



HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS TRUST
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

**Kapolei Regional Plan Update
Beneficiary Consultation #1
VIRTUAL Meeting via Zoom
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2020
7:00 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.**

MEETING RECAP

Attendance: 21 (digital sign-in via Google Forms)

DHHL: Pearlyn Fukuba (Planning Office and Project Manager), Andrew Choy (Planning Office), Sherri Hiraoka (Townscape, Inc., Consultant Project Manager), Lillie Makaila (Townscape, Inc., Consultant), Nolan Hong (Pop Creative Media, Technical Assistance).

Digital Handouts:

1. Beneficiary Consultation #1 Agenda
2. Slideshow Presentation

Presentation:

Lillie Makaila opened the meeting with welina, Aunty Homelani Shaedel offered opening pule and Pearlyn Fukuba shared introductions of the staff and consultants. Lillie Makaila gave a slideshow presentation to share the purpose of Beneficiary Consultation #1, the background on DHHL Regional Plans, and the Regional Plan Update project for the Kapolei Regional Plan (2010). Lillie Makaila introduced the Visioning Exercise and the attendees were split up into three virtual breakout rooms using the Zoom platform to participate in the Visioning Exercise. Lillie Makaila facilitated discussion for Breakout Room #1. Sherri Hiraoka facilitated discussion for Breakout Room #2. Andrew Choy facilitated discussion for Breakout Room #3, and Pearlyn Fukuba assisted with notetaking for Breakout Room #3 as well.

Breakout Room #1

Facilitator: Lillie Makaila

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:

- Pu'u o Kapolei & other wahi pana should be preserved for the future generations.
 - o These are important places for everyone: homesteaders and others who live in the region.
 - o Many of the homesteaders living in the Kapolei area are not from this place but have moved here from elsewhere. It is important that we all learn about the important places in the region.
 - o Even though Pu'u o Kapolei does not sit on DHHL lands, it is still an important resource for the DHHL beneficiaries in the region. We need to give folks a sense of place and give young folks reasons to stay here and not move away.
- The Heritage Center is important to community folks.
 - o It is a place to gather, to have celebrations and is the direct result of a survey done in the Malu'ohai homestead and part of the Kaupe'a homestead that asked lessees what the needs of the community are.
 - o The Heritage Center will be the wahi pana for all the homesteads in the Kapolei Region.
- Pueo are an important resource to be preserved and protected. They used to be more frequently seen but are very rarely seen today.
- Agricultural Lands are a resource in the area. Kapolei is a unique community with residential areas that are surrounded by agricultural and commercial lands. There is a sense of Town, but it is still Country. It is important to preserve open spaces and to work towards being more self-sustaining by prioritizing the agricultural industry in the region.
- More community engagement is needed in the region.
 - o We are concerned about the young folks in the community and ensuring that there are positive things for them to be engaged in, such as team sports, canoe clubs, etc.
 - o If there were opportunities for the old and the young to participate in engagement together it would allow them to spend time with each other, and the older folks could help to guide the youth into their future.
- We would like the homesteads to be cleaner and neater.
 - o Abandoned vehicles clutter up the roadways and make the community look bad. There are folks who live in the community who have cars parked on the road that haven't run in 5 years. These vehicles need to be removed. Homesteaders should make more of an effort to keep the homestead looking neat.
 - o Enforcement for these types of things can be complicated. Assistance from DHHL would be appreciated.
 - o Malu'ohai & Kaupe'a Associations and their lessees are under the master association of the Villages of Kapolei (VOKA). VOKA assists in sending notices to homeowners that are in violation of the association rules and policies. It is a very complex issue, but it is helpful to have assistance from a master association in regulating the neatness of the homesteads.
 - o One challenge is that it is not always clear if it is a homesteader who is responsible for the vehicle or if it was brought in by someone outside of the community.
- We envision a place of worship that is completed in the next 10 years and serves as a sanctuary for the region. Example: Moloka'i has many churches in the older homesteads, and there are ample places of worship for the community.

- We envision a place of rest, like a cemetery, in a serene and peaceful setting near the place of worship.
- We also envision a kūpuna living facility for kūpuna in Kapolei that is similar to the senior living apartments located in Waimānalo.
 - o There are many challenges for kūpuna, and sometimes maintaining a large homestead lot is not the most ideal situation for them. They may not be able to keep up with a larger home or yard.
 - o They may even be put into a back room of the house as their family takes over the space and they may not get the support or services that they need.
 - o We need a great kūpuna living facility so that they have a more suitable place to go as they age.

Visioning Exercise Part II

Attendees were asked, "If a documentary film crew comes to your community in 2050, what will they capture on film?" What does Kapolei look like?

