OFFICE OF ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION KE KE'ENA HO'OMOHALA WAIWAI CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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Economic Revitalization Commission

City and County of Honolulu
530 S. King Street, 3rd Floor Mayor's Conference Room
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
Agenda – Third Meeting
Tuesday, April 25, 2023
4:30 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m.

Commissioners Present In-Person: Chair Olin Lagon, Reid Chung, Keoni Lee, 'Olu Campbell, Greg Kim, Meli James, and Deb Lui-Anderson

Commissioners Present Online: Vice-Chair Eliza Talbot

Commissioners Excused: Tony Mizuno

OER Staff Present In-Person: Amy Asselbaye and Patrick Williams.

Guests In-Person: Andrew Aoki, Laurie Au

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. **Approval of the Minutes** of the Meeting Held on February 25, 2023
- Review of Assignments from the February 25, 2023 Meeting:
 - 1. 2022-2026 O'ahu Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)
 - High cost of living
 - Improve workforce development
 - Return to native Hawaiian values
 - 2. 2022-2026 State of Hawaii CEDS
 - Industry cluster approach including regenerative tourism, creative industries, and agriculture

- Opportunity: Build career opportunities to counter the high cost of living
- Opportunity: Hawai'i's strengths align with global trends
- How to leverage this plan into action?

3. Aspen Institute Good Jobs

- Good Jobs Definition: Economic Stability, Economic Mobility, Equity, Respect, and Voice
- 10 components of a Good Job include pay, hours, job security, benefits, career advancement, enjoyment, dignity, purpose, and power
- Increasing education does not guarantee a good job, although it increases from 35% with a good job out of high school to 57% with a doctoral degree, the level of those in "bad" jobs stays about the same on average 13% at each educational level
- Having a good job increases from 26% of the workforce from 18 24 to 49% for those 65- 69 years old, with a dip to 38% in the 60-64 age category

4. Aloha United Way ALICE Report 2022 Facts and Figures

- ALICE is Asset Limited Income Constrained Employed
- Half of Hawaii's keiki are below ALICE threshold
 - 75% of Hawaiian keiki are below the ALICE threshold
- 10% keiki: no internet at home
- Two adults working full-time at minimum wage would need six jobs total to cover basic household expenses

5. 'Aina Aloha Economic Futures

- A different approach focused on policy because the report's conclusion is that today's economy is failing our society
 - Need different approaches to solve complex systematic problems
 - Set a shared vision and create a movement-building framework
- Our strength is in our relationships with one another and building trust is key to systems change
 - Three ideas: Ability to unite and convene across existing silos; We don't need to look outside Hawai'i for solutions, the solutions are already in communities; and What might become possible that is not possible today?

- 6. Hawai'i Tourism Authority's O'ahu Destination Management Action Plan
 - i. DMAP for O'ahu aims to rebuild, redefine, and reset the direction of tourism over a three-year period.
 - ii. The focus is on stabilizing, recovering, and rebuilding each island's desired visitor industry.
- 7. University of Hawai'i Studies: <u>Local Food</u>; <u>COVID Business Impacts 2021</u>; Housing

Local Food:

- Visitors are willing to pay more for local food
- The hospitality industry should support more opportunities for visitors to eat locally grown food and to engage with local food producers

Housing:

- Lots of economic actors want a housing shortage because it increases prices
- Regulatory restrictions come from political pressure and result in more profit for large developers
- Affordability <u>not</u> income is driving people from Hawai'i

Business Impacts of COVID:

- Mandates negatively impacted businesses
- Lack of tourism was a positive for many residents

4. Other Business

- Commission will now lay out for OER economic recommendations to shape into a plan based on our understanding of OER and the current economic landscape
- 2. O'ahu CEDS is OER's economic strategy, but the Commission can choose to focus on one or a few strategies to implement
 - i. An industry-based or silo approach misses the mark in terms of the opportunity to act in a relationship with others
- 5. Adjournment at 6:42 p.m.