



DHHL Waimānalo Regional Plan Update

Beneficiary Consultation #1 Summary Waimānalo Hawaiian Homestead Association Hālau March 11, 2024

Meeting Summary

Attendance

<u>Participants:</u> A total of fifty-three (53) attendees signed-in at the beneficiary consultation. Thirty-four (34) attendees self-identified as an applicant, lessee or both. seven (7) attendees self-identified as "other", and twelve (12) did not indicate their status.

Sign-In	Total #
Applicant	10
Lessee	15
Both	9
Other	7
Not indicated	12
TOTAL	53

Project Team:

• SSFM: Malachi Krishok, Melissa May, Jena Earle

• DHHL: Lillie Makaila, Ku'upua Kiyuna

Handouts (attached to summary):

- Project fact sheet
- Handout packet (slideshow)
- Vision worksheet

Agenda

- 1. Sign-in
- 2. Welina, Pule & Introductions
- 3. Presentation on Regional Plan Update
- 4. Community Values Activity Breakouts
- 5. Report Back
- 6. Closing and Next Steps





Summary Notes

1. General Overview

Lillie Makaila began the meeting with a welina and an attendee lead the group in an opening pule. After the pule, Malachi Krishok, Melissa May, and Jena Earle of the consultant team, introduced themselves followed by Lillie Makaila and Ku'upua Kiyuna of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) Planning Office.

Malachi went over discussion kuleana and meeting objectives and Lillie presented an overview of the DHHL planning system, the purpose of Regional Plans, the Regional Plan Process, and a summarized the content that will be included in the Regional Plan Update before providing an update on the status of the priority projects included in the 2011 Waimānalo Regional Plan. See "What is a Regional Plan?" in the "General Discussion" section below.

During the opening presentation, questions regarding the accuracy of DHHL's Land Inventory and concerns that some DHHL conservation lands are not being shown correctly on updated City & County of Honolulu GIS online maps. Additional discussion and comments related to the 2011 priority projects and other issues and opportunities in the region was also facilitated by Lillie. Notes are summarized under the "General Discussion" section below.

Following this portion of the meeting, three (3) breakout groups were formed to discuss community values before reconvening for a brief report back and closing facilitated by Lillie. Notes from the breakout groups and report back are summarized under the "Community Values Discussion" section below.

LINK: Waimanalo Regional Plan (November 2011)

2. General Discussion

What is a Regional Plan?

- DHHL Regional Plans are beneficiary and homestead focused. The Island Plans look at land inventory and discuss land use designations, while Regional Plans look at homestead communities and beneficiaries and focus on community building and addressing the needs of the homestead. This project is meant to update the 2011 Waimānalo Regional Plan.
- Regional Plans include data from the region including a regional profile of the homestead, land inventory & development information, infrastructure, homestead concerns and needs, etc. In addition to this information, this update will include Community Values, Vision Statement, and Implementation Actions Steps for each priority project.
- Community Values and a Vision Statement serve many purposes. The primary purpose is
 to communicate to DHHL staff, the Hawaiian Homes Commission (HHC), and other
 entities who the Waimānalo homestead community is in their own words, and what
 their vision is for the future. In addition, the Community Values and Vision Statement
 have an added function in acting as a lens in the selection and prioritization of projects
 meant to address issues and/or needs in the community. Potential projects should be





vetted by homesteaders by asking: Does this project help fulfill the vision for this community? Is this project aligned with the community values?

• Each Regional Plan will include five (5) priority projects that have been selected by homesteaders as priorities for the region. This communicates to DHHL staff and the HHC how the homestead would like the Department to allocate its resources (both staff and funding) to best support the homestead community in the region. Previous itierations of the Regional Plan just included project descriptions for each Priority Project. This update will include Implementation Actions Steps. These steps outline all of the steps in the process necessary to bring the project to life. It is the kuleana of the DHHL planning staff & consultants to articulate these steps, and the purpose it to make it more clear what is needed to implement the projects. A criticism of past plans is that the process and timeline were not clear, and this update hopes to remedy that issue.

