

**Kealakehe/La'i 'Ōpua Regional Plan Update
Beneficiary Consultation/Community Meeting #1
DRAFT Meeting Notes**

Date: January 10, 2019

Location: Kealakehe High School Cafeteria

Time: 5:00-8:00pm

Attendance: 48 persons (via sign-in sheet)

Staff: Andrew Choy, Gigi Cairel, Halealoha Ayau, Jim DuPont

Consultants: Townscape, Inc. – Lillie Makaila, Gabrielle Sham.

Meeting Purpose: The purpose of this meeting was to introduce the Regional Plan Update project to DHHL beneficiaries, to outline the tentative schedule for the project, and to gather input from the beneficiaries about their desired vision for the region.

Discussion:

Vision Discussion - TODAY:

Sense of Aloha

- Very inclusive
- Sense of aloha
- Show aloha/hospitable
- Welcome everyone
- Blessing/plus to qualify for Hawaiian Homes
- We have PRIDE in our community
- Sense of gratitude – DHHL putting people in homes
- Welcoming
- Lots to offer to others
- Aloha will always be here (kindness to each other)

Native Hawaiian Culture

- Fishing
- Lots of culture
- Working lo'i
- Share crafts, 'ōlelo
- Keep it Hawaiian
- Cultural umbrella over whole community – construct in houses

A beautiful place

- Lots of activities
- Beauty
- Good quality of life
- Beautiful clean air/water
- Park

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- Walking
- Garden
- Kids play
- Matches community
- Football games
- To have crafts
- No graffiti
- Security – Hawaiian village that looks out for each other
- Education – we have the schools
- Great Halloween activities

People as a resource & strength

- First beneficiaries asked for right of way for roads to be built
- Water credits came from the school
- Everything is time, water, raising money (grants), to help build La'i 'Ōpua
- People been on the waiting list, but have not updated their contact info for the department
- Amount of power the beneficiary community has exercised is a strength
- Applicants should be watching what the beneficiaries on the land are doing, support association's efforts to raise funds for community projects
- Have a clear mission statement (each association) that includes a celebration of the 1920 HHCA 100th anniversary and an evaluation of the first 100 years by DHHL
- Partnerships for building is important for the community to develop

Economic Self-sufficiency

- In 2008 members of La'i 'Ōpua community participated in DHHL's Kūlia i ka Nu'u program/Initiative, and the vision from that program can lend itself to the Vision for the La'i 'Ōpua homestead Vision Statement
- Vision should include the socio-economic needs of our people, shouldn't wait for the government agencies
- Vision should be for DHHL to give the association the land, and they will raise the funds to develop these projects, this also relieves DHHL of this duty

Vision Discussion – FUTURE (30 YEARS):

Our home on the Homestead

- Roads wider
- Yards clean/no junk cars
- Big facilities to have parties, kūpuna daycare, multi-purpose use
- Elderly housing – multigenerational on Hawaiian Home Lands – assisted living facility
- Pre-school facility on Hawaiian Home Lands instead of sending to private school and paying fees
- Bigger lots – accommodate kids and larger families
- Expand health care/medical center – increase outreach
- More Hawaiian schools on Hawaiian home lands to continue legacy, culture, 'ōlelo
- Better quality schools/education

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- Hawaiian-owned businesses
- Young entrepreneurs
- Dog park
- Parking for boats
- Bigger rec center with parking, conference rooms, etc
- Bigger venues to attract events – shanghai circus, superkids, community activities for kids
- Aquatic Center
- Cemetery for homesteaders
- Day care for Kupuna and Keiki
- 'Ohana zoning included on homestead lands to accommodate more families
- Indoor pool, ice skating rink, re-using existing buildings/commercial projects that are vacant today
- Open space
- 20 acre lots
- Walkable Kona, car park at Old Kona Airport, to encourage more people to walk in Downtown Kona, and boost the businesses
- Wants everything built in due time, not everything built tomorrow, no overgrowth

Food & Energy Self-sufficiency

- Ponds to raise fish and limu
- Self-sustaining
- Ocean to make electricity
- Agriculture lots
- Community gardens
- PV project in 5 years

More homes for native Hawaiian families

- All Hawaiians on the land
- Lower blood quantum
- People in the future regions (ie phase 4)
- More Hawaiians in houses
- Shorter time frames to get people in homes
- Lots filled with beneficiary families (completely full)
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Support & services

- Transportation to help get to town
- Cell phone company owned/operated by homesteaders
- Tech assistance from DHHL to apply for a homestead
- On-site human services (ie welfare info)
- Lower housing costs
- Lower gas costs
- Re-distribution of DHHL resources
- Neighborhood watch
- Provide classes on Hawaiian Home Lands – (ie kupuna, crafts)

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- Culture and 'Ōlelo – free language classes

Large Group Discussion:

Process

- What happens in October? Start projects?
- How do we get more people involved?

Creating and awarding lots

- When can we have families in homesteads?
 - Next project, rent to own, infrastructure is in, DHHL negotiating agreement with developer
 - Counting on low income tax credits, waiting for federal approval
 - Need to get more water credits for all developments after village 4
- It has been 5-6 years already, still not finished (village 4), on the list for a long time, beyond village 4 there is no water, need more Native Hawaiian families on land
- Accelerate homestead development on waitlist

What has been accomplished/what has changed since the 2009 Regional Plan?

- What lands have been changed since 2009?
 - Kalaoa
- What has been added since 2009?
 - Highway widened, medical center, court house (state)
- In 10 years – what have we gotten?
 - Include more of this information in the next meeting
- Burial plan? SHPD involved?
 - DHHL has not made progress/DHHL determines what plan would include

Blood Quantum

- How do we lower it?
 - State legislative approval
 - Congressional approval

Telecommunication

- Deep concerns about communication for the homestead with Sandwich Isles Communication (SIC)
- “held hostage” by SIC
- DHHL is looking at legal options to get out of the contract with them but hasn't been able to have an open conversation/public conversation because of the potential for litigation
- Please bring back info regarding this subject at the next meeting if can

DHHL news and information

- Does DHHL have a newsletter?
- Not at the current time. The DHHL website is the best place to get information.
- Homestead Association newsletter also has relevant information

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- What about information regarding Kapolei Shopping center complex, and how much money is being generated there? Can we see that info?
- Lease revenue information is available in the DHHL annual report. DHHL is working on getting out the latest information in its annual reports.

Next Steps:

- Townscape/DHHL will take input from tonight's meeting and craft a draft vision statement and will present the draft vision statement at the next meeting for review & comments by beneficiaries.
- Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for February/March 2019.
- Next meeting will review draft vision statement & identify potential projects to help achieve that vision.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8pm.