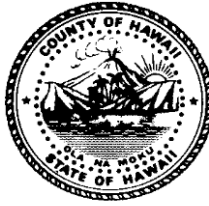


Harry Kim
Mayor



Nathan Gaddis, Chair
Katharine Cannon-Eger
Brian DeLima
Elmer Gorospe
Barry Taniguchi

County of Hawai‘i

BANYAN DRIVE HAWAI‘I REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Aupuni Center • 101 Pauahi Street, Suite 3 • Hilo, Hawai‘i 96720
Phone (808) 961-8288 • Fax (808) 961-8742

April 23, 2019

Dear Committee Chairs:

Subject: HB1219 HD1 SD2

The Banyan Drive Hawai‘i Redevelopment Agency (BDHRA) offers their full support of HB1219 HD1 SD2 “Relating to Public Lands” (similar to its present form) as well as any legislation aimed at the economic revitalization of State-owned properties within the Banyan Drive redevelopment area, and legislation that bolsters any redevelopment efforts.

The BDHRA was established in **2016** to encourage the redevelopment of neglected and dilapidated properties within and along the Waiākea Peninsula in East Hawai‘i. In October 2016, the BDHRA adopted a conceptual land use master plan within which to move forward on the environmental studies as required by State law. Due to a lack of funding required to complete the necessary environmental reviews, no further actions have taken place in regard to the planning, approval, or implementation of the conceptual master plan or redevelopment of this vital economic driver of East Hawai‘i.

It has become apparent that the BDHRA is unable to garnish the necessary support for the redevelopment of primarily State-owned lands, therefore, the BDHRA finds that HB1219 HD1 SD2 offers the best chance to implement the redevelopment of Waiākea Peninsula in a productive and consistent manner in the long term. The BDHRA is prepared to commit to “sunsetting” upon passage of HB1219 HD1 SD2 (similar to its present form), and a Waiākea Peninsula Redevelopment District Committee is created and confirmed.

The BDHRA appreciates the attention the Waiākea Peninsula has received through the 2019 Legislative Session and supports any effort to improve the dilapidated condition of this treasured area that is consistent with the values, resources, and cultures of the County.

Sincerely,

Nathan Gaddis, Chair
Banyan Drive Hawai‘i Redevelopment Agency

AJR: