

## SUMMARY

### **SOUTH KONA FLOOD HAZARD STUDY PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING**

**KONAWAENA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
JANUARY 23, 2008  
6:30–8:30 P.M.**

#### **RECORDING NOTES**

This informational meeting was not recorded. This summary was extracted from meeting notes.

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Over 60 residents from the South Kona area signed in.

#### Presenters:

Stephen Yamamoto, USACE, Honolulu

Jeff Overton, Group 70, Chief Environmental Planner

Massoud Rezakani, MRC, Principal

Bruce McClure, Director, County of Hawaii Department of Public Works

#### **PROBLEMATIC AREAS**

- Stream maintenance
  - Debris collects in the streams and creates dams that eventually overflow
  - Invasive species inhibit water flow
- Culvert maintenance and repairs
  - Poorly designed culverts compound flooding
  - Broken culverts need to be identified and fixed
- Impact of development
  - County-approved projects compound flooding problems; i.e. in Captain Cook above Greenwell Park
- Impact of road changes
  - Roads can change water flow
  - Old timers know where not to put roads
- Current flood map is 30 years old
  - Kona floodways are immature, gulches have not developed
- Nine 100-year floods in 50 years
- Need solutions now
  - Study is not a solution

#### **SUGGESTED SOLUTIONS**

- County fill the new floodplain manager position
- County culvert maintenance and repair
  - Upgrade/repair problematic culverts
- County-funded programs to break the force of water
- County work with Soil and Water Conservation District, people who have expertise and experience
- Community work together
  - Be part of the process
  - Know existing flood zones
  - In cooperation with the County and other agencies

- Become involved in Soil and Water Conservation District
- Clean and maintain streams
- Document problem areas and pass on to the County
  - Suggest workable solutions
  - Flood questionnaire is a means of collecting information on area flooding; residents encouraged to complete and provide photos of flooding
- Development
  - Well-designed and monitored projects that follow code don't create flooding
  - Mapping is a management tool in evaluating future development

#### **OTHER CONCERNS**

- Does plan take into account effect of grading and grubbing?
- Impact on insurance
  - Notification before revised map is released
  - What is the advantage of maps if increase insurance?
- Addressing previous flood damage
  - No measures taken on previous flood damage reported to County/State/Bishop Estate
  - Painted Church Road in Honaunau (County is making repairs)