

MODEL FOR THE GENERAL PLAN:

Designing and Building our Sustainable and Resilient Kaua`i

Preamble: Our model recognizes that change is inevitable in regard to the future of our island of Kaua`i. However, change does not need to occur in absence of the control or determination by our Kaua`i community. We are a small, isolated island in the middle of the Pacific and with each decision we make (or don't make) our options for making choices for our future may become increasingly limited. We also recognize that although we live in an interconnected and interdependent world, that having Island self determination and self sufficiency is the Ideal.

Designing & Building Our Sustainable & Resilient Kauai`i has been chosen as a model for framing our new General Plan for Kaua`i to acknowledge the importance of making conscious, well-informed decisions in every aspect of life on our Island. Each decision we make must be made with clarity about the implications of how we have chosen to move forward, for now and for the future generations who will be impacted by our choices.

The intention of this model is not only to provide a framework for prioritizing how we make decisions, but to also understand that these decisions and how they are implemented need to be the collective responsibility of not only the Planning Department, but our entire Island-wide Ohana including family members, educators, our local businesses, Planning Commission, County Council, Mayors office, County Offices, Hawaii State agencies, and Federal agencies.

The Values and Visions for our Plan are not limited to County jurisdiction, but are intended to influence and inform our State and Federal partners, as well. We must all be held individually and collectively accountable for achieving our goals for our future.

VISION: What Our *Sustainable and Resilient Kaua`i* Looks Like

A naturally functioning mauka to makai island ecosystem provides the means necessary to support an interconnected, self-reliant, and resilient island community. We work together toward our collective future in which we all derive livelihood, well-being and sense of fulfillment from living in harmony with the natural ebb and flow of our island environment, where all residents of our Kaua`i Ohana continuously chart our future, make our decisions and conduct our lives towards our collective purpose.

GOALS: The Direction We are Choosing for Our “Sustainable and Resilient Future”

The following goals directly align with our Model and Vision. These goals take the “ideal situation” described in our vision, and start to chart the course by providing 3 focus areas which help to articulate and define how Kauai is going to realize our *Sustainable and Resilient Future*.

GOAL 1: ECOLOGICALLY SOUND AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

Sustainable and Resilient Kaua`i means conserving, restoring, and protecting Kaua`i's natural beauty and all natural resources including land, water, air, minerals and energy resources from mauka to makai – the mountain ridges to the coastal margin and nearshore waters, in order to maintain our rural character, quality of life and independence for our island of Kaua`i. Conservation, restoration and protection of the environment provide the foundation for developing sustainable policies for land use, renewable energy, infrastructure, a healthy society and economy for our Kaua`i Ohana..

GOAL 2: DIVERSE AND THRIVING COMMUNITIES

Sustainable and Resilient Kaua`i is an island rooted in principles of Aloha and Malama Aina which cherish our Hawaiian heritage and values. Additionally, we collectively embrace and support a healthy mix of cultures, generations, origins, and economic opportunities. Kaua`i is an island that provides excellent educational, technical and capacity development opportunities, from keiki to kupuna, that allows each individual a diverse range of possibilities for a prosperous future and the choice to maintain intergenerational families residing on Kaua`i.

GOAL 3: ECONOMICALLY SELF-RELIANT AND PROSPEROUS

Sustainable and Resilient Kaua`i requires an economy based on increasing self-sufficiency, self-reliance and resilience for all our ohana in regards to food, energy, shelter, jobs, economic opportunities, and other resources. This means that the economic choices we make first and foremost serve our island-wide community and our ability to become self-sufficient. This also means that each of us takes on the responsibility, or kuleana, to reduce our ecological footprint in our own lifestyle, land use, and interaction with our natural resources.

POLICIES: Providing the Criteria for Making Decisions About How We are Going to Achieve Our Sustainable and Resilient Kaua'i

Directives for Applying This Policy:

A. ADHERENCE TO GENERAL PLAN

Decisions at all levels of County government will strictly adhere to the following policies, as well as support all actions in the General Plan.

B. CZOs AND LAWS MUST CONFORM TO AND SUPPORT GENERAL PLAN

Upon approval of the General Plan, the County will start the process of making CZO's and any law making actions conform with and support these policies. Evaluation of whether these policies are being adhered to will be through an open and transparent public process.

