



September 2014 HCDA Newsletter

Aloha,

Turnout was high at the Hawaii Community Development Authority's first public open houses for the master planning of active use facilities at our Kakaako Makai parks. On August 28 and September 6, community members weighed in on the current condition of the parks and brainstormed ideas on how to overcome the various challenges of transforming these areas into better gathering places. The slideshow presentation that was shown at the open houses can be viewed on our website here:

http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hcda/files/2014/08/Pres_OpenHouse1_20140812sm.pdf.

Please continue to join in the discussion, as we are still soliciting additional public comments online at: <http://kakaakomakaiparks.mindmixer.com/>. The second round of public meetings will be scheduled sometime in the next month.

The historic Mother Waldron Park on Cooke Street will reopen to the public on September 15, after undergoing a four-month rehabilitation. Stanford Carr Development upgraded the aging facilities with the addition of two basketball courts, a children's playground, and new landscaping. Community members, area lawmakers, and the mayor took part in a special blessing on September 12, creating a new gathering place for residents who rent affordable units at Halekauwila Place next door, as well as other members of the community.

The HCDA and Pacific Gateway Center held a groundbreaking and Hawaiian blessing ceremony on September 10, to give new life to the historic Kakaako Pumping Station on Ala Moana Boulevard. The 114-year-old building will be renamed the "Na Kupuna Makamae Center," or "The Beloved Kupuna Center," to pay tribute to its new purpose of bringing children and kupuna together with intergenerational programs and services. In June, the HCDA voted to approve the preparation of an environmental assessment (EA) and special management area permit for non-profit Pacific Gateway Center to move forward with plans to renovate the vacant building into a community resource center. In July, Governor Neil Abercrombie released \$1 million in capital improvement grant funds identified by the state Legislature for the refurbishment project. Construction will begin once the EA is complete, which is scheduled for May 2015. The new Na Kupuna Makamae Center could reopen by fall 2015.

At a decision-making public hearing on September 9, 2014, the HCDA voted unanimously to approve the renovation of Building 77 in the former Navy Bachelor Officer Quarters in Kalaeloa. Hunt Development Group will convert the existing three-story building on Franklin D. Roosevelt Avenue into 100 one-bedroom rental units for low-income households. Public testimony was

overwhelmingly positive for this project, as it would finally restore use of Building 77, which is currently seen as an eyesore in the community.

A reminder that public hearings for Ward Village's proposed Land Block 2, Project 2 will be held on October 1 and 2, with a decision-making public hearing scheduled for December 3, 2014. Ward Village's proposal includes two new buildings at 1050 Ala Moana Boulevard, where Ward Warehouse is currently located. It would create a total of 236 new housing units, along with new commercial and ground level open space. You can submit written testimony and view the entire permit application on our website here: <http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hcda/ward-village-land-block-2-project-2/>.

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, <http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hcda/newsletters/>. If you'd like to regularly receive these monthly newsletters with photos of the ongoing projects, please email me at the address listed below so that I may add you onto my list.

Mahalo,

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