

**SCR-184-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2019 8:47:40 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2019 10:20:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support SCR 184. My name is Ellen Watson a resident of Manoa. I am opposed to SB 77 and the current USACE plan to build detention basins in the Ala Wai Watershed as proposed. I support creating a working group to study the plan and compile feedback from the communities impacted by this plan, an an effort to change the plan.

It is my hope that USACE would change the elements of their plan, even though they say they will not, no matter what the people say, or what the Legislature does. If they will not change the plan then the State should not enter into a partnership with USACE, and not help fund the intitative.

**SCR-184-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2019 6:33:16 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2019 10:20:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support SCR184 with these amendments:

1. **Request that the Neighborhood Boards (all 8 within the Ala Wai Watershed), Schools (Halau Ku Mana, Hokulani, Iolani, Ala Wai, and Anuenue) and affected stakeholders (landowners, adjacent and downstream property owners) be added to the working group otherwise it is the same as before, no change.**
2. University of Hawaii - Civil Engineering Department should have representation as well (it is more Engineering than Architecture related).
3. Call for the USACE to stop further progress on their exploratory work and engineering (Halau Ku Mana).
4. Call for DLNR to cancel the Right of Entry to State Lands for exploratory work and engineering (Halau Ku Mana).
5. Call for the USACE to significantly change their design elements.
6. Specify what will happen if the USACE rejects any suggestions by the working group.
7. Specify as a recourse that the Project be rescoped and the Public Involvement Plan protocols followed.
8. Investigate whether NEPA and HEPA were met or if the USACE fulfilled their Public Involvement Plan.

**SCR-184-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2019 9:31:05 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2019 10:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dave Watase	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Testimony by Dave Watase

April 1, 2019, WAM 211, 10:20 AM

SCR184 SD1

Aloha Chair and Committe Members of the Senate Ways & Means,

I am in support of SCR184. However, I do have concerns that the actions of the working group will be just for show and only be a display of community engagement, evaluations, and discussions of other alternatives measures. In the mean while the United States Army Corps of Engineers will be marching full steam a head with furthering their engineering drawings and conducting exploratory work for the selected alternatives as shown in their Congressionally funded and approved Final EIS.

It should be noted that 6 Neighborhood Boards within the Ala Wai Watershed have passed Resolutions stating that "the USACE should put a hold on any further advancement of the Project until the very people who are suppose to benefit from the Project have had an adequate opportunity to consider and weigh in on the Project and alternatives to it". There is no demand that the pause on any advancement of the Project as is currently designed.

It is well known that many in our community have significant issues with the current plan and that the current plan will require major changes in the design or a significant overhaul in alternative measures.

Just the basic concept of detention basins 30-40 feet high constructed with mounds of dirt and boulders, over a hundred feet wide and up to a 1000 feet long and the destruction of the natural stream behind it is a very unwelcomed thought. Over 4 miles of an average 4'-feet high concrete wall and earth levees around the Ala Wai Canal and Golf Course are equally repulsing.

I would like to see the following amendments or additions to the Resolution.

1. **Addition of Neighborhood Boards (all 8 within the Ala Wai Watershed), Schools (Halau Ku Mana, Hokulani, Iolani, Ala Wai, and Anuenue) and affected stakeholders (landowners, adjacent and downstream property owners) be added to the Working Group otherwise it is the same as before, no change;**
2. **Addition of a representative from the University of Hawaii - Civil Engineering Department (it is more Engineering than Architecture related);**
3. **A call for the USACE to put a hold on any further advancement of the Project until the very people who are suppose to benefit from the Project have had an adequate opportunity to consider and weigh in on the Project and alternatives to it (as stated in 6 NB Resolutions);**
4. **A call for DLNR to cancel the Right of Entry to State Lands for exploratory work and engineering (Halau Ku Mana has stated that the USACE sent 10 inspectors to survey the location of the Makiki Detention Basin);**
5. **We should recognize and call out the USACE to be open to significant changes tp their design elements or a complete overhaul or rescoping of the Project if necessary;**
6. **We should state a recourse or directive course of action should the USACE reject the findings and community developed alternatives established by the working group.**
7. **If the Working Group is going be performed as a measure to meet the NEPA and HEPA then the USACE's Public Involvement Plan v.04 dated June 2013 should be utilized as a template with the inclusion of all affected stakeholders.**

Mahalo for your consideration.

