

2/15/73

(Introduction)

Mrs. Lewis

Good evening. I'm Mrs. Lewis, President of the Old Vineyard St. Residents Association. The Old Vineyard St. Residents Association was formed to protect our homes and our rights to live in them. We say that we need a place to live and this is more important than a parking garage for the state. The Association has become the spokesman for our united effort as a community to guarantee ourselves a decent place to live.

Residents

I was concerned about the problem of eviction that faced myself and my neighbors so I contacted the Legal Aid Society. After this, a meeting of the community was held and then an informal steering committee was formed to get people together. A slate of steering committee officers was selected and approved at a mass community meeting. These are the officers; I'm president, VP is Miss Arleen Jacobsen, secretaries are Mrs. Cathy Mathis and Mrs. Myrha Paoa, Violet DeLima is the Sgt.-at-Arms. We also have four representatives: Mrs. Sotello, Maka Cravalho, Domingo Quidilla, and Billy Joe Bukauskas. This was the beginning of the Old Vineyard St. Residents Association. Our basic demands are: We all want replacement housing that is approximately the same in rent, and is also as conveniently located as we have now. Until we all get this, we want to stay here. In which case, we want the state to pay for and make all needed repairs since the state ~~is the landlord~~ owns the land. Supporting us in our cause are: Third Arm Community Center, Catholic Social Services, Legal Aid Society, Hawaii Assoc. For Asian and Pacific Peoples, National Assoc. of Social Workers, Ota Camp Assoc., League of Women Voters, Congress of Hawaii Peoples, and some students with the ~~Ethnic Studies~~ program.

UH.

(Questions)

In December and the early part of January we all received eviction notices. However, in the last few weeks we've gotten different answers from various people about the real meaning of these notices, and whether we really have, and if so, when? We have a list of questions about the project and our situation, and we would be glad if any of you can answer them tonight.

(I. Confirmation)

- A. ~~Who is the landlord~~ What is the real meaning of these Notices to Vacate? (hold up a sample)
- B. Who is the landlord responsible for managing the affected units? *As of when? when was the 1st written offer of purchase when was it accepted*
What is the role of the Dept. of Land and Nat. Resources?
What is the role of Brilhante and Assoc.?
- C. When will the houses be broken down?

(II. Necessity)

- A. What is the need for the garage?
- B. Why was this site chosen?
Why not the lot between Miller and Punchbowl Streets? or the lot on Beretania
- C. Who decided on this site?
- D. How many levels will the garage be?
If it is more than two stories, how do you explain the total floor space of 175,000 sq. ft. and the land area of 136,150 sq. ft. ?
- E. In the schedule, Traffic Analysis and Siting Plan are being done now. Review for appropriateness by DPED seems to indicate that the construction of the garage is not really final. Is that correct? Can't these steps mean that the garage might not be built at all?
- F. How much money has been appropriated for this project?
How much money is available now?
Does the state really have that much money available to be released for this project?
- G. Our area is now zoned for apartments. Therefore, how can you build a garage there?
Are you sure you can get a zoning change?

(III. Relocation)

- A. What is your interpretation of Section 7 of Act 166 where it states that a state agency shall "provide assurance that there are or are being provided in areas not generally less desirable in regard to public utilities and public facilities and at rents or prices within the financial means of the families and individuals displaced, decent, safe, and sanitary dwellings equal in number to the number of displaced families and individuals and, available to such displaced families and individuals and reasonably accessible to their places of employment."
- B. Does this mean that the Relocation Plan as approved by HHA totally satisfies Section 7, or that we do not have to move until we have a ~~place~~ definite place to go?

What about the March 28th date, ninety days from the notices we received?

- C. 1-When was the Relocation Plan submitted? 10/17/72 approved draft
2-When was it approved by HHA? 10/29/72 approved final plan
3-Isn't this plan Part IV, Section D, of Rule 15?

If they say no, then...What is Part IV, Section D?

Arleen J.....If they say yes....But according to what's been said, the (Relocation Plan) was submitted in Oct. 72, and the negotiation for the land where I live was started around April 72. The Rule says (in Part IV Section D, Subsection b. on page 75) that negotiations can't start until the (Relocation Plan) was submitted and approved by HHA. In other words, the land shouldn't have been bought when it was. The land was bought too soon!

—If they don't call it the Relocation Plan, what do they call it?

Whatever it's called, when was it submitted and approved by HHA?

- D. How are DAGS and HRA carrying out their assurance that a relocation assistance program is available?

1-Isn't HRA supposed to help everyone displaced to find another place to live?

[Esther.... =]
VioletCathyMyrna.....If so, then why are HRA people telling us we must find our own homes?

(IV. Clayton?)

(V. States Job As Landlord)

Maka.....A. Some of the people pay their own utilities, but some people don't pay any utilities because the state pays for it. What's going to happen after our ninety days are up on March 28?

Maximo..... B. and anybody else who needs repairs done, please speak up.

(VI. THE END)

Since we're not so sure we have to move, and that there really isn't any place for all of us to go, what can be done about the situation?