



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

**Meeting Location:** Aiea Elementary School Cafeteria

**Date:** October 30, 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. Sixteen individuals 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*.

- Can you explain the climate change projection maps and the implications for the Aiea area?
  - *There are two types of models that climate change scientists are using to project rainfall for the year 2100 – statistical downscaling and dynamical downscaling. For each model type, there are projections for both the wet and dry season based on a “business as usual” carbon emissions concentration scenario (RCP 8.5). It looks like according to the statistical downscaling model (the “worst case”), there might be a 40-50% decrease in rainfall in the Aiea area by the year 2100. These rainfall projections should be considered possible estimates for year 2100. Stream flows and ground water levels will be affected by changes in precipitation. We need to prepare for storms and droughts. We have time to refine projections and assess our plans and actions as new data is available.*
- Restoration of Loko I ‘a Pa‘aiāu needs to be emphasized in the plan. There are only three fishponds on the South Shore remaining, all of which are in the Pearl Harbor area (two within the PUC). Lack of freshwater flow into the loko i‘a is a concern especially with the “worst case” scenario outlined in the presentation. We need to emphasize food sustainability.
- Does the plan address the cost of all the projects identified in the Plan?
  - *Funding is not included in the Plan, but possible funding sources for projects are identified should the projects be pursued.*
- The Plan should have more emphasis on watershed management and conservation activities. We cannot ignore the ecosystem and the important function of the watershed to recharge our aquifers. We need to implement wide-scale projects to make a big impact.
  - *We will evaluate and make sure the plan adequately addresses this concern.*
- The Red Hill Fuel tanks are 100 feet above the aquifer. Leaks have been detected. This is a critical issue. Contamination of ground water would have severe consequences. How does the Plan address Red Hill?
  - *There is a project write-up in the plan that summarizes the current status of the Red Hill fuel tanks issue. It also discusses the preferred actions that the BWS is advocating to remediate the issue.*
- Are there agencies or committees in place to help ensure that excessive environmental pollution is not occurring especially by hotels and businesses? Are there people held accountable to ensure sustainability?
  - *Objective #4 in the Plan is to “facilitate public participation, education, and project implementation.” This objective is directed at making sure that we all act in a sustainable way. BWS has a number of conservation, education, and outreach programs.*
- Are there plans to open the area surrounding the Ala Wai Canal to restore natural stream flow?
  - *The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers plan for the Ala Wai Canal does not include plans to restore natural stream flow; it is aimed at flood mitigation.*

- *Originally, there were going to be two outlets for the Ala Wai instead of just one, however, this idea was scrapped due to excessive cost of construction.*
- *This plan describes planning efforts by the Ala Wai Watershed Collaboration, which consists of a group of stakeholders including key city and state agencies, community groups and businesses. The Collaboration have been exploring ways to implement watershed management projects including forest restoration, green infrastructure, and debris cleanup in streams.*