

HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

Minutes of Monday, October 20, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

Paukukalo Community Center, 657 Kaunualii Street, Wailuku, Maui, Hawai'i, 96793
and Interactive Conferencing Technology (ICT) Zoom

PRESENT

Kali Watson, Chairperson
Makai Freitas, West Hawai'i Commissioner (ICT)
Sanoë Marfil, O'ahu Commissioner
Lawrence Lasua, Moloka'i Commissioner
Michael L. Kaleikini, East Hawai'i Commissioner (ICT)
Shaylyn Ornellas, Kauai Commissioner
Pauline N. Namu'o, O'ahu Commissioner (ICT)
Walter Kaneakua, O'ahu Commissioner

EXCUSED

Archie Kalepa, Maui Commissioner

COUNSEL

Hokulei Lindsey, Deputy Attorney General

STAFF

Katie Lambert, Deputy to the Chairman
Richard Hoke, Executive Assistant to the Chairperson
Leah Burrows-Nuuanu, Secretary to the Commission
Juan Garcia, Homestead Services Division Administrator
Kalani Fronda, Land Development Division Acting Administrator
Elijah Davidson, Land Development Division
Sharene Tam, Land Development Division
Raymond Kanna, Land Development Division
David Hoke, Enforcement Administrator
Kahana Albinio, Land Management Income Property Manager
Shelly Carriera, Land Management Division
Lilliane Makaila, Planning Office Acting Administrator
Julie Cachola, Planning Office Planner V

ORDER OF BUSINESS

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:40 am by Chairperson Kali Watson. Five (5) members were present in person, three (3) on Zoom, and one (1) excused, establishing a quorum.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Watson proposed amendments to the agenda, correcting the submittal to Item D-5 by removing the names and second correcting Item D-8, changing the name on Lease 5843 from Kahui Kim K. to Kahui James H.K. Chair Watson acknowledged the amendment to the agenda and called for a motion to amend the October 20–21, 2025 agenda accordingly.

MOTION/ACTION

Commissioner Kaneakua moved, and Commissioner Marfil seconded, to approve the amendment to the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Watson then noted other announcements included Item E-5 is deferred, Item F-9 would begin the F items, and the Commission would convene an executive session and break for lunch at noon. He also announced that the community meeting would start at 6:30 p.m.

MOTION/ACTION

Commissioner Ornellas moved and Commissioner Lasua seconded, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Watson began the discussion with the approval of the September 16th and 17th meeting minutes and asked for any edits or comments. Commissioner Kaleikini provided three corrections: first, on page two, public testimony number four, the speaker's last name should be corrected to Ka'ilikini. Second, on page eight, the paragraph referring to Commissioner Kaleikini incorrectly used female pronouns and should be changed to male pronouns. And third, on page forty, the fifth line of the second paragraph incorrectly referenced "P.E. Vanua" and should be corrected to "Piuhonua."

MOTION/ACTION

Moved by Commissioner Lasua moved to approve the September HHC minutes with the amendments, Commissioner Marfil seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON AGENDIZED ITEMS

PT-1 George Aikala – Housing development above Kahekili Road

G. Aikala spoke about homestead land, noting it was a personal concern not on the agenda. He believed that awardees could move in immediately but later learned it would take several years. He also expressed concern about the planned housing developments above Kahikili Road, warning that adding over 100 homes could worsen traffic from Kahikili Road to Wailuku or Kahului, since there is only one access road.

Chair Watson explained that delays in occupying awarded homestead lands were due to the project lease process, which aimed to issue leases sooner so heirs with at least 25% Hawaiian ancestry could qualify. He said there were 28 projects with varying timelines, depending on financing and development phases, noting that turnkey projects moved faster while tax credit and self-help projects took longer. He encouraged beneficiaries to check the DHHL website for updates. Regarding access to the Kahikili development, he deferred to Ray Kanna or Kalani Fronda. G. Aikala said K. Fronda had explained he could not access his property until the surrounding infrastructure was completed, but wanted early access to start planting, as he missed Keōkea, where he was once high on the waitlist.

G. Aikala noted he already had a home at Wai'ehu 1 and only wanted to build a barn for farming. G. Aikala expressed frustration with delays and concern that many awardees might not live another two years. He said he hoped, with Akua's help, to live long enough and had named his nephews as successors.

PT-2 Dre Kalili – Item F-10

D. Kalili with the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, addressed the Commission regarding Item F-10, which concerned a property in Kapolei licensed to the Association. The request sought to affirm an action previously approved by the Commission in 2015 and initiate a series of corrective steps to address issues that had arisen with the organization's prior development partnership for the Kipuka property located across the parking lot from the DHHL building. She stated that the Association, a 501(c)(4) organization, had dissolved its partnership with a 501(c)(3) entity and would later ask the Commission to update the license documents to reflect this change. She emphasized that the project had been ongoing for 20 years, with submittals dating back to 2005 and 2015, and said this approval was intended to restart the process and establish a solid path forward for the property.

II. ITEMS FOR DECISION MAKING

A. CONSENT AGENDA

HOMESTEAD SERVICES DIVISION

- D-2 Approval of Consent to Mortgage
- D-3 Ratification of Loan Approvals
- D-4 Approval of Homestead Application Transfers / Cancellations (see exhibit)
- D-5 Approval to Certify Applications of Qualified Applications for September 2025
- D-6 Commission Designation of Successors to Application Rights – Public Notice 2024
- D-7 Reinstatement of Deferred Application - (see exhibit)
- D-8 Approval of Assignment of Leasehold Interest - (see exhibit)
- D-9 Approval of Amendment of Leasehold Interest - (see exhibit)
- D-10 Approval to Issue Non-Exclusive Licenses for Rooftop Photovoltaic Systems for Certain Lessees (see exhibit)
- D-11 Conditional Approval of Subdivision, Transfer of a Portion of Lease and Amendments to Lease No. 1107, Lot No. 66-A, Keaukaha, Hawai'i - Beni-Jo N. Kuamoo and Fantacie H. Keahilihau Kuamoo

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

HSD Administrator Juan Garcia presented 10 items (D2 to D11) for approval.

J. Garcia addressed the Commission to present ten consent agenda items for approval, noting that corrections had been made to items D5 and D8. He highlighted that items D8 and D9 involved a higher-than-usual number of undivided interest (UI) conversions, where leases were being converted from undivided interests to actual individual leases.

MOTION/ACTION

Moved by Commissioner Marfil, seconded by Commissioner Kaneakua to approve the motion as stated in the submittal						
Commissioner	1	2	AYE (YES)	A'OLE(NO)	KANALUA	EXCUSED
Commissioner Freitas			X			
Commissioner Kaleikini			X			
Commissioner Kalepa						X
Commissioner Kaneakua		X	X			
Commissioner Lasua			X			
Commissioner Marfil	X		X			
Commissioner Namu'o			X			
Commissioner Ornellas			X			
Chairman Watson			X			
TOTAL VOTE COUNT			8			
MOTION: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNANIMOUS <input type="checkbox"/> PASSED <input type="checkbox"/> DEFERRED <input type="checkbox"/> FAILED						
Motion passed unanimously, Eight (8) Yes votes						

**ITEM D-12 Denial of the Assignment of Lease Transfer Request – Gordon W. Kunewa,
Agricultural Lease No. 7026, Lot No. 91, Maku'u, Hawai'i**

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

HSD Administrator Juan Garcia presented the following:

Motion the Hawaiian Homes Commission to the Denial of the Assignment of Lease Transfer Request – Gordon W. Kunewa, Agricultural Lease No. 7026, Lot No. 91, Maku'u, Hawai'i.

J. Garcia explained that the transfer was being denied due to current violations on the property involving unauthorized storage of vehicles. He stated that both the Department of Health and DHHL's enforcement team were working with Mr. Kuneva to address and remediate the issue. Chair Watson asked whether Mr. Kuneva had been notified and given the chance to respond, and J. Garcia confirmed that a notice had been sent. J. Garcia clarified that the denial did not cancel the lease and that Mr. Kuneva could resubmit the transfer request once the property was restored to an acceptable condition.

Public Testimony - Pat Kahawaiolaa - Questioned how a transfer between two brothers could be denied under the act's provisions. After hearing Juan Garcia's explanation that the denial was due to non-compliance issues involving the property, he asked whether non-compliance would now be considered a valid reason for denying a transfer, noting it was the first time he had heard of such a case.

J. Garcia explained that Mr. Kuneva was working with both the DHHL enforcement unit and the Department of Health to address the violations on his property, with several milestones required before the issue could be resolved. Commissioner Ornellas asked whether those milestones had firm deadlines, and J. Garcia replied that there were no fixed dates, as the department was working according to Mr. Kuneva's capacity to clean up the property. He noted that since the violations involved vehicle storage, a soil test might be necessary to check for possible contamination from petroleum or other substances due to the long-term presence of the vehicles. Commissioner Ornellas asked how many vehicles were currently on the property.

Enforcement Unit Administrator David Hoke reported that the number of vehicles on Mr. Kuneva's property had been reduced from about fifty to fewer than ten, with the current focus being on removing the remaining tires. He said the Department of Health had not set a formal deadline, but DHHL continued conducting random inspections to ensure consistent progress. D. Hoke explained that once the tires were cleared, a remediation or soil test would still be required. Commissioner Kaneakua asked how long the issue had been ongoing. D. Hoke estimated it had been around five years since the department first became aware of the violations, issued notices, and began coordinating with the Department of Health to remove vehicles and tires gradually.

Commissioner Lasua noted that abandoned vehicle storage had become a serious problem on Moloka'i, with many cars left for over five years, and he thanked the department for addressing it. He explained that the Kalama'ula Homestead Association had tried collecting the vehicles but faced obstacles because metal recyclers would not take them without county approval, as they could be held liable. Commissioner Lasua said the issue affected many homesteads statewide and was worsened by Moloka'i's transportation challenges.

D. Hoke stated that removing abandoned vehicles was costly and required balancing realistic expectations with timely cleanup efforts, acknowledging the process would take time. Commissioner Lasua expressed concern that fuel contamination could affect the land's recovery, especially for agricultural use.

MOTION/ACTION

Moved by Commissioner Marfil, seconded by Commissioner Lasua to approve the motion as stated in the submittal						
Commissioner	1	2	AYE (YES)	A'OLE(NO)	KANALUA	EXCUSED
Commissioner Freitas			X			
Commissioner Kaleikini			X			
Commissioner Kalepa						X
Commissioner Kaneakua			X			
Commissioner Lasua		X	X			
Commissioner Marfil	X		X			
Commissioner Namu'o			X			
Commissioner Ornellas			X			
Chairman Watson			X			
TOTAL VOTE COUNT			8			
MOTION: [X] UNANIMOUS [] PASSED [] DEFERRED [] FAILED Motion passed unanimously, Eight (8) Yes votes						

LAND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

ITEM E-1 Approval of Lease Award – Honokōwai Subdivision - Agricultural Project Lease Lahaina, Maui (see exhibit)

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

Acting Administrator Kalani Fronda and Housing Project Branch Manager Michelle Hitzeman presented the following: Motion that the Hawaiian Homes Commission to the Approval of Lease Award – Honokōwai Subdivision - Agricultural Project Lease – Lahaina, Maui.

K. Fronda explained that the project aimed to award 40 agricultural lots in Phase 1 of Honokowai to Maui agricultural wait listers, marking the start of a long-planned master development. He stated that the department would continue working with selected lessees as the project advanced, noting that development was expected within the next few years, pending county approvals and water availability.

He confirmed that the project aimed to secure agricultural lots for qualified beneficiaries meeting the 50% Hawaiian blood quantum requirement, ensuring that they and their families would have future opportunities once the lots were developed. He explained that lot selection was expected to occur in a few years.

DISCUSSION

K. Fronda explained that the infrastructure included water systems and access roadways. He stated that the one-acre subsistence agricultural lots were being subdivided and that lessees would be allowed to build homes on their properties.

Chair Watson clarified that building a house on the agricultural lots was optional, but if a lessee already held a residential lease and chose to build on the agricultural lot, they would need to give up or transfer their residential property. He added that beneficiaries could begin farming or raising livestock once infrastructure was completed and noted that DHHL was collaborating with CTAHR and the university to provide agricultural guidance and funding support for those who chose to build homes.

Public Testimony – Blossom Feiteira - Testified in support of items E1 and E2, thanking the Chair for addressing the goal of moving beneficiaries off the waitlist, but raised concerns about funding for developing the newly awarded agricultural leases. She asked whether any planning or budgeting had been done, noting

that beneficiaries had heard the department would need to request funds from the legislature and wanted clarity on the type of financial request to make.

K. Fronda explained that funding and project analysis had already been conducted under Act 279, with identified budgets for each project and additional efforts to secure funds from state, county, federal, and grant sources. He stated that while additional money might be needed for the Honokowai project, funding for E2 was already secured. B. Feiteira expressed concern about relying on federal funds and urged the department to focus on the state's financial obligation, suggesting that planning and advocacy start immediately. K. Fronda agreed, adding that upcoming agenda Item E-3 would cover projected state appropriations and that consistent planning was key to meeting development goals. B. Feiteira concluded by recommending more community meetings to educate beneficiaries on how to advocate effectively at the legislature.

Chair Watson emphasized B. Feiteira's point that community members and beneficiaries with project leases needed to actively advocate and lobby for state funding to support development, noting that their long wait strengthened their case. He stated that while federal funding was uncertain, there had been positive changes within the state legislature, particularly in the House, which could benefit beneficiaries. He explained that the department had prepared detailed project and budget information, including anticipated costs and funding needs for future phases, to help legislators understand and support the financial requests. Chair Watson thanked Blossom for her input and urged continued community involvement and support.

B. Feiteira emphasized that Maui beneficiaries had previously succeeded in advocating directly with legislators to secure funding for their homestead projects and urged a renewal of that strategy. She stressed the importance of educating beneficiaries about their kuleana, explaining that receiving a project lease was only the first step and that they must actively pursue the funding needed to develop their lands. She also noted that many in the Maui community were eager to take part in finding solutions and expressed gratitude for the Commission's support.

Commissioner Ornellas agreed that greater collaboration among wait listers, project lessees, and existing homesteaders was crucial for unified political advocacy. She mentioned that beneficiaries were seeking clear tools, such as draft testimonies or bullet points, to support their efforts at the legislature. B. Feiteira's committed Maui's support in assisting other islands if needed, but emphasized that their immediate priority was moving projects forward quickly, as many lessees were kupuna. She said completing these developments had become both a responsibility and an urgent commitment.

Public Testimony - Pat Kahawaiolaa -Stated that while he could not make the same commitments as B. Feteira for Maui, he was willing to organize kupuna beneficiaries to testify in support of political action. Speaking about his island, which he said had the most agricultural land—particularly in the Pana'ewa area—he raised concerns about long-standing issues with land occupancy. He criticized the fact that some agricultural leases had been awarded over 40 years ago to beneficiaries who had never set foot on their lots, contrasting it with a recent case involving five years of noncompliance. He questioned inconsistencies in agricultural lot sizes, noting that while new one-acre subsistence agricultural lots were being developed, Pana'ewa had seen 10-acre parcels divided into smaller half-acre lots. He emphasized the need to uphold Section 208 of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, which required beneficiaries to occupy and use their awarded lands, and urged stricter enforcement of compliance.

MOTION/ACTION

Moved by Commissioner Lasua, seconded by Commissioner Kaneakua to approve the motion as stated in the submittal.						
Commissioner	1	2	AYE (YES)	A'OLE(NO)	KANALUA	EXCUSED
Commissioner Freitas			X			
Commissioner Kaleikini			X			
Commissioner Kalepa						X
Commissioner Kaneakua		X	X			
Commissioner Lasua	X		X			
Commissioner Marfil			X			
Commissioner Namu'o			X			
Commissioner Ornellas			X			
Chairman Watson			X			
TOTAL VOTE COUNT			8			1
MOTION: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNANIMOUS <input type="checkbox"/> PASSED <input type="checkbox"/> DEFERRED <input type="checkbox"/> FAILED						
Motion passed unanimously, Eight (8) Yes votes, One (1) Excused						

ITEM E-2 Approval of Lease Award – Waiehu Mauka Subdivision - Agricultural Project Lease – Wailuku, Maui (see exhibit)

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

Acting Administrator Kalani Fronda and Housing Project Branch Manager Michelle Hitzeman presented the following:

Motion that the Hawaiian Homes Commission to the Approval of Lease Award – Waiehu Mauka Subdivision - Agricultural Project Lease – Wailuku, Maui.

M. Hitzman presented the proposal for approving 99-year agricultural lease awards for the Wai'ehu Mauka Subdivision to 55 listed applicants.

MOTION/ACTION

Moved by Commissioner Lasua, seconded by Commissioner Ornellas, to approve the motion as stated in the submittal.						
Commissioner	1	2	AYE (YES)	A'OLE(NO)	KANALUA	EXCUSED
Commissioner Freitas			X			
Commissioner Kaleikini			X			
Commissioner Kalepa						X
Commissioner Kaneakua			X			
Commissioner Lasua	X		X			
Commissioner Marfil			X			
Commissioner Namu'o			X			
Commissioner Ornellas		X	X			
Chairman Watson			X			
TOTAL VOTE COUNT			8			1
MOTION: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNANIMOUS <input type="checkbox"/> PASSED <input type="checkbox"/> DEFERRED <input type="checkbox"/> FAILED						
Motion passed unanimously, Eight (8) Yes votes, One (1) Excused						

LAND MANAGEMENT DIVISION

ITEM F-12 Approval to Issue Revocable Permit to Sun Isle West, Inc., Māpunapuna, Honolulu, Oahu Island, Tax Map Key No. (1) 1-1-064:032

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

LMD Income Property Manager Kahana Albinio presented the following:

Motion that the Hawaiian Homes Commission to the Approval to Issue a Revocable Permit to Sun Isle West, Inc., Māpunapuna, Honolulu, Oahu Island.

