DHHL Waimānalo Regional Plan Update Beneficiary Consultation #4

Waimānalo Hawaiian Homestead Association Hālau July 8, 2024

Meeting Summary

Attendance

<u>Participants:</u> A total of twenty-eight (28) attendees signed-in at the beneficiary consultation. Twenty four (24) attendees self-identified as an applicant, lessee or both. One (1) attendee self-identified as "other", and three (3) did not indicate their status.

Sign-In	Total #
Applicant	9
Lessee	10
Both	5
Other	1
Not indicated	3
TOTAL	28

Project Team:

• DHHL Planning Office: Lillie Makaila

• SSFM: Melissa May, Jena Earle, Erin Emerson

Handouts (attached to summary):

- Handout packet (slideshow)
- Priority Project Profiles Handout
- Comment Cards

Agenda

- 1. Sign-in/'Aina Ahiahi
- 2. Welina, Pule & Introductions
- 3. Presentation Draft Waimānalo Regional Plan Update
- 4. Large Group Discussion
- 5. Closing and Next Steps

Meeting Objectives

- 1. Review Community Vision and Values
- 2. Review Priority Project process and voting results
- 3. Review Priority Project Profiles
- 4. Next Steps:
 - a. Provide comments

b. Review full Draft (Aug 1 to Aug 15)

Summary Notes

Presentation Overview

The meeting began with a welina and opening pule from an attendee. After the pule, Lillie Makaila of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) introduced herself briefly before introducing SSFM staff Melissa May, Jena Earle, and Erin Emerson. Lillie went over the discussion kuleana and meeting objectives before providing a brief overview of Beneficiary Consultation (BC) #1, #2, and #3, including general questions and concerns brought up at previous BCs, and a detailed recap of the Community Vision and Values, which were drafted in previous consultations.

A recap of the Priority Project selection process was provided, including details from BC #3, online and hard copy votes, and the means of survey notification, which included postcard mailers and email. Lillie shared that in terms of survey participation, DHHL received a total of 100 votes, of which 86 were from beneficiaries and 14 were from other members of the homestead. After sharing details of the survey participation, Lillie provided an overview of the initial 11 priority projects, along with the final top five (5) Priority Project voting results, which are listed below.

- 1. Create More DHHL Agricultural Homesteads in Waimānalo
- 2. Kauhale Waimānalo
- 3. Provide grants from DHHL Trust Funds to current Waimānalo lessees in need, to build, make improvements, do renovations, and have assessments of their lots within 3 years.
- 4. Waimānalo Business Park
- 5. Allow extensions in perpetuity for homestead lots

Each of the top five (5) Priority Projects are summarized below.

1. Create More DHHL Agricultural Homesteads in Waimānalo

- There are 685 homestead lessees in Waimānalo for residential lots.
- Priority should be given to the design and development of the Wong's Farm parcel and other lands in the region suitable for agricultural homesteading.
- Regarding Wong's Farm: Since the land is already owned by DHHL, it does not require acquisition.
 - In this case, action steps for implementation include preparation of a site plan and Environmental Assessment (EA), which is currently underway for Wong's Farm, followed by permitting, entitlements, site preparation, design and construction, and then awarding.

- Alternatively, if land is not a part of the Hawaiian Home Lands (HHL) trust and is desired for agricultural homesteads, DHHL would need to acquire the land.
- Land acquisition requires Hawaiian Home Commission (HHC) approval. Anytime something goes before the Commission for approval, the process includes beneficiary consultation and comments.
 - There is a statewide policy that requires DHHL (as a state entityto prepare an EA and conduct due diligence for the acquisition of land.
 - Then comes site planning, permitting, entitlements, site preparation, design and construction, and finally, awarding of lots.

2. Kauhale Waimānalo

- The current hālau is heavily utilized and has lots of demand.
- The Kauhale would function as a multipurpose space:
 - Emergency shelter in case of disasters;
 - Community resiliency hub;
 - Overnight accomodations for visitors;
 - Community gathering space, and
 - Cultural retreat center.
- Action Steps could again entail two (2) pathways:
 - o If the land is already on HHL:
 - Seek long term land disposition:
 - Seek an arbitor/entity such as WHHA to mālama the space – "project champion."
 - Then would come the site plan and EA (if there is a previous EA and site plan, there may be exemptions).
 - Going before the HHC is necessary, then permitting, entitlements, site preparation, design and construction, and lastly, operating expenses.
 - If land needs to be acquired:
 - Could be transferred from another State agency (in the case of Wong's farm, DLNR transferred ownership to DHHL).
 - Privately owned land would require DHHL to purchase the land
 - The acquisition would go to the HHC, providing an opportunity for beneficiaries to voice their mana'o and concerns.
- Provide grants from DHHL Trust Funds to current Waimānalo lessees in need, to build, make improvements, do renovations, and have assessments of their lots within 3 years.
- For this Priority Project, something that was stressed was the fact that these are grants and not a loan (i.e., they do not have to be paid back).

- Time constraint "within three years" means once this Regional Plan is adopted by the Commission, there is the expectation that this grant program will be worked on.
- Staff was asked what Act 279 Funds (\$600M) of legislative appropriation funds could be used for:
 - These funds cannot be used for existing homesteads the \$600M can only be used to address the waitlist.
 - This grant program would support the existing homesteaders (like Waimānalo).
 - Utilizing HHL trust funds means the legislature has no say as this is under the kuleana of the HHC.
 - DHHL already has an existing grant program for non-profits that utilizes trust funds (1.2M this year) and is given out through an application process.
 - The WHHA received two grants this year.
 - Currently, folks apply, and the commission gives final approval.
 - The Commission also discusses how much money goes into the grant program with each year's budget.
 - DHHL looked at using this existing program, but determined that a new grant program will need to be approved by the Commission for this priority project in order to provide grants directly to homesteaders.
 - Staff would need to manage this program.

4. Waimānalo Business Park

- Would provide affordable access to business and industrial spaces.
- Preference for DHHL lands designated for industrial/commercial to be used by beneficiaries and Native Hawaiians.
- The Business Park would be suitable for industrial and commercial uses and have spaces for other uses such as commercial vehicles and equipment, boat parking, and programs to help Native Hawaiian and beneficiary businesses.

5. Allow extensions in perpetuity for homestead lots

- Current homestead lease terms are 99-year leases with option for one 100year extension – the maximum term is 199 years.
- Pu'uhonua resolution: Initial proposal from Prince Kūhiō was 990 years.
 - So, this idea is not a new idea, but this is something Native Hawaiians and beneficiaries have been contemplating since inception.
- This may not affect immediate or near generations, but it will affect our future mo'o.

