


STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII STATE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
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July 19, 2018

TO: The Honorable Catherine Payne, Chairperson
Board of Education

FROM: Stacey A. Aldrich, State Librarian 
Hawaii State Public Library System (HSPLS)

SUBJECT: **Board Action on Hawaii State Public Library System's request to move forward to acquire land for a new Waikaloa public library**

The community of Waikoloa on the Big Island has been working with the Hawaii State Public Library System (HSPLS) for more than 10 years to establish a public library branch in their growing community. HSPLS received \$250,000 to complete a Planning Development Report, which was completed in 2014. An additional \$500,000 was received to do the design work.

The Planning Development Report identified a few locations for a new public library branch, but after much analysis and consideration, it became clear that the identified locations were not ideal. The locations were far from the developed areas and the cost to the state to develop them would be costly. The Hawaii State Public Library System continued to work closely with Representative Cindy Evans on identifying other potential locations that would be more cost effective for the State and also located in an area better suited for the community.

In 2017, Representative Evans met Gary Pinkston of Meridian Pacific Ltd, the developer of the new Waikoloa Plaza; the Plaza will be located right off of the main Waikoloa Rd in a highly desirable location within the community. He has offered to work with the State and HSPLS to site the new Waikoloa library on about 1.75 acres of this new development.

During the FY2019 Legislative Session, HSPLS received \$1.9 million in support from Governor Ige and the State Legislature to pursue the purchase of the land and all necessary due diligence in order for the State to acquire the land.

In order to move forward, HSPLS will need to work with the Attorney General, Department of Accounting and General Services and DLNR, who will ultimately sign any agreements to acquire land for HSPLS. HSPLS respectfully requests approval from the Board of Education to move forward with discussions and all necessary processes to pursue acquisition of land for the siting of a new Waikoloa library.