained view in Waikiki, isolating folks from easy access for the activities already taking place in the canal, like paddling, parades in the area on holidays, etc.), creating large basins of runoff water that sits near residences and schools, and the destruction of natural streams to obtain this is what I oppose.

I propose the public become more involved in the decisions for this large undertaking, especially considering the impact to residences and the waterways of our small island.

Please vote NO on SB77, and meet with your local science community to create an alternative method to limit flood-damage and protect our island.

Thank you,

Naomi Ignas

February 20, 2019

Re: Senate Bill 77 SD1  
Ala Wai Flood Risk Management Project

To Whom It May Concern:

This testimony is to OPPOSE the funding for the Ala Wai Canal Project. I live next to Kanewai Field (proposed detention basin) and have a child who attends Hokulani School. I was not properly informed of the project and did not have a chance to participate in discussions. I feel the process for informing stakeholders was not followed.

I fear for the safety of the students and staff of Hokulani School should this detention basin be built in Kanewai Field. The school currently uses the field for emergency access, as an evacuation area, for P.E., for recess, and for other school-related activities. The construction of the berm would limit airflow to the school and any water left standing could pose various health risks such as the proliferation of mosquitoes, algae, and even drowning. If the detention basin should overtop, the school and surrounding homes would flood.

In addition, as a resident in the area, my backyard is adjacent to Kanewai Field and my view would be severely obstructed by the construction of the berm, bringing down my property value and possibly raising my flood insurance rates.

My children utilize Kanewai Field and Park on a daily basis, playing various sports and attending the City and County Summer Fun Program. This would no longer be a feasible or safe option for my family if the detention basin were to be built. It would not be usable if there is water in the basin. If dry, the contaminated water diverted from the stream would pollute the field with pathogens and/or other toxic sediment.

As I am writing this testimony, emergency services are using Kanewai Field to land a helicopter. I have seen the field used for this purpose to rescue those in need and assist in fighting fires in this and surrounding communities.

There are many reasons to halt this project to allow for more careful consideration of the impacts and to fully explore other options. Again, I OPPOSE the funding for the Ala Wai Canal Project. Thank you for taking the time to read this testimony.

Judy Yamane

Community Member  
Registered Nurse

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 8:37:26 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Darin Au	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

I am a resident on Ipulei Pl, adjacent to Pukele Stream in Palolo Valley. We had not been properly notified nor allowed to provide input into this major project on our street which would also cause people to lose their homes.

Construction of the berm would cause potential health and safety issues on our street, including but not limited to mosquito borne illnesses, flooding due to improper maintenance, and a place for criminal activity.

We, the residents mauka, are paying the price to save big business in Waikiki. This is not pono.



**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 8:38:19 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cliff & Mary DeVries	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

1. There was limited public notice of a \$345 million project to build multiple 50-foot dams or retention basins in our neighborhoods and then to build a 4-foot retaining wall around the entire Ala Wai Canal. This is a very unattractive project with good intentions perhaps, but what about a project that would maintain the beauty of Hawaii and not rape the environment? Here is the story:
2. Herzog the lead engineer with the Army Corps of Engineers, ACE, placed a miniscule notice in the local paper about meetings in Ala Wai and Manoa Valley concerning the Ala Wai Flood Control project. (This was a complete subterfuge to keep the public in dark about the project.) The notice would NEVER have cause people in Palolo Valley, Makiki and Manoa Valley, Honolulu, to think they would need to attend. The meetings were about 50-foot detention basins that are planned in these valleys above residential areas and a 4-foot retaining wall around the Ala Wai Canal. There should have been notifications to all households in the valleys. There are alternatives to this project. What ACE is planning are massive dams for 2 - 5' wide streams in Palolo and Manoa Valleys, and Makiki, forever destroying the pristine stream environments. The environmental impact study that was completed was also a planned effort by ACE to avoid public scrutiny. It was not readily available. This idea of subterfuge seems to be the M.O., Modus operandi, of ACE--hide the details of a project, get funding from the Federal Government, then the state Government and proceed with their plans. People found out about ACE's environmentally inept project only when their properties were condemned for the building of the water retention basins.

The project was rushed through by ACE with almost no community input. ACE did little to contact the community. The project was hurried through by the Federal Government and the local government without much thought. The money the Federal government is allocating for the project, \$211 million is very attractive for state labor unions and the state economy. The state could soon appropriate another \$135 million for the project (SB77).

Thanks for your help in thwarting this project.

Cliff and Mary DeVries

Concerned homeowners below the 50-foot planned retention basin in Palolo

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 8:38:40 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jean Roster	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My family and I live on Waiomao Road and on Waiomao Stream and have owned our property since 2001. We have been through the 40 day rain and many, many heavy storms and king tides. The water has only once left the stream bed since 2001.

**The natural stream bed** is what keeps the stream flowing. A huge concern is **who is managing the upkeep of this detention basin keeping it from clogging and flooding the back of the valley and then causing a possible breach; stagnant water and disease; how does this serve the community when it's empty?**  
**(Kanewai Park)**

**I ask the committee members to walk the stream** and see what sort of debris could wash down and block the basin - there is a lot! The natural stream bed allows for this debris to flow out rather than jam up the flow.

**The community didn't know about this until the news brought it about - I am against the building of the basins in all the communities. I see it as a safety hazard and a horrible disruption of nature. I am against the seizing and use of private lands for this project and for using public parks. If there is a breach the water will flood very densely populated communities and schools. SCHOOLS!**

**Teach and support the community to care for their auwai** - their stream beds so there is a better flow. Concrete keeps the water from sinking into the land where it should go. How about a large swale.

**What happens upstream will create problems downstream** - the construction and run off will hurt our beaches, oceans and reefs. That will create another problem in Waikiki. I can't imagine a 4ft wall around the Ala Wai.

**Engage the community to find a better solution.**

**Reassess at the 100 year flood model**

**Create an Auwai Project for community members to protect our natural stream beds.** Great opportunity to use our houseless/homeless/jobless community members - rehabilitate them to care for the auwai and be part of the community.

I hope you hear me. **I hope you understand the long term ramifications of this project. It changes the 'aina and the community beyond repair.** Please look at other options.

**Mahalo a nui,**

Jean Waileia Davis Roster

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 8:55:10 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Youtz	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose SB77 for many reasons:

It involves the modification/destruction of natural stream beds and habitat.