Project Steps and Schedule

- Initial Beneficiary Consultations #1-#3. This Update to the Regional Plan includes three (3) beneficiary consultation meetings with homesteaders to provide the main content of the plan. Consultants will help to update the data in the plan and give background and context information.
- **Draft Regional Plan.** Following BC#3, staff and consultants will prepare the Draft of the Regional Plan.
- HHC review & comment. The Draft Plan will be brought before the HHC as a
 informational item and Commissioners will have an opportunity to comment on the plan
 and the regional planning process. Commissioners are especially interested in the
 participation of beneficiaries in the process to ensure that the plan is representative of
 the homestead community.
- Beneficiary Consultation #4 & Comment Period. The Draft Plan will be presented to homesteaders at BC#4 and a comment period will follow for homesteaders to review the Draft Plan and provide comments and suggestions.
- **Final Regional Plan.** Staff and consultants will address all comments received and prepare a Final version of the Regional Plan.
- **HHC adoption.** The Final Plan will be brought before the HHC for adoption.

Priority Projects (2011) Status Update

- Emergency Evacuation Plan HHARP, a program of the state Civil Defense Department, was created to help communities prepare to be self reliant during and after natural hazard events. Waimānalo is one of the recognized communities that completed HHARP.
- Hawaiian Cultural Learning Center In 2016, DHHL completed a rock fall mitigation
 feasibility study for the same site that the halāu requested a long-term use agreement.
 The rock fall mitigation measures which were suggested in the study are exceedingly
 expensive, \$30M plus, making homestead use of the site not financially viable at this
 time. Any party proposing a non-homestead use for the site would need to cover cost of
 rock fall mitigation.
- Honolulu Police Department (HPD) Satellite Office Funding for the HPD project did not materialize. Project is no longer being pursued.
- Support & Develop Affordable & Obtainable Homestead Alternatives in Waimānalo This issue continues to be a priority for beneficiaries. The DHHL has been analyzing





various affordable housing alternatives, including rentals as well as providing financial literacy services.

- Waimānalo Business Park (Industrial/Technology) WHHA completed construction of its Community Technology, Education and Employment Center (CTEEC) in 2015. The CTEEC is in Phase IV of the WHHA's Ka Ho'olina Na Kūhiō Community Center.
- Waikupanaha Improvements/Ilauhole Street Extensions The project remained a
 priority in 2008 and 2011 because of potential to serve as an emergency evacuation
 route. Funding for this project did not materialize, however WHHA was able to obtain
 funding through the CTEEC project for construction of the road from Ilauhole Street to
 the parking lot of CTEEC.

It was also acknowledged that building homesteads is not enough for a thriving homestead community, and that parks, gathering and recreational spaces should also be planned. Questions regarding the order and budget for Regional Plan updates were brought up, to which Lillie confirmed that plans are updated in the same order as the original plans for each island, and that budgets are weighed against staffing and capacity within a given fiscal year. The discussion contined into identifying issues and opportunities before breakout groups were formed to discuss community values.

Discussion Topics

• Emergency Evacuation Plan (2011 Priority Project).

The 2011 priority project was facilitated as art of the State's Hawaii Hazard Awareness and Resilience Program (HARP). The training program was facilitated between 2014-2016 and Waimānalo was the first community in the state to complete the training. Beneficiaries asked that the distinction as the first community be highlighted. The program trained over 150 community members and over 20 HAM radio operators. The program is no longer active, but it was an example of success. Now more common disaster prep is Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program by FEMA, which may be considered in the plan update process.

• Regional Plan Update Timeframe

The DHHL planning system shows the regional plan as a 2-4 year document. A meeting attendees asked why the plans are not updated in line with that timeframe, noting the Waimānalo Regional Plan had not been updated for 13 years. DHHL staff explained that the first round of regional plans by the department were completed between 2008-201 and that the updates to the plans began in 2016. It was explained that planning is not always prioritized in DHHL's budget and also noted that staffing shortages also play a role – for example, there are currently three land use planners working in DHHL and there are still about 14 regional plans that need to be updated statewide. DHHL staff added that ideally, regional plans should be revisited every five years to assess progress and and determine if an update is needed.

Funding Priorities

An attendee asked why funding is an issue, given how much land is being used to generate income for the DHHL. DHHL staff shared that funding has been an on-going struggle for the Department that boils down to having to allocating funds for building homesteads or planning. Another attendee shared that they believe that the funding spent on planning and meetings would be better spent getting Hawaiians leases and on the land. DHHL staff noted that this tradeoff is a big reason why the statewide regional





plan updates have taken over 10 years, with funding being allocated toward other priorities.

