



City and County of Honolulu Storm Water Utility Formation Stakeholder Advisory Group

January 13, 2020 Meeting @ Honolulu Hale, Mayor's Conference Room

January 22, 2020 Follow-up Q&A Webinar

Meeting & Webinar Summaries

ATTENDEES

Advisory Group Members

American Council of Engineering Companies of Hawai'i (June Nakamura)
AARP (Kealii Lopez)
Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) Hawaii (Melissa Pavlicek)
Fresh Water Council (Yvonne Izu)
Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Legal and Economic Justice (Gavin Thornton)
Hawai'i Association of Watershed Partnerships (Shelly Gustafson)
Hawaii Auto Dealers Association (Dave Rolf)
Hawaii Community Foundation (Dana Okano)
Hawaii Reserves, Inc. (Jeff Tyau)
Honolulu Board of Water Supply (Barry Usagawa)
'Iolani School (Jaron Kawamura)
Kamehameha Schools (Gary Evora)
KUA (Wally Ito)
Neighborhood Board #4 (Sharon Schneider)
Neighborhood Board #8 (Tim Streitz)
Neighborhood Board #25 (Bernie Marcos)
Neighborhood Board #28 (Dee Dee Letts)
Neighborhood Board #31 (Levani Lipton)
O'ahu Resource Conservation and Development Council (Hannah Hubanks)
Waikiki Business Improvement District (Jennifer Nakayama)
Sustainable Coastlines (Rafael Bergstrom)
University of Hawaii (Roger Babcock)
Mark Fox

Public Agency Staff

Ross Sasamura (City and County of Honolulu Department of Facility Maintenance)
Randall Wakumoto (City and County of Honolulu Department of Facility Maintenance)
Russell Leong (City and County of Honolulu Department of Facility Maintenance)

Consultant Team

Juli Beth (JB) Hinds (Birchline Planning LLC)
Joan Isaacson (Kearns and West)
Laurens van der Tak (Jacobs)
Jessica Chiam (AECOM)
Ming Ding (AECOM)
Cami Kloster (G70)
Janice Jensen (G70)
Dana Okano (Hawaii Community Foundation)
Dana Butler (Hastings and Pleadwell)

Interested Citizens

Lauren Roth Venu



MEETING SUMMARY

1. Welcome and Introductions

Facilitator Joan Isaacson opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Each person introduced themselves and the organization they represent.

2. Agenda Overview

The agenda for the evening was reviewed. Please see slides 2 to 6 for presentation materials for this agenda item. It was noted that Stakeholder Advisory Group assistance and input will be important in all tasks, and most immediately sharing about the first burst of community engagement meetings and reviewing core values. Stakeholder Advisory Group members were also asked later in the meeting to brainstorm questions that might be asked at the upcoming community meetings and in other outreach forums.

It was noted that cost information shared this meeting is working information and a first step in calculations with refinements during the study.

3. New Binder Contents

The hard copies of the presentation and handouts were provided for Stakeholder Advisory Group members' binders. The presentation will be posted on StormWaterUtilityOahu.org.

4. Community Engagement Updates

Joan provided an overview of the multi-pronged community engagement program. It includes two bursts of outreach, with each burst including approximately 18 community meetings, breakfast forums for different types of organizations, information tables at local community events (such as farmer's markets), presentations to organizations around O'ahu, and attendance at other types of community events. Please see Slides 8 to 23 for the presentation materials for community engagement updates.

The community meeting announcements will be shared via the website, email blasts, social media, community networks, and neighborhood boards. The project team needs Stakeholder Advisory Group's assistance in sharing about the upcoming community meetings. The community meeting flyer and website prompt card were distributed at the end of the meeting. A broad cross section of island voices is needed. The project team will report back to the Stakeholder Advisory Group on the input received from the community meetings.

The project team will also make presentations to Stakeholder Advisory Group member organizations, and a sign-up sheet was circulated.

Lastly, Isaacson walked the Stakeholder Advisory Group members through the pages of the new project website, located at StormWaterUtilityOahu.org.

An overview was provided of the new StormWaterUtilityOahu.org website and the individual pages of Learn, Participate, Contact and Stakeholder Advisory Group.



An introductory or “grabber video” on the storm water utility is being created and will be ready for the first round of community meetings.