The public, community and stakeholders were not properly engaged.

I do not think all the alternatives to detention basins were fully explored.

The computer modelling for these floods is unproven and suspect.

The public did not have a chance to recommend better alternatives.

Detention basins upstream are difficult to keep clear from debris and subject to clogging.

It is unlikely that these detention basins will be properly maintained.

Detention basins when actively filled can be a safety hazard and have cost lives in the past.

For these reasons I oppose the Ala Wai Project as planned and ask that you vote no on SB77.

Sincerely ,

David Youtz

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:06:55 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kristi Desaucido	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Need more input from community. Please do not begin project without considering more options.

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:15:17 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kaleihulu Victor	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:15:30 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mapuana Hardy- Kahaleoumi	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:



**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:15:36 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kalamapua?ena P Abad	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:15:39 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kamalupawehi Abad	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:18:35 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kekai Mahiai	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:18:42 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kaiini Paul	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:19:21 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jonah	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose Senate bill SB77

We realize the importance of our voices when we are silenced. I'm here not only for my school, Halau Ku Mana, but other families and schools in neighboring valleys of Mānoa and Pālolo that this project will ultimately affect. I agree that measures should be taken to avoid flooding, however destroying more land and natural resources can not be the answer. Why can't the federal funds be used to research and develop more natural and economical ways for our stream water to flow unobstructed to the sea. Find ways to open up the obstacles and naturally filter and drain the water on it's way to the ocean. Water diversion is a temporary fix that will have immediate and generational consequences. In essence this project is attempting to treat the symptoms of the disease, but not treating the disease itself. Displacing families, confiscating land in a state where homelessness is a major issue in itself, and destroying streams in an attempt to control mother nature is ignorant and irresponsible.

In our school we are taught to take care of and preserve the land through our cultural practices. We are actively involved in our community and help organize Mākiki stream clean up. It's exhilarating and calming at the same time to hear the stream flow freely after we've emptied out a container's worth of trash people have carelessly dumped in the stream. We have helped to bring back the flooded terraces (lo'i) in Aihualama, located in Manoa and are monitoring the freshwater feeding our kalo patches. The land living and thriving when cared for properly. We give and it gives back. Your project will directly impact our school and the community. Where we learn, what we learn and how we learn!

Waikiki means spouting water. That whole area was marshland fed by fresh springs and streams flowing directly from Makiki, Mānoa and Pālolo. It was alive with, fish ponds, taro patches and rice fields that matched the natural landscape. The first thing to interrupt the natural flow was “Waikiki Road”, constructed in the 1860’s now known as Kalākaua Avenue, that cut through the taro patches, rice and duck farms. It cut off the natural outlets to the ocean known as **Waikolu**, “Three Waters”. To compensate for the stench and backups as a result of the road, the Ala Wai Canal was constructed in 1921-1924 to help restore flow. Now water from all three valleys enter one 2 mile long silt and pollutant **trap** that empties out from ONE area into the ocean affecting our reefs and shorelines. More “complications and compensations” followed with the Ala Wai canal over the years which has brought us to our present condition. The proposed solution is more “*Compensation and Diversion*”! Why can’t the solution be restoration! No matter what people tell you, words and ideas can change the world.

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:35:12 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kaleo Kamai	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:



**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:40:47 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kauikeolani Naniolo	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:51:47 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kuuleianuhea Awo-Chun	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

Before funds are appropriated for this project, more information gathering needs to occur from the communities upland of the Ala Wai. While it is imperative that we prepare for impending climate change and extreme weather, it is also important to seek out solutions from the entire ahupua'a. There are potential solutions that could maintain the safety of the Ala Wai communities that do not. With that, I oppose the funding of this project until more input is gathered from the communities of Palolo, Manoa, Makiki, and the other affected lowland areas.

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:56:22 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Trevor Atkins	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha members of the Senate,

The State should not pay for a project specific to the City & County of Honolulu. Waikā«kā» does generate lots of tax dollars, but it already receives its fair share of State tax money in return. If the State is going to fund flood mitigation, it should consider a budget to protect the STATE from a 100-year or catastrophic flood event. This includes support for Hilo, which was recently flooded, Kaua'i, which was recently flooded, and Kahului, which is at risk of flooding. Why should we preference our visitor industry over our own constituents?

Ke aloha,

Trevor Atkins

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:56:25 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kanani Aea	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

enough of punishing us taxpayers!! save our Forest and homes!!

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 10:04:48 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nozomi Heenan	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I OPPOSE to funding the Ala Wai flood mitigation project.

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 10:05:55 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Eric Heenan	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose to funding the Ala Wai flood mitigation project

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 10:19:05 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David O'Brien	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

Thank you for offering this opportunity for public comment on Senate Bill 77.

I'm pleased to be able to submit my opposition to this bill today, for the primary reason that I feel like this project has been advanced without clear public review. I knew nothing about the project, despite living on Ipulei PI -- where the proposed dam in Palolo Valley will be built, until some of my concerned neighbors brought this bill and the whole Ala Wai Canal project to my attention in the past two weeks.

I am a biologist and have worked in and around streams for my more than 25 year professional career to date.

I have serious concerns and questions about the project described in this bill, and wonder if potential alternative measures have been adequately considered. In addition, as a taxpayer, I would highlight the ongoing costs associated with the earthen dams and berms that are proposed -- such as ongoing sediment removal and monitoring and eventual repair and/or replacement of these structures in the future.

I also am skeptical of the proposed projects ability to prevent flooding in and around Waikiki given the compounding effects of sea level rise - something that this project will do nothing to address.

I would suggest that a 100 year or greater flood event would most likely occur after considerable rain and ground saturation prior to the flood causing rain event, and that the proposed water holding structures - that would likely already be partially filled with sediment deposited during smaller floods - would be completely full at the time of the flood event, and thus do absolutely nothing to prevent downstream flooding.

This project is a very expensive one in terms of public funds, impact to private property, and seems unlikely to be able to prevent - and may even exacerbate - the damages of extreme flood events.

Again, I strongly OPPOSE the bill as written, and suggest that additional public review of options for flood control in the Ala Wai Canal be considered.

Thank you again for this opportunity to provide my comments.

Sincerely,

David O'Brien



**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 10:28:04 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Justina Desuacido	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

The Ala Wai Project has not been thoroughly reviewed by the citizens who have the most to lose - property owners, business and homeowners.