K. Albinio explained that the Land Management Division was seeking approval to issue a revocable permit to Sun Isle West, Inc. for a property in Mapunapuna, O‘ahu, under the listed TMK.

MOTION/ACTION

Moved by Commissioner Marfil seconded by Commissioner Lasua to approve the motion as stated in the submittal.						
Commissioner	1	2	AYE (YES)	A'OLE(NO)	KANALUA	EXCUSED
Commissioner Freitas			X			
Commissioner Kaleikini			X			
Commissioner Kalepa						X
Commissioner Kaneakua			X			
Commissioner Lasua		X	X			
Commissioner Marfil	X		X			
Commissioner Namu'o			X			
Commissioner Ornellas			X			
Chairman Watson			X			
TOTAL VOTE COUNT			8			1
MOTION: [X] UNANIMOUS [] PASSED [] DEFERRED [] FAILED Motion passed unanimously, Eight (8) Yes votes, One (1) Excused						

ITEM F-10 Affirmation of the Hawaiian Homes Commission action of June 16, 2016, to remove Chaminade University of Honolulu (CUH) and recognize the Association of Hawaiian Civic Club (AOHCC) as a cl-Licensee, License No. 642, East Kapolei, O‘ahu Island, Tax Map Key No. (1) 9-1-016:108 (p)

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

Income Property Manager Kahana Albinio presented the following:

Motion that the Hawaiian Homes Commission to the Approval to the Affirmation of the Hawaiian Homes Commission action of June 16, 2016, to remove Chaminade University of Honolulu (CUH) and recognize the Association of Hawaiian Civic Club (AOHCC) as a cl-Licensee, License No. 642, East Kapolei, O‘ahu Island

K. Albinio explained that item F10 sought the Commission’s approval to affirm the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act decision from June 16, 2016, removing Chaminade University of Honolulu as a co-licensee and recognizing the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs as the new co-licensee under license number 642 for the East Kapolei property on O‘ahu, as listed in the TMK.

MOTION/ACTION

Moved by Commissioner Marfil seconded by Commissioner Ornellas to approve the motion as stated in the submittal.						
Commissioner	1	2	AYE (YES)	A'OLE(NO)	KANALUA	EXCUSED
Commissioner Freitas			X			
Commissioner Kaleikini			X			
Commissioner Kalepa						X
Commissioner Kaneakua			X			
Commissioner Lasua			X			
Commissioner Marfil	X		X			
Commissioner Namu'o			X			
Commissioner Ornellas		X	X			
Chairman Watson			X			
TOTAL VOTE COUNT			8			1
MOTION: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNANIMOUS <input type="checkbox"/> PASSED <input type="checkbox"/> DEFERRED <input type="checkbox"/> FAILED						
Motion passed unanimously, Eight (8) Yes votes, One (1) Excused						

ITEM F-1 Approval to Issue a General Lease and Amend Right-of-Entry No. 495, Kēōkea Homestead Farm Lots Association, Kēōkea-Waiohuli, Maui Island, Tax Map Key Nos. (2) 2-2-032:067 & 068

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

Income Property Manager Kahana Albinio and Land Agent Shelly Carrieria presented the following: Motion that the Hawaiian Homes Commission to the Approval to Issue a General Lease and Amend Right-of-Entry No. 495, Kēōkea Homestead Farm Lots Association, Kēōkea-Waiohuli, Maui Island.

S. Carrieria requested approval to extend the Association's existing right of entry (ROE) until the general lease was fully executed. She explained that the association had held the ROE to conduct due diligence for master planning, compliance with Chapter 6E, and the Environmental Assessment under Chapter 343. She noted that the Association had completed its master plan and environmental assessment and was in the process of finalizing compliance with Chapter 6E.

Alika Akana testified that the group had been working on the project for over ten years with DHHL's support, completing master planning and land assessments. He stated that they had secured DHHL funding to begin development and that approval of the general lease was the final step needed to proceed. Their collaboration with partners such as G70 Architects and humbly requested the Commission's approval of their application.

Treasurer of the Kēōkea Homestead Farm Lots Association, a tax specialist and grant writer, Andrew Aukai Hatchie inquired about the structure of the base rent in the general lease, specifically asking what DHHL typically used as a base rent model, noting that their priorities included establishing a Hawaiian immersion preschool and a senior daycare center on the property.

K. Albinio explained that the project involved a 501(c)(3) association and, while the lease would be nominal, the department still aimed to ensure fair rent; terms were not yet finalized. A. Hatchie raised concerns about a clause requiring the lessee to cover utility costs, noting DHHL had allocated \$96,542 for power installation, but delays with MECO had stalled progress for a year. He explained the Association had only \$16,000 and could not fund the remaining utility work, requesting Commission assistance through grants. K. Albinio replied that the lease used standard boilerplate terms and that final conditions would be negotiated with the Attorney General and the association.

DISCUSSION

Chair Watson shared that funding could come from multiple sources and encouraged the group to seek support beyond the department. The speaker confirmed readiness to pursue federal and private funding.

MOTION/ACTION

Moved by Commissioner Lasua, seconded by Commissioner Marfil to approve the motion as stated in the submittal.						
Commissioner	1	2	AYE (YES)	A'OLE(NO)	KANALUA	EXCUSED
Commissioner Freitas			X			
Commissioner Kaleikini			X			
Commissioner Kalepa						X
Commissioner Kaneakua			X			
Commissioner Lasua	X		X			
Commissioner Marfil		X	X			
Commissioner Namu'o			X			
Commissioner Ornellas			X			
Chairman Watson			X			
TOTAL VOTE COUNT			8			1
MOTION: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNANIMOUS <input type="checkbox"/> PASSED <input type="checkbox"/> DEFERRED <input type="checkbox"/> FAILED						
Motion passed unanimously, Eight (8) Yes votes, One (1) Excused						

ITEM F-2 Approval to Issue a License Agreement to Waiehu Kou Phase 3 Association, Waiehu, Wailuku, Maui Island, Tax Map Key No. (2) 3-2-012:005 (por.) & 3-2-024:090

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

Income Property Manager Kahana Albinio and Land Agent Andrew Sante presented the following:
Motion the Hawaiian Homes Commission for Approval to Issue a License Agreement to Waiehu Kou Phase 3 Association, Wai'ehu, Wailuku, Maui Island.

K. Albinio explained that the Land Management Division sought approval to issue a license agreement to the Wai'ehu Kou Phase 3 Association in Wai'ehu, Wailuku, Maui, with the TMKs listed in the submittal.

Public Testimony – Blossom Feiteira -Expressed support for the homestead community's efforts to develop ideas that served their community and promoted economic viability on Maui, emphasizing the importance of helping homestead groups achieve success.

MOTION/ACTION

Moved by Commissioner Marfil seconded by Commissioner Kaneakua to approve the motion as stated in the submittal.						
Commissioner	1	2	AYE (YES)	A'OLE(NO)	KANALUA	EXCUSED
Commissioner Freitas			X			
Commissioner Kaleikini			X			
Commissioner Kalepa						X
Commissioner Kaneakua		X	X			
Commissioner Lasua			X			
Commissioner Marfil	X		X			
Commissioner Namu'o			X			
Commissioner Ornellas			X			
Chairman Watson			X			
TOTAL VOTE COUNT			8			1
MOTION: [X] UNANIMOUS [] PASSED [] DEFERRED [] FAILED						
Motion passed unanimously, Eight (8) Yes votes, One (1) Excused						

ITEM F-3 Approval to Issue a License Easement, Kevin & Deborah Robell Trust, Waiohuli-Kēōkea, Kula, Maui Island, Tax Map Key No. (2) 2-2-031:025 (p) & 043 (p)

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

Income Property Manager Kahana Albinio presented the following:

Motion the Hawaiian Homes Commission for Approval to Issue a License Easement, Kevin & Deborah Robell Trust, Waiohuli-Kēōkea, Kula, Maui Island.

K. Albinio sought approval to issue a license easement to the Kevin and Deborah Roebel Trust in Waiohuli, Kēōkea, and Kula, Maui, with the TMKs listed in the submittal, and requested that the speaker state their name for the record.

K. Robell identified himself and briefly thanked the Commission for its consideration of his request without adding further comments.

Public Testimony – Robin Newhouse - President of the Keokea Homestead Association, opposed the proposed license easement, stating that Hawaiian beneficiaries had waited too long for their limited resources to allow any part of their land or infrastructure to be given up for the convenience or profit of others. She explained that the request involved a waterline utility easement that would cut through Department of Hawaiian Homelands property to provide water to a nearby property, even though the applicants already had water access at the top of the hill. She also emphasized that during a prior public consultation, many beneficiaries had also voted against the proposal, and she reiterated her firm opposition to the easement.

Public Testimony - Bobby Hall - Project Manager for the Waiohuli Hawaiian Homestead, testified that the Waiohuli Board of Directors was neutral about the proposal but, from a business standpoint, supported granting the easement to access the main waterline in the middle of the road. He explained that the applicant, Kealana Farms, had long worked within the community and brought valuable expertise in vertical farming, which Waiohuli hoped to incorporate into its own agricultural initiatives on 150 acres provided by the Department. He stated that Waiohuli viewed the proposal as an opportunity for mentorship and collaboration in sustainable farming. While acknowledging Maui's fragile water situation, he noted that connecting to the existing waterline was the most practical and financially viable option. Therefore, Waiohuli supported the request for access to water.

K. Robell explained that he and his wife, longtime Maui residents, had been operating hydroponic and vertical farming ventures since 2010, supplying major grocery stores statewide. He shared that their prototype vertical farming project faced challenges due to water and land-use restrictions, which led them to expand operations to a 100,000-square-foot facility in Michigan. He added that they had purchased their Maui property five years prior, following the previous owners' 22-year wait, and reserved water meters four and a half years earlier. He discussed exploring multiple water access options, including a costly 2,200-foot line upgrade along Poli Poli Road, before seeking a more feasible easement connection below with higher water capacity. Chair Watson asked if he was willing to collaborate with Bobby Hall's group to provide mentorship and training in agricultural practices, and K. Roebel confirmed his willingness. Chair Watson also inquired whether K. Robell was working with the Waiohuli Hawaiian Homestead Association and Keokea Homestead Farm Lots Association, and K. Albinio confirmed that those collaborations were underway and documented in the submittal.

DISCUSSION

Commissioner Ornellas questioned why the easement fee was waived, and S. Carriera explained that K. Roebel agreed to provide a \$25,000 community benefit, matching rates from similar cases, with funds split between the Waiohuli and Kēōkea Homestead Associations. Commissioner Ornellas argued the department should not forgo revenue needed for infrastructure and should act as a revenue generator instead of relying on state or federal funding. S. Carriera said the decision followed the past practice of supporting beneficiaries through community benefits.. Commissioner Ornellas clarified that the department had no control over the funds, and K. Albinio confirmed they would go directly to the two associations.

Public Testimony - Pat Kahawaiolaa - Strongly opposed allowing trust lands to benefit the general public, emphasizing that Hawaiian Home Lands could not be alienated under case law. He warned Commissioners against accepting community benefits or money in exchange for such use, citing issues from the Waiakea Center as precedent. Referring to past mistakes where perpetual easements were granted to utility companies on Hawai'i Island, he urged the Commission to prioritize beneficiaries and follow the Nelson case, which required them to serve only one master—the Hawaiian beneficiaries.

Public Testimony – Kawehi Pundike- Waiohuli resident opposed the easement request, urging the Commission to vote no. He argued that the agricultural area already lacked sufficient water and questioned why beneficiaries should give up more resources when they continually received only “scraps.” He emphasized that the priority should be placing homesteaders on the remaining 5,000 acres below Waiohuli before granting any water access to outside interests. Pundike also recalled a community meeting where residents opposed drilling wells without explicit guarantees that the water would be used for homesteads. He acknowledged the applicant's business efforts but noted that the business was established without existing water access, stressing that any new developments should not come at the expense of Hawaiian beneficiaries.

K. Robell stated that the project had been about more than just business for him and his family, as they lived in the community and had tried to contribute positively for the past 15 years. He explained that they pursued the easement based on the Department of Water Supply's suggestion as an alternative to a costly \$2.2 million project. He noted that they had cleared 42 acres of wattle, placed the property under a USDA soil and water conservation plan, and established a full agricultural venture to demonstrate their commitment. However, he expressed shock and disappointment at the strong opposition and negative perception they faced during the meeting. Feeling disheartened by the situation, K. Robell announced his decision to withdraw the application request and apologized to staff, particularly S. Carriera, for the time invested in the process.

NOTE: Item F-3 was deferred.

ITEM F-4 Approval to Fifth Amendment to Right-of-Entry No. 704, Hawaiian Telecom, Inc., Portions of Various Tax Map Keys, Islands of Kaua‘i, O‘ahu, Moloka‘i, Maui, Hawai‘i, State of Hawai‘i

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

Income Property Manager Kahana Albinio and Land Agent V Shelly Carreira presented the following: Motion the Hawaiian Homes Commission for Approval to Issue a License Agreement to Waiehu Kou Phase 3 Association, Waiehu, Wailuku, Maui Island.

S. Carreira presented Item F-4 regarding Hawaiian Telecom’s right of entry permit number 704, which covered assets obtained through bankruptcy proceedings. The extension would allow Hawaiian Telecom to continue using its assets on Hawaiian homelands while negotiations for a license were ongoing.

MOTION/ACTION

Moved by Commissioner Marfil seconded by Commissioner Kaneakua to approve the motion as stated in the submittal.						
Commissioner	1	2	AYE (YES)	A’OLE(NO)	KANALUA	EXCUSED
Commissioner Freitas			X			
Commissioner Kaleikini			X			
Commissioner Kalepa						X
Commissioner Kaneakua		X	X			
Commissioner Lasua			X			
Commissioner Marfil	X		X			
Commissioner Namu’o			X			
Commissioner Ornellas			X			
Chairman Watson			X			
TOTAL VOTE COUNT			8			1
MOTION: [X] UNANIMOUS [] PASSED [] DEFERRED [] FAILED Motion passed unanimously, Eight (8) Yes votes, One (1) Excused						

ITEM F-5 Approval to Annual Renewal of Revocable Permit(s), Maui Island, various Tax Map Key Nos. (see Exhibit F-5)

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

Income Property Manager Kahana Albinio presented the following: Motion the Hawaiian Homes Commission for Approval to Annual Renewal of Revocable Permit(s), Maui Island.

MOTION/ACTION

Moved by Commissioner Marfil seconded by Commissioner Kaneakua to approve the motion as stated in the submittal.						
Commissioner	1	2	AYE (YES)	A'OLE(NO)	KANALUA	EXCUSED
Commissioner Freitas			X			
Commissioner Kaleikini			X			
Commissioner Kalepa						X
Commissioner Kaneakua		X	X			
Commissioner Lasua			X			
Commissioner Marfil	X		X			
Commissioner Namu'o			X			
Commissioner Ornellas			X			
Chairman Watson			X			
TOTAL VOTE COUNT			8			1
MOTION: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNANIMOUS <input type="checkbox"/> PASSED <input type="checkbox"/> DEFERRED <input type="checkbox"/> FAILED						
Motion passed unanimously, Eight (8) Yes votes, One (1) Excused						

ITEM F-6 Approval of Lease Term Extension for Three (3) General Leases scheduled to Expire, Kaei Hana I & II Industrial Subdivision, Waiākea/Kawaihae, Hawai'i Island, Tax Map Key Nos. (3) 2-2-060:042 & 041 & (3) 6-1-006:012

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

Income Property Manager Kahana Albinio and Land Agent V Shelly Carreira presented the following: Motion the Hawaiian Homes Commission for Approval of Lease Term Extension for Three (3) General Leases scheduled to Expire, Kaei Hana I & II Industrial Subdivision, Waiākea/Kawaihae, Hawai'i Island.

MOTION/ACTION

Moved by Commissioner Kaneakua seconded by Commissioner Marfil to approve the motion as stated in the submittal.						
Commissioner	1	2	AYE (YES)	A'OLE(NO)	KANALUA	EXCUSED
Commissioner Freitas			X			
Commissioner Kaleikini			X			
Commissioner Kalepa						X
Commissioner Kaneakua	X		X			
Commissioner Lasua			X			
Commissioner Marfil		X	X			
Commissioner Namu'o			X			
Commissioner Ornellas			X			
Chairman Watson			X			
TOTAL VOTE COUNT			8			1
MOTION: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNANIMOUS <input type="checkbox"/> PASSED <input type="checkbox"/> DEFERRED <input type="checkbox"/> FAILED						
Motion passed unanimously, Eight (8) Yes votes, One (1) Excused						

ITEM F-7, F-8 Approval to Terminate General Lease No. S-4311, Kenneth L. Antonio, dba Ken's Towing Services, Waiākea, South Hilo, Hawai'i Island, Tax Map Key Nos. (3) 2-2-058:027 & 028 (p) and Approval to Terminate General Lease No. 129, Kenneth L. Antonio, Waiākea, South Hilo, Hawai'i Island, Tax Map Key No. (3) 2-2-047:061

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

Income Property Manager Kahana Albinio presented the following:

Motion the Hawaiian Homes Commission for Approval to Terminate General Lease No. S-4311, Kenneth L. Antonio, dba Ken's Towing Services, Waiākea, South Hilo, Hawai'i Island and for Approval to Terminate General Lease No. 129, Kenneth L. Antonio, Waiākea, South Hilo, Hawai'i Island.

