March 29, 2030

Mr. Derek Chow  
Deputy Director  
Dept of Transportation, Harbors Division  
State of Hawaii  
79 S. Nimitz Highway  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Deputy Director Chow:

The Hawaii Harbor Users Group (HHUG), established in 2005, is a non-profit harbor user industry group whose mission is to help the state identify, prioritize and support improvements to Hawaii’s commercial harbors. HHUG’s membership comprises of 23 companies representing the spectrum of harbor users.

HHUG firmly supports Harbors Division’s request to the US Army Corps of Engineers to investigate modifications to Honolulu Harbor to decrease inefficiencies in ship movements caused by limitations in the channels and basins, adapt to new ships and barges, meet maritime growth needs, address safety concerns associated with the single one way channel, and adapt to anticipated sea level rise.

The blockage by a cargo ship in the Suez Canal is an example of how vulnerable Honolulu Harbor is to an obstruction. The one way Fort Armstrong channel is not wide enough to permit two ships to pass much less allow ships to pass any dangerous obstruction. Any channel
obstruction would threaten the supply of goods in Hawaii as it is estimated that there is only a 7 day supply of goods in warehouses and stores throughout the islands.

The new Kapalama Container Terminal demonstrates Harbors Division’s commitment to meet the needs of the growing cargo industry. To insure the full value of these investments, modifications to Honolulu Harbor’s waterways must also be planned and developed.

HHUG supports the Harbors Division’s request to seek federal modifications to Honolulu Harbors waterways.

Sincerely,

Gary J North
Executive Director