Planning must be done, but it should be done with the input of the people who will be affected by this program.

This bill is premature. Parties should team up with Army Corp of Engineers only after community has had sufficient input and other plans are considered.

Therefore I strongly oppose passage of this bill.

Aloha,

Chair, Senator Donovan Dela Cruz  
Vice Chair, Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran  
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

I strongly urge you to vote in OPPOSITION to SB 77 SD 1 Relating to Capital Improvement Projects.

Recently we were made aware of this bill and how the passage of it will greatly affect the school where I work. After looking at the plans for the project, it will run right through our Hawaiian charter school, Hālau Kū Māna (HKM). I have been working at this school since 2006 and after being in several types of schools during my field work in education, I cannot express enough about how this school is an asset to Hawai'i and Hawaiian education. Our Hawai'i students thrive in our school, our school culture, and as members of our communities.

My students and their families are worried, some crying about the plans for this project to run right through our school campus. My students fear losing their school and I am fearful that a place where I have invested so much of myself is on the brink of being destroyed to protect non-locals and a visitor industry. We have invested our blood, sweat and tears into our school; our students have literally invested all three into the land where we exist. We built our school with our hands, from the ground up and with the help of generations of families. We got into the stream, explored its ecosystem, participated in community clean-ups, planted, bathed, splashed water, and shared memories. Our stream feeds our crops and other sustainability projects that our students use to supplement their academics. The stream is a vital part of our campus and the campus is part of who we are and how HKM exists.

This project is costly for our state, it takes away money that can be used in other more critical areas/projects to a project that will seemingly only benefit non-local residents at the expense of our locals. Our locals have been through a lot through the history of Hawai'i and have existed in the affected regions for generations, with have deep roots into their communities. Local-residents should be the priority in every decision at the Capitol as I am finding that I become more and more upset that our locally elected lawmakers are constantly catering to these billionaire developers, the military and non-locals. This project proposes that it is working within public interests and is necessary for the health, safety, and general welfare of the State- I must disagree. It does not work in the best interest of the people as people have been expressing at the neighborhood board meetings.

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 10:36:34 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Millard Wong	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate,

I oppose the passing of Senate Bill SB77 to stop the funding for the Ala Wai flood control project for the following reasons:

- The public, community and stakeholders were not properly engaged;
- The public not have a chance to ask questions and get answers;
- The public did not have a chance to recommend better alternatives;
- Destruction of natural steams and acres of natural habitat;

Please review the project design carefully to ensure it is done properly and correctly to ensure the State of Hawaii doesn't create another Superferry blunder. Changes to Hawaii's natural environment such as the contruction of the Ala Wai flood project can take place over a few short years but any shortsighted plans are endured by the generations of our children.

Mahalo, Millard Wong

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 10:49:11 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Wilma Youtz	Testifying for Baruch Bakar	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 10:51:02 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Wong	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

As a stakeholder whose home is impacted by this project, we have not been properly notified that our home and lot will face eminent domain. Please consider utilizing public lands first to control the flow of public water instead of seizing private lands to control public water resources as there are hundreds of watershed acres and public parks and golf courses that could be used as effective detention basins as alternative sites costing much less and just as effective.

I definitely oppose the project in its current form.

Jennifer Wong

**LATE**

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 11:20:44 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nolan Nakamura	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Strongly oppose providing funding for this measure without proper stakeholder testimony and public awareness of this project,

**LATE**

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 11:56:55 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brandon Keoni Bunag	Testifying for Halau Ku Mana Public Charter School	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha -

Halau Ku Mana PCS is OPPOSED to this measure which will provide for the State (City's) 35% matching funds for the Ala Wai 100yr flood mitigation project. A detention basin is being planned for adjacent to and very near our campus. Our concern is that we have yet to be consulted or made aware of this project from its organizers (Army Corps of Engineers).

We agree that as a community, we need to come together to plan for the increase of inclement weather patterns. Further, as the caretakers of that 'Ā• ina that we have been given kuleana over, including a portion of the Makiki stream, we feel that we have a vested interest in any project that will impact the natural landscape of Makiki Valley.

Our educational principles are grounded in 'ike kupuna - - which serves as a reference point for how we are to interact with our environment - - thus, mitigating inclement weather is not a new problem, but one the has had viable and sustainable solutions in our past. Despite the fact that we have not been consulted with, we, as a school community (ohana, students, faculty, staff, MM and all partners) desire to engage with the Army Corp Of Engineers and facilitate our community in problem-solving an issue that impacts all of us.

Until such a time where our school community and the community around us can come to the table with the Army Corps of Engineers, we are OPPOSED to this project moving forward.

Mahalo for your time,

Brandon K. Bunag, Ed.D. - Po'o Kumu

**LATE**

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 12:09:51 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joanna Howard	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Strongly opposed



**LATE**

Senator Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Gilbert Keith-Agnaran, Vice Chair  
Senator Committee on Ways and Means  
United State Legislation  
Honolulu, Hawaii

In opposition to SB77 SD1 - Capital Improvement Projects; Ala Wai Canal; Appropriation (\$)

Aloha mai kakou:

The legislation addressing the Ala Wai Project is of paramount interest to me because I am both a resident and employee that will be affected by this change and this issue directly impacts my students, my profession and my place of residence.

I am primarily concerned about how this project will alter the physical characteristics of our streams by way of concreting them in to flumes and creating dams because the state is concerned with the tourist hot spot flooding. From recent events not just here in Hawai'i but on the continental United States, it's a fact that dams rarely do better than harm. The same goes for concreting our stream. This money would be better spent hiring more forestry workers to maintain the banks and surrounding areas naturally instead of modifying our land further. The beauty of Hawai'i is our natural scenery, culture, and forests so why are we changing that? There are better and more sustainable ways to alleviate the stress of a possible flood and what has been proposed is not the way to go it should be handled.

Although I have read reports of your position in the newspapers, I realize this may not fully represent your viewpoint. Therefore, I will look forward to your reply expressing your opinions, and your current stance on the issue.

Thank you for your consideration of my viewpoint on this matter. I believe it is an important issue, and would like to see the legislation fail or be amended.