K. Albinio sought approval to terminate general leases S-4311 and 129, both issued to Ken's Towing Services for properties located in Waiākea, South Hilo, Hawai'i Island, with the TMK information listed in the submittal. He reported that C. Honma emailed photos of two checks—\$25,485.75 for lease S-4311 and \$14,850 for lease 129—to cover delinquencies, though the physical checks had not yet been received. In her letter, Hume stated her intent to surrender the leases within 6 to 12 months, and K. Albinio said the department would work with her for six months to clean up the property.

Attorney Catherine Garson from Carlsmith Ball stated that C. Honma made payments to bring the leases current and was working with the Department to resolve a disputed amount. She requested a month-to-month holdover to allow Ken's Towing Services time to vacate the premises while finalizing the lease surrender.

K. Albinio stated that the department was willing to work with the lessee for six months to clean and clear the property. He recommended withdrawing the lease cancellation and reinstating it later if needed after the six-month interim period.

NOTE: Items F-7 & F-8 were deferred.

ITEM F-9 Approval to Annual Renewal of Revocable Permit(s), East and South Hawai'i, Hawai'i Island, various Tax Map Key Nos. (see Exhibit F-9)

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

Income Property Manager Kahana Albinio presented the following:

Motion the Hawaiian Homes Commission for Approval to Annual Renewal of Revocable Permit(s), East and South Hawai'i, Hawai'i Island.

DISCUSSION

Commissioner Kaleikini asked about Revocable Permit 599 for Connect Point Church, noting a comment that the property was being prepared for industrial use and requesting clarification. K. Albinio explained that the lot needed preparation because the department intended to convert it from a month-to-month revocable permit to a general lease. He added that although the church had been there for some time and was paying industrial commercial rates, they would be given advance notice to vacate and could participate in the new leasing process if interested.

Public Testimony – Pat Kahawaiolaa – Stated that although the previous item had been deferred, he wanted the Commission to recognize the importance of remediation, emphasizing that it would be a key issue. He referred to earlier discussions by Commissioner Kaneakua about vehicles being on the property for five years and noted that Ken's Towing had occupied the site for many years. Remediation for this location would differ from other sites and urged the commission to understand the historical context of how similar licenses and industrial uses had been managed in Hilo.

MOTION/ACTION

Moved by Commissioner Marfil seconded by Commissioner Kaneakua to approve the motion as stated in the submittal.						
Commissioner	1	2	AYE (YES)	A'OLE(NO)	KANALUA	EXCUSED
Commissioner Freitas			X			
Commissioner Kaleikini			X			
Commissioner Kalepa						X
Commissioner Kaneakua		X	X			
Commissioner Lasua			X			
Commissioner Marfil	X		X			
Commissioner Namu'o			X			
Commissioner Ornellas			X			
Chairman Watson			X			
TOTAL VOTE COUNT			8			1
MOTION: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNANIMOUS <input type="checkbox"/> PASSED <input type="checkbox"/> DEFERRED <input type="checkbox"/> FAILED Motion passed unanimously, Eight (8) Yes votes, One (1) Excused						

ITEM F-11 Approval to Issue Revocable Permit to E-Opala Corporation, Māpunapuna, Honolulu, O'ahu Island, Tax Map Key No. (1) 1-1-064:034

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

Income Property Manager Kahana Albinio presented the following:

Motion the Hawaiian Homes Commission for Approval Issue Revocable Permit to E-Opala Corporation, Māpunapuna, Honolulu, O'ahu Island, Tax Map Key No. (1) 1-1-064:034

MOTION/ACTION

Moved by Commissioner Ornellas seconded by Commissioner Kaneakua to approve the motion as stated in the submittal.						
Commissioner	1	2	AYE (YES)	A'OLE(NO)	KANALUA	EXCUSED
Commissioner Freitas			X			
Commissioner Kaleikini			X			
Commissioner Kalepa						X
Commissioner Kaneakua		X	X			
Commissioner Lasua			X			
Commissioner Marfil			X			
Commissioner Namu'o			X			
Commissioner Ornellas	X		X			
Chairman Watson			X			
TOTAL VOTE COUNT			8			1
MOTION: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNANIMOUS <input type="checkbox"/> PASSED <input type="checkbox"/> DEFERRED <input type="checkbox"/> FAILED Motion passed unanimously, Eight (8) Yes votes, One (1) Excused						

ITEM F-13 Approval to Third Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement between the East Hawaii Homestead Community Association relating to the Community Benefit Agreement, General Lease No. 245, Hilo Powers Partners, LLC, Waiākea, Hawaii Island, Tax Map Key No. (3) 2-2-047:070 & 074

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

Income Property Manager Kahana Albinio presented the following:

K. Albinio explained that he had received comments from Kauai Alameida, who opposed the proposed amendment. He noted that LMD had provided all associations with the amendment proposal and requested their concurrence. So far, three associations had submitted responses—two listed in the submittal and one additional hard copy from the Pi‘ihonua Hawaiian Homestead Community Association received the previous Friday. K. Albinio stated that responses were still pending from several associations, including Kamana, Maku‘u, Ka‘ū, and Pana‘ewa.

Chair Watson suggested deferring the item until more responses were received, and K. Albinio agreed, noting that he had hoped to receive all submissions by that day. Still, unfortunately, they had not yet arrived. The item was deferred, with the possibility of revisiting it the next day if additional responses came in.

NOTE: This Item was deferred.

PLANNING OFFICE

ITEM G-1 Declare a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center ‘Elepaio Food Campus Master Plan, Wai‘anae, Oahu TMK No. (1)- 8-6001:012, 024, 025, 026, 027, 028 (por.)

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

Acting Planning Program Manager Lillianne Makaila presented the following:

Motion the Hawaiian Homes Commission to Declare a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center ‘Elepaio Food Campus Master Plan, Wai‘anae, Oahu

L. Makaila began by clarifying that the discussion was an action item requesting the Commission to declare a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Wai‘anae Coast Comprehensive Health Center ‘Elepaio Food Campus project. The project involved an existing land disposition in Wai‘anae, O‘ahu, and was brought forward at the applicant’s request to expedite completion of the environmental assessment. The proposed development included a food warehouse for the Hawai‘i Food Bank, agricultural growing fields, administrative offices, a multi-purpose building, a Hawaiian Cultural Center, a teaching kitchen, and a dining area. L. Makaila stated that the Hawaiian Homes Commission was the accepting agency under Chapter 343, with staff responsible for preparing the document and Commissioners tasked with reviewing its quality. The draft Environmental Assessment (EA) had been presented to the Commission in June 2025 and published on June 8 with a 30-day public comment period, and the revised final EA was now ready for consideration.

The document complied with HRS Chapter 343 and the Ka Pa‘akai framework and addressed 13 Hawai‘i Environmental Policy Act significance criteria. No significant impacts or mitigation measures were identified, and no special conditions were recommended. If approved, the final EA and FONSI would be published in the next Environmental Notice, which is released twice monthly, after which a legal challenge period could follow. She added that the applicant was still completing compliance under HRS Chapter 6E before proceeding with the project and concluded by recommending that the Commission issue the FONSI for the Elepa‘io Food Campus project.

Public Testimony – De Mont Manaole – Expressed strong enthusiasm and support for the ‘Elepaio project, recalling that he had attended a Kūpuna Council meeting where representatives from ‘Elepaio presented their plans. He stated that significant progress and positive development were happening on the west side of the

island, with ‘Elepaio playing a major role in the community. He also shared that the presentation had greatly impressed him and emphasized that everyone should support the project because of the valuable services it aimed to provide.

DISCUSSION

Commissioner Kaneakua commended the project’s thoroughness and the extensive work involved, then sought clarification about the 30-day legal challenge period. L. Makaila explained that the period would begin after the publication of the final Environmental Assessment and that anyone, including community members, could file a legal challenge against the determination, noting that it had not yet begun because the Commission still needed to make its decision. C

Commissioner Marfil followed by agreeing with Kaneakua’s remarks and praising the efforts at the Elepaio project. She emphasized that the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center’s initiatives extended far beyond the center itself, reaching into schools and the broader community, thereby creating a significant positive impact. Commissioner Marfil stated that approving this project represented the best next step to help the organization expand and enhance its work, expressing gratitude for the effort put into the project.

Chair Watson added his support, echoing the other commissioners' favorable comments. He acknowledged that the project had been in development for a long time and credited the ‘Elepaio group as major contributors to the community, particularly in health, food distribution, and agricultural growth. He noted that the organization worked collaboratively with many partners and described the project as an excellent initiative representing one of several important steps in their overall process.

MOTION/ACTION

Moved by Commissioner Kaneakua, seconded by Commissioner Lasua to approve the motion as stated in the submittal.						
Commissioner	1	2	AYE (YES)	A’OLE(NO)	KANALUA	EXCUSED
Commissioner Freitas			X			
Commissioner Kaleikini			X			
Commissioner Kalepa						X
Commissioner Kaneakua	X		X			
Commissioner Lasua		X	X			
Commissioner Marfil			X			
Commissioner Namu’o			X			
Commissioner Ornellas			X			
Chairman Watson			X			
TOTAL VOTE COUNT			8			1
MOTION: [X] UNANIMOUS [] PASSED [] DEFERRED [] FAILED						
Motion passed unanimously, Eight (8) Yes votes, One (1) Excused						

ITEM G-2 Adopt the Final Maku’u Regional Plan Update (2025).

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

Acting Planning Program Manager Lillianne Makaila presented the following:

Motion the Hawaiian Homes Commission to Adopt the Final Maku’u Regional Plan Update (2025).

L. Makaila explained that it was completed in five months instead of the usual twelve to allow the community to apply for the upcoming grant cycle. She detailed that the process began in June and included meetings with community leaders, four beneficiary consultations, project voting, and a public comment period. Outreach involved a website, postcards sent to 151 lessees, email notifications, and support from the Maku’u Farmers

Hawaiian Homestead Association. She noted that participation was small but reflected the rural, agricultural nature of the area and that many awardees were new and still relocating.

The community identified core values centered on aloha, nurturing ‘ohana, cultural education, honoring kūpuna, caring for the ‘ahupua‘a, creating gathering spaces, and respecting Pele as both a deity and natural force. Their vision aligned with the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920, emphasizing Native Hawaiian self-sufficiency grounded in traditional knowledge, education, and employment. The five priority projects included homestead safety and security, a halau community center, agricultural infrastructure improvements, an alternative financing and kupuna housing initiative, and water system governance. L. Makaila explained concerns about illegal activities on unoccupied lots, challenges with lava zone funding restrictions, and the community’s desire for inclusion in water management decisions. She concluded by noting that the draft received minimal comments and requested the Commission’s adoption of the final plan.

MOTION

Commissioner Kaneakua moved, seconded by Commissioner Marfil, before opening the floor for discussion.

DISCUSSION

Commissioner Kaneakua commended L. Maka‘ila for her deep involvement in community planning, noting that the Makuu Regional Plan was well-prepared and reflected extensive unseen effort. He acknowledged her role in managing community input, building consensus, and ensuring beneficiary voices were represented, expressing gratitude for her dedication and hard work on behalf of the beneficiaries.

Public Testimony –Patrick Kahawaiolaa – Praised Lilli and the Planning department, commending her dedicated work with communities, especially in East Hawai‘i. He stated that the organization he represented, Kumiki O Kupuna ‘Āina Ho‘opulapula, fully and unequivocally supported the passage of the Makuu Regional Plan.

ACTION

Moved by Chair Watson, seconded by Commissioner Kaleikini to approve the motion as stated in the submittal.						
Commissioner	1	2	AYE (YES)	A’OLE(NO)	KANALUA	EXCUSED
Commissioner Freitas			X			
Commissioner Kaleikini		X	X			
Commissioner Kalepa						X
Commissioner Kaneakua	X		X			
Commissioner Lasua			X			
Commissioner Marfil			X			
Commissioner Namu’o			X			
Commissioner Ornellas			X			
Chairman Watson			X			
TOTAL VOTE COUNT			8			1
MOTION: [X] UNANIMOUS [] PASSED [] DEFERRED [] FAILED						
Motion passed unanimously, Eight (8) Yes votes, One (1) Excused						

**ITEM G-3 Accept the Beneficiary Consultation Report for the Waiohuli Water Agreement,
Tax Map Keys (2) 2-002-014-0000, (2) 2-028-181-0000, (2) 2-002-084-0000,
Waiohuli, Island of Maui**

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

Planning Office Acting Planning Program Manager Lillianne Makaila, Water Program Specialist Cherie Kaanana and Dr. Jonathan Likeke Scheuer presented the following:

Motion that the Hawaiian Homes Commission Accept the Beneficiary Consultation Report for the Waiohuli Water Agreement, Waiohuli, Island of Maui.

C. Kaanana presented the beneficiary consultation report for the proposed Waiohuli Water Agreement, requesting their acceptance. She provided an overview of the presentation and outlined the recommended motion for the Hawaiian Homes Commission to either approve the report as complete or defer its acceptance. L. Makaila added that the recommendation included an alternative motion, which she would explain further later in the presentation.

C. Kaanana began by explaining the background of the Waiohuli Wells proposal and the draft water agreement, noting that it was now listed as agenda Item E-4 for informational purposes. The agreement, which was previously brought to the Commission, had been deferred to allow for beneficiary consultation. The proposed water agreement with the Department of Water Supply (DWS) triggered Policy Number Four of the Water Policy Plan, approved in 2014, which required transparent communication with beneficiaries before and after major water decisions. Therefore, a consultation was conducted to ensure compliance with the policy before the Commission could act on the agreement.

The three proposed well sites and a section of the transmission main were originally located on the Waiohuli Economic Development Opportunities (WeDo) area but were later shifted south to avoid conflict with WeDo's general lease area and shorten the transmission route. Access to the revised well site would be through an existing dirt road on Keanuheha Street. She also detailed the consultation process, which included an in-person meeting on August 22 at the Waiohuli Center, with about 5,000 postcards mailed to beneficiaries in Central, Upcountry, and South Maui. The presentation materials were made available online, and a 30-day comment period followed, allowing feedback via Google Form, email, or phone. A total of 62 people attended the meeting, with 50 identifying as beneficiaries, and 33 participants submitted comments, 32 of whom were beneficiaries or represented beneficiary organizations.

C. Kaanana further reported that the majority of comments expressed strong opposition to the proposed Waiohuli Water Agreement, with many asking for it to be deferred, revised, or restarted. Beneficiaries raised concerns about the substance of the agreement, citing risks to water rights, lack of enforcement mechanisms, and insufficient assurances that the water would serve only DHHL beneficiaries. They also emphasized the need for DHHL to retain ownership of water sources and infrastructure, given the county's poor record in serving beneficiaries. Environmental and cultural impacts were also a major concern, including doubts about the aquifer's reliability under climate change and historic issues with brackish wells. Many participants felt that DHHL was entering an agreement without full understanding of potential negative effects on the environment and Native Hawaiian rights.

Additional concerns included loss of beneficiary trust, as the water agreement was initially negotiated and scheduled without proper consultation, and the meeting was planned on a different island, making participation difficult. Others criticized the rushed process, delayed posting of meeting materials, and insufficient staff responses to technical questions about water capacity and regional needs. Beneficiaries also noted inconsistencies with existing water plans, potential conflicts with previously approved projects, and a perception that new applicants were being prioritized over existing lessees. Many stated they never received notice of the meeting and that Homestead Associations expected more formal notification. Overall, most participants requested that the process be paused and restarted with better beneficiary inclusion, broader notification, access to maps and materials in advance, and clear answers to key questions before moving forward.

L. Makaila explained that the beneficiary consultation Waiohuli received strong engagement and produced several recommendations for improvement. Beneficiaries wanted clearer language about due diligence and a mechanism to void the agreement if major issues arose during review, as the agreement would secure advanced water credits vital for planned homestead developments. She acknowledged frustration that the initial water service areas were outside Kula and upcountry, suggesting DHHL could ease concerns by ensuring that future projects would provide water access for those regions. Beneficiaries also urged the department to prioritize and fund new water source development in underserved areas. While some fully opposed the project, others could support it if DHHL committed to equitable water access over time.

Many beneficiaries were concerned about the long-term dedication of the water system to the County Department of Water Supply (DWS), citing distrust of the county's past record with Hawaiian Homes projects. Similar concerns had surfaced in West Hawaii consultations. She explained that beneficiaries proposed setting a term limit—such as 35, 55, or 65 years—for county management to allow future opportunities for DHHL or community-led entities to take over operations. Feedback about the notification and outreach process was strong. Many beneficiaries said they never received the postcard mailings announcing consultations. While most did receive them, DHHL planned to investigate the issue and modernize communication through Salesforce, electronic notifications, and easier ways for beneficiaries to update contact information. She acknowledged harsh criticism about outreach and said the Planning Office would now send formal notifications to all homestead associations in addition to postcards to improve engagement.

