Army civil functions FY 1974, summary recapitulation requests

Army Civil Functions FY ' 74
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Public Works
May 31, 1973

SUMMARY RECAPITULATION REQUESTS OF SENATOR HIRAM L. FONG

1974 Budget Items

General Investigations		
Flood Control		
Harbors and Rivers in Hawaii	$ 20,000	To continue study
Kalihi Stream, Oahu	95,000	To complete study
Comprehensive - Hawaii Framework Study	140,000	To continue for second year in cooperation with other Federal, State and local agencies, all under Water Resources Council
Navigation - Kaneohe Bay and part of Metropolitan Honolulu	190,000	To continue and reorient study
Advance Engineering and Design		
Flood Control - Kaneohe-Kailua Area	150,000	To continue design of flood control project
Construction		
Beach Erosion Control - Waikiki Beach	200,000	To complete section of beach restoration from Kapahulu storm drain to Elks Club
Operation and Maintenance		
Navigation - Hilo Harbor	50,000	Routine work
TOTAL new funds requested	$845,000	
(NOTE: Total to be applied in FY'74 $1,000,000)		(New funds plus reserves and carry-overs)

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Subcommittee:

I appreciate this opportunity to present a statement supporting appropriations for Army Corps of Engineers public works projects for the State of Hawaii during fiscal year 1974.

Insofar as the President's budget is concerned, I wholeheartedly support the entire request, which totals $845,000 for Army civil functions projects in Hawaii.

Of these requests, the most urgent priority is $150,000 to continue advance engineering and design on the Kaneohe-Kailua flood control project. Flood protection for the people of this highly urbanized area is top priority with the State of Hawaii, as Governor John A. Burns affirmed in his May 14 letter to me. I ask unanimous consent that Governor Burns' letter be printed at the conclusion of my remarks on this project.

Kaneohe-Kailua Flood Control Project

The Kaneohe-Kailua Area project is located on the east coast of the island of Oahu, immediately northeast of the city of Honolulu. The plan of improvement provides for construction of an earthfill dam 80 feet high and 2,300 feet long in the upper Kamooalii-Kaneohe Stream basin and channel improvements along the lower 1,000 feet of Kaneohe Stream.

The highly urbanized flood plain of Kaneohe Stream is subject to frequent devastating floods. Since 1952, nine major floods have occurred causing considerable property damage and the loss of two lives. The February 1965 flood caused two fatalities and $739,000 in damages, and the February 1969 flood caused damages estimated at $1,093,000. The proximity of the project area to Honolulu, together with the scarcity of suitable land for residential development within the metropolitan area, has led to rapid development of the Kaneohe area. The population of the Kaneohe area was about 38,500 in 1970 and is expected to increase to about 90,000 by 1985. About 10 percent of the current population reside in the flood plain and, as population density increases, the potential for catastrophic damage and loss of life will also increase. In addition to flood protection, the project will also provide significant recreation and fish and wildlife benefits. The project has a benefit-cost ratio of 1.4 to 1.

Local interests are required to provide all lands, easements and rights-of-way necessary for project construction; accomplish all necessary relocations; and pay, contribute in kind, or repay with interest, one-half of the separable cost of the project allocated to recreation and fish and wildlife enhancement. Local interests are also required to operate and maintain the project upon completion, at an estimated annual cost of $80,000.

The City and County of Honolulu, by resolution dated April 7, 1970, has provided assurances of its willingness and ability to meet all requirements of local cooperation. The City and County of Honolulu has declared its intention to enter into agreement under the Federal Water Recreation Act (PL 89-72) by letter dated August 29, 1972.

Waikiki Beach Erosion Control Project

This project has the unusually large benefit cost ratio of 18 to 1. The Corps of Engineers is ready to begin construction now on the section of this project stretching from the Kapahulu storm drain to the Elks Club. The $200,000 requested in the 1974 budget will permit completion of this section.