Sincerely,

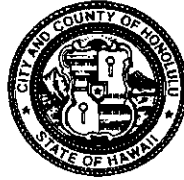
*Kahoali'i Keahi-Wood,  
2008 Kamalalehua Place  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
1(808)781-0126  
kahoaliikeahi@gmail.com*

DEPARTMENT OF DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 11<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
Phone: (808) 768-8480 • Fax: (808) 768-4567  
Web site: [www.honolulu.gov](http://www.honolulu.gov)

**LATE**

KIRK CALDWELL  
MAYOR



ROBERT J. KRONING, P.E.  
DIRECTOR

MARK YONAMINE, P.E.  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 21, 2019

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Ways and Means

The Senate  
State Capitol, Room 211  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 77 SD1, Relating to Capital Improvement Projects

The Department of Design and Construction (DDC) **supports** Senate Bill No. 77 SD1, the purpose of which is to appropriate funds for the Ala Wai flood risk management project.

However, DDC requests the following, technical, nonsubstantive amendments be made to this measure regarding what the Department considers as inaccuracies contained in the preamble:

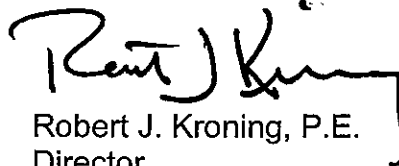
- In the second paragraph of SECTION 1, the phrase "Although this project is under county jurisdiction," should be deleted as flood risk management is a joint State and City responsibility, and this project will involve both State and county lands. Furthermore, this project will not only protect major State economic activity and infrastructure in the Waikiki area, but in the Manoa Valley area, including the University of Hawaii at Manoa, as well.

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
and Members  
February 21, 2019  
Page 2

- In the last paragraph of SECTION 1, the enumerated purpose (2) should be removed as the measure is simply an appropriation for the Ala Wai Flood Risk Management Project. The City and State are currently working cooperatively to draft terms and conditions whereby both the City and the State will be signatories to the project partnership agreement and do not want to condition the appropriation of project funding on any particular participation arrangement.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on S.B. No. 77, S.D. 1

Very truly yours,



Robert J. Kroning, P.E.  
Director

**LATE**

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 4:24:07 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erik Yoshimoto	Testifying for Mana Maoli, LLC	Oppose	No

Comments:

**To: Ways and Means Committee**

**From: Keola Nakanishi, Executive Director, Mana Maoli (MM)**

**Re: Testimony to Request Pause (opposition) of SB77**

**Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Senators of the Ways and Means Committee Members,**

**Established in 1999, Mana Maoli(MM) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that founded HÄ• lau KÄ« MÄ• na Public Charter School (HKM), KÄ• nehÄ«nÄ• moku Voyaging Academy (a sailing canoe program) and the Mana Mele Project.**

**The Mana Mele Project features Hawaii’s first state-of-the-art, 4-in-1 Solar Mobile Studio, a Music & Multimedia Academy and over 200 Mana Mele Collective professionals in the creative or “storytelling” industries of music, engineering, multimedia, and communications. Mana Mele facilitates and nurtures the growth of over 2,000 youth annually at 14 schools, empowering them to tell their stories, from their place.**

**Mana Maoli has a 30-year lease with DLNR that began in 2007, of 5.3 acres in Makiki, which is subdivided into 3 parcels stretching from Archie Baker Park to the Makiki Nature Center. We sublease to HKM, whose campus is located on parcel 2. Our understanding is that this is the proposed location for a large detainment basin, and a dam.**

**Given funding as well as EIS limitations for allowable indoor space, both classroom and field space are very limited. However, surrounded by lush greenery and bordered by a running stream, the campus is an ideal setting for environment and culture-based, hands-on education, including native plant gardens, lo'i kalo and stream restoration efforts.**

**We are submitting testimony requesting a pause in the allocation of funds to the Ala Wai Flood Control Project at this time. This does not mean we are in favor nor in support of any aspect of this project. This is simply because neither MM nor HKM were informed of this project, and we'd like more time to hear facts, plans, timelines and potential impacts - from the ACOE and any stakeholders.**

**With more time, we hope to partner with the ACOE,, DOFAW/DLNR and any others looking to brainstorm ideas and solutions that will best protect all lands, resources, wildlife and people potentially impacted by a 100-year flood.**

**We agree that protecting WaikikÄ« from severe flooding is a real concern and absolutely necessary. We also want to assure that all who are upstream are also safe and protected. We see this as real-world, place-based learning opportunity for students to become actively engaged with their community and environment, as contributors toward a solid gameplan, and active players in implementing this plan, especially in regards to the portion of the stream bordering their campus.**

**Mahalo nui to each of you for your time and consideration.**

**Me ka mana maoli i' o nÅ• ,**

**Submitted on behalf of**

**Keola Nakanishi**

**Director**

**Mana Maoli**

**(808) 295-6262**

**[keola@manamaoli.org](mailto:keola@manamaoli.org)**

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 10:54:33 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kahealani Keahi	Testifying for Hui Maka`ainana a Kalawahine	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 9:20:09 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Virginia Yoshida	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:



**LATE**

**SB-77-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/22/2019 7:12:58 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2019 10:50:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
maile Sakamoto	Individual	Oppose	No

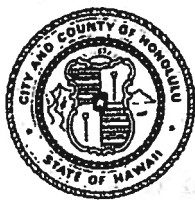
Comments:

I oppose this bill until all government agencies do proper public participation. As a former Public Participation Coordinator for DOH, and an Information/Education Coordinator for DLNR (retired), I know that agencies need to vastly improve information dissemination to affected communities so they will understand and be able to ask questions regarding any projects in their areas. Public meetings need to be held in the open, and not just a notice published surreptitiously in a newspaper along with a 600-page document that no one can understand. This is a shameful practice. The public is no longer as passive as in the past, where the government can just forge ahead and do whatever they want behind closed doors. One only needs look at the Mauna Kea telescope or the Superferry to see what delays and lawsuits this can cause.

Rightly so, those who live in the Ala Wai watershed areas are concerned about this project. And if it is straightforward, the C&C, State and Army Corps should have no fears about presenting the facts, taking questions about safety and maintenance, or discussion of possible options.

Hawaii is notorious for approving projects that are not well thought out and end up costing much more or being poorly designed. I would ask the Senate to hold this bill until the proper public participation has been completed, and the C&C can present a plan of how this project will be maintained.