1. *What does Kapolei feel like?*
2. *What should they highlight about your community?*

Discussion:

- There are more open spaces for the keiki.
 - o Kānehili Homestead is in the process of planning phase II of the Kānehili Area Park, but funding is an issue and is the Association's main priority right now.
 - o There should be soccer parks, baseball parks, and other places for keiki to go. There aren't many open spaces here for the community, but the Department (DHHL) has a lot of land in the region, and they need to put some grass down on those open lands and let the keiki go and use the spaces.
- There are spaces for the Homestead Community to have gardens or farming beyond just their homestead lot.
 - o The lots are small and don't offer much space for agriculture. There should be additional areas for each family to have a plot to grow vegetables and food to sustain themselves and to feed their 'ohana. We should also create more awareness about being sustainable.
- There is ample parking for the homesteads.
 - o Parking is needed for each family and their vehicles. Parking is also needed for other types of vehicles including boats, work trucks and other vehicles.
 - o Having safe and secure storage places to park would help keep the homesteads from being overwhelmed with parked vehicles.
- There is a thriving, sustainable Kūpuna Village filled with a community of native Hawaiian kūpuna.
 - o The design of these homes would be small, 1 bedroom/1 bath single family homes. There would be enough room for kūpuna to live comfortably, but not have such a large home and yard to care for. Everything would be close and easily accessible for the kūpuna. There would be spaces to garden, a commissary to shop, a cafeteria to eat, and even laundry services available.

- Kūpuna beneficiaries should be able to lease until they pass, and their spouse should be able to stay until they pass too regardless of whether they are a beneficiary or not. Their rent would be based on their income to ensure that it is truly affordable for them. Visitors are welcome, but there is no long-term family that is allowed to live in the kūpuna housing.
- There are health clinics, social and supportive services, volunteers to care for the kūpuna, and security to keep them safe and monitored.
- There are golf carts available for them to get around, sustainable energy like solar panels used, a recreation center, gym, places for them to shop, and more.
- People in the community run the community so it is cost effective. Native Hawaiian organizations are able to get involved and provide support to the kūpuna.
- Having a kūpuna village would free up the other types of homestead lots so they can be passed on to other beneficiaries when the kūpuna move into the village.
- Our kūpuna used to be better cared for in our history, and we need to include this as a priority in the planning for the future of our community.
- The people are self-governed.
 - This can mean a lot of different things but think about what this means to you and what you would want to see in a self-governed future.
- There is a neighborhood watch organization to spot things happening in the area and keep an eye on the community.

Breakout Room #2

Facilitator: Sherri Hiraoka

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:

- Intentional naming – preserve the names of this place.
 - Call out the ancestral names, be mindful of how we select names for buildings, places. Research!
- How do we have the visual landscape depict the native spaces; where might we look to create community gardens and invest in Hawaiian landscaping, native plants. The visual landscape should help us to reacclimate ourselves with this place. This should not be “Anyplace, USA.” We should know that we are in Kapolei, Honouliuli, etc. There are certain elements and native animals and plants that are specific to this place. We used to see owls flying, but don’t see them anymore. Ensure that trees that are in our communities are native to Kapolei, even those that serve a function.
- How do we ensure that our footprint and the stories that we tell our keiki are still relevant?

- Have space for gathering, activities, youth, for example the Pā hula at Pu‘u o Kapolei for cultural events, for music, for gathering. It is important that we have these places to activate and activating them is important for the community. Happy to have the attention at Pu‘u o Kapolei and that the young generation will always know it as a place for hula. Preserve names, traditional practices of this place.
- Happy that there are lots of non-profits and partnerships producing events for ‘ohana.
- Community use areas are important.
- Kapolei Heritage Center – a place for the homestead to call its own, managed by its homesteaders.
 - It would be good to have the Heritage center completed and fully built out and be the gathering place that was envisioned in 2008.
 - Lots to do to get Phase II (hālau) built. Need support.
- Kapolei at full buildout will be the largest concentration of native Hawaiians in the world – how do we plan for that growth? Is the Heritage Center enough? Do we need more? How do we service more homesteaders? How do we incorporate the cultural landscape into planning for community areas?
- The 35 acres of community area that DHHL put into the plans – what could they be? Our community will grow and will need places to gather and practice culture, celebrate, do things as a community. Those needs will exceed what we currently have planned.
- Historically, kalo and ‘ulu have their origins here. It reminds me of the nourishment that Kapolei has to make available to the homesteads. Nourishment as a concept or as physical food to survive for this and future generations. Nurture our people: food, health, well-being, spiritual.
- Great homestead leadership in Kapolei! We communicate and work together well as a region. Special for a region, especially as big as Kapolei. How do we encourage our youth to become engaged and be involved. What is the succession of stewardship and leadership to the next generation and beyond.
- We enjoy the neighborhood!
- Realize the “Live, Work, Play” Concept. A lot of our families commute to town for work, then get back into their cars and drive 1.5 hours back home. We have a lot of amenities but still find ourselves commuting to work and back. Expand from an economic development standpoint – how do we support that effort so our people can stay within this ahupua‘a to live, work, play? How to convert from a bedroom community to a thriving community with economic opportunities?
- Kānehili – teens and young adults need programs, e.g., Boys and Girls Club
 - This age group competes for space with the younger keiki in the parks. Need more places, programs for the teen/young adults. Something for them to do.
 - They tell us that there are not enough things for them to do.
 - Have neighborhood security watch program – watches out for drug or alcohol use and talks to young people so drugs and alcohol are not really a problem; just need productive activities for youth.
- Artists painting electrical boxes, murals – can we add art to buildings that is reflective of this space? Partner with others and engage youth to be a part of this.

