



6E Introductory Meetings

June 27 - 30, 2016



Louis Berger

Meeting Organization/ Ground Rules

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Meeting Rules

- Please communicate in a civil manner.
- Have a willingness to understand opposing views.
- Please address the meeting leaders only.
- We would appreciate if you could limit comments to five minutes.
- Please direct your comments to consideration of the alternatives.
- Individuals are permitted to attend one meeting only.

Introduction

Louis Berger

Dr. Steven Bedford and
Dr. Hope Luhman, RPA

WCP Inc.

Celia Shen
Richard Stook
Clayton Sugimoto

Representatives of the City

Irvin Higashi
Clifford Lau
Robert Kroning

Who is Louis Berger and why are they here?

Louis Berger

We are here as a neutral party.

Louis Berger is:

- Global consultancy with over 6000 employees worldwide.
- Founded in 1953.
- Heritage Resource Management (HRM) Practice has been in existence since 1980.
- Approximately 80 archaeologists, architectural historians, historians and preservation specialists.
- Worked in all 50 states and overseas.
- HRM staff have been working in Hawaii since 2005.
- Assigned staff have expertise in the architecture of the era and World War I memorials.
- Extensive experience in meetings related to NEPA and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and state level legislation.

Why are we here?

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Historic Preservation



Purpose and goals of this meeting

- To comply with Hawaii Revised Statutes 6E, *Historic Preservation*.
- **To identify a feasible and prudent preservation alternative(s), if any, that avoids or minimizes effects to the historic resource; to be analyzed equitably in the EIS with the city's current preferred alternative-- removal of the Natatorium and the creation of a new memorial beach in its place.**

Organization

- 3 rounds of meetings.
- Meetings will be tailored to concerns and solicit information from various interests within a preservation context.
- **Round 1.** Introduction, review of information, current alternatives available.
- **Round 2.** Based on Round 1, further address/refine preservation alternatives for consideration in the EIS.
- **Round 3.** Based on Round 2, final selection of alternative(s), if any, for consideration in the EIS
- **An open final 6E summary meeting to summarize the process.**

What is 6E?

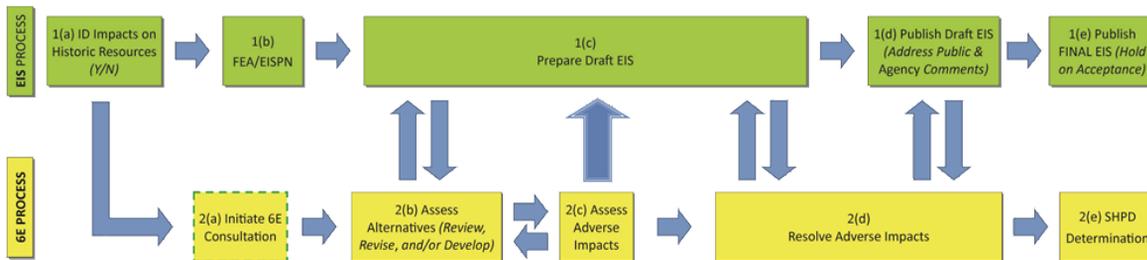
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HRS Section 6E-8 and HAR Chapter 13-275

- Project effects on historic properties be identified and taken into account.
- Local jurisdictions must allow SHPD to review the effects.
- Proposed projects cannot begin without written concurrence on the effect and any mitigation commitments.
- Any project that requires a permit for use that may affect a historic property requires SHPD to review and comment.
- HAR 13-275-1(c) (2) specifically entitles any person or organization concerned with the effects of a project on a historic property to participate in the historic preservation review process.
- There is no specific process identified.
- **City decided to have these meetings to be as transparent and inclusive as possible as a gesture of good faith.**

6E and EIS Process

WWMC Historic Preservation Consultation and EIS Processes



1) ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS (HRS 343)

- 1(a) - Proposed Action will/may result in adverse impacts to registered historic properties.
- 1(b) - Notify public that an EIS will be prepared. Identify Proposed Action and preliminary alternatives and potential impacts.
- 1(c) - Identify Proposed Action and final set of reasonable/feasible alternatives (Note: Development and refinement of reasonable/feasible alternatives will be based on information gathered during 2(b) and 2(c) of the 6E Consultation process).
Analysis of the environmental impacts of the Proposed Action and each reasonable/feasible alternative (Note: In addition to consultation the EIS process may require specialized technical studies to fill data gaps).
- 1(d) - Draft EIS published. Public and agency comments received and incorporated into the further refinement of the reasonable/feasible alternatives and/or impact mitigation measures (as necessary).
- 1(e) - Publish Final EIS (Note: Accepting Authority holds off on signing until concurrence from US Army Corps of Engineers on the Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative (LEDPA).