**LATE**



## **CITY COUNCIL**

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
530 SOUTH KING STREET, ROOM 202  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3065  
TELEPHONE: (808) 768-5010 • FAX: (808) 768-5011

**ANN H. KOBAYASHI**  
COUNCILMEMBER, DISTRICT 5  
CHAIR, COMMITTEE ON PARKS,  
COMMUNITY AND CUSTOMER SERVICES  
TELEPHONE: (808) 768-5005  
FAX: (808) 768-6327  
EMAIL: akobayashi@honolulu.gov

January 4, 2019

Lieutenant Colonel Kathryn Sanborn  
Civil and Public Works Branch  
Honolulu District,  
USACE Building 230, CEPOH-PP-C  
Fort Shafter, HI 96858

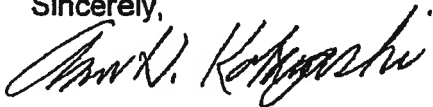
I am writing to express a number of concerns among residents in my district regarding the Ala Wai Canal Project. A growing group of residents have reached out to my office to voice their strong opposition to aspects of the project that will have significant and lasting impacts on the community.

A common complaint among the residents and other stakeholders is that the process that took place was neither transparent, nor did it follow the necessary and proper protocols. Residents that will be affected by construction or having a detention basin on or around their property, should have been deemed stakeholders in this project. Instead, residents were not made aware of the project, nor properly notified. Furthermore, the property owners were not given the opportunity to provide input, or have their questions answered.

Additionally, I agree with their sentiment that privately owned properties should not be used for detention basins, and other alternatives, such as nearby public lands be seriously considered before implementation of any proposals. Not only are private residential properties being affected, but schools, such as Ala Wai Elementary, Hokenani Elementary, and Iolani Schools are opposed to the project for the health and safety of their students, families, faculty, and staff. Please find attached documents that go into specifics regarding each particular community issue.

I strongly urge the United States Army Corps of Engineers, and the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources to adequately engage all stakeholders and address the many concerns brought to my attention. I look forward to your response, as well as those from the community in order to fully address the community's issues and apprehensions regarding this project.

Sincerely,



Ann H. Kobayashi, Councilmember District V

Enclosures

cc: Suzanne Case, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Chairperson



## **Resolution Concerning the Ala Wai Canal Project**

WHEREAS, in the past several decades catastrophic flooding events have occurred more frequently in the United States and the rest of the world; and

WHEREAS, the United States Army Corps of Engineers ("USACE") has developed plans for the Ala Wai Canal Project (the "Project"), also referred to as the Ala Wai Flood Mitigation Project, in response to the potential of a catastrophic flooding event (100-year storm) within the Ala Wai Watershed; and

WHEREAS, the Project includes, among other features, the construction of detention basins in Manoa and Palolo Valleys, Makiki, Kanewai Park, the Ala Wai Golf Course, Ala Wai Park (Hausten Ditch) and an average four-foot reinforced solid concrete wall which extends as high as four and a half foot in certain segments surrounding portions of the Ala Wai Canal and Ala Wai Promenade; and

WHEREAS, the Ala Wai Watershed contains within it such areas of Honolulu as Manoa Valley, Palolo Valley, Makiki, Tantalus, McCully, Moili'ili, St. Louis Heights, Kapahulu, Kaimuki, Kapiolani, Ala Wai, Ala Moana, and Waikiki; and

WHEREAS, the Manoa Neighborhood Board heard presentations by residents or property owners who live next to or within a proposed detention basin; and

WHEREAS, these residents stated that they did not receive proper notice of the Project and were not given an adequate amount of time to respond to the Draft Report/Environmental Impact Statement ("EIS") of the Project; and

WHEREAS, 'Iolani School, located on the Ala Wai floodplain, wrote a letter to the USACE in 2015 in which it claimed that neither it nor the other stakeholders were adequately engaged in an evaluation of the Project and urged that the Draft Report/EIS be reviewed and reissued for further public comment; and

WHEREAS, it is the sense of the Manoa Neighborhood Board that public input and public awareness of this Project is insufficient to have the Project move forward; and

WHEREAS, Congress in the Fall of 2018 appropriated money to fund the federal portion of the proposed cost of the Project, leaving only the State funding as the final hurdle before commencement of construction; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Manoa Neighborhood Board that the USACE should put a hold on any further advancement of the Project until the very people who are supposed to benefit from the Project have had an adequate opportunity to consider and weigh in on the Project and alternatives to it; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Manoa Neighborhood Board requests that the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019 defer appropriating any funds for the Project during this calendar year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to USACE, the members of Hawaii's Congressional delegation, the Governor of Hawaii, each member of the Hawaii State Legislature, the Mayor of Honolulu, and Honolulu City Council.

**Submitted by Ellen Watson, Vice Chair and Elton Fukumoto, Mānoa Neighborhood Board  
No. 7, on January 24, 2019**



# Hālau Kū Māna

New Century Public Charter School

Before the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

RE: **SB 77, SD 1 – Relating to Capital Improvement Projects**

February 22, 2019, 10:50A, Rm 211

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee

**OPPOSE**

Hālau Kū Māna Public Charter School **OPPOSES** SD 77, HD1 which purpose is to:

- (1) Appropriate funds to the department of budget and finance, based upon the United States Army Corps of Engineers' cost payment plan, for the Ala Wai flood risk management project; and
- (2) Require the city and county of Honolulu to enter into the project partnership agreement with the United States Army Corps of Engineers and to accept all the project features identified in the Ala Wai flood risk management project upon completion.

The Ala Wai flood risk management project seeks to install up to 8 detention basins in Pālolo, Mānoa and Makiki valley streams. Unfortunately one such detention basin is slated to be installed on our current campus, located in Makiki Valley. Although our school and its founding non profit, Mana Maoli, have secured a 35-year lease with the State, neither of our organizations has ever been consulted or approached about this project. As many of you know, securing land and facilities is an ongoing challenge for many small charter schools, like ours.

As lessee, Hālau Kū Māna PCS has taken on the kuleana to mālama the Makiki Stream that flows through our campus. As a school, we are in agreement that our communities need to come together to plan for more frequent inclement weather. We further believe that our educational principles are grounded in 'ike kupuna (ancestral knowledge) - - which serves as a reference point for how we are to interact with our environment - - thus, mitigating inclement weather is not a new problem, but one the has had viable and sustainable solutions in our past. Lastly, despite the fact that we have not been consulted with, we, as a school community ('ohana, students, faculty, staff, Mana Maoli and all partners) desire to engage with the Army Corp Of Engineers and facilitate our community in problem-solving an issue that impacts all of us.

