



January 2015 HCDA Newsletter

Aloha,

Happy New Year! The Hawaii Community Development Authority is entering the new year with several changes ahead.

We welcomed three new ex-officio board members this month with the change in administration. The composition of the board will change once again when Act 61 takes effect on March 1, 2015.

Along with a new board, we are also looking forward to moving into our new offices at the historic American Brewery Building on Queen Street. Renovations are just about complete and the HCDA hopes to begin operations from the Brewery Building sometime in late February or early March. Please pay careful attention to the posted notices for all upcoming HCDA meetings, as the meeting location will change to 545 Queen St. after we move.

On January 21, 2015, the HCDA approved the development of the Ola Ka Ilima Lofts, which is a low income rental housing project that is sorely needed in Honolulu. Last month, the HCDA held an initial public hearing for the project and approved a 65-year lease agreement that would allow Artspace to lease the HCDA-owned lot at 1025 Waimanu Street for \$1 a year. This parcel is one of only two developable parcels owned by the HCDA in Kakaako Mauka, and will provide 84 rental units to low-income artists, a community center, art studio rental space, commercial space, and about 94 parking stalls. Ola Ka Ilima Lofts has already secured funding for the project through Low-Income Housing Tax Credits and a Rental Housing Trust Fund loan. An environmental assessment of the parcel was also completed earlier this month, with a finding of no significant impact.

At the HCDA board meeting on January 7, 2015, Victoria Ward/ Howard Hughes Corporation requested a continuance of the decision-making hearing for Ward Village Land Block 1, Project 2 to allow SHPD time to complete its review and comments on the project's effect on historic sites. The HCDA agreed to continue the hearing on February 4, 2015 at 9 a.m. This time frame does not breach the project's automatic approval deadline, which would be February 26, 2015. The initial public hearing for this project was held on November 5, 2014. The proposed mixed-use development at 330 Kamakee Street would include a flagship Whole Foods Market grocery store, open space, retail space, and a residential tower with 466 new housing units behind the existing Ward Consolidated Theaters complex.

The HCDA is continuing with public outreach for the master planning of active use facilities at our Kakaako Makai Parks. On December 6, we hosted Kakaako Parks Peek, which brought hundreds of residents and families to the Kakaako Gateway Parks to enjoy a full day of activities. Local musicians and dancers entertained the crowds, over 20 food trucks and vendors kept everyone well fed, and dozens of young athletes took part in a free keiki volleyball tournament. In addition, many community groups set up informational booths and interactive activities, including urban gardening and agricultural workshops, along with a canoe carving demonstration. Kakaako Parks Peek not only highlighted a park that many had never visited before, but also served as a “sneak peek” of what activities may come to Kakaako Makai in the future. All of these activities were suggestions from the public, who have been a vital part of the park master planning process for the past several months. Our consultants are now compiling the community’s feedback from the event and other open house meetings to produce a potential park layout that best suits everyone’s needs. If you haven't already done so, there's still time to offer your suggestions at <http://kakaakomakaiiparks.mindmixer.com/>. Keep an eye on our calendar at <http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hcda/calendar/> and on your inbox for our series three of open houses, where we will unveil more about plans for the parks in Kakaako Makai.

See Attached: Updated Project Activity Sheet and map

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 receive this newsletter with accompanying photos of the various projects and activities, please subscribe here: <http://eepurl.com/R7woT>.

Mahalo,

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