



CONFERENCE REPORT

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TO:	Department of Hawaiian Home Lands		
FROM:	G70		
DATE:	May 26, 2022	LOCATION:	Kūlana ‘Ōiwi Hālau 600 Maunaloa Highway, Kalama‘ula, Moloka‘i
PROJECT:	DHHL Malama Cultural Park Special Area Plan	PROJECT NO:	219014-01
SUBJECT:	Beneficiary Consultation #4	NO. OF PAGES:	4
THOSE PRESENT:	DHHL: Pearlyn Fukuba, Andrew H. Choy, and Juan Garcia Hawaiian Homes Commissioner Zachary Helm G70: Kawika McKeague and Cody Winchester	Community Members: Adolph Helm, Kanoho Helm, Katy Mokuau, Jessica Parker, Liko Wallace, Pinky Gaspar, Cora Schnackenberg, Edwin Greenleaf, Russel Phifer, Darin Kimoto, Marc Aguino, Kapua Lauifi, and Lori Buchanan	

SUMMARY:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) and G70 hosted a fourth beneficiary consultation meeting with beneficiaries from the Island of Moloka‘i. The meeting was held in-person on May 26, 2022, at the Kūlana ‘Ōiwi Hālau from 6:00-8:00pm. Approximately 13 meeting attendees participated in this meeting.

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the Draft Special Area Plan that was published to the DHHL website and available for review. The meeting focused on verifying the management goals and strategies for the park, the types of activities that beneficiaries would like to see within each of the park’s four (4) planning zones, and the overall management structure. Beneficiary input was sought on all these discussion items. Presentation materials were distributed prior to the meeting and are also available on the DHHL website.

Beneficiaries were informed about where they could view the Draft Special Area Plan on the DHHL website and how to provide comments. A 30-day beneficiary comment period will commence from May 26 to June 25, 2022. Beneficiaries were provided opportunities to submit comments orally or with comment forms at the meeting, or by email or mail following the meeting.

WELCOME & PULE

- The meeting commenced at approximately 6:20 PM.
- Kawika McKeague (G70) provided a welcome.
- Hawaiian Homes Commissioner Zachary Helm provided an opening pule.
- Meeting attendees took turns introducing themselves.
- 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.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

G70 provided a presentation illustrating the key findings from previous research, site visits, studies, and consultations. These findings were summarized on an overall Opportunities and Constraints map. Next, the park's recommended management goals and strategies were shared and discussed.

PARK PLANNING ZONES

G70 shared a figure identifying the four Park Management Zones. The four zones include 1) Canoe Area, 2) Wetland, 3) Malama Platform, and 4) Community Focused Area. The specific uses and management actions for each zone were discussed. Beneficiaries were then asked to reflect on the zones and comment on the recommended uses and management actions. The following sections summarize the feedback received for each zone.

Zone 1: Canoe

- This area was recognized as a priority area in DHHL South Shore Erosion Management Plan (SSEMP). The Special Area Plan should incorporate the findings from the SSEMP to protect the park from sea level rise and erosion.
- The actions taking place in this area will have the highest impact on the success of the park.
- The canoe clubs have done a great job with planting 'aki'aki grass here. The 'aki'aki has been successful and should be planted more in this area. 'Aki'aki would be better than naupaka.
- The canoe clubs should have a separate parking from other guest parking. Access from County side of the park should be ensured.
- There are serious flooding issues on the County side. Rain creates ponding. The stormwater should be diverted west to the Kaunakakai Stream.
- The Kaunakakai Drainage Plan has been amended.

Zone 2: Wetland

- It would be very labor intensive to remove the pickleweed from the wetland. The pickleweed is doing its job by providing habitat and filtering water. It should be left alone.
- It would cost a lot of money to remove the pickleweed and replace with native plants.
- The park needs more shade trees. Milo would be nice.

Zone 3: Malama Platform

- The plan should consider restoration of platform.
- Cultural resources need protection from sea level rise. Subsurface resources could be lost from erosion.
- The Moloka'i Canoe Club has been caring for the platform and would like to continue to do so.

