



City & County of Honolulu / Michaels Development Company / Hawaii Public Housing Authority

CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS INITIATIVE PLANNING GRANT

Kuhio Park Neighborhood

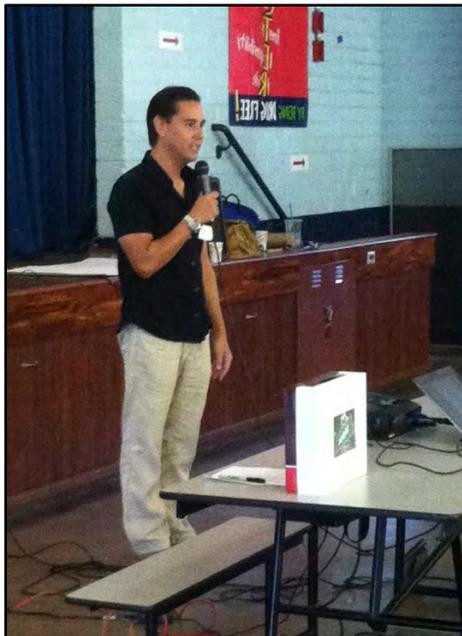
Neighborhood Task Force Community Wide Meeting

Dole Intermediate School Cafeteria * 1803 Kamehameha IV Rd.

July 23, 2013 @ 6:00 PM

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Councilmember Joey Manahan,
Chair, Neighborhood Task Force



Introducing (L-R): Ramona Mullahey, HUD,
Michael Formby, Executive Director-Dept. of Transportation Services,
Dr. Amy Agbayani, Director- UH Student Equity, Excellence & Diversity



Introducing (L-R):
Co-Chair and Former
Representative, Dennis Arakaki,
Dr. David Derauf, Executive
Director- KKV



2. Introduction of The Michaels Development Company, Hawaii Public Housing Authority Representative and the Team – Steering Committee Chair, Sam Aiona



3. General Discussion



– Facilitated by Monika Mordasini, MDC

Before the break-out sessions, attendees were asked to briefly discuss what they love about Kalihi and what they would like to see changed.

Change	Love
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Too many layers to go through to report incidents • Kamehameha IV Road slopes from the center to the edges. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Patching it through the years has changed the way water runs in the neighborhood - it comes right into the houses • There are no sidewalks along Kamehameha IV road • Kamehameha IV Road is used as a cut through • Build more parks • Make the pedestrian bridge linking Kuhio Park with Kalihi Waena Elementary School safer • Linapuni Elementary School needs to be monitored - too much misbehavior in the evenings and nights • There is no sidewalk to Fern Elementary School • Too many pot holes - especially on Linapuni Street. • A home in KPT low-rise needs a safe ADA ramp • There is late night noise by Richard Lane • There is a problem of bus safety at the corner of School Street & Linapuni Street - the long buses block the intersection when picking up passengers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feeling of `ohana • Established neighborhoods



4. Break Out Session Parks and Recreation

Facilitator: Dennis Arakaki
Recorder: Mitchel Cabreros

We opened the meeting discussing the need for more public facilities that would be accessible to the youth. Then we went on to discuss how to improve already implemented programs for parks and recreation.



Dennis Arakaki's comment:
River Walk along Kalihi Stream → San Antonio Model

Dr. Derauf's comments:

Kalihi Stream is a pivotal place that can be used to unite Kalihi's youth.

Create farmers market along the stream to unite the community Mauka to Makai.

Make Kalihi a destination.



Highlights:

- Look for a location where a gym can be built away from the road, to ensure the safety of kids.
- Create more programs for children
 - o Clinics
 - o Camps
 - o Tutoring
 - o Computer labs at recreational centers
- Operation hours on weekends to be longer.
- Licensed trainers for sports.
- Better maintained playgrounds.
- Community leagues with facilities and equipment that is accessible.



Public Safety

Facilitator: Scott Jepsen
Recorder: Radiant Cordero



Positives

- There is a feeling of safety on the part of some in the community due to the Kokua Kalihi Valley Health Clinic.
- There is a feeling of safety on the part of some knowing that the police station is nearby on Kamehameha IV Road.





