

Sept. 26, 2019

For immediate release
Honolulu, Hawaii

On Thursday, September 26, 2019, a lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court asking the court to stop construction of a massive 'sports complex' at Waimānalo Bay Beach Park, commonly known as Sherwood Forest.

The lawsuit cites the City and County of Honolulu's failure to adhere to federal land use controls, the City's violation of federal and state historic preservation law, the City's inadequate Environmental Assessment, and flawed permit approvals that distort the primary and special purposes of the beach park.

Affected local residents, including the plaintiffs, have a deep concern about the irreversible adverse impacts of the proposed development on the Waimānalo community's sense of place and rich cultural history, as well as the environmental health of the Waimānalo Bay Beach Park area.

The plaintiffs' concerns are underscored by the inadequate process carried out by the City in its assessment of the massive WBBP development proposal, especially given the City's history of lack of public engagement, input, accountability, and maintenance of existing facilities.

Civic-minded members of the Waimānalo community and surrounding communities have been left out of the critical stages of the required planning process for such a park conversion. This episode represents the latest in a series of poorly planned development schemes that the City government has pushed through in a manner insufficient to cooperatively stop errors or modify plans based on full public input.

This **Saturday, September 28, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.**, a press conference is being held at the **entrance to Sherwood Forest in Waimānalo** by the plaintiffs involved in the lawsuit to discuss the case, the continuing opposition to the City's plan, and next steps forward for the community.

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