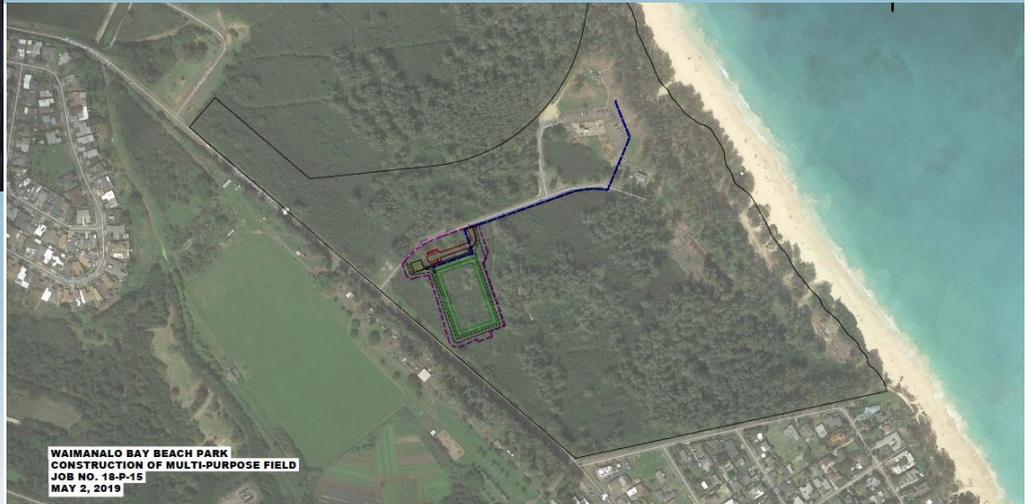




**COUNCILMEMBER IKAIKA ANDERSON
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MARCH 2019 UPDATE**

Waimanalo Bay Beach Park Master Plan



Chair, Council Committee on Planning

Vice Chair, Council Committee on Parks, Community & Inter-governmental Affairs

Member, Council Committees on Public Safety & Welfare; Zoning & Housing; Transportation; and Executive Matters & Legal Affairs

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

Wednesday, Mar. 8

Full Council	9 am
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Tuesday, Mar. 25

Parks	9 am
Planning	10 ³⁰ am
Executive Matters	1pm

Wednesday, Mar. 27

Budget	9am
Public Works	1pm

Thursday, Mar. 28

Zoning and Housing	9 am
Public Safety	1 pm

We wanted to provide some clarification on the project currently underway at Waimānalo Bay Beach Park (pictured, blue line is for potable water) This project represents the first phase of the master plan for the area that has been more than 10 years in the making. The City Council and Mayor Kirk Caldwell approved funding for Phase 1 of the project only, which includes a new sports/recreation field, an 11-stall parking lot, and keiki playground equipment, which will cover approximately four acres. The \$1.4 million contract was awarded to Kaikor Construction Co., Inc., and is scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2020. For any future phases of the Master Plan to begin, the City Council would have to fund the project. That has not occurred.

City Council Chair Anderson is open to discussing changes to the EA, but wants to acknowledge that this could take years to complete. The first few years of drafting the current Master Plan were devoted to having the Waimānalo community, led by

its Neighborhood Board, to determine what the plan should contain, how it would improve the area and facilities, protect against harming any endangered species or sites of archaeological or cultural importance, and determine impacts to traffic. The next few years were spent conducting and finalizing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to address the community's concerns, including traffic impacts. This was part of the final Master Plan dated June 25, 2012.

At that point, the project was subject to State procurement law, which ensures transparency through a public bid process that identifies, selects and awards the contract to a qualified bidder. Projects like these typically take years before construction begins because the EA and procurement components often take between 4-5 years to complete.

We have looked at reinvigorating existing park facilities, such as Azevedo Field, (cont.)

