



## May 2015 HCDA Newsletter

Aloha,

On May 6, 2015, the Hawaii Community Development Authority unanimously approved the continued funding of the Jobs Training Program to assist homeless individuals in Kakaako. The program will be funded up to \$354,000 for another year and operated by Waikiki Health Center. It seeks to give a hand up, instead of a hand out, to residents of the Next Step Shelter in Kakaako and helps participants build resumes with valuable job skills. The first participants of the Jobs Training Program gave strong testimony in support of the program, which they say helped get them off the streets and into housing. As part of the program funding, the HCDA also dedicates \$10,000 to a Security Deposit Match Program to help participants secure rental housing.

The HCDA is also working to select a winning proposal for the development of affordable micro unit rental housing at 630 Cooke Street. The agency received seven proposals and is now working to rank the top three. The board could make a decision on the winning proposal as early as June 3, at the regularly scheduled Kakaako Authority meeting.

We are also continuing to work toward activating our parks in Kakaako Makai. An environmental impact study (EIS) is underway, with a draft EIS expected to be published in July 2015. A 45-day public comment period will follow. The HCDA has also scheduled the third round of open house meetings to discuss the Kakaako Makai Area Parks Active Use Facilities Master Plan. The planning area includes the Kakaako Gateway Parks, Waterfront Park and Kewalo Basin Park. We will discuss the consolidated layout for active uses in the Kakaako Makai parks at public meetings scheduled on Thursday, June 4 at 5:30 p.m. and Saturday, June 13 at 10 a.m. Previously suggested active uses have included sports facilities, entertainment venues, an art incubator, urban garden and farmer's market, and children's play areas. We will continue to fine tune the parks master plan as we work through the EIS process.

A decision-making public hearing for Victoria Ward Limited's Motion to Amend was continued to May 27 at 1:00 p.m. in the HCDA 2<sup>nd</sup> floor boardroom. Citing increased demand for rental housing in Honolulu, Ward Village requests the ability to allow both rental and for-sale housing to fulfill their reserving housing requirement for their previously approved permits. Currently, their planned reserved housing development at 988 Halekauwila (the former Dixie Grill/ Kanpai restaurant at 404 Ward) is permitted to only allow for-sale housing, and no rentals. The motion to amend can be viewed here: <http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hcda/files/2015/03/VWL-Motion-to-Amend-DevPermits-KAK-13-036-KAK-13-037-KAK-13-038-Res-Hsg.pdf>. Public testimony may be submitted using our website, by mail, or in person at the public hearing.

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>.

See Attached: Updated Project Activity Sheet

Mahalo,

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