Dave Watase

dwatase@hotmail.com

c. (808) 728-0759

**SCR-184-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2019 7:34:55 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2019 10:20:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support the resolution amended as follows:

I request that the Neighborhood Boards (all 8 within the Ala Wai Watershed), Schools (Halau Ku Mana, Hokulani, Iolani, Ala Wai, and Anuenue) and affected stakeholders (landowners, adjacent and downstream property owners) be added to the working group. The University of Hawaii - Civil Engineering Department should have representation as well (it is more Engineering than Architecture related).

The resolution needs to call for the USACE to stop further progress on their exploratory work and engineering. The resolution needs to call for DLNR to cancel the Right of Entry to State Lands for exploratory work and engineering. It needs to call for the USACE to significantly change their design elements. It needs to specify what will happen if the USACE rejects any suggestions by the working group. It needs to specify as a recourse that the Project be rescoped and the Public Involvement Plan protocols followed. Finally, it needs to specify whether NEPA and HEPA are being violated.

**LATE**

**SCR-184-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2019 11:27:36 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2019 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicole Yoshimoto	Testifying for Halau Ku Mana, Na Kia`i	Comments	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Nicole Yoshimoto and I am an employee of Halau Ku Mana Public Charter School , an alaka`i of Halau Hula Ka Lehua Tuahine and a member of the non-profit organization, Na Kia`i. Although I reside in Ewa Beach, these organization bring me to Manoa and Makiki on a daily basis. I have learned the history and the value of these places. I have met, befriended and become `ohana with members of the community that reside in these locations. Through these organizations, I have also learned the history and `ike of the Hawaiian people and feel their knowledge and teachings are of the utmost value when addressing matters of the `aina.

Our 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 that has had viable and sustainable solutions.

We are pushing the following issues to be amended to the SCR184. We SUPPORT the SCR184 with the following amendments:

1. We request that the Neighborhood Boards (all 8 within the Ala Wai Watershed), Schools (Halau Ku Mana, Hokulani, Iolani, Ala Wai, and Anuenue) and affected stakeholders (landowners, adjacent and downstream property owners) be added to the working group.
2. University of Hawaii - Civil Engineering Department should have representation as well (it is more Engineering than Architecture related).

I humbly ask you to seriously consider these amendments to SCR184 so that we may find a sustainable solution together. I am grateful for your time and consideration.

Me ka mahalo nui,

Nicole Yoshimoto

Halau Ku Mana PCS, Halau Hula Ka Lehua Tuahine, Na Kia`i





**Aloha Mai Kākou,**

IN SOLIDARITY WITH HAWAI'I RESIDENTS—  
This letter is in **SUPPORT** of SCR 184/SR 148.

The following contents address urgent issues regarding the US ARMY Corps plans to build a flood wall and detention basins while offering community-based alternatives that have been conceptualized and discussed across the community since 2017 as part of the **ALA WAI CENTENNIAL MEMORIAL PROJECT** ([www.alawaicentennial.org](http://www.alawaicentennial.org)).

**This letter also recommends that the working group includes the following:**

- A Representative of the Polynesian Voyaging Society
- A Representative of the existing Nā Wai 'Ekolu School network (which includes Hālau Kū Māna Public Charter School, 'Iolani Schools, SEEQS)

This letter and its following contents are submitted by Sean Connelly—  
Curator of the Ala Wai Centennial Memorial Project,  
Director of AFTER OCEANIC Projects for Architecture, Landscape, Infrastructure, and Art

