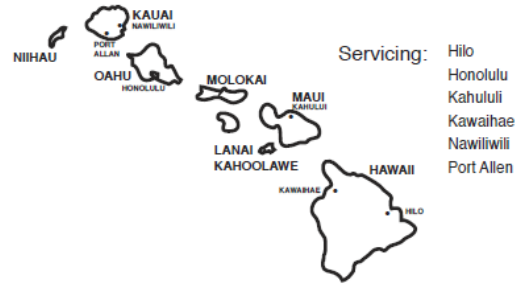


# HAWAII PILOTS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 721 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96808

Telephone: (808) 532-7233



March 30, 2021

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 Pilots Association (HPA) represents all of Hawaii's state licensed Port Pilots who pilot large cargo and cruise ships in and out of Hawaii's deep draft commercial harbors.

HPA is in full support of Harbors Division's request to the US Army Corps of Engineers to commence the feasibility study of the *Honolulu Harbor Modification Project*.

There have been no meaningful improvements to the dimensions of Honolulu Harbor's channels and turning basins in many years. Meanwhile, the ship sizes have been grown significantly. In the 1990s, the typical container ship size was about 24,000 gross tons. Currently, we are routinely handling container ships over 50,000 gross tons. Cruise ship dimensions have also increased significantly from the typical 30,000 to 40,000 gross ton range typical of the 1990s. In 2019, many of the cruise ships that visited Honolulu were well over 100,000 gross tons.

With ship sizes continuing to increase, significant harbor modifications are required to ensure that maritime commerce can continue in Honolulu Harbor in a safe and efficient manner.

HPA supports this project, and we stand ready to assist in the feasibility study.

Sincerely,

Captain Tom Heberle, President  
Hawaii Pilots Association