

1. What is a Planning System?

A “**system**” is a set of individual pieces that come together as parts of a coordinated and unified whole for a greater purpose or common good sort of like how individuals within a community may come together to form an association. A “**planning system**” coordinates the management of resources and activities among various individuals within an organization as well as with others outside of the organization in a manner that looks at the long-term big picture, is logical, and is collaborative. The **DHHL Planning System** consists of various types of DHHL plans and is meant to better ensure that actions taken by the Hawaiian Homes Commission and DHHL, like how we use lands and resources, are consistent over time, based upon achieving long-term goals, and inclusive of DHHL beneficiary input.

2. What are the different types of DHHL plans?

- The **General Plan** establishes statewide policies that guide land management and programs.
- **Island Plans** identify priority areas for future homestead development on each island. Island Plans also designate lands on each island for specific types of uses. This is commonly referred to as “DHHL Island Plan Land Use Designations” and are similar to but not exactly the same as county zoning. There are five Island Plans: Hawai‘i Island (2002), Maui (2004), Kaua‘i (2004), Moloka‘i (2005), and O‘ahu (2014).
- **Program Plans** carry out general plan policies and priorities for specific policy areas. There are currently three adopted program plans related to Native Hawaiian Development Programs (2014), Energy (2009), and Water (2014).
- **Regional Plans** provide region specific information and identify region specific priority projects that are identified by DHHL in collaboration with beneficiaries of that region. There are 22 regional plans.
- **Development Plans** focus on providing more details about new homestead development in a specific location including infrastructure and house costs and how long it will take to build the house.
- **Special Area Plans** focus on wahi pana that are important to DHHL and its beneficiaries because of the unique cultural and natural resources present within the area. The Hawaiian Homes Commission has adopted two special area plans: ‘Āina Mauna Legacy Plan in Humu‘ula/Upper Pi‘ihonua on Hawai‘i Island (2009) and South Point Resources Management Plan in Ka‘ū (2015).

3. Where can I find existing DHHL plans?

Existing DHHL plans can be found on the DHHL website at: <http://dhhl.hawaii.gov/po/>

4. Who is involved in the creation of DHHL’s plans?

DHHL beneficiaries have been highly involved in the creation of these plans via beneficiary consultation meetings or surveys. DHHL staff is responsible for compiling and incorporating beneficiary input during the planning process into the plan document. The plan document is then presented to the Hawaiian Homes Commission for adoption. Over time, adopted plans may need to be revised. Any change to an adopted plan must also go through beneficiary consultation and be approved by the Commission.

5. Why do we need administrative rules for DHHL’s Planning System?

One of the common statewide issues that beneficiaries raise to DHHL staff is that whenever there is a new Chairman or change in Commission members, there seems to be a drastic shift in what DHHL is doing and that there is no beneficiary consultation to provide feedback as to whether that change in direction is a good thing or consistent with beneficiary-driven initiatives. Rules for the Planning System ensures better predictability and consistency even as the Chairman and Commission members change. With Planning System rules, new DHHL initiatives must be consistent with previously adopted plans. If the new Chairman or new Commission members want to revise plans in order to enact new initiatives, the Planning System rules will require the new Chairman to consult with beneficiaries prior to Commission adoption of revised plans and new initiatives. Planning System rules will better ensure that beneficiaries are consulted and their advice followed across changing administrations.