

Da: February 5, 2025

To: ADC Board of Directors & Attorney General's Office

From: Wendy Gady, Executive Director, Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC)

Subject: Weekly Report (January 27, 2025 – January 31, 2025)

End-of-Week Debrief

1. Grant Submission Updates:

- 1/10/25: The *Growing Hawai'i Farm to School Pathways* (GFS) Submitted
 - i. Estimated size of grant \$500k
- NEW Deadline of 3/6/25: Working on submission for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program which DOES require 25% match: \$12M Wahiawa/Whitmore
- Waiting to hear regarding WaterSMART Grant submitted.
- Starting to actively rewrite DCIP for Spring 2025 submission using feedback & having weekly meetings including the ED, PMRF, and DBEDT Military & Community Liaison

2. Conference Attendance: None.

3. Meetings and Collaborations:

- Chair Chang will meet with the Governor regarding WIS Acquisition;
 - i. HDOA BOD will vote in February on MOA- ADC BOD approved in November
 - ii. Due diligence for HDOA & ADC is complete
 - iii. PSAs with Sustainable Hawaii & Dole are actively being worked on with ADC AG
- 2/20/25: Ag Day at the Capitol- ADC tentatively will have 3 tables
- Response to PLA Protest regarding HPP was sent
- Regular discussions with private sector on business plan for slaughterhouse, UHCDC has done some site selection work in the past- Business Case is being rewritten with industry feedback
- Regular Meetings with Kekaha Ag Association (KAA) in further understanding the systems, challenges & opportunities
- Documents are being notarized regarding ADC Kekaha Facility
- Working with Hartung regarding Business Plan
- HDOE/Whitmore Transfer is in active discussion
- Mililani Tech Park transfer is in progress
- Working to close the Dole Well acquisition
- Staff regularly writing and getting testimony approved and testifying for ADC at Leg
- Working with HFBF & Stakeholders regarding bill and leg priority of repayment of Waiahole Irrigation System debt.
- Working with staff on drafting testimony regarding ADC Projects and routing through DBEDT or filing; answering questions regarding bills and ADC budget requests
- Collaborating with staff for a future organizational chart to balance the ADC BOD's priorities and execute projects
- ADC BOD PIG formed to draft Subsidiary Policies for fulfilling ADC Statute
- ADC BOD PIG formed to draft Solar Policies for ADC
- ADC BOD Value-Added PIG finishing report

4. Ongoing Projects:

- Continuous meetings regarding CIP projects.
- Planning for NPDES Permit compliance on Kauai.
- HPP RFP
- Weekly preparations for ADC BOD Meeting 2/20/25
- Please save the dates per Ingrid for CY25 Calendar of BOD, Standing Committee and Current PIG meetings.
- Waimea Mediation Meetings and ongoing reporting.
- Haleiwa-Wailua-Wahiawa Irrigation System Acquisition
- Great deal of interest, enthusiasm and excitement for the future Small Animal Slaughterhouse in the ADC FY26 budget.
- Continued work/reconciliation of PMRF Contract.
- BMP inspections on Oahu & Kauai

5. Staffing and Operations:

- ADC has received 46 Expressions of Interest for the **next round** of applications.
- Hiring updates:
 - i. Accountant IV position- interviews complete, offer being made
 - ii. Accountant V position- actively interviewing candidates
 - iii. Interviews scheduled for 1/3/25 with Kauai candidates for Kauai Property Manager and Kauai Water Systems Manager went extremely well.
- Clearing of a large parcel of land abutting Wahiawa community has started.
- Ongoing UH CDC work regarding the forage drying facility, Small Animal Slaughterhouse and FPINs projects, now being called the Entrepreneurial Product Innovation Network (EPIC)
- Working with DAGS on infrastructure and site preparation work in Central Oahu.
- Ongoing UH CDC work regarding Oahu EPIC project
- The Waiahole System Team has implemented an aggressive maintenance program that is getting lots of complements from users- needing to rent 2 pieces of equipment in the new year to keep going.
- Ingrid is working with DBEDT IT to get the new phone system installed
- Purchase of vehicles for Kauai Staff has started.
- Ingrid & Lyle are working on an updated ADC inventory
- Completed draft WAM and FIN reports for DBEDT.

