

Understanding Opportunity Zones in Hawaii

October 4, 2018
YWCA Fuller Hall
1040 Richards Street
Honolulu, HI

AGENDA

- 8:00 Registration and Light Refreshments**
- 8:30 Welcome**
Heather Piper, Hawaii Community Reinvestment Corporation
- 8:35 Introduction to Opportunity Zones**
Maurice Jones, Local Initiatives Support Corporation
- 9:05 Selected Opportunity Zones in Hawaii**
Mark Ritchie, Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
- 9:20 Understanding Opportunity Funds**
Brent Parker, Novogradac & Co LLP
- 9:50 Break**
- 10:00 Plans for Opportunity Zones across the State**
Ron Whitmore, County of Hawaii
Teena Rasmussen, County of Maui
George Costa, County of Kauai
Harrison Rue, City and County of Honolulu
- 10:30 Fostering Equitable Development within Opportunity Zones**
Michael Epp, Kokua Kalihi Valley
Gavin Thornton, Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Justice
Maurice Jones, LISC
Laura Choi, Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco (moderator)
- 11:00 Audience Q&A**
- 11:30 Adjourn**



Heather Piper is President and Executive Director of Hawaii Community Reinvestment Corporation (HCRC), a community based non-profit corporation founded in 1990. The mission of HCRC is to facilitate affordable housing, community development, and economic development throughout the State of Hawaii by providing innovative financing, training, and consulting services. www.hcrchawaii.com

Maurice Jones serves as president & CEO of the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), a nonprofit intermediary organization which forges resilient and inclusive communities of opportunity across America. Since 1979, LISC has invested \$18.6 billion, which has led to \$56 billion in total development. Prior to LISC, Maurice served as the secretary of commerce for the Commonwealth of Virginia and deputy secretary for the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development. www.lisc.org

Mark Ritchie joined the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) five years ago as the Branch Chief for Business Support services. DBEDT's mission continues to be achieving a Hawaii economy that embraces innovation and is globally competitive, dynamic and productive, providing opportunities for all Hawaii's citizens. Mark's branch has responsibility for the Enterprise Zone and the Community-based Economic Development programs. <http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/>

Brent Parker is a principal in the Long Beach, Calif., office of Novogradac & Company LLP. Mr. Parker is experienced in affordable housing and community development, nonprofit organizations and public housing authorities, historic rehabilitation, and renewable energy, with a particular focus on the low-income housing tax credit (LIHTC), renewable energy tax credit (RETC), new markets tax credit (NMTC) and historic tax credit (HTC) industries. www.novoco.com

Ron Whitmore is the Deputy Director of the Department of Research and Development for Hawaii County. Ron has been working in community and economic development for 25 years. Ron came to R&D from the County Planning Department, where he'd served as a senior long-range planner since 2007. He has knowledge of and experience with agriculture, economic development, research, program development, and grant management. www.hawaiicounty.gov/research-and-development

Teena Rasmussen serves as the Director of Maui County Mayor's Office of Economic Development (OED), overseeing a staff of 15 in three locations throughout Maui County. Through the department's grant funds and many partners, OED always has an eye on deploying resources that will best help the economies of the county's three islands of Maui, Molokai and Lanai. www.mauicounty.gov/1989/Mission-Message-from-the-Director-of-OED

George Kapiolehua Costa was appointed by Kauai Mayor Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr. as the Director for the Office of Economic Development in 2009. With Tourism, Agriculture, Sustainability, Energy, Creative Industries (Film), Small Business and Workforce Development responsibilities, George has a small, but energetic 9-member team that is dedicated to accomplishing the goals established by the Mayor, County Council and community at large. www.kauai.gov/OED

Harrison Rue is Community Building and TOD Administrator at the City and County of Honolulu. He leads implementation of transit-oriented development (TOD) strategies around Honolulu's 20-mile rail line, including neighborhood TOD plans, codes and ordinances, financial tools, infrastructure investments, catalytic projects, connectivity and placemaking, and affordable housing. Harrison has decades of experience in smart growth and sustainability, transportation and transit, TOD, scenario and corridor planning, climate mitigation and adaptation, and public participation. www.honolulu.gov/tod.html

Michael Epp is Collaborative Projects Coordinator at Kokua Kalihi Valley, where he oversees cross-cutting initiatives, including student engagement programs, research, leadership development, and planning and development. Michael grew up in Hawaii and began his work in health care at KKV, an urban health center in Honolulu with a large Filipino, Samoan, and Micronesian clientele, where beginning in 1992 he spent eight years focusing on community and resource development. <http://kkv.net/>

Gavin Thornton is Co-Executive Director of Hawaii Appleseed, a nonprofit organization that works to change systems that perpetuate inequality and injustice through policy development, coalition building, and advocacy. Gavin joined Hawaii Appleseed in 2012 and became Co-Executive Director in 2016. Gavin began his career in the AmeriCorps program in Kona, Hawai'i in 2002. <https://hiappleseed.org/>

Laura Choi is Community Development Research Manager at the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, where she also serves as Community Development Regional Manager for Hawaii. In this role, Laura partners with local stakeholders to promote cross-sector collaboration among the public, private, and nonprofit sector to advance economic resilience and mobility for low- and moderate-income communities. www.frbsf.org/community-development