Drainage Infrastructure and Flooding

An attendee shared that flooding risk caused by drainage infrastructure not being maintained is an issue and concern. Wong Farm has had flooding in the past and the old reservoir has overflowed causing flooding.

3. Community Values Discussion

Breakout Group 1

- Health and safety
 - Healthy eating
 - o Grow our own food
 - In 1970s, Waimānalo useed to have a community garden
- Communication within the community
 - Sharing information publicly and visibly e.g., banners and bulletin boards
 - DHHL repersentatives in the community to assist beneficiaries, answer questions and provide assistance. DHHL reps used to come to the halau monthly
- Bring service providers and resources into the community
 - Legal assistance when there is trouble/fear/concerns with neighbors and own family
 - QLCC had an outreach program before
- Education/exposure to DHHL and learning about the system in public schools
 - o History of Hawaiian Homes Lands and what unique rights Hawaiians have
 - Educate beneficiaries so they are informed and able to get on the waiting list and financially able to accept lease awards
 - o Celebrating culture, history, connection to 'āina
- Protecting agricultural lands and access to shoreline
 - Protect "air rights" no high rises in Waimānalo
 - Preserve rural lifestyle
 - Preserving Hawaiian access to shoreline into future for next generation

Breakout Group 2

- "God's country"
- Beneficiaries wale nō
 - Right of entry beneficiaries only
 - Accountability for the outcomes
- Land use sustainability
 - Lo'i, ahupua'a, food, community garden
 - Community based businesses empower the maka'āinana
 - Only two options right now
 - Add options for beneficiaries beyond homes (i.e.: allow for businesses)
- Communication with DHHL
 - Create a communication avenue let voices be heard and valued more often and regularly (only communication once a year)
- More funding for homestead awards





- Assistance programs for retired folks/kūpuna
- o DHHL needs a loan department
- There are lots of unawarded lots right now due to poor credit, inability to get loans, etc – funds from the leg. should be used to help
- Could it be cheaper for the Department of the Interior to purchase homes anywhere, and cut the waiting list
- Loans why does DHHL make it difficult, even when you have everything needed? (i.e.: have the downpayment, have good credit, etc.) – paperwork can still take a long time (2+ years for one beneficiary) and create hoops to jump through
- Beneficiaries need to be accountable and diligent in their personal finances also to prepare for an award
- Agricultural lots
 - There are no ag awards in Waimānalo (to the group's knowledge)
 - Need for ag and residential lots together

Breakout Group 3

- Getting all the people on the waitlist on the land
 - A lot of elderly/kūpuna people waiting
- Access to land that is usable for homesteading
 - O How can DHHL acquire more lands?
 - Once there is more land, we can do more sustainable projects
 - Unusable conservation lands
 - Can DHHL swap lands?
 - Identify sustainable lands for community use
 - This land is where our water comes from
- Kūpuna
 - Identifying programs that can ensure we take care of our kūpuna with resources
- Maintaining the rural lifestyle and the character of Waimānalo
 - Making sure that we are sustaining our homestead community and not changing to look like other places ('Ewa)
 - o Keep it country, paniolo, ranch style continue our paniolo and pā'ū traditions
 - Growing our own food is an important value to us
 - No resorts
 - Concerned with tourism
 - No development

Combined/Synthesized Community Values:

- Keep Waimānalo Waimānalo
 - Country living; God's country; rural lifestyle; paniolo lifestyle
- Keep land in beneficiary hands
 - Access; stewardship; rights of entry; mauka access; conservation easement; sustainable living; 'āina
- · Grow our own food
 - o Access to ag land; community gardens; residential and ag together
- Disaster Preparedness
- Culture and History





- Teaching keiki
- Preserving for future generations

Accountability

- o Communication
- DHHL in community provide access
- Self sufficiency

Services and support

- Help people get lots
- More finance options and assistance
- Services in Waimānalo (social, legal, etc.)
- Education
- Financial literacy

• Economic opportunity

- Beneficiary business
- Commercial uses
- Capacity building

Kūpuna

- Kūpuna housing
- o Prioritize on waitlist
- Keep them in Waimānalo

4. Closing Discussion/Q&A

Visioning

The group did not get to discuss the community vision at this first beneficiary meeting. DHHL staff confirmed that the meeting series allows for some flexibility and that visioning will be addressed and discussed at the next beneficiary consultation based on the community values that were discussed tonight.

