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MEETING NOTES

DATE:

November 4, 2016

MEETING DATE:

November 1, 2016

MEETING LOCATION:

IBEW Local 1186, Kalihi

PRESENT:

Glenn Wakai, State Legislature
 Romy Cachola, State Legislature
 Nancy Banal, Office of Senator Kim
 Gordon Fernandez, Office of Senator Wakai
 Radiant Cordero, Office of Councilmember Joey Manahan
 Shirley Templo, Office of Councilmember Joey Manahan
 Elizabeth Chinn, AARP Hawaii
 Debbie Spencer Chun, Adult Friends for Youth
 Mac Schwenke, Adult Friends for Youth
 Kathy Sokugawa, Department of Planning and Permitting
 Dre Kalili, Department of Transportation
 Erika Lacro, Honolulu Community College
 Connie Mitchell, Institute for Human Services (IHS)
 Brian Lee, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
 Mary Benson, Kalihi Business Association
 Walter Thoemmes, Kamehameha Schools
 Ashely Galacgac, Kokua Kalihi Valley
 Debieh Miguel, Kokua Kalihi Valley
 Nicole Velasco, Office of Economic Development
 Layne Wada, Star of Honolulu
 Marc Rubenstein, Star of Honolulu
 Ramsay Taum, PBR Hawaii
 Kimi Yuen, PBR Hawaii
 Elena Chang, 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 spending their lunch hour at the meeting. He began by giving an overview of the meeting agenda. He reminded everyone of meeting protocols and conduct by referencing the ALOHA Spirit Law. After allowing the Vision Committee (VC) members to introduce themselves, he stated the goals and objectives of the project. He briefly discussed the timeline for vision development, and then provided a recap of meetings to date. He emphasized that the focus of this project was to develop a vision 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 mentioned that PBR Hawaii had met with social service agencies on October 31, 2016 to solicit their feedback and guidance on the visioning process. He described how social service agencies are often seen as a liability, rather than an asset. Kimi Yuen added that although there is a diversity of values and opinions regarding the future of Kalihi, there is a strong consensus built around the importance of these two issues (i.e. Economic Development and Housing). She encouraged the VC to continue to think about how the community can build upon their assets. Kimi emphasized that in spite of the current uncertainties, the vision for the OCCC site is critical for Kalihi because it is State-owned land, with the implication that it is *not* necessarily a free-market situation.

C. “Can economic development/industrial uses be compatible with housing?”

Ramsay then posed a question for further discussion: ‘Can economic development/industrial uses be compatible with housing?’ He asked VC members to vote on whether they agree or disagree with the statement. VC members (19 out of 21) overwhelmingly agreed that the two uses can be compatible.

Some VC members expressed their reservations and/or concerns. The following is a summary of the key points made:

- Housing is a state-wide problem, not a Kalihi-specific problem. (Walter Thoemmes)
- Private sector development follows a clear timeline. This will require a clear plan from the State to secure investment and support business opportunities. (Brian Lee)

- Where does this vision stand in relation to efforts to relocate, or the site selection process? Based on the OCCC EIS scoping meeting, it is looking less like it will move to Halawa.

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

Ramsay then invited VC members to respond to the question (stated above). Their feedback is summarized below:

- This effort is an important opportunity to re-invent Kalihi. We need something with a “wow” factor... something that is architecturally impressive and iconic, e.g. Sydney Opera House... not something incrementally beneficial. (Glenn Wakai)

E. “Our community vision priority is...”

Finally, Ramsay asked VC members to articulate the vision concept with key words and/or phrases:

- Iconic
- Multi-cultural
- Incentives for investors/property owners
- Inter-generational
- Infrastructure/transit (transformational)
- Education

F. Next Steps

After thanking everyone for their attendance, Ramsay announced that the next community meeting would take place on November 15, 2016. The next meeting will be an opportunity for residents and community members to work together with the VC and the OP to refine the vision concept. He reminded the VC to extend the invitation to their networks.