



# Ala Wai Update

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**Honolulu District**

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## **Ala Wai Newsletter 19-001**

*November 2019*

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Honolulu District has USACE leadership-directed authorization to modify the initially proposed Ala Wai Watershed Flood Risk Management system features.

Honolulu District, in coordination with the sponsor, the City and County of Honolulu, has conducted on-going meetings with local stakeholders throughout the summer and fall of 2019. Meeting participation of the project team has been present at neighborhood board meetings, City and County Council sponsored events, as well as by invitation of other stakeholder groups. Questions and concerns regarding if, when and how the project may be modified have been in the forefront of these discussions.

On September 24, the project team presented its finding to leadership at USACE Headquarters and discussed its recommended path forward for modifying the Ala Wai system to deliver the level of risk reduction that was intended and authorized by Congress in the Water Resources Development Act of 2018. USACE verbally authorized the District Commander to proceed with an Engineering Documentation Report (EDR) to investigate and validate modifications. The EDR will outline the technical modifications as well as validate the system for economics, cost, and environmental impacts.

Based on the September 24 meeting, the Honolulu District Engineer was authorized on October 1 by the Director for Civil Works, U.S Army Corps of Engineers, to negotiate an updated agreement with the City and County of Honolulu that allowed for modifications to the system. The draft agreement, transmitted to the City and County October 11 for review, is currently being negotiated.

The Ala Wai project team and non-federal sponsor is in the process of evaluating modifications to the project, including options suggested by the community through public engagement. As we are evaluating project modifications, we will continue listening and engaging with the community.

*The Ala Wai system project team will be providing project updates and information to the watershed community at the Nov. 6 Manoa, Nov. 7 McCully/ Moiliili, and Nov. 20 Kaimuki Neighborhood Board meetings.*

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