- The desired outcome is to have different pathways for homestead uses researched and a preferred path selected by beneficiaries statewide.
- The potential action steps include: DHHL staff doing the work of researching and identifying potential pathways to extend homestead leases in perpetuity, soliciting beneficiary mana'o, going to HHC for approval, and getting a Congressional amendment to the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act.
- This would have to go to Congress (more info is in the priority project write ups) but there are potential ramifications for bringing up an amendment like this.
- When the act first went to Congress, in order to be eligible, you needed to be 1/32 Hawaiian to qualify. Congress rewrote it to be 50% Hawaiian.
- Congress has authority to rewrite the amendment as they see fit, and they
 have the power to abolish the entire Hawaiian Homes Commission Act –
 abolishing the Commission and Hawaiian Home Lands Trust, so there is
 some risk involved in this approach.

Project Implementation

- Research, Planning, and Analysis
- Synthesis
 - Due diligence, environmental and cultural requirements at the State,
 County, and Federal level.
- Implementation
 - Permits, entitlements, operations
 - How everything feeds together is illustrated in the community organization and development graphic, which, along with other figures, can be found at the end of the notes within the PowerPoint Slides.

Break.at.@76.pm;.Meeting.resumed.at.@8@pm;...

Following the break portion of the meeting, Lillie transitioned the meeting into a large group discussion and question and answer (Q&A). Attendees were invited to ask questions, share mana'o, concerns, and initiate discussion about a number of topics. The Q&A is summarized below.

Discussion and Q&A

Key: Q = question; A = Answer; C = Comment

- **Q:** You mentioned right now as lessees, we have a lease that is 99-years, which can have another 100 years added?
 - A: Yes. Current leases are a 99-year lease with the option to extend for another 100 years, totaling to 199 years.
- **C:** That being said, our hope would be to have leases in perpetuity but we must go to Congress, where there is risk of having this demolished.

- **Q:** Regarding 199 years, which is automatic, we are trying to get to perpetuity what is the process to make it happen?
 - A: Could be a risk to go to Congress given their ability to abolish the Act. It does not hurt to have this be a Priority Project, providing valuable conversations to explore the possibility. This project will prompt discussion, research, and potential pathways. This is how the Waimānalo homestead feels, but this conversation has statewide ramifications. These are important conversations to have.
- Q: Those issues that deal with Hawaiian homesteading in the state do other homesteaders have similar feelings regarding the need for grants as Waimānalo?
 - A: In other Regional Plans (RPs) the need for grants is a common thread. O'ahu has access to water, but Hawai'i Island does not – so Priority Projects tend to be focused on that. It also depends on the age of the homestead (such as Kapolei, which is newer development with younger generations).
- Q/C: That land in Kapolei and 'Ewa is poison. The air and soil is contaminated.
 - O Why can't we have all of the Waimānalo ahupua'a?
 - Make taking back the land a priority.
 - Land went all the way back to Diamond Head.
 - Congress needs to protect Hawaiian Homestead lands, not Federal, State, County, or private hands.
 - O How do we get this land back for our children?
 - We do not want to see our kids off island or on another side of the island. Please make it a priority to get these lands back.
 - Take Kapālama for example there is not a single homestead property in the entire ahupua'a.
 - Both sides of the Ko'olau have a marker called Lanipō.
- **Q:** For the 100 years that can be added on to leases is this an automatic process or do we have to request it?
 - A: "Option to extend" Will need to check if this is automatic, I believe it is just a signature to extend.
- Q: If you have successors that succeed your 99-year lease what if they
 do not pay attention to the timeline will they lose the option to renew?
 - A: Call homestead lease office and get a good gauge on the timeline of your lease and discuss within your families/successors.
 - It's a relatively easy process to renew there has been some discussion around how to make this process easier.
- **Q:** Can we call the Department tomorrow and ask them to enact the option to extend?

- o **A:** Not sure, will find out and add to the priority project profile.
- Q: Regarding DHHL grants: Who is that open to? Beneficiaries?
 - A: The grant program using DHHL trust funds that is renewed annually is for non-profit organizations, such as the WHHA. Criteria is that applicants have to be a not for profit or charitable entity, and demonstrate a direct impact to DHHL beneficiaries, not just Native Hawaiians. That grant program is not open to individual beneficiaries but serves as an existing grant program utilizing trust funds. Program may be similar, but eligibility may change.
- Q: When does the grant program come up for applications again?
 - A: Usually in October, but solicitation this last year was not until November. Look at last year's solicitation and requirements. This year may happen again in November. Application is within a 30day timeframe. Email Lillie for more info.
- **C:** Applicants waiting for residential or ag homesteads is there an inventory list of what is available for residential or ag or pastoral?
 - C: See the map handout for different types of land use designations on DHHL land. Lands not suitable can be changed. Last O'ahu Island Plan was 10 years ago in 2014. This process takes a while. Waimānalo does not have a lot of DHHL land currently. When O'ahu Island Plan is updated, we should consider if some of that land is suitable for other types of homesteads. There is a lot of State and County land in Waimānalo like the Wong's Farm parcel, which was conveyed to DHHL in 2018 by DLNR from efforts generated by the homestead. Process has taken long. One challenge is the land has trouble with drainage.
 - Another challenge has been funding. The \$600M allocation did not happen until 2022, so it has only been two years since the State has put significant effort into funding DHHL. \$6 billion is needed to address the current waitlist. The Department is trying to prove their capacity to encumber and utilize the funds, and then ask for more.
 - Waimānalo has a lot of capacity to identify State lands that may be at the end of their agricultural lease which may be added for homesteads. Looking at potential small parcels is important.
 - Waimānalo Area Wait List:
 - Just for residential, not agricultural homesteads.
 - The ag wait list on O'ahu is an island wide waitlist.
- **Q:** Proposal for ag lands in Waimānalo?
 - o **A:** Wong's Farm, 52 acres.
 - o Regular ag in the lease requires cultivating 2/3rds of the lots
 - Subsistence ag is a newer land category added in 2022, removing the minimum requirement. Becoming more popular because it

