

INFORMATION

December 6, 2006

SUBJECT: Kalaeloa Status Report

I. Kalaeloa Community Development Rules

Townscape Inc. is currently analyzing the Kalaeloa Master Plan, HCDA's Kakaako Administrative Rules, the City & County of Honolulu's (City) Land Use Ordinance, and innovative rules and regulations from other communities, including new concepts for encouraging the development of "green/sustainable communities." This analysis will lead to a progress report that will delineate goals, objectives, and guidelines for the Kalaeloa Rules. Community outreach and Authority updates are also planned. Once the goals, objectives, and guidelines have been established, detailed language for the Kalaeloa Rules will be drafted.

II. Kalaeloa Public Safety

On November 16, 2006, HCDA staff met with the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), Navy Security, Hawaii Army National Guard, State Department of Transportation (DOT), U.S. Coast Guard, and the City Departments of Transportation Services and Design and Construction. Also in attendance were HCDA Member Evelyn Souza and Bruce Tsuchida from Townscape. The meeting was held at the Kapolei Police Station and is a continuing dialogue on public safety issues in Kalaeloa. Highlights from the meeting are as follows:

- a. HCDA reported that Haseko is soliciting bids to remove overgrown vegetation along the east side of Essex Road. The Navy also plans to cut back vegetation on their side of the road when funds are available from their short-term leasing program.

Staff also reported that the 1st floor of the Onelau'ena transitional shelter will be ready for move-in by homeless families around Thanksgiving (see item IV below). Staff has asked Kaulana Park, State Team Leader for Homeless Solutions, if the additional apartments can help to accommodate homeless families that have moved into the White Plains Beach camping area after the initial assessment.

- b. Copper wire theft continues to be a problem in Kalaeloa, especially during night hours and on weekends. Some vacant buildings have been completely stripped of all usable/valuable fittings.
- c. HPD has commenced an island-wide traffic enforcement campaign with special emphasis on speeding. HPD Kapolei plans to focus on Roosevelt Avenue/Enterprise Avenue as appropriate.
- d. DOT completed an assessment of Roosevelt Avenue and plans to submit a work order to re-stripe crosswalks and improve signage. The re-striping work includes crosswalks at the 4-way stop at Roosevelt Avenue and Enterprise Avenue. This action responds to concerns raised about pedestrian safety at the 4-way stop.

Staff is taking action to place the remaining DOT roads in Kalaeloa onto the State Highway System. This designation will allow the use of federal funds for maintenance and improvement. (Note: Per DOT memo, dated August 4, 2006, Roosevelt Avenue, Enterprise Avenue and Coral Sea Road were placed on the State Highway System.) DOT is preparing budget requests to maintain and improve their roadways in Kalaeloa.

DOT also stated they are considering temporarily blocking off non-essential Kalaeloa roads to improve vehicular safety until funds can be secured. HCDA/DOT will establish a draft list of non-essential roads for review by the public safety group and emergency response agencies.

- e. The U.S. Coast Guard reported another incident of bottles being thrown at Coast Guard staff vehicles as they leave the facility. Navy Security recommends that their central dispatch office be called as soon as individuals start to congregate because it is more effective to disperse the groups before incidents occur. HPD and Navy Security will continue to conduct patrols along Coral Sea Road to the Coast Guard Station.

HCDA staff has tentatively scheduled the next meeting for December 21, 2006.

III. Kalaeloa Community Network

The Kalaeloa Community Network held its first meeting on November 2, 2006. Representatives from 13 community stakeholders attended, including: Barbers Point Elementary School, Carmel Partners, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, Department of Transportation – Airports, Ford Island Housing, Hawaii Army National Guard, Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA), Navy Region Hawaii,

Onemalu Transitional Shelter, Subway, U.S. Coast Guard, and the West Oahu Federal Credit Union.