2) HISTORIC PRESERVATION CONSULTATION PROCESS (HRS 6E)

- 2(a) - Based on 1(a) (i.e., "Yes") initiate 6E Consultation process.
- 2(b) - Reasonable/feasible preservation alternatives reviewed by SHPD and interested parties (Note: Initial alternatives may need to be reevaluated, revised or modified, or new alternatives developed as additional information about historic properties and potential impacts come to light).
- 2(c) - Adverse impacts on historic properties assessed and incorporated into preparation of EIS (Note: Consultation may provide new information, suggestions, creative options that might help better understand potential impacts of Proposed Action and alternatives).
Initiate "informal/early consultation" with the US Army Corps of Engineers to provide their input on the developing alternatives (for forthcoming Section 404 DA Permit).
- 2(d) - Resolution of potential adverse impacts to historic properties (to the extent practicable) and incorporated into the EIS (e.g., impact avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures).
- 2(e) - City submits selected alternative to SHPD for concurrence determination.

Decision Points in the 6E Process

- 1(a): Historic properties affected?
 - Yes.
- 2(a): How do we implement 6E process?
 - We are in the 6E process now.
- 2(c): Conclusion of meetings.
 - Preservation alternative for consideration in EIS
- 2(d): Resolution of effects and development of treatment plan.
- 2(e): SHPD Concurrence.

Decisions and Processes

- Process informs the decisions to be made.

6E and EIS Process

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- We are in the 6E consultation process.
- We are at the public information and the alternative development stage.
- These meetings inform the preservation alternatives for consideration in the EIS.
- The goal is to develop feasible and prudent alternatives within current legal and regulatory framework.
- Building on prior work to move forward.



Brief Chronology – The Natatorium

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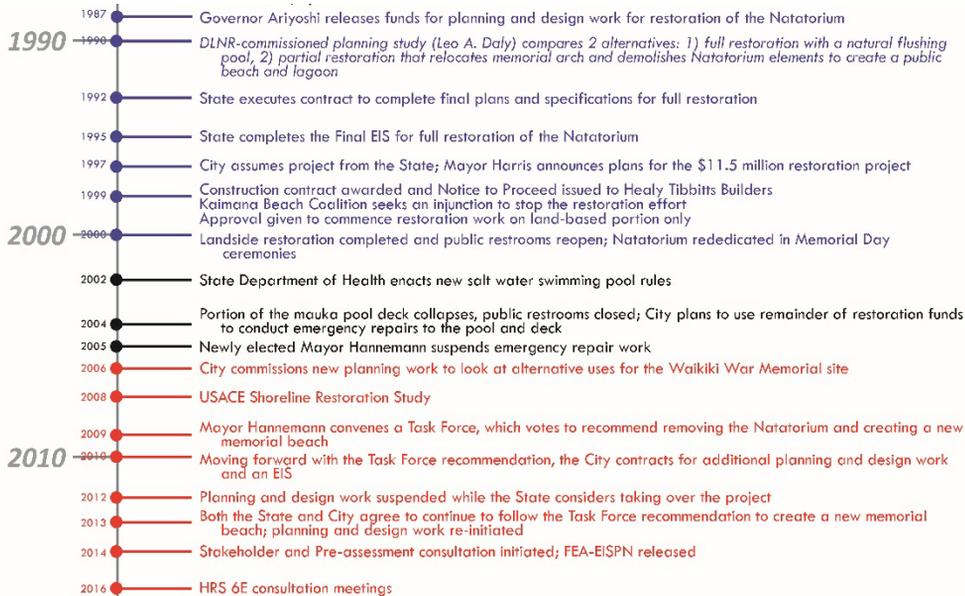
- Competition held for Natatorium as a useful World War I memorial.
- Won by Lewis Parsons Hobart (1921).
- Beaux-Arts influenced design.
- Influenced by Hector D'Espouy's publications.
- Built on site of Irwin House.
- Finished in 1927 using altered plans.
- Used for national and international swimming competitions.
- Used by Army during World War II.
- Repaired periodically throughout its history.
- Water quality a constant concern.
- Closed in 1979 due to health and safety concerns.
- Listed on the Hawaii Register in 1973, reinstated 1980.
- Listed on National Register 1980.
- National Trust named it a National Treasure 2014.