The internationally famous Waikiki Beach is the principal center for the tourism industry in Hawaii, our island State's second most important source of income. The tourist season extends all year

and is a major factor in the economy of the island of Oahu which had a population of about 660,100 in 1972. The cash contribution required of local interests for complying with the requirements of local cooperation for construction of the project is currently estimated to be $1,320,000.

The State of Hawaii advanced funds of $82,000 to the Corps of Engineers for preconstruction planning of Waikiki Beach. The advance funds of $82,000 will be credited toward the required local cash contribution. The State of Hawaii has appropriated $1,574,000 toward this project. The State has informally given assurances that additional funds for their share of project costs would be made available if needed. The Kuhio Beach segment was constructed in FY 1972 by the State of Hawaii. As authorized by the River and Harbor Act of 1965, the construction cost of Kuhio Beach segment will be credited toward the State's contribution for the remaining work under the Waikiki Beach project.

The current Federal cost estimate of $1,810,000 is a decrease of $620,000 from the latest estimate ($2,430,000) submitted to Congress. The decrease is due to reducing the planned average beach width from 180 feet to 100 feet, due to environmental objections to the previously planned width and elimination of the Royal Hawaiian to Kuhio Beach segment of the project, also due to environmental considerations.

I urge appropriation of the full $200,000 requested by the President for this project in fiscal year 1974.

Hawaii Framework Study

I strongly support the request for $140,000 in the President's fiscal year 1974 Budget for the Corps of Engineers to continue its part in developing the Hawaii Water Resources Regional Plan.

Congress last year provided the initial funds for the regional study -- a three year program to prepare a state-wide comprehensive long range plan to guide Federal, State, and local interests to conserve, develop, and utilize Hawaii's water and related land resources in an efficient and timely manner.

The very rapid growth of Hawaii's economy and our environmental concerns have placed tremendous demands on the State's water resources in meeting the needs of the people in the required quantity and quality and to protect them from detrimental effects.

The fiscal year 1974 funds will be used to investigate water-related needs and problems in water supply, recreation, fish and wildlife, shoreline, flood prevention and control, water quality, legal and institutional aspects, and environment.

The water resources planning program offers Hawaii an opportunity to take part in the nationwide program of comprehensive water and land resource studies under the direction of the U. S. Water

Resources Council. At the same time it provides a basis to formulate a coordinated plan for the orderly development of Hawaii's water and related land resources by all levels of government and private entities.

Hilo Harbor

The requested amount of $50,000 for operation and maintenance is for surveillance studies of the Hilo Harbor breakwater, on the island of Hawaii. Recently, an earthquake caused extensive damage on this island, totaling more than $5.5 million and President Nixon declared the area a major disaster area. At the request of the Mayor of the County of Hawaii, the Corps of Engineers promptly inspected the breakwater following the earthquake and fortunately found no damage. The surveillance studies for which funds are requested are of more than usual importance, therefore, to make sure that the breakwater is watched for any delayed damage or damage that might have gone undetected heretofore. This request has my full support.

Kaneohe Bay and Part of Metropolitan Honolulu

I strongly support the $190,000 requested by President Nixon to continue the Engineers study of this very beautiful, albeit unfortunately polluted bay, which is one of the prime water resources of the State of Hawaii. An additional $12,000 are available in fiscal year 1974, for a program total of $202,000 to be applied to this study.

Kaneohe Bay is the largest estuary in the Hawaiian Islands with a water surface area of about 18 square miles. The urban area adjacent to it is included in the Honolulu Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (660, 100). Water depths within the Bay range from less than one foot to about 60 feet. Flows from four major streams and several smaller streams discharge into the Bay.

Rapid urbanization of the land areas surrounding the Bay has resulted in greatly increased sediment and pollution discharges into the Bay which now threaten the existence of the estuarine ecology. Pollution of the Bay by silt, sewage, and other sources is a matter of major concern to local Governmental agencies. Currently there is considerable desire by non-Governmental interests for further development within the tributary area surrounding the Bay.

