

Community Meeting #3 – Beneficiary Consultation Meeting Notes

Date: August 7, 2019

Location: West Hawai'i Civic Center – Community Meeting Hale Building G

Time: 6:00-8:00pm

Attendance: 20 persons (via sign-in sheet)

Staff: Andrew Choy, Gigi Cairel.

Consultants: Townscape, Inc. – Lillie Makaila.

Comments Received:

These were comments that were submitted in writing by attendees. Comments were written on large post-it notes and placed on the corresponding project.

- I always said community gardens are important. Boat parking.
- How can be self-sufficient with DCCNR homesteads? Example: In residential homestead, we cannot have chickens.
- Providing within the own community and not outside daycare, adult care, food market, banking, education.
- PV is a no brainer. The hurdles are huge however for the people we need to move forward.
- Any person placed on Village 4 is important.
- Well is a must in order to move forward.
- I am concerned with the impact on the environment and any cultural sites if the DHHL lands in the region are developed. There is much historical and cultural significance to the whole corridor of lands in the Kona region, have you researched the lands to see if there are sensitive sites? I have concerns about the Honokōhau lands being used for commercial development because it is situated near the National Park and things that happen on the commercial lot will have an impact on the National Park lands. DHHL needs to bring representatives from the other departments to the meetings, such as Contacts and Awards, Financial, etc to answer questions. There needs to be more resources at these meetings for the attendees to be able to ask the questions that they have.

Notes:

These are notes on the discussion that were recorded throughout the meeting.

- What is short? 20 years? Time frame for lots.
- Not full? Is it open?
 - We can be more explicit on the time frame for filling the lots.
- People want to know when they can get on the lots
- When can i get it NOT what can or cannot be done
 - o It is just talking, not seeing anything getting done
- Project is for everyone, not just based off of your zip code

- If we wanna define what is short ex: minimum of 5 years after application and not more than 10 years
- Everyone's definition of "short" is different
- Take out the word short
- This is more like a wish list of what we want for this community, rather than a
 description of what is happening now
- People that can build should be building why are we taking so long in getting this
 done?
 - o Many young adults who can build are leaving to the mainland
- What progress has been made from the other two meetings?
- What about the people who have a lot but decides to move?
- What about the projects in Kapolei (rent-to-own)?
- Can we get an example of what the cap would be on income?
- Income cap could eliminate a lot of families from qualifying
 - o 40%, 60%, area median income
 - Govt subsidy funding was used to limits need to be reflected in the plan
 - If section 8 is allowed in the rent to own then the medium income guys are struggling and the low income guys are using government monies to pay their rent and then they get to buy their home eventually and their rent was free
 - People need a reference with more information about the income limitations and what that actually looks like in real life
- When the family applies they will be notified of all of these things like income limit, financing options, etc.
- The process is never just get a house; financial requirements and all that has been in place since the 1900s, and is still on going, banks and financial support is needed to help those who are awarded
- Do you have anyone/someone to walk through the process with the applicants?
- Where/what department would you go to for help?
 - You get a letter, and contact that person on the letter
- Who is in the land department? Who do we contact?
- What part of Honokohau is the commercial development supposed to go?
- When you talking about "trust" and "revenue" what do you mean?
 - o Department of Hawaiian Home Lands Trust
 - The money that DHHL gets into their accounts from commercial operations, like the mall in Hilo and the shopping center in Kapolei
- On pg 41 DHHL commission in 207: association given beneficiary land and the beneficiaries get nothing

- Independence for the community: generate revenue for the community that goes to the community and not to DHHL (larger association)
 - The community needs to have financial independence
 - Our association should be benefitting NOT other places
 - Not splitting the revenue up between people
- Worried about the way that the project profiles are written and the way that they are phrased
- The Act: beneficiaries first before anyone else. Act 207: purpose for benefitting our community
- What was the money generated going back to?
- We didn't get the energy agreement, the property was taken back by DHHL, energy tokens are being generated for the community
- This farm and Haleakala Solar, are they different?
 - Yes this is a PV farm that farms the energy and sells it back to the electric company
- Do you identify the area for the well sites? PV farm?
- With every water development this is wastewater, so what the plan to deal with the wastewater? Why isn't that mentioned in the plan?
- Sewers? Septic tanks? Cesspool?
 - The entire planned La'i 'Ōpua subdivision has the sewer infrastructure put in to connect to the County sewer system.
- What about the capacity of the system, can it handle the development?
 - Kealakehe WWTP just received funding for upgrades to their facilities. This will include a capacity increase as well.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.