L. Makaila explained that because of the report's significance and community feedback, the Planning Office offered an alternative motion allowing the Commission to either accept or defer the consultation report if it did not meet the 2009 policy standards. She apologized for any confusion this caused, emphasized openness to feedback, and encouraged the Commission to keep the discussion open for written and verbal testimony before making a final decision.

Public Testimony – Richard Mayer - Upcountry Maui resident and former planning commissioner, testified that all water from the proposed Waiohuli Wells should remain for the Waiohuli Hawaiian Homelands community rather than being sent to Kihei or Central Maui. He explained that the Upcountry Community Plan, which he helped develop with former Mayor Elmer Cravalho, legally required prioritizing water for Hawaiian Homelands and restricting exports from the district except for agricultural use. He said diverting the water would violate both the plan and Maui County Code 2.80B-030, which bound the Department of Water Supply to follow the community plan. He emphasized that Waiohuli needed the water for current and future residents, farmers, and wildfire protection, warning that exporting it would threaten the community's development and safety.

Public Testimony – Blossom Feiteira - Requested a deferral of Item G-3, explaining that although she participated in the consultation process, there were too many unanswered questions and insufficient time to review the water agreement thoroughly. She expressed concern that the Department had already signed a contract with ATA, a dirt-moving company, on June 30, before holding the beneficiary consultation on August 11, which was not disclosed to the community and damaged trust between the Department and beneficiaries. Despite this, she praised the Planning staff for their professionalism and accurate work, noting that even they recommended a possible deferral. She urged the Commission to defer the report and schedule another beneficiary consultation on Maui to address unresolved issues and rebuild trust.

Public Testimony – Pat Kahawaiolaa – Urged the Commission to defer the item, citing serious concerns about DHHL's actions, particularly the discovery that a \$2.4 million contract had been awarded before discussions with beneficiaries took place. Speaking as an advocate for Kumiki O Kupuna Waena O Ho'opulapula, he questioned whether the beneficiary consultations were being conducted under Chapter 91 or 92 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, noting that this distinction affected beneficiaries' rights to pursue legal action if they disagreed with departmental or commission decisions. He referenced the 1981 Ahuna case, which established DHHL's fiduciary and statutory obligations under the Admissions Act, emphasizing the

Commissioners' exclusive authority over land use. He concluded by strongly supporting a deferral motion and commending Lili Makaila and her office for their excellent work.

Public Testimony – Alohalani Smith – Attended the Maui County Department of Water Supply meeting in May and raised concerns about the beneficiary consultation and the county agreement, particularly clauses granting ownership rights to the County or a developer and inaccurate references to the 'Aha Moku Council. She explained that as a member of the 'Aha Moku Council for 11 years, she and others never discussed or approved anything related to the wells mentioned, despite the agreement implying their involvement. She also attended the August Waiohuli consultation, where she reviewed the state agreement and disagreed with its terms, noting that many beneficiaries shared similar concerns and lacked sufficient information. A. Smith criticized the postcard notification process as inadequate, arguing that in-person or Zoom meetings would better engage the community. She urged the commission to defer the item to allow the other half of beneficiaries, who were uninformed or unable to participate, the opportunity to review maps, plans, and essential details before decisions were made.

Public Testimony – Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai – Supported the beneficiary consultation summary report, emphasizing that beneficiaries were deeply concerned about not receiving their fair share of water and lacking control over its management. She urged the Department to take stronger action to ensure water was delivered properly to beneficiaries. More time and better outreach were needed for consultations, suggesting personal contact with homestead members and the use of Zoom meetings to improve participation and understanding. She stressed the need for ongoing improvement to keep beneficiaries informed and empowered to advocate for their communities. She concluded by supporting the call for another beneficiary consultation to allow fuller engagement and fair input.

Public Testimony - Randy Awo – Opposed the proposed Waiohuli Water Agreement. He commended L. Makaila and C. Kaanana for accurately summarizing beneficiary concerns but emphasized that most participants opposed the agreement and called for it to be deferred, revised, or restarted. He urged the Commission to defer Item G-3 until all information from the Department was fully disclosed, citing that the Department had secretly awarded a \$2.48 million contract to Austin Tsutsumi and Associates before the consultation, without the beneficiary's knowledge or the Commission's approval. He also noted that no environmental assessment under Chapter 343 or Ka Pa'akai assessment had been completed as required by law. Deferring the proposal would help rebuild trust and prevent further opposition.

Public Testimony - Gracie Gomes - The current water management system for Waiohuli and surrounding areas had become fragmented and unclear, emphasizing the need for a transparent, just, and sustainable approach. She urged the Commission to prioritize the health of streams, the rights of Native Hawaiian beneficiaries, and the well-being of Maui residents. She called on decision-makers to act with integrity, honor, and accountability to ensure that water resources were responsibly protected for future generations.

Public Testimony – Janice Herrick - The Waiohuli wells agreement should not proceed without the full and informed consent of beneficiaries. The Hawaiian Homes Commission Act legally obligated the state to administer the trust and its water resources faithfully. Citing the 1908 U.S. Supreme Court case *Winters v. United States*, she asserted that Hawaiian homelands were entitled to reserved water rights necessary to their communities, similar to those of Indian reservations. J. Herrick argued that the wells' water was not surplus or negotiable but a federally protected resource. Dedicating it to others would violate the Public Trust Doctrine and state and federal law. She urged the Commission to remember its duty to protect Native Hawaiian beneficiaries rather than accommodate private developers and called on them to stand firm in upholding their legal and moral responsibilities.

Public Testimony – De Mont Manaole – Has lived in the Nānākuli Homestead for over eight years and experienced water costs rising from \$100 to \$300 per month. When he questioned the increase, he was told the charges were not for the water itself but for the delivery process, which he criticized as unfair since the Board and Department of Water Supply had long failed to support Native Hawaiians. He expressed frustration that Hawaiian water, which rightfully belonged to beneficiaries, might be handed over to outside entities and

insisted that Hawaiians should control their own water systems. He proposed creating educational programs to train homesteaders to manage and operate their own water infrastructure. D. Manaole strongly urged the Commission to defer the agreement, conduct proper beneficiary consultation, and stop asking Native Hawaiians to compromise for others, saying they had done so for over a century without fair treatment.

Public Testimony - Liana Singh – Opposed moving forward with Item G-3, explaining that too many issues remained unresolved and that a signing had already occurred without full transparency. She expressed strong frustration about this lack of communication and demanded that it be deferred until more information could be provided. She emphasized the importance of recognizing the rights of kanaka maoli and supported the previous testifier’s comments about unfair water costs. She noted that water prices on Maui had become excessively high, contrasting it with earlier times when her grandmother could tend to her yard all day without worrying about such expenses.

Public Testimony – Perry Artates – Many voices and perspectives had already been shared regarding the project, so he did not need to elaborate further. He explained that he had lived in Kula and Keokea all his life, having been born at Kula Sanatorium. He emphasized that further discussions were needed before proceeding. He mentioned that he had served as president of the Waiohuli Homestead Association for 15 years and that the association had faithfully followed every program and proposal from the department, demonstrating perseverance and commitment to their community’s development. He noted that more details about their progress could be shared at a community meeting later that evening. In conclusion, he expressed appreciation for the department’s guidance and recommended deferring the matter for now so the community could focus on enjoying Waiohuli.

Public Testimony - Kainoa McDonald Association of Hawaiians for Homestead Lands (AHHL), explained that AHHL represented 29,000 waitlist beneficiaries affected by the Waiohuli agreement. After learning on May 15th that DHHL sought approval for an agreement with Maui County, AHHL raised concerns about a rushed process, unclear water allocations, and threats to projects like Waiohuli, leading to deferral and special meetings with the Department of Water Supply, where Dick Mayer testified on water priorities. DHHL failed to conduct meaningful beneficiary consultation, violating fiduciary duties established by *Ahuna v. DHHL* and other cases. In September, AHHL found that Austin Tsutsumi and Associates had received a \$2.463 million contract under the Governor’s Emergency Proclamation 13 using DHHL funds without Commission approval or beneficiary notice. She thanked the Planning Office and Dr. Jonathan Likeke Scheuer for educating the community on water options and urged deferral, citing the absence of the Maui commissioner and a breach of trust, while calling for transparency and collaboration to protect all waitlist beneficiaries.

Chair Watson stated that after hearing all the testimony, it was clear there was a strong desire for additional beneficiary consultation. He explained that while the agenda item only involved accepting the consultation report—not agreeing with the Department of Water Supply—he agreed with the speakers that further consultation was necessary to gain a fuller understanding of the impacts on the area and other affected regions. He emphasized that the Commission needed to hear all perspectives to make an informed decision and therefore recommended deferring the item and continuing the consultation process, asking if there were any objections.

DISCUSSION

Commissioner Kaneakua praised C. Kaanana, Dr. J. Scheuer, and L. Makaila as tireless advocates for beneficiaries’ water rights and commended their report for ensuring the Commission’s action took place on Maui so local voices could be heard. He stressed the importance of prioritizing water from homestead lands for regional beneficiaries and securing water credits if others shared in it. Acknowledging concerns about broken trust, he noted that while staff could not recommend deferral, the strong advocacy for it reflected the seriousness of the issue. He expressed confidence in the experts’ understanding of Maui’s vital water needs, emphasizing that without water, homestead, agricultural, and subsistence plans would fall behind. He thanked those who spoke and advocated on behalf of others, appreciating their dedication and community spirit.

Commissioner Lasua questioned the plan involving the three proposed wells, expressing concern that they appeared to be aligned and might draw from the same aquifer. He urged that the issue be carefully investigated by those managing water resources to determine whether the wells would harm the department's long-term water supply and ultimately impact the beneficiaries' ability to receive water.

NOTE: Action on Item G-3 was deferred.

Chair Watson announced that the Commission would enter Executive Session. The session was being convened under Section 92-5(4) of the Hawaii Revised Statutes to consult with the commission's attorneys on legal matters related to telecommunications on Hawaiian homelands, specifically the cases *Al Hee versus State of Hawaii* and *Richard Nelson, et al. versus Hawaiian Homes Commission*.

MOTION/ACTION

Commissioner Lasua moved to enter Executive Session, and Commissioner Ornellas seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION IN

12:35 PM

The Commission convened an executive meeting pursuant to Section 92-5(a)(4), HRS, to consult with its attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Commission's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities on the following matter:

1. Status of telecommunications on Hawaiian Home Lands
2. Discussion on *Albert Hee, et al. V. State of Hawaii et al.*, Civil No. 1CCV-25-0001328
3. Update on *Richard Nelson, III et al., v. Hawaiian Homes Commission et al.*, Civil No. 07-1-1663

EXECUTIVE SESSION OUT

1:42 PM

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

REGULAR AGENDA

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

ITEM C-1 For Information Only - Status Report of DHHL Enforcement Unit Efforts and Statistics (September 8, 2025 – October 12, 2025)

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

None. For Information Only. Enforcement Unit Administrator David Hoke presented the following:

D. Hoke stated the unit received 14 new requests for investigations, bringing the total for 2025 to 134. He reported that 34 investigation reports had been submitted since the previous update, bringing the total for the year to 337. The unit also issued 19 official correspondence to beneficiaries regarding various lease violations and other matters.

He further reported that the unit worked with the Papakōlea Homestead Association to establish a Neighborhood Security Watch program, with plans to create four additional programs on O'ahu, which the department fully supported. He said that on September 23rd, they met with the Wai'anae Valley and Maku'u Farmers Associations to move forward with installing license plate reader cameras, made possible through support from the Department of Law Enforcement. Additionally, on September 25th, the unit participated in a town hall hosted by State Representative Darius Kila, providing an opportunity to inform the community

about the unit's role, clarify enforcement procedures, and encourage open communication for reporting concerns.

DISCUSSION

Commissioner Ornellas asked whether there were plans to hold town hall meetings like the recent one on every island to improve communication and create more opportunities for engagement. D. Hoke clarified that while there were no current plans for island-wide meetings, the Enforcement Unit was open and willing to participate in such events. He explained that outreach efforts often began with individual community requests, which sometimes led to broader engagement. D. Hoke emphasized that town halls were valuable for clarifying the unit's role, explaining proper procedures, and ensuring the public knew whom to contact in different situations, stating that the unit would gladly attend any future opportunities for similar meetings.

HOMESTEAD SERVICES DIVISION

ITEM D-1 HSD Status Reports

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

None or Information Only. Homestead Services Division Administrator Juan Garcia presents the following:

- A. Homestead Application Totals and Monthly Activity Reports
- B. Delinquency Report
- C. Ratification of Loan Approvals

J. Garcia presented three exhibits: Exhibit A with lease and application totals, the monthly loan delinquency activity report, and Exhibit C detailing the DHHL guarantee with Hawaii Community Lending for construction loans.

The report did not include a lease count due to ongoing issues with system modernization, as staff continued to struggle with reconciling data between the old APEX system and the new system, preventing accurate reporting. He also noted that while the department could provide the total number of applications statewide—47,325 as of the end of September—it could not determine the exact number of applicants those applications represented. He added that the loan delinquency rate remained above 25% and that staff continued to work diligently with delinquent accounts despite reduced personnel.

He reported that Loan Services Manager Dean Oshiro, who oversaw collections, retired effective October 1, 2025, leaving one fewer staff member in that area. The department was actively recruiting for a mortgage loan specialist and a collection specialist to fill those vacancies.

DISCUSSION

Commissioner Kaneakua asked how the Salesforce system was affecting the department's operations. Garcia explained that Salesforce had been helpful overall, but that data migration from the old system to the new one remained a challenge. He said the department was working on both systems to ensure accuracy, especially in financial data, and although progress was slow, improvements were being made. Once the transition was complete, they hoped to provide accurate lease and applicant totals.

Commissioner Ornellas asked about the department's delinquency rate and the number of beneficiaries who could not be reached due to outdated contact information. J. Garcia reported that the delinquency rate was slightly over 25%, with some cases pending decision and enforcement orders. He said the department planned to work with a vendor to improve contact with delinquent accounts since only three staff members managed more than 250 accounts statewide while also preparing cases for hearings. He noted that communication was difficult because the staff was based on O'ahu and had to travel to neighbor islands monthly. Commissioner Ornellas questioned how delinquent beneficiaries were notified.

J. Garcia explained that letters were sent through regular U.S. mail, not certified mail, and many beneficiaries used P.O. boxes or homestead mailbox receptacles. He said staff made strong efforts to contact those 30 to 60 days delinquent by phone or, if necessary, through home visits to prevent minor delinquencies from worsening. Commissioner Ornellas expressed concern that without certified mail, the department could not verify receipt of notices.

Commissioner Kaneakua then asked for the actual number behind the 25% delinquency rate. J. Garcia clarified that it represented about 225 delinquent accounts out of approximately 900 total. Chair Watson explained that the loan division managed both new loan originations and insurance for construction, dividing responsibilities to give more direct support as loans reopened for beneficiaries. He said issuing homestead and project leases expanded access to direct loan products like 184A and 247, creating higher demand and coordination with lenders. Salesforce was required for staff, developers, and facilitators to improve communication. There is concern that some beneficiaries believed payments were unenforced, stressing that loan repayments funded others on the waiting list. He said experienced staff were reassigned to handle accounts delinquent over 180 days, while less severe cases would be outsourced. He concluded that the 25% delinquency rate was significant and needed urgent action.

Commissioner Ornellas agreed that Salesforce was a powerful tool that could automate delinquency management by sending alerts as soon as accounts reached 30 days overdue. She noted that 16.9% of the 25.1% delinquent accounts were over 180 days and agreed with the Chair that in-house staff should focus on severe cases requiring personal contact and family-level solutions. Salesforce could prevent minor delinquencies from escalating by providing consistent communication early on. She also stressed the need for a clear, standardized process outlining actions at 30, 60, and 90 days of delinquency so staff and partners could respond uniformly. She added that while setting up Salesforce templates would take time, once fully integrated with due dates and data, it would become a highly effective system, and he requested future updates on the full integration plan and its supporting infrastructure.

J. Garcia reminded the Commission that difficult cases would soon come before them involving beneficiaries who had repeatedly failed to meet their obligations. He emphasized that staff had already made extensive efforts to work with these individuals, but when beneficiaries violated the Commission's decisions and orders, consequences such as lease cancellations became necessary. J. Garcia acknowledged that these were tough decisions and did not envy the Commissioners who would have to make them but stressed that such actions were sometimes unavoidable due to continued neglect.

Chair Watson agreed with J. Garcia that some decisions would be difficult but emphasized the importance of face-to-face engagement to understand why beneficiaries became delinquent, noting that some cases involved unfortunate personal hardships such as the death of a spouse. He stressed the need to connect struggling individuals with available assistance programs.

LAND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

ITEM E-3 For Information Only – Act 279 Update on DHHL's progress in implementing the Act

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

None. For Information Only. LDD Acting Administrator Kalani Fronda presented the update.

K. Fronda explained that the update was being prepared for the legislature as part of the annual progress report on Act 279. He stated that the presentation had also been shared with State House leadership and included both collected data and testimonials from individuals who had benefited from the program.

K. Fronda gave a presentation on the progress and impact of Act 279 and the allocation of \$600 million toward Hawaiian Home Lands development. He emphasized the urgency of addressing the housing shortage, noting that over 90% of waitlist applicants were over age 40 and half were over 65. The department had faced

construction and material cost challenges but had developed strategic initiatives to accelerate projects. A strategic implementation plan was created in 2022 and approved in 2024 to expand project leases across 28 identified projects, with a goal of awarding approximately 2,400 leases by the end of 2025. By that time, all \$600 million would be encumbered, with \$120 million already spent primarily on infrastructure.

He described ongoing and planned projects across various islands, highlighting, for example, the Waiehu Mauka subdivision on Maui, which included 55 agricultural and 349 residential lots that were already encumbered and in progress. He explained that while the \$600 million addressed infrastructure, developers were contributing an additional \$2 billion in vertical development funding. The department aimed to pair project leases with partnerships with service providers, such as Hawaii Community Assets, to help beneficiaries with financial literacy, credit readiness, and homebuyer preparation. This new approach differed from the old model by helping families prepare before construction rather than afterward, allowing more strategic planning and maximizing the number of beneficiaries served.

K. Fronda stressed that collaboration was essential, as the \$600 million alone could not meet the department's goals. He praised partnerships with counties, such as Maui's G.E.T. set-aside, which dedicated funds for shared infrastructure benefiting Maui, Molokai, and Lanai. The department also pursued federal grants, such as \$2 million from USDOT and \$5 million from USDA for projects on Maui, East Kapolei, and Molokai. In addition, partnerships with Hawaii Community Lending established a \$45 million revolving fund to assist beneficiaries in navigating financing, permitting, and construction. In contrast, County of Hawaii funds support renovations and down payment assistance. These efforts aimed to create new pathways for beneficiaries to acquire and sustain homes.

He concluded by discussing the department's long-term strategic targets, emphasizing the value of sustained, predictable funding to ensure stability, capacity building, and generational impact. He also outlined how consistent annual funding—ranging from \$25 million to \$100 million over ten years—could produce between 5,000 and more housing units and lots by 2035. He underscored the importance of dedicated funding to reduce rush spending cycles, strengthen staffing, build partnerships, and maintain flexibility to adapt priorities. K. Fronda closed by highlighting Pu'uhona as the first project successfully funded through Act 279, providing tangible housing outcomes for beneficiaries who had waited many years, and thanked the commission for allowing him to present the progress and outlook for the program.

DISCUSSION

Commissioner Marfil asked how many of the 2,400 projected leases by December 2025 would result in beneficiaries receiving completed homes with keys in hand. K. Fronda clarified that only the Pu'uhonua project would have homes ready for occupancy, while the rest involved lease issuances without completed houses.

Public Testimony – De Mont Manole -Stated that beneficiaries needed to unite and advocate at the state legislature for the funding required to fulfill the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, emphasizing that the state had a fiduciary duty to care for trust beneficiaries as mandated by the Hawai'i State Constitution. He criticized the need to repeatedly ask the legislature for support, asserting that fulfilling this obligation was not begging but demanding accountability. He shared a personal story about his mother, who remained on the waitlist for 30 years before passing away, expressing frustration that six decades had passed without progress for his family. D. Manole praised K. Fronda's presentation for powerfully illustrating the need for action and urged everyone to stop arguing and instead unite to pressure the legislature to uphold its responsibilities.

ITEM E-4 For Information Only – Maui Island Development Projects Update

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

None. For Information Only. LDD Acting Administrator Kalani Fronda, Engineer Neil Nugent, Housing Project Branch Manager Michelle Hitzeman, Master Planned Community Development Manager Sharene Tam and Project Manager Elijah Davidson presented the following:

N. Nugent presented updates on several Maui projects, including Pu‘uhona, Wailuku Single-Family Residential, and Wai‘ehu Mauka. Pu‘uhona, consisting of 161 lots, had been under construction for two years, with roads, utilities, and electrical infrastructure completed, and home construction expected to finish within a year. He also noted the nearby water tank project funded by the department, set for completion by the end of the year. He described the upcoming Wailuku Single-Family project of 204 lots on 77 acres, with design plans already submitted to Maui County and first home deliveries targeted for 2029. He then discussed the larger Wai‘ehu Mauka project, covering 238 acres with 343 residential lots and 55 agricultural lots, currently in the design phase and anticipated to begin construction in 2027 pending county approvals. He confirmed that the development agreement for Wai‘ehu Mauka had been encumbered.

M. Hitzman reported that Paukukalo Lot 4 was among nine lots being offered to Waiohuli undivided interest lessees. She explained that an orientation workshop had been held on October 4th, with response forms due by October 17th. The lots, including Paukukalo Lot 4, were scheduled to be offered to interested lessees by the end of the week, and she shared images showing the lot’s driveway and an aerial view.

N. Nugent explained that in the Kēōkea-Waiohuli area of upcountry Maui, located in Kula, the department had several development phases underway. He described an aerial photo showing 66 existing farm lots outlined in yellow, with Kula Highway and Keanuhea Drive visible, and the existing Kula 356 lots outlined in blue. He noted that the area outlined in orange represented the Kēōkea-Waiohuli project, where Phase 1a with 46 lots had already been completed. He stated that construction for Phase 2a, shown in purple and including 75 residential lots, water, road, and drainage infrastructure, was planned to begin next year. He added that Phase 2b, shown in orange or tan, would consist of 60 additional residential lots, and construction for that phase was also expected to start next year.

M. Hitzeman explained that, in addition to the Paukukalo lot, eight other vacant lots in the Waiohuli Hikina area were being offered to the Waiohuli undivided interest lessees, bringing the total to nine lots in the offer. She emphasized the department’s partnership with Hawaiian Community Lending (HCL) for this project, noting that HCL would assist the selected lessees with financial education, credit counseling, and construction support. She also added that awards for these lots were expected to be finalized by the end of the week, and once the selections were completed, the information would be shared with HCL to begin supporting the lessees.

N. Nugent discussed ongoing projects in the Kēōkea-Waiohuli area, where an engineering design firm assisted with development, and certain lots marked in orange were planned for archaeological preservation. He emphasized the department’s intent to work with the community on stewardship and long-term care, with meetings expected early next year. He also reported on the Kahikinui homestead on the southern slope of Haleakalā, noting that it consisted of kuleana homesteads with limited paved roads, with one segment completed in 2020 and another pending determination. He concluded with updates on the South Maui Pulehunui area, where state funds were allocated for a sewer system serving multiple agencies, explaining that progress depended on Maui County’s completion of a new wastewater treatment plant, after which DHHL would begin designing its sewer connections.

S. Saito-Tam explained that the Kamalani project, acquired with Act 279 funds, planned to provide 400 single-family residential homesteads. Gentry Maui Development LLC was selected as the developer through an RFP process. She stated that the first phase, covering the narrower section of the site, would include about 150 homes, while the larger remaining section would require additional funding for infrastructure, as only the design was currently covered under the existing development agreement.

K. Fronda presented updates on West Maui developments, beginning with the Villages of Leiali‘i 1B project under a development agreement with Dowling. Located next to the existing Leiali‘i 1A homestead along Leiali‘i Parkway and near the Lahaina Civic Center on Honoapi‘ilani Highway, the project had \$68 million allocated from Act 279, covering off-site improvements to the highway and parkway. An environmental assessment had been completed, and construction for Increment 1, consisting of 86 single-family lots, was expected to begin in mid-2026, with the first homes delivered in 2028. Increment 2, planned for 69 additional

lots, would require further funding. He also described DHHL lands in West Maui, including several hundred acres in Honokōwai, where a \$15 million Act 279-funded project with Dowling Company would build a water system connecting an existing well to Maui County's infrastructure through 8,000 feet of pipeline to supply drinking water to DHHL.

E. Davidson provided an informational briefing on the Waiohuli Wells Project. There are 9,380 people on the Maui waitlist as of December 2023, with most on the residential list and an average age of 59, underscoring the urgency to house Native Hawaiians. Water availability had been a historic barrier to development since 1920, and the project aimed to develop three wells and a transmission system in Upcountry Maui to secure long-term water access and support more than 1,000 homestead lots. Once completed, the system would serve about 2,880 lots and generate advanced water credits to accelerate projects in Waiohuli, Wai'ehu Mauka, Wailuku, Kamalani, and Pulehunui. Developing DHHL's own water sources would reduce reliance on private systems, promote community investment, and strengthen stewardship over Hawaiian lands.

DHHL was drafting a memorandum of agreement (MOA) with Maui's Department of Water Supply (DWS) and had held a beneficiary consultation on August 21, where lessees raised concerns about the draft MOA's lack of detail. The department was revising the document to address those concerns and to protect beneficiaries' interests. The proposed wells had an estimated capacity of 1.728 million gallons per day, and DHHL would receive the full amount, with DWS providing advanced water credits covering 39.5% of development needs once construction began. The MOA would allow DHHL to use existing transmission lines to supply water across Maui, save millions in annual operating costs, and require compliance with environmental, cultural, and historical preservation laws. ATA was conducting topographic surveys and cultural assessments, Tom Nance Water Resource Engineering was designing the wells, and Intera Inc. was preparing hydrology reports. The ongoing well development agreement would define responsibilities, cost-sharing, and regulatory compliance between DHHL and Maui DWS.

K. Fronda stated that Commissioner Kalepa had proposed forming a working group of beneficiaries, which was in progress and required further refinement. He then highlighted key milestones from 2025, beginning with the first key turnover to Auntie Mapuana Riley and her family, the first beneficiaries of the \$600 million funding supported by \$22 million from the County of Maui for shared infrastructure in West Maui. Auntie Mapuana, a Waiohuli undivided interest lessee who had waited 38 years, moved back from Arizona and purchased a \$700,000 five-bedroom, three-bath home through NAHASDA funding, reducing her monthly cost from \$3,600 rent to a \$1,600 mortgage. Fronda added that funds were released to the County of Maui for additional shared infrastructure near the Civic Center. He also reported that in April 2025, 91 Maui residential lots were awarded at Pu'u honua; in September, 105 subsistence agricultural project leases were awarded for Honokōwai and Wai'ehu Mauka; and in October, nine residential leases were awarded at scattered lots in Waiohuli Hikina and Paukūkalo. By the end of the year, approximately 1,131 residential project leases were expected to be awarded across Leiali'i, Wai'ehu Mauka, Wailuku Single Family, and Kamalani, concluding DHHL's Maui development work.

DISCUSSION

Commissioner Marfil commended Kalani Fronda for his presentation and asked about the Land Development Division's (LDD) role in beneficiary consultations, noting that many beneficiaries had unanswered questions during the meetings. She suggested pairing LDD with the planning team to provide better information. K. Fronda confirmed that LDD and Planning had collaborated in the last consultation and agreed that more coordination was needed. Chair Watson emphasizing that Maui's development projects were meant to benefit all Native Hawaiian beneficiaries, not just certain areas.

Chair Watson stressed the importance of unity and understanding that water resources must be shared fairly, as development required water, and there was a limited supply. He noted that nearly half of the \$600 million allocation, about \$300 million, was being spent on Maui, marking significant progress but also a need for realism about development challenges. K. Fronda closed by acknowledging the need for continued communication and unity, quoting Prince Kūhiō's call for Hawaiians to "stick together and agree to the best

of your ability to meet the most important problem, the rehabilitation of our race,” reinforcing the department’s commitment to collective progress for Native Hawaiian beneficiaries.

Public Testimony - Eva Blumenstein, Planning Program Administrator for the Department of Water Supply, explained that the DWS supported homestead development and recognized that water availability often limited project progress. She stated that when Hawaiian Homelands were within or near existing service areas, collaboration could help bring water to those lands. She noted that areas such as Kamalani, Pulehunui, Waihe’e, and Wailuku relied on the central Maui system, which was already near capacity, while Waiohuli relied on the upcountry system, which was also near capacity. However, she added that the Waiohuli Wells could benefit both systems, and if the Department of Hawaiian Homelands developed its own source, the Department of Water Supply would support operating and maintaining it for DHHL lands only.

Public Testimony – Blossom Feiteira - Was surprised to see the Waiohuli Wells discussion on the agenda after the related item was deferred and expressed concerns about the lack of clarity and transparency in the consultation process. The presentation shown that day could have answered many of the questions beneficiaries had about water use and distribution, particularly which projects would receive water and how it would be allocated. Beneficiaries understood the need for water and had petitioned for water reservations. Still, they were frustrated that funding had been allocated to projects like Waihe’e Mauka and Wailuku Single Family without first securing sufficient water. B. Feiteira criticized the lack of communication about transporting water from Upcountry to Central Maui and stated that if the same detailed information had been shared during consultations, the community would have been more supportive. She urged a more robust and transparent consultation process to ensure beneficiaries were properly informed, especially before the upcoming legislative session, so they could advocate effectively for funding.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

ITEM F-14 For Information Only. Status on License No. 811 to Mauna Kea Watershed Alliance, Upper Pi‘ihonua, Hawai‘i Island, Tax Map Key No. (3) 2-6-018:002 (Por)

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

None. For Information Only. Income Property Manager Kahana Albinio presented the following:

Cheyenne Hiapo Perry - Mauna Kea Watershed Alliance, provided a detailed presentation on the Waipahoehoe Management Unit under license 811 and the broader relationship between the Watershed Partnerships and DHHL on Mauna Kea. The Alliance managed 1,100 acres of pristine native forest and worked collaboratively across land boundaries to restore and protect watershed ecosystems. Over the past decade, the Alliance leveraged every DHHL dollar into five additional dollars from county, state, federal, and private sources. Their projects included the Waipahoehoe Management Unit and the Kanakaleonui Bird Corridor, with ongoing work in weed and feral animal control, reforestation, and environmental education. He discussed the threat of rapid ‘Ōhi‘a death and efforts to mitigate it by removing feral cattle, restoring native plants, and fostering forest regeneration. He highlighted how old-growth ‘Ōhi‘a and koa trees were naturally regenerating and how their reforestation efforts supported native birds and biodiversity. He also described the Bird Corridor as a critical 525-acre “ladder” habitat for native forest birds threatened by avian diseases and climate change. He emphasized the importance of wildfire management, seed collection, and restoration projects in collaboration with partners such as the Hakalau Refuge and DHHL’s Ua‘u Protection Unit, which successfully protected seabird burrows from predators. C. Perry concluded by describing their outreach through huaka‘i (educational excursions) with local students and conservation groups, noting the Alliance’s new Water Smart grant to develop a wildfire management plan for 416,000 acres of Mauna Kea’s watershed lands, and reaffirmed their commitment to maintaining ecological connectivity and forest health across Hawaiian Homelands.

K. Camara stated that while the Department of Hawaiian Homelands’ main mission had been to develop and deliver homesteads for beneficiaries, some trust lands such as the cliffs of Waimānalo, Kalaupapa, Upper Kā‘iakinui, and Mauna Kea contained valuable natural resources that required careful stewardship. He

emphasized the importance of working with C. Perry and the watershed partnerships, which he viewed as effective models for preserving and managing these pristine areas while leveraging limited DHHL funds to maintain natural resources. Chair Watson commended Kualī'i and C. Perry for their impressive results and asked whether they collaborated with Neil Hannes' group on a 500-acre koa preservation project. C. Perry clarified that they were not involved with that project. K. Camara further explained that the koa project was separate, operating under a commercial model focused on sustainable harvesting, while other areas were designated strictly for ecological restoration. He concluded by noting that through the 'Āinamomona Legacy Program, DHHL and the Mauna Kea Watershed Alliance had focused primarily on protecting the most sensitive and pristine lands.

DISCUSSION

Commissioner Kaleikini thanked K. Camara and C. Perry for their presentation and expressed interest in visiting the project area in the future, suggesting coordination with them and possibly including Commissioner Freitas. Chair Watson also showed interest in visiting, joking about the challenging terrain and asking if vehicles or horses would be needed. The commissioners exchanged lighthearted comments about transportation options, including horseback riding and using ATVs. Commissioner Freitas echoed the appreciation, commending the presenters for their excellent work and well-prepared presentation. He stated that he would like to visit the site but preferred ground transportation over a helicopter. The discussion ended with mutual thanks and acknowledgment of the presenters' hard work.

ITEM G-4 For Information Only – Draft Environmental Assessment for a Cultural Learning Center and Community Farm at Ka'ala Tax Map Key No.: 8-5-005:007 and 8-5-005:036, Wai'anae, O'ahu.

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

None. For Information Only. Acting Planning Program Manager Lillianne Makaila presented the following:

L. Makaila, the Acting Planning Program Manager, began by explaining that the next two agenda items were draft environmental assessments (EAs). The first EA, Item G4, was an information-only draft with an anticipated finding of no significant impact for the Ka'ū Cultural Center in Wai'ōhinu, Ka'ū. However, she clarified that her presentation focused on the Cultural Learning Center and Community Farm at Ka'ala in Wai'anae, O'ahu. The project involved Ka'ala Farms, which had held a 97-acre land disposition from the Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL) since 2008 under a gratis license for their extensive land restoration, education, and outreach work. Ka'ala Farms now sought a long-term land disposition, requiring compliance with Chapter 343 and Chapter 6E, leading to the preparation of the draft EA.

She explained that the draft EA would be published in the October 23 issue of the Environmental Notice, initiating a 30-day public comment period ending on November 22. Based on her review, she did not anticipate major concerns since the project was well-documented and enjoyed broad community support. After the comment period, the EA would return to the Commission in December for review and determination, followed by publication of the final EA in late December or early January. That publication would open a 30-day legal challenge period. She also shared photos and maps of the site, highlighting that Ka'ala Farms had already completed most of its conceptual plan, including hale structures and lo'i, with remaining plans for aquaponics, fish ponds, expanded kalo cultivation, a field shelter, a bunkhouse, and a livestock barn.