To assist in getting these necessary and needed discussions going, I would like to encourage this committee to oppose this measure until all stakeholders are consulted with and alternative measures that would not jeopardize lands used for educational purposes and/or private property.

Mahalo nui,

Brandon Keoni Bunag, Ed.D.  
Po'o Kumu (Principal)



TESTIMONY OF  
NOEAU NICKENS  
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS  
ON THE ALA WAI WATERSHED PROJECT  
2/22/19

WRITTEN TESTIMONY  
S.B. 77

Relating to the Makiki Basin:

I, Noeau Nickens, am not only advocating for my school community in Makiki but also for the other families and schools in neighboring valleys of Mānoa and Pālolo that this project will ultimately affect. I agree that measures should be taken to avoid flooding in Waikiki. However, destroying more land and natural resources can not be the answer.

Federal funds proposed for the Ala Wai Watershed Project should be used to research and develop more natural and economical ways for our stream water to flow unobstructed to the sea. I believe that we can find ways to naturally filter and drain the water on it's way to the ocean.

Water diversion is a temporary fix that will have immediate and generational consequences. A great example of this generational consequence are the water cases the state is now dealing with in Maui. In essence this project is attempting to treat the symptoms of the disease, but not treating the disease itself. Displacing families, confiscating land in a state where homelessness is a major issue in itself, and destroying streams in an attempt to control mother nature is ignorant and irresponsible.

In our school we are taught to take care of and preserve the land through our cultural practices. We are involved with the community and help organize Mākiki stream clean up. The stream flows freely after we've emptied out a container's worth of trash people have carelessly dumped in the stream. We have helped to bring back the flooded terraces (lo'i) in Aihualama, located in Manoa. The land living and thriving when cared for properly. Your project will directly impact our school and the community. Where we learn, what we learn and how we learn!

Waikiki means spouting water. That whole area was marshland fed by fresh springs and streams flowing from the mountains. It was alive with, fish ponds, taro patches and rice fields that matched the natural landscape. The first thing to interrupt the natural flow was "Waikiki Road" that cut across Waikiki and through the rice and taro patches. It cut off outlets to the ocean. To compensate for the stench and backups as a result of the road, the Ala Wai Canal was constructed in 1921-1924 to help restore flow. More "complications and compensations" followed with the Ala Wai canal over the years which has brought us to our present condition. The proposed solution is more "Compensation and Diversion"! The solution **should** be restoration! Again my name is Noeau Nickens and I am in opposition of the Makiki dam.

For questions, comments or concerns please contact me at: [cheyenne.nickens@halaukumana.org](mailto:cheyenne.nickens@halaukumana.org)

Testimony of  
Kawaiola Kauhane

TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
ON  
ALA WAI WATERSHED PROJECT  
Friday, Feb. 22, 2019  
WRITTEN TESTIMONY  
S.B.77

Relating to the Makiki Basin

Aloha, I am Kawaiola Kauhane, I am a child of Maui and lived majority of my life in Honokohau Valley on the North-Western side of Maui. Growing up in Honokohau and living near a flowing stream, I personally saw the power that water contains along with the effects that water diversions and dams do. I witnessed homes being washed away and trees being uprooted just by the force of water along with flash floods rising within minutes. Recently Honokohau just experienced a catastrophic storm in which the water took out everything in the way. Down stream, there were a few properties that use traditional lo'i farming whose lo'i collected the debris from a house that was uprooted and saved majority of the valley. If it were not for the lo'i, the damage could have been detrimental. If it had not collected the debris a natural dam would have been built up and the effects of that would have been way worse.

I recently moved to Papakolea, O'ahu and it was a drastic change from rural "countryside" Honokohau Valley to the urban Honolulu. Something that has helped me be able to connect to my home and be able to set roots here was hearing the Makiki stream flow everyday being a junior attending Halau Ku Mana. Makiki Valley holds such a high place in my heart now and I consider it as my second home. To hear the stream flow takes me back home to Honokohau and brings back memories of working in our gardens while my little brothers would play. Also being raised with the consciousness of the effects of man-made diversions and dams to the natural stream flow and now addressing a problem including the development of a dam brings to the conclusion of opposing the proposed project.

Seeing effects of what water can do, along with knowing the effects of dams on streams, I oppose the project. I oppose the project because the thought of being able to put a cap on a flowing water source is short sighted. Water has a tendency to find a way around or through anything in its path. If the stream wants to flow it will find a way to break down a cement wall in its way or eventually flow around. If the stream were to do so, people's lives and properties are in serious danger no matter in Waikiki or Makiki with the illusion that a wall will stop water flow.

I am Kawaiola Kauhane from the aina of Maui. As a recent transfer to Halau Ku Mana I have made a connection to this Aina and I oppose this project for the safety and protection of this community.

Thank you,

Kawaiola Kauhane

Contact me for any information: email: [Kawaiola@halaukumana.org](mailto:Kawaiola@halaukumana.org)

TESTIMONY OF  
KALAMAPUA'ENA ABAD  
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS  
ON THE ALA WAI WATERSHED PROJECT  
2/22/2019

WRITTEN TESTIMONY  
SB. 77

Relating to Makiki basin:

Like many of the other people here, I am here today to voice my opposition of the Ala Wai Canal project. From what I know, the elements of the project are to prevent a 100-year flood event from devastating Waikiki, through measures such as walls and detention basins, displacing homes as well as schools. The economic contribution that Waikiki brings is enormous and integral to the economy of O'ahu, not only that, but many of us also in the area, so it should be stated that we are not in opposition of protection of Waikiki, but rather in support of addressing the issue as a community, and finding the most efficient and ethical approach that requires less sacrifices and provides the most benefits.

My name is Kalama Abad and I am a junior at Hālau Kū Māna PCS, a school that will be displaced by one of the proposed detention basins in the Makiki district. My class and I have grown up next to the Makiki stream, and have spent countless hours cleaning it. We in particular were the first class to organize our Earth Day cleanup, where we bring community members such as Punahou and Hanahau'oli school, as well as inhabitants of Makiki valley together to remove pollutants from the stream.