Public Safety

(continuation)

Negatives

- Pedestrian elderly and children are in danger on the streets with no sidewalks.
- Kids and young adults drink by the gate of KPT. Then when children are walking to school in the morning, the broken glass shards from the bottles go through the kids' rubber slippers and end up getting really hurt.
- Street safety is a huge concern by Linapuni Elementary because of the terrible parking situation.
- The gates and stream that connect Richard Lane to KPT allow children to do suspicious activity there and in the morning, many broken bottles are found from the night before.
- The hot-spots at bridges, like Richard Lane area causes a lot of loitering and illegal activity.
- The KKV clinic used to be a safe area, but now that people feel comfortable there and they sit there, it attracts people to drink, loiter, smoke illegal substances, and even break into cars.
- Richard Lane is very dark. Lights with sensors are needed because of continuous illegal activity, people cutting through the fence.
- People are being robbed under the overpass by Richard Lane and it happens at all hours of the day.
- Chicken fights occur, mainly by school children, by the stream on Richard Lane.
- Noise concerns
- From the Richard Lane Association Past-President: No lighting under the bridge. It is hard to manage because there are different managements: The Michaels Development, Realty La`ua, and private properties. There are blind spots around this area and management needs to be on it because the children/young adults know the boundaries.
- Request for the Honolulu Disposal Truck to not park by the bridge by King St., not safe going in and out.
- Young kids are going to the store to loiter. They check every car to see who forgot to lock it and break into it. People even enter people's homes.
- People go to Sunny's Market by KKV and they hang out there and drink and illegally go onto people's private property. Many voiced concerns that they do not feel safe going to the stores.
- There has been fighting, gun violence by KKV and Richard Lane, purse snatching.

Solutions

- Need a particular, singular, responsive department to talk to.
- They would like a direct number as well so they don't bother HPD but would offer security watch.
- There should be more sensor lights or security cameras (especially in dark areas).
- Need for more police patrolling in the area.
- Would like hourly patrols and for HPD to sound their siren or show their blue lights around these areas.
- Would like penalties for parents of those whose children who break curfew.
- Need to really enforce curfew.



Getting Around Roads and Sidewalks - Transportation

Facilitator: Ann Peterson
Recorder: Valerie Sadural



General Discussion pertaining to Topic:

- Sidewalks are needed in area all the way down to St. John's Church
 - Gradient along Kamehameha IV Rd. is higher than sidewalks – the streets are higher in the middle and then slope down to the edges. This makes it very hard to walk along the sloped area, and this design promotes rain run-off right into the homes.
 - Houses are right next to the streets
 - NO SIDEWALKS = NO SAFETY
- Cars parked are taking over “sidewalks” (lines painted on the road)
- Trash bins are placed right on the pedestrian way
 - Especially along the route to Fern Elementary & Linapuni Elementary
 - Dangers for children walking to school – forced to walk on street
- Parking is a BIG issue in Kalihi – illegal parking – lack of parking
- Pot holes – all over Kalihi
- Look to improve handicap accessibility
- Bus stops – concerned of the safety of people trying to get in and out and across the street





Getting Around

(continuation)

Group Discussion:

