

HCR 27 / HR 24



Ewa Villages
Owners Association

c/o Certified Management | 3179 Koapaka St. | Honolulu, HI 96819 | Ph. 478-9170

March 8, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

Ewa Villages are made of 5 pleasant Villages; Laulima, Lokahi Greens, Lincoln, Tenney, & Renton. They all must adhere to the rules and regulations governed by the City and Association as it pertains.

The unique cluster of homes in **Tenney & Renton Villages** must comply with the **additional rules** that are posed upon them because of its historical value.

Tenney and Renton Villages are bound together with pride from the community to upkeep its historical look and feel as part of Hawaii's history. Most would think that the homes in these Historic Villages were all treated the same since they adhere to all the same rules, regulations, by-laws, & design covenants. But in actuality, the Infill Homes do not share the same property tax classification.

Tenney Village and Renton Village Historic and Infill Homes must ask the Historical Preservation Department for approval for exterior changes of the home, abide by the Historical Property rules, comply and/or face any consequences that may occur if the Historical Property standards are not met. We only ask that the City & County extend and approve the Historical Property Tax to the Infill Homes in its Historical Core known as Tenney & Renton.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Kelly LumHo
Ewa Villages General Manager
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LATE TESTIMONY

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House Committee on Housing

Conference room 325

March 9, 2011, 10:15 am

Rosebella Martinez – President, Ewa Historical Society

Testimony in **support**

HCR27 HR24

LATE TESTIMONY

Chair Cabanilla, Vice Chair Chong and members of the Housing Committee,

Hawaii plantation housing is one of the unique architectural styles of the Hawaiian Islands. The houses were built by sugar plantation owners to house the workers who were imported from Japan, China, and the Philippines. The structures are single wall construction of cedar shingle roofs and pier post on lava rock foundations. They are now preserved for their historical value. In 1936, Ewa was a thriving plantation town with eight separate housing villages- Today an ambitious renovation project aimed to bring vitality back to the three remaining villages – Tenney, Renton, and Varona is a reality. In the community that dates back to the 1920's more than 250 historic plantation homes were renovated and sold at an affordable price to the original residents. The restoration of the historic building in addition to new utilities, widened roads and new infrastructure improvements brought a new life to a community that will preserve the areas unique historic and cultural feel of the plantation era.

As the President of Ewa Historical Society, I want to affirm the importance of preserving historic Ewa Villages. This settlement was built way before I was born, and due to the hard work of many people in our community, it has been preserved in its original state.

We realize that, even though Ewa Villages is a designated historical district, property owners will want to build or upgrade their properties. As these property owners must abide by the same restrictions as the original properties, we feel that it is only fair to give them the same property tax exemptions.

I respectfully request that you pass HCR27 HR24, which will help support the continuation of historical districts such as Ewa Villages.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.