## Hawaiʻi Community Development Authority

### December 2023

# **Community Connection**



# On the calendar

#### Jan 3 at 9:00 a.m.

A Public Presentation Hearing will be held on the proposed amendments and compilation of the Kaka'ako Mauka Area Rules, HRS Chapter 15-217. After nearly a decade, the HCDA is embarking on a process of evaluating enhancements to the Mauka Area Rules and possibly amending several of these Rules. Based on a framework of community engagement, HCDA Staff will make recommendations on the possible amendments to the Mauka Area Rules. The goals of the enhancements are to improve the development of a vibrant and resilient Kaka'ako Community Development District.

#### Jan 3

The next HCDA Board meeting will be held following the Public Hearing.

For more information about HCDA, the public hearings or board meetings visit <u>https://dbedt.hawaii.gov/</u> <u>hcda/</u>.



# An epicure's adventure

100% made in Hawai'i

Have you ever wondered how chocolate is made? If so, you'll delight in the 90-minute award-winning chocolate factory tour with tastings, right here in Kaka'ako, at Lonohana Estate Chocolate, which is 100% grown and made in Hawai'i.

As one might expect from the islands, the rich soil and beautiful weather can grow world-class cacao.

The family owned business really committed when they began, cacao trees can take about five years before they produce cacao pods. Then, at the peak of ripeness, the staff at Lonohana harvests the pods.

The cacao beans are held together by a sweet white fruit, that tastes similar to lychee.

Next in the lengthy process the beans are fermented exclusively in mahogany. The natural fermentation releases compounds vital to making quality chocolate, and then they are sun dried to perfection before traveling from the North Shore farm, to the factory.

If you don't have the time for a tour, Lonohana Estate Chocolate has a charming little retail store, in Salt at Our Kaka'ako. One of the original stores in the mixed-use shopping center, that opened in 2017, the confectionery features a tasting bar.

Just select your chocolate sample flight from the menu, and your taste buds are off to an epicures adventure.

Tip: If you've thought very dark chocolates too bitter in the past, take your time at the tasting. Savor a dark piece, place it on your tongue and let it warm and begin to melt a bit. The rich cacao flavor brings chocolate to a whole new level.

Note: The darker the chocolate the purer it is. Lonohana's "Lucky 7" is a 77% dark very limited chocolate.

Lonohana products are made with all natural ingredients, in a peanut-free environment.



Lonohana Retail & Tasting Bar Center of SALT@Kaka'ako 324 CORAL STREET, #104A Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 (808) 260-1151

> Lonohana Factory (Tour Location) 711 Queen Street (808) 517-4475







# Support local More than just a pub Its an interactive brewery

Hana Koa Brewery Co. often features delicious unusual beer flavors that pair well with their food menu. But the adventure doesn't stop at the table, they give a brewery tour that includes a glass of their signature brew. The next tour is on January 6. For more information visit <u>www.hanakoabrewing.com/brewerytours</u> or <u>www.hanakoabrewing.com.</u>

If yoga is your thing, join certified instructor Moe Saur, at Hana Koa for a yoga class that will increase blood flow and warm up muscles, while improving your well-being and connecting with community. Then enjoy a refreshing beverage, that's included. The next yoga class is on January 7. Make reservations online at <u>www.hanakoabrewing.com/yoga</u>.

Hana Koa Brewing, 8 0 8 - 5 9 1 - B E E R 962 Kawaiahao St., Honolulu, HI 96814





"Starting at the turn of the twentieth century, Victoria Ward and her daughters created Victoria Ward Limited to steward the land for generations ahead," said Kaiulani Sodaro, Senior Vice President of Planning and Development at Howard Hughes Corporation. "Into the 1930s and 40s city infrastructure improvements started to occur in the nearby area. Ala Moana Beach Park was created by infill from dredged harbors in the area as well as the Ala Wai Canal.

There was the introduction of trolleys and cars, and new streets connecting Downtown, Honolulu to Waikiki, for the first time. All of this, laid the foundation for what was to come.

The 1950s and 60s brought expansion post World War II, with growth at the Honolulu waterfront, industrial use and large warehouses. Businesses began to thrive.

"The city of Honolulu purchased a substantial portion of Victoria Ward's family land to build, what we now know, is the Blasdell Center and Honolulu Symphony," said Sodaro in a presentation to HCDA. "And, shortly after statehood, the IBM Building broke ground, in 1961."

The 1970s and 90s brought large surface parking lots and the Kewalo Harbor expansion for growing commercial and recreational craft use.

In 1975, Ward Warehouse opened, Ward Center in 1983, and then, the Ward Entertainment Center, in 2001.

In 2002, Victoria Ward limited transitioned to General Growth Properties, who went to HCDA for approval of their 2009 Ward Neighborhood Master Plan, a long-range plan that would evolve over time to fulfill the needs of the community.

For decades, Ward has been a favorite gathering place for friends socializing, business interactions, family celebrations and community events. Ward Neighborhood would build on this tradition, creating a vibrant place to live, work and play that can be a magnet for people of all ages and backgrounds.

"Shortly after the 2009 Master Plan approval, Howard Hughes assumed ownership and leadership of Ward Village and executing the Master Plan vision and continued community outreach efforts," said Sodaro. "We are pleased and honored to see that Ward Village is still a favorite gathering place for locals, a thriving neighborhood, with retail new commercial businesses and filled with residents and community events and activations."

The specialized neighborhood features 14 residential and mixed use projects, with restaurants and services providers like grocery and clothing stores, clinics, the dry cleaners, pharmacies and doctors within walking distance.

There are 5 acres of new parks, two new playgrounds, substantial pedestrian areas with wide sidewalks and plaza additions, completely new dedicated bike lanes, and with all of the sidewalk improvements comes mobility and accessibility.

As you all know, the lineage of Ward Village, and vision of a thriving place, people and community is one that comes long before our use," said Sodaro. "Today we are honored to hold the stewardship and responsibility of this special place, really an oasis, with a progressive vision by Victoria Ward and her family."