She pointed out one significant issue—the lack of building permits for some existing structures, including traditional hale and hālau, which typically require county permits even when built using customary methods. This compliance challenge was common across the islands, raising questions about whether DHHL could establish its own permitting process and design standards under its exclusive land-use authority, rather than requiring Ka'ala Farms to go through county procedures. She emphasized that this issue did not prevent the department from moving forward with the EA but represented an opportunity to create culturally appropriate permitting pathways for future projects.

Finally, L. Makaila outlined the next steps: after the public comment period, consultants would revise the EA, and DHHL would review it before publication of the final EA. Concurrently, Ka‘ala Farms would continue working to meet Chapter 6E requirements under the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), with assistance from DHHL’s planning staff. She concluded by reaffirming that no major issues were expected and thanked the commission for their attention.

Public Testimony – DeMont Manaole – He expressed strong support for the Ka‘ala Farms project, describing it as one of the greatest treasures on the Wai‘anae Coast, second only to the Wai‘anae Coast Comprehensive Center. He said that visiting the site felt like stepping back into old Hawai‘i and praised Eric Enos for his decades of outstanding work restoring the land and helping community members, including individuals reentering society after incarceration, rebuild their lives. Manaole highlighted the project’s deep community impact and cultural importance, sharing that Koko Wailani and his hui had held classes every Sunday for 440 consecutive weeks, working the ‘āina and cultivating kalo. He emphasized that Ka‘ala Farms provided a true sense of home for Native Hawaiians on the Wai‘anae Coast and encouraged all commissioners to visit the site. He also commended DHHL staff, particularly Tita and her team, for their excellent work in sharing information with the public and bringing these important issues before the commission.

Public Testimony – Kaukaohu Wahilani - He introduced himself as a Wai‘anae Valley homesteader, beneficiary, and alaka‘i of Hui Kūkilikī Kāko‘o, which had been active since 2014. He explained that his group had organized 440 consecutive “Super Sustainable Sundays” at Ka‘ala Farms, building a close partnership with Uncle Eric Enos and the farm staff. Wahilani described Ka‘ala as a sacred and transformative place where people from around the world came before COVID to reconnect with the land and learn from its lo‘i kalo. He shared his personal involvement in restoring the hale na‘auao with Kumu Kalani Senensee and honored the contributions of past community leaders such as Uncle Mike Kaikina, Uncle Eddie Kanana, and Te Loke Ho‘ohuli. He emphasized that Ka‘ala Farms served as a true pu‘uhonua (place of refuge) for the community and strongly supported granting the farm a long-term land disposition to ensure its continued cultural, educational, and environmental impact.

Public Testimony – Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai - She testified that she was from Wai‘anae and fully supported Ka‘ala Farms’ mission, purpose, and contributions to the local kanaka community. She urged for not only a long-term but a perpetual land disposition, explaining that founder Eric Enos had a legacy plan in place with Nohea Stevens to continue his work. Kamai shared that their involvement at Ka‘ala began long before COVID, and although the pandemic caused interruptions, their commitment remained strong both in spirit and participation. She encouraged commissioners to visit Ka‘ala on Sundays between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., noting that Kauka‘ohu or other community members, such as Nani, often led the activities depending on the week.

Chair Watson asked whether the draft environmental assessment included a request for a long-term land disposition or only pertained to the cultural learning center. L. Makaila clarified that Ka‘ala Farms currently operated on a month-to-month land disposition but aimed to secure a long-term one. She explained that achieving this required completing compliance with Chapter 343 and Chapter 6E, and the planning office was assisting them in navigating those requirements. Chair Watson acknowledged and thanked her for the clarification.

DISCUSSION

Commissioner Ornellas recalled previous discussions about bringing permitting in-house and expressed doubt that traditional Hawaiian building methods could pass through state or county permitting. He suggested exploring options like on-site inspections or exemptions. Chair Watson agreed it was a good idea to consider. Commissioner Ornellas then thanked Lili for her thorough work, dedication, and responsiveness to his many questions, expressing appreciation for her and the staff’s commitment.

ITEM G-5 For Information Only – Draft Environmental Assessment for the Ka‘ū Hawaiian Culture Community Center Tax Map Key No. (3) 9-5-005:003 (por.), Wai‘ōhinu, Ka‘ū, Hawai‘i.

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

None. For Information Only. Acting Planning Program Manager Lillianne Makaila presented the following:

L. Makaila, acting planning program manager, presented information on the Ka‘ū Hawaiian Cultural Center project, proposed on a 10-acre parcel in Wai‘ōhinu, Ka‘ū, adjacent to Māmalahoa Highway. The project aimed to create a cultural center with learning, gathering, and ceremonial spaces, fulfilling compliance with HRS Chapter 343. Although Hana Laulima Lāhui o Ka‘ū was not a beneficiary organization, Ka‘ū Homestead Association leaders served on its board and helped guide the project. The group held a right of entry to complete due diligence and sought a long-term land disposition to qualify for grants and funding. The draft environmental assessment (EA) was set to be published on November 8, with a 30-day public comment period ending December 7, after which the department aimed to return for action in December.

She described the site layout, consultations with local kupuna, and analysis of 13 environmental criteria, finding no significant issues but noting possible iwi kupuna with plans for cultural monitoring and best management practices to prevent pollution. Beneficiary consultation was challenging due to limited broadband in Ka‘ū, but the applicants worked hard to gather letters of community support. Next steps included reviewing and responding to public comments, finalizing the EA, and publishing a FONSI if approved, followed by a 30-day legal challenge period. They continued work on Chapter 6E compliance with the planning office.

ITEM G-6 For Information Only – Water Policy Plan Update on Water Projects and Issues for Maui Island.

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

None. For Information Only. Acting Planning Program Manager Lillianne Makaila and Water Program Specialist Cherie Kaanana, presented the following:

L. Makaila, C. Kaanana presented an update on the water policy plan for Maui Island, focusing on the East and West Maui water systems and DHHL’s ongoing efforts to secure and manage water resources. She reviewed the East Maui Irrigation (EMI) System, originally built in the 1870s by Alexander & Baldwin and sold to Mahi Pono in 2016, which now seeks a 30-year water lease from the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR). DHHL’s interests included ensuring fulfillment of its 11.455 million gallon per day reservation request, protecting traditional and customary water rights, and securing its 30% revenue entitlement from state water licenses. DHHL also held a seat on the East Maui Water Authority, established by Maui County voters in 2022 to manage public water systems, and was active in the East Maui Stakeholder Interim Committee. She detailed recent BLNR actions in 2024, including deferred and denied EMI water license proposals, with continued monthly stakeholder meetings and ongoing discussions between DHHL, Maui County, and Mahi Pono to ensure DHHL’s water needs were represented. BLNR planned to revisit the EMI license in November 2025.

She then discussed West Maui issues, noting that in 2022, the Lahaina Aquifer Sector Area was designated for both surface and groundwater management, requiring water use permits approved by the Commission on Water Resource Management (CWRM). CWRM introduced a tiered permitting framework prioritizing certain hydrologic units, but DHHL raised concerns about being placed in Tier 2 with municipal uses, arguing it should remain a top-tier public trust water user. As of the update, no permits or interim approvals had been issued. DHHL was also preparing a water use permit application for the Honokōwai well, with an anticipated one million-gallon daily capacity to support homestead development, shared equally with the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation. L. Makaila closed by highlighting DHHL’s capacity-building efforts, including partnerships with Ka Huli Ao at the William S. Richardson School of Law to train Native Hawaiian

beneficiaries for leadership roles in water governance. Five cohorts had completed the program, with a new one starting the following day.

Chair Watson noted that E. Davidson's earlier presentation had already addressed many of the concerns raised about water availability for Ke'oke'e and Waiohuli, and he emphasized the need to integrate E. Davidson's presentation with the current one for a more cohesive and informative approach. He stressed the importance of collaboration among teams, particularly during community consultations, to help beneficiaries understand the complexity of securing and distributing water resources. Chair Watson explained that the migration and use of advanced water credits relied heavily on coordination with the Board of Water Supply and on integrating existing water systems rather than constructing new ones. He added that the community needed to appreciate the multiple factors affecting water management in various areas and how these efforts connected to DHHL's broader goals of moving beneficiaries off the waitlist into homes and subsistence agricultural lots. He encouraged the presenters to combine their work into a unified, clear presentation that highlighted key information and demonstrated collaboration rather than separate efforts.

ITEM G-7 For Information Only – Status Update on Plan Implementation Maui Island Plan and Various Maui Regional Plans.

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

None. For Information Only. Acting Planning Program Manager Lillianne Makaila and Planner V Julie Cachola presented the following:

J. Cachola gave a brief update on the implementation of the Maui Island Plan, beginning with a historical overview of how the Trust's lands on Maui had expanded over time. She explained that the trust began in 1921 with Kahikinui and Kula (Waiohuli and Keōkea), later gaining Paukūkalo in 1961, and several more parcels, including Honokowai, Pulehunui, Ke'anae-Wailua Nui, and Wākiu, in 1995 after the settlement. Additional lands were added in 1998 (Wai'ehu-Kou), 2004 (more Waiohuli and Leali'i), 2020 (Pū'ōhonu), and in 2024 (Waiohuli Mauka, Wailuku, Waikapū, and Kamalani), totaling about 32,500 acres across 17 homestead areas. Of these, seven had active lessees totaling roughly 1,400, and several—such as Leali'i, Pu'uhona, and Waiohuli—were expanding. She noted that six new homestead areas were being planned, adding nearly 2,900 leases for agricultural, residential, and multifamily use. The new leases would allow applicants to become lessees without financial pre-qualification and could be transferred to a family member. She stressed the importance of applicants keeping their mailing addresses current to remain eligible for awards, as many at the top of the list were missing out due to outdated contact information.

She also reported progress on planning initiatives, stating that after some delays, work on the Maui Island Plan had resumed. She said the new plan would incorporate updated land designations such as stewardship, community, agriculture, and renewable energy to guide land use over the next 20 years, aligned with Maui's general plan and vision goals. She then announced a new regional planning effort, starting with the Paukūkalo–Wai'ehu–Kou area, to engage lessees in identifying local needs, priorities, and opportunities for partnerships and grants. This participatory process would give communities direct input into future projects and funding eligibility. J. Cachola concluded by introducing Gwen Morinaga Kama, the Maui Agricultural Extension Agent for Hawaiian Homelands under UH CTAHR, noting that her role provided valuable agricultural support and resources for beneficiaries on Maui, complementing similar positions on the Big Island and Moloka'i.

Gwen Morinaga Kama, the Maui Agricultural Extension Agent for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and UH CTAHR's Cooperative Extension Service, explained that her main goal was to support place-based agricultural education and help increase the number of successful Hawaiian Homelands agricultural and pastoral homesteaders. In 2024, her focus had been on assisting lessees in Keōkea, Kahikinui, Waiōhuli, and Paukūkalo. She provided research-based and practical support through workshops, seminars, farm visits, and consultations. The main challenge she identified in Kauikinui and Keōkea was feral deer, which made fencing a top concern among homesteaders. She noted that drought conditions, limited infrastructure, and high food

import costs had motivated homesteaders to explore water-efficient methods of farming to become more self-sustaining.

She described her work helping a kupuna in Kahikinui install a small hydroponic system for growing vegetables in windy conditions, and she promoted hydroponics more broadly through workshops across several homestead communities. She shared that one kupuna had discovered what might be a native ‘uala (sweet potato) variety, and she had reached out to experts for confirmation. She also attended community meetings, including the Keōkea Farm Lots Association and an Ikei Kupuna gathering, where elders shared stories of Keōkea’s history and the early days of Kula School. Finally, G. Kama outlined the “Limu Project,” a restoration initiative based on the ahupua‘a system, from mauka to makai, aimed to establish hydroponic farming in upland areas and cultivate limu (seaweed) in tanks near Kīhei for coastal restoration. Her long-term goal was to revive native limu species such as manaukea, ogo, and palahala in Keōkea, fostering community sustainability and cultural exchange through traditional practices like bartering.

J. Cachola praised G. Kama for effectively connecting homesteaders with various resources and experts, emphasizing that G. Kama’s creativity in initiating projects such as the limu restoration had received positive feedback from the community. She noted that G. Kama’s outreach had been extensive, with over 160 contacts and assistance to numerous homesteaders. G. Kama added that the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) had also been involved in helping homesteaders develop soil conservation plans and address the ongoing issue of feral deer, especially in Keōkea, Waiōhuli, and Kauikinui. Both women expressed appreciation for the collaboration and support provided through these agricultural initiatives.

Chair Watson asked about the lack of proposed awards for the Ke‘anae and Wailua Nui homestead areas listed in the current development plan. J. Cachola explained that the absence of the “preference for lineal descendants” rule at the time prevented participation from those communities, as they wanted assurance that land awards would go to descendants of the area. The rule was expected to be in place by the end of the year, allowing the East Maui plan—covering Wākiu, Ke‘anae, and Wailua Nui—to move forward again. Chair Watson suggested targeting nearby scattered lots owned by state agencies such as DLNR, DOA, or HCDA, which could be easily converted into homestead awards. J. Cachola agreed, noting that consolidating these lands under the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands could significantly benefit the area.

Chair Watson also mentioned coordination with the University of Hawai‘i’s College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) in Waimānalo, where DHHL and CTAHR were competing for use of certain lands. He described discussions with CTAHR’s dean, who planned to develop testing facilities and a school costing around \$20 million, but had not yet begun design work despite having \$4–5 million allocated. Chair Watson stated that DHHL wanted to collaborate while suggesting that CTAHR reduce its proposed area, noting that most of Waimānalo was suitable for homesteading except for the Pali-side. He expressed willingness to allow CTAHR testing activities near the Pali while maintaining DHHL’s focus on homestead development and emphasized the importance of cooperation between the two entities.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RECESS

Chair announced the end of the day’s agenda, thanked everyone for their patience and participation, and reminded attendees that the community meeting would begin at 6:30 PM at the Paukūkalo Community Center. He expressed gratitude to Velma, Janice, and Grace for preparing breakfast and organizing dinner, informed that the next day’s agenda would start at 9:30 AM, and officially recessed the meeting for the day, thanking the commissioners and attendees before closing with aloha.

RECESS

4:45 PM

HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

Minutes of Tuesday, October 21, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

Paukukalo Community Center, 657 Kaumuali'i Street, Wailuku, Maui, Hawai'i, 96793
and Interactive Conferencing Technology (ICT) Zoom

PRESENT

Kali Watson, Chairperson
Makai Freitas, West Hawai'i Commissioner (ICT)
Sanoë Marfil, O'ahu Commissioner
Lawrence Lasua, Moloka'i Commissioner
Michael L. Kaleikini, East Hawai'i Commissioner (ICT)
Shaylyn Ornellas, Kauai Commissioner
Walter Kaneakua, O'ahu Commissioner

EXCUSED

Pauline N. Namu'o, O'ahu Commissioner
Archie Kalepa, Maui Commissioner

COUNSEL

Rodney Char, Deputy Attorney General

STAFF

Richard Hoke, Executive Assistant to the Chairperson
Leah Burrows-Nuuanu, Secretary to the Commission
Juan Garcia, Homestead Services Division Administrator
Kahana Albinio, Land Management Income Property Manager
David Hoke, Enforcement Administrator
Germaine Balino, HSD Maui District Supervisor
Kalani Fronda, Land Development Division Acting Administrator
Ruby Nuesca, Office Assistant to the Commission

ORDER OF BUSINESS

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:40 am by Chairperson Kali Watson. Five (5) members were present in person, three (3) on Zoom, and one (1) excused, establishing a quorum.

Chair Watson announced that the meeting would begin with public testimony, followed by the J Agenda, with a lunch recess and a contested case hearing scheduled for 12:30 p.m., and reconvening at 1:30 p.m. to continue the agenda.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

PT-1 Kalani Tassill

K. Tassill reported community progress, including completing the park fence, large and small backstops with DHHL's help, and two tire removal events, collecting over 100 tires. He raised concerns about the proposed Boys and Girls Club location, supporting the program but opposing it due to expected heavy traffic of 100–200 cars during pickup times, which would cause congestion on Keali'i, Kuhio, and Kalākaua streets and endanger children playing nearby. Although children would be bused in, parents would still need to pick them up, worsening traffic. He suggested alternative locations, such as the old Sports Authority or Safeway buildings, and urged the Commission to reconsider the site due to safety and community impact concerns.

REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

Chair Watson resumed leadership of the meeting and initiated the J-Agenda, reminding participants to keep their testimonies concise and efficient due to time constraints. He requested that remarks be limited to 10 minutes to ensure everyone had a chance to speak, expressing appreciation for their cooperation in maintaining a productive and timely session.

J-1 Kekoa Enomoto - Pā‘upena Community Development Corporation

Representing the Maui Beneficiary Nonprofit Pā‘upena Community Development Inc, she expressed gratitude to Maui Homelands leaders who participated in the Pulehunui South planning sessions on September 27 and October 11, where they formed the prospective Pulehunui Homelands Advocacy Mercantile Group consisting of seven or more beneficiary-owned Maui entities, including Friends of Pulehunui, Hawai‘i Taro Farm, Hawai‘i Ulu Ola O Maui, Makana No Kekai O Ulu, Pā‘upena CDC, Pulehunui Hawaiian Homestead Association, and Kamalani Hawaiian Homestead Association. The group discussed ideas for educational, agricultural training, gardening, arts, culture, and mercantile projects on about 100 acres of community lands near Maui Veterans Highway. She stated their hope that DHHL’s Land Management Division, Planning Office, and the Hawaiian Homes Commission would hold a beneficiary consultation by next month and consider granting the group a right of entry to the Pulehunui South Community Acreage by January 2026.

