



HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS TRUST
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

**Papakōlea Regional Plan Update
Community Meeting #1
R.L. STEVENSON MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA
SEPTEMBER 18, 2019, 6:30 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.**

Attendance: 20 (signed in)

DHHL: Nancy McPherson (Planning Office and Project Manager), Lehua Kinilau-Cano (Planning Office), Sherri Hiraoka (Townscape, Inc., Consultant Project Manager), and Lillie Makaila (Townscape, Inc., Consultant)

Handouts:

1. Project Comment Sheet
2. Slideshow Presentation

Presentation:

Nancy McPherson opened the meeting with welina and introductions of the staff and consultants. Lillie Makaila gave a slideshow presentation to discuss the purpose of and the agenda for the meeting, the background on DHHL Regional Plans, and the Regional Plan Update project for the Papakōlea Regional Plan (2009). Lillie Makaila facilitated the question and comment discussion regarding the presentation. The attendees were split up into two break out groups to participate in a visioning exercise. Lillie Makaila facilitated discussion for Group 1. Sherri Hiraoka facilitated discussion for Group 2.

Group 1

Vision Exercise Part I

Attendees were asked to share with the group their answers to the following questions:

1. *What special things about this place do you want to preserve for the future generations?*
2. *What do you want to create in this community? In this place?*
3. *What do you want to change in this community? In this place?*

Discussion:

- We already have projects on the books, they just need to be done.
- Kūpuna want to have the option to move into units that are smaller and require less upkeep. Apartments would be a good option instead of houses. Some cannot maintain the larger homes and larger lots. If they cannot handle the yard work they have an option for something else.
- The region needs money.
- Once you get the things that you need, then how do you sustain it?

PAPAKŌLEA REGIONAL PLAN UPDATE

Meeting #1 Notes

September 18, 2019

Page 2 of 7

- Improvements are needed at the park. To the playground, the basketball court, volleyball court.
- More parking is needed for the park.
- AC is needed for the inside spaces.
- Preserve all the natural and cultural resources in the region.
- Restore the kahawai, the top of the watershed/uplands above Moreira, and no BWS tanks.
- The streams are losing water.
- Need more support for Hawaiian/Homestead organizations like PCDC, Kula & PCA because they provide programs and support to the community.
- There is a need for space for young adults that are homeless or people in the community that don't have a place to stay, they can't go home for whatever reasons, but they are still a part of the community. They need facilities to lay their head down in a safe place. They need facilities to shower and clean themselves up. They are able to feed them now, but there are more needs that these folks need. It's not always young folks, there is a need for homeless members of their community of all ages to have access to services and support within the community because they don't feel comfortable leaving the community. There isn't space for them at the community center at present.
- Transitional housing
- People (homeless) from outside the community are coming in, and we need to figure out how to stop that.
- Respite care for kūpuna in the region is needed until a supportive living center can be completed.
- There needs to be a care home within the community for kūpuna.
- There is space available for all of these things: Kalāwahine where the BWS tank is supposed to go, Kalāwahine park, etc.
- There is a need for those youth, age 18 though their twenties that have not found their way and need more support until they can get there.
- What are their 'ohana doing for them?
- These are people who are struggling or have mental health needs.
- There needs to be laundry space.
- There needs to be speed bumps or traffic calming within the region.
- Fix the wall in front of the house along Kaululā'au.
- Wall on Tantalus.
- Rebuild the whole community center. The community has outgrown the space, and maybe instead of adding things or repairing things, the whole community center needs to come down and be replaced with a community center that can meet the needs of the community now and into the future.
- Storage space is needed.
- Parking is needed.
- What can fit now?
- Community center needs to have an elevator for kūpuna.
- There are challenges with getting financing because you don't own the land.

PAPAKŌLEA REGIONAL PLAN UPDATE

Meeting #1 Notes

September 18, 2019

Page 3 of 7

- There is only funding available for programs, not for facilities, that is why the organizations are going after the funding for programs because they cannot get the funding for facilities.
- Create a space for an economic engine that can support the needs of the community.
- Create a space to make money to pay for these projects.
- Kids use the inside covered spaces, not the outside uncovered area. Use the outside uncovered area for parking or for a construction of a new building.
- Use space at Kalāwahine for BWS Tank for something for the community.
- Need a park for Kewalo, like a small hālau or hale, some type of gathering space for Kewalo.
- Hawaiian Homes needs to get more involved, do it, and get it done.
- Called DHHL 6 times and didn't get a person, no one returns calls or messages.