The group shared their concerns and accolades of living and working in Kalaeloa. A summary of issues and needs raised during the meeting include:

- a. Infrastructure and Utilities - Roads, sidewalks, phone service, electrical connections and street lights need maintenance or improvement.
- b. Public Safety – Confusion over jurisdiction (HPD vs. Navy Security) and timely response to 911 calls are a problem for some stakeholders. Officers may need current area and landowner maps. Theft, vandalism and loitering are ongoing and difficult to curb due to Kalaeloa’s isolated location and sparse after-hours population.
- c. Historic Preservation Status – Buildings listed on the National/Hawaii Register of Historic Places are required to follow regulations that are often challenging. It was noted that being “eligible” for the register is different than being on the register.
- d. Expansion Needs – Kalaeloa Airport, Coast Guard, HPHA and National Guard are looking to expand/modernize their facilities. Ford Island Housing would like to build housing units on their property – the former “On Base” housing area for officers.
- e. Postal service – Businesses without street addresses are not able to get mail delivery. The Kalaeloa post office is scheduled to reduce hours, effective November 6, 2006. The new hours will be Monday thru Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon.
- f. Carrier Strike Group – A desire to better understand if this is a real possibility, and if so, what does it mean for Kalaeloa.
- g. Communications – The need to know what’s coming up/happening.

Attendees agreed that the Kalaeloa Community Network meeting was beneficial and plan to hold monthly meetings on the first Thursday of each month, 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for December 7, 2006.

IV. Homeless Shelters

The Department of Accounting & General Services (DAGS) has completed renovation work on the 1st floor of Onelau‘ena transitional shelter (Building 50) in Kalaeloa. This work completes the renovation of the building. Nineteen additional families, 53 people, have moved into the facility. This brings the total population to 52 families, 210 individuals, and includes 102 children.

The Onelau‘ena population includes six families that were previously residing at the White Plains Beach camping grounds. These move-ins were accomplished in conjunction with recommendations from members of the Kapolei Neighborhood Board and community members. The six families total about 30 individuals.

V. Navy & Military Affairs

- a. On October 15, the Navy closed the Power Point Fitness Center and Kona Breeze Swimming Pool to members. However, Navy staff continues to keep the facility and pumps operational. HCDA staff is attempting to ascertain whether any State or City agency is interested in assuming operations. In the event an operating agreement cannot be worked out with a government entity, the Navy is planning to engage Colliers Monroe Friedlander to commercially lease the space.
- b. Staff met with Rear Admiral Tim Alexander, Commander Navy Region Hawaii, to discuss status of conveyances, short-term leasing program, and general HCDA-Navy issues. The Admiral expressed concern with the condition of Kalaeloa and underscored the Navy’s commitment to cooperate in areas of security and maintenance as well as in conveying land that can be disposed of regardless of a potential carrier decision. He believes a definitive recommendation on where to base an additional Nimitz-class aircraft carrier in the Pacific will be made by the Secretary of the Navy by Spring 2007.
- c. With regard to basing of a carrier at Pearl Harbor, staff has discussed the issue with U.S. Senator Inouye’s staff. It is anticipated that a decision to base a carrier in Hawaii would be years into the future due to fiscal realities. Additionally, it may not be a Nimitz-class carrier, but rather a smaller amphibious marine assault ship with Marines, Harrier jump jets and helicopters and thus the primary concern is that the Kalaeloa airport remains available for possible flight operations. HCDA staff believes that the Kalaeloa Master Plan can accommodate such activity with the caveat that it depends on the kinds of aircraft intended to be utilized and the impacts of such on the surrounding community. HCDA staff further

believes that waiting for a decision will only continue the stagnation at Kalaeloa, and that certain improvements, such as infrastructure can, and should, move forward since it will serve whatever development eventually occurs.

- d. The Navy properties that are on the short-term leasing program are attached.

VI. Community Service Projects

On November 19, 2006, business students from Chaminade University conducted a litter pickup in the City-licensed campground and beach area. This is the third Kalaeloa service project conducted by this group in the past year.

VII. Barbers Point Veteran's Housing

Staff is reviewing a draft environmental assessment for proposed renovations of the Barbers Point Veteran's Housing complex in Kalaeloa. The existing 40-unit building would be increased to a 78-unit building by converting large open spaces, i.e. lounges, dining areas and storage rooms, on the first and second floor into additional housing units. Exterior renovations would be limited to the installation of an elevator on the west side of the building. The elevator would make the building compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The Barbers Point Veterans Housing complex provides affordable and low-income housing for American veterans.