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PRESS CONTACT:

Jesse Tunison
P.O. Box 129

Volcano, Hawaii, 96785
(808) 640-5366

experiencevolcano@gmail.com
www.experiencevolcano.com

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Community Forum to Look at Volcano's Future

WHEN: Thursday, January 24th

WHERE: Cooper Center
Wright Rd, Volcano,
Hawaii, 96785

TIME: 5pm

Experience Volcano Hawaii will be hosting a community forum at Cooper Center on Thursday, January 24 at 5 p.m., to discuss the future of the community and some of the future challenges that Volcano face. County, State, and park official have been invited to attend the forum and answer resident's questions.

Volcano and its businesses are recovering from the recent eruption, its accompanying earthquakes and its devastating effects on the local tourism industry. We're very proud of the low-impact model that we've evolved as a gateway community, serving thousands of national park visitors annually by integrating restaurants, galleries and lodging into the community and its upland rainforest environment, rather than isolating them in a "resort Node." The community needs to keep that model and build on it, but faces upcoming hurdles as the park rebuilds its infrastructure. New state and country regulations such as County Council Bill 108 makes its way through the pipeline threatening vacation rentals on which Volcano has built its success. Many folks in our community may be confused about how these changes may affect all of us.

Experience Volcano is an all-volunteer, not-for-profit organization of Volcano-area businesses and community members dedicated to sharing the Village's special brand of aloha with the world. The group's mission includes promoting the Volcano area in a sustainable way through social media platforms, print media, and media tours. Since it was started last May, EV has printed and distributed 5,000 brochures promoting the area as a destination and has helped Volcano businesses to develop a unified voice and to pursue common goals.

Forums such as this one give the Volcano community a change to refine its vision and mission.

Mahalo Nui Loa!