



**PRIMARY URBAN CENTER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN (PUC WMP)
Notes from Community Meeting #1A**

Meeting Location: McKinley High School Cafeteria

Date: May 22, 2017

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Purpose

The purpose of the meeting was to share preliminary research on water resource issues and to seek public input on important water-related issues for the Primary Urban Center. Nineteen individuals from the community attended the meeting.

The Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS) and Townscape, Inc. presented a slideshow that provided an overview of the following:

- Background and Overview of the O'ahu Water Management Plan
- Overview of the Honolulu Primary Urban Center
- Watershed Overview
- Watershed Issues
- Next Steps

The slideshow is available on the BWS website at:

<http://www.boardofwatersupply.com/bws/media/files/puc-wmp-community-meeting-1-slideshow-2017-05-23.pdf>

A project fact sheet and questionnaire was provided at the meeting. Both documents are available on the BWS website at: <http://www.boardofwatersupply.com/water-resources/watershed-management-plan/primary-urban-center-plan>

After the slideshow, meeting participants were asked to share their issues and concerns about the watersheds and water resources in the Primary Urban Center. A summary of the various questions, comments, and discussions is provided below. BWS and consultant responses are in *Italics*.

- Will the slideshow be available on the BWS website?
 - *Yes, the slideshow will be posted once we've completed all three meetings for this 1st series of community meetings.*
- What happens if we are cut off from supply of food and water sources due to a nuclear catastrophe? What will happen if the water is contaminated? Dehydrated food also requires water.

- Can you clarify the numbers (i.e. 5.1%, 4.1 MGD) provided on the project fact sheet?
 - *The percentage number is the percent of Oahu's residents residing within each district. The number below it is the amount (million gallons per day, MGD) of water pumped by BWS in each district. The number in the parenthesis is the BWS water demand for each district. So for example, 45.6% of the Oahu's population is residing in the Primary Urban Center (PUC). The BWS pumps 75.3 MGD from the PUC district, but water demand in the PUC is 69.5 MGD. Thus, the excess amount of water is pumped to serve the East Honolulu district.*
- I heard that we are going to run out of water by 2025. Concerned with salt water intrusion. We need to know what is impacting our water, especially with all the development in Kaka'ako.
 - *The PUC WMP will analyze three development scenarios: for low, mid, and high water demand for the year 2040. DPP's population projections will be incorporated into the water demand scenarios. Additionally, an "ultimate growth scenario" will be considered.*
 - *Water should not run out by 2025. BWS is only pumping about 145 MGD for the municipal system. Less than half of the 407 mgd of available groundwater for O'ahu aquifers is pumped islandwide.*
- Will desalination be used as a source of water in the future?
 - *There are no plans for desalination in the PUC. Brackish and seawater desalination is only planned for 'Ewa, which has available land area and access to photovoltaic renewable energy to offset the high cost of electric power required for desalination plants.*
- Why doesn't BWS add fluoride to our water, especially if it can benefit the health of our children's teeth?
 - *Only 1% of BWS water is actually consumed as drinking water. It would be a significant additional cost that BWS and its customers would have to incur if fluoride was added to all BWS water. We know that there are folks that support the use of fluoride and there are folks that don't support the use of fluoride in our drinking water. Bills relating to fluoride measures have failed to advance in the legislature. We know that the military uses fluoride in their water.*
- Will all the issues outlined in the slideshow be addressed in detail in the plan? And by different watersheds?
 - *Issues outlined in the slideshow will be addressed in the plan. Depending on the issue, it may be addressed by watersheds.*
 - *We will be holding meetings at 3 different locations for each series of meetings. Each meeting will cover the same general overview information, but issues particular to a region of the PUC will be discussed in more detail depending on the location of the meeting. For example, issues/projects regarding the Ala Wai may be discussed in more detail in future meetings held within the east side of*

the PUC, while issues/projects regarding the Red Hill Navy fuel tanks may be discussed in detail at meetings held in the 'Aiea area.

- What about water running in streams? Native plants such as 'ākulikuli can filter water.
 - *We will be looking at ways to restore some of the streams in the PUC.*
- There is very little water going back to the soil. We are always looking at how to get stormwater water out, but what can we do to retain some of the water to replenish the aquifers?
 - *The City's Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) has Low Impact Development (LID) Standards that incorporate features for stormwater retention on properties.*
 - *The Nu'uuanu Reservoirs also serve as unlined storm water reservoirs that allow some recharge of the underlying aquifers. The Army Corps has proposed retention basins in the Ala Wai Watershed including the Ala Wai golf course.*
- How will BWS support organizations already doing water resources related projects in the PUC?
 - *BWS has authorization to fund approximately \$3.3 million/year for watershed management projects. BWS currently provides funding to the O'ahu Invasive Species Committee, the Ko'olau Mountains Watershed Partnership and the State DLNR Forestry & Wildlife Division. BWS has plans to provide funding to other organizations as well, such as the Manoah Cultural Learning Center project and the Lo'i Kalo Park lo'i restoration project. BWS provides funding to watershed management activities in BWS priority watersheds.*
- There are 35 golf courses on O'ahu. How much water do they use?
 - *Golf courses use about 0.5 MGD.*
- Concern about sewer contamination from overflow.
 - *The City has a federal mandate from EPA to address this issue. We will be meeting with City ENV to discuss their long range plans.*