The science curriculum of my grade places heavy focus on the study of lo'i, which are flooded terraces that utilize water diverted by streams to cultivate taro. I propose the implementation of lo'i to aid in retention of water and prevent flooding. We manage a lo'i at Lyon Arboretum in Mānoa, which will also be displaced by a detention basin. By measuring the flow rate of water at the entrance and exit points of our lo'i on Wednesday the 20th following the heavy rains earlier this week, we found that that our particular lo'i slowed the flow of the water that passed through it by an average of 75%. Makiki is home to a very well drained soil similar to that of Mānoa, and implementation of lo'i systems may prove very efficient in water retention and natural percolation into the aquifers, instead of running into Waikiki.

There is much uncertainty about the Ala Wai Project, and I believe the agencies managing it should bring the project to a pause and involve all communities being affected with the decisions being made. I also believe that traditional methods of water management, such as lo'i, should be considered. Again, my name is Kalama Abad, and I support the safety and protection of all life and property. I have experienced the Makiki stream through calm and storm, and I believe that all avenues should be considered and explored before major progress is done on a project that will further dramatically alter a natural cycle that has been occurring for millions of years, using methods that brought us to the predicament we are in today, and also displacing inhabitants and stewards of the land. The Ala Wai Project is one of the first large construction projects of the modern day to address today's extreme weather patterns, and can become a great model and precedent for the many to come if done properly.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

*Kalamapua'ena Abad*



TESTIMONY OF  
KAMALUPĀWEHI ABAD  
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS  
ON THE ALA WAI WATERSHED PROJECT MAKIKI BASIN  
2/22/19

WRITTEN TESTIMONY  
S.B.77

IN RELATION TO THE HISTORY AND FUTURE OF HONOLULU

Our kupuna or ancestors were masters in managing and caring for ‘āina. They understood their resources with such expertise that they were able to develop and maintain systems of food production like fishponds and lo‘i(wetland terraces.) These networks of agriculture supported our aquifers, allowed for extensive water retention, prevented flooding, and provided food for thousands of people. Detailed maps and multiple accounts dating as far back as 1792 show that this moku of Kona including, Pālolo, Mānoa, and Makiki, the ahupua‘a in which the Ala Wai Watershed Project will be constructed, was renowned for its lo‘i and the excessive surplus of food that they provided. These maps and accounts can attest to the expertise that our kupuna had and the capability that is ‘āina has to be healthy. Today these lo‘i or traditional systems of agriculture are no more. They have been buried under urban, commercial, and residential areas that have ultimately hurt our environment. This channelization of our streams and extensive loss of porous surfaces are the reasons why we are at risk of flooding today.

My name is Kamalupāwehi Abad, a student of Hālau Kū Māna Public Charter School, and I am in opposition of the Ala Wai Project. That is not to say that I am in opposition of flood protection for Waikiki, but these permanent water retention basins, like the one proposed to be built in Makiki not even 300 feet away from Hālau Kū Māna, will not only be detrimental to our school but will also have irreversible and intergenerational effects to the ahupua‘a of Makiki.

Our senior and junior class of Hālau Kū Māna stewards over ‘Aihualama lo‘i in the back of Mānoa valley, another site that will be directly affected by the construction of the Ala Wai Watershed Project. As Hālau Kū Māna we strive to take after our kupuna and steward over ‘āina in a balanced and righteous way. The best way to do this is to gain a foundational understanding of the land. Conducting extensive data collection in relation to the health of our lo‘i, our studies of water specifically at ‘Aihualama concludes that 75% of the water that flows into ‘Aihualama is retained. The detention basin proposed to be built in Makiki, a structure that would stand at an immense height of 30 feet tall and 100 feet wide, will hold 8.7 million gallons of water. In a society that fails to be sustainable, provide steady jobs, feed our people, and prevent flooding, the reintroduction of lo‘i into our ‘ahupua‘a would prove to be increasingly more effective than a dam.

In addition, missteps taken in regards to following the guidelines of HEPA and NEPA are ethically irresponsible. The Army Cor of Engineer’s failure to sufficiently involve the public and thoroughly explore all reasonable alternatives is simply unacceptable and blatantly irresponsible. As a result, the integrity of this project is ultimately at question here. Coming from a school who has completely centered our focus around the health and restoration of this ahupua‘a and a

school that is directly impacted by the decisions that you make, I urge that put a halt to this project and we work together as a community to develop a righteous and ethical solution.

My name is Kamalupāwehi Abad and I am in opposition of the Ala Wai Watershed Project. “O ke au i hala ka lamaku o ke ala i ke kupukupu.” The past is the light that will guide us on the path into the future. I strongly implore that we halt the construction of this ala wai project and instead look to our kupuna, into the history of this ‘āina, into the systems of life and agriculture that once ensured the health of this ‘ahupua‘a.

As the Senate Committee of Ways and Means, you have the power to dictate what kind of Hawai‘i I grow up in and more importantly what kind of Hawai‘i my children will grow up in. For that I humbly thank you. I mahalo for being here to protect the future of Honolulu.

Let us work together to return our Kanaka Hawai‘i back to the land. Let provide a solution that will feed our children for generations. Let us be the community to restore this ‘āina to the lo‘i and the thriving ‘ahupua‘a that it once was.

Me ka ha‘aha‘a,  
Kamalupāwehi Abad

TESTIMONY OF  
‘ĀNELA HOWARD  
TO THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
ON  
THE ALA WAI WATERSHED PROJECT  
2/22/19  
WRITTEN TESTIMONY  
S.B.77

RELATING TO APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR DETENTION BASINS

The annual Makiki Stream Cleanup is a community event that garners people together on earth day to return to our streams and work together to improve its health. Due to this annual event, we effectively clear overgrown vegetation and hazardous material for the health and smooth stream flow for our community-shared waters. My name is ‘Ānela Howard and I am a high school senior at Hālau Kū Māna (HKM) New Century Public Charter School– a school which passionately engages communities to promote the care for our land as well as cultural practices– one of the only locations in the urban core of Makiki, Honolulu that promotes cultural education and teaches its significance. I am testifying in opposition to the plan drafted by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) relating to the construction of detention basins for the Ala Wai Watershed project, also known as the Ala Wai Flood Mitigation project, because it will severely affect both upstream and lower elevation areas.

The reason for my opposition stems from the indefinite drastic environmental impacts that the current plan for the Ala Wai canal poses with the inclusion of upstream detention basins. This project would destroy thousands of feet of natural streams and acres of natural forest and will increase runoff and sedimentation. I firmly believe that many issues regarding flooding upstream can be reduced by looking at this situation with both a cultural, sustainable, and environmental science/ resource management perspective. This project also seemingly only averts storm and flood damage to Waikīkī and does not account for the protection of other residents in the Honolulu district which should be rigorously analyzed.

