

October 20, 2018

LAND USE COMMISSION  
STATE OF HAWAII

HFF Planners  
133 Bishop Street, Suite # 2590  
Honolulu, HI 96817  
Attention: Mr. Ronald Sato, Senior Planner

2018 OCT 24 A 9:02

State of Hawaii  
Land Use Commission  
Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism  
PO Box 2359  
Honolulu, HI 96804  
Attention: Mr. Scott Derrickson

I believe that different religions and individuals are entitled to choose how to memorialize their loved ones. However, land in Hawaii is precious and finite which makes it imperative to provide alternatives to burial interment. **What religions seek a criteria for interment and do not accept cremation or other options as an alternative?**

**Is the traditional use of concrete vaults and caskets still the best way to memorialize our deceased?**

**As families struggle to make ends meet, what alternatives do you provide to offset overpriced burial options?**

P

Hawaiian Memorial Park should also consider utilizing their current plots more efficiently. Traditional cemeteries are not sustainable. Once the bodies are laid to rest, the land becomes inoperable for any other purpose. The environmental impact of traditional burials is startling and my generation is concerned about the land we will inherit. **Ironically, as populations continue to increase in the future, and land on Oahu is no longer available, where will HMP bury the dead?**

Sloane, D. (2018), *Is the Cemetery Dead?*, The University of Chicago Press, chronicles how Americans are adapting and reinventing old traditions, burial sites and memorials. People are controlling their grief by bringing relatives home to die, mourning them online, scattering their ashes or memorializing them with shrines, murals and ghost bikes. Different generations are breaking free of convention, to better embrace the people they want to remember. **How can HMP be more responsive to this new American attitude towards death?**

Natural, green forests are not only vital to our health and well being, but to the watersheds, streams, animals and insects that inhabit it. I strive to preserve conservation lands, forests, streams and receiving coastal ocean waters for my generation and generations to come. **As a result, I am against the Hawaiian Memorial Park Expansion.**

Thank you for your time and consideration,



Shaun McCreedy  
45-423 Ohaha Street  
Kaneohe, HI. 96744

HHF Planners  
Ronald A. Sato

LAND USE DIVISION  
STATE OF HAWAII  
10/21/2018

2018 OCT 24 A 9:02

RE: HMP DEIS

I am very concerned about negative impacts from the proposed cemetery development to the Ohaha Place neighborhood. The main access road for the construction phase and then the long term access to the developed cemetery comes too close to Ohaha Place.

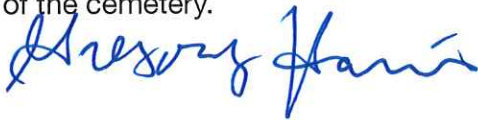
In Figure 2.3, if Road A were eliminated and Road B were re-aligned to join up with the existing Ocean View Gardens road, that could help solve some of the problems. I have included a modified Figure 2.2 where I have sketched a new road alignment and a shaded area buffer zone.

The benefits of these changes are:

1. Protecting the Damselfly habitat
2. Larger buffer zone away from homes during construction noise, dust, and exhaust
3. Less loss of forest and impact of views
4. Larger buffer zone away from homes in perpetuity

The funding issues would need to still be addressed in this modified plan.

If this additional land were added to the proposed 130 acre Conservation easement, thus protecting it from future development, then I would be more inclined to support the expansion of the cemetery.



Greg Harris  
45-170 Ohaha Pl  
Kaneohe, HI. 96744





**Figure 2.2**

**Proposed Concept Plan**

Hawaiian Memorial Park Cemetery Expansion Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
 Kāne'ohe, O'ahu, Hawai'i



Rich McCreedy  
45-423 Ohaha St  
Kaneohe, HI. 96744

10/21/2018

LAND USE COMMISSION  
STATE OF HAWAII

2018 OCT 24 A 9:03

HHF Planners

RE: Hawaiian Memorial Park Expansion. DEIS

Dear Mr. Sato,

I have some comments and questions that I will number to help you in your responses.