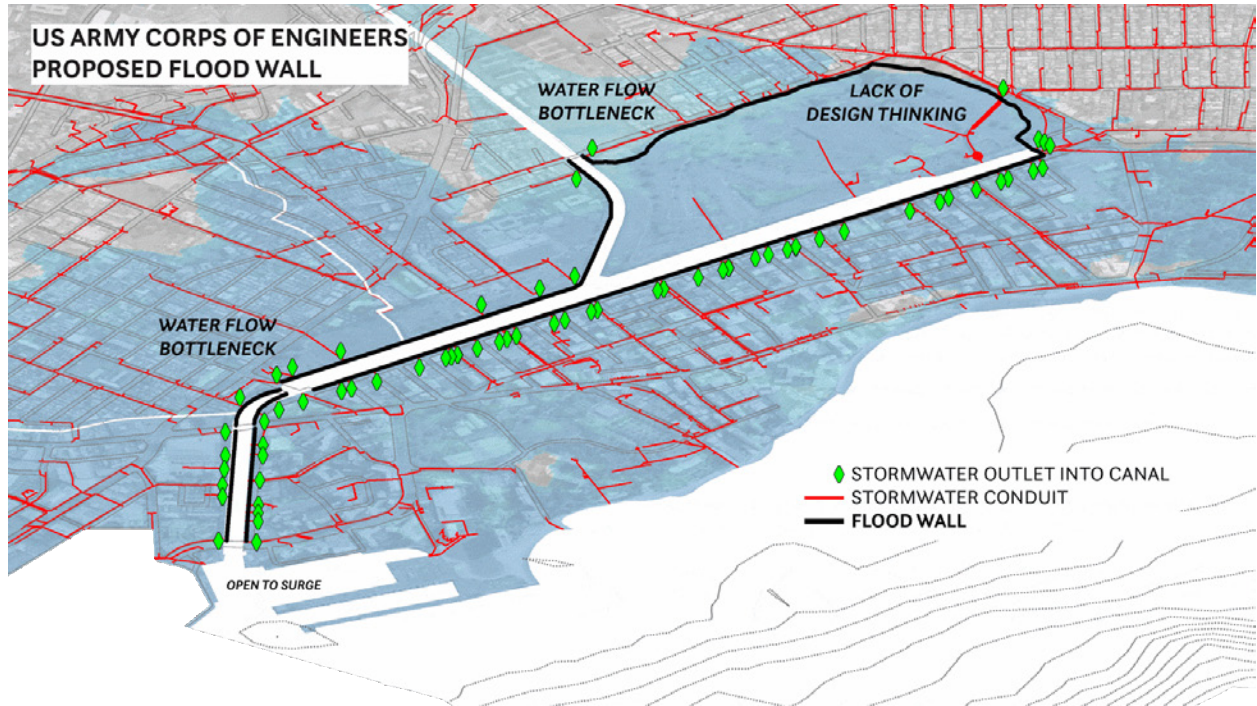


### **ISSUES: ALA WAI CANAL FLOOD WALL**

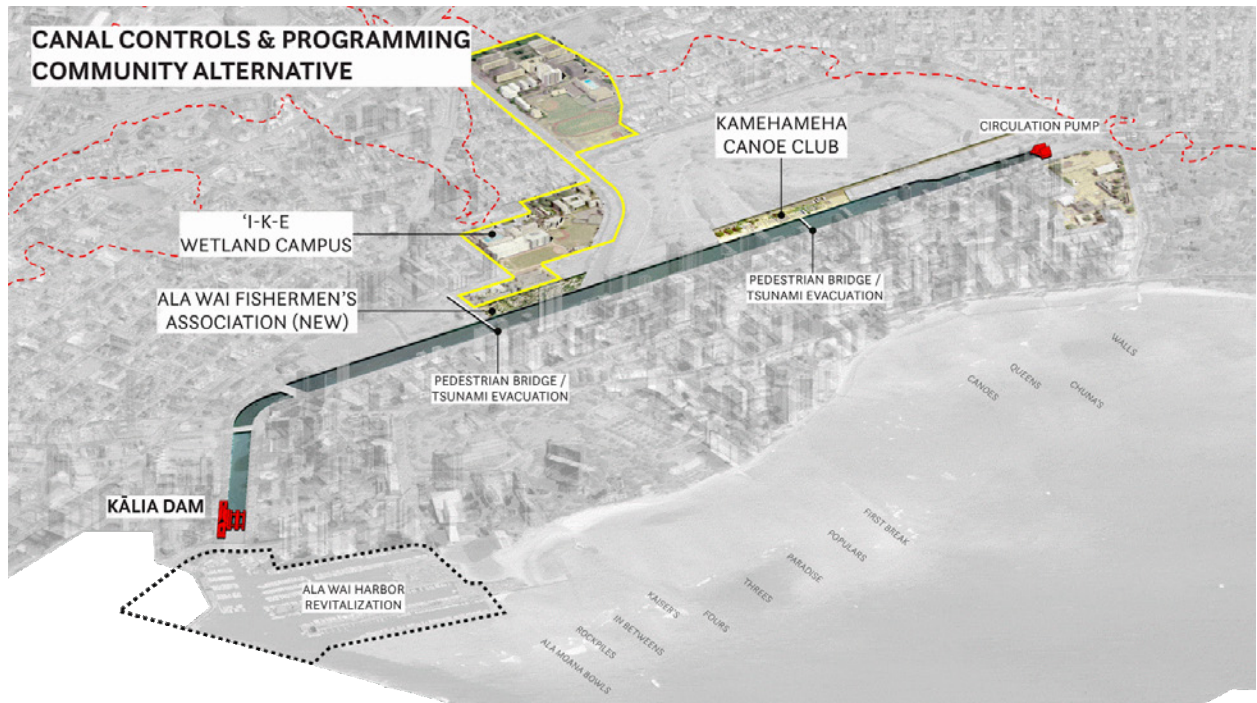
- Floodwall proposal is designed only for a 50-year life cycle.
- Does not address flooding by storm surge or sea level rise.
- To function, the wall will require over 50 independent backwater pumps where each stormwater outlet enters the canal. This is energy inefficient and prone to failure.
- Previous army corps proposals explored a pump system but excluded the study of a pump-and-lock system that needs further exploration.