Q&A/Discussion

- One event to attend is the February 15th Pow Wow in Kaka’ako.
- A webinar could be an option for presentations to organizations.
- BOMA started a new category of membership for non-profits. Residential associations are not part of BOMA and will need separate outreach.
- For geographic reach, Ko’olauloa is separate from Windward, and the community needs an additional meeting in Hau’ula, in addition to the Lā’ie meeting. (note”. The additional meeting in Hau’ula has been scheduled).
- Can I get a copy of the presentations to be able to share with the neighborhood board?
 - o Slides can be prepared for sharing
- Can presentations occur outside the two outreach bursts?
 - o Yes! Just let the project team know what timing works for your organization.
- Who will be giving the presentations?
 - o Members of the project team will give the presentations, be available for answering questions, and collect feedback.
- Can more information on the extent and type of the problem be provided in presentation materials? E.g. what is there a slide that shows what percentage of the water flows untreated to the ocean or fish impacted? What are the impacts from trash?
 - o Five years ago, there was a study that showed 70% of ocean pollution comes from storm water runoff and causes harm to reefs and nearshore waters.

It is important to understand that treated sewer water is piped far out into the ocean. Storm water goes into the ocean at the shoreline via streams, channels and culverts.

There may have been a good deal of research regarding impacts of construction runoff to Kāne’ohe Bay.

Total rain fall runoff off from the island has been calculated. Of the rain that falls, roughly about a 1/3 is runoff, 1/3 becomes ground water recharge, and 1/3 is lost to evapotranspiration.
- Is reclamation part of this as well? When we talk about capturing rainwater, for what purpose? Is water reclamation part of this?
 - o Water reclamation is typically used to refer to the physical process of treating wastewater to a specific level of quality and disinfection in order to use if for irrigation, industrial, or potable reuse. In terms of storm water, recapture of storm water would typically refer to capturing and storing water either above ground (rain barrels or cisterns) or below ground (typically in concrete or plastic cisterns) for irrigation or other uses on site, or infiltrating the water to help provide ground water recharge. Infiltration can be accomplished using different green infrastructure methods like porous pavements or bioretention, where soil and groundwater conditions allow.



- Are there plans to use the media, e.g. Howard Dicus show to spread the work about the storm water utility process?
 - o Yes, there are plans to send out a press release via the Mayor's Office. The project team can look into the Howard Dicus show.
- Will social media be used to share about the community engagement process?
 - o Yes, via the City Storm Water Quality accounts on Facebook and Instagram. There may be opportunities for Twitter as well. There is a hashtag: #StormWaterUtilityOahu
- Can the community engagement be cross posted with the State DOT outreach channels?
 - o The City's Storm Water Quality branch regularly touches base the State's Storm Water program, and they cross post. A request will be made to coordinate this outreach.

5. Revised Core Values

Next, the project team presented the revised core values, which reflect input received from the Stakeholder Advisory Group. Please see Slides 24 to 27 for the presentation materials for revised core values. Members were asked for their input on the latest version.

Q&A/Discussion

- A longer version of the core values would be useful.
 - o At the May/June meetings will be development of the longer form statement that includes values, objectives, benchmarks and accountability.
- There was consensus among the Stakeholder Advisory Group members to confirm the core values, with the following edits
 - o **Managing** storm water runoff.
 - o **Conservation** mauka to makai.
 - o **Clean** instead of clear stream channel – this resonates with many folks.
 - o Instead of setting priorities – **Ensuring accountability.**

6. Draft Fee Levels and Rate Structure Options

Project team member Laurens van der Tak presented information on two of the storm water utility building blocks - parcel impervious area distribution by size and rate structure options. Please see slides 28 to 45 for the presentation materials.

As discussed previously, people will pay based on their storm water contributions to the storm water system. The fees are based on the area of impervious surfaces such as buildings, roads, and other paved surfaces.

Laurens reviewed the data sources for the impervious cover data and the distribution of the impervious area by parcel as the basis for the discussion on the establishment of tiers of parcels that would have the same fee.

The number of parcels that are residential is over 85% of all parcels; however, the residential parcels together comprise only about 44% of the total impervious surfaces. 90% of all parcels have impervious area of less than 7,000 square feet (sf).



Project team member Juli Beth Hinds noted that the rate structure is based on the amount of impervious area on a parcel, not zoning and not on a property's use. Properties pay in proportion to their amount of impervious area. A 10,000-sf lot with 2,000 sf of impervious area and a 2,000-sf lot with 2,000 sf of impervious area would be charged the same fee.

