NOTICE OF VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

(for consultation on housing needs)

Pursuant to 24 CFR Part 91, notice is hereby given that the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC), Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, State of Hawaii, will prepare an Annual Action Plan (AAP) for Program Year 2021-2022 (PY2021), as part of the Consolidated Plan (CP) process. In preparation for this AAP, HHFDC will consult with local governments and residents at public hearings to be held by electronic means in each county, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Virtual public hearings in the County of Hawaii will be held jointly with the County of Hawaii's Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD) as follows:

- Wednesday, September 9, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.; and
- Friday, September 11, 2020 at 10:00 a.m..

Connectivity information on attending the virtual public hearings can be found at https://www.hawaiicounty.gov/departments/office-of-housing.

The CP's purpose 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 AAP describes the State's funding plans for the coming program year and certifies program compliance with the CP, HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), National Housing Trust Fund (HTF), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) programs.

For PY2021, the State anticipates receiving approximately \$3,000,000 in HOME funds, \$450,000 in ESG funds, and \$250,000 in HOPWA funds, for use primarily in the Counties of Hawaii, Kauai and Maui. Approximately \$3,000,000 is expected under the HTF program, which may be used in the Counties of Hawaii, Kauai and Maui, and the City and County of Honolulu. These HUD programs provide funding to expand the supply of affordable housing for low- and moderate-income families, restrict increases in homelessness, and provide preventative programs and activities for the homeless in the State.

An informational packet describing the HOME, HTF, ESG and HOPWA programs is posted on HHFDC's website at http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/hhfdc and available for public viewing at the following Public Libraries: Hilo, Island of Hawaii; Lihue, Island of Kauai; Kahului, Island of Maui; Kaimuki, Kaneohe, Pearl City, Hawaii State Library's Documents Center, and UH Library's Serials Receiving, Island of Oahu. A copy can also be picked up at the following agencies between the hours of 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.:

- HHFDC, 677 Queen Street, Suite 300, Honolulu, Oahu;

- Department of Human Services, Homeless Programs, 1010 Richards Street, Suite 312, Honolulu, Oahu;
- Department of Community Services, 925 Dillingham Boulevard, Suite 200, Honolulu, Oahu;
- Office of Housing and Community Development, 50 Wailuku Drive, Hilo, or 74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Highway, Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii;
- Kauai County Housing Agency, 4444 Rice Street, Room 330, Lihue, Kauai; and
- Department of Housing and Human Concerns, 35 Lunalilo Street, Room 102, Wailuku, Maui.

To receive a copy by mail, interested persons may call (808) 587-0634; neighbor island county residents may call toll free, extension 70634:

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

Interested persons are invited to attend the hearings and state their views, orally or in writing, related to the housing needs to be considered in developing the State's AAP.

Please submit written testimony HHFDC via email to hhfdc.consolidatedplan@hawaii.gov, by U. S. mail to HHFDC, 677 Queen Street, Suite 300, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96813, or by fax to (808) 587-0600 by 4:30 p.m. on the day of the hearing. Comments and testimony received will be considered in preparing the final State AAP.

If access or communication assistance and/or services (e.g., large print, taped materials, sign language interpreter, or translator) are required to participate in this public hearing, please contact the HHFDC's Human Resources Office at 587-0501, by email at hhfdchr@hawaii.gov, by fax at 587-0600, or by written request at least ten business days before the hearing. Prompt requests help to ensure the availability of appropriate accommodations.

The 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.

Denise Iseri-Matsubara, HHFDC Executive Director

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

West Hawaii Today Hawaii Tribune Herald

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