1. In table 2.7 Maximum Estimate of Existing Remaining and Proposed New Burial Space:

The estimate for Valley of The Temples Memorial Park cites 55,700 total Available and Proposed Combined Burial Plots, Crypts, and Niche Spaces. What was the source of that number? What assumptions were made and how variable is that number in the future?

Valley of The Temples on their web site states "With More than 40 acres of land yet to be developed, Valley of the Temples will be able to serve the island of Oahu for generations to come". A generation is typically considered to be a span of 25 to 30 years.

2. RE: Chapter 2-8 Projected Number of Disposition by Cremation and Table 2.6 Projected Net Demand for Burial Spaces:

What assumptions were made predicting the percentage of people in Hawaii choosing to be cremated from present to the year 2040? In table 2.5 the cremation rate in Hawaii is listed as 72%. Data from the NDFA (National Funeral Directors Assoc) predicts in Hawaii Cremations will rise to 2020...75.4% 2025...79.2 % and 2030...84.1%. Could you list what percentages you used ?

As people's preferences change because of the high price of traditional burials and the desire to protect the environment, these numbers could change even faster in favor of cremation. There are multiple ads on Craig's list and in the Star Advertiser offer to sell burial plots. Many of these people bought plots long ago, and now would rather sell them than use them.

The DEIS states HMP has approximately 79,000 individual plots and 41,000 existing burials. Subtracting those numbers it would appear that HMP has room for 38,000 potential burials in the future. In 2-8. Pre-Purchased Burials Spaces, the on-hold category, is about 25,000 plots. In 2.1.21 the unsold plots of 6% (about 4,500 plots) added together is 29,500 plots. How do account for the difference of 8,500 plots?

Have you ever sent letters and asked people that own on-hold plots if they would like to sell them? To show a more accurate analysis of the true number of plots available, could you make a supplemental figure to Figure 2.1 that would show the on-hold and un sold plots?

### 3. RE: 2.1.2.2 Inventory of Other Cemeteries Available

Oahu Cemetery is a small cemetery and is an interesting study in what cemeteries can do to help families as a cemetery starts to run out of space. I recently had a family member cremated at their facility and was able to ask questions and get a price sheet which is publicly available. Their policy is to allow as many as 20 urns of cremated remains in a concrete vault designed for urns that can be buried in a plot. I have included a copy of the price sheet. On page 3 a No.1 concrete urn vault (holds up to 20 urns).

There is a charge to add additional urns to the vault as it becomes necessary, but this is an example of how on Oahu a cemetery is already helping families to be placed together in a way that uses land efficiently.

In contrast HMP only allows a maximum of 4 urns per plot. Is the HMP policy a decision that Jay Morford can make, or is that a policy that SCI management controls?

If HMP were to allow existing plots, on-hold plots, and unsold plots in their existing 80 acres to be used on a model like Oahu Cemetery, there would be no need to risk the environmental impacts to the proposed expansion area.

I am opposed to the HMP cemetery expansion. I think the available space at HMP, Valley of The Temples, and other parts of the island if needed, should be utilized first before a steep hillside in Kaneohe is graded for additional cemetery space.



Rich McCreedy



LAND USE COMMISSION  
STATE OF HAWAII

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[Request Pre-Planning Guide >](#)

## Experience the Difference

Nestled in the foothills of the breathtaking Ko'olau Mountains on the lush windward side of O'ahu, Valley of the Temples Memorial Park is considered one of the most beautiful parks in the world. With more than 40 acres land yet to be developed, Valley of the Temples will be able to serve the island of Oahu for generations to come at one of the most picturesque places on the island.

Diversity is not only accommodated here, it is treasured. Designated gardens honor many religious and cultural traditions, from the Catholic Garden of the Holy Cross to Chinese and Japanese gardens to others created for specific groups including veterans and native Hawaiians.

At Valley of the Temples, we understand that losing someone you love is one of life's most difficult experiences, and that's why it's so important to us that our clients feel like an extension of our own family. Our incredible team of professionals have many years of experience, and as we comfort families in times of loss, we work tirelessly to ensure they're all treated with compassion and respect.