- means you can build a house, but don't have to, and have no timeframe no need to submit a farm plan.
- Subsistence ag lots cannot be more than three (3) acres so a con is that subsistence ag is smaller.
- Aging and natural disasters makes larger scale ag more difficult, so subsistence ag is more feasible.
- **Q:** Once this plan is approved, how can accountability be built in to ensure things are progressing. Who is responsible for brining the projects to fruition?
 - A: Priority Project 1 (Create more agricultural homesteads), is the Department's kuleana. An annual update for each region is necessary.
 - The update covers the regional plan Priority Projects.
 - Successful and beneficial when homesteaders and association voices their mana'o at the Commission meetings.
 - Commissioners are able to direct resources (staff time and funding) to meet beneficiary needs responsibly and responsively.
 - Can also use Uncle Walt.
 - Priority Project 2 (Kauhale Waimānalo) has not had a lead entity identified.
 - DHHL partners and helps with funding and capacity, but this is a need that the association or multiple associations will need to collaborate on.
 - Priority Project 3 (grant program) is DHHL's kuleana. Beneficiaries will need to advocate for this, as it will be a heavy lift to implement.
 - Priority Project 4 (Business Park) is in the same vein as Priority Project 2 (Kauhale Waimānalo).
 - Would need to determine if done through a competitive bidding process to keep parcels occupied versus a single organization who takes it on and dictates who can operate within the space.
 - Needs to be collaborative and local to Waimānalo.
 - Regarding land disposition, there is a 30-acre parcel previously identified for the Waimānalo Business Park under the kuleana of the Department and has no long-term land disposition with the homestead.
 - This parcel is what the site is envisioned for.
 - Favorable to extend the lease under the homestead association, but is a conversation to be had.

- Priority Project 5 (extensions in perpetuity) is the Department staff kuleana.
 - Not sure which branch would take the lead: office of the chair, planning office, legislative liaisons, etc.
 - A large task to take on.
 - Organizational/collaborative effort Ke Kula Nui o Waimānalo, Limu Hui, etc.
- Q: You mentioned the 30 acres that came and went how do we go about having that moved?
 - A: Long term land use request (LUR) for non-homesteading use – the entity will turn in the application to the Land Management Division to execute the right of entry (ROE).
 - Identify TMK (written in the priority profile).
 - Answer questions regarding entity capacity, submit application, follow up.
- Q: In the same instance as Priority Project 4, what about for Priority Project 2 (Kauhale Waimānalo) - would it be suitable to site these two spaces on the same 30-acre parcel?
- o A: Yes, you could potentially combine it on the same parcel.
 - Determine how much space will be needed for each function/purpose (parking, etc.) then get a planning firm to help with a suitability analysis for the 30-acre parcel to identify compatible uses and uses not compatible.
 - Compare desired uses against suitability of land either DHHL land or non DHHL land.
- o **Q:** How will infrastructure come into play?
 - A: Raw land is the responsibility of the tenant to fund the infrastructure, which is the largest and most difficult hurdle.
 - Need to decide if you want to bring infrastructure up to City and County of Honolulu code and standards, and have them manage maintenance – or, if the move to make is a minimal investment now and have long-term maintenance?
 - May be more favorable to invest in bringing up to County standards.
- **C:** Which of the three priority projects that is DHHL's kuleana is most likely to come to pass within 10 years?
 - A: Priority Project 1, since things are already underway and intimately understood among the Waimānalo community.
 - It would be helpful to the Department if beneficiaries helped identify lands that may be suitable to consider for agricultural homesteads.

- Include any mana'o into the comments.
- DHHL can advocate for locations identified by beneficiaries.
- Priority Project 5 may not come into fruition, but consultation and research can.
- o Priority Project 3 (grants) is very beneficial.
 - Work with O'ahu commissioners (Walt).
- **Q:** Has there been studies looking at costs and impact on value and cost for maintenance, ADA requirements?
 - A: Reach out to Ke Kula O Nā Po'e Hawai'i Papakōlea Aunty Puni Kekauoha and Adrian Dillard.
 - They do lots of outreach and studies, grants from DHHL, OHA, DOH.
 - Also do research working with consultants.
 - Tap into DHHL grant funds check with them on a pathway since DHHL does not have that kind of capacity but can provide resources.

Draft Plan Release and Approval

The draft plan will be available online at the DHHL website by August 1st. A comment period will be open from August 1 to August 15. Comments will be accepted after that, but if submitted by the 15th, the comments can be considered during the commission meeting in Waimanālo on Monday, September 16th in the evening (~6 or 6:30 pm).

At that Commission meeting, DHHL will be asking the HHC to adopt the final version of the Regional Plan. Discussion with the Commission will include conversations regarding beneficiary consultation and participation, the number of meetings, and having a good planning process that incorporates beneficiary consultation. The Priority Projects will also be discussed.

Beneficiaries are encouraged to provide comments and testimony. A reminder will be sent out by DHHL closer to the meeting.

Meeting.adjourned.at. 4:89.pm;.

Slideshow Presentation



Tonight's Agenda 6:00 pm Sign-in / 'Āina ahiahi 6:15 pm Welina, Pule & Introductions 6:20 pm Presentation - Draft Waimānalo Regional Plan Update 6:40 pm Large Group Discussion 7:50 pm Closing & Next Steps



Team Introductions



DHHL Planning Office Team:

Lillie Makaila (Project Manager, Planner)



SSFM Consultant Team (SSFM International):

- · Melissa May (Project Manager, Principal-incharge)
- Jena Kamalani Earle (Planner)
- Erin Emerson (Marketing and Communications Coordinator)

SSFM Experience/Related Projects:

- DHHL General Plan Update (completed 2022)
- DHHL Anahola Regional Plan Update (completed 2022)
- Keeping Waimānalo Waimānalo: Community Values & Priorities for the Future (completed 2017)

Tonight's Discussion Kuleana

- · Be Open: open your mind & ears to new and different ideas and information.
- Be comfortable: move around freely and use the facilities.
- · Be Respectful: please do not interrupt the person that is talking, bring aloha into our interactions & our words.
- Be Creative: work towards future solutions/aspirations.
- · Agree to Disagree: accept that others may have different perspectives and opinions, but this is still one community.
- Cellphones off or on silent: please take calls/texts outside.

