

Honolulu Board of Water Supply
News Release



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**WATER BOARD ADOPTS \$291 MILLION BUDGET FOR FY 2017
AND RETAINS CURRENT WATER RATES**

HONOLULU – The Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS) at its monthly meeting on May 23, approved the adoption of a \$291.7 million budget for the coming fiscal year starting July 1, 2016. The budget was based on no change to current water rates for FY 2017.

BWS Manager and Chief Engineer Ernest Lau testified that revenues raised from existing rates will be sufficient to cover the cost of operating Oahu's water system for the year ahead. Lau said that \$210.9 million has been budgeted for operating expenditures and \$80.9 million for capital improvement projects (CIP).

The approved Operating budget provides funds to manage and operate the island's water system to ensure the safe and reliable delivery of water to Oahu consumers. This includes monies to pay down outstanding debt on higher interest rate loans from the State Revolving Fund (SRF) and to provide greater borrowing capacity to use lower interest rate SRF loans; repair, maintain, and replace meters to ensure accurate meter readings and customer bills; and repave damaged roadways after main breaks.

The CIP budget will fund research and development projects (\$3.4 million) such as Red Hill Groundwater Monitoring Wells, construction management for various BWS construction projects, and a Waikele Gulch exploratory well.

CIP renewal and replacement projects (\$61.4 million) include pump replacements at Diamond Head Line Booster, Moanalua Wells and Mililani Wells; renovation of Punaluu Wells and Pearl City Wells, and improvements to the BWS accounting system, Nuuanu Reservoir No. 4 Dam, and the BWS's Manana Corporation Yard.

CIP capacity expansion projects (\$2.73 million) include reservoirs in Aina Haina, Kapolei, and Waianae, as well as a recycled water main in Kualakai Parkway and Kalakaua Avenue Water System Improvement, Phase III.

To promote agency transparency, the budget is posted on the Board of Water Supply's website at www.boardofwatersupply.com. Here is the link to the 2017 Budget: <http://www.boardofwatersupply.com/files/FY2017-bws-budget.pdf>

(More)



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 www.boardofwatersupply.com, follow [@BWSHonolulu](https://twitter.com/BWSHonolulu) or like the BWS's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/BWSHonolulu>.

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