

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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County ag development plan sessions scheduled

KAMUELA, Hawai‘i—September 15, 2009—The public will have a final opportunity in late October and November to provide input into the 2009 County of Hawai‘i Agricultural Development Plan, being prepared for the Hawai‘i County Department of Research and Development by Agricon Hawaii LLC and The Kohala Center.

The Kohala Center is conducting the island-wide listening sessions prior to finalizing the plan, which is intended to guide the revitalization of agriculture as a basis for Hawai‘i Island's economic development by focusing on measures designed to increase the production of food for local consumption and support the growth of export products.

The preliminary draft of the plan will be available for review at <http://kohalacenter.org/agplan.html> by **October 10**. After the fall round of public sessions, The Kohala Center will incorporate public input and present the final draft to the County of Hawai‘i Department of Research and Development in early December 2009.

In addition to attending a listening session, the public can provide suggestions and comments to Guy Kaulukukui, director of The Kohala Center’s Food Self-Reliance Program, at agplan@kohalacenter.org or 808-887-6411.

Dates and locations for the upcoming public listening sessions, all of which will be from 6–8 p.m. are:

- Tuesday, Oct. 20, Kohala High School Cafeteria;
- Wednesday, Oct. 21, Kona Outdoor Circle;
- Thursday, Oct. 22, Waimea Community Center;
- Tuesday, Oct. 27, Pahala Community Center;
- Wednesday, Oct. 28, Aupuni Conference Room, County of Hawai‘i Building in Hilo;
- Thursday, Oct. 29, Pa‘auilo School Cafeteria;
- Wednesday, Nov. 4, Pahoia Community Center.

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