Tonight's Meeting Objectives

- 1. Review Community Vision and Values
- 2. Review Priority Project process and voting results
- 3. Review Priority Project profiles
- 4. Next Steps:
 - 1. Provide comments
 - 2. Review full Draft (Aug 1 to Aug 15)

Beneficiary Consultations #1, 2 and 3

- Discussed COMMUNITY VALUES
- Created and confirmed VISION STATEMENT
- Shared ISSUES & CONCERNS for the homestead & region
- Shared and selected potential PRIORITY PROJECT IDEAS
- Asked QUESTIONS of DHHL staff about various topics

Page 14

Vision Statement

"To honor the Native Hawaiian people, their culture, history, and their deep connection to the land, Waimanalo is committed to safeguarding, nurturing, and preserving our ahupua'a for future generations. Embracing our rural identity and traditional way of life, which has been passed down through the generations, we are dedicated to 'auamo the responsibility entrusted to us by our ancestors. As we navigate towards sustainable progress, our unwavering commitment is to ensure that Waimanalo remains true to its essence, always staying rooted in its unique identity."

Community Values

Keep Waimānalo Waimānalo

- Country living
- · God's country
- Rural character & paniolo lifestyle
- · Creating homesteads for Waimānalo beneficiaries

Culture & History

- Teaching community from keiki to
- Teaching community from keiki to kūpuna
 Perpetuate & preserve Native
 Hawaiian rights
 Share the history of Hawaiian Home
 Lands
- Perpetuate 'ike for future generations

Keep Lands in Beneficiary Hands

- · Beneficiaries have access to
- Beneficiaries are involved in the stewardship of HHL
- Create affordable & consistently priced opportunities for beneficiaries to access lands identified for non-homesteading

'Auamo Kuleana

DHHL will have better communication & more transparency
 Kükulu pilina – to build relationships within the community and to create relationships outside of the community in order to bring more needed services to Waimanalo

Provide more profiler for province in

Provide more options for services in Waimānalo (social, legal, education, financial literacy, etc.)

Sust' Ainability

- · Promote sustainable living · 'Āina-focused
- · Access to agricultural lands
- Community gardens & agricultural spaces
- · Site residential and agricultural lands together

- Disaster preparedness & emergency response capacity
- Emergency shelter for beneficiaries
- · Adaptation measures for climate
- Resilient development & design for future homesteads & infrastructure

Grow Community Assets

- Support the creation and growth of beneficiary businesses
- Deneniciary dusinesses

 Create more opportunities for
 commerical/business uses for
 beneficiaries on HHL in Waimänalo

 Help to grow the capacity of
 Waimänalo beneficiaries &
 beneficiary and native-serving
 organizations

Mālama Kūpuna

- Prioritize our Waimānalo kūpuna on the DHHL waitlist
- Increase resources and services for kūpuna
- Keep them in Waimānalo/Age in place (kūpuna housing, etc.)

Page 15

P

Prioritization Process & Beneficiary Participation

PROCESS

• BC #3 - April 15, 2024

Finalized draft vision, values, and a list of 11 potential projects

- Online Polling Monday, April
 22 Friday, May 24
 - Voting notice posted to DHHL website and emailed/mailed to beneficiaries

PARTICIPATION

- Total votes received: 100
 - · Waimānalo beneficiaries: 86
 - Other members of the homestead: 14

甲

Initial Priority Project List

- 1. Waimānalo Business Park. A priority project in the 2011 Regional Plan, this project would develop a business park suitable for commercial or light industrial uses to provide affordable space for beneficiary and native Hawaiian businesses in Waimānalo on a portion of TMK: (1) 4-1-008:002. Additional components include: space for boat parking, space for a marketplace, and programs to support Native Hawaiian small business owners.
- 2. Kauhale Waimānalo. Develop additional gathering space for use as a cultural retreat center and a community resiliency hub in Waimānalo. The current hālau space is heavily utilized by Waimānalo beneficiaries, and there is a need for additional space. The cultural retreat center would include event space and also overnight accommodations for large groups. The community resiliency hub would include an emergency shelter and programming related to disaster preparedness, response and recovery.
- 3. Waimānalo Oasis. Utilize the undeveloped lands mauka of the WHHA Hālau on a portion of TMK: (1) 4-1-008:002, and include a community imu site, māla (garden) imu for necessary plants like mai'a and ti, as well as additional parking.
- 4. Create more DHHL Agricultural Homesteads in Waimānalo. DHHL shall prioritize the development of agricultural homestead lots in Waimānalo for native Hawaiian beneficiaries on the agricultural waiting list.
- 5. Create more agricultural opportunities on DHHL lands currently designated General Agriculture and Conservation in Waimānalo. Explore potential agricultural opportunities for DHHL lands in Waimānalo that are not suitable for homesteads and are currently designated for General Agriculture and Conservation use. These potential opportunities may include food forests, community gardens, mauka & stream restoration, reforestry, etc.

P

Initial Priority Project List

- Community gardens in open homestead areas. Identify open areas throughout the homesteads in Waimānalo where community gardens for beneficiaries could be created.
- 7. Just give us the leases and follow the language of the HHCA of 1920. Urge DHHL to look at amending the administrative rules to better match the original intent of the HHCA and remove qualification requirements that create barriers to beneficiaries being awarded homesteads.
- 8. Allow extensions in perpetuity for homestead lots. Urge DHHL and the HHC to allow extension of homestead leases to lessees and descendants in perpetuity.
- Find Location for a Cemetery and Wahi Iwi Kūpuna. Identify potential locations and create a cemetery for beneficiaries
 and a wahi iwi kūpuna for reburial of iwi kūpuna and moepū (funerary possessions) disturbed or inadvertently discovered
 in Waimānalo.
- 10. Support Cook's Ranch (Home of Hawai'i Pā'ū Riders) conversion to a long-term land disposition (TMK #: (1) 4-1-008:093). Protect the perpetuation of pā'ū traditions by supporting a long-term land disposition to Cook's Ranch, home of the Hawai'i Pā'ū Riders.
- 11. Provide grants from DHHL Trust Funds to current Waimānalo Lessees in need, to build, make improvements, do renovations, and have assessments of their lots within 3 years. Provide grants using HHL trust funds to current Waimānalo lessees in need of financing to build, do home improvements or repairs, and property assessments. This project sets a target of securing and distributing grants within 3 years of adoption of the regional plan update.

Ħ

Priority Project Voting Results

Priority Projects	# Beneficiary Votes	# Votes from Other Members of the Homestead	Total Votes
Create more DHHL Agricultural Homesteads in Waimānalo	74	13	87
Kauhale Waimānalo	60	11	71
Provide grants from DHHL Trust Funds to current Waimānalo Lessees in need, to build, make improvements, do renovations, and have assessments of their lots within 3 years	61	8	69
Waimānalo Business Park	44	3	47
Allow extensions in perpetuity for homestead lots	38	8	46

Priority Project #1: Create more DHHL	
Agricultural Homesteads in Waimānalo	

Issues

- DHHL beneficiaries would like to see more agricultural homesteading opportunities made available in the region.
- There are currenty only residential homesteads in the region, with a mix of other non-homesteading
- A total of 685 homestead lessees in the Waimānalo region, all awarded residential lots.