- Perhaps even something that is dynamic, like in Kaka‘ako where the art changes every year.
- “The Great Wall of Kapolei” (on Kūalaka‘i) – gets tagged and cleaned, but could be used for art that the community will want to care for and police.
- Waipahu High School provides adult education programs. Perhaps Kapolei High School could also provide youth and young adult programs – what programs are needed?

Visioning Exercise Part II

Attendees were asked, “If a documentary film crew comes to your community in 2050, what will they capture on film?”

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

Discussion:

- Beautiful artwork that tells us that this is a place for the community, by the community.
- Community is engaged in these places of cultural learning. Puu o Kapolei, etc.
- We are not just hosting people, but teaching and nurturing and sustaining the knowledge of this place for future generations.
- Young homeowners, families moving into a home. See youth engaged in meaningful ways in a variety of settings.
- Multi-cultural celebrations in our common spaces.
 - Celebrating events that become signature events for Kapolei, like when we talk about Kapu‘uola Hula festival, people know that this is a Kapolei event.
 - Celebrations that span generations and are known in this place.
- “Neva have Kapolei when I was young!” Highlight the kūpuna who established the sense of place: their names, their contributions, and their trajectory. This is how Kapolei started, and this is where we are in 2050. Herald these stories!
- Story: the Hawaiian club in Okinawa held events where everyone learned and continued to practice culture: how to pound poi, imu pig, etc. Can we do something like that for the Heritage Center so we don’t forget how to do things, the traditions?
- Heritage Center will be important for the Hawaiian community and for transplants moving in. Do they have a connection to the Hawaiian culture? Are they learning about who we are and what we’re about? It’s important to integrate newcomers into our Hawaiian culture so they can learn. In 2050, they will know that their community was built on unity, culture.
- What can we bring to Kapolei for our children so they can remain here to live: jobs, Hawaiian culture. We’re losing too many children to the mainland.
- Availability of videos, etc. So newcomers can get a little bit of history and understanding and how to be active in the community?
- There are a lot of military families moving in and they are interested in the culture. We should take the opportunity to share our culture, our place and to ask for respect for our

culture and values so they learn about who we are so we are not dismissed 50 years from now.

- When anyone comes into our community, they should know that this is Hawai'i, our community. How does it look different from other communities? What is the story of this community?
- A place to come and learn.
- By 2050, Kapolei Heritage Center is built! A second site is built! Ho'omaka is built!
- Communities are thriving. Kapolei Community Development Corporation is servicing our communities with programs. A second site is emerging to expand services.

Breakout Room #3

Facilitator: Andrew Choy

Notetaker: Pearlyn Fukuba

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:

What special things about this place do you want to preserve for future generations?

- 'Ohana, relationship with neighbors.
- Heritage and culture.
- Community benefits, e.g., Ka Makana Ali'i.
- Land preserved for farming, cultural and self-sustaining purposes – preservation is needed, especially for the keiki.
- Preserving the community spaces like the parks and Kapolei Heritage Center (KHC), including expansion of those pieces.
- Preservation of the landscape, including food plants.

What do you want to create in this community, in this place?

What do you want to change in this community, in this place?

(NOTE: both questions were simultaneously answered)

- The current road design only allows parking on one side of the street, therefore it doesn't accommodate families with 4 or 5 cars. Can it be designed so that parking is allowed on both sides of the street?
- Streets are too narrow, homesteaders need to drive on their lawn to turn around vehicles.
- Can DHHL set aside land for a cemetery, including a place for urns (columbarium) in the Kapolei region (the closest cemetery is in Nānākuli).
- A park in their neighborhood that can be reached by walking or bicycling, green space, basketball park, etc.
- Current tree choices create too much rubbish, still waiting for a park to be built at the 9-acre vacant parcel near the high school.

- Traffic light and crosswalk at the intersection of Pū'ainakō and Kapolei Parkway
- Develop homestead youth leadership (gang prevention measures), charter schools, continue expansion of KHC and Kānehili park, install lights for night-time use.
- Roads are narrow, reduce 25 mph to 15 mph speed limit in the homestead areas
- Finish license agreement with VOKA to manage homesteads.
- Install green growth along Kūalaka'i Parkway to provide a barrier from fires that could jump the parkway to the homestead areas.

