



HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS TRUST
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

**Kapolei Regional Plan Update
Beneficiary Consultation #3
Virtual Meeting via Zoom
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2021
6:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.**

MEETING RECAP

Attendance: 7 (count on Zoom)

DHHL: Pearlyn Fukuba (Planning Office and Project Manager), Andrew Choy (Planning Office), Sherri Hiraoka (Townscape, Inc., Consultant Project Manager), Lillie Makaila (Townscape, Inc., Consultant)

Digital Handouts:

1. Beneficiary Consultation #3 Agenda
2. Slideshow Presentation
3. Draft Kapolei Regional Plan Update (available online)
4. Online Comment Form

Presentation:

The purpose of Beneficiary Consultation #3 (BC#3) was to review the Draft Kapolei Regional Plan Update with Kapolei beneficiaries and to gather beneficiary comment on the Draft Plan. Lillie Makaila opened the meeting with a welina, Aunty Homelani Schaedel offered opening pule and DHHL staff and the consultants introduced themselves. Lillie gave a slideshow presentation with a review of the Draft Kapolei Regional Plan Update and a summary of the planning process. Lillie facilitated a large group discussion following the slideshow presentation. The following are summaries of the questions and comments that were discussed.

VISION STATEMENT:

The following Vision Statement was shared with BC#3 participants:

From the Pu'u in the uplands to the shores of Kualaka'i, Kapolei is a growing region that looks to its history, mo'olelo, 'āina and kūpuna to build a strong foundation for our Hawaiian homestead communities. Kānaka embrace the area's rugged climate and terrain, which motivates them to be resilient and self-sufficient. The wahi pana and kīpuka of this place are celebrated and stewarded for future generations.

Participants were asked for any suggested changes or corrections needed to the vision statement. One comment was shared via the chat and stated that the vision represents Kapolei. No other revisions were suggested during BC#3.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES/COMMUNITY VALUES:

Each of the five guiding principles were shared with BC#3 participants. Participants were asked to comment on each of the principles and share any suggested revisions that they may have. Participants in BC#3 only shared comments on two of the five guiding principles/values. These comments are summarized below. Changes to the language of these guiding principles/values based on beneficiary comments are included in this section. Added language is underlined and language that is removed is recorded with a ~~striketrough~~.

Natural, Cultural and Agricultural Resources

Preserve Kapolei's rich natural, cultural, and agricultural history within new land uses and programs. Kapolei is a Town that has grown in what was once Country. That Country-feel should be incorporated wherever appropriate.

Wahi Pana

Traditional place names and wahi pana are of great value. Mo'olelo and histories are shared with homesteaders and the extended community of Kapolei to ensure that these celebrated places are respected, protected, and remembered into the future. Wahi pana, of old and new, throughout the region will be used by the community to gather and practice the native culture

Kūpuna

~~Traditionally, k~~ Kūpuna hold held an important role and place in native Hawaiian society. Spaces and resources in Kapolei will be used to create full and healthy lives for kūpuna as they age in place.

Beneficiary comments:

- The word "held" makes it seem past tense. Suggest changing the language so that it shows the special place that kūpuna continue to hold for us as a people.

Keiki

Resources for 'ōpio and keiki in Kapolei are a priority. There will be safe places for youth to spend their time and programs for them to learn and play near their homes.

Self-Sufficiency

Kapolei is a place where people can live, work and play. All the things that homesteaders need to have a healthy, thriving community can be found within the region. We strive for a Kapolei which offers an affordable lifestyle where people have time to enjoy their homes and their 'ohana.

Beneficiary comments:

- The lifestyle is not so affordable now. Suggest adjusting the language so it is more aspirational about what folks want for Kapolei.

PRIORITY PROJECTS:

Each of the five priority projects selected by the Kapolei beneficiaries in the Priority Project Poll (see BC#2 Meeting Recap for more details about priority project selection) were shared with BC#3 attendees. Beneficiaries were given the opportunity to provide comments for each project. Participants in BC#3 only shared comments on Project #4 and Project #5. These comments are summarized below. Comments provided by DHHL staff are also found below the relevant priority project.

PRIORITY PROJECT #1: Create More Open Spaces, Park Spaces, and Recreation Spaces to support the Homestead Community.

PRIORITY PROJECT #2: Create a Kūpuna Living Community.

