



On the calendar

September 6 at 9:00 a.m.

A Public Decision-Making Hearing will be held on the Mahana project by Victoria Ward, Limited, located between Queen and Halekauwila Streets, to the west of 'A'ali'i and the east of Ward Avenue. The proposed mixed-use project will include 340 residential units, recreational area, commercial space, and new open space.

September 6

A Public Presentation Hearing will be held for a development permit for Kali'u by Kamehameha Schools. Coral Acquisition, LLC is proposing to build a single tower, 294-unit residential, mixed-use condominium with ground floor commercial/retail space, located between Ala Moana Boulevard, Cooke, Auahi, and Coral Streets. On the ground level, the Project will include approximately 11,660 square feet of open space, and approximately 39,592 square feet of recreational space with amenities. A total of approximately 687 parking stalls will be located in the approximately 65-foot-high parking podium. Residential and commercial loading areas and public bicycle parking are proposed as a part of the Project. On September 7, a Modification Hearing will be held, and on November 1, Decision-Making Hearing.

September 6

The next HCDA Board meetings will be held following the public hearings. For more information about HCDA, the public hearings or board meetings visit <https://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hcda/>.

Hawaiian Storytelling

Integrates culture and history in development projects

In the famous epic of Hi'iakaikapoliopele, on her journey through the islands to get Lohi'au, for her sister Pele (the volcano deity). Hi'iakaikapoliopele is traveling through the Lualualei area of this island and she sees a handful of girls making lei with the ma'o (native hibiscus) flowers. She touches her neck and she realizes that she feels a little bare, because she doesn't have a lei. The girls immediately gift her a lei and invite her to dinner. She says, I don't need any food. I'm full now. I have my lei.

Mālia Ka'aihue, Ph.D., founder and president of DTL Hawai'i, shared this portion of the epic tale in her testimony to the HCDA Board in July, when she was describing the process of developing project names.

"In our collaborative work with Victoria Ward we have been very careful about selecting names that will bring forth the legacy and the mana (power) of yesterday, today and tomorrow for this place," said Ka'aihue. "So that everybody who interacts with this place gets to appreciate its genealogy as well."

"The name for Block D is Melia, Block E is Ilima and for the Diamondhead Plaza Park – Ka Lei Park, Ka'aihue continued. "Melia speaks to the pua melia (plumeria). The most common lei that we have in Hawai'i. It's a connection we have to all of our yards, that have the plumeria trees. It's our local flower. So, it's really an ode to the practice of hospitality, but also that local connection to culture that's rich and cherished amongst residents of Hawai'i."

"The name for Block E, Ilima is of course the indigenous flower, and noted flower of O'ahu. Ilima is the crown jewel of O'ahu when you are thinking of flowers, when lei making. It's color is orange which signifies its connection to royalty and ali'i."

Melia's streetscape, wayfinding, and native landscaping is culturally- and place- based. The native landscaping accentuated with native and 'ohana (family) tree planting groups, scented flowers, and utilitarian plants holding both spiritual and medicinal qualities will



complement the existing botanical garden at the nearby IBM Building, the wide sidewalks, public art, and retail and commercial space on the ground floor.

The location of Melia serves as a mauka-makai connection for area residents and visitors to Ward Village and the broader community. Being uniquely located between Ala Moana Boulevard, the commercial and retail lined Auahi Street, and facing Ka Lei Park, Melia is designed as a gathering place to allow residents and visitors to gather and connect with the 'āina and one another.

Ka Lei Park is intentionally located along Kamake'e Street to preserve the mauka-makai Kamake'e view corridor.

Mauka-makai views are not only important



for visual aesthetics, but are also important to maintain metaphoric connectivity and balance that is and has been important to Hawaiian culture and the people of Hawai'i.

Ka Lei Park celebrates the cultural tradition of giving and receiving lei. Traditionally, lei were created with much reverence that included ceremony in each step of the process. Today, lei continue to be given and received in the traditional manner, but are more commonly shared in celebration of milestones in a person's life. Ka Lei Park will evoke the



Storytelling

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experience of sharing connection to 'āina and our island hospitality, and the park will be a gathering place that encourages visitors and residents to enjoy the connection this park will provide with nature, the native plants, and one another.

Auahi Street and Ala Moana Boulevard will conveniently link Melia and the Ka Lei Park with additional public spaces, all within walking distance.

At the center of Ward Neighborhood, the Victoria Ward Park (mauka and makai) is planned to integrate cultural narratives through storytelling elements inspired by the former estate of the Ward 'ohana, that was called Old Plantation. The storytelling elements may include lyric sidewalks with ample shade and lush landscaping, play structures inspired by palai ferns, pergola structures inspired by the shade provided by waving palms, seating terraces in the makai park incorporating horses or cattle, and native flowers and flowering trees.

Through Auahi Street, Melia will also have convenient access to the 30,000 square foot Ka La'i o Kukuluāe'o (meaning, the calm of Kukuluāe'o) park, which will feature a keiki playground and open space, located on the west (Ewa) end of Ward Village, near the Ulana project.



VA Clinic Update

Hunt has made significant progress on the Daniel Kahikina Akaka Department of Veterans Affairs Community-Based Outpatient Clinic, 90,000 square foot facility, that will offer primary care, mental health, audiology, physical and occupational therapy, dental and prosthetic services to over 87,000 veterans and their families in Hawai'i and across the Pacific.

The clinic is scheduled to open in 2024, with the facility about 85% complete. It will have over 500 parking stalls, including 19 EV charging stations.

The roads that run adjacent to the clinic – Franklin D. Roosevelt Avenue and the Kamokila Boulevard Extension – are more green with grass and trees along the medians. Those roadways, along with Boxer Road, are scheduled to open no sooner than September 2023.

Copahee Avenue will remain closed through late 2023, while Hunt awaits guidance from the U.S. Department of Education. Meanwhile, Barbers Point Elementary is accessible through Tulagi Avenue. Hunt representatives continues to work with school administrators to minimize disruption to the campus.

Photos Courtesy of Hunt Companies.






Support local Good Chicken

Sometimes you find delicious food in the most unexpected places.

On a narrow sidewalk-less street in central Kaka'ako, this hidden gem pops in the little red building on Kawaiahao Street.

Good Chicken workers tout they have the best chicken and mandoo in town, and it was delicious. 1970s traditional market-style Korean fried chicken. They get a lot of people in the door with their \$9.95 Good Chicken Plate special, that they describe as crispy and affordable. But once you try it, you'll be back for more and to try other items.

The most popular dish for those who like spicy food is the Garlic Chili Chicken plate. If you like it mild, the Honey Chicken plate is a popular choice. The Chicken salad features lightly battered crispy fresh chicken (chicken tender style, but better) served on the side of a generous fresh green salad.

We were pleasantly surprised.

941 Kawaiahao Street, Honolulu

808-744-7239 or <https://goodchicken.smartonlineorder.com/>