Waimanalo Waiting List

An attendee asked if the meetings will talk about how the Waimānalo waitlist will be shortened. DHHL staff said that the project identification discussion will provide space to discuss this, but noted that there is not a ton of available land to develop homesteads in Waimānalo.

Priority Project Selection/Updates

An attendees asked if the previous priority projects (from 2011) can be removed or replaced in the update. DHHL staff said they can and that the future meetings will go over the existing projects and discuss whether the community wishes to remove or update the projects that are no longer relevant.

Affordable Housing

An attendee asked if DHHL has looked into allowing Section 8 housing for beneficiaries. DHHL staff noted that the Department gets \$20 million in funds from the federal government through the NAHASDA program, which is aimed at providing assistance for affordable housing.

Working at DHHL

An attendee asked if DHHL staff would be interested in attending a career day to share what planners and DHHL staff do and encourage more people to apply to work at DHHL. DHHL staff said yes and noted that DHHL is hiring to fill vacancies now.





Regional Plans

DHHL staff shared that there 23 regions statewide and all regions are slated to have plans updated this round. Regional Plans are independent for each region and each Regional plan goes to the Hawaiian Homes Commission first for information only, prior to beneficiary review draft and then again for adoption. This is the community's plan so when we get to the draft and priority project write-ups, beneficiaries can say no and work with the project team until they feel good about their plan moving forward for adoption.

• Priority Project Funding

An attendee asked if there are enough funds to implement all of the priority projects and if the plans that finish first will get priority. DHHL staff said that funding is not distributed to projects on a first come first served basis. Every year DHHL allocates funds to grants, that communities can apply for to support different projects. An attendee requested that DHHL create a funding directory to support communities that are implementing projects. DHHL staff agreed that this would be an important resource. Staff also noted that anytime DHHL gets notices about funding, that info is sent out to homestead associations. It was suggest that the list could be a resource tab on DHHL's website that keeps a running list of available fundings. It was also noted that DHHL currently has a position open for a grant writer.

5. Next Steps & Follow-ups

- Next meeting will be on April 1st 6-8pm at the WHHA Hālau. Food will be served again (please let us know if you have any suggestions or feedback!)
- Next meeting will pick up the visioning discussion and move into project ideas

Meeting Adjourned at 8:35 p.m.







Tonight's Agenda

6:00 pm Sign-in 6:30 pm Welina, Pule & Introductions 6:40 pm Presentation on Regional Plan Update 6:50 pm Community Values & Visioning Activity Breakouts Breakout Discussion 1 - Community Values REPORT BACK Breakout Discussion 2 - Vision REPORT BACK 7:55 pm Closing & Next Steps

Team Introductions



DHHL Planning Office Team:

- Andrew Choy (Acting Planning Program Manager)
- · Lillie Makaila (Project Manager, Planner)

SSFM Consultant Team (SSFM International):

- Melissa May (Principal-in-charge)
- · Malachi Krishok (Project Manager, Planner)
- · Jena Earle (Planner)

Tonight's Discussion Kuleana

- · Be Open: open your mind, ears and heart. Take home new ideas and information.
- · Be comfortable: move around and use facilities.
- · Be Respectful: please do not interrupt the person that is talking, show aloha, treat others how you would like to be
- Be Creative: work towards future solutions/aspirations.
- · Agree to Disagree: accept that others may have different perspectives and opinions.
- Cellphones off or on silent: please take calls/texts outside.

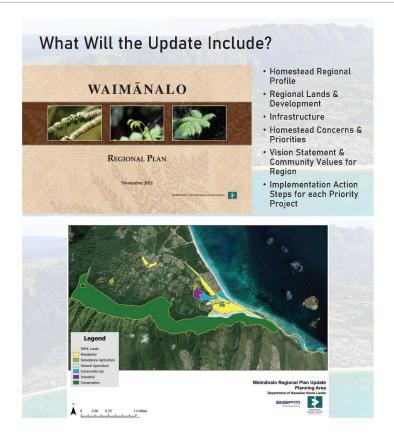




Tonight's Meeting Objectives

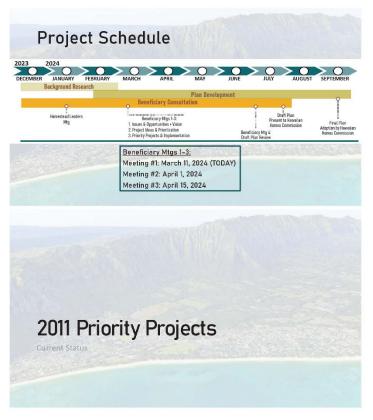
- Build a common understanding of the DHHL Planning System and the purpose and content of the DHHL Regional Plans
- Build a common understanding of the overall process and timeline of the Waimānalo Regional Plan Update
- Create a community vision and identify community values for Waimānalo