PRIORITY PROJECT #3: Support the Heritage Center and Community Commercial Development

PRIORITY PROJECT #4: Support the Development of a Hawaiian-Focus School/Hawaiian Immersion School

Beneficiary comments:

- Ensure that the school is both 'ike and 'ōlelo based and is not just a native charter school.

PRIORITY PROJECT #5: Provide More Options for Telecommunications Service to Homesteads

Beneficiary comments:

- Is it enough that this project is a priority project in the regional plan or does the community need to draft a resolution or take further action in order to emphasize the importance of this project to the Hawaiian Homes Commission?
- Maybe the community can do a survey of the homesteaders to better understand the scale of those that are affected.
- Has DHHL staff looked at the conditions of the contract that Sandwich Isles Communication (SIC) has failed to uphold as a way to terminate the license agreement? A solution for this issue in my homestead and other Kapolei homesteads was needed long ago.
- It is unfortunate that the Department is caught in this web of legality because they cannot communicate with us other than to say that they are working on this.
- 2020 was a huge wake up call for all of us, and it was horrible for many of our families. It has accelerated the need for SIC to do something for us to get quality services.
- Malu'ōhai does not have fiber optic cables, so there are limitations for the quality of service that the homesteaders will have access to.

- In Kānehili we have always had Oceanic/Spectrum for broadband services, and I don't understand why its all different. Getting everything more uniform would help.
- From a Kaupe'a standpoint, this is more than Priority Project #5. We are working with other agencies because there have been situations where our SIC lines have been compromised. There has been tampering and unauthorized use in Kaupe'a since 2018. This is something that should be looked at because we need our opportunities to be opened up for us. It scares me to see compromising of utilities, it is like having a prison without a guard.
- I hope that DHHL can look at this. In order for us to be self-sufficient we need this resolved.
- I am one of the first residents in Ka'uluokaha'i, and when we came in we started under this contract with DHHL for SIC. I feel like we should have had the option to choose and not be dictated what we should be getting. We do not have fiber optic and SIC is not putting out enough bandwidth for me to get our entire house covered with wifi, and it's a small house. They want us to get WiFi extenders and upgrade routers, but we are already paying for service.
- Before SIC only offered phone services and we went to Oceanic for internet. Around 2010 or 2012, SIC offered computer services and bundles. Some people switched over completely to SIC and those of us who stayed with Oceanic for internet did not experience the same problems as those who changed over to SIC. Those who did have issues wanted to go back to Oceanic. There was an agreement between Oceanic and SIC that services would not be transferred (back to Oceanic). Spectrum, formerly Oceanic, was not aware of the agreement but once they found out they stopped allowing homesteaders to switch to their services.
- I thought that Kaupe'a did not have fiber optic, but now I hear that they do have fiber optic but it is not being used to provide services to homesteaders. There are gaps in services in the homesteads.
- This is a priority project and it may need to be moved to a higher position. If we do this as a region, our voices are stronger than as individuals so we need to work together. This project has affected our families on a daily level and I don't appreciate our people being pawns on the checkerboard. Regardless of what number priority it is, our homestead leadership should still come together and not just as individuals.

DHHL staff comment:

- We are very aware of this issue, not just in Kapolei, and especially during the pandemic. The Department is currently pursuing legal remedies to try to address these options. It would help the Department if it could have more examples of beneficiary problems to bolster their case.
- By legal remedies, we mean how we can get out of our contract with the existing service provider. Because it is a legal matter, we have to be cautious.
- It always helps to remind the HHC about issues, so periodic testimony on the conditions helps.
- We can reflect the urgency of this issue in the writeup of the plan.

- We can reorder the projects and put it in a higher priority in the plan.

NEXT STEPS

Lillie concluded the presentation covering next steps, the beneficiary comment period and relevant information and deadlines, and shared contact information with the attendees.

- The beneficiary comment period is open from **Thursday, December 9, 2021 to Monday, January 10, 2022 at 8pm.**
- Beneficiaries may access the Draft Kapolei Regional Plan Update online or in-person at the DHHL Kapolei Offices.
- Comments may be submitted online via Google Form (link shared via chat and posted on the project website), via email to dhl.planning@hawaii.gov or lillie@townscapeinc.com, or via telephone at (808) 550-3893.
- The Final Kapolei Regional Plan Update is expected to be up for adoption by the Hawaiian Homes Commission in March 2022.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15 pm.

Contact Information

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Project Website

<https://dhl.hawaii.gov/po/oahu/kapolei-regional-plan-update-2020-2021/>