

January 6, 2006

Aloha,

As you are well aware, our County of Hawaii continues to experience tremendous development growth. With this growth comes some negative impact on our public facilities and infrastructure. In an effort to find a fair and just method to pay for necessary improvements to public facilities the County of Hawaii Planning Department is undertaking to develop an impact fee ordinance by July 2006.

As the first step in the process, the County of Hawaii Planning Department has contracted Helber Hastert & Fee, Planners, Inc. to develop an Infrastructure and Public Facilities Needs Assessment for our island. These consultants have subcontracted Duncan Associates of Austin, Texas and Alice Moon & Company of Hilo to assist with the project. In mid November initial stakeholder meetings were held in Kona and Hilo to receive input and gauge sentiment about impact fees and we are now broadening our outreach. Workshops will be held in January and March to gather stakeholder input.

You and/or your organization have been identified as Stakeholders and your feedback in this process is extremely important to us. We are asking that you or a representative to attend a video conferencing workshop on Tuesday, January 17 from 10 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. at the following locations:

- Kona Council Offices – Kailua Trade Center, 5706 Hanama Place #109
- Hawaii County Councilroom in Hilo – 25 Aupuni Street
- State Capitol Center Conferencing Center, Honolulu – 1177 Alakea Street

We will be presenting information about the enclosed Policy and Growth Memos and your direct input is crucial in order for us all to better understand the needs of our community when assessing impact fees. I must stress the importance of your involvement in this process and ask you to make every effort to attend the January workshop. If you cannot attend, please find an alternate. Whoever plans to attend should review these memos and have questions and concerns noted prior to the workshop.

Please contact Alice Moon by January 13, 2006 at (808) 933-9772 or amoon@bigisland.com with the names of the people participating and at which location they will be attending. Should you have any questions regarding the Policy or Growth Memos, please contact Susan Gagorik at the County of Hawaii Planning Department at 961-8288 ext. 256 or sgagorik@co.hawaii.hi.us.

Sincerely,

CHRISTOPHER J. YUEN
Planning Director

AM:CJY:pak
Wpwin60/Chris/Policy & Growth Memo

Attachment: Memo and Growth Memo