The basis of the storm water utility charge is impervious area, not lot size.

Two fee options were evaluated, one with four (4) tiers and one with eight (8) tiers.

- The eight-tier option provides greater equity – and has more complexity.
- The four-tier option is less equitable – and has less complexity

Tiers are used by nearly all storm water utilities to simplify billing and reduce billing errors. The difference in monthly fee for (as one example) a parcel with 2,200 sf of impervious cover and a property with 2,600 sf of impervious cover is likely to be very small – a matter of cents per month – and utilities continue to find that creating groupings or tiers is far more efficient. The more billing tiers there are, the more requests for recalculation of impervious area occur – increasing administrative time and customer frustration.

Q&A/Discussion

- Won't residential property owners also pay for commercial properties (businesses and churches) through their use/participation in other property types?
 - o The storm water utility fee relates to the amount of impervious cover a property owner owns and manages and is not related to the amount or type of economic activity that takes place on a parcel.

People who shop at the Ala Moana Mall or are part of a religious community, for example, will be “paying” a part of the storm water fee paid by the temple/church or mall, in the same way that shoppers also “pay” the associated water or electric bills.

Right now, some property owners are not paying for the storm water services being provided. A storm water fee ensures that every property contributing to the challenge of storm water management is paying a proportional share of the cost.

Visitors will also be paying for services they use by, for example, eating at restaurants and staying at hotels.
- For large property, who pays for the fee, the landowner or commercial business(es)?

What is the billing mechanism?

 - o Property owners of record will be billed, at least initially.

State law does not stipulate any specific way that property owners must or should divide bills among tenants, or how associations must divide up fees for common facilities and other common impervious areas.

Storm water utilities will work with property owners of multi-tenant buildings, residential or commercial condos, and homeowners' association-managed properties to divide up billing in whatever manner is most appropriate for the affected property.

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- As this is a fee for service, not a tax, is there a way to opt out?
 - o Most utilities have a minimum charge that reflects the cost to manage public roads, which everyone benefits from on Oahu in some way. There will be ways to reduce bills via credits. Some utilities cap the amount that the fee can be reduced; other utilities allow up to a 100% credit. This is all to be determined in the credit discussions in May and June.
- Have there been discussions with the federal government?
 - o These meetings are upcoming.
- Is the \$92 million cost of service used to maintain the City's drainage system? What about State, Federal and other drain systems?
 - o The \$92 million cost of service reflects the cost to the City to maintain its separate storm sewer system, as required by the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit held by the City

Other entities that hold their own NPDES permits and are doing other types of storm water treatment and control will receive credits towards their City storm water fees. Other storm water utilities take the same approach to entities that have substantial storm water permit responsibilities and on-site treatment. However, there are still services provided by Department of Facility Maintenance that other entities also use, e.g. roads that bring people to and from a military base, that justify paying a City storm water fee.
- What about an empty lot?
 - o Parcels with less than 300 SF of impervious surface would not pay a fee
- What about places that have and maintain a storm drain system that ties into the City storm water system.
 - o Typically, when entities own and maintain substantial systems, a credit similar to what is given to other MS4 permit holders is granted – provided the system is properly maintained and is reducing impacts/demand on the City system.

Possible ways to credit in these situations will be discussed at the May / June meeting.

These credits will affect the fee to be charged.

At the community meetings, attendees will be asked about what types of credits or rebates they would like to see offered under the Storm Water Utility.
- The current calculations seem to round up the impervious area.
 - o Using a mid-point of the range would be more accurate, and billing will be based on midpoint to the range. The shift will have a very small impact on the fees.
- It will be important to give examples such as under scenario x, then pay y.
- With more tiers, won't you have greater incentive to reduce your impervious area to move to a different tier?
 - o Credits are typically a flat percent reduction not associated with your tier. For example, if you reduce your impervious area by 20%, you receive an agreed upon percentage credit towards your bill.



- If you have a building roof runoff that drains to a rain garden do you have to pay?
 - o Credit may be given for onsite treatment – but again, remember that there will be some base charge related to the cost of maintaining the storm water system that supports the City’s roads.
- Why not charge directly for the impervious area instead of tiers?
 - o The ability to do this depends on data accuracy – and can increase administrative complexity and costs, as outlined above.