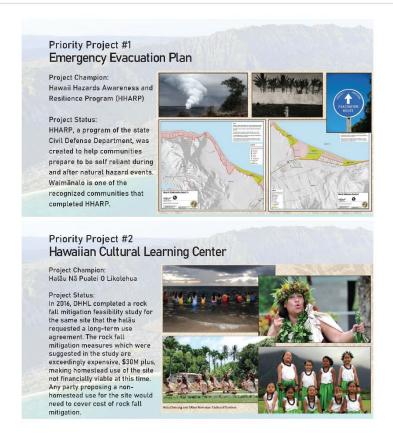
What is a Regional Plan? DHHL PLANNING SYSTEM General Plan Statewide, 30 year Timeframe Statewide, 30 year Timeframe Statewide, 30 year Timeframe Regional, 20 year Timeframe Regional Plans Statewide, 30 year Timeframe Regional Plans Statewide, 30 year Timeframe Regional Plans Logistation Regional Plans Tendings Logistation Regional Plans To enable the community to be involved in planning for their region. To assist the community with identifying and prioritizing projects within the region. To identify detailed action steps needed to implement the priority projects.





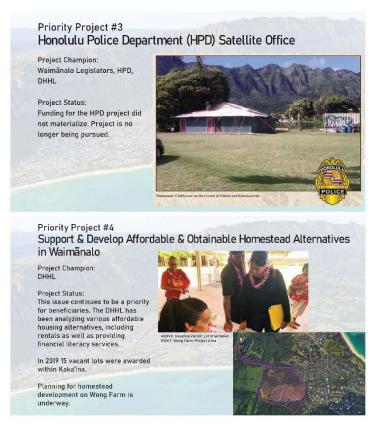


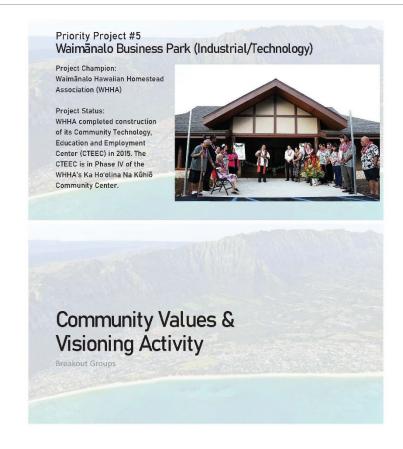
















PART 1 - Community Values

What are the community values that represent your homestead?

- · What are the values?
- What do that look like in your community?

Report Back Community Values

PART 2 - Visioning

When your mo'opuna are grown up and living in the homestead, what is life like for them?

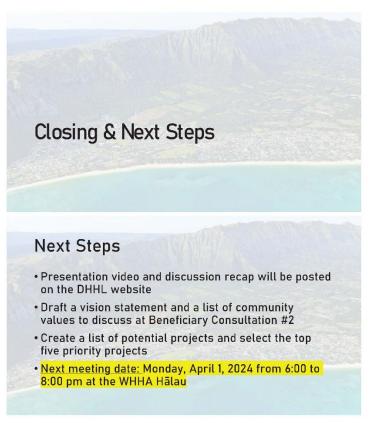
- · What does Waimanalo look like?
- · What does Waimanalo feel like?
- · What about the community are they proud of?

Report Back

Vision















DHHL Waimanalo Regional Plan Update Beneficiary Consultation #1 March 11, 2024

COMMUNITY VALUES & VISIONING WORKSHEET

DHHL Regional Plans support homestead lessees to identify and solve their own issues and concerns. The existing Waimānalo Regional Plan was completed in 2011 and is being updated to reflect the region and community today. As a lessee and/or homestead resident, your voice holds an important role in developing the vision, creating the plan and selecting priority projects. Please share your thoughts below.

Where are we headed? Regional Plans are vision-based documents meaning a shared vision that supports common community values is the foundation for the overall plan and priority projects. Please share your thoughts about what makes Waimānalo special and what you envision for our future generations of Hawaiians in Waimānalo.