[Experience our virtual tour](#)



2162 Nuuanu Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817 Tel: (808) 538-1538  
www.oahucemetery.org

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### General Price List

PRICES EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2018. BUT THEREAFTER, SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. ALL PRICES SUBJECT TO HAWAII STATE TAX (4.712%)

### Chapel & Cemetery Services

**Memorial Service in Chapel (only) \$795**  
*Our charge for this service includes: Four hour use of chapel for memorial ceremony, staff assistance, use of sound/audio visual equipment, \*beverage service, and skirted banquet tables. (This does not include optional merchandise such as casket, urn or memorial products.) Note: Additional mandatory Funeral Director Fee of \$200 charged by Oahu Mortuary & Funeral Inc. Total Cost is \$995.*

**One Hour Chapel Rental for viewing (only) \$295**  
*Our charge for this service includes: One hour use of chapel for memorial viewing, staff assistance, use of sound/audio visual equipment. (This does not include optional merchandise such as casket, urn or memorial products.) Note: Additional mandatory Funeral Director Fee of \$100 charged by Oahu Mortuary & Funeral Inc. Total Cost is \$395.*

**One-Half Hour Chapel Rental for viewing (only) \$175**  
*Our charge for this service includes: One-half hour use of chapel for memorial viewing, staff assistance, use of sound/audio visual equipment. (This does not include optional merchandise such as casket, urn or memorial products.) Note: Additional mandatory Funeral Director Fee of \$50 charged by Oahu Mortuary & Funeral Inc. Total Cost is \$225.*

**Lanai only - Week Day (Rate per hour) \$250**  
**Lanai only - Weekend/Evening (Rate per hour) \$350**

\* Beverage Service for 75 persons includes: Three skirted banquet tables, coffee, juice and water

### Mausoleum & Columbarium Services

**Mausoleum Ceremony (Crypt) \$500**  
*Our charge for this service includes: (30 minute) crypt side ceremony, opening/closing. (It does not include casket, outer burial container, or memorial products.)*

**Columbarium Ceremony (Niche) \$350**  
*Our charge for this service includes: (30 minute) niche side ceremony, cremation opening/closing. (It does not include urn or memorial products.)*

All Prices are subject to change without notice, 2018

## Cemetery Merchandise

Tombstones	\$150-\$350
(Setting Fee, removing and resetting of tombstones for interment, inurnment, or Disinurnment)	
Concrete Base	\$400
Granite repainting (white, black, or gold) (not gold leaf)	\$250
Refurbish and repaint complete stone	\$400
<i>Vault</i> ← No. 2 concrete urn vault (W16xH24xD8) (holds up to 4 urns)	<u>\$650</u>
No. 1 concrete urn vault (W24xH24xD28) (holds up to 24 urns)	\$975
Flower Vases	\$200 - \$695
Inscription of current existing stone (Outside Cemetery Taxable)	\$875
Cremation Containers	\$355

### Burial Plots, Urn Plots, Crypts and Niches (complete list available)

Burial Plots	\$10,000- \$15,000
Urn Plots	\$3,500 - \$4,750
Crypts floor level	\$8,000
2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> levels	\$10,000
4 <sup>th</sup> level	\$6,000

#### 2 Urn Niche

First five levels	\$2,750
Sixth level	\$2,400
Seventh level	\$1,950
Eighth level	\$1,850

#### 4 Urn Niche

First and Sixth Levels	\$3,250
Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Levels	\$3,750

#### Glass Niche

1 or 2 Urns	\$3,000 - \$4,900
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Crypt Inscription	\$975
Niche Inscription (Bronze Plaque)	\$695
Doric Vases (Hammered or Plain Edge Styles)	\$750
F306 Bronze Flower Vase with Holder (niche)	\$695
9ES Zinc Vase (HSVC cemetery) (Taxable)	\$250
8BP Zinc Vase (cemetery)	\$200
Vase Inscription	\$75
Senko Box	\$35

875. VARIES

All Prices are subject to change without notice, 2018