6. Capital Improvements:

- The following Projects were submitted for DBEDT & Governor consideration for CIP Request (ADC Request/Governor's Decision):
 - i. State Postharvest Facility Construction, Oahu: \$6.3M/\$1.8M
 - ii. Small Animal Slaughterhouse, Oahu: \$4M/\$4M
 - iii. Food & Product Innovation Network: \$9.5M/\$350k
 - iv. Wahiawa Reservoir and Spillway Purchase: \$5.6M/0
 - v. Kekaha Irrigation System Improvements, Kekaha: \$6.47M/\$6.47M
 - vi. Wastewater Reclaimed Water Irrigation System, Wahiawa: \$4M/0
 - vii. Ag Infrastructure Oahu: \$9.2M/\$9.2M

- viii. Commercial Land Purchase, Oahu: \$500k & \$4.5M/0
- ix. Acquisition of Ag Lands, Waimea: \$1.3M/0
- x. Purchase of Land Locked between State Owned Land: \$3M/0
- xi. Galbraith Ag Lands Improvements: \$500k/0/0
- xii. Acquisition of Ag Lands, Waiialua, Oahu: \$9.1M
- xiii. Land Acquisition for Water Security, Lihue: 0/\$3M
- xiv. Value-Added Product Development Center: 0/\$1.3M

7. Grants and Agreements:

- Working with DLNR on the ROE and transfer of the East Kauai Irrigation System and working on CIP use of funds.
- License for HIDOE (Oahu) are in active discussions.
- Meetings regarding the Waimea Watershed Agreement to determine the next steps.
- Extended contract with Spire to complete two outstanding items

8. Project Management:

- Continuing oversight into the HPP Solicitation
- Working with HDOA for JV of the \$5M for WIS acquisition
- Working with Dole, Sustainable Hawaii and DLNR on the WIS
- Staff are working to create a Land Portfolio by Year End.
- Staff are also reviewing an Accounting System Manual.

Events and Conferences

- 2/20: Ag Day at the Capitol

Upcoming Deadlines & Events

- I. 2/3: Interview with Kauai Property Management Candidate; Hearings, Rep. Kusch ; UH President Reception
- II. 2/4: Weekly Manager's Meeting; Hearings, Meeting regarding Waiahole
- III. 2/5: Hearings, Rep Lamosao, Brown & Caldwell
- IV. 2/6: Rep. Hussey, Sen. Inouye and Hearings
- V. 2/7: DCIP, Hearings, Agenda for ADC BOD Meeting
- VI. 2/13: First Lateral Filing
- VII. 2/15/25: Earmark Requests Due
- VIII. 2/20/25: ADC BOD Meeting, and Ag Day at the Capitol
- IX. 3/6/25: HIEMA Grant Due
- X. 3/20;/25: ADC BOD Meeting

Strategic Planning

1. Permitted Interaction Groups (PIGs):
 - Land & Distribution PIGs are complete.
2. Value-Added PIG is actively updating their report
3. Strategic Plan Updates:
 - The “Call to Action” at the Ag Leadership Conference collected a great deal of stakeholder input and will be incorporated into the Strategic Plan.
 - The Land and Distribution Service PIG reports and the future Value-Added PIG will also be included in the report.
 - Approximately \$70k remains in the budgeted amount for the Scope of Work with OPSD.
 - OPSD posted the RFP and the questions from the interested bidders included lots of feedback that the requested scope was well outside the budgeted amount.
 - We trimmed the scope of the RFP and returned to OPSD for posting. I’m still waiting for this to get posted for bidding.
 - RFP for PR Firm was posted- Mahalo Ken!
4. Working with staff to update/develop future monthly, and quarterly goals based on ED Goal PIG Report submitted for 12/6/24 meeting.

Projects

For a detailed overview of ongoing projects, please refer to the attached Gantt Chart.