7. Level of Service and Investment Supported by Rate Options

Juli Beth presented information on the program costs that were evaluated and a summary of fees and financial analysis. Please see slides 46 to 73 for the presentation materials. To determine rates, there needs to be a budget. Previously presented were budgets for current expenditures and three future scenarios of basic compliance, better program and ideal program. Currently, the City’s Department of Facility Maintenance is compliant, but not able to be proactive or able to do debt service financing which can lower overall costs.

Ways to increase the quality of storm water service in a way that is desirable for the community will be explored during the community outreach meetings and findings will be brought back to the Stakeholder Advisory Group. There might, for example, be increases in inspections or having a customer service ombudsman program. Incentives for reducing impervious area or managing storm water on site can also increase the help to increase the quality of service that citizens receive.

Two program options, basic compliance and a modified version of the better program, were selected for the rate structure exercise. The basic compliance option is roughly \$100 million/year and the modified better program approximately \$118 million per year, with the main increase represented by an improved capital program that would provide for asset renewal and replacement.

All assumptions will be adjusted and worked through further based on input from stakeholders and the public process.

8. Implications by Rate Payer Types: Largest Ratepayers, Public Facilities, Tax-exempt Landowners, and Disadvantaged Areas

JB presented information on the customer impacts with draft fees. Please see slides 74 to 87 in the presentation materials for the two program options by typical land uses and their impervious surface area. The fees shown were preliminary and will change. They were shared with the Stakeholder Advisory Group to expand their knowledge of the fee development process and to elicit questions. Examples of possible rates for each tier scenarios were provided for the two program options. For each example, a gray bar showed the equivalent portion of property taxes that is for storm water management. Rates were assumed constant over the first 6-year period of using a storm water utility fee structure.



The project team also noted that:

- Ramping up the program and fee – starting as modestly as possible - is important.
- Costs for asset renewal need to start but it takes a very long time to complete a renewal cycle.

Q&A/Discussion

- What will happen to the portion of property taxes that were being paid for storm water management?
 - o The Stakeholder Advisory Group can give policy recommendations as part of the process and can recommend a reduction in property fees.
Ultimately it is up to the City Council to make the determination. There are utilities where the elected officials have reduced property taxes by all or part of the amount of new revenue raised by a storm water fee.
- City government should pay its share; however, they may pass the fees along.
 - o This can be a policy decision. If the City is not charged, this revenue will need to be made up with higher fees on other property owners.
Federal and State governments can and do pay their storm water fees; federal property owners are required by federal law to pay fees if a local storm water utility is established. Often, and this would be the case for Oahu, a share of the revenue received by the storm water utility amounts to inter-governmental transfers from federal, state and local entities' regular budgets into the local storm water utility enterprise fund.
- Having known revenue for several years allows for multi-year planning which is not possible with year-to-year general fund monies.
- Potentially, there is a big impact on rural agricultural buildings.
 - o In that example were many buildings and may have include processing or other uses.
Agriculture can apply for credits that could be applied immediately.
Utilities generally do not exempt agricultural uses altogether. In most cases, the ratio of impervious area to the total size of the property is very, very low.
The project team will be looking at agriculture more closely and has met with the officials at the Department of Health who are working on agricultural water quality rules to ensure these are aligned.

9. Brainstorm on Likely Community Questions

Stakeholder Advisory Group members were asked to write down and share with the project team questions that community members would likely have on the rate options. The input is attached at the end of the meeting notes.

10. Public Comment

There were no comments from public attendees.

11. Wrap-Up

A question and answer (Q&A) webinar has been scheduled for Wednesday, 22nd of January. The next Stakeholder Advisory Group meetings is Monday, March 16, 2020.



Brainstorm on Likely Community Questions

1. What more are residents and businesses on Oahu going to get or prevent from paying the fee?
2. What is the outlook if nothing is done?
3. Will my state taxes also go up?
4. Who can help me upgrade my property to reduce impervious area?
5. How do I get an assessment if my digital area isn't accurate?
6. Will this fee change over time?
7. Where did these rates come from?
8. Are the other efforts I make at my farm that are being considered for credit?
9. How long will it take between "updates" to the satellite data to reflect on my bill?
10. Why can't the city just budget and commit to Department of Facility Maintenance the \$98 million instead of creating a utility company to create a stable budget?
11. How will state pay for increased rates?
12. How will having this stormwater utility fund improve water quality?
13. How long—what is the timeframe in which the stormwater utility will build and expand its programs?
14. How many inspectors will there be in the new program under the stormwater utility fund?
15. If I am a farmer with a home on my land, will I benefit from implementing stormwater runoff controls?
16. What percent of storm water jurisdictions across the country credited 100% of the storm water utility "fee" against the property tax?
17. Do "costs" for unfilled positions include total employee costs? That is: salary + pension cost + healthcare premiums.
18. What was being spent on storm water runoff... 0 years ago (in 2010)? What were property taxes in 2010? 2019?