Zone 4: Community Focus

- This area has high value as the gateway from the harbor.
- Community events could be hosted to raise funds for maintenance. Money could be raised by selling crafts, t-shirts, and luau.

- Don't over-develop. Keep this area open.
- Maintain open space. Any development should include transient uses or mobile structures.
- A meeting place would be good for this area like a nice pavilion for people to gather.
- There is a concern about soil contamination.
- This area has become a dumping site. Trash and recycling bins are needed for this area.
- This area should use a renewable energy source for lighting.
- Lights could be set to a timer when activities generally occur.
- Lighting is beneficial for security. It is a deterrent for crime.
- Light will not be harmful to sea birds at this location.
- The park needs to have constant use. Constant activity will make the park safer and more desirable to visit.
- There is a concern about homeless encampments and drug use.
- Signs need to be posted that say, "Keep Out". Otherwise, the police cannot enforce the area.
- This area needs access to water. This should be a top priority. Water is needed for any use of this area.
- DHHL should negotiate with the County to fix the irrigation system.
- The plan should prioritize the goals and strategies. The first action should be to clean up the park.
- The issue about the bathroom needs to be resolve. It is on the County side. No one is taking care of it and it no longer works. People are living in there.
- The area needs to remove the rubbish before bringing it back for community use.
- Need to secure restrooms. Maintain restrooms is key.
- Future stewards need knowledge of landscaping. Appropriate plants should be planted here. Not monkeypods.
- The park is not accessible. The condition of the parking is not adequate. People go to the yacht club side to park and use the coastline.
- A market in the park will bring many more cars.
- DHHL should help the community understand how they can help.

MANAGEMENT STRUCTURES

G70 shared four potential management structures that could be implemented at the Park. The four strategies include 1) a single entity managing the entire park and its resources, 2) a single umbrella organization that coordinates the care and management of the park, 3) having multiple entities with delineated areas and defined responsibilities, and 4) having multiple entities, each with a specialized expertise, managing dedicated resources throughout the entire park. The Draft Special Area Plan recommends that the multiple entities with delineated areas and defined responsibilities be used in the near term. The plan also describes an option to phase into an umbrella structure at a future time. Beneficiaries were asked to reflect upon the recommended management structures. A summary of beneficiary feedback is listed below:

- Multiple entities with delineated areas is the preference. This option is good because it shares the responsibility.
- The multiple entity with delineated areas is good because it avoids burnout of single entity that would have to manage the entire park by themselves.
- Volunteers can team up with organizations to manage the areas.
- Park stewards could provide educational opportunities. Visitors could have a chance to learn about Hawaiian culture and history.
- The Moloka'i Canoe Club wants to take care of their existing area with includes the canoe facilities and Malama Platform.
- Multiple entities with delineated areas is a good place to start. It's already working right now.
- There is a concern for the consistency of volunteers. People lose interest. Volunteers are hard to keep. The park needs care and security every day. DHHL should use their staff to maintain the park. A private vendor could also be hired to ensure consistency.
- There is a concern about commercial activity and commodification of the park by organizations. What type of activities will organizations do to raise money maintain areas? Future beneficiary meetings should occur as part of the disposition process.
- The plan should include options involving hired maintenance and security services.
- DHHL needs a structure in place to manage organizations and provide oversight. DHHL needs to ensure and enforce maintenance.
- The plan should define DHHL's role in the park. It feels like all the responsibility is being dumped on the community. Community organizations may lack the capacity and unprepared to run a park. Someone with professional knowledge and experience in park management is needed.
- The physical borders shown in the plan don't make sense. The park needs a comprehensive approach.
- Electrical utilities and irrigation systems need reconstruction. Repairs and improvements need to get done right the first time.
- DHHL would need to advocate for more resources if they were to have a role in the future maintenance of the park.
- The County Department of Parks and Recreation contracts out employees for maintenance. This is also beneficial because it employs local people.
- A farmers' market could collect fees from vendors and put towards maintenance costs. The revenue could be used to pay for a routine cleaning service.
- DHHL should come back to community for consultation when partnerships are made.