The study is investigating the need and feasibility for improvements in the interest of navigation, pollution abatement, recreation, and related purposes. The need for model testing will be carefully considered. Improvements which might result from the study could be a significant factor in the preservation and renewal of an important natural resource which would greatly enhance the qualify of life for present and future generations.

This current study is being reoriented to include all known urban water resource problems so that it may better relate and integrate

water resource management for Kaneohe Bay to the broader objectives of State and county governments for rationally planning new urban development and renewing the existing urban area. Initial reoriented study effort will be devoted to developing an acceptable, certifiable wastewater plan that could be implemented to satisfy PL 92-500, the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972.

A revised plan of study will be developed in cooperation with concerned local, regional, State and Federal agencies to insure that each is aware of what its participation will be in order to avoid duplication of effort and to take maximum advantage of information developed in other studies being conducted.

The study cost has been reduced by $300,000 since last year as a result of completion of the preliminary plan of study.

Harbors and Rivers of Hawaii

Only $20,000 are requested to continue this study of the harbors and rivers of Hawaii covering the eight major islands of the State. I support the entire amount.

Each island is studied independently. Existing water and related land resources developments in the Hawaii Region include crop irrigation systems, municipal and industrial water systems, pollution control, flood control and drainage projects, land treatment practices, both public utility and private power systems, and mineral production.

The water related needs and problems include potential deterioration and/or depletion of ground water reserves and surface water sources, pollution of streams and coastal waters, flood problems associated with urban development, lack of adequate small craft and deepwater facilities and power generation needs.

Scope of the study is to determine the advisability of improvements in the interest of navigation, flood control, beach erosion, water supply and other beneficial water uses and related land resources.

The total estimated study cost has been reduced by $250,000 since last year due to reductions in scope of this study permitted by initiation of the comprehensive Hawaii Framework Study.

Kalihi Stream Flood Control Survey, Oahu

I strongly support the President's request of $95,000 to complete the flood control survey of this stream in Honolulu.

The Kalihi Stream drainage basin is within the City of Honolulu on the southern coast of the island of Oahu. The basin drains an area of approximately 6.7 square miles and extends 6.1 miles from Keehi Lagoon to the leeward slopes of Koolau Mountain Range with elevations ranging from sea level to 2,650 feet. The lower coastal area which extends about one mile inland from Keehi Lagoon and a transitional area which extends 1.5 miles inland from the coastal area are relatively flat.

Kalihi Stream is deep and steep in the upper and transitional areas and shallow and wide in the lower coastal area. The mean annual rainfall over the basin is approximately 75 inches, ranging from 30 inches along the coastal area to 100 inches in the higher elevations.

The flood problem at Kalihi Stream is attributed to the limited capacity of the existing channel in the lower areas which can contain discharges only up to 4,200 cfs, the estimated discharge for a flood of 4.5-year recurrence interval.

The stream has a history of 21 floods since 1872. One of the more severe floods occurred in November 1930 and resulted in the loss of 14 lives and damages estimated at $240,000. Three floods in 1960, 1963, and 1965 with discharges ranging from 6,330 to 7,000 cfs caused extensive damages averaging $126,000 per flood.

Improvements for flood control being considered consist of upstream storage reservoirs and/or channel improvement in the urbanized reaches. Development of plans for flood control will be coordinated with the City and County of Honolulu for potential "green belt" recreational development in the urban area.

Estimated total study cost has increased $17,000 due to additional recreation coordination and planning requirements. The study is scheduled for completion in FY 1974.

Conclusion

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my statement in behalf of river, harbor, flood control, and beach erosion projects for Hawaii for which I am asking funds for fiscal year 1974. In closing, may I again express my appreciation for the consideration you and all members of this Subcommittee have shown to Hawaii's needs.

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