Norman Abihai expressed frustration with the long delay in installing water meters for the 127-acre parcel, noting they already had a 30,000-gallon tank but no water, which was preventing farming and greenhouse use. He questioned why beneficiaries were not prioritized, criticized poor communication within DHHL, and pointed out that money was available for drilling wells in Waiohuli but not for their water meter. He said archaeologists had surveyed the land to respect ancestral sites and asked when they would finally receive water access.

K. Enomoto explained that on August 25, the Department of Water Supply approved plans for three water meters for the parcel and informed DHHL. However, DHHL’s Planning Office had only sent memos to the Land Development and Land Management Divisions, with no further action taken. She noted the request dated back three years to former Chair Ikaika Anderson’s letter to DWS and said that, despite recent approval, DHHL had not moved forward. She stressed that water was urgently needed for upcoming USDA-supported fencing and agroforestry projects.

N. Abihai added that DHHL had not held any beneficiary consultations for the Waiohuli and Waikapū projects and urged that future consultations include proper visual presentations so beneficiaries could understand and discuss plans openly. K. Enomoto then read a letter from Thelma Watson, a Pā‘upena staff member and beneficiary with an MBA in accounting, whose written testimony expressed deep frustration and anger over the department’s lack of progress and transparency.

J-2 Janice Herrick and friends – Various Concerns

Gracie Gomes, from Paukūkalo Hawaiian Homes, testified about the issue of access to community spaces, emphasizing that for many years residents had a simple and reliable process to reserve the community park and center by contacting DHHL directly. She explained that recently, it had become very difficult to reserve these spaces, with requests now being referred to the Land Management Division, resulting in long delays that prevent timely approval for community or personal gatherings. G. Gomes stressed that these gatherings were vital for strengthening community relationships, celebrating culture, and passing down family traditions, and that the current uncertainty created hardship and weakened their community bond. She acknowledged the need for safety and security policies but urged DHHL and Land Management to establish a clear, timely, and consistent process that respected residents’ rights to access and gather in their community spaces.

Trudy presented the “Ho‘o Ma‘e Ma‘e” project, named by K. Enomoto, which aimed to clean and revitalize the former 1.77-acre armory site on Kūhio Place into a community-operated, culturally pono space for education, cultural practice, food sustainability, and income opportunities. The land’s history from a Department of Defense training site (1920s–2004) to its return to DHHL, where it was identified in the 2010

Paukūkalo-Wai‘ehu-Kou Regional Plan as a priority for environmental assessment and community center development. Reports obtained through the Freedom of Information Act showed contamination concerns, prompting collaboration with the Brownfields Assessment Project under Haas Sustainability, Maui United Way, and the EPA to evaluate and remediate the site. Partnering with UH Cooperative Extension and Hawai‘i Farmers Union, the group sought grants for agriculture and cleanup work. She then requested DHHL’s approval for a right of entry, funding for new fencing and remediation, and reaffirmed the community’s commitment to restoring and sustaining their ‘āina.

Jimmy Kincaid from the Paukūkalo Hawaiian Homes Community Association reported that community members had raised concerns about deteriorating roads in their neighborhood, originally built in the early 1960s and never repaired since. He said the association took the initiative to obtain estimates from Sunny Vic Paving Company and Pacific Asphalt for repairs to Pumehana, Pohala, Waihona, and Kikania Streets and Place. The total cost for road repairs was \$359,235, including \$352,800 for paving, \$3,000 for striping, and \$3,300 for mobilization. Additionally, a quote of \$47,000 was received to refurbish an unused basketball court, bringing the total project estimate to \$407,000. Kincaid requested DHHL’s consideration and funding support to address these critical infrastructure needs for the community.

J-3 Andrea Buckman - Kahikinui Watershed Forest Restoration

A. Buckman, Executive Director of Haleakalā, testified about her 15-year collaboration with DHHL at Kahikinui, where 65% of Maui’s remaining native dry forest was located. She explained that since 2004 she had led restoration efforts through Uhiwai Haleakalā and the Leeward Haleakalā Watershed Restoration Partnership, fencing 4,500 acres and working to protect 23,000 acres of DHHL land from fire, invasive species, and animal damage. Guided by the 1995 community plan and subsequent environmental and Firewise assessments, her team conducted reforestation, seed collection, and fence repair to restore watershed health and biodiversity. Buckman reported over \$4 million in funding from state, county, and federal sources for fencing, firebreaks, and reservoir restoration, and urged DHHL to continue funding animal removal and ongoing management to ensure the recovery and long-term sustainability of Kahikinui’s native ecosystem.

J-10 Kyle Elama Farm – Ka Ohana O Kahikinui

K. Farm, president of Ka ‘Ohana ‘O Kahikinui, reported that the community completed three county grants and sought a fourth for \$35,000 to finish the community center, which volunteers built with donated labor. He described progress on DHHL Fog Drip projects, producing 2,000 gallons of water daily and securing a \$150,000 Maui HIKI NŌ grant to install the fog drip and overland pipeline system. He detailed fire mitigation plans with DLNR for a 300-foot grazing corridor, supported Uhiwai’s reforestation work, and sought road upgrades for upper forest access. He also discussed protecting cultural sites using mapping technology and collaboration with archaeologist Patrick Kirch, emphasized youth involvement, and requested DHHL allow Ka ‘Ohana ‘O Kahikinui to manage the \$1.5 million trust fund for road improvements directly through grants to save costs and expedite work.

J-4 Blossom Feiteira - Waiohuli and Other Concerns

B. Feiteira testified that water access was vital for developing new homelands, emphasizing Kēōkea’s long-standing unmet water needs. She explained that a 1986 tri-party agreement between USDA, the County of Maui, and DHHL funded a \$9 million non-potable water line from Olinda to Kēōkea, but it stopped five miles short, leaving agricultural lots unusable. She urged the Commission to fulfill that commitment and complete the project, estimated at \$13–15 million, while also ensuring Pulehunui received water for planned homestead lots. She highlighted Ka ‘Ohana o Kahikinui’s success with its fog drip system and strong management skills, supporting the request to allocate \$1.5 million to Kahikinui to continue its progress.

Public Testimony - Lena Shirota-Purdy – Testified that she and her husband, residents of Waiohuli with a son holding an undivided interest lease, were concerned about the ongoing water issues and unfinished

homes in their area. She noted that while funds were allocated to complete 135 houses, Keōkea still lacked needed water for agriculture, and Waiohuli remained delayed while newer projects like Pu‘uhona advanced. She criticized the Department of Water Supply for poor infrastructure and mismanagement, citing major leaks and inefficiency, and opposed giving them control of DHHL-funded wells and tanks. She emphasized that many Waiohuli residents, including her relatives who worked in the department, had the expertise to help and urged the commission to honor its commitments and act for long-waiting homesteaders.

J-5 Rulan Waikiki and others – Paukukalo Hawaiian Homes Community Association

George Waulong (Sp) - testified about recent improvements made to the Paukūkalo Community Park. He expressed gratitude to all volunteers, community members, families, and donors who contributed time, skills, and resources to make the park safer and better maintained. He highlighted photos showing volunteers repairing bathroom laths, fixing the security gate and light timer, inspecting the sewer line, and replacing a basketball hoop, acknowledging their collective efforts and thanking Ha‘aio Masonry and the baseball community for their support.

Nathan Kaawa - Shared that the organization, originally started by Uncle Hanalei about 20 years ago, had recently been revitalized under his leadership and Coach Ha‘a’s help, who brought in dirt and equipment to improve the field. Participation grew from 13 kids last year to over 60, with children from both the community and nearby areas. Nathan, who grew up playing there, appreciated seeing his own kids use the field again and offered the group’s help with watering, mowing, and maintaining the area despite high water costs.

Rulan Waikiki testified about the unsafe traffic conditions at the Keali‘i Drive and Kaumuali‘i intersection, where she had witnessed accidents due to narrow lanes and a lack of curbs, gutters, and sidewalks, and urged road widening or installation of lane dividers to improve safety. She also requested that the Maui office be given more authority to approve park use requests without having to go through Honolulu, as the current process was burdensome for associations. Additionally, she expressed concern over the high cost of new \$600,000–\$700,000 homesteads, suggesting that smaller, expandable homes be built instead to allow more families affordable access to housing.

Leana - a five-generation homesteader from Paukūkalo- testified virtually and supported community efforts for park access, road repairs, armory restoration, and watershed protection, stressing that residents should not be paying \$300 monthly for water. She expressed deep gratitude to her grandmother for securing the family’s first homestead lease, allowing five generations to live in one home, and shared her sadness that many beneficiaries had waited decades, even into their 70s and 80s, to receive land. She urged the commission to do better, thanked fellow community members and staff for their efforts, and ended with appreciation and prayers for all.

Chair Watson thanked everyone for their testimony and explained that despite limited resources, the department relied on collaboration with the county, legislature, DOT, and beneficiaries to address issues like road repairs, expansion, and traffic safety in homestead areas. He emphasized that funding required advocacy and detailed project proposals, as shown by J. Kincaid’s bids, to be included in the department’s repair budget. Chair Watson compared the process to housing projects with phased funding plans and said successful outcomes depended on collective effort and pushing decision-makers. He supported reassessing funds, such as those for Kahikinui roadwork, to use them more effectively and reaffirmed the department’s commitment to ongoing cooperation for community improvements.

J-6 Daniel Ornellas – Waiehu Kou

D. Ornellas, secretary-treasurer of the Waiehu Kou Community Homestead Association, thanked the commission for approving a one-acre license for community and cultural use and appreciated their presence on Maui, saying it strengthened relationships with beneficiaries. He reflected on the DHHL program’s shift

from mere growth to true economic development that combined quality and quantity, noting progress from the eras of Ho‘aliku Drake to K. Watson’s leadership. He supported reviving the original, undivided-interest vision, in which beneficiaries contributed their skills and initiative rather than just waiting for placement. He urged expanding Kuleana and undivided interest lands, such as at Waiehu Mauka, through creative funding, partnerships, and beneficiary participation to develop infrastructure collectively. He said capable homesteaders could help manage lands, reduce costs, shorten wait times, and use simpler rural infrastructure standards, promoting self-sufficiency and community-driven development rather than just numerical expansion.

Chair Watson explained that DHHL was working to fulfill the remaining 552-acre shortfall under Act 14 by identifying lands from DLNR, HCDA, the Hawaii Public Housing Authority, and the Department of Agriculture, while also pursuing additional lands through a five-year plan. He said many original Hawaiian Home Lands were poor quality, and the department now aimed to acquire better lands for quicker and cheaper development. With strong government support, DHHL sought both public and private land donations and worked with counties, including Kauai and Lanai. Chair Watson assigned Riley Kawanakoa to help locate suitable parcels and encouraged suggestions for desirable lands near existing homestead areas.

D. Ornellas proposed three potential sites: 200 acres of DLNR land between Pūlehunui and the drag strip, 150 acres above Honokōwai near existing water lines, and several hundred acres near Hana High School under Wākiu properties. Chair Watson agreed to review those parcels and added that DHHL was also pursuing agricultural, pastoral, and commercial lands, such as those near Hilo Airport, to support both homesteading and income-generating projects to strengthen the overall program.

J-6.1 Jade Alohalani Smith - Various Concerns

J. Smith expressed pride in her community and presented “Finance with a Purpose,” a program that aligns financial activities to build generational wealth for Hawaiian Homelands beneficiaries. She explained that Wākiu CDC was founded after witnessing divisions in East Maui over housing, overcrowding, and fears of outside influence, leading her to develop, with DHHL, G70, and the community, a master plan prioritizing East Maui lineal descendants. She described successful outreach through the Ke‘anae Ko‘olaulea event and an August genealogy workshop with 60 participants. Inspired by Prince Kūhiō’s vision of self-sufficiency, she emphasized modern financial education using strategies like life insurance, compound interest, debt elimination, and entrepreneurship to preserve Native Hawaiian wealth. Supported by Representative Mahina Poepoe, she partnered with Exertus Financial Partners to launch financial workshops, beginning in Hāna in October, and committed the next decade to teaching beneficiaries how to achieve financial security and generational sustainability.

Public Testimony – Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai – Urged the Commissioners to support J. Smith’s financial education program, noting that while past financial aid focused on getting or saving homes, J. Smith’s program aimed to help beneficiaries stay housed and support one another in achieving stability. She emphasized the importance of collaboration, commended J. Smith’s team effort, and encouraged commissioners to back entrepreneurial beneficiaries like her.

J-7 Noelani Kanekoa - Pu‘uhona Homestead

N. Kanekoa, a Pu‘uhona Homestead homeowner from Honokōhau Valley and descendant of Auntie Edith McKenzie, expressed gratitude for her home but detailed challenges such as long lease signing wait times, unclear ranking systems, poor communication about future phases, and delays that caused financial strain for relocating families. She raised concerns about the quality of home construction and unsafe road access that had already caused accidents, urging DHHL and the county to improve infrastructure and coordination. N. Kanekoa also advocated for greater visibility and staffing for the NAHASDA program, which helped her purchase her home, and suggested that nonprofit lenders be prioritized on the lender list. She supported forming a homeowners’ association to strengthen collaboration and ensure Hawaiian Homes communities were viewed as high-quality developments.

J-8 Donna Sterling – Kahikinui

D. Sterling described road damage that left only one exit route and said she planned to organize neighborhood meetings for fire safety. After contacting the new State Fire Marshal, Dorothy Booth, she became the community's point of contact for rural fire support and worked with MIMA and Fire Wise on preparedness. She reported about 100,000 gallons of water were used from a private well during the fire and noted her use of a Kenwood radio for emergency coordination. She shared her involvement in drought and aquifer studies, promoted the new Wellness Initiative using electromagnetic devices for health, and highlighted repaired weather stations now tracking Kahikinui data. She encouraged regular community meetings to strengthen education and coordination on local projects.

J-9 Robin Newhouse -Kēōkea Homestead Farm Lots Association

R. Newhouse urged the Commission to resume the long-delayed non-potable water line project that stopped at Naʻalae Road due to lack of funding, explaining her late husband had helped start it 14 years ago. She recounted how, since 1994, she and her husband lived off-grid by tapping a neighbor's water line, storing water in tanks for home and fire use until the subdivision was completed in 2008. She stressed that water was vital for sustaining agricultural homesteads, as they relied on only 600 gallons of potable water daily, and shared how they used drip systems and aquaponics taught by CTAHR to conserve water. She supported the Kahikinui and Paukūkalo projects and urged development of non-potable water sources for agriculture to reduce dependence on county water and benefit future generations, emphasizing that Hawaiians must speak up and act with pono for their land and people.

J-11 Robin Kealiinohomoku and Carol-Lee Kamekona

R. Kealiinohomoku requested a consultation with Land Management regarding their Right of Entry submitted in November 2024. She ended by citing a mele by Ellen Prendergast shared by her late kupuna, Lydia Hale, explaining it taught that true value came not from money but from the stones and sustenance of the land, symbolizing the Hawaiian people's deep connection to their ʻāina.

Carol Lee Kamekona, president of the Kamalani Homestead Association, testified that during a November 2024 site visit for the Kamalani project, no beneficiary consultation occurred despite opposition from Maui beneficiaries and questioned how the land purchase proceeded, suggesting a possible conflict involving a former employee of the previous landowner now with DHHL. She raised concerns about the site's proximity to Waiakoa Gulch, which floods, and to Monsanto, a company fined over \$22 million for repeated pesticide violations and linked to serious health issues and contamination cases in Hawaiʻi. She warned that building 400 homestead lots near Monsanto posed health and environmental risks and urged the commission to conduct proper testing, ensure safeguards, and prioritize beneficiaries' safety before moving forward. Chair Watson requested copies of the referenced articles to review past events and actions taken, expressing concern about potential lingering environmental issues and emphasizing the need to ensure there were no residual hazards before proceeding with the development.

J-14 Hiwahiwa Kaheaku for Danell Medeiros – Contested Case Hearing

H. Rodenhurst testified for petitioner D. Medeiros and her family regarding their four-generation homestead case, explaining that their reply to DHHL's opposition was filed late due to the recent death of D. Medeiros's son. She stated the hearing officer's dismissal was invalid because it was never properly served and lacked the required exhibits, denying due process. She detailed DHHL's repeated procedural failures, neglect, and broken promises, including assurances of a lease and a full case file that were never honored. H. Kaheaku argued that the family maintained and invested in their home for decades despite DHHL's inaction and that the department violated its fiduciary duty by using technicalities against beneficiaries. She urged the commission to uphold fairness and righteousness, reopen the contested case, and restore the Medaris ʻohana to their ancestral home.

Chair Watson announced that the meeting was back in session and introduced the next agenda item.