C. GUIDE AND LOBBY STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES

To the extent reasonable and allowed by law, the County will use these policies to direct all State and Federal government actions specifically pertaining to Kaua'i.

D. REQUIRED MONITORING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The results-based monitoring schedule must be relevant to the targets and associated indicators of change. The transparent and public process of monitoring of implementation of actions must follow the milestones/timeline schedule. The overall evaluation of both the implementation and results of the plan will include an ongoing updated dashboard on the County's website, a public meeting every 6 months on the progress toward the goals, as well as a complete review of the plan every two years.

POLICIES:

1. Manage Growth to Preserve Rural Character

- *Preserve Kaua'i's rural character by limiting developable land to current levels or less.*
- *Ensure new development occurs inside urban boundaries and is compact and walkable.*
- *All future development and conveyance of properties must provide for access for customary and traditional uses.*

2. Immediately Limit Tourism-related Development:

- *Limit Tourism-related development so it does not exceed Kaua'i's infrastructure.*
- *Tourism should not threaten Kaua'i's rural character, nor degrade residents' quality of life.*

3. Respect Cultural Diversity

- *Protect public trust resources, cultural sites, and Hawaiian Rights.*
- *All properties must provide access for traditional and customary use of shoreline areas, trails, and places for religious and cultural observances, fishing, gathering, and recreational activities.*
- *Honor, learn from, integrate and perpetuate the application of traditional knowledge and cultural practices into interactions with the land and sea surrounding Kaua`i, from mauka to makai including the nearshore waters.*

2.4. Provide a Range of Housing Opportunities for All Residents:

- *Increase the amount of workforce housing available for local households by focusing development and infrastructure improvements in town areas.*
- *Provide a diversity of low income housing options to meet the needs of community members.*

5. Make Infrastructure Expenditures for Current Resident Needs

- *Infrastructure expenditures should be prioritized around meeting the needs of residents.*
- *All development project infrastructure costs will be borne by developers by paying for these costs upfront.*

6. Improve the Flow of Traffic & Reduce the Cost of Air Travel

- *Manage current and potential future chronic congestion conditions particularly in major growth areas through strategic infrastructure improvement and increased multimodal transportation options.*
- *Lobby for and Entice low cost carriers for lower inter-island air fares*
- *Lobby for update of Jones Act to lower cost of living via freight costs*

7. Support Income Diversification:

- *Support opportunities for developing income generation that moves Kaua`i away from a tourism-based mono-economy and towards a sustainable economy with greater self-sufficiency and resiliency.*

8. Increase Small-Scale Agriculture

- *Nurture small-scale farms promoting crop diversity to increase food security and support opportunities for the development of value added products.*
- *Form stronger public-private partnerships with local farmers to enhance food self-sufficiency.*

9. Protect Our Watersheds & Naturally Functioning Ecosystems for Our Health & Survival

- *Restore and protect our watersheds from mauka to makai.*
- *Make decisions and act with the understanding that our traditional ahupua`a are comprised of living and supporting ecosystems.*

10. Complete Kaua`i's Transition to Clean, Renewable Energy:

- *Reduce system-wide carbon emissions by at least 70% by 2035.*
- *Reduce energy use from non-renewable resources by transforming electricity, transportation and infrastructure systems toward the use of renewable energy and energy independence.*

▪*Require all new development (residential and commercial) to integrate renewable energy for electricity generation into all structures.*

11. Prepare for Climate Change:

- Prepare for impacts to the island economy, food systems and infrastructure that will be caused by climate change.*
- Reduce Kaua`i's carbon footprint by transforming electricity, transportation and infrastructure systems toward the use of clean energy.*

Page 2 of General Plan: Honoring our Culture

Ua mau ke ea o ka `aina i ka pono

The life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness

We, the Ohana of Kaua`i, pledge to continue Recognizing, Honoring, and Perpetuating the Native Culture of Kaua`i and Hawai`i, and the High Ideals and Wisdom Set Forth for our Ohana, our Kuleana, our Kakou, and our Aloha

ALOHA

Akahai - kindness, expressed with tenderness

Lokahi - unity, expressed with harmony

`Olu`olu - agreeable, expressed with pleasantness

Ha`aha`a - humility, expressed with modesty

Ahonui - patience, expressed with perseverance

KAUAI COUNTY GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

recommendations on foundational components of the plan
December 5, 2016 7pm