

Ellen L. Akaka  
45-442 'Ohaha Street  
Kane'ohe, Hawai'i 96744

2018 OCT 23 A 10: 32

HHF Planners  
733 Bishop Street, Ste 2590  
Honolulu, Hawai'i

Dear Mr. Sato,

I am writing in regard to the proposed Hawaiian Memorial Park Cemetery Expansion Project which has, over the years, caused great consternation for those of us who live adjacent to the cemetery. The concerns remain the same as in the past and, in fact, as more research has been done, have grown to include other issues. We echo our concerns for all of those issues. I will not reiterate those concerns as I know that you have received many letters about them. I am going to focus strictly on an issue which has affected us, and continues to, specifically.

In our specific instance, we have severe concerns about flooding and property damage as have been experienced over the years and to which we have never received adequate answers. We purchased our home, new, in 1964 and, in the first six months were hit with severe flooding which emanated from the cemetery area. Our 'Ohaha Street home abuts the Hawaiian Memorial Park property which, now, includes the Veteran's Cemetery. Over the years we have had numerous incidents of run-off coming down a steep slope and into our yard, surrounding the house with thick mud which has often been within an inch or less of coming into the house. We have graded the yard several times to encourage the water and mud away from the house and toward the edges of the property but it is only by virtue of good luck and help from friends and neighbors that we have avoided catastrophe.

On February 18 of this year there was a severe storm which caused an enormous amount of thick mud to rush down our back hill, again, and came within an inch of entering the house. We called the Fire Department, late at night, who arrived to find my 79 year old husband and our daughter digging a trench at the edge of our yard to redirect the water and mud. Fortunately the rain finally slowed down enough that we avoided a catastrophe. At least four other homes had water damage in their houses as well. I do not know if their damage was covered by insurance.

I called the cemetery who, again said it was not their responsibility, it was due to problems from the Veteran's Cemetery. Representative Ken Ito, who has, until recently, always been helpful in the past, spoke to both parties who apparently blamed each other, and that seemed to be where the issue ended. I have not heard from him since that time even with repeated phone calls. I was unable to get a connection with someone at the Veteran's cemetery in the event of future problems. The City and County, apparently, came and cleaned out the swale at the edge of our property. I have as yet to receive a contact number, or even a courtesy call, from the Veteran's

Cemetery. I can only foresee continual problems along these lines. As your plans continue I can only imagine more of these "incidents" with no resolution.

And that is just from one home. Consider that along with all the other issues that have been brought up regarding this newest proposal from HMP. We are reaching an age that we will likely need to sell our home. That will likely be difficult with the addition of these proposed changes.

This, as you can see, has been an on-going problem for over 50 years and it has caused extreme stress to all the parties affected. I can only foresee the proposed cemetery changes as adding to the ongoing issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ellen L. Akaka". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Ellen L. Akaka

Copy to: Mr. Scott Derrickson