

KAAU`I PLANNING & ACTION ALLIANCE, INC.

"Bringing people together to create a better future for Kaua`i"

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CONTACT INFORMATION:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KPAA HOSTS AFFORDABLE HOUSING MEETING

(Lihue, Hawai`i, February 15, 2005) – Kaua`i Planning & Action Alliance (KPAA) is hosting a brief membership meeting, followed by a program on "Actions to Address Kauai's Affordable Housing Shortage". The event will be held on Tuesday, March 1 at the Radisson Kauai Beach Resort from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

County and State leaders will present an update of what specific actions are being taken to tackle the affordable housing issue and what projects are planned in the next few years to mitigate the need for affordable units. The cost is \$10 for KPAA members and \$20 for others. Registration and payment is due by February 23, 2005.

Mayor Bryan J. Baptiste will discuss the County's role in responding to the shortage of affordable housing. Bernard Carvalho, Director, Offices of Community Assistance, County of Kaua`i, and Ken Rainforth, Executive on Housing, Kaua`i County Housing Agency will report on the County's plans and options to increase affordable housing.

Stephanie Aveiro, Executive Director of the Housing and Community Development Corporation of Hawai`i will discuss how the State is responding to the shortage of affordable housing. State Senator Gary Hooser, co-chair of the Senate task force on affordable housing, will provide a summary of this year's legislative action to stimulate and support the expansion of the housing inventory.

Over the next five years, the County and private developers have plans to build affordable housing units. Nadine Nakamura of NKN Project Planning will provide an overview of the projects planned.

"The housing shortage is among the top concerns of our island. Therefore, at the request of our members, KPAA is bringing together State and County leaders to inform the community what is being done to alleviate the problem on Kaua`i," says Diane Zachary, President and CEO of KPAA.

Kaua`i Planning & Action Alliance is a membership organization for Kaua`i's nonprofits, government agencies, and community groups. KPAA believes that effective, long-lasting solutions to our island-wide issues require collaboration and focused action by a broad cross-section of our population. It provides a forum for nonprofit and community groups, county, state and federal agencies and business associations to work together on issues confronting our island home.

The registration form can be downloaded from KPAA's website, www.kauainetwork.org. Membership information, a calendar of KPAA committees working on priority goals, and other valuable information for nonprofits are also available online.

For more information call KPAA at 632-2005 or email kpaas@kauainetwork.org.

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