- King Street – the crosswalk for pedestrians by Gulick & Kalihi Street – drivers can't see the pedestrians
 - Lights on the road are not visible especially during the day
 - Look into installing something more visible to ensure safety of pedestrians
- Ahonui Street – there is a barricade → please rethink to remove barricade that blocks off Ahonui St.
 - Creating a traffic and parking problem
 - Creating negative impact and making parking worse on Kino Street and Hulali Place – difficult for residents on those small streets to find parking
 - Barricade was created to prevent outsiders from parking which was a success. However, vehicles now moved to Hulali Place
 - Near the Low Rise unit for residents in area
- Kamehameha IV Road from School Street to the freeway
 - Lack of sidewalks – there is encroachment by neighbors into the street's right away; including landscaping, rock walls, driveways, etc.
 - Drainage problems – City's Planning Division needs to re-design the structure of the road
 - Have to correct the road work done – water is going into people's property especially on Kamehameha IV Road
 - Many property damages due to this
- White painted line homes have ON the road is NOT a sidewalk
- Parking concern all over Kalihi
 - Gulick Ave. – people are forced to walk on the street because cars are parked on the sidewalk
 - Requesting for more reinforcement from HPD to cite cars parking on “sidewalks”
- Need more parking → 3 to 4 (even 10) cars per unit since have extended families – also if the home is rented, the owner may have his/her car stored there further restricting parking by tenants
- Can HPHA & IRM consider revising the 2-car limit
- Pedestrian safety – study where people are walking; need to plan all over Kalihi
 - How fast are people are driving past schools
 - Possibly creating safety zones; flashing lights
 - Walking leads to public health – especially for the elderly
 - Make stop signs more visible so people can see it at night
 - Bike plan – link to the C&C of Honolulu & State bike plans; bike share; bike lanes
- Concerns about abandoned vehicles – 2 weeks to come back; not coming in timely manner
 - Others concerned that people in Kalihi need to step up and call if there is abandoned vehicles
- Ask young generations where they walk – study on pedestrians
 - Mostly on Kamehameha Shopping Center area – no sidewalks and alignment of road is difficult
- Litter on sidewalks especially at Sonny's Mart and on Richard Lane, and especially when it rains
- Enforce building codes
- Consider multi-layered parking
- Look into bringing back the curfew for young generations
- Linapuni – pot holes



Amenities – Shopping – Retail

Facilitator: Tammy Dickens
Recorder: Pia Boisvert

Summary:

Although the topic assigned was for Amenities (includes social services, retail, churches, etc.), the discussion was focused on two major categories:

1] The low rise community

Question from Attendees:

- Now that The Towers have been renovated, how many low rise units will be built? Will it be the same height? What will happen to the current occupants when the renovations are to be done? Have the plans been approved?

Response from Facilitators:

Regarding renovation plan on the low rise, it will happen in phases the same way they did the Towers; current occupants will be housed in a place either inside of off the property

Response from Monika:

- (Monika) With the grant monies received, the old plans were set aside, making way to new plans what will seek more community inputs within the next year; info for final number of units still not determined, nor are the designs. These will be finalized after inputs are received from Neighborhood meetings such as this
- They need to submit a “transformation plan” by the end of next year; then to be followed by an “implementation plan” with the final end goal of obtaining \$30M in grant monies to make everything happen faster
- Regardless of obtaining the grant money or not, plans should still be written and made well with the help of master planning architects
- Then next step within the next year is to design improvements not on KPT but the larger neighborhood where much of the transformation needs to happen as well, and identify funding sources for these developments to add legs to the plan.

Question #2 from Attendees

Will the Ahonui gates be removed?

Answer from Monika:

This needs to be answered by the community. It seems the general consensus is to have it removed so as not to separate the two communities but again, neighborhood inputs will decide the matter; no decision has been made on the matter.





Amenities – Shopping – Retail

(continuation)

2] The consequent “exporting” of 2 KPT problems to the neighboring streets

a- Parking

KPT management has, in the past year, put in place tighter regulations on parking. Both the Tower unit owners and the low-rise are allowed 2 cars per unit. In addition, the car need to be registered to the unit owner, needs to have insurance, and current safety inspection. Many residents use cars that are not under their name. As a result, many of them park outside of the Towers and spilling out into the neighboring streets, making parking situation worse than what it was outside the Towers. In the meantime, many parking stall in the garage are unoccupied, mainly because of the rules that cannot be met

A proposed solution is to provide pay parking garage for residents at KPT who are unable to meet the sticker and allotment restrictions. That way the parking problems are contained within KPT and not exported outside KPT

Another proposal is to use a large empty lot by Shafter that isn’t being used as a possible pay parking garage

b- Kids hanging out

There are very limited recreational facilities in the Towers. Security is very strict so what happens is the young people who wish to stay up “spill out” into the neighboring streets where they can hangout til late without being cited. There needs to be more recreational centers for these young people within their gates so they stay there and closely monitored within their walls



The Future

Facilitator: Susan Acosta

Recorder: Shirley Ann Templo

Discussion:

EDUCATION/YOUTH- Engaging the youth with education and extra-curricular activities

- Career College Preparedness
- Scholarships
- Affordable Sports/Arts/Dance activities in combination with schools

