Aloha,

The Hawaii Community Development Authority tackled the complicated issue of homelessness in Kakaako at its July 8 meeting. A wide range of residents, community groups, and organizations gave public testimony on the challenges and potential solutions for breaking the cycle of poverty and ending homelessness in Hawaii. While the HCDA is not a law enforcement agency or a social services agency, we are committed to working in conjunction with other government agencies and the greater community to effect meaningful change. The presentation made at the July 8 meeting can be viewed online here: http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hcda/files/2015/07/Community-Presentation_070815.pdf.

As part of the solution, the HCDA will continue to fund the Jobs Training Program, which gives a hand up instead of a hand out to homeless individuals who are willing to provide peer outreach and janitorial/beautification services for HCDA-owned parks in Kakaako. The HCDA also stands ready to assist with the expansion of other services and facilities.

In addition, the HCDA would like to foster community partnerships with faith-based organizations and nonprofit groups to create a childcare center and an after-school tutoring and mentoring program for the youth of Kakaako. These services would help break the cycle of poverty by enabling homeless parents to work during the day and giving children the necessary support to succeed. We recognize that homelessness is a community-wide problem that requires the cooperation of all agencies and residents, and the HCDA wants to do its part to help.

In the meantime, the HCDA's master planning for active use facilities in the parks of Kakaako Makai continues to move forward. As homeless are relocated from the streets, we hope to beautify the area with planters and bicycle paths, in addition to a variety of family-friendly activities. A video describing what we hope to accomplish in the parks of Kakaako Makai can be viewed here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7L7geDRBGcQ. A draft environmental impact study (DEIS) that examines the impacts of these suggested activities will be published later this summer. A 45-day public comment period will follow.

At its July 22 meeting, the HCDA took final action on Victoria Ward Limited's Motion to Amend. Victoria Ward agreed to the HCDA's second proposed order, which requires the delivery of 375 reserved housing units for sale at the 988 Halekauwila development and extends the permit for two additional years. Ward Village had previously requested the ability to offer rentals at 988 Halekauwila, however the board denied that proposal. The HCDA's final decision
requires construction on the reserved housing units at 988 Halekauwila to begin before residents are allowed to move into the Waiea and Anaha developments at Ward Village.

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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