Comments: At community meetings should you start with punchline of what new costs could be and then go back and explain? Just a thought on how to get people to focus on understanding the backstory. It would be useful to have a physical model to explain impervious area vs. parcel area.

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Hawaii Auto Dealers Association (Dave Rolf)
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Honolulu Board of Water Supply (Barry Usagawa)
NAIOP: Commercial Real Estate Development Association (Darlan Chun)
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Dana Okano (Hawaii Community Foundation)

WEBINAR SUMMARY

The purpose of the Q&A webinar was to provide an opportunity for Stakeholder Advisory Group members to ask additional questions about information presented at the 1/13/2020 meeting.

The presentation from the 1/13 meeting was available via screen sharing and at StormWaterUtilityOahu.org.

Q&A/Discussion

- The State Department of Planning and Permitting and Sea Grant are willing to do flyers on the MS4 system.
- Could you explain the tiers?
 - o Tiers are created by grouping properties that have impervious areas falling within a certain into “buckets” or “tiers.” For example, if “Tier 1” covers properties that have between 300 sf and 1,000 sf of impervious area, a property with 700 sf of impervious area and a property with 900 sf of impervious area both would pay the “Tier 1” fee.

And, the fee for each tier or group would have the same charge.

For properties that have more impervious area than the upper limit of the last tier would pay based on their actual impervious area.

This helps to simplify the administration of the storm water utility fee.



The two options were 4 tiers and 8 tiers.

- The four-tier option has roughly the same number of properties in each tier.
- The more tiers, the more equitable the fee structure is. The fewer tiers, the easier to administer.

- Is there an option that Department of Facility Maintenance prefers?

- Department of Facility Maintenance is open to either tier option. No decision has been made. The project team is working on a new run of the prospective rates based on input from the December meeting, and will present the updated fees for each tier option in March.

There are trends in storm water utilities across the US. Where the data is good, having more tiers is realistic. Where the data is not good, having fewer is better. Right now, the project team has data that is good, but that is not as good as it could be.

- Has the technology to determine the impervious area been determined?

- Yes, as presented in October, December, and January, the project team has put together the impervious area data on which the rate estimates were based. Remotely-sensed data is used for impervious surfaces, and in addition, the City and County of Honolulu keeps very good records of building footprints. These datasets have been combined to generate the maps shown in the presentation and to calculate the preliminary storm water utility fee.

The project team is looking into the cost and options for a new and better data set. This would be shared across several different departments and State agencies.

- Given the inaccuracy of the data, what would it look like if you used actual impervious area? Could you use and assume a 10% margin of error to account for this?

- There is a balance between precision and difference in fees. Approximately 90% of all properties are less than 7,000 sf of impervious area. The incremental impacts among properties would be very small. However, if even 10% of the property owners asked for adjustments, this would be an enormous number of requests and would be very costly to administer for a very minimal difference in fees charged and revenue received. With the tiers, people are still paying in general proportion to other properties based on impervious area.

- Are there any utilities using actual impervious area?

- None of the members of the project team know of any storm water utilities that charge based on actual impervious areas for all properties. For larger properties, yes.

- With tiers, how would you get a credit if you reduce your impervious area by a small amount, but not enough to reduce you to the next tier?

- If impervious is reduced, there can be ongoing credits against a storm water fee where the reduction in fee might change from \$15 per month to \$13 per month. However, a small monthly reduction is not usually a good motivator to shift behavior. Credit programs for reducing or removing impervious area are focused on larger properties because they have more to gain financially by reducing their bills.

Most programs do not have ongoing fee credits for parcel with less than 7,000 sf of impervious area. Rebate programs are far more typical and effective, and usually desired by customers, for these tiers. Rebates are one-time credits, and in many utilities, can be large enough to shift behaviors. Examples of rebates would be credits for disconnecting all

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downspouts, adding a rain garden or drywell, or replacing a driveway with permeable materials. The administrative costs to respond to actual impervious area reduction is significant, while a rebate-based credit for smaller properties is both much easier to administer and tends to have greater impacts on behavior.

