

## **CHAPTER 5**

# **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION**

HDOT Highways will ensure that the general public is provided an opportunity to review and comment on the Oahu SWMP Plan, during both program development and long-term implementation.

### **5.1 Public Review of Oahu SWMP Plan**

Following completion of the January 2007 version of the Oahu SWMP Plan (see Section 1.3), this document was made available in the storm water program website, and various public locations, pursuant to HDOT Highways public involvement policies. In addition, a public meeting was held on January 18, 2007 at Washington Intermediate School to solicit comments about the plan or any element of the program. The meeting was conducted as an “open house” where several HDOT Highways and master consultant personnel manned stations for each of the programs described in Part II of this document.

### **5.2 Other Public Involvement Activities**

In addition to the storm water website, many of the activities of the Public Education Program provide opportunities for the public to provide input to HDOT Highways regarding the Oahu SWMP, general storm water management, and other concerns they may have. These opportunities include, but are not necessarily limited to:

- Providing comment sheets to the public at each outreach event;
- Having a representative from HDOT Highways present at Adopt-A-Stream and other watershed events to answer questions and collect questions and comments from the participants;
- Advertising the HDOT Highways environmental hotline number and public website on brochures;
- Open-ended questions on the residential surveys to allow input; and
- Specific school projects to solicit comments from parents and teachers.

Also, a citizen advisory committee could be organized to solicit on-going input from the public regarding specific storm water-related topics, and to assist in educating the public through the Public Education Program. This committee would be well educated in the subject of water quality and should be able to provide meaningful input.

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