**Walking Sessions**

These two sessions will include a walking tour starting from the hotel. There will be speakers and each walking session will end with a box lunch so that attendees may enjoy some networking and Waikiki Beach, rather than rush back to the hotel in time for lunch. There is no extra charge for these sessions, but you must sign up for them *on your registration form* in order to have a box lunch provided.

1. **Historic Waikiki and Hawaii Natatorium**

From humble beginnings as a swampland, slowly transformed to the tourist mecca that it is today, Waikiki has a rich natural and cultural history with influences from the times of ancient Hawaii, Kamehameha I, and Hawaii’s earliest European visitors, to modern times.  The historical importance of Waikiki ranges from its role during past wars and in modern culture, culminating in its designation as one of the most important visitor destinations in the world.  Although some of Waikiki’s history has been buried by modern construction and changed land use, glimpses of this storied past can be seen in a walking tour of the area.  How to achieve balance between historic preservation with development and maintenance of a modern destination will be a key topic of this tour.  Included in the tour will be a visit to the site of a controversial historic site, the Waikiki Natatorium War Memorial.  This memorial, built in the 1920s for approximately $250,000 has fallen into disrepair, and is considered by some to be one of the most endangered historic sites in the country.  The cost to repair the structure has been estimated at over $20 million dollars.  A discussion, supported by experts on both sides of the issue, will be held on the pros and cons of the preservation of this memorial.

1. **Global Climate Change and Hawaii's Beaches**

Waikiki is one of the most iconic shorelines in the United States; a two mile long stretch of sand backed by hotels and tourist attractions and fronted by world-famous waves. A walk along the shoreline can be both picturesque and educational. The focus of an outdoor session consisting of a walking tour along the shoreline would be to directly observe the current status of the shoreline, providing real-world context for discussion on sea level rise, coral reef management, beach preservation/management, and marine debris. Experts from the University of Hawaii as well as members of the local conservation community would be on-hand to discuss various issues associated with the status of Waikiki Beach and how those issues manifest in other places throughout the world.