Waimanalo Bay Beach Park Master Plan

However, the increased financial costs, concerns over the flood plain, and uncertainty about whether it would make lasting improvements to the problematic clay soil repeatedly conclude that repair and rehabilitation is impractical.

In the end, making a new field to provide a safe and serviceable recreational asset for our keiki and keeping it in character with the community was determined by the Administration to be the best course of action. The following are some of the more frequent questions being asked about this project:

What is the Waimānalo Bay Beach Park Master Plan?

The final Waimānalo Bay Beach Park Master Plan, dated June 25, 2012, is a planning document put together by Waimānalo community leaders and kupūna that guides the phased development and improvement of about 75 acres the City owns in Waimānalo. The areas within the Master Plan include Waimānalo Bay Beach Park, often referred to as Sherwood, and is adjacent to Bellows Air Field, which lies to the north.

What does the current work involve?

The City Council has approved funding for Phase 1 of the project only, which includes a new sports/recreation field, an 11-stall parking lot and keiki playground equipment, which will cover approximately four acres. The \$1.4 million contract was awarded to Kaikor Construction Co., Inc., and is scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2020.

What does the Master Plan call for?

The total scope of the project includes redevelopment and improvements to the current park facilities and the addition of multi-purpose sports fields, more parking stalls, new playground equipment, and additional campsites. It will be done in phases and follow the approved EA.

When will the remainder of the Master Plan be implemented?

Future phases of the Master Plan will require funding from the City Council. That has not yet occurred. Mayor Kirk Caldwell and his administration decided to allow this first phase to be completed. Should the community desire to make changes to the approved Master Plan, it could trigger the need for a new EA.

Why can't the project be stopped now and the funds be used to address other needs in the community?

Cancelling the contract and stopping the project will result in a cost to taxpayers – as much as \$300,000 in this case. Because this project is part of the 2017 Capital Improvements Budget, transferring the funds is not permitted.

Isn't it true that Waimānalo has an existing sports field? Why is it necessary to build another one?

Yes, Azevedo Field at Waimānalo District Park currently exists. However, due to the clay composition of Azevedo Field's soil, the Caldwell Administration has concluded that the complete rehabilitation of the field would be too costly. The fact that such repairs have no guarantee of success due to the field's clay soil factored into the Administration's decision.

There has been a significant amount of analysis done to see if Azevedo Field. However, the increased financial costs, concerns over the flood plain, and uncertainty about whether it would make lasting improvements to the problematic clay soil repeatedly conclude that repair and rehabilitation is impractical.

(cont.)

See the full plan at: http://oegc2.doh.hawaii.gov/EA_EIS_Library/2012-07-08-OA-FEA-Waimanalo-Beach-Park-Master-Plan.pdf

Waimanalo Bay Beach Park Master Plan

In the end, making a new field to provide a safe and serviceable recreational asset for our *keiki* and keeping it in character with the community was determined by the Administration to be the best course of action.

Will these additional sports fields be a huge drain on Waimānalo's drinking water?

Not for irrigation. The plan calls for the fields to be irrigated using reused treated water from the Waimanalo Wastewater Treatment Plant. The added benefit of this plan will be to make upgrades to bring WWTP to R-1 compliance. R-1 water, based on the State Health Department standards, is wastewater suitable for irrigation purposes because it has significantly reduced the levels of viral and bacterial pathogens. Use of the recycled water for these purposes is spelled out in the Master Plan.

Will this project result in the destruction of the forest and habitat?

According to the EA, the forested areas are mainly invasive plants, such as koa haole, and do not provide primary habitat for native birds or other Hawaiian fauna. Selective removal of aging ironwood trees, which pose a public safety and liability concern to the City, may occur at the discretion of City arborists as detailed in the EA.

The plan also cut back on the number of sports/recreational fields which could have been accommodated in acknowledgement of the community's desire to retain as many large ironwoods and other quality trees as possible, as well as a number of forested areas near Aloiloi Street.