Desired Outcomes

- DHHL shall prioritize the development of agricultural homestead lots in Waimānalo.
- Include this preference in the design and planning for the development of the "Wong's Farm" parcel.
- Acquire additional lands in the region that are suitable for agricultural homesteading.

Main Action Steps

Land Acquisition & Due Diligence; Site Plan and Environmental Assessment; Permitting and Entitlements; Site Preparation, Design and Construction; Award.

Priority Project #2: Kauhale Waimānalo

Issues The current halau space is heavily utilized by

- Waimānalo beneficiaries and there is a need for additional gathering space. Need for space for an emergency shelter, disaster
- preparedness and emergency assistance in the
- Need for overnight accommodations for large groups, similar to marae in Aotearoa.

Desired Outcomes

- Develop additional gathering space for use as a cultural retreat center and a community resiliency hub in Waimānalo.
- Kauhale Waimānalo would provide overnight accommodations for large groups and an emergency shelter and programming related to disaster preparedness, response and recovery.

Main Action Steps

Site identification & secure site control (land acquisition or long-term land disposition); Site Plan and Environmental Assessment; if on HHLs, then Long-term Land Disposition; Permitting and Entitlements; Site Preparation, Design and Construction; Operating Expenses.

F

Priority Project #3: Provide grants from DHHL Trust Funds to current Waimānalo Lessees in need, to build, make improvements, do renovations, and have assessments of their lots within 3 years.

Issues	Desired Outcomes	
 Current lessees in the region need access to funds to build homes, make improvements, renovations, and pay for needed inspections of their lots. Not all lessees are able to access NAHASDA funds or get financing through traditional lenders. 	 This priority project is to provide grants from HHL Trust Funds to current Waimānalo lessees in need to build/improve upon their lots. These grants should be made available within 3 years of the adoption of this regional plan. 	

Main Action Steps

Funding - HHC approval for creation of a new grant program using HHL Trust funds for this purpose;
 allocation of funds; DHHL staff to implement & manage grant program; HHC approval of grantees; annual approval of grant program and allocation of funds.

p

Priority Project #4: Waimānalo Business Park

	Desired Outcomes
More opportunities are needed for DHHL beneficiaries to have affordable access to commerical/industrial spaces. Preference for DHHL lands designated for commercial/industrial use should be given to beneficaries and Native Hawaiians. Programs to help build capacity for beneficiaries and Native Hawaiians should also be provided.	 Create a business park suitable for commercial & light industrial uses to provide affordable space for beneficiary and Native Hawaiian businesses in Waimānalo. Additional spaces should include: boat parking, parking for commercial vehicles & heavy equipment, a marketplace, and programs to support Native Hawaiian small business owners.

Maintenance Expenses, Monitoring and Reporting.

Priority Project #5: Allow extensions in perpetuity for homestead lots

Issues	Desired Outcomes
 Current homestead leases have a 99-year term with an option to extend for an additional 100 years. Following a potential 199-year term, there is currently no pathway for DHHL lessees to maintain these lands through succession. Options for extending leases in perpetuity should be explored by DHHL staff & the HHC. 	 Pathways for homestead leases that extend in perpetuity should be researched and brought out for beneficiary consultation. A preferred pathway should be selected and implemented by DHHL and the HHC.

Main Action Steps

Identify potential pathways to extent homestead leases in perpetuity; conduct statewide beneficiary consultations; HHC approval; congressional amendment to HHCA.

Project Implementation

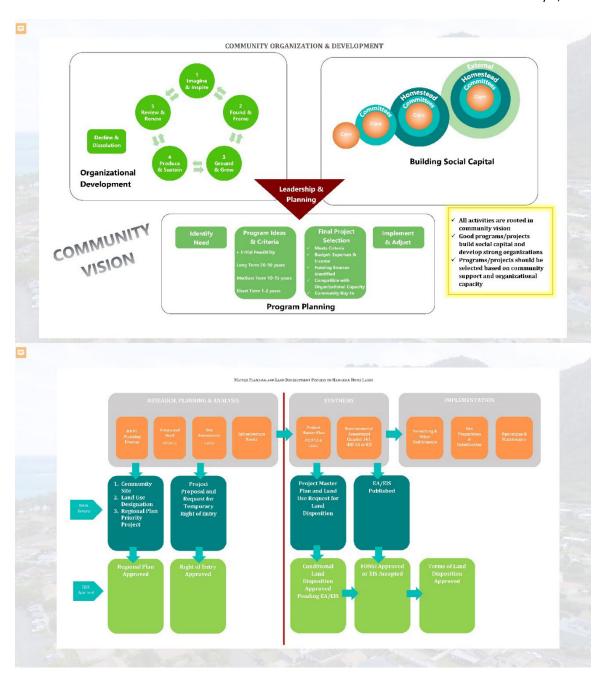
Research, Planning, & Analysis

- Is there an organization/entity leading project?
- How does the project fit vision & needs of community?
- Has a project location been selected?
- Has the lead organization/entity requested right-of entry & completed site assessment/ due diligence

- Does the project require a master plan?
- Does the project require a business plan?
- Does the project require an Environmental Assessment?
- Has the lead organization/entity requested lease/license?

Implementation

- What permits & other entitlements are necessary?
- When will site preparation & construction begin? Be complete?
- What are the ongoing operations & maintenance needs?



Next Steps

- · Review the Draft Plan beginning Aug 1.
- Draft Plan will be posted to the project website, hardcopies available upon request.
- Comment Period: Aug 1 to Aug 15.
- To submit comments:
 - · Complete hardcopy Comment Form
 - Complete the Online Survey
 - E-mail mmay@ssfm.com
 - Call Melissa May at (808) 628-5861



Mahalo!

