In its PY2018 Annual Action Plan (AAP), approved by HUD in August 2018 and amended in February 2019, May 2019, and April 2020, the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) reported that the City and County of Honolulu (City) would be utilizing a portion of its PY2018 National Housing Trust Fund (HTF) program funds for two workforce housing projects serving special needs populations. The City was unsuccessful in utilizing the HTF funds, and subsequently returned its PY2018 HTF funds to HHFDC for re-allocation. In accordance with HHFDC’s PY2018 HTF allocation plan, HHFDC sought alternate activities from the remaining Subgrantees (the Counties of Hawaii, Kauai and Maui). On May 29, 2020, HHFDC identified the County of Kauai to receive $1,350,000 for its Pua Loke Affordable Housing project in Lihue and $75,000 for the County of Kauai’s administration of HTF program activities.

The Pua Loke project is an affordable multi-family housing development for households earning 100% or less of the area median income. The County of Kauai previously awarded its PY2019 HTF funds to the project, which was to have produced a total of 50 units and four HTF-assisted units. Including the PY2018 HTF funds, the project will consist of 54 total units, including nine HTF-assisted units serving households with incomes at or below 30% of the area median income.

This Substantial Amendment No. 4 to the PY2018 AAP identifies the County of Kauai to receive additional HTF funds of $1,425,000 for its Pua Loke project and administration of the HTF program and incorporates the funds and activity into the PY2018 AAP. Other aspects of the PY2018 AAP will remain the same.

On June 5, 2020, a Notice of Public Comment (Notice) was published in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser and posted to HHFDC’s website at http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/hhfdc, inviting the public to comment on the proposed amendment to the PY2018 AAP. The Notice and this Draft Substantial Amendment No. 4 to the PY2018 AAP were also sent to depository libraries and posted to HHFDC’s website. HHFDC utilized a HUD-authorized waiver to the 30-day public comment period, in favor of a five-day comment period, to allow an immediate use of HUD funds in communities affected by COVID-19. The public may provide comments on the draft amendment through June 10, 2020.

A copy of the Notice of Public Comment is attached as Exhibit A.
EXHIBIT A

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT
NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT
On Draft Substantial Amendment No. 4 to the PY2018 Annual Action Plan

Pursuant to 24 CFR Part 91, the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC), Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, State of Hawaii, gives notice that a draft Substantial Amendment No. 4 to the Consolidated Plan Annual Action Plan (AAP) for program year July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019 (PY2018) has been prepared. The HHFDC is making the document available for review and comment.

The purpose of the Consolidated Plan and the AAP is to ensure that jurisdictions receiving federal assistance plan for the housing and related needs of low- and moderate-income families in a way that improves the availability and affordability of decent, safe, and sanitary housing in suitable living environments. To receive funding under certain U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) programs, the State must have a housing strategy that has been approved by HUD.

The HHFDC administers HUD’s National Housing Trust Fund (HTF) program and gives notice of a draft Substantial Amendment No. 4 to its PY2018 AAP to identify and incorporate an eligible activity to be supported with PY2018 HTF funds. The County of Kauai, as HHFDC’s Subgrantee of HTF funds, intends to utilize HTF funds in the Pua Loke Affordable Housing Development project in Lihue. The Pua Loke project will consist of 54 total units, nine of which will be HTF-assisted and serve extremely low-income households with incomes at or below 30% AMI.

The draft Substantial Amendment No. 4 to the PY2018 AAP is available for public review on HHFDC’s website at http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/hhfdc. Due to health and safety concerns caused by COVID-19, state and county housing agencies, where draft amendments would normally be available for public viewing, are taking precautionary measures by closing their offices to the public. Interested persons are encouraged to view the draft amendment electronically on HHFDC’s website (http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/hhfdc). You may also call Lisa Wond at (808) 587-3182 to be mailed a copy of the draft substantial amendment. Neighbor Island residents may call toll free at the numbers listed below:

From Kauai: 274-3141, ext. 73182  From Hawaii: 974-4000, ext. 73182
From Maui: 984-2400, ext. 73182  From Molokai/Lanai: 1-800-468-4644, ext. 73182

To allow an immediate use of HUD funds in communities affected by COVID-19, HHFDC is utilizing a HUD-authorized waiver to the 30-day public comment period, in favor of a five-day comment period. Interested persons are invited to provide written comments on draft Substantial Amendment No. 4 to HHFDC via email to hhfdc.consolidatedplan@hawaii.gov no later than June 10, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. All written comments received by the deadline will be considered in preparing the final amendment.

If access or communication assistance and/or services (e.g., large print or taped materials) are required, please immediately contact HHFDC’s Human Resources Office at 587-0501 or by email to hhfdchr@hawaii.gov. Prompt requests help to ensure the availability of appropriate accommodations. Persons on the neighbor islands may call the following toll free numbers:

From Kauai, 274-3141, ext. 70501  From Hawaii, 974-4000, ext. 70501
From Maui, 984-2400, ext. 70501  From Molokai & Lanai, 1-800-468-4644, ext. 70501
HHFDC does not discriminate against any person because of race, color, religion, sex, including gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability, familial status, ancestry, age, marital status, or HIV infection.

Janice Takahashi, HHFDC Interim Executive Assistant

June 5, 2020

Honolulu Star-Advertiser