Waikiki War Memorial Natatorium - Chronology

-
- 1919** Territory of Hawaii acquires 6.4-acre site and Hawaii's War Memorial Park is dedicated
 - 1921** Act 15 appropriates funds to provide a memorial "to the men and women of Hawaii who served during the war"
 - 1927** Natatorium constructed
 - 1929** Basic repairs made and deep section of pool dredged and enlarged for high diving
 - 1931** Roll of Honor plaque dedicated
 - 1945**
 - 1949** Major repairs and refurbishment undertaken
 - 1963** Natatorium temporarily closes due to poor water quality
 - 1964** Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) requests City Building Department to conduct a condition inspection
 - 1964** DPR commissions study (Wolbrink) to evaluate existing conditions and chart a course of action, alternatives considered: 1) retain the Natatorium with routine maintenance, 2) demolish all or part of the Natatorium, 3) reconstruct, renovate, or refurbish all or part of the Natatorium
 - 1965** U.S. Rivers and Harbors Act of 1965 authorizes Beach Erosion Control Improvements (Army Corps) for Waikiki City Council votes to demolish Natatorium as recommended by Mayor Blaisdell
 - 1970**
 - 1973** Final EIS for the Army Corps Beach Erosion Control Improvements proposes demolishing the Natatorium and creating a new beach; both the State and City governments are in agreement with the plan Natatorium placed on the Hawaii Register of Historic Places Natatorium Preservation Committee files suit; plans for demolition halted
 - 1976** Another City Building Department inspection finds extensive deterioration of the Natatorium
 - 1980**
 - 1979** Natatorium officially closes; fenced and padlocked in 1980
 - 1980** Natatorium reinstated to the Hawaii Register of Historic Places and placed on the National Register of Historic Places
 - 1981** DLNR report on SR 209 considered: 1) public-private joint ventures, 2) demolition and construct a new saltwater pool inland or at another site
 - 1981** Ad Hoc Study Committee (prepared by members of the DLNR Natatorium committee in disagreement with the DLNR SR 209 report): 1) should only be reconstructed if a valid public purpose would be served by its reconstruction, 2) demolish Natatorium and put a public beach in its place
 - 1983** City issues Kapiolani Park Master Planning Report that affirms the City's position that the War Memorial Complex be maintained as open park space, containing the existing large stone and plaque, and if feasible, the existing memorial archway
 - 1983** DLNR report on HCR 173 considered: 1) restore a beach to the area occupied by the Natatorium, 2) convert makai wall into a "groin" to establish a protected swim area, 3) fill pool and convert it to a landscaped peninsula

Brief Chronology

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The Past

Over 50 years of studies and alternatives

- Studies began in 1964 before National Environmental Policy Act (1970)
- And before National Historic Preservation Act (1966)

Current Efforts

- 2008 Shoreline Restoration Study
- 2009 Mayoral Task Force
- 2014 Key Stakeholder Groups Scoping Interviews
- 2014 FEA-EISPN
- Archaeological investigations
- Current Alternatives below
- Presently three approaches

It is Time to Move Forward

The goal is to assist in developing reasonable preservation-minded alternatives that comply with:

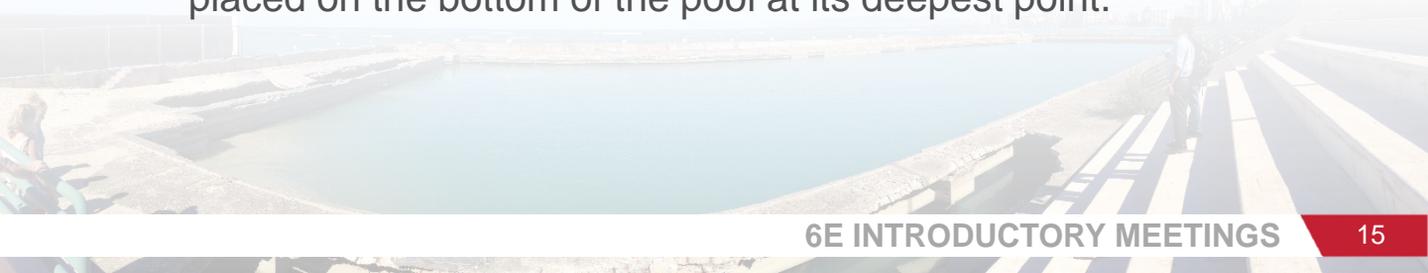
2000 Stipulated Judgement and Settlement Agreement between City and Kaimana Beach Coalition