PART 1 - Community Values

WHAT ARE THE COMMUNITY VALUES THAT REPRESENT YOUR HOMESTEAD?

What are the values?

What does that look like in your community?

PART 2 - Visioning

WHEN YOUR MO'OPUNA ARE GROWN UP AND LIVING IN THE HOMESTEAD, WHAT IS LIFE LIKE FOR THEM?

What does Waimānalo look like?

What does Waimānalo feel like?

What about the community are they proud of?

WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR WAIMĀNALO 20 YEARS FROM NOW?





COMMUNITY VALUES

The community values are presented in seven themes that correspond to the statements in the Vision:

- Celebrating Culture, History and Our Connections to 'Aina
- Strengthening Our People
- Protecting Agricultural Lands
- Valuing 'Ohana
- Enhancing Health and Safety
- Promoting Local Jobs and Businesses
- Managing Growth and Preserving Community Character

For each value, community members provided input on what must be preserved, and what needs to be built, created, or restored in order to perpetuate the values and keep Waimānalo, Waimānalo.

VI KEEPING WAIMĀNALO, WAIMĀNALO: COMMUNITY VALUES & PRIORITIES FOR THE FUTURE





VISION FOR WAIMANALO

KEEP WAIMĀNALO, WAIMĀNALO

Preserve the unique and sacred spaces and culture within Waimānalo in order to maintain this place as a pu'uhonua. Each person has a kuleana to know, demonstrate, and perpetuate the values of Waimānalo.

VALUE THE WISDOM OF THE PEOPLE OF

Waimānalo. Education, cultural sensitivity, and sustainable practices start with self. Build the capacity (knowledge, skills, values) of the next generation. Encourage strong and collaborative relationships in order to bring community together and diminish the 'us and them' mentality.

KEEP AGRICULTURE LAND - AGRICULTURAL

Preserve agricultural lands for farming. Improve connections between farming, food production, and food for the community. Involve the next generation in learning about agriculture in Waimānalo.

'OHANA GROW AND THRIVE IN WAIMĀNALO

Keep the 'ohana intact in the community, by providing family services and education, and ensuring Waimānalo's keiki and kūpuna are cared for



CULTIVATE THE VALUES OF CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER AND COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY.

These include sharing food grown with neighbors, letting cars in from side roads, respecting kūpuna walking across the street, keeping the community clean, and being kind and friendly. Improve community health and safety through pedestrian safety enhancements, and improved access to healthy, local foods, housing and mental health services.



SUPPORT AND SUSTAIN LOCAL BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO A THRIVING COMMUNITY.

Use local businesses as models for future businesses. Limit commercial activities around Waimānalo to those areas zoned for commercial purposes. Provide job opportunities for local residents in implementation of projects in the community.



MANAGE OUR RESOURCES TO PRESERVE THE WAIMĀNALO AHUPUA'A.

Plan for the long term by healing relationships with the military, engaging in planning efforts with government and private interests, and teaching newcomers the culture, traditions, values, and best practices of Waimānalo. Ideas for the future must connect mauka-makai, kanaka-'āina, kūpuna-opio, kanaka-ke akua, wā mamua-wā mahope. Our resources should be protected, in conservation or preservation for future generations.

KEEPING WAIMĀNALO, WAIMĀNALO: OUR VISION & VALUES FOR THE FUTURE







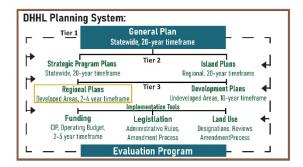
WAIMĀNALO Regional Plan Update FACT SHEET

The Waimānalo Regional Plan is one of twenty-two regional plans the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) has developed statewide. DHHL Regional Plans allow homestead lessees to set a vision and identify priority projects to address issues and needs in their community. With support from DHHL and other partners, the planning process and resulting updated Regional Plan are intended to stimulate capacity-building, and to support beneficiaries to champion the projects that will help to better their community.

The existing Waimānalo Regional plan was completed in 2011 and is being updated to reflect the needs, vision and values important to the Waimānalo homestead community.

Purpose of the Regional Plan:

- To directly involve the homestead community in planning for their region.
- To identify the projects and priorities that are important to the homestead community.
- To Identify potential resources (such as partners and funding sources) for implementing priority projects.



Project Schedule

SUBJECT TO CHANGE



For more information, please contact:



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