Group 1

Visioning Exercise Part II

Attendees were asked, if a documentary film crew comes to your community in 2050, tell me what they will capture on film for the documentary on this place.

1. *What does it look like?*
2. *What does it feel like?*
3. *What should they highlight about your community?*

Discussion:

- All priority projects are done/complete.
- It'll look the same if DHHL doesn't change the way that they do things.
- Running streams.
- Mo'owahine is back.
- Lo'i kalo.
- All homes will be kūpuna friendly for access.
- The region is a model for kauhale living in a cohesive, lōkahi style, working together.
- Sidewalks on all the roads.
- Pūowaina is done and things for the community are done.
- Looks worse now than it did before, in the 1990s there was a documentary done by Edgy Lee, and it is worse there now than it was then. Not the programs, but the infrastructure and buildings.
- Community isn't taking responsibility for how they are living.
- DHHL needs to take responsibility for their responsibilities.
- My mother is a resident at the kūpuna supportive living center in the community.
- Adults are serving the kūpuna in the housing.
- Teachers are trained within the community and are teaching at the education centers in the community.
- Keiki enter jobs that they are trained for within the community and work those jobs in the community, working for the community.
- Nurses for kūpuna that are trained within the community at the community programs.

PAPAKŌLEA REGIONAL PLAN UPDATE

Meeting #1 Notes

September 18, 2019

Page 4 of 7

- Economic development to support the kūpuna.
- 'Ōlelo Hawai'i fills the air.
- DHHL fulfills its vision and mission for beneficiaries.
- No homeless.
- Affordable housing.
- Need more support for affordable housing.

Group 2

Vision Exercise Part I

Attendees were asked to share with the group their answers to the following questions:

1. *What special things about this place do you want to preserve for the future generations?*
2. *What do you want to create in this community? In this place?*
3. *What do you want to change in this community? In this place?*

Discussion:

- Safe streets. Spoke with Della Au Belatti re: these concerns.
 - Why can't we have raised crosswalks like in other neighborhoods like Kalihi? This would slow cars down and make it safer for keiki and kūpuna too. Don't need them everywhere, just in certain places where there is not a good line of sight like at Laukea Street Playground.
 - There is also speeding on Tantalus Drive.
 - Need traffic calming up Tantalus Drive.
 - Need crosswalks at Krauss Street for kids taking the back-road shortcut to school.
 - Cars park on the street and when they open their doors, there are often near-misses with other vehicles driving by, especially in areas where drivers can't see around bends in the road. Need "slow down" signs. Sometimes residents sit outside and hold up cameras to slow drivers down (it works).
 - Need sign warning that crosswalks are coming up ahead
 - Not a legal crosswalk on Laukea Street.
 - Organized a group of mothers sign-waving, asking drivers to slow down. But can't be out there every day.
 - Sidewalk in front of basketball court is uneven, hard for kupuna to walk (Krauss Street to Kauhane Street), on Tantalus Drive.
 - Who has jurisdiction over which roads?
 - Need safer streets.
 - Traffic calming in Kalāwahine needed too.
 - Don't wait until someone dies to do something.
- Roads are too narrow – not enough parking.
- Need to regulate illegal parking because they block sightlines and are unsafe.
- Like how the neighborhood has open spaces: natural hedges, not a lot of walls, feeling of openness.
- Like that Papakōlea has a reputation of toughness because outside troublemakers don't come in. But to residents, it still feels safe.

PAPAKŌLEA REGIONAL PLAN UPDATE

Meeting #1 Notes

September 18, 2019

Page 5 of 7

- Some lessees didn't raise their kids here, so the kids don't know Papakōlea. Now that those children are moving back, they don't know anything about Papakōlea, how we do things here, how we act.
- Need more community involvement.
 - Good programs at the park, but it's the same people all the time. We need to bring in more people. Some people don't come to events, but when we need stuff, they help out.
 - Annual pā'ina brings people out. Need more community gatherings.
- Get more children and residents involved in the community via programs at park/community center.
 - Keep park updated for the kids.
 - Convert basketball court into a gym.
 - Not enough parking at the park/center for all the programs.
- Homeless in their cars at the entrance to the homestead - how do we help them?
- Ha'alelea Place was supposed to have 4 more lots but a revised plan took them out.
- Water tank was supposed to go in years ago.
- How to get more people involved to come to RP Update meeting? At least three touches: save the date; postcard, emails, and/or facebook pages; banner a few days prior.