This will only aggravate our already congested traffic problems, especially on weekends and holidays.

Traffic studies were conducted as part of the EA submitted in 2012. It is not possible to conduct a current traffic analysis and apply it to the 2012 EA. The State Department of Transportation's estimates concluded that an increase in traffic is inevitable due to popula-

tion growth and Hawaii's economy – a 1.2 percent increase annually that will result in a 25 percent total increase in traffic by 2031 along this particular corridor. This project gives us some opportunity to improve some of the road infrastructure and redistribute traffic flow to reduce congestion. Heavy traffic is already assured on weekends and holidays, but the community felt that sports and other recreational activities for youth should not be penalized.

What happens if you find sites of historical and archaeological significance? And what if 'iwi (bones) are discovered?

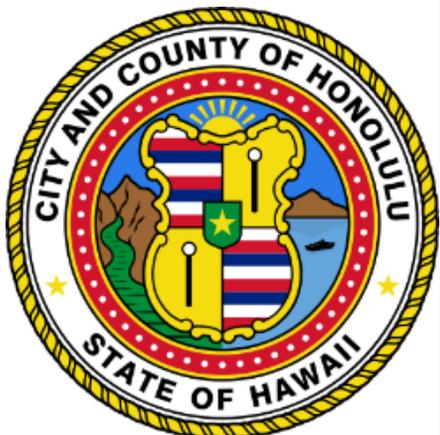
There is currently an archaeologist on site whenever work is going on as required by the plan. The discovery of any 'iwi will follow the protocols established by the Native Hawaiian Burial Council and codified in state law.

Will the community have any further opportunities to make changes to the plan?

Council Chair Ikaika Anderson, who represents the area and is a Waimānalo resident, is open to discussing changes with community members, with the understanding that if any parts of the current plan are amended, it may require a new EA. A new EA, as mentioned above, will likely take years to complete.



HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL



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Community Corner:

1st Annual Makai Fest

During the month of June, the 1st Annual Makai Fest will be hosting numerous free community events, including Kailua's largest community and beach cleanup ever this Saturday, June 8th, co-hosted by Lanikai Brewing Company. In honor of World Ocean Day, the Kailua town cleanup will extend beyond just a beach cleanup to include the entire community, including the parks, trails, marsh, and more. Co-hosting the event along with Lanikai Brewing Company are local groups including Treehouse Co-Working, Hawaii Ocean Ambassadors, the Kailua Neighborhood Board, Seed World, Ocean Defenders Alliance Hawaii, Surfrider Foundation, 808Cleanups, and more.

The Kailua town cleanup will begin with check-in at 9:00-10:45am at Tap & Barrel by Lanikai Brewing Company, located at 167 Hamakua Drive. Lanikai Brewing Company will be providing grain bags for collecting trash, and is encouraging participants to bring with them a reusable water bottle to stay hydrated and reusable mesh bags or buckets for collecting more trash. At check-in, Lanikai Brewing Company will have participants select on a map which areas of Kailua they would like to help clean, and as the day progresses can watch as the map fills up! After the clean-up, Lanikai Brewing Company will be hosting an afterparty at Tap & Barrel, from 4pm-close.

Additionally, Lanikai Brewing Company and the Makai Fest co-hosts are encouraging community members starting that day to REDUCE or eliminate the use of single use disposables, and be more conscious for that week (and beyond). Some easy examples include carrying a reusable coffee cup for your morning coffee, carrying reusable water bottles to your favorite workout spots, and making conscious decisions to attempt to avoid purchasing items in single use non-recyclable containers.

The 1st Annual Makai Fest will also include numerous other informative and fun events aimed to educate and encourage action in our communities, including Ocean Awareness Trivia at Tap & Barrel (June 4th), free film screenings later in June, and more. For details, visit www.kailuamakiaifestival.com and follow on Instagram @kailuamakiaifest.

With Alan Kekoa Texeira