- City agreed not to appeal the ruling that the Natatorium is a swimming pool.
- City permitted to engage in construction, restoration, or repair of 'land-based' portion of project.
- City agreed not to engage in any construction, restoration, or repair of the "ocean-based" portion, except for public health and safety, until saltwater pool rules are adopted. Any future restoration proposal, if it falls under the DOH definition of a public swimming pool must comply with new rules.

Pool Regulations (HAR Chapter 11-10)

Current pool regulations govern water clarity and quality, cleanable surfaces, and marine life entry.

- **Open system** --a saltwater swimming pool that exchanges its water with other bodies of water by mechanical pumping force.
- **Closed system** --a saltwater swimming pool that does not exchange its water with any other bodies of water.
- **Water clarity:** disc which is six inches in diameter and of a color of high contrast to the color of the public saltwater specialty swimming pool bottom can be seen from outside the pool when placed on the bottom of the pool at its deepest point.



Water quality: Pool is subject to monitoring and water quality testing. In a closed system pool, the water shall be disinfected. In an open system, water quality can be satisfied through pool water circulation; pool water must be completely exchanged at least once every six hours.

- Pool must be continually free of non-microbial hazardous marine life.
- Pool walls, bottom and deck must be easy to clean and scrubbed to remove bacterial films.



Beach and Park User Concerns

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Based on 2014 interviews with Key Stakeholder groups

- Sans Souci beach erosion/preservation
- Water quality
- Effect on reef
- Effect on marine life, surf breaks
- Health risks
- Landscape impacts
- User intensity
- Value of beach restoration
- Recreational Impacts
- Traffic and parking
- Tourism
- Homeless

All to be considered in a preservation minded solution

Business and Local Concerns

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Based on 2014 interviews with Key Stakeholder groups

- Economics
- Water quality
- Health risks
- Landscape impacts
- User intensity
- Value of beach restoration
- Recreational Impacts
- Traffic and parking
- Tourism
- Homeless
- Commercial opportunities

All to be considered in a preservation-minded solution.

Native Hawaiian Concerns

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Based on 2014 interviews with Key Stakeholder groups

- Honoring the Kupuna
- Keep a place of great memory
- Honoring the great Hawaiian swimmers.
- The sense of place
- Symbolic importance

All to be considered in a preservation-minded solution.



Veteran Concerns

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Based on 2014 interviews with Key Stakeholder groups

- Descendants of the World War I veterans concerned about changes made to the monument.
- Maintaining a memorial site.
- Addressing the memory of World War I veterans.
- 2014-2018 is the centennial of World War I. How will veterans be able to celebrate this at the memorial in any of the alternatives.
- What specifically has been done to solicit input from citizens about destroying a memorial honoring veterans.
- Current condition of monument.
- “Lest We Forget.”
- Why is demolition the preferred alternative.

All to be considered in a preservation-minded solution.

Preservation Concerns

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Based on 2014 interviews with Key Stakeholder groups

- Preserving/rehabilitating/restoring the entire building.
- Keeping a place of great memory.
- Maintaining the sense of place.
- Symbolic importance.

All to be considered in an alternative solution.



