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Ota residents get reprieve on mortgages

Residents of the new Ota Camp in Waipahu said yesterday they will resume negotiations with the Hawaii Housing Authority to obtain low-cost mortgages to buy their house-

lots.
Pete Tagalog, president of the Ota Camp Makibaka Assn., said the authority has agreed to extend until July 19 the deadline for residents to assume mortgages as part of an agreement worked out 10 years ago.

Russell Fukumoto, the authority's executive director, said the deadline for assumption has been extended, but would not comment beyond that. Fukumoto announced last week that the authority was ending efforts to provide the mortgages because of a disagreement with the residents on final terms.

Tagalog said there was a "misunderstanding," and he is confident that residents will be able to work out an agreement with the authority. The 31 residents of the camp need the low-cost mortgages to buy their houselots from developer Jack Ujimori.

The new Ota Camp was developed by Ujimori in 1974 with a development loan from the authority on land leased from the city. The residents were given the option of buying the lease and improvements 10 years after completion of the dwellings.

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