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MEETING NOTES

DATE:

November 16, 2016

MEETING DATE:

November 15, 2016

MEETING LOCATION:

Farrington High School, Kalihi

PRESENT:

Romy Cachola, State Legislature
Radiant Cordero, Office of Councilmember Joey Manahan
Elizabeth Chinn, AARP Hawaii
April Bautista, Aloha Dream Team
Tambry Young, Democratic Party of Hawaii
Craig Hirai, Hawaii Housing Finance & Development Corporation
Chris Wong, Kalihi Valley Neighborhood Board
Ashley Galacgac, Kokua Kalihi Valley
Debieh Miguel, Kokua Kalihi Valley
Randall DeJesus, Kokua Kalihi Valley/KVIBE
Brandon Dela Cruz, KVIBE
Kevin Faller, KVIBE
Roger Morton, Oahu Transit Service
Tina Porras-Jones, PACT
Liberty Peralta, PBS Hawaii
Marc Rubenstein, Stars of Paradise
Cora Yamamoto, Community Activist
Leo Asuncion, Office of Planning
Debra Mendes, Office of Planning
Ramsay Taum, PBR Hawaii
Elena Chang, PBR Hawaii
Brittany Wheatman, PBR Hawaii

DISTRIBUTION:

Above List
21st Century Kalihi Vision Committee Members/
Resource Agencies

SUBJECT:

21st Century Kalihi Vision Committee
Concept Meeting

The following notes capture the main discussion points of the meeting.

Meeting Notes

A. Welcoming Remarks & Introduction from Ramsay Taum

Ramsay Taum welcomed and thanked attendees for their attendance. He began by giving an overview of the meeting agenda. He reminded everyone of meeting protocols and conduct by referencing the ALOHA Spirit Law. He then invited everyone to introduce themselves. He emphasized that the focus of this meeting is to provide feedback for the draft vision concept for the OCCC site, in anticipation of its future replacement in part or in its entirety.

B. Recap of Vision Committee Workshop

Ramsay drew attention to the top two priority issues that arose from the last visioning exercise: Economic Development and Housing. He gave a recap of the specific recommendations that received votes as well. He explained that these priorities helped inform the draft vision concept, which was printed on worksheets. Ramsay read the vision concept out loud, and then opened up the room for discussion.

C. “Does everyone agree with the draft vision and the direction it is currently headed? Are we missing anything else?”

Leo Asuncion stated the goals and objectives of the project, and then discussed the timeline for vision development. Ramsay invited attendees to respond to the question (stated above). Their comments and questions are summarized below:

- Kalihi needs to find more ways to support its immigrant population. (April Bautista)
- Kalihi needs to leverage OCCC as a bargaining tool. (Romy Cachola)
- Has there been any financing appropriated for this project? (Ramsay: No, most of the planning up until this point has been conceptual. Plans will eventually need to get more specific.)
- Can you explain what is meant by ‘iconic’? (Ramsay: Something that really reminds them of a place; for example, the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco. But it doesn’t have to be a physical structure. When we think about what is iconic about Hawaii, we can say the Aloha spirit, yet we can also say Diamond Head. In past meetings, representatives have pointed out that there are many leaders from Kalihi. An icon may therefore be spiritual, emotional, physical, or social. There may be opportunities to enhance social development.)
- We need a greater focus on education and better community involvement processes that allow people to learn about how they can get involved. We also need resources for leadership development. (Ashley Galacgac)
- What do you mean by infrastructure improvements? Will this include sidewalks? Whose responsibility is it to fix Kalihi’s roads? (Romy Cachola)

D. Next Steps

After thanking everyone for their attendance, Ramsay announced that the Vision Committee plans to reconvene on December 6, 2016. The next meeting will be an opportunity for the VC to integrate the community's concerns, comments, and ideas into the vision concept.