### **ALTERNATIVE: "KALIA DAM"**

- In cities around the world, canals are typically equipped with tidal controls (pump and lock system) that maintain water levels where flooding or storm surge may threaten life and commerce. Examples include the Charles River Dam (information attached). USACE already has precedents for canal dams; it is a tested successful concept.
- The installation of tidal controls where the canal meets the sea ("Kālia Dam") would include the construction of a dam equipped with active and passive pump systems coupled with upland stream sensors, emergency overflow release mechanisms, canoe locks, fish passes, and pre-canal sediment/debris catchments.
- A dam and pump mechanically lowers and controls the water level of the canal in response to rising sea levels. Lowering the water level maintains the ability for the canal to accept water from stream flooding and saltwater inundation.
- Upland stream sensors already in research and development by 'Iolani Schools, SEEQS, and UH can transform the dam into a responsive system, creating a digital link between the dam and upland streams in near real-time to monitor and adjust pump according to seasonally determined baselines. A consolidated pump system increases energy resiliency compared to the USACE floodwall.
- Canoe locks maintain the recreational function of the canal for paddling, while a fish pass allows for aquatic life to flourish. Sediment catchment located upstream and where streams enter the canal will reduce long-term and expensive dredging maintenance while eliminating pollution entering the ocean.



Caption: The proposal for a flood wall will require over 50 backwater pumps in order for the wall to function during a flood event. The poor design of the wall creates two bottlenecks, which if in the event of a flood becomes blocked, flooding will be more catastrophic for surrounding schools and neighborhoods mauka of the wall.



