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## BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY ADOPTS LONG RANGE WATER MASTER PLAN

The plan provides guidance on providing continued and reliable water service to Oahu

HONOLULU – The Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS), at its monthly meeting on October 24, 2016, approved the adoption of the BWS Water Master Plan, a comprehensive program that looks ahead 30 years, evaluates the entire water system, identifies necessary improvements, and strives to balance infrastructure needs with costs of providing water to its customers.

"All Oahu residents deserve safe drinking water and the BWS has a responsibility to provide reliable service to our customers," said Board Chair Bryan Andaya. "The Water Master Plan will serve as a road map for the Department to continue providing Oahu residents with safe, dependable, and affordable water now and into the next generation."

In a presentation provided to the BWS Board of Directors Monday, members were given an overview of amendments to the Draft of the Plan, which was made available to the public in July 2016. The final Water Master Plan incorporates feedback from several dozen commenters who participated in the 60-day public comment period, as well as the BWS Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG). The SAG consists of nearly 30 highly respected local residents who represent community, environmental, and business interests who will be involved the development and implementation of the Plan.

"We are extremely pleased that so many members of the public contributed to the completion of our Water Master Plan," said BWS Manager and Chief Engineer Ernest Lau. "BWS remains committed to an open and transparent process and will continue to engage the public to ensure the plan represents our customer's needs."

The BWS's comprehensive water system consists of more than 2,100 miles of pipeline, 194 groundwater wells and source pumps, 171 potable reservoirs, and more, servicing nearly every community on Oahu. With the approved Water Master Plan, the BWS will develop a 30-year Capital Improvement Program and long-term Financial Plan that assess the needs of the water system and will support the Department's mission of providing safe, dependable, and affordable water service to its customers.

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For more information on the BWS Water Master Plan, residents are encouraged to view the document in its entirety, as well as other supplemental materials, at <a href="https://www.boardofwatersupply.com/watermasterplan">www.boardofwatersupply.com/watermasterplan</a>. Residents may also call (808) 748-5347 or email

BWSWaterMasterPlan@hbws.org for more information.

## About the Board of Water Supply

The Board of Water Supply (BWS), a semi-autonomous agency of the City and County of Honolulu, manages Oahu's municipal water resources and distribution system. As the largest water utility in the State, the BWS serves approximately one million customers on Oahu. The BWS embraces its mission of "Water for Life – *Ka Wai Ola*"—to provide a safe, dependable, and affordable water supply, now and into the future. *Uwē ka lani, ola ka honua* – "When the heavens weep, the earth lives." For more information about the BWS, visit <u>www.boardofwatersupply.com</u>, follow <u>@BWSHonolulu</u> or like the BWS's Facebook page at <u>http://www.facebook.com/BWSHonolulu</u>.

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