

From: [Steve Mechler - TMC](#)
To: [Derrickson, Scott A](#)
Subject: Hawaiian Memorial Park Expansion Project
Date: Monday, October 22, 2018 5:35:13 PM
Attachments: [Hawaiian Memorial Park Expansion - DEIS Comment DBEDT.pdf](#)

Dear Mr. Derrickson,

As President of The Outdoor Circle, the attached letter from The Outdoor Circle addresses comments on the DEIS for the Hawaiian Memorial Park Expansion project in Kaneohe, Oahu. A hard copy of this letter has also been mailed to you.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or wish to discuss this project.

Aloha,

Steve Mechler, President

The Outdoor Circle

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October 20, 2018

Scott Derrickson,
State of Hawaii,
Land Use Commission, DBEDT
P.O. Box 2359
Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Subject: Hawaiian Memorial Park Expansion Project - DEIS Comment

This letter is being written in opposition to the Hawaiian Memorial Park Expansion project on 28 acres of preservation-zoned land adjacent to the existing Memorial Park in Kaneohe, Oahu.

As President of The Outdoor Circle, a lifetime resident of Kaneohe, and a licensed landscape architect in Hawaii for over 40 years, I am very familiar with this particular area, having lived on Mahinui Ridge for over 65 years. I am well-versed in dealing with the soil conditions and existing tree cover associated with this area. This particular site is the headwaters for Kawa Stream and is the water catchment basin for the Pikoilua area that leads to the south end of Kaneohe Bay and an existing fishpond.

The denuding of the existing forest cover, extensive re-grading of natural contours, and replacement of said tree cover with introduced lawn turf, would severely impact the water runoff rate and water quality entering Kawa Stream and side tributaries.

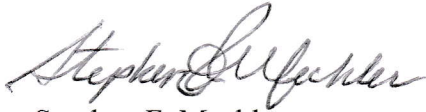
The addition of chemical fertilizers required to maintain the proposed turf cover and their leachate discharge into the offsite stream runoff could prove to be disastrous to the quality of aquatic life in the south end of Kaneohe Bay. Most of the existing Memorial Park does not drain towards the Bay and is instead drained toward the fresh water catchment lake at Hoomaluhia Botanical Garden. Unfortunately, all of the proposed 28 acre expansion area would be sloped towards the salt water and sensitive coral heads of Kaneohe Bay.

The potential for an accidental flood of muddy water during construction is extreme, even with the best of mitigating elements in place. Once an unfortunate "accident" happens there is no way to clean pollution from the surrounding neighborhood or the fragile marine environment of the Bay.

Saying "I'm sorry and it won't happen again" isn't enough of a consolation for the irreparable damage that a development of this nature poses to the community and the environment. The property in question was placed in preservation for a reason, and it is our job, as stewards of that trust, to protect this legacy for future generations.

These are the reasons for our opposition to Hawaiian Memorial Park plans for a 28 acre expansion of their existing facility in Kaneohe, Oahu.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Stephen F. Mechler".

Stephen F. Mechler
President, The Outdoor Circle