



CONFERENCE REPORT

111 S. King Street
Suite 170
Honolulu, HI 96813
808.523.5866
www.g70.design

TO:	Department of Hawaiian Home Lands		
FROM:	G70		
DATE:	April 29, 2021	LOCATION:	Virtual Meeting via Zoom
PROJECT:	Malama Cultural Park, Moloka'i Special Area Plan	PROJECT NO:	219014-01
SUBJECT:	Beneficiary Consultation Meeting #2	NO. OF PAGES:	7
THOSE PRESENT:	DHHL: Pearlyn Fukuba, Andrew H. Choy, Commissioner Zachary Helm G70: Kawika McKeague, Cody Winchester, Janice Jensen, Pi'ilani Smith, Kai Akiona	Community Members: Charles Ka'ahanui III, Cora Schnackenberg, Sybil Lopez, Penny Martin	

SUMMARY:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) and G70 hosted a second beneficiary consultation meeting with beneficiaries from the Island of Moloka'i. Due to limitations of social distancing and travel restrictions to the island of Moloka'i due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was held virtually on April 29, 2021, from 6:30-9:00pm via Zoom. The purpose of this meeting was "Laying the Foundation" and covered a summary of research, site investigations, and community input that resulted in some preliminary key findings, vision statement, and initial opportunities and constraints mapping for the Malama Cultural Park Special Area Plan (Malama SAP). Presentation materials were distributed prior to the meeting and are also available on the DHHL website. Survey questions were made available on the DHHL website via Survey Monkey.

Welcoming & Pule

- The meeting commenced at approximately 6:40pm.
- Commissioner Zachary Helm opened with a pule.
- Kawika McKeague (G70) provided introductions for the G70 team.
- Pearlyn Fukuba (DHHL) provided introductions for the DHHL team.
- Prince Kūhiō's vision for DHHL is to help foster healthy Hawaiian communities. Part of that effort involves the stewardship of natural and cultural resources as well as building a sense of community.
- A project timeline was shared to inform beneficiaries of the work that has been completed to date and the next stages of the community planning process.

Presentation

G70 presented key findings from previous research and community meetings including viewplanes, historic sites, biological resources, infrastructure and facilities, uses and users, and key community concerns. To highlight the historical significance of the park and understanding of natural cycles in lunar timekeeping and celestial navigation, ancestral knowledge inclusive of the preliminary identification of pathways of the sun and moon during equinoxes and solstices as seen from the park were shared for feedback.

Based upon the attendance of the four beneficiaries present, the meeting was reconfigured as an open dialogue in which attending participants were able to share a series of questions, concerns, and points of clarification as to the overall planning process to specifics of vision and planning elements.

The following matrix summarizes the extent of key comments shared by attendees and the planning team's initial responses during the meeting. For those comments that may have required some additional post-meeting action by the planning team, the matrix below makes specific note of that.

Comment	Response
There are concerns about sea level rise and king tides. Beach sand comes and goes with the tide and the season. The park should be identified as part of the South Moloka'i Shoreline Erosion Management Plan.	There are tools to monitor long-term changes along the coast. Historically, the beach has been experiencing a period of accretion. This trend may change as sea level rise and inundation impact the coastline. Park planning efforts will be done in concert with the South Moloka'i Shoreline Erosion Management Plan.
There is a concern of homeless individuals occupying the park and leaving rubbish. Attendees asked how DHHL will address the homeless?	Comment is noted and acknowledged. The Malama SAP intends to identify park management options and formulate recommendations to address those concerns.
'Ōpala in the park is a problem. The canoe clubs are the ones who mālama the area for 'ōpala.	Comment is noted and acknowledged. The Malama SAP intends to identify management actions and recommendations to address those concerns. The planning process will include an evaluation of viable long-term waste collection and management alternatives.
"The issue has been availability/access to water on-site. We constantly raise that up because nobody wants to take responsibility. Whether the water sits on the county, whether it sits on DHHL. We would want DHHL to address those types of infrastructures."	Comment is noted and acknowledged. The Malama SAP intends to address those concerns.
Who is responsible for the active water meter?	A water meter is located on the DHHL property. Water service for grounds maintenance and club events are paid for by the Moloka'i Canoe Club. The Malama SAP will assess options for water delivery to other portions of the park.
What was the outcome of the contamination study and who is paying for the contamination study?	DHHL opined that the contamination study was initiated by Chevron and the environmental study evaluating the magnitude and extent of soil contamination impacts in the park remains ongoing. DHHL will share the results with the planning team once they receive the information.
Is there an memorandum of agreement (MOA) between DHHL and Maui County for access to the restrooms and the historic courthouse?	There is currently no MOA. Each agency has its own respective kuleana generated by its specific mission and priorities. An MOA would be based on both agencies recognizing that they have certain responsibilities to these assets, and that it would be to the benefit of both parties to meet the standard of care desired.
Why is there a chain across the parking lot driveway?	Access is a concern and at present, parking is available in the mauka section of the park. Resolving parking concerns will be addressed in the Malama SAP.

