



## **Waikiki Neighborhood Board Passes Resolution of Support for Outdoor Circle Waikiki Branch Trees Committee**

Aloha Members & Supporters of our Greater Waikiki Branch of The Outdoor Circle,

It is with pleasure that I pass on to you some good news about our just-one-year-old Branch. At its May 9th meeting the Waikiki Neighborhood Board unanimously approved a Resolution of Support for formation of our new Trees & Livability Committee. A copy of our Proposal and the Resolution is attached for you to read. It includes the following summary:

*"Working together with a broad coalition of partner organizations we believe that residents and businesses in Waikiki can actively participate in this effort to ensure that the future will continue to provide a beautiful tree-filled urban environment that attracts visitors and allows everyone to enjoy living in our world-class Paradise.*

*In addition to trees we intend to explore some other issues of livability that Waikiki residents are most concerned about, including street noise, nighttime light pollution and the proliferation of commercial signs that violate the state's strict signage laws that make our islands uniquely beautiful and peaceful."*

I recommend you take a look at our very comprehensive branch website: [waikikioutdoorcircle.org](http://waikikioutdoorcircle.org). You will find a huge amount of information that I am sure you will find of interest.

### **What next for our Branch?**

We recognize that our urban members are unlikely to have the gardening resources that other branches have at their disposal. No rakes, brooms and shovels etc.

We continue to look for ways to be a "Think Tank" to promote ideas that honor the 100-year legacy of The Outdoor Circle - our State's most respected community environment organization. We plan to develop our new Trees & Livability Committee as a long-term coalition group to explore ways to halt the continued loss of our heritage trees and how to plant many more.

If you would like to be involved please reply to [brian@outdoorcircle.org](mailto:brian@outdoorcircle.org). We'd love to have your help. With just 25 signed-up members we need more to join us and walk outdoors with us.

We hope to have a first *public meeting* of our Branch sometime in the coming months with a few expert speakers.

Stay tuned.

Mahalo for your Support,

Brian Bagnall PhD  
President  
Greater Waikiki Branch  
The Outdoor Circle  
[brian@outdoorcircle.org](mailto:brian@outdoorcircle.org)



*9th May, 2017*

## **New Trees & Livability Committee**

The Greater Waikiki Branch of The Outdoor Circle today announces its plan to form a Trees & Livability Committee.

It is intended to be a long-range Think Tank working group to raise awareness of the need to preserve Waikiki's existing trees and to plan for new and replacement plantings of trees.

We are not a tree-planting service and own no tree growing nurseries ourselves. The City, County and a variety of public and private organizations have the ability, staff and services to maintain, trim and plant trees as necessary in Waikiki.

Using the latest mapping and tracking technologies we are providing new impetus to raise the awareness of trees in Waikiki and the need to protect and preserve them.

Working together with a broad coalition of partner organizations we believe that residents and businesses in Waikiki can actively participate in this effort to ensure that the future will continue to provide a beautiful tree-filled urban environment that attracts visitors and allows everyone to enjoy living in our world-class Hawaiian Paradise.

In addition to trees we intend to explore some other issues of livability that Waikiki residents are most concerned about, including street noise, nighttime light pollution and the proliferation of commercial signs that violate the state's strict signage laws that make our islands uniquely beautiful and peaceful.

We welcome comments and suggestions from the Waikiki Neighborhood Board and residents.

*Send emails to: **[brian@outdoorcircle.org](mailto:brian@outdoorcircle.org)***

*Please visit our information-filled branch website: **[www.waikikioutdoorcircle.org](http://www.waikikioutdoorcircle.org)***

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING INCREASED SUPPORT FOR NEW PLANTINGS, PRESERVATION OF EXISTING TREES AND A “TREES & LIVEABILITY COMMITTEE” IN WAIKIKI**

**WHEREAS**, Waikiki was historically covered with trees and a large wetland/lo’i at its center; and

**WHEREAS**, today much of Waikiki is covered with impermeable surfaces; and

**WHEREAS**, such impermeable surfaces lead to an increase in temperatures, increased quantity and velocity of stormwater run-off and flooding and reduced aquifer recharge; and

**WHEREAS**, these negative impacts are directly contributing to an increase in the local effects of climate change; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the fastest, cost-effective and most sustainable ways to alleviate such issues is through new plantings and preservation of existing trees in the Waikiki area; and

**WHEREAS**, by having a greener, natural Waikiki, more tourists will visit this area and result in increased economic prosperity; and

**WHEREAS**, a “Trees & Livability Committee” should be formed by the Greater Waikiki Branch of The Outdoor Circle in collaboration with the Waikiki Neighborhood Board, in order to address these issues and make the public aware of their existence; now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Waikiki Neighborhood Board gives full support for increased plantings of native, endemic and non-invasive varieties and the preservation of existing trees in the Waikiki area under the right circumstances; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a Waikiki “Trees & Livability Committee” be formed with full support from the Waikiki Neighborhood Board in order to begin addressing these issues and others that negatively impact the livability, economic viability, and quality of life for Waikiki residents, businesses and visitors.