Alternative Approaches

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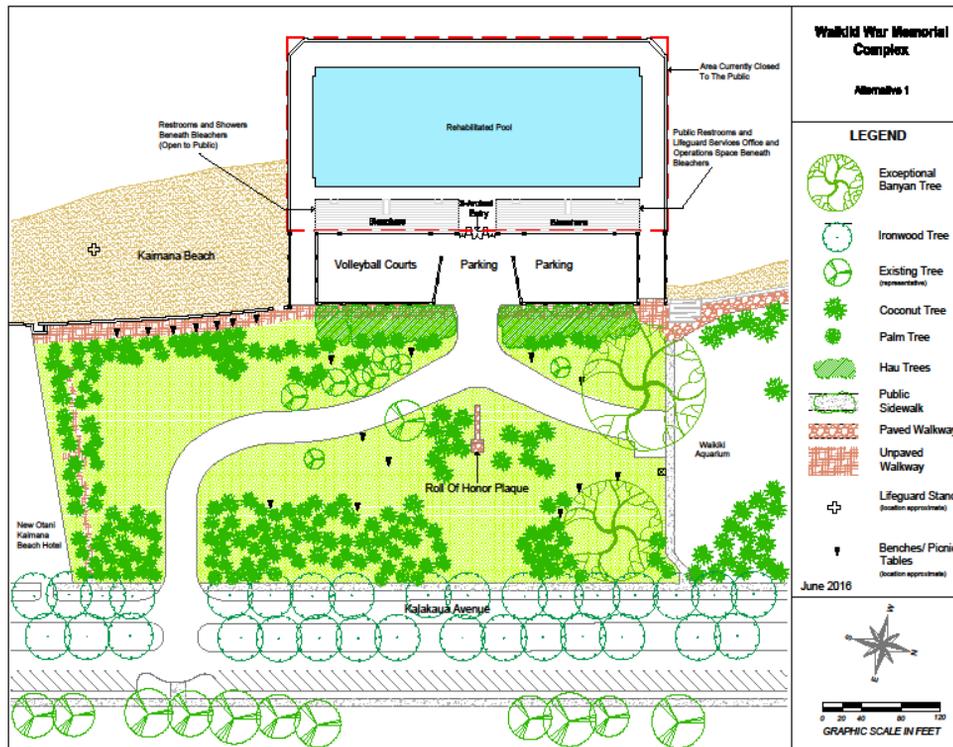
- Alternative 1: Rehabilitation of the Natatorium, including the pool structure (full preservation option).
- Alternative 2: Retention of the bleacher structure with no landside modification (partial preservation option - no pool).
 - 2a. Two equal-length groins extending outside the existing Natatorium footprint (beach creation).
 - 2b. Two equal-length groins within the existing Natatorium footprint (no beach creation).
- Alternative 3: Removal of Natatorium with beach creation and landside modifications (preferred).



Alternative 1

Rehabilitation of the Natatorium, including the pool structure

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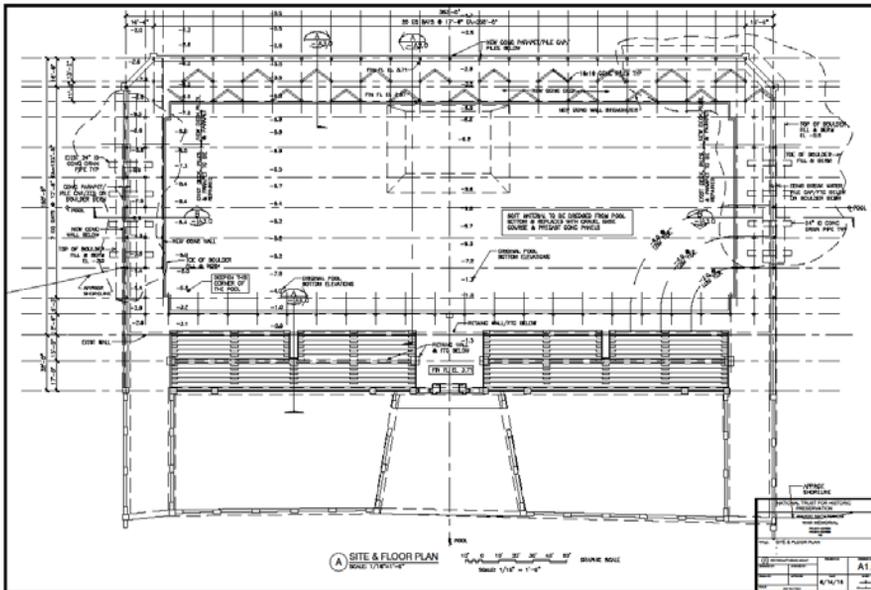


- Reconstruction of the pool
- Includes pool deck, supporting piles, and portions of outer seawalls.
- Repair or reconstruction of the bleacher structure.

