Dear Swap Meet Partners:

I hope this message finds you safe and healthy during these unprecedented and challenging times. I know everyone is busy and doing their best to be creative and diligent in order to keep their businesses intact.

Like you, Aloha Stadium is also enduring significant challenges as we navigate COVID-19 and all the restrictions that have impacted our operation. Given that, I want to thank you all for your patience and understanding.

As you know, we’ve now endured two closure periods and have just re-opened for the second time in a modified format. We recognize the limitations of this format and remain hopeful that, before too long, we will be able to get back to a more “normal” operation.

Until then, we ask for your continuing support and adherence to the physical distancing and face-covering requirements, so we can ensure a safe environment for everyone.

Despite the lack of events taking place at the stadium due to COVID-19, there is still a lot of work taking place related to the New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District (NASED). Below are a series of updates related to NASED.
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1. Senate Bill 2940: You may have seen news reports about a recent delay with the NASED project. Senate Bill 2940, which clarified the Stadium Authority’s developmental powers was deferred. The impact of this deferment has been assessed and options are being considered to move the project forward with minimal delay. It’s important to note, however, that this deferred bill does not cancel the project and that NASED remains funded by the initial enabling legislation, Act 268.

2. Master Plan and Environmental Impact Statement: We anticipate that the draft programmatic environmental impact statement (PEIS) will be published by late fall. This will commence a 45-day review period. Many of you participated in the earlier community meetings related to the PEIS and your feedback was very helpful.

3. Request for Qualifications (RFQ): The response deadline for the RFQ was May 26, 2020 and a total of six submittals were received from some highly qualified and experienced developer-led teams. The evaluation process has been completed and three priority respondents who will progress to the request for proposals (RFP) phase will be announced soon.

Related to NASED, I want to address a question I receive frequently from vendors regarding the future of the swap meet.

I want to assure you that the swap meet is included in our current and future plans. We will continue to operate the swap meet throughout the construction period and into the foreseeable future as development of the NASED project continues.
We will be nimble and modify the operation during construction. Considering how we’ve been able to modify the operation to accommodate COVID-19, I am confident that we will be able to successfully accommodate the swap meet during the ongoing construction.

We still don’t have dates for when construction will commence. However, you will know at the earliest opportunity. We will have more information on construction dates in the latter stages of the request for proposals (RFP) process.

Lastly, with regard to communications, we have consolidated all swap meet information on the main stadium website (www.alohastadium.hawaii.gov).

This consolidation provides a “one-stop shop” for all swap-meet-related information and allows for faster communications with shoppers and vendors alike. If you haven’t already done so, please bookmark the stadium website and use it for all swap-meet information and updates.

In addition to the website, we will continue to utilize our social media platforms to post information and updates as needed. I also invite you to stay informed about the NASED project by visiting http://nased.hawaii.gov/. This site is updated regularly by the project team and it’s the best source for information about this exciting project.

I wish you success in navigating this pandemic and encourage you to take all necessary precautions to keep yourself and your family safe.

Scott L. Chan
Stadium Manager

cc: Ross Yamasaki, Stadium Authority Board Chair

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We Want To Hear From You

Comments and suggestions can be provided by visiting the NASED website: http://nased.hawaii.gov/ Go to “Further Information” at the top of the page and, after the menu drops down, click on “Reach Out.”