For more information contact:



Lillie Makaila, Planner <u>lilliane.k.makaila@hawaii.gov</u> (808) 620-9484



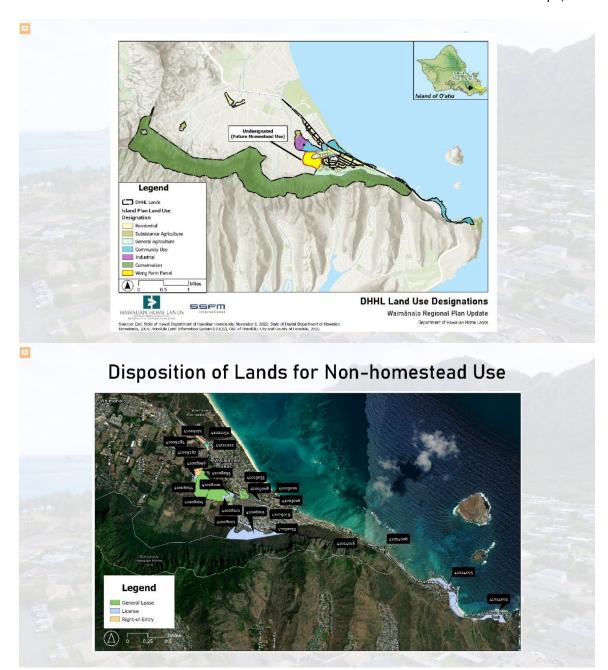
Melissa May, Project Manager and Principal-in-charge

mmay@ssfm.com (808) 628-5861 Visit the project website



Scan QR code or visit the URL below:

https://dhhl.hawaii.gov/po/waimanalo-regional-plan-update-2024/



Priority Project Profiles Handout

DHHL WAIMĀNALO REGIONAL PLAN UPDATE
DRAFT PRIORITY PROJECT PROFILES
07/08/2024

Priority Projects

The priority project selection process began at Beneficiary Consultation (BC) #3 where attendees discussed potential project ideas. This discussion began with the previous priority projects selected in the previous Waimānalo Regional Plan (2011). Attendees added additional project ideas and worked on refining the list down to a total of 11 project ideas. This list of project ideas was included in the selection process, and beneficiaries voted to select the top five priority projects for the region to be included in this update to the Regional Plan.

Beneficiaries were notified of the priority project selection via postcard mailing. This mailing was sent to all DHHL beneficiaries (both lessees and applicants on the waitlist) totaling approximately 1,300 postcards. The postcard provided instructions on how to participate in priority project selection. Previous participants at beneficiary consultations #1-#3 who provided an email contact were also notified via email. Instructions and links to participate were made available on the project website.

The "Kou Mana'o" questionnaire was created for the priority project selection, and asked beneficiaries to choose the five projects that they felt should be the top priorities for the region out of the 11 project ideas chosen by attendees at BC #3. Beneficiaries were able to participate via hardcopy survey, online survey, email or telephone. The voting period was open for beneficiary participation from April 22, 2024 through May 24, 2024. All participants were require to share their full name, a form of contact, and indicate if they were an applicant, lessee, both or other member of the homestead. A total of 100 responses were collected. Ninety-four [94] votes were submitted via online survey and six (6) were submitted via hardcopy surveys. See table below for the voting results:

Priority Projects	# Beneficiary Votes	# Votes from Other Members of the Homestead	Total Votes
Create more DHHL Agricultural Homesteads in Waimānalo	74	13	87
Kauhale Waimānalo	60	11	71
Provide grants from DHHL Trust Funds to current Waimānalo Lessees in need	61	8	69
Waimānalo Business Park	44	3	47
Allow extensions in perpetuity for homestead lots	38	8	46

1. Create more DHHL Agricultural Homesteads in Waimānalo

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

DHHL shall prioritize the development of agricultural homestead lots in Waimānalo. Currently there are only residential homesteads and some non-homesteading land dispositions available in the Waimānalo region. A total of 685 lessees currently have a residential homestead lease in the region. The previous regional plan identified a desire to provide agricultural homesteading opportunities to beneficiaries in the region, and specifically identified lands that were held by the State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) at the time as potentially suitable lands for agricultural homesteading use.

PAST ACTIONS

- 2011 Participants in the Waimānalo Regional Plan process expressed a desire to have agricultural
 homesteading opportunities in the region and identified suitable lands to be acquired and added to
 the DHHL land inventory.
- 2018 Approximately 52 acres of agricultural farm land was conveyed from the DLNR to DHHL, known as the former "Wong's Farm" parcel.
- 2023 In Winter 2023, DHHL and its consultants began the planning and design phase for the
 development of the acquired lands. This planning process includes beneficiary consultation to review
 and provide comments on proposed "scenarios" for development. Scenarios shared at a previous
 consultation for input from beneficiaries offered various combinations of residential and agricultural
 homesteading lot designs. This planning and design process is still underway and a final design has
 not been completed.

COMMUNITY INPUT

At BC #3, there was discussion regarding a need for more agricultural opportunties in the region. This included ideas for both homesteading and non-homesteading uses. Participants also discussed the rules for homesteading and non-homesteading uses on DHHL lands, and staff clarified that residences are allowed on agricultural, pastoral and residential lots. Beneficiaries discussed a preference for agricultural homestead lots, as these lots would provide space for important agricultural uses and would also allow for a residence for the lessee. (Note: Though residences are allowed on agricultural, pastoral and residential homestead lots, a lessee may only have one residence. For example, if a lessee has a residential award with a home, they may not build another residence on an agricultural lot should they be awarded that lot).

OBJECTIVE

Create opportunities for agriculture homesteading in the Waimānalo Region. This project aids in fulfilling the Vision which mentions "embracing our rural identity and traditional way of life" as well as "staying rooted" in Waimānalo's unique identity. This project is aligned with the following community values: Keep Waimānalo Waimānalo, Keep Lands in Beneficiary Hands, Sust'Āinability, and Resiliency.

DHHL WAIMĀNALO REGIONAL PLAN UPDATE DRAFT PRIORITY PROJECT PROFILES 07/08/2024

IMPLEMENTATION ACTION STEPS

- 1) Site Plan & Environmental Assessment. Planning and design for the development of the "Wong's Farm" parcel is underway. This site offers potential for agricultural homestead development and planning has included beneficiary consultation for input on potantial design scenarios. Due diligence studies for the project site should be completed. A site plan and environmental assessment should be completed in compliance with HRS Chapters 343 and 6E, as well as Ka Pa'akai Framework Analysis for compliance with Article XII, Section VII of the State Constitution.
- 2) HHC Acceptance of the EA. The Hawaiian Homes Commission will review the final EA, issue a Finding of No Significant Impact, and approve the license or lease.
- 3) Permitting and Entitlements. Secure all necessary permits and approvals as determined by DHHL in consultation with the appropriate agencies.
- 4) Site Preparation, Design and Construction. Develop the site per the site plan. Clear brush and implement Best Management Practices (BMP's) and mitigation measures as outlined in the Final EA during site preparation and construction. Construction phases include:
 - a) Site preparation and grading
 - b) Develop infrastructure and roadways
 - c) Build
- 5) Award lots. Awards for residential lots would award based on the Waimānalo Area Waitlist, currently 518 applicants, and the O'ahu Island Wide Waitlist (residential), currently 10,537 applicants. Awards for agricultural lots would award based on the O'ahu Island Wide Waitlist (agricultural), currently 4,126 applicants.