Alternative 1

Rehabilitation of the Natatorium, including the pool structure

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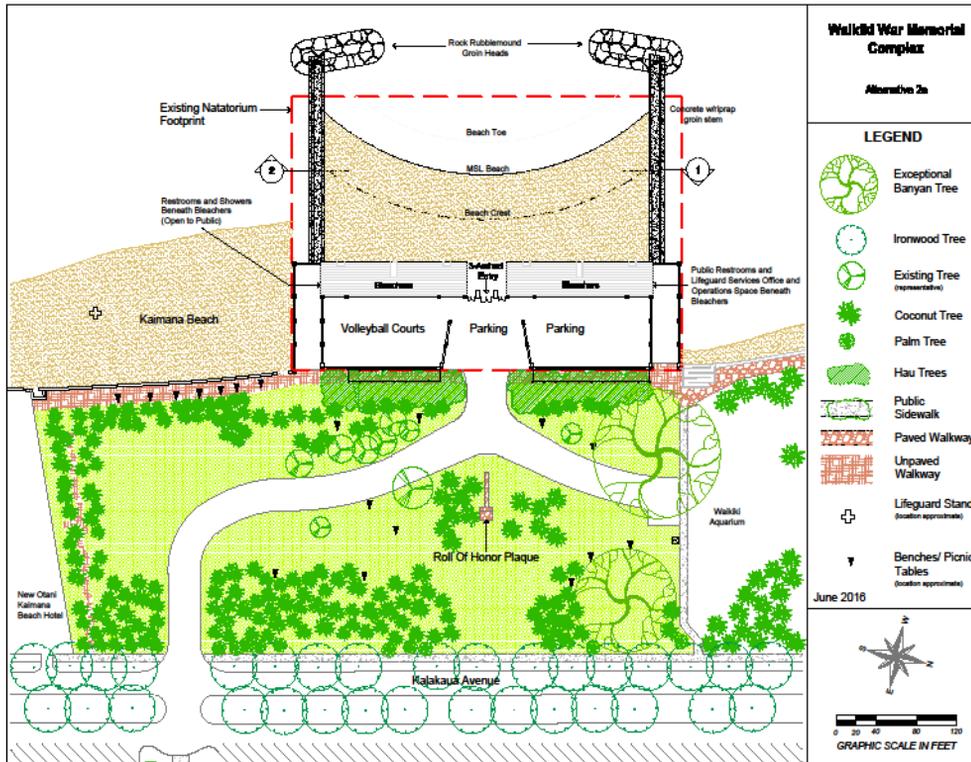


- **Open system pool option.**
- Replacement of the swim basin's makai seawall with individual chevron units topped with decking.
- Chevrons serve as a breakwater to prevent wave action against the bleacher, yet allows for water to circulate in the swim basin.
- Excess water pushed back into the ocean via openings on the Ewa and Diamond Head walls.
- Bottom would feature a course gravel base atop precast concrete panels.

Alternative 2

Retention of bleacher structure with no landside modifications

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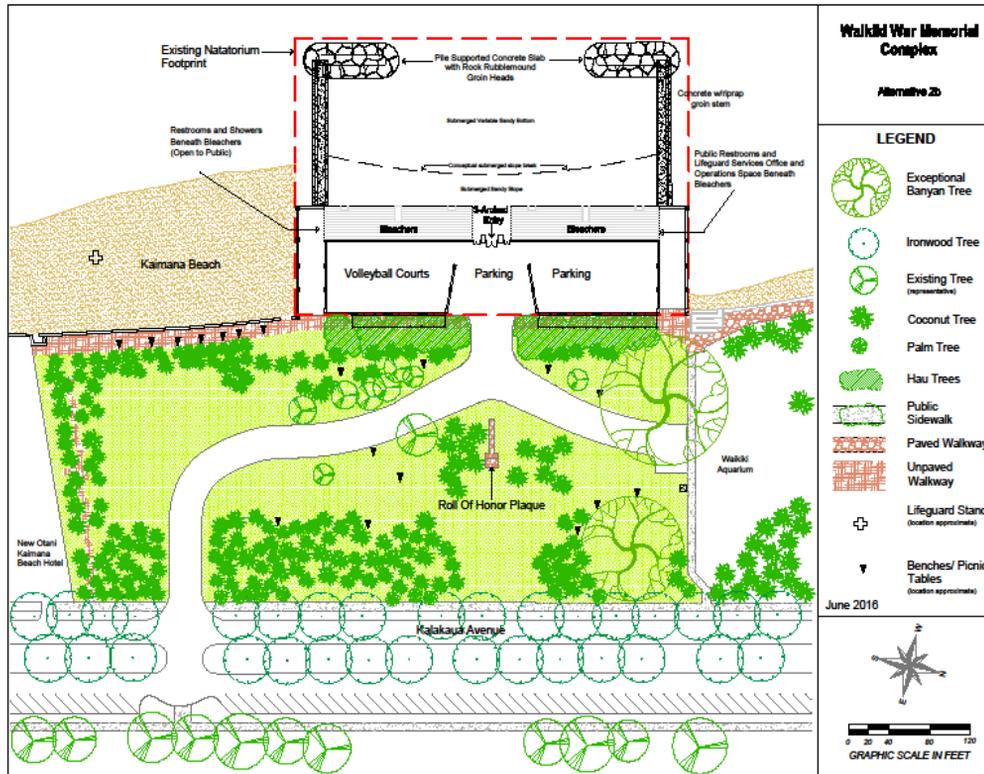