Is the park available to the public or is access restricted?	Comment is noted and acknowledged. The Malama SAP intends to address the concern.
Have you estimated the cost of what this project will be?	Cost estimates for identified improvements will be included in the Malama SAP. DHHL opined that homesteading is the department's main priority (Na'iwa/'Ualapu'e). Therefore, it is important to note that all future improvements and the long-range management and stewardship of the park should be a community-based initiative.
Malama Cultural Park was identified as a priority project in the Moloka'i Island Plan. Community members wanted clarification for the funding portion for the park; was it to fund planning or for management?	DHHL stated that funding allocated for Malama Cultural Park was specific to the development of the Malama SAP. Financing options for the specific actions and strategies within the Plan will need to be explored.

Visioning Exercise

The word cloud pictured below highlights key themes from the 1995 Malama Cultural Park Master Plan as well as words expressed by beneficiaries during the first round of beneficiary consultations for the Malama SAP. The following preliminary vision statement was crafted by the planning team based upon these words and sentiments shared by the community.



“An oasis rich in cultural tradition and a place for ‘ohana to gather, Malama Cultural Park is ‘āina; where kuleana has and continues to be carried forward from generation to generation.”

G70 discussed the approach to developing the preliminary vision statement and solicited feedback from the attendees. Without wider community participation, some attendees were uncomfortable with creating a vision statement and were glad that no final decisions would be made during the night of the meeting. Feedback included:

- “I like the first round of putting together a vision statement. Sounds great for a first round”.
- Change the word “oasis,” it’s too western. Perhaps there are other words in the Hawaiian culture and tradition to use.

- The vision statement has to resonate with those who come from/to the place. Its hard to proceed with visioning without all the players being involved. Attendees acknowledged that if the park is to be a community driven plan, then community members need to be present and involved in the planning process.
- Participants were not sure if the preliminary vision statement captured all the mo'olelo, mana'o, 'ike and history of the place. Prince Kūhiō was an avid canoe paddler and would come into Kaunakakai here via canoe. The name for the sands on the south shore is Kalaeokamanu, where plovers settle in the evening. It was the birds here that reminded the chiefs of children.

To further develop ideas captured within the vision statement, participants were asked to respond to three questions:

What does 'āina mean to you?

- 'Āina means more than surface, it means the root, to be cultivated. Would like to have more clarity in the vision statement. The use of English doesn't capture the essence.
- It would be such a beauty to emphasize the significant sites.
- We look at this place like a lifeline, especially with Kaunakakai Harbor. Over 90% of goods are imported to Moloka'i and majority of good are received at the harbor.
- Location is key in regards to 'āina.

What cultural traditions are important to carry forward and why?

- Malama Cultural Park is a very popular area where locals go to take photographs. It captures the essence of who we are.
- A wetland is located near where the Wa'akapaemua Canoe Club is located. Members of the club have been working with Kaunakakai School keiki to understand the wetlands by adding a piezometer, a device that monitors the pressure and depth of groundwater.