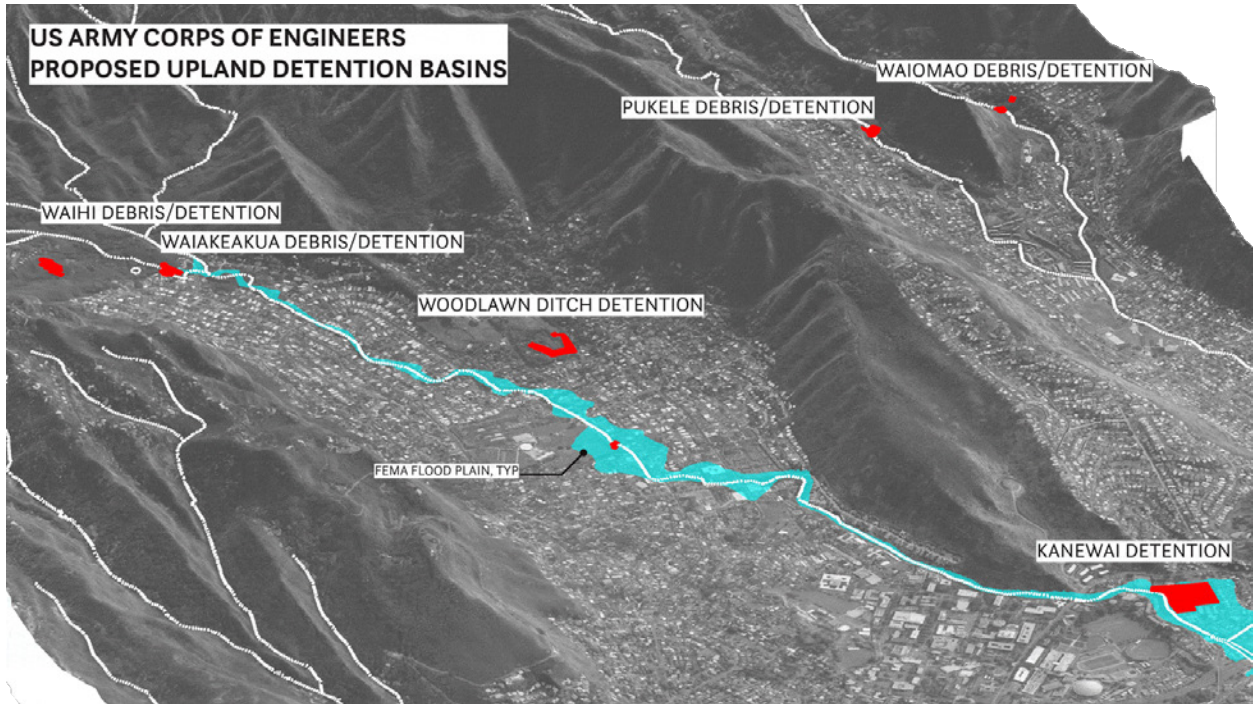
Caption: The implementation of “Kālia Dam” is a more efficient and effective way to control flooding from both stream and sea. Auxiliary to the dam would include community programming such as a canoe club and fishermen's association to advocate for the health of the canal across generations. Schools surrounding the canal can be upgraded to protect the health and safety of students during both flood events, and daily access to clean streams.

### **ISSUES: US ARMY PROPOSED DETENTION BASIN**

- Proposed detention basins, most built outside natural floodplains do not reduce the risk of flooding, only relocates the risk of flooding to upland neighborhoods.
- Detention basins are proposed in areas where homeowner occupancy exceeds 60%-80%, designed without proper community involvement, protocols, and due-diligence.
- Detention basins are proposed in the few natural streams left in the Ala Wai Watershed, where also few remaining lo'i remain.
- These proposed basins may trigger the Endangered Species Act.

### **ALTERNATIVE: CIVIC FLOOD PARKS and STREAM RETROFITS**

- Replace the concept of "detention basin" with a concept of "CIVIC FLOOD PARKS" located at Mānoa Valley District Park and Pālolo Valley District Park. Mānoa/Pālolo Valley District Parks exist within natural floodplains and allows for space to implement necessary upland flood control infrastructures without destroying the lives of residents impacted by current USACE proposals.
- RETROFIT STREAM CHANNELS to control the flow rate of stormwater, capture sediment, and filter pollution. These are more practical interventions and occur directly within the stream channel, minimizing the impact on current residents.



Caption: USACE proposed flood detention basins are mostly located outside of natural floodplains and require eminent domain for construction. This does not mitigate flooding but only moves catastrophic flood risk to residents higher in the watershed.



Caption: Civic flood parks retain flexible community and cultural programming, like playgrounds and sports fields designed to flood during a major storm event, and effectively drain post flooding. Mānoa and Pālolo Valley District Parks are the logical place for flood control intervention and do not threaten residents with Eminent Domain.

## **THE BIGGER PICTURE: AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A RESILIENT FUTURE**

In 2021, the Ala Wai Canal turns 100.

In efforts to adapt to climate change, what we as a community allow to happen to the Ala Wai Canal and it's larger area will influence the course of Hawai'i's economy and the health and livelihood of Hawai'i people for the next 100 years.

The density of prominent educational institutions within the area serviced by the Ala Wai Canal represents ground zero for catalyzing the sustainable resilient future Hawai'i needs over the next 100 years.

Efforts to address flood control must be pursued with a bigger picture and vision to ensure the health and livelihood of Hawai'i Residents first, while also addressing larger issues of social justice and resilience in perpetuating the values that make Hawai'i the home we love.

