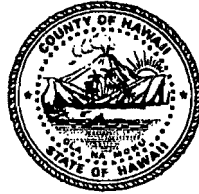


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Harry Kim
Mayor



Dixie Kaetsu
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawaii

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February 3, 2006

The Honorable David Y. Ige
Chair, Committee on
Intergovernmental Affairs
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Ige and Committee Members:

RE: SB 2400, Kailua-Kona Senior Center

The Kailua-Kona area of Hawaii County is a fast-growing community, and a large percentage of the population is made up of older residents. In addition to the rapid expansion it has already experienced, Kailua-Kona is destined to increase its residential population even more, because good planning dictates that development be directed to those areas where facilities are nearby and long highway commutes can be avoided.

To meet the needs of the community, Hawaii County would like to set up a multi-purpose senior center/aging and disability resource center. The center would be planned to serve older people as well as younger individuals with disabilities, family caregivers, and people who want to plan for future long-term needs. It would create an opportunity for health and long-term care professionals to provide services to the elderly and to people with disabilities. Potentially, the range of services would include recreational and educational activities, congregate meals, legal services, health care services, transportation, information and assistance, and case management. As you can see, it is an expansive vision, but one that is highly desirable, and realistic if we can get the help of the State.

The estimated cost of the facility would be approximately nine million dollars. At ten percent, planning and design would cost roughly \$900,000.

Your help in moving this concept forward would be much appreciated.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harry Kim".

Harry Kim
MAYOR