J-13 Richard Mayer - Waiōhuli Water Wells

R. Mayer thanked the board for deferring the Waiōhuli Well Project and urged them to reconsider the Waiōhuli project to stop the illegal export of water to South and Central Maui. He recommended collaborating with the County Department of Water Supply to build an independent system for Waiohuli, using the earlier model where Hawaiian Homelands developed infrastructure before handing it over, but keeping the water on-site. He explained that wells in Waiohuli would be more cost-efficient than new deep wells planned upcountry and suggested spacing them apart, using solar power, and dedicating them to county operations. R. Mayer, a longtime Kula resident and community leader, emphasized completing the remaining portions of the project—housing, economic development, and Keakea farming. He also proposed creating local employment, such as a nursing home, to reduce long commutes and strengthen the community's self-sufficiency, offering his support to help achieve these goals.

Chair Watson questioned R. Mayer about the new wells planned by the County Department of Water Supply, and R. Mayer explained that presentations on October 9 and 28 outlined proposed wells in Makawao and Kula, including new and existing ones not yet in use. He said he was unsure of other exact locations but noted ongoing discussions about East Maui water, which was treated upcountry and pumped through ditches that could potentially serve Pūlehunui, Waihe'e, and Waihe'e Heights, creating a more efficient water system.

J-15 Kenna Stormogipson – Waipouli

K. Stormogibson testified that she attended the Ewa Beach beneficiary consultation to address environmental contamination concerns and was alarmed to see Christian O'Connor coaching Russell Kaupu and giving conflicting information, similar to issues seen in the Waipouli Courtyards project. When she questioned this, she was verbally attacked and told to leave by Iwalani McBrayer, which she found threatening and inappropriate. She stated that the development process lacked transparency and due diligence, with agreements made before full information was shared, and requested clarification on public participation rights and how consultations should be properly conducted. She confirmed filing a formal complaint and urged that future meetings ensure safety, respect, and accountability.

J-16 Lourdes Torres - Waipouli

L. Torres expressed concern about conflicting statements regarding relocation timelines after the property transition. She stated that C. O'Connor had assured residents they would have 18 to 24 months to move with comparable housing or compensation, while R. Kaupu claimed only tenants with active leases—not month-to-month—would qualify. L. Torres asked the Commission to clarify which was correct, stressing the need for clear answers for residents' mental and spiritual well-being. Chair Watson said he would confirm with both parties and requested her information to follow up, acknowledging that lease terms and eligibility might differ. Lourdes thanked him for addressing the issue.

J-18 Jan Makepa – Wai'anae Homestead Association

J. Makepa, representing the Waianae Valley Homestead Community Association, reported that their community partnered with Firewise HWMO to become a Firewise-certified community, completing a tour in August and assessment in September before being struck by a wildfire that caused minor damage but no loss of life. The incident motivated more families to join Firewise, and she urged the department to require fire-retardant materials in new home construction. She thanked A. Kaneali'i for her leadership and shared updates

on the Kaupuni Park playground project, noting that residents selected the Pu‘u Pahe‘ehe‘e model and that more funding was needed for construction. She also discussed the cesspool-to-sewer conversion pilot project conducted with EPA, AECOM, and ERG, whose findings would guide funding and benefit other homesteads. Additionally, she described efforts to address vacant homes, including recent evictions of squatters, community vigilance, and collaboration with families to complete successorship or return homes to the department. Lastly, she noted that the homestead was considering installing license plate reader cameras for safety, with community outreach and discussions ongoing with DHHL and HPD.

J-19 De Mont Manaole – Various Concerns

D. Manaole praised the Maui and Molokai communities for their unity, leadership, and solutions, congratulated Maui for being recognized by *National Geographic* as a top sustainable destination, and commended DHHL staff and commissioners for their integrity and effective work. He condemned personal attacks against DHHL members, urging humility, repentance, and an end to divisive behavior, referencing the Book of Luke to call for compassion and self-awareness. He emphasized that commission meetings were meant for trust beneficiaries and warned against outsiders who sought to create conflict among Native Hawaiians, comparing it to tactics used to divide Indigenous peoples. He encouraged unity and progress like that shown by Maui and Waianae Homestead, which he praised for their community efforts and safety initiatives, and he closed by expressing full support for the commission and DHHL’s leadership.

J-21 Jojo Tanimoto – Kawaihae Concern

J. Tanimoto from Kawaihae thanked the new West Hawai‘i supervisor, Commissioner Freitas, and D. Hoke for their support and acknowledged the department’s progress, while requesting updates on the awarding of Kawaihae vacant lots approved in March due to ongoing erosion issues. She raised concerns that the unexploded ordnance survey team had not been notified of their access despite harbor expansion and stressed the urgent need for evacuation planning for Kawaihae and Kailapa, as the single access road was blocked during the Ironman triathlon and fire season posed further risks with fences preventing escape routes and Kohala Ranch denying access. She also reported severe erosion in Makahuna and Paliwai Gulches caused by past blasting for the harbor, which damaged fishing areas, and said the permittee had failed to manage the land as required. J. Tanimoto urged the department to take immediate action on erosion control, fire safety, and evacuation plans to prevent road closures and supply disruptions, and she thanked the commission for listening and maintaining communication.

Public Testimony - Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai - Discussions should focus on issues, not personal attacks, though naming individuals could be appropriate when necessary. She noted that beneficiary meetings were open to all, including non-beneficiaries, whose perspectives could still be valuable even when disagreements occurred. She also emphasized respectful dialogue, mutual understanding, and compromise as key to progress and commended Chair Kali Watson and the staff for revitalizing the department, hiring new people, and encouraging open communication despite differing opinions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

Chair Watson introduced the report on permitted interactions with Commissioner Marfil. Commissioner Marfil stated that from October 6–9, 2025, several commissioners, including herself, attended the Native Hawaiian Convention in Tulalip, Washington, where they participated in sessions on topics such as missing and murdered Native Hawaiian women and girls, federal recognition, regenerative economy, and Chair Watson’s presentation on ‘Āina Ho‘opulopula’s next 100 years. She confirmed that no commission business was discussed during the event.

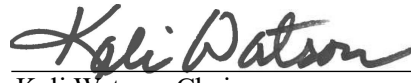
Chair Watson concluded the meeting by first thanking everyone who participated and testified, emphasizing the importance of community involvement. He expressed gratitude to Aunties Velma, Janice, and Gracie for their hospitality, and to Germaine Belino and the Maui District Office for hosting the meeting at the

Pāukukalo Community Center. He announced that the next Hawaiian Homes Commission meeting would be held on November 17–18 in Kapolei before officially adjourning.

ADJOURNMENT

2:34 PM

Respectfully submitted:



Kali Watson, Chairman
Hawaiian Homes Commission

Prepared by:



Leah Burrows-Nuuanu, Commission Secretary
Hawaiian Homes Commission

Attachments:

1. Public Testimony Sign-In Sheet
2. Public Testimony – Jojo Tanimoto
3. Slide Presentation – Item E-3
4. Slide Presentation – Item E-4
5. Slide Presentation – Item G-1
6. Slide Presentation – Item G-2
7. Slide Presentation – Item G-3
8. Slide Presentation – Item G-4
9. Slide Presentation – Item G-5
10. Slide Presentation – Item G-6
11. Slide Presentation – Item G-7



PUBLIC TESTIMONY on AGENDIZED ITEMS

	NAME	ITEM	Live	Zoom
1	Dick Mayer	G-3	✓	
2	Dre Kalili (female)	F-10	✓	
3	Robin Newhouse	F-3	X	
4	" "	E-5	X	
5	Blossom Feiteira	E-1	X	
6		E-4 E-2	X	
7		F-1	X	
8		F-2	X	
9		G-3	✓	
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				



#2
Day 1
10/20/25

PUBLIC TESTIMONY on AGENDIZED ITEMS

	NAME	ITEM	Live	Zoom
1	Blossom Feiteira	E-4	✓	
2	Andrew Hesche	F-1	✓	
3	Bob Hall	F-3	✓	
4	Kawenehi Pundy	F-3	✓	
5	Perry Artates	G-3	✓	
6	Janie Herrick	G-3	✓	
7	Gracey Gomes	G-3	✓	
8	Gwen Ames			
9	Morinda-ga-Kanaka	G-7	✓	
10	Morinda-ga-Kanaka			
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				



PUBLIC TESTIMONY on AGENDIZED ITEMS

INSTRUCTIONS TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION:

- Testimony on Agendized Items Only
- Please limit comments to **3 MINUTES**
- *NEW* Testimony can be given at the start of the meeting OR when the item is called.

AGENDA ITEM(s) E-4 (Add on pls.)

Please check one:

Start of Meeting:

☐

When ITEM is addressed:

☒

Blossom FERREIRA

NAME (Please PRINT Clearly)

10/20/2025

DATE

BENEFICIARY

ORGANIZATION

NA

TITLE

Blossom 96708@yahoo.com

EMAIL ADDRESS

Check here if you have written testimony for distribution

☐

COMMENTS:



PUBLIC TESTIMONY on AGENDIZED ITEMS

INSTRUCTIONS TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION:

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AGENDA ITEM(s) E-1, E-2
~~D-1, D-2, D-3, D-4~~, F-1
F-2, G-3

Please check one:

Start of Meeting:

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When ITEM is addressed:

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BLOSSOM FEITEIRA

NAME (Please PRINT Clearly)

10-20-2025

DATE

BENEFICIARY

ORGANIZATION

N/A

TITLE

blossom9620B@yahoo.com

EMAIL ADDRESS

Check here if you have written testimony for distribution

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COMMENTS:



PUBLIC TESTIMONY on AGENDIZED ITEMS

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AGENDA ITEM(s) F-3

Please check one:

Start of Meeting:

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When ITEM is addressed:

☐

Janet Kawewich Pundyk
NAME (Please PRINT Clearly) DATE

ORGANIZATION

TITLE

EMAIL ADDRESS

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COMMENTS:



PUBLIC TESTIMONY on AGENDIZED ITEMS

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AGENDA ITEM(s) F3

Please check one:

Start of Meeting:

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When ITEM is addressed:

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Bob Hall

10/20/25

NAME (Please PRINT Clearly)

DATE

W44A - Proj Mgr

ORGANIZATION

TITLE

aukaipacific@aol.com

EMAIL ADDRESS

Check here if you have written testimony for distribution

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COMMENTS:



PUBLIC TESTIMONY on AGENDIZED ITEMS

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AGENDA ITEM(s) F-3, E5

Please check one:

Start of Meeting:

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When ITEM is addressed:

☒

Robin Newhouse

NAME (Please PRINT Clearly)

10/20/25

DATE

Kooka Homestead

ORGANIZATION

President

TITLE

pikake 462@yahoo.com

EMAIL ADDRESS

Check here if you have written testimony for distribution

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COMMENTS:



PUBLIC TESTIMONY on AGENDIZED ITEMS

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AGENDA ITEM(s) F-10

Please check one:

Start of Meeting:



When ITEM is addressed:



Dre Kalili
NAME (Please PRINT Clearly)

10/20/25
DATE

Assn. of Hawaiian Clubs
ORGANIZATION

President
TITLE

dreanalee@ahce.org
EMAIL ADDRESS

Check here if you have written testimony for distribution



COMMENTS:



PUBLIC TESTIMONY on AGENDIZED ITEMS

INSTRUCTIONS TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION:

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- ***NEW*** Testimony can be given at the start of the meeting OR when the item is called.

AGENDA ITEM(s) G-3

Please check one:

Start of Meeting:

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When ITEM is addressed:

☒

DICK MAYER

NAME (Please PRINT Clearly)

10-20-25

DATE

ORGANIZATION

TITLE

DICK MAYER@EARTHLINK.NET

EMAIL ADDRESS

Check here if you have written testimony for distribution

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COMMENTS:



PUBLIC TESTIMONY on AGENDIZED ITEMS

INSTRUCTIONS TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION:

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AGENDA ITEM(s) G-3

Please check one:

Start of Meeting:

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When ITEM is addressed:

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PERRY D. ARATEC

NAME (Please PRINT Clearly)

10-20-24

DATE

PRESIDENT WhiteHill

ORGANIZATION

PRESIDENT

TITLE

WhiteHill Inc.

EMAIL ADDRESS

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COMMENTS:



PUBLIC TESTIMONY on AGENDIZED ITEMS

INSTRUCTIONS TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION:

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AGENDA ITEM(s) G3

Please check one:

Start of Meeting:

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When ITEM is addressed:

☐

Gracey Gomes
NAME (Please PRINT Clearly)

10/20/24
DATE

Paukalo Assn
ORGANIZATION

Board
TITLE

EMAIL ADDRESS

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COMMENTS:



PUBLIC TESTIMONY on AGENDIZED ITEMS

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AGENDA ITEM(s) G3
~~GENERAL COMMENTS~~

Please check one:

Start of Meeting:

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When ITEM is addressed:

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Janice Herrick
NAME (Please PRINT Clearly)

16/20/25
DATE Treasurer

Pau Kukulani Hume
ORGANIZATION

Homes Assn
TITLE

EMAIL ADDRESS

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COMMENTS:



PT

PUBLIC TESTIMONY on AGENDIZED ITEMS

INSTRUCTIONS TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION:

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- ***NEW*** Testimony can be given at the start of the meeting OR when the item is called.

AGENDA ITEM(s) _____
J-4 + J113

Please check one:

Start of Meeting:

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When ITEM is addressed:

☒

Leina Shirota-Purdy

10/21/25

NAME (Please PRINT Clearly)

DATE

self.

ORGANIZATION

TITLE

shirota@hawaii.edu

EMAIL ADDRESS

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☐

COMMENTS:

October 18, 2025

Hawaiian Homes Commission-testimony

Aloha Commissioners and Everyone

Mahalo for the opportunity to update my testimony that I've given for the last 5 years. My name is Jojo Tanimoto and I live in the Kailapa Subdivision, on DHHL in Kawaihae. This subdivision is located between two gulches.

The first topic is implementing an Emergency Routes for Kailapa. It was a topic when we got our leases 40 years ago and still needs the Department's attention. Population and traffic capacity from Kohala, has increased overtime and the speed limit has increased so that it is dangerous to cross from the homestead to the park across the highway. (An Emergency Plan is also needed for the residential lessees across the Kawaihae Harbor, because the Harbor has begun to implement their expansion plan.

The County Planning Department heard our community's concerns and included Kawaihae's needs in the County Hazard Mitigation Plan, the Advisory County Councils added this feature onto their agendas and we had the Civil Defense Director come speak at the Kailapa Community Talk Story Session. The Planning Department seems appropriate since building permits are needed. DHHL had not been forthcoming on beneficiary concerns. I hope to better the communication between the Department, the Commissioners and the community I live in, Kawaihae. Hopefully, this partnership will be reflected by implementation efforts going forward.

I want to thank our Commissioner Mr. Freitas and Mr. Hoke of the Enforcement Division, for beginning this communication process for us in Kawaihae. Last month, I requested the Commission's help to acquire a site visit from the Kailapa Subdivision to our neighboring subdivisions-Kohala Estates, Kohala Ranch. The Department says they are not ready and we need to wait. This is a 40 year waiting project and I hope it will not take 40 more years.

Kailapa is now fenced on three sides by a firebreak system that the Commission approved. There is no gate as promised to complete that project, but a continuation to widen this break was considered by the Commission. This community proposed a route that would have connected Kailapa Subdivision to the Kohala Mountain Road temporarily, until DHHL creates an alternative Evacuation Plan for Kailapa. I want to report that I got a much appreciated reply from Lilliane Makaila, Planning Department.

However, Kawaihae is in a Tsunami zone, prone to flooding, fire, climate change, etc. Kohala Ranch Subdivision next door, used to accommodate traffic during Emergency Situations. This is no longer the case, as I reiterated to Ms. Makaila. So I asked, "what does DHHL have planned"? The answer is wait.

Also, I learned that non-qualified Hawaiian entities are not required to provide any archaeological survey. Our community center required this homestead provide archaeological surveys. Why are non-Hawaiians exempted?

The second portion relates to the Evacuation of the other subdivisions in harbor area, the makai subdivision and the Commercial/Industrial areas. Currently, they exit past the Harbor, if they can. However, some of you may remember the flooding two years ago and that Civil Defense closed that exit. No cargo delivery too. Those homes are historic. When is Hawaiian Homes going to Register those historic properties in the State and Federal Registries?

Topic number 3-The Kawaihae Master Plan and Plans that follow, mention a Bypass Road to evacuate people, businesses, harbor and military traffic out of the Tsunami zone that we live in. This Commission approved access for the U S Corps of Engineers (USACE) to survey the lands for unexploded ordnances from the Kawaihae Lighthouse toward the Queen Ka'ahumanu Highway, a couple of years ago. So I followed up with this USACE crew last week. They say, they are not aware of DHHL's Plan.

The Kawaihae Harbor expansion is in implementation. There is a need to expand the highway lanes to provide left turn access for the large trucks to enter and exit the harbor. The increased traffic capacity vibration is a concern for the historic site foundations. Moving the traffic to higher ground will help avoid tsunami damages for the homes and businesses along the harbor highway, but the residents may want to comment on where this Bypass will be located. When will DHHL include their comments. When this proposal was made to the Commission, where were their opportunities to be included?

Topic 4-The County Advisory Council (which is the County version of the State Historic Preservation Division) came to Kawaihae for a historic site visit. This Council hopes to update the County's historical site inventory. What about the Department's plans and inventory?

Among my requests today, is how is the DHHL Legislation going to affect this issue and request DHHL provide a Beneficiary Consultation for the community to understand what this Legislation is about? When is the Department going to Register these sites in the State and Federal Registries?

Topic number 5-Lastly, what is the update on awarding the Kawaihae