First, the community was not adequately notified nor engaged during the Draft EIS process as the public was not aware of how the proposed detention basins will affect and directly impact community as a whole, and its residents. The process that the USACE engaged in did not follow the necessary National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and Hawaii Environmental Protection Act (HEPA) protocols which is supposed to include public opinion and testimony in the preliminary stages of the project. Instead, Makiki, Mānoa, and Palolo residents point out that they were not made aware of the project or properly notified. The property owners were not given the opportunity to provide input or have their questions answered. I also share the sentiment that some community members of Palolo advocated for, which is that privately owned properties, schools, occupied lands, culturally significant lands, and educational lands should not be used for detention basins, and other alternatives, such as traditional Hawaiian flood water management systems be seriously considered before implementation of any proposals by the USACE.

My school Hālau Kū Māna, located 300 feet above the planned Makiki basin, will be affected by flooding as the basin will catch the water, flood, and deviate up-stream. To prevent

the occurrence of upstream flooding in public and residential areas at all of the arranged basins sites, I recommend an alternative approach that will reduce the stream flow rate and pressure. The lo'i, known as traditionally flooded terraces of Hawai'i culture provided flow, filtration, as well as reduced flow rate of water throughout the terraces for agricultural cultivation. This system was also used as a traditional Hawaiian flood water management system which included sophisticated natural water irrigation. Additionally, the lo'i was a sustainable food production system that efficiently functioned under the management of our kūpuna, or ancestors, for over 1,000 years.

Secondly, the junior and senior class of Hālau Kū Māna stewards a lo'i in Mānoa named 'Aihualama— where another basin will be built— and conducts experiments/ takes data to ensure adequate function of our lo'i. The group that deals with taking data on the water in our lo'i concluded that the average waterflow before entering into our lo'i system is approximately 216,000 gallons a day. Once it went through the lo'i, the average flow rate coming out of the lo'i drops to about 138,240 gallons a day— which is a 64% decline in waterflow. Implementing these natural lo'i upstream of residential areas not only reduces flow rate, but can also act as a natural dam catching runoff, on top of providing jobs that have people stewarding the land and enriching a region to grow healthy foods for our communities in an island state where the promotion and advocacy of sustainable practices will be critical for our persistence in this land. With the amount of people that will need to manage the lo'i, this alternative can effectively garner people together clear overgrown vegetation for smoother flow in the streams that can reduce debris/ sediment runoff— which conversely would be increased with the construction of a detention basin.

Furthermore, one notable reason why the flood from rain water will be more severe is because of the un-porous surfaces in the Honolulu Waikiki area where rain water doesn't have a place to absorb into the soil, and recycle into the aquifer. I greatly feel that building these impenetrable surfaces (concrete basins) deeper into the mountain will only cause the same problems that we have in Waikiki where the absorption of water will be obstructed and not be able to filtrate into the earth. The aforementioned alternative solutions will sustainably support the health of our waterways and ensure it's smooth flow, as well as provide a space for the water of our ecosystem to catch and percolate into the aquifer.

Jeffrey Herzog, the project manager for the Makiki Basin, dispatched officials to take measurements for the Makiki basin, located 300 feet from our school. These officials stated that the basin will be 30 feet tall, 186 feet thick and as wide as a road. Our teachers questioned the officials about the warranty of the basin, to where they responded 50 years, and the project officials also stated that there is no de-commission plan and it will be permanently in our stream even after the basin no longer works. I pose the obvious question; will a basin with 50 year warranty protect us from a 100 year flood? Once built, the basin will not have the capacity to be improved, and if the basin failed or overtopped the lives and property below will be endangered; whereas the lo'i can generationally be maintained and irrefutably slow water flow as well as allow water seepage.

Community should have a voice in the design and planning of a project which could have lifetime negative impacts on future generations to come if done incorrectly. My name is 'Ānela Howard and I am in favor of a more sustainable, environmental friendly approach that will positively affect generations to come than the Makiki detention basin like taking care of our upstream areas and the use of lo'i to naturally and sustainably reduce stream flow pressure.

Thank you, 'Ānela Howard  
[anela.howard@halaukumana.org](mailto:anela.howard@halaukumana.org)

TESTIMONY OF  
JENNA AKEMI MAKAHINAHINA TAMASHIRO  
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
ON THE ALA WAI WATERSHED PROJECT MAKIKI BASIN  
February 22, 2019

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

S.B. 77

Halau Ku Mana Public Charter School cultivates future agents of change. My name is Jenna Tamashiro and I am standing here before you today in **OPPOSITION** of the proposed steps for the Ala Wai Flood Mitigation project- Makiki Basin. I feel this project will do more harm than good for the community of Makiki. However, as a community we should be leading the discussion on the issue and what works best for our thriving Makiki Valley.

One of the proposed basins planned is just 300 ft. from Halau Ku Mana and on the schools campus. Building the dam will drastically affect the environment of my school and make it unsafe for the students and community it services. Halau Ku Mana has been here for over ten years and we work hard to care for the land and Makiki Stream everyday; making sure that it is healthy and functioning. It would be a shame to see all the hard work of past and present students, community members, stakeholders, and families of Halau Ku Mana go underwater.

As students of a school fortunate enough to work with healthy stream flow, we have cultivated and opened many traditional lo'i (lo'i is a traditional wetland farming method and water management system). A lo'i system is a prime example of a possible resolution. Historically and scientifically, they have proven to slow surface water flow. In turn this system could increase the infiltration capacity of water.

Halau Ku Mana is constantly taking care of the land and stream; Halau Ku Mana is a special place in Makiki, as it is still a rural place where community members, visitors and tourists can see a glimpse of an old Hawaii landscape. If we continue to keep urbanizing these spaces the next generation will have nothing left to connect to.

To conclude, I am Jenna Tamashiro, a senior at Halau Ku Mana New Century Public Charter School, testifying in opposition to the proposed steps for the Ala Wai project/ Makiki basin. I will do anything I can to help keep this school running because it has helped me become an agent of change.

Thank you for your valuable time and consideration,

Jenna Akemi Makahinahina Tamashiro  
[maka.tamashiro@gmail.com](mailto:maka.tamashiro@gmail.com)