Da: February 10, 2025

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

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

Subject: Weekly Report (February 3, 2025 – February 7, 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 Opportunity Identified
  - 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. Collaborations:
  - Chair Chang met with the Governor regarding WIS Acquisition; approved to move forward
    - i. HDOA BOD will vote in February on MOA- ADC BOD approved in November
    - ii. Due diligence for HDOA & ADC is complete
    - 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- featuring
    aquaculture feed mill, drone footage of the Waiahole Irrigation System with the
    manager and one of the water workers, and a map showing the ag footprint of ADC
    lands, and showing how little remains for licensing on Oahu based on the current
    applicant pool
  - Statement of Qualifications for Special Counsel were due 2/10/25, AGs office to vet applications, panel of 3 will interview
  - Drafting cost of compliance using draft permit for NPDES on Kauai
  - Regular discussions with private sector on business plans 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
  - Drafting RFP for Kekaha Building Assessment of Condition
  - Working with Hartung regarding Business Plan
  - Mililani Tech Park transfer is in progress
  - Working to close the Dole Well acquisition
  - 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

#### Ongoing Projects:

- Central Oahu Ag & Food Hub Infrastructure
  - Off-Site Improvements: not impacted by PLA-under \$1.5M; bid awarded in October, Notice to Proceed (NTP): 3/14/25; Complete Construction ETA: 1/28/26
  - ii. Site Improvements & Sewer Lift Station: Est. Construction award 8/25 (PLA)
  - iii. Notice to Vacate: Completed; a few relocating materials left
  - iv. UHCDC Concept Development & Business Case: Ongoing, requested presentation at Wahiawa Board Meeting in March to present
  - v. Demolishing Buildings: Planning Stage for several phases
- DOE Regional Kitchen
  - i. Issue Letter of Authorization to Demolish Buildings: 2/25
  - ii. ADC Executes Lease with HDOE: ETA 6/25
- Farm Field Days
  - i. Clearing of Land: Complete
  - ii. BOW Line: Awarded
  - iii. ADC BOD to determine Rent: 4/25
- HPP RFP
  - i. RFP Responses due 3/12
  - ii. Award date: 4/10iii. Contract: 6/30
  - iv. Notice to Proceed: 7/1
- Small Animal Slaughterhouse
  - i. Business Plan being refined with Small Animal Industry
  - ii. \$4M currently budgeted for FY27
- Wahiawa Dam and Irrigation System
  - i. ADC Completed Phase 2, surveys, ESA 1 & 2; est. \$350k for additional clean up
  - ii. LOIs: Executed
  - iii. PSAs: Drafted heading to DLNR for review
  - iv. \$10M released by B&F- \$5M for purchase; \$5M for Design
- Wahiawa Pedestrian Bridge
  - i. ETA for Completion 2/9/26
- Wahiawa Reclaimed Wastewater Systems
  - i. Phase i: Transmission waterline from the WWTP to GAL to transmit R-1
     Water

- ii. Phase 2: Interconnecting pipelines to integrate the R-1 waterline with the GAL irrigation system
- iii. Phase 3: Lake in-take pump station at Lake Wilson
- iv. Phase 2 & 3 plans and design have not been funded yet
- 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

# 4. 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.
  - iv. FPIN Manager- confirming UH Grant funding for 50% of salary is intact; have received 5 applications
- Ongoing UHCDC work regarding the forage drying facility, Small Animal Slaughterhouse and FPINs projects, now being called the Entrepreneurial Product Innovation Network (EPIC)
- 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.
- Purchase of vehicles for Kauai Staff has started.
- Ingrid & Lyle are working on an updated ADC inventory

# 5. 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, Waialua, Oahu: \$9.1M
- xiii. Land Acquisition for Water Security, Lihue: 0/\$3M
- xiv. Value-Added Product Development Center: 0/\$1.3M
- 6. 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) is in active discussions.
  - Meetings regarding the Waimea Watershed Agreement to determine the next steps.
  - Extended contract with Spire to complete two outstanding items
- 7. 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. 2/20/25: Ag Day at the Capitol, Tour of Egg Cracking Facility, LA
- II. 2/21: Tour of HPP Facility, LA
- III. 2/28: NEW BOD Meeting
- IV. 3/6/25: HIEMA Grant Due
- V. 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.
- 5. Working with Staff to draft future staffing needs based on current and upcoming initiatives

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