Aloha,

At a special meeting on June 27, 2014, the HCDA authorized a 35-year lease for the development and management of Kewalo Basin Harbor with Ward Village. This public-private agreement will allow for the renovation and repair of 144 deteriorating slips and docks, and will further revitalize the area for future public enjoyment, at no cost to the taxpayer. The HCDA believes this is the first step to bringing life back to the state’s only commercial small boat harbor, which will continue to prioritize commercial vessels, like the charter boats and fishing tours that occupy the front row at Kewalo. An official lease signing event is expected in the coming weeks, marking the transition to new management.

On July 2, 2014, the HCDA held its annual election of officers. Board member, Luis Salaveria nominated all current officers to retain their positions on the Authority, saying their leadership has been exceptional. The vote was unanimous to re-elect Chairperson Brian Lee, Vice-Chairperson Lois Mitsunaga, and Secretary Miles Kamimura.

Also at its July meeting, the HCDA voted to approve a conditional use permit that would allow for the development of a new bakery and restaurant at the corner of Piikoi and King Streets in Kakaako, in the former Subzero showroom. The applicant, Advance Fresh Concepts, must still seek an improvement permit for the Bakery & Table project, which was likened to the nearby establishment, Panya.

In our Kalaeloa Community Development District, the HCDA hosted the 5th annual Kalaeloa Stakeholders Summit on July 3, 2014. About 80 local business leaders and government agency representatives came together to discuss the challenges facing Kalaeloa development, and what can be done to overcome them. HCDA staff led a priority setting activity in which participants voted on various improvement district projects. Stakeholders determined the highest priority was an improvement district project on Roosevelt Avenue, extending from Kamokila Boulevard to Enterprise Road. This project would include widening the roadway to city standards and placing utilities underground. Some issues relating to this project include addressing the impact to existing trees along Roosevelt Avenue, as well as encroachment by existing utility facilities within the proposed 108-foot right-of-way.

A development permit application for a new reserved rental housing project in Kalaeloa is now under review. Hunt Development Group wants to convert Building 77 of the former Navy Bachelor Officer Quarters on Franklin D. Roosevelt Avenue into 100 rental units for qualified income applicants. The initial public hearing for this project is scheduled on July 23, 2014. The HCDA will hold supplemental public comment sessions at 10 a.m. on August 9 and at 5:30 p.m.
on August 12 in Kalaeloa, so residents who cannot attend the initial public hearing will still have an opportunity to offer public testimony for the record. More information and the project application can be viewed on our website here: http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hcda/building-77/.

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, http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hcda/newsletters/.

Mahalo,

Lindsey Doi
Community Outreach Officer
Hawaii Community Development Authority
(808) 594-0300
Lindsey.doi@hcdaweb.org