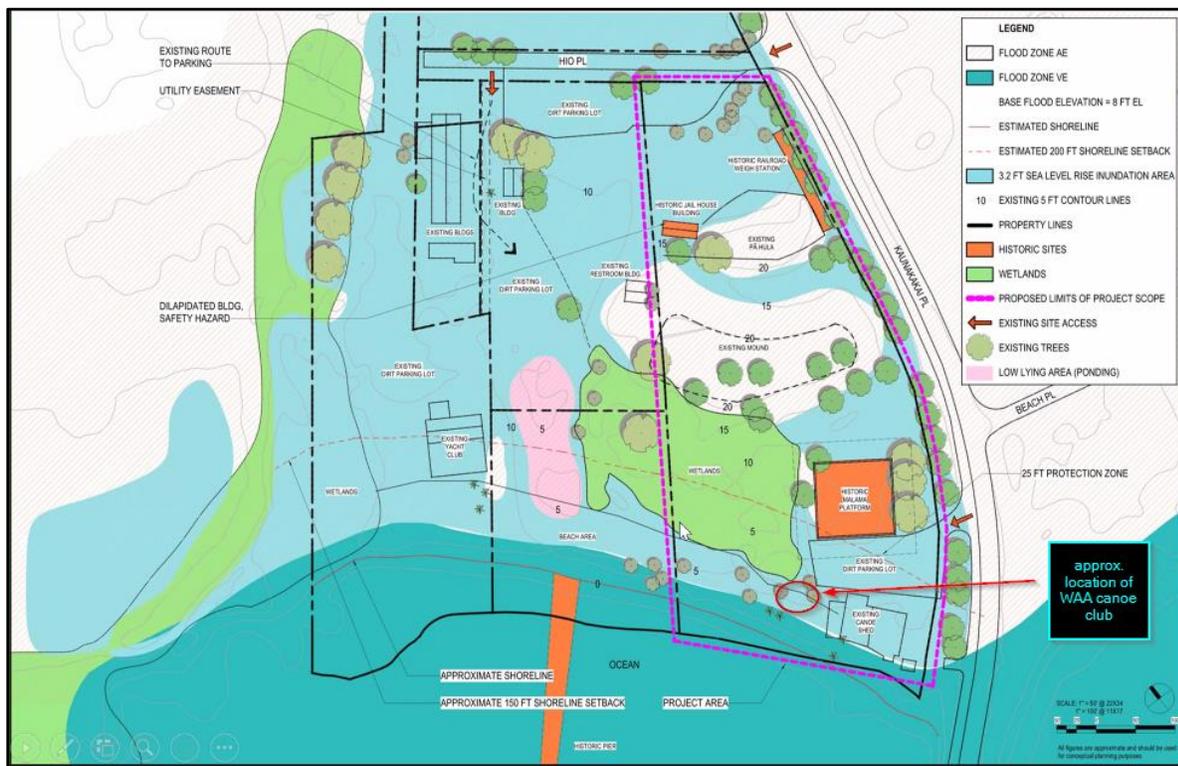
What matters most to 'ohana here?

