I am a resident on the mauka (cemetery) side of Ohaha Street, Kaneohe, whose family will be significantly impacted by the proposed expansion of Hawaiian Memorial Park. Given the magnitude of the project - nearly a half million cubic yards of dirt, rocks, and debris being removed and redistributed within the project area, the 150 foot "buffer" zone seems inadequate to address the concerns of noise, dust and debris, and the potential for rockfalls that we will have to contend with for a year and a half during the construction phase. In addition, I am extremely concerned that the proposed building of "detention/retention" basins, retaining walls, and the Roadway B in the western section, in addition to the significant excavation in this area, have the potential to decimate the endangered damselfly habitat which has been discovered in this area. Here are my specific comments/concerns:

1. On page ES-9 of the Executive Summary, the statement, "Construction noise would not be loud enough to cause hearing loss, but may affect the capacity of individuals to communicate with one another, requiring them to raise their voice" raises serious concerns about the impact of this project on the quality of life for Ohaha Street residents for an extended period of time (12-16 months projected.) Given these noise issues it would seem prudent to expand the buffer zone to reduce the anticipated noise levels on your neighbors.

2. You acknowledge that there will be air quality issues during the construction phase (12-16 months) and I understand that you will use mitigation measures but given the dust we already have in our area (I have to mop daily to keep my floors clean) the added project produced fugitive dust will be overwhelming to your nearest neighbors. Will you be compensating us for additional cleaning bills?

3. The DEIS describes the building of retention/detention basins to reduce storm water discharge volumes. My understanding is that detention basins are areas where excess storm water is stored or held temporarily and then slowly drains when water levels in the receiving channel recede. In contrast, a retention basin is designed to hold a permanent pool of water that fluctuates in response to precipitation and runoff. In Section 3.2.4 Water Quality of the DEIS, you describe "permanent retention detention basins" and define a retention detention basin as "a shallow man made impoundment intended to provide temporary storage of storm water runoff to allow particles to settle and detain the peak runoff. It has a shallow permanent pool and is designed to drain between storm events." My concern is that a "permanent pool" or "retention" basin has the potential to hold water for longer periods of time if not managed effectively. Standing water and the associated possible mosquito infestations are a significant health concern in our neighborhood since we are on the Windward side of the island. What assurances will you give that your company will effectively manage these retention detention basins so that we are not faced with mosquito born diseases in the future?

4. In your DEIS, you state that most of the excavation will occur in the western part of the proposed project area which is closest to Ohaha Place. The endangered damselfly habitat is located in this area. I appreciate your acknowledgement that this habitat must be protected and the measures you propose. However, given the extensiveness of the proposed excavation in this area and the potential for human error, wouldn't it be prudent to adjust your plan to further minimize potential harm to an endangered
Hawaiian endemic insect? For example, could proposed Road A be eliminated and proposed Road B be straightened to reduce the amount of construction in the area and thus reduce the potential impact on the damselfly habitat? Additionally, wouldn't increasing the "buffer zone" between the project area and your neighbors also be a mitigating measure?

Please know that we do appreciate your willingness to reduce the scope of your earlier proposed project which the LUC denied. However, in reading the DEIS, I believe there are still significant issues that are not adequately addressed as described above. If you truly want to be stewards of the land and a good neighbor, please consider these concerns that will affect your neighbors for a long time and adjust your proposal accordingly.

Sincerely,
Kathleen A. O'Malley
45-426 Ohaha Street