

Legislators – I urge you to support HCR78/HR 82: URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF FACILITY MAINTENANCE OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO CONDUCT AN ASSESSMENT AND PREPARE AND EXECUTE A PLAN TO MAINTAIN MANOA STREAM.

I am a concerned resident of Manoa Valley who witnessed the devastation of the 10/30/2004 flood that caused millions in dollars of damage to cars, homes, and the University of Hawaii. A lack of maintenance of the stream was a contributing factor as debris upstream caused a dam at the Woodlawn bridge, which then resulted in a rush of water being diverted onto the road and into areas that would not have been affected had the stream been maintained.

While it would be easy to assume that residents who live along the stream can/should be maintaining their property and ensuring it is free of debris, this is ultimately unrealistic given the confusing and often conflicting rules that residents must navigate through in order to determine what they can/not do. And this lack of clarity has made many residents hesitant and reluctant to taking action – and the result is a poorly maintained waterway that is going to present on-going risk of another disaster given the unknown consequences of erratic weather due to global warming.

The only well-maintained area of the stream fronts Manoa District Park and the Manoa Senior home, and this should be continued all the way up to the State-owned land in the back of the valley. A one-time, thorough clean-up of the large invasive trees (like the Albizia) would be greatly beneficial. And I can guarantee you that there are willing/able community organizations and volunteers who will plant indigenous flora that can/will flourish and help to maintain the natural flow of the water as well as ensure invasive species are removed regularly. This kind of public/community partnering effort would also be a positive step forward in achieving some of the goals of the Ala Wai Watershed project without major reconstruction or redirection of water – and it would be great if some of that funding could be used to perform the needed maintenance as it is a way to mitigate future risk.

We need bold and decisive action – and some creativity – so that we can make progress and not let any kind of deferred maintenance put the residents along the stream as well as businesses and schools downstream from being severely impacted when the next major flooding event occurs – and it is not a matter of ‘if’ but ‘when’ that will happen. I humbly submit this testimony and ask for your support of HCR78/HR82 – and, more importantly, develop a practical and sustainable approach to maintaining the stream.

Wesley Oda  
President – Be Ready Manoa

**HCR-78**

Submitted on: 3/26/2023 4:53:26 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/28/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jacqueline Wah	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in full SUPPORT of HCR78/HR82.

The maintenance of the Manoa Stream is important not just for the area surrounding the stream, but, as we witnessed from the flood of 2004, for those downstream. It is important that a maintenance plan be implemented so regular assessments are done in order to prevent loss of property or life when the next catastrophic weather events occur.

Submitted by Jackie Wah

Honorable Representative Linda Ichiyama, Chair  
House Committee on Water and Land

**HCR 78/HR 82**

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF FACILITY MAINTENANCE OF THE CITY AND  
COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO CONDUCT AN ASSESSMENT AND PREPARE AND  
EXECUTE A PLAN TO MAINTAIN MANOA STREAM

Tuesday, March 28, 2023

9:30 AM

Conference Room 430

State Capitol

Honorable Madam Chair and Members of the House Committee on Water  
and Land:

We testify in support of HCR 78/HR 82.

As longtime residents of Manoa Valley, we are testifying in support of HCR 78/HR 82. Our property was flooded during the Manoa Stream overflow on October 30, 2004. Our car and a washing machine were totally damaged and had to be replaced. We also suffered mud damage to our washroom. Further, one of our dogs was so frightened that he snuck under our house and would have drowned had we not heard his yelping and pulled him out. This was a traumatic event for our family to say the least.

We support all efforts to prevent such a catastrophe from happening again in Manoa Valley. We wholeheartedly support adoption of HCR 78 or HR 82.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven and Cheryl Kamaura

The House Committee on Water and Land  
Representative Linda Ichiyama, Chair

Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the House Committee on Water and Land:

I write in support of HCR78/HR82.

When I was a child, I used to play in Mānoa Stream at Pawaina St. Now you can't even see the Stream from the Pawaina St. bridge because it is overgrown with trees. During a heavy rain, these trees will clog the Stream and make it easier for it to overflow its banks and flood neighboring homes. The poor homeowners have to worry every time a lot of rain falls. In the back of the Valley we get rainfall of 8 or 9 inches spread out over two days about once every two years.

Conclusion: the City must do a better job of maintaining the Stream. These resolutions urge the City to make the maintenance of Manoa Stream a priority.

Elton Fukumoto  
Mānoa resident

**HCR-78**

Submitted on: 3/27/2023 9:16:05 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/28/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Seth Kamemoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We need to be prepared to handle the next extreme rain event in Manoa, as stormwater generated here, if not managed properly, can and will cause flooding throughout the Ala Wai watershed.

**HCR-78**

Submitted on: 3/27/2023 1:16:48 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/28/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Linda Legrande	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The importance of the good health of Manoa Stream cannot be underestimated as it flows to Waikiki. Please support this Resolution. Thank you, Linda Legrande

**HCR-78**

Submitted on: 3/27/2023 7:57:27 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/28/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kathy Shimata	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please maintain Manoa Stream. I live near the stream & it carries a great amount of water down from the mountains when it rains. There have been floods & flood damage when the stream was allowed to build up debris which impeded the flow. Regular maintenance will prevent future floods.

Mahalo.

Kathy Shimata

Honolulu. 96822