

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, February 9, 2024 Nate Serota: (808) 768-3046

## Public meeting scheduled for Pahinui Pavilion, comfort station, recreation building projects at Waimānalo Beach Park

Meeting on Wednesday, February 21 beginning 6:30 p.m. at Waimānalo District Park gymnasium

O'AHU – A public meeting for the community to comment on the Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA), detailing proposed improvements to the Waimānalo Beach Park's pavilion, comfort stations, and recreation building, is scheduled for Wednesday, February 21, 2024, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Waimānalo District Park Gymnasium.

The DEA is now available online for public review by visiting <u>bit.ly/WaimanaloDEA</u> with an anticipated finding of no significant impact to the environment resulting from the proposed improvements. The DEA details the reconstruction and repair efforts planned for those facilities, which are greatly needed to continue providing recreational opportunities to this rural community.

The existing and former facilities have deteriorated or been removed due to age, weathering, vandalism, and other factors. For example, the Pahinui Pavilion, constructed in 1959 and dedicated to the memory of the renowned musician and ambassador of Hawaiian culture Gabby "Pop" Pahinui, was removed in 2019 due to safety concerns resulting from the declining structural integrity.

Proposed improvements also include the construction of a new pavilion that would be very similar to the former pavilion, the replacement of the two comfort stations with prefabricated facilities, the restoration of the recreation building which was damaged by fire, and the periodic replacement of other existing park facilities as they wear out or are damaged.

The estimated costs for these three projects include: \$2.5 million to replace the comfort stations, \$1.2 million to reconstruct the Pahinui Pavilion, and \$550,000 to repair the recreation building.

Interested individuals unable to make the public meeting, may submit written comments to makena@psi-hi.com or mailed to the below address by March 11, 2024:

Mākena White, AICP Planning Solutions, Inc. 711 Kapi'olani Blvd., Suite 950 Honolulu, HI 96813 This public comment process follows a <u>previous public meeting in June 2023</u> for these projects. We appreciate the continued participation of the community in these park improvement efforts.

If you need an auxiliary aid/service, other accommodations due to a disability, or an interpreter for a language other than English in reference to this announcement, please contact the Honolulu Department of Parks and Recreation at (808) 768-3003 on weekdays from 7:45 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. or email <a href="mailto:parks@honolulu.gov">parks@honolulu.gov</a> at least three business days before the scheduled event. Without sufficient advanced notice, it may not be possible to fulfill requests.

—PAU—

City and County of Honolulu Department of Parks and Recreation

Website: honolulu.gov/parks
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