Aloha,

On March 5, 2014, the Hawaii Community Development Authority held its monthly board meeting to discuss the status of state legislation involving HCDA policies and procedures. Upon the suggestion of lawmakers, Authority members will be taking a position on various bills moving forward in the legislative session. Authority members discussed the concepts contained in Senate Bills 2696, 2697, and 2698, and also in House Bills 1863, 1865, 1866, and 1867. Authority members agreed that they supported previous testimony provided by the Executive Director on all of these concepts, saying it adequately represented the views and opinions. Going forward, the HCDA’s executive director and/or the Chairman of the Authority will provide testimony to the state legislature on behalf of all Authority members, on bills relating to the HCDA.

Also on March 5, the Authority took action to enter into an exclusive negotiations agreement with Seagull Schools for the development of an early childhood education facility in Kakaako Makai. Given the public support for more schools in the Kakaako Community Development District, the HCDA finds it prudent to pursue its options with area schools. Seagull Schools proposes relocating its existing campus at the city municipal parking structure on Alapai Street to the Kakaako Waterfront Park Maintenance Shed in Kakaako Makai. This would provide early education opportunities to 120 preschool-aged keiki in Kakaako.

The Authority also authorized a contract for the repair and maintenance of sewage pump systems at Kakaako parks, and authorized the executive director to prepare and issue a request for proposals to rehabilitate the historic Ala Moana Pump Station into a Community Resource Center. Pacific Gateway Center proposes renovating the pump station into a senior center to pursue its mission of helping immigrants, refugees and low income residents become self-sufficient. The state legislature has already appropriated $1 million in capital improvement project funding to Pacific Gateway Center for this project.

The next public meetings at the HCDA will be two supplemental public comment sessions to provide more opportunities to give testimony on the pending Kakaako Agora development permit. These will be held at the HCDA office at 461 Cooke Street on Saturday, March 15, at 10 a.m., and on Tuesday, March 18, at 5:30 p.m. Applicant, Wei Fang, proposes creating a free public indoor park by constructing a small mezzanine within a commercial warehouse on Cooke Street. A decision making hearing on this application is scheduled for April 2, 2014.
On March 19, starting at 9 a.m., the HCDA will hold the first public hearing for Kamehameha Schools Land Block A. This project is a joint development between Keauhou Lane LP (KLLP), Stanford Carr Development, and Gerding Edlen, in accordance with the Kamehameha Schools Master Plan. It would be built on the Kamehameha Schools parcel bordered by South, Halekauwila, Keawe and Pohukaina Streets, which is currently where the Eat the Street event is held.

KLLP, in conjunction with Stanford Carr Development, proposes a 423-unit, mixed-use, high-rise condominium project called “Keauhou Place” on the northwest corner of the parcel, near the intersection of South and Pohukaina Streets (Lot A-1-1). Gerding Edlen proposes a second condominium project called “Keauhou Lane,” which would include 209 units and ground floor commercial space on the southeast portion of the parcel, fronting Pohukaina and Keawe Streets (Lot A-1-2). The development permit application for both projects can be found on our website here: http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hcda/kamehameha-schools-block-a/

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 accompanying documents are posted here: http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hcda/newsletters/

See Attached: March 5, 2014 Authority meeting summary, Executive Director’s Report, 2014 HCDA Legislative Bills update, Updated HCDA project activity listing

Mahalo,

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