

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

When looking to purchase a home, one important factor to consider is the area in which you are buying, However, there are many reasons to take into consideration that will fit your lifestyle.

HOW CLOSE IS MY NEW HOME TO WHERE I WORK?

Proximity one one's place of employment is a significant factor in buying a home. Driving to and from work is going to affect your life every day at your new place of residence, especially in the State of Hawaii, where there are not many freeways and areas that has only one way in and one way out.

WHAT IS THE PARKING SITUATION LIKE?

Parking is another key factor to buying a new home that needs to be accessible. If you buy in a densely populated area, chances are parking is going to be a nightmare. Even if you do not drive and catch the bus everywhere, please keep top of mind that parking is an important factor when reselling your home.

WHAT ARE THE DEMOGRAPHICS IN MY NEW CITY?

It is a great idea to take a look at the demographics of the neighborhood and city you are going to be living in. What is the average income of the area? Appreciation and property value are sometimes very dependent upon the upkeep and maintenance of the community you are buying in. Don't be afraid to scope out your new neighbors. How they treat their property can directly affect your property value.

ARE THERE CHILDREN IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD OR IN YOUR FUTURE?

Checking out local schools is important if you have children or will have children in the future. It would be nice to live in your new community that is family oriented and check to see if there are any local parks and daycare centers.

WHAT IS RECREATION LIKE IN MY NEW CITY?

Don't forget to enjoy your new area when you can. What recreational activities are provided to you and or your family? Take a look at the literature that your new community provides or ask your Realtor to help you become familiar with the area.

WHAT ARE THE TRADE OFFS?

Different areas have unique features or amenities that may be desirable for you, but often while one community offers great parking, it may be a drive to get to your favorite shopping center; or a home that has great views, but 100 steps to get to the front door. Make a list of pros and cons when choosing an area to live in, then carefully decide trade-offs that you can truly live with.