If the program has high administrative costs, this can drive up the fee. Also, it can cause credibility issues with the public when data it is not correct.

Rebates and credit programs will be discussed at the next meeting and examples will be provided.

- Many neighborhoods have houses that are not on slab. The houses are post and pier construction and there might be areas under the house that can absorb storm water.
 - o People will likely ask about this. Water under a post and pier house can undermine this foundation. People tend to have a lot of things under their post and pier foundation, and the permeability of the ground can be impacted. It is not ideal to try and parse out a credit for this situation, because it is not an area that should be used for infiltration.

If there is house construction that has been engineered to allow infiltration under the house, it might be eligible for a credit.

Roof discharges are usually concentrated and hard to know what goes to street versus stays in the yard.

Bioswales might be a credit that could be used for these types of construction.

- What about roads and bridges? Have these impervious surfaces been incorporated into the government fees?
 - o Impervious surface area of public roads is exempted from a fee in the rate models because everyone uses these impervious surfaces. There are places where the municipality and/or State pays for the roads; however, these are unusual situations. Most places charge these costs to the overall stormwater utility budget. Roads are part of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) and as part of the storm water system that conveys storm water. Therefore, they are typically exempt from paying a separate fee.
- Is the planter strip in between the sidewalk and road charged to homeowner in the utility fee?
 - o No. In Honolulu, the City owes that area as part of the City right-of-way. It is not a private property. The project team has verified that the parcel data does not include planter strip areas with the adjacent parcel's land and impervious area.
- What happens with private streets and roads?
 - o These are part of the parcel and billed to the owner. For properties with common areas, these are usually included as common area expenses. If there is an association, these costs can then be passed along to individual owners.

There might be other ownership structures that may need to be looked. Generally, storm water fees are the primary responsibility of the landowner.

Properties that do not have ownership will need to be sorted out as a policy issue with the City and County.

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- Has existing funding for storm water management been addressed? If you not, a property might have a 20% increase. That is a big deal.

- o This is a political choice. We can make recommendations and agree that it is best to transparent about this.

Many storm water utilities do reduce fees by a percentage or proportional amount for private properties that maintain stormwater treatment and control for their own private roadway networks, recognizing that this helps the overall system.

When it comes to City Council, the issue of whether the fees are new revenue or if there is some reduction granted to existing property taxpayers must be addressed directly. 80-90% of the revenue that we are asking for is already collected by property taxes.

The technical consultants only know of one that had complete revenue neutrality, but this issue does arise, and City Council would have several different ways to offset what property owners currently pay.

The consultants cannot make recommendations on political decisions. Clearly, the consultant team is providing examples that will allow DFM and the stakeholders to discuss options that Council can consider. This is still a feasibility study. The recommendation from Department of Facility Maintenance has to wait until the end of the study.

- What is the response to Hawaii has the highest cost in the nation?
 - o A storm water utility is a way to broaden the revenue base so that properties currently not contributing, but adding to the cost, are contributing. But it is recognized that overall costs are high for people in Hawaii.
- Will there be credits for associations that maintain a storm water management device.
 - o Yes, if they are treating storm water. Dedication of those facilities to the City and County is a separate question.
- For parcels that have multiple businesses, how are the fees allocated?
 - o Multi-tenant properties like malls tend to do this based on their lease agreements. Sometimes the fees are distributed as pro rata shares. They have no obligation to divvy up the bill in a particular way.
- Has there been a recent audit of the Storm Water Quality branch?
 - o The federal government does periodic audits of how well the City is doing at meeting federal requirements, but these are not financial audits per se. One option that has been raised at the stakeholder meetings is to commit to an annual audit of the storm water enterprise fund.
- How do we know what it should cost to manage storm water? We don't really have a benchmark.
 - o The cost of service study that AECOM prepared last summer and fall very specifically details what it costs to maintain the services. The basic compliance budget is close to what takes to keep the program "out of jail" with the state. There might be some examples to pull out. This provides a comfort level that this is the right amount of money.
- Are any of the politicians going to the community meetings?
 - o They will be asked to share about the community meetings.

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The project team noted that the community meetings are spread out over many weeks in different communities and people can go to any meeting in any community they want.

At the next meeting, phasing options will be discussed.