For an in-depth analysis of the Ala Wai Canal—it's past, present, and future—please visit:

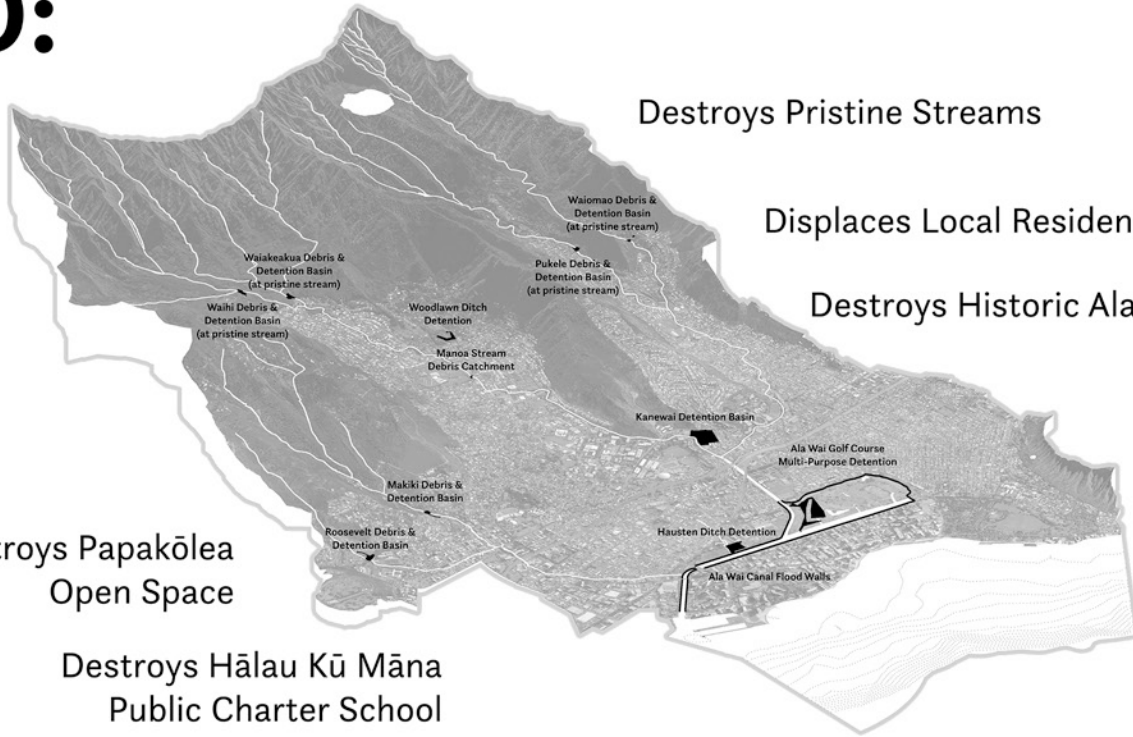


**[www.alawaicentennial.org](http://www.alawaicentennial.org)**

The ALA WAI CENTENNIAL MEMORIAL PROJECT is an online exhibition organizing around the idea that local people have a critical and necessary role in shaping the future of Hawai'i, not just private developers, corporations, and public agencies. The exhibition provides students, teachers, and the Public with a collection of dynamic three-dimensional maps that provide a practical and culturally rooted framework for communities to negotiate for a resilient future for Waikīkī and beyond.