2. Kauhale Waimānalo

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Develop additional gathering space for use as a cultural retreat center and a community resiliency hub in Waimānalo. The current hālau space is heavily utilized by Waimānalo beneficiaries, and there is a need for additional space for gatherings and events. The cultural retreat center would include gathering and event space and would also provide overnight accommodations for large groups. This is modeled after marae in Aotearoa, and their ability to host overnight groups. The community resiliency hub would include space for an emergency shelter and would also provide space for programming related to disaster preparedness, response and recovery. Further discussion included the idea that more open/community space could be incorporated into this project to provide space for food gardens and edible landscaping.

PAST ACTIONS

None

COMMUNITY INPUT

At BC#3, participants discussed the need for additional gathering and event space as the existing hālau space is in high demand and has reached its capacity. Participants also mentioned the idea of modeling this proposed space after the marae in Aotearoa that have space for overnight accommodations to host large groups. This would be a useful addition to potential gathering and event space.

Discussion at BC#3 also included talks of the need for an emergeny shelter to serve the homestead and surrounding area, as well as programming related to disaster preparedness, response and recovery. There is a need to increase resiliency amongst the community from potential natural disasters. A facility that could host resiliency programming would be preferred. Suitable space for food gardens and edible landscaping would align with disaster preparedness and increasing the homesteads resiliency.

OBJECTIVE

Develop additional gathering space for use as a cultural retreat center and a community resiliency hub in Waimānalo. This project helps to fulfill the Vision by building on its commitment to safeguarding, nurturing and preserving the ahupa'a for future generations, as well as navigating towards sustainable progress. This project is aligned with the following community values: Keep Lands in Beneficiary Hands, Sust'Āinability, Resiliency, 'Auamo Kuleana, Grow Community Assets and Mālama Kūpuna.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTION STEPS

- 1) Site Selection. Identify potential sites including existing HHLs or other lands to be acquired.
- If preferred site is not a part of the HHL, Acquire lands or secure site control. Acquisition requires due
 diligence including environmental assessment and other technical studies and approval of purchase from
 the HHC.

DHHL WAIMĀNALO REGIONAL PLAN UPDATE DRAFT PRIORITY PROJECT PROFILES 07/08/2024

- 3) Right of Entry. A right of entry for additional due diligence to the project champion requires approval from the HHC if on DHHL lands, or by the landowner and potentially other approving authorities if not on DHHL lands.
- 4) Site Plan & Compliance with Chapter 343, 6E and Article XII, Section VII of the State Constitution. Prepare due dilligence studies and get necessary approvals for the project including a site plan. If on DHHL lands, requires HHC acceptance of a final environmental assessment prepared in compliance with HRS Chapters 343 and 6E as well as completion of a Ka Pa 'akai Framework Analysis in compliance with Article XII, Section VII of the State Constitution is required. If not on DHHL lands, another agency would act as the accepting agency.
- 5) Secure a Long-term Land Disposition. The approval of a long-term disposition in the form of a license. If on DHHL lands, then HHC approval is required.
- 6) Permitting and Entitlements. Secure all necessary permits and approvals as determined in consultation with the appropriate government agencies.
- 7) Site Preparation, Design and Construction. Develop the site plan. Clear brush and implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) and mitigation measures as outlined in the Final EA during site preparation and construction.
- 8) **Operation & Maintenance.** Upon completion of construction, the site should be opened for operations and a budget should be created and maintained for on-going operation and maintenance of the site.
- 9) Monitoring & Reporting. As required by the terms of the land disposition.

10)

3. Provide grants from DHHL Trust Funds to current Waimānalo lessees in need, to build, make improvements, do renovations, and have assessments of their lots within 3 years.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Current lessess in the Waimānalo region need access to funds in order to build their homes, make improvements, renovations, and pay for any necessary inspections of their property. Not all lessess are able to qualify for traditional financing from lenders and may not meet the eligibility requirements to access NAHASDA funding. This project proposed the creating of a grant program to be administered by DHHL staff that would meet this need by providing grants from the Hawaiian Home Lands (HHL) Trust.

As part of the Native Hawaiian Development Program Plan, DHHL makes available annual grant funding to nonprofit organizations that demonstrate a purpose to benefit native Hawaiians. The Department has offered grants in several program areas over the years as a means of implementing the community development component of the rehabilitation fund. Grant offerings reflect DHHL priorities and community interests. This project is suggesting a grants program that allows grant offerings specifically to Waimānalo lessees.

As a component of this project, the beneficiaries of Waimānalo request that this program be created and grants be made available no later than three years from the adoption of this regional plan.

PAST ACTIONS

None.

COMMUNITY INPUT

Participants at BC#3 identified a need for a funding source to support critical development of existing homesteads in the region. Not all of the existing lessees are able to qualify for grants or loans that are currently available. Many of the homes in the homestead are 50+ years old and require necessary improvements and renovations. Additionally, some homesteaders need to make their homes ADA accessible as kūpuna age in place. The ACT 279 funds are earmarked specifically for use to address the waitlist and do not include funding that may be used to support the existing homestead. This project is proposed to meet that need.

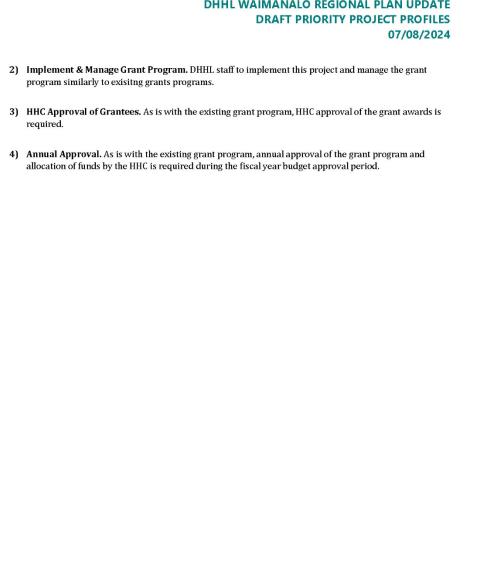
OBJECTIVE

Allow beneficiaries to access funds to build homes, make improvements, do rennovations, and have assessments of their lot within three (3) years.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTION STEPS

 Create Grant Program. HHC approval for creation of a new grant program and allocation of funds using HHL Trust funds for this purpose.