- 2a: Two equal-length groins extending outside the existing Natatorium footprint.
- Beach creation.
- Specifics are on the presentation board.

Alternative 2

Retention of bleacher structure with no landside modifications

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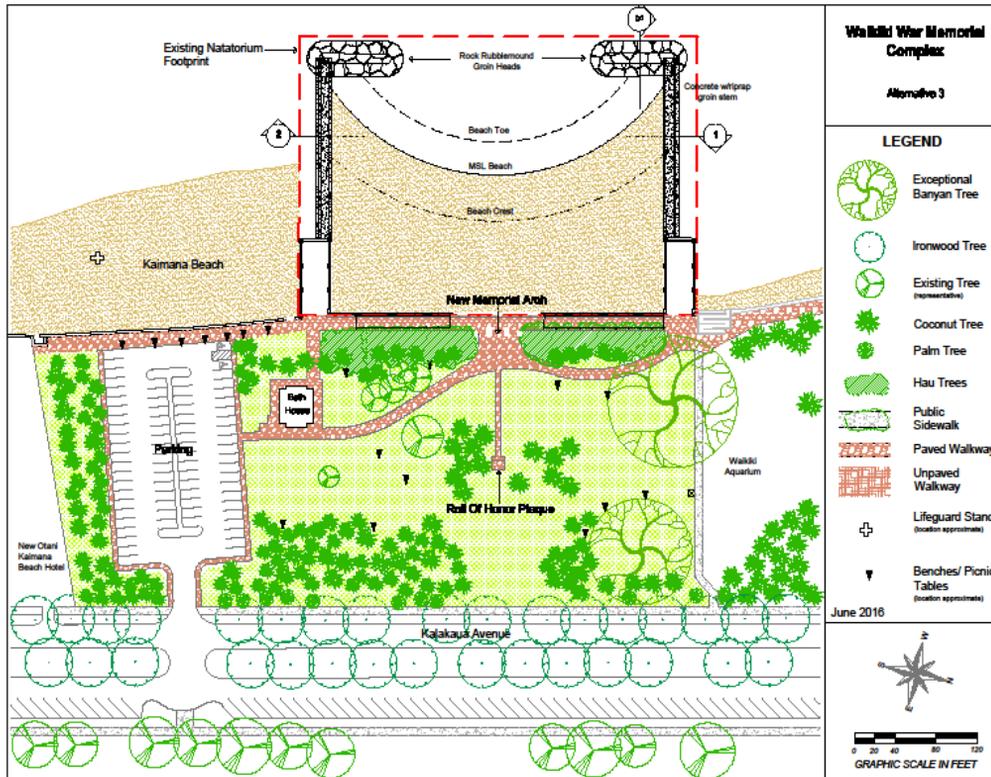


- 2b: Equal length groins within the existing footprint.
- No beach creation - initial sand fill along the bleacher face would likely migrate offshore, resulting in a submerged sandy area with no dry beach.
- Specifics are on the presentation board.

Alternative 3

Beach creation with landside modifications

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- Preferred alternative from Final EA- Environmental Impact Statement Preparation Notice.
- Removal of bleachers allow for creation of a beach.
- Replica memorial arch located inland from current location.
- Specifics are on the presentation board.



Comments

Your comments will help inform the preservation alternatives selected for analysis in the EIS.

Please limit your comments to five minutes.

Please focus on the alternatives.

If you prefer you may submit your comments in writing using the comment sheets that are available at this meeting.



Louis Berger