Visioning Exercise Part II

Attendees were asked, "If a documentary film crew comes to your community in 2050, what will they capture on film?"

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

Discussion:

What does it look like?

- Mature trees, children playing at the park, garden spaces.
- A place where people don't have to work 3 or 4 jobs and have time to enjoy their homes
- Kamehameha West O'ahu campus and Punahou campus.
- People live, work and play in the same region, and don't have to commute so far for work.
- Home gardens and a community farmer's market where they could buy products from one another.
- Healthy and resilient community where families have open spaces and opportunities to thrive.
- Drug and substance-free community.
- Community center for youth/kupuna, community center (a piko for the community),
- Live music, jam sessions, community imu.

The virtual Breakout Rooms were closed, and all attendees were brought back together into a large group discussion. Facilitators were asked to share highlights from each Breakout Room's discussion with the large group. Participants in each Breakout Room were asked to correct any errors in what was shared by Facilitators and/or to add in anything that was left out. Lillie Makaila began a large group discussion about the highlights that were shared.

Large Group Session:

Facilitator: Lillie Makaila

DISCUSSION:

What are some of the major themes from the Breakout Room Discussions?

- Kūpuna Village:
 - Comprehensive/full service
 - Affordable
 - Everything in one place
 - Cultural activities
 - Health maintenance

- Aging needs – health needs, activity needs, exercise needs
- Safe place
- Dementia friendly
- Supportive services for people to age in place
- Agriculture/Community Garden space:
 - Space for each 'ohana to garden or farm
 - Space to share the produce – farmers market or co-op
 - Promote the idea of a circular economy
 - Grow produce
 - Retail produce
 - Work with others in the economy
 - Getting mulch
 - Working with kūpuna village, schools, restaurants
 - Workshops to help people build knowledge on how to garden
 - Lā'au Lapa'au – medicines, feed the circular economy
 - Look at the historical setting to better understand what to place these things
- Youth – places and spaces and programs to engage and groom to become active in the community
 - Already have resources – elementary schools, other schools, UHWO
 - Get youth active, higher education, trades. How do we connect the dots?
 - Types of activities: community sports, intramurals, cultural programs, paddling, clubs, baseball, volleyball, softball
 - Everyone get out there with a team – inter-homestead Olympics!
 - Biggest population of Hawaiians – we gotta do something!
- Community spaces within the homesteads – plan out all spaces.
 - Kaupe'a needs the 9 acres by the HS and Pū'ainakō. We need to get control of this. It's HHFDC land – how does DHHL get it? For a gathering Space?
 - Own up to promises.
 - What should a gathering space look like?
 - Assess the needs of the community. Build out the spaces we have and assess future needs.
- Traffic light! At Pū'ainakō and Kapolei Parkway

Presentation:

Lillie Makaila concluded the presentation covering next steps, the proposed timeline for completion of the update to the Kapolei Regional Plan, and shared contact information with the attendees. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

Comments submitted outside of Beneficiary Consultation #1:

- A lessee in Ka'uluokaha'i was unable to attend Beneficiary Consultation #1 and shared the following:

- Wider roads to accommodate parking. Many homesteaders have multiple families in one home. Thus, having several cars, and many turn their garages into a living space like a man cave or children's play zone. O have been told that narrower roads allow for more homes but if overcrowding of vehicles parked illegally are causing dangerous safety issues such as children in danger of not being seen if running from behind a car that is parked illegally, or blocking driveways which makes it difficult to back out of your driveway, and blocking sidewalks that wheelchairs have to go on the road to get by.
- A cemetery or columbarium like they have in Nanakuli. Not everyone has a plan for when we leave this earth.
- A park with space to allow children to play safely. The park could be multi use with an open covered building, certified kitchen, and an imu.
- All 3 requests require DHHL to change focus from single family Homes to multi family structures like condominiums.
- Rentals also are needed with long term leases for 99 years which would get people off the list.

Email sent to DHHL and Townscape, Inc.

- A lessee in Ka'uluokaha'i homestead requested a community bulletin board be placed near where the mailboxes are located. *Telephone request to DHHL.*
- A lessee in the Kaupe'a homestead discussed the various issues related to cluster mailboxes located closely to certain residences in the homestead. Some of these issues include:
 - Cluster mailboxes are for 100 individual mailboxes, and cause traffic and congestion where they are placed in front of the homes of the lessees.
 - This causes distress and frustration for the homes affected.
 - There was a recent car accident where someone checking their mail hit a parked car on the street.
 - The lessees were not notified that they would have a cluster mailbox in front of their home.
 - This is an added layer of difficulty that is shouldered by only a small percentage of those in the community.