EMPLOYMENT- Able to obtain a job preferably in or near the community

Job opportunities for the KPT Residents

- Entrepreneurship opportunities and awareness
- Micronesian weaving baskets
- Neighborhood Patrol Security
- Day care for Children with Working Parents

SECURITY- The want for a safe feeling living environment; more effective enforcement needed

- Alcohol consumption with underage minors needs more enforcement
- Proposal on creating a Neighborhood Patrol, employing the residents at KPT

RECREATION

- More Community Recreation Centers
- Physical Fitness; Gym Facility with Trainers, Swimming Pool

OTHERS

- Proposal to create more parking on Fort Shafter; create a garage and all profits would go back to the military
- Closing down or changing Sunny Store due to the disturbances of minors drinking there
- Kamehameha Schools Urban Development plan; makai of Dillingham Blvd. will be transformed.





5. Report on Top 2-3 Items from Each Topic Area

Parks and Recreation

Top 2 Concerns:

1. The need for more parks in locations which are more accessible and safe for kids, and
2. The need to improve already implemented programs initiated by the Department of Parks and Recreation

Public Safety

Top 3 Concerns:

1. Loitering along with illegal activity in the surrounding neighborhood areas
2. the need for increased police patrol

Getting Around - Roads and Sidewalks – Transportation

Top 3 Concerns:

1. Lack of parking
2. Lack of sidewalks
3. Lack of drainage
 - o All especially on Kamehameha IV Road

Amenities – Shopping – Retail

Top 2 Concerns:

1. Parking
2. Kids hanging out

The Future

Top 3 Concerns:

1. For early childcare to youths, would like to see better programs for day care, after school enrichment classes or sports/art/dance involvement that isn't so expensive.
2. Provide also a mentoring, entrepreneurship guidance on where to go for help. This could lead to job creation, job resources for improving their skills and creative talents.
3. Beautify the streetside walking area along Linapuni to make it more appealing, safe and landscaped.



Other comments collected from the Vision Drop box:

<p>My hope for the future at Kuhio Homes is that it will be a place where we can take pride of where we live....</p>	<p>Street name cannot be seen at night.</p>
<p>More “home-y” look of the Kuhio Homes area. Towers and buildings look daunting to an average height person.</p>	<p>Kalihi has enough shopping centers and stores.</p>
<p>The Future – Low Income affordable home in Kalihi! Don’t raise the rent after renovations!</p>	<p>More small businesses that cater to the cultural needs of different ethnic residents...ie. Grocery stores</p>
<p>Micro-enterprises – Arts and crafts – on concession. Take products to Bishop Museum for sale on concession: Native books, pacific arts and crafts – hat weaving</p>	<p>Improve, beautify, demolish and rebuild (?) the small retail strip on School St. between Ahonui and Linapuni. KKV’s wellness clinic look beautiful now, but make the other three properties look even worse. A recent new business-a game shop (disguised gambling?)- is not really the kind of business we want or need in our neighborhood.</p>
<p>KPT should make use of its gym for kids sports after school, creation of volleyball team, basketball team for the girls and boys will help them with their education as well as to stay away from making trouble!</p>	<p>I feel safe knowing the police station is right down the road.</p>
<p>I love the Mom and Pop stores where I can get my fresh vegetables and ethnic goods. I wouldn’t want these replaced by anything. Small local business should thrive in the community.</p>	<p>I’m new to Hawaii married with 2 small kids and the safety of our neighborhood concerns me. I would like to see more lighting, tighter security checks of incoming/outgoing vehicles and persons. Cameras in stairwell/working system (perhaps electronic badges) for residents on property after certain hour. Keep track of who’s on property.</p>
<p>Improving the parks to have pavilions for families (parent with children to spend time together- BBQ) with water fountain. It will be shared with different nationalities and improve family time together in our community instead of going to other parks that are from here.</p>	<p>Stairs from behind A Tower must have a way to improve the muddy areas that the kids bring on it or step on it during rainy season and makes the stairs very muddy. The younger kids with dirty shoes sometimes slide on it.</p>
<p>The Honolulu Disposal truck should not park by the bridge by Richard Lane from King St. – not safe going in and out.</p>	