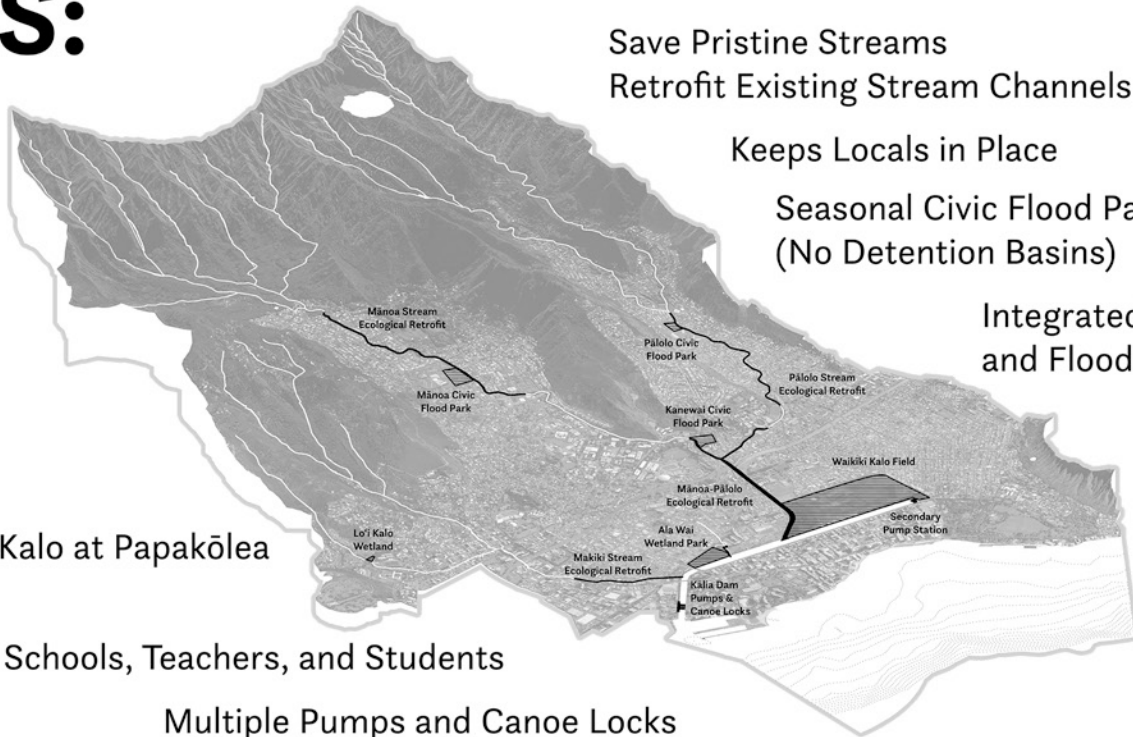
**US ARMY AND C&C PROPOSAL**  
**MILITARY WALLS AND DETENTION BASINS**

**NO:**



**COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION**  
**RESILIENT PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY**

**YES:**



**LATE**

**SCR-184-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2019 3:20:16 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2019 10:20:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support the effort to form a working group to vet this Ala Wai Project with the understanding that resident's concerns and alternatives to the 6-dams are taken seriously and changes to the Army Corp of Engineers plans are made. At the March 19, 2019 meeting involving the Community, Army Corp of Engineers, DLNR and the City, it was stated by the Army Corp that major changes to their plan would not be made. I am surprised and disgusted that Senator Moriwaki keeps stating at the Neighborhood Board Meetings that this project is in the initial planning phase when in fact the project has been approved in Washington, D.C. and finalized. The Army Corp is just waiting for legislative funding.

**LATE**

**SCR-184-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2019 6:23:16 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2019 10:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sean W. Scanlan, Ph.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha. Please support SCR 184, as such a large project needs more review.

I have a special stake in the matter as the **Late** proposing to build on my land in the back of my house, and I have not been kept abreast of the various changes to the dam being built.

To be clear, I am not opposed to protecting Waikiki and actually agree with the protective wall on the Ala Wai. But I'm about 4 miles from there in Pukele, in a small little neighborhood that the Army Corps of Engineers is intending to ruin.

The dam is supposed to slow the water and catch the debris (which the City is supposed to clean out regularly). So, if this flood ever happens, the water will top the dam. The dam is 30 feet high, which is ground level. So basically, the dam will bring those waters up 30 feet and will flood the all the homes. Despite all their "research", that is not discussed in the plans. Moreover, I am not in a flood zone and don't pay insurance for it. With the dam, I will be. That is also not discussed.

After reviewing all the plans, this Pukele dam has less than a 1% chance of actually helping anyone, and I will pay the price in insurance, loss of property value, and safety for my family. But as I was told by an engineer, there are always stories like mine in big projects.

So if my situation's not compelling, please let's just stop and think what the heck we are doing to one of the most beautiful places on earth. There's this money that is already allotted, and everyone's jumping at it without really looking into what this plan is. What are we doing?

I tried to attach a picture of what couldn't be a more perfect glimpse of Hawaii. That is exactly where they are going to put concrete 30 feet high and 184 feet long. That's 60 yards of concrete spread across perfection. All those trees, all those plants, all of it will be gone forever. What are we doing?