

# ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

and the proposed

## WAIMANALO RAINBOW VILLAGE PROJECT

### ***The Organization:***

**alohahawaiionipaa.org** is a self-funded 501(c)(3) non-profit public charity without any paid employees. Its board members and supporters volunteer their time and expertise without any compensation.

### ***Transparency:***

Any money raised/donated for the project will be deposited into a **trust/escrow account** exclusive for the Waimanalo Rainbow Village project coordinated with public and private entities.

### ***The Location (aka Sherwood Forest):***

- Only 9 acres facing Kalaniana`ole Hwy. are proposed for the affordable/low income/livable wage housing. The remaining 66 acres including Waimanalo Bay Beach Park will be **untouched** with public beach access.
- The site has been classified as **Residential**.
- The 2012 Waimanalo Bay Beach Park Master Plan **Environmental Assessment (EA)** which initially proposed ball fields for the site can serve as a development road map.

### ***November 2011 Final Waimanalo Regional Plan by Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL):***

Pertaining to the 75-acre "Sherwood Forest," the plan already proposed **commercial development** benefiting the Native Hawaiian Community.

### **The Plan specifically recommended on p. 31:**

9) **Shopping Center / Open Market** - *This type of shopping center would give preference to leasing spaces to Hawaiians, keeping revenue within the community. It would include stores such as Foodland, and could possibly be located on the corner of Nakini and Kalaniana`ole Hwy. This parcel has already been strategically identified as a potential non-governmental revenue source for DHHL.*

10) **Hawaiian Village** at Sherwood - *The Hawaiian Village concept is similar to the one that was in Keaukaha, which had gift shops, hula, and tourists bused there. This would be a place to highlight and practice culture and appropriately integrate a modern business model with cultural knowledge and practices. Sherwood Forest (now City & County (C&C) land) is a possible location, in partnership with C&C.*

11) **Bed & Breakfast** - *Build a Bed & Breakfast on beachfront property that would employ several beneficiaries. Sherwood Forest (now C&C land) is a possible location, in partnership with C&C.*

12) **Recreation-Type Business** - *DHHL could follow in the footsteps of the Federal Government and make a recreation-type business with cottages, stores, horseback riding, surf school, etc. Sherwood Forest (now C&C land) is a possible location, in partnership with C&C.*

## Q & A

### ***Who or What is alohahawaiionipaa.org (AHOP.org)?***

Alohahawaiionipaa.org (AHOP.org) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit public charity governed by an all-volunteer board of both Hawaiians and non-Hawaiians (the Rainbow Coalition) and supported by like-minded volunteers. Financial assistance for its community support and Scholarship projects comes directly from its own pockets without any support requested or received from public agencies or grants.

The Waimanalo Rainbow Village (WRV) project proposed by AHOP.org mirrors the need not only of the immediate Waimanalo community, but Hawaiians everywhere for a truly livable-wage, low-income housing development which had never been proposed previously and which is not financially feasible as a small-scale project.

Once the site has been secured through purchase or lease, an escrow account would be set up in conjunction with private and public entities where every penny received in support of the project would be deposited.

### ***Was the Sherwood WRV site previously proposed for development by Native Hawaiian groups?***

Yes. Sections of the Sherwood Forest land herewith proposed for the Waimanalo Rainbow Village had already been proposed for commercial development benefiting the Native Hawaiian Community in the Draft (Oct. 2011) and Final (Nov. 2011) Waimanalo Regional Plans prepared by DHHL (Department of Hawaiian Home Lands) in cooperation with the Waimanalo community as it was initially thought that the land was under DHHL.

### ***Were there not also ballfields proposed at the proposed Waimanalo Rainbow Village Site?***

Yes, ballfields were proposed as part of the 2012 Waimanalo Bay Beach Park Master Plan Environmental Assessment (EA) which can serve as an initial development guide for the WRV project. When some funding finally became available in 2019 from the City, strong objections came from some members of the community against the ballpark that shut the project down while others looked for alternative projects.

### ***Was there not also opposition to any development on the Sherwood Site?***

Yes, a new group of Hawaiian members of the Community raised the following objections:

#### **1) Is the Sherwood Site (the whole 75-acre Waimanalo Bay Beach Park) on the Register of Historic Places?**

The 2012 Waimanalo Bay Beach Master Plan EA, on page 43/298, had already clarified this:  
A review of available records shows that at one time, the Waimanalo Bay Beach Park was included as a property within the “Bellows Field Archaeological Complex,” a site on the National Register of Historic Places (known as Site # 80-15-0511 or # 50-80-511). It is generally accepted that the property was arbitrarily included within the National Register site and has been subsequently removed. A review of archaeological literature supports the conclusion “*as best as can be determined, only one site at Bellows is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.*”

#### **2) Are there not Sensitive Archaeological Resources such as many Hawaiian iwi (bones) on site?**

The 2012 Waimanalo Beach Master Plan EA on page 69/298 states as follows:

“Previous archaeological studies and correspondence provide evidence that the most sensitive area of the Park is the most intact portion of the Bellows Sand Dune complex.... The most extensive areas of earth moving will be required to create level sports fields near Kalanianaʻole Highway. These areas have been tested by archaeologists and extensively bulldozed by the military in the late 1970s....”

Note that the proposed WRV project stays far away from the Sand Dune complex. Prior to being taken over by the military in 1917, it had already been heavily impacted for almost 50 years by the Waimanalo Sugar Cane Co., and imported laborers died in Waimanalo and were buried there.

#### **3) During the 2019 grading for the ballfield, were there iwi found? Is this correct?**

Yes, it was reported that at least one iwi was found which was respectfully removed from site.

#### **4) Is there not also opposition by some Waimanalo Hawaiian groups to any development that would allow Native Hawaiians not from Waimanalo to be part of this project?**

Yes. Correct. This may also happen under the banner of Keep Waimanalo Waimanalo or Keep Waimanalo Country.

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***We must not be judgmental but listen to each other and understand each others' concerns to make this project a home for everyone.***