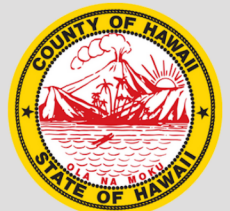


# Office of Housing and Community Development Newsletter

Winter 2023



## If Contacted, Take the Hawai'i Housing Survey

Urging Hawai'i residents to respond to this very important survey if contacted by EMAIL or PHONE in order to assess issues related to housing supply and demand throughout the state. The State Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) in partnership with a consortium of state and county housing agencies are working with SMS Research and Marketing to produce the 2023 Hawai'i Housing Planning Study. A crucial part of this process includes conducting surveys with Hawai'i residents to assess housing needs, preferences, economic characteristics of households and more. See [Press Release](#).

## Newest Housing Development is Underway

Hawai'i Island residents will see groundbreaking activity on West Kāwili Street across from Waiākea High School. Foundation preparation began in December 2022 for Hale Nā Koa 'O Hanakahi.



This complex will be the newest Senior Veterans housing development in Hilo. The 91 apartments will be home to local kupuna with a preference for Veterans and their surviving spouses. Connect with [EAH Housing](#) to follow the progress.

## Affordable Housing Production Program - Draft Administrative Rules

The draft Administrative Rules for the new Affordable Housing Production Program is currently available for public review and comment through February 21, 2023. A public hearing to hear the comments and testimony from interested parties will be held on February 13, 2023 at 10:00 A.M. at the OHCD's Conference Room 104 at 1990 Kino'ole Street in Hilo or via Zoom. Please visit [www.housing.hawaiicounty.gov/grants-funding/affordable-housing-production-program-ahp](http://www.housing.hawaiicounty.gov/grants-funding/affordable-housing-production-program-ahp) to view the rules and for more information on submitting testimony.



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## Blessing for Kukuiola Emergency Shelter and Assessment Center

On January 26, 2023 a special blessing ceremony on the site for Kukuiola, an emergency shelter and assessment center in Kealahou took place. OHCD and its partners Tinguely Development, Inc. and Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation breaks ground. The site is located in Kailua-Kona across from the West Hawai'i Civic Center.

"It's gratifying for our office to bring Kukuiola to its next stage. The vision for Kukuiola is a welcoming community where individuals experiencing homelessness feel safe, nurtured and respected. It will be a space where those who face great challenges realize their value and self-worth." said Susan Kunz, Housing Administrator.

When completed, the Kukuiola community will provide an opportunity for all who seek assistance in connecting to an emergency shelter, appropriate case management services and permanent housing options.



## Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Detectors/Alarms

HUD is mandating new requirements for carbon monoxide detectors/alarms in Section 8 housing voucher program rental units. The HUD notice regarding requirements can be found [here](#). There is time to meet the requirements, but they will be incorporated into future Housing Quality Standards inspections of units. We will provide more information and guidance to landlords, property managers and residents in the upcoming months. Most affected will be Section 8 rental units that have gas appliances or an attached enclosed garage.



## Affordable Housing Newly Constructed

We are pleased to announce growing housing opportunities on the island, as Kaiāulu O Waikoloa affordable housing apartments opened their doors to renters in the latter months of 2022. These apartments feature 2, 3 & 4 bedroom units for 59 local families to call home. OHCD has also awarded Project-Based Vouchers to the property, which will subsidize rent payments for some of the renters. This is a welcome housing opportunity for residents in the growing Waikoloa Village area. Contact (808)333-3860 or (808)445-2630 for applications.

## Section 8 Tenants Invited March 3rd

Open to Section 8 tenants: Resident Advisory Board Meeting, Friday, March 3, 2023, 11:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M. at OHCD 1990 Kino'ole St, Hilo. Sign-up to attend, email [kcosta@hawaiicounty.gov](mailto:kcosta@hawaiicounty.gov) or call (808)959-4642 Ext: 1920. This is an opportunity to review the Hawai'i County OHCD proposed plan for fiscal year 2023. We will review the plan and any changes that will occur during the next fiscal year. Members of the RAB will be able to discuss the plan with a PHA representative and all comments will be included in the final report. Accommodations for persons with special needs and interpreters for non-English speaking citizens will be available upon written request 10 business days prior to the meeting date.

## Upcoming Office Closures

- Monday, February 20 - Presidents Day
- Monday, March 27 - Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalaniana'ole Day
- Friday, April 7 - Good Friday
- Monday, May 29 - Memorial Day

Website: [www.housing.hawaiicounty.gov](http://www.housing.hawaiicounty.gov)



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