Group 2

Visioning Exercise Part II

Attendees were asked, if a documentary film crew comes to your community in 2050, tell me what they will capture on film for the documentary on this place.

1. *What does it look like?*
2. *What does it feel like?*
3. *What should they highlight about your community?*

Discussion:

- All the improvements will be done by then (2050).
- Kūpuna are able to age in place.
- All lots are occupied.
- Too many families are selling and moving. We don't know the new people coming in; it feels like we're losing fabric of our community. Want to see the next several generations continuing to live in Papakōlea, building new houses.
- Successors are financially literate. Currently, kids can't take over the leases when families need to pass it down.
- People need affordable financing and payment plans to able to keep their homes. It's too hard to go to the bank for loans. DHHL needs to be the lender of choice, not the lender of last resort.
- Houses are affordable in perpetuity.
- All abandoned vehicles are off the street.
- Parking and traffic signs are everywhere and enforced.

PAPAKŌLEA REGIONAL PLAN UPDATE

Meeting #1 Notes

September 18, 2019

Page 6 of 7

- Children are walking to school safely; safe sidewalks for all.
- There is enough parking for every house; no orange cones!
- There are more people doing activities at the park; people are getting out of their homes and interacting.
- We have a revitalized community – more outside activity.
- Affordable housing.
- We have a close-knit community that helps each other with donations, fundraising, other help.

Questions/Comments collected during the presentation discussion on Infrastructure repair, replacement and maintenance.

- Infrastructure maintenance and repair:
 - What do these mean?
 - Unstable soils
 - Soil instability
 - Seeps/springs/underground flows
 - Should all be grouped together.
- Will these things get done even if they aren't in the 2009 Regional Plan?
- These three issues are front and center and are not just fringe issues.
- Have someone give an update on these things at the next meeting.

Visioning Exercise Part III

Facilitators created a draft list of community values based on breakout group discussion during Parts I & II of the Visioning Exercise. The attendees were brought together in one large group and presented this preliminary draft list of values for further discussion.

Group 1 Draft Values:

- **Safety for kūpuna and keiki.**
- **Economic sustainability.**
- **Places/spaces for people. Kūpuna. Keiki. Homeless.**
- **Protect natural and cultural resources.**
- **Opportunities within the community. Live. Work. Grow old. Education/training.**

Group 2 Draft Values:

- **Safe community for keiki & kūpuna.**
- **Openness between neighbors.**
- **Preserve the social fabric – keep leases within the 'ohana.**
- **Active community.**
- **Supportive community.**
 - **Close knit.**
 - **Everyone helps each other.**

Large Group Discussion:

- Safety

PAPAKŌLEA REGIONAL PLAN UPDATE

Meeting #1 Notes

September 18, 2019

Page 7 of 7

- Raised crosswalks.
- Traffic calming.
- Dementia-friendly.
- Signs – speed limit, playground ahead, etc.
- Neighborhood watch.
- More visibility along Tantalus Drive.
 - Awareness of driveways.
 - Close calls daily.
 - Slow down the traffic.
 - Safety by bus stop.
- Sidewalk in front of park.
- Economic sustainability
 - Bring in income to the community.
 - No need for grants.
 - Economic engine to bring in money.
 - Services reimbursement (how?) – need to stop being free
- Openness between neighbors
 - No high fences.
 - Can talk/see/communicate with each other.
 - Community bonding.
 - Papakōlea pā'ina.
 - Quarterly activities.
 - Neighbors helping to get community projects done.
- Natural and cultural resources.
 - Stream walk → maintain stream.
 - Mo'olelo to share the importance of the stream.
 - Stream touches every homestead, ties all together.
 - Student projects, data collection about the stream and history.
 - Progressive urban Hawaiians
 - DHHL needs to support the good work we are doing.
- Places/spaces for people
 - Kauhale
 - Physical and spiritual place, intergenerational
 - Waimānalo kūpuna housing – successful? Need to evaluate.
 - Self-reliance
 - Resilience
 - Support from DHHL
 - Health & wellness.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.