



PRIMARY URBAN CENTER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN (PUC WMP) Notes from Community Meeting No. 3 (A)

Meeting Location: Kapālama Elementary School Cafeteria

Date: October 23, 2018

Time: 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Meeting Purpose:

The purpose of the meeting was to share water-related issues and concerns and water supply options for meeting future water demands for the Primary Urban Center. Key projects, strategies, and programs to address the water-related issues and concerns were also presented. Eight individuals from the community attended the meeting.

Summary of Meeting:

Townscape, Inc. presented a slideshow that provided an overview of the following:

- Introduction and Project Overview
- Water-related Issues and Concerns from stakeholder outreach
- Projects, Strategies, and Programs to address water-related issues and concerns
- Priority Watersheds and Catalyst Projects
- Next Steps

Materials from the meeting, including the slideshow, project fact sheet, comment form, and meeting notes, are available on the BWS website at:

<https://www.boardofwatersupply.com/water-resources/watershed-management-plan/primary-urban-center-plan>.

After the slideshow, the following questions were posed to the meeting participants:

- Are there other water-related issues and concerns for the PUC that we missed?
- How aggressively should we implement water conservation strategies now to prepare for a possible “worst case” future scenario?

Meeting participants were also invited to ask questions and share any concerns about water resources in the Primary Urban Center. Barry Usagawa from the Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS) led the discussion. A summary of the various questions, comments, and discussions is provided below. BWS responses are in *Italics*.

- For the USACE Ala Wai Flood Mitigation project, has the State committed to funding the project as a “local sponsor” yet?
 - *Based on our understanding, the State has not yet committed to serving as the “local sponsor” to fund the USACE Ala Wai Flood Mitigation project. However, we understand the State is currently deliberating on their decision.*
 - *Federal funds of \$345 million have been appropriated.*
 - *We will need local commitment as soon as possible.*
- How was the catalyst project for Iwilei selected?
 - *Major redevelopment is planned for Iwilei based on the City’s Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Plans. Areas surrounding the transit station in Iwilei are envisioned as an area of high-density mixed-use area. Since the area is envisioned as areas for major redevelopment. There is an opportunity to incorporate strategies to adapt to sea level rise as part of the City’s redevelopment efforts/plans.*
- Is the Iwilei Catalyst Project that you discussed tonight related to the City’s Kapālama Canal Catalytic Project?
 - *The two catalyst projects have very different purposes.*
 - *The Iwilei Catalyst Project that we discussed tonight addresses sea level rise and flooding issues.*
 - *The City’s Kapālama Canal Catalytic Project is focused on improving the neighborhood through the beautification of the Kapālama Canal and development of gathering places. The project will include waterfront promenades, gathering places, Complete Streets improvements, green infrastructure, and water quality improvements.*
- Sea Level Rise will increase ground water level and increase flooding - How does this plan address this?
 - *This issue will not affect O’ahu’s drinking water supplies because BWS wells are located away from the coast. However, sea level rise is a flooding issue.*
- Where will funding for the USACE Ala Wai Flood Mitigation project come from? Where will funding for all other projects come from?
 - *For the USACE Ala Wai Flood Mitigation project, federal funds have been appropriated. We still need a “local sponsor” to fund 35% of the total project cost.*
 - *For the other projects featured in the PUC WMP, not all have identified funding sources. The purpose of featuring projects in the PUC WMP is to raise awareness and create opportunities that may result in funding for some of these projects.*
 - *The BWS is authorized to use operating funds for certain watershed management projects. For example, the BWS has provided funding to the Ko’olau Mountains Watershed Partnership (KMWP) and O’ahu Invasive Species Committee (OISC) for watershed management projects.*
- Of the BWS budget for watershed management projects, can some of it be used for traditional and cultural projects and organizations?

- *BWS funds must be used for projects that protect the mauka watershed lands that are important for ground water recharge. Currently, BWS funds KMWP, OISC, and other organizations that manage forest lands.*
- Regarding the City Redevelopment Authority that may be needed for Iwilei as part of the catalyst project, could HCDA be refocused in the future to manage/re-develop Iwilei?
 - *HCDA does not have authority over the Iwilei area; there would need to be significant policy changes in order to make this change. However, we need the City or State to get involved with adaptative strategies relating to impacts on infrastructure and development due to sea level rise in Iwilei.*

Comment shared after the meeting by a participant:

- The State DOT has a website that shows that status of projects. Is there a way to post the list of projects from this plan online so that the community can track the status of projects?
 - *Some of these projects, such as native forest restoration, are ongoing efforts. We will explore ways that BWS can keep the community informed about the status of projects in the watershed management plans.*