DHHL WAIMĀNALO REGIONAL PLAN UPDATE



4. Waimānalo Business Park

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A priority project in the 2011 Regional Plan, this project would develop a business park suitable for commercial or light industrial uses to provide affordable space for beneficiary and Native Hawaiian businesses in Waimānalo on a portion of TMK: (1) 4-1-008:002. Additional components include: space for boat parking, space for parking of commercial vehicles and heavy equipment, space for a marketplace, and programs to support Native Hawaiian small business owners.

PAST ACTIONS

- 2011 A business park was proposed in the 2011 Waimānalo Regional Plan designed to include the
 development of the Community, Technology, Education and Employment Center (CTEEC) along with
 space for the business park with larger spaces (such as warehouses) and a parking area to
 accommodate space needed to support industrial/construction type businesses for homesteaders and
 residents with commercial vehicles and heavy equipment.
- 2015 WHHA completed construction of the CTEEC in 2015. The CTEEC is Phase IV of the WHHA's Ka Ho'olina Na Kühiö Community Center.
- 2024 WHHA is seeking funding for the planning, design, and construction of future phases of its
 planned community development, including the Waimānalo Business Park.

COMMUNITY INPUT

In BC #3, it was discussed among attendees that the Waimānalo Business Park (Industrial/Technology) project included several components. The business park was planned to occupy a 30-acre space in addition to the CTEEC. The CTEEC project was completed, but the Business Park is still underway. This priority project is revisiting the Business Park with some additional components. The Business Park project idea was suggested in several breakout groups during BC#3. Here are the various project ideas proposed:

- 1) Create the Waimānalo Business Park with affordable options for Waimānalo beneficiaries.
- 2) Business Park for beneficiaries with individual economic opportunities.
- Waimānalo Business Park to support beneficiary/native businesses by providing low-cost space (more
 affordable than other Waimānalo commercial).
- 4) Create a program for craft, small business vendors.

Other discussions included a preference that DHHL lands designated for commercial or industrial uses be given to beneficiaries and Native Hawaiians. This would allow more access to these spaces to build capacity amongst DHHL beneficiaries and Native Hawaiians for entreprenurship and growth of their businesses. This would also allow for more affordable access, as these lands should be made available at discounted rates for beneficiaries and Native Hawaiians.

As a part of refining the project idea list, these ideas were combined into the project as written, to encompass the previous priority project as well as the ideas expressed above.

DHHL WAIMĀNALO REGIONAL PLAN UPDATE DRAFT PRIORITY PROJECT PROFILES 07/08/2024

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this priority project is to plan, design and construct a business park suitable for commercial or light industrial uses to provide affordable space for beneficiary and Native Hawaiian businesses in Waimānalo on a portion of TMK: (1) 4-1-008:002. Additional components to this priority project include: space for boat parking, space for a marketplace, and programs to support Native Hawaiian small business owners. This space should provide affordable lease rents that are well below market rates to beneficiaries and Native Hawaiian-owned businesses.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTION STEPS

- 1) Right of Entry. A right of entry for due diligence to the WHHA requires approval from the HHC.
- 2) Funding. WHHA to secure funding for planning, design, permitting and construction of the Business Park.
- 3) Site Plan & Compliance with Chapter 343, 6E and Article XII, Section VII of the State Constitution. Prepare due diligence studies and get necessary approvals for the project including a site plan. HHC acceptance of a final environmental assessment prepared in compliance with HRS Chapters 343 and 6E as well as completion of a Ka Pa 'akai Framework Analysis in compliance with Article XII, Section VII of the State Constitution is required.
- Secure a Long-term Land Disposition. HHC approval is required for a long-term land disposition such as a license.
- 5) Permitting and Entitlements. Secure all necessary permits and approvals as determined in consultation with the appropriate government agencies.
- 6) Site Preparation, Design and Construction. Develop the site plan. Clear brush and implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) and mitigation measures as outlined in the Final EA during site preparation and construction.
- 7) Operations & Maintenance. Upon completion of construction, the site should be opened for operations and a budget should be created and maintained for on-going operation and maintenance of the site.

5. Allow extensions in perpetuity for homestead lots.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

According the the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act (HHCA) of 1920, homestead leases have a 99-year term with an option to extend for an additioanl 100-years, for a maximum lease term of 199-years. Following the completion of this 199-year term, there is currently no pathway articulated for DHHL lessees to maintain these homestead awards beyond this term period. This priority project urges DHHL and the HHC to explore potential pathways to allow the extension of homestead leases to lessees and their descendants via succession in perpetuity.

PAST ACTIONS

N/A

COMMUNITY INPUT

At BC #3, attendees discussed the limits on homestead leases discussed that as these lands are leasehold, they would potentially be taken back by the Department and awarded to other applicants, even if the lessee or successors are eligible to maintain the award through succession. There was discussion of DHHL lands being changed to fee simple, and attendees agreed that this should never take place and that the lands should be maintained as leasehold lands. In order to make changes to the lease term, an amendment to the HHCA is required, and this must be approved by the U.S. Congress. Discussion amongst participants also cautioned on the risk of proposing amendments to the HHCA. Potential amendments, once taken to Washington DC could be rewritten and influenced by those not sympathetic to the HHCA and could result in unintended changes, including the repeal of the HHCA and dismantling of the HHC, DHHL and all of its land inventory. This project should begin with thorough research and clear understanding of all potential options and pathways, including risks to the existing homesteading program.

OBJECTIVE

Urge DHHL and the HHC to seek extension of homestead leases in perpetuity.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTION STEPS

- Identify Potential Pathways to extend homestead leases. DHHL staff should conduct initial research on potential options for extending homestead leases beyond the 199-year term limit.
- Conduct Statewide beneficiary consultations. DHHL staff should conduct beneficiary consultations statewide to gather input from beneficiaries on a preferred pathway.
- 3) HHC Approval. Based on beneficiary input, HHC approval for pursuing an amendment to the HHCA is required.

DHHL WAIMĀNALO REGIONAL PLAN UPDATE DRAFT PRIORITY PROJECT PROFILES 07/08/2024 **4) Congressional Amendment to the HHCA.** The Amendment would need to be brought to the U.S. Congress in Washington DC during session and a majority vote of Congress is required to approve the amendment to the HHCA.

Meeting Photos