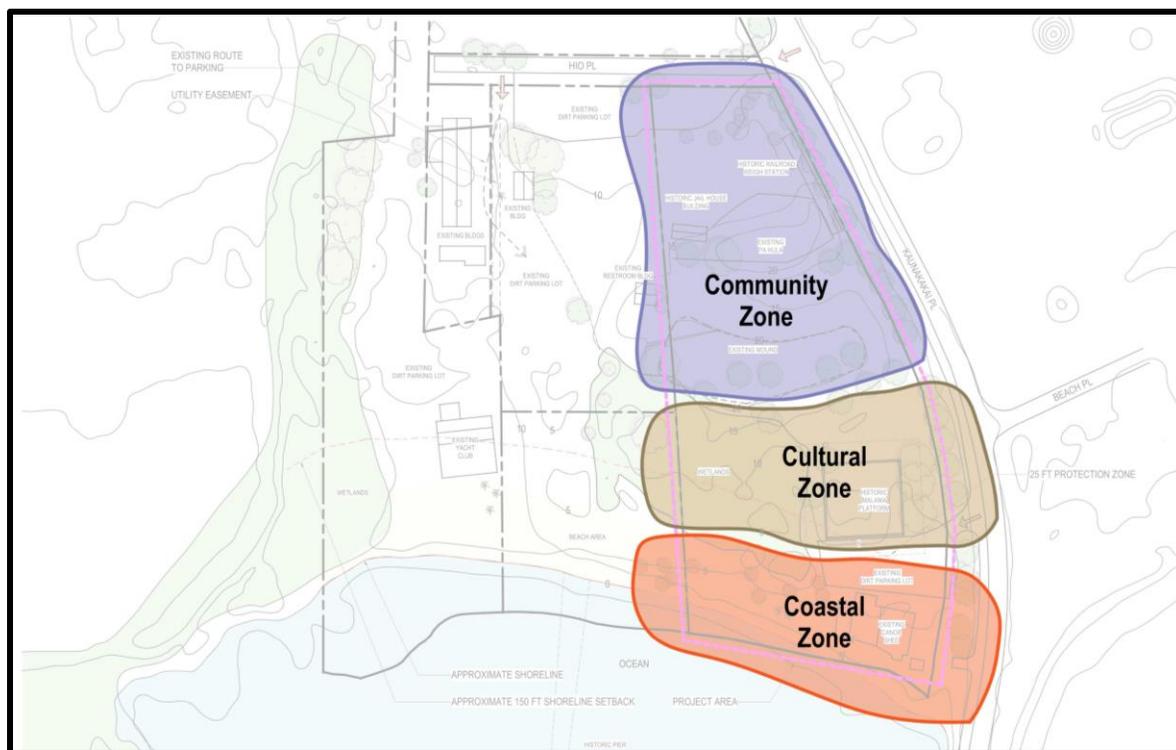
- "Ohana means a way of supporting each other, families, extended friend's families, etc. It's all about relationships, you know when make luau?"
- One way to reach the community is via the Moloka'i Mokupuni meetings, held on the fourth Thursday of every month from 4:30-7:30pm. They will be happy to put us on the agenda.
- When the Department of Land and Natural Resources had the area (before transfer to DHHL), it was host to Aloha Week festivities because of its central location. It's also a place for weddings.
- Looking to have a market/center hub/open market for beneficiaries.

Opportunities and Constraints

G70 shared a preliminary opportunities and constraints map. This map overlays an array of information that includes existing conditions, setback requirements, flood zones, sea level rise, natural and cultural resources and recommended buffers, infrastructure and other factors that may influence specific future actions. The opportunities and constraints map lends itself to examining the park in three distinct “zones”: coastal, cultural, and community.

Coastal is heavily restricted by shoreline setback, coastal erosion/accretion, and understanding uses suitable for the coastline like canoe access and launch. The cultural zone emphasizes a need to consider suitable protections around both the wetlands and the historic site. The community zone highlights the opportunities to revitalize the central gathering space and the resources such as the pa hula and the weigh station as community assets. This is where the greatest potential for some limited future improvement/development could occur.





Community members responded:

- Attendees were concerned with the absence of Wa'akapaemua Canoe Club on the opportunities and constraints map. G70 took responsibility for this unintentional error and provided assurances that it would be corrected. Wa'akapaemua will be included on an updated version of the map.
- Attendees questioned whether investing in infrastructure is feasible with sea level rise.
- Participants questioned the longevity/life usage of structures. Phased construction and flexible uses were discussed as alternatives.
- Would like to see more trees, natural beauty, boardwalk, a stone wall-like pavillion, something similar to Kulana 'Oiwī.
- Canoe clubs were there before DHHL and were/are looking into a traditional hale wa'a.
- It would be appropriate to perpetuate canoe paddling because Kalaniana'ole was an avid canoe paddler.
- The park should preserve open space and keep cultural traditions.
- The Plan should address issues of ingress/egress and parking. The Wa'apaekamua Canoe Club does not have designated parking. Club members access the park from the county-owned side.
- The project needs a champion.

- Only two out of four homesteads on Molokaʻi have a park.
- This is the only beach in town and the only place for canoe clubs. The canoe clubs have nowhere else to go.
- “It is more than just a park; I want to see it done right and to help everybody.”

G70 gave the final pule. The meeting ended at approximately 9:00pm.