

October 2014 HCDA Newsletter

Aloha,

The Hawaii Community Development Authority will soon be seeking proposals for the development of a low to moderate income housing project on HCDA-owned land at 630 Cooke Street, which is currently a surface parking lot next to Karen's Kitchen. The HCDA envisions the development as a pilot project that would demonstrate a new housing model, such as micro units. Based on the size of the parcel, the development could include as many as 70 small studio rental units, each with its own bathroom and kitchenette. Once finalized, the request for proposals (RFP) will be posted on our website: www.hcdaweb.org.

The HCDA, in coordination with the High Technology Development Corporation (HTDC), won a \$3 million federal grant for the construction of the "Entrepreneur's Sandbox" at Lot C in Kakaako makai. The Entrepreneur's Sandbox will serve as a communal gathering place, where entrepreneurs can meet informally to discuss ideas and build business relationships. HTDC will operate the Entrepreneur's Sandbox, while local businesses, Fisher Hawaii and DataHouse will serve as partners to further develop the site at Lot C and provide additional construction costs.

Public hearings for Ward Village's proposed Land Block 2, Project 2 (Ward Gateway) were held earlier this month, with a decision-making public hearing scheduled for December 3, 2014. Public testimony was mostly positive for the mixed-use development, which will include 236 new housing units, ground floor retail and commercial space, a large central public plaza, and a pedestrian connection across Ala Moana Boulevard. You can submit written testimony and view the entire permit application on our website here: <u>http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hcda/ward-village-land-block-2-project-2/</u>.

Ward Village also submitted a development permit application for its Land Block 1, Project 2, which would include a new Whole Foods Market grocery store and 466-unit residential tower behind the existing Ward Theaters complex. The initial public hearing is scheduled for November 5, with a modification hearing set for November 6. A decision-making hearing is scheduled for January 7, 2015. The permit application and plans can be viewed here: http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hcda/ward-village-land-block-1-project-2/.

Kamehameha Schools submitted a development permit application for a project named VIDA on KS Block I. The mixed-use project will include 265 new residential units and retail/ office space in a tower built along Ala Moana Boulevard, at the existing Cutter auto dealership. The permit application and project plans can be viewed here: <u>http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hcda/block-i-vida-800-</u>

<u>ala-moana-boulevard/</u>. Because this project is not requesting any modifications, an initial hearing will be held on November 12, followed by a decision-making hearing on December 17.

In response to the public's desire for the development of more affordable housing, the HCDA is examining possible amendments to its reserved housing policy. In the upcoming legislative session and in the year ahead, we hope to refine our rules and become more effective in encouraging the creation of more affordable housing for Hawaii residents. The authority's Reserved Housing Investigative Committee has prepared its draft report, which can be viewed here: <u>http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hcda/reserved-housing-investigative-committee-report/</u>. Staff will discuss the report's findings with the public at all future community briefings. Please check our calendar for times and meeting dates: <u>http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hcda/calendar/</u>.

The HCDA is also continuing its public outreach for the master planning of active use facilities at our Kakaako Makai parks. The first round of open houses was held last month, and the second round of public meetings is scheduled for Thursday, October 30 and Saturday, November 8. Please join us to provide your comments and learn more about what's being proposed for the makai parks, or weigh in online at: <u>http://kakaakomakaiparks.mindmixer.com/</u>.

See Attached: Updated Project Activity Sheet

Please feel free to contact me, should you require any additional information on any of these items. For your convenience, copies of this and previous monthly newsletters and documents are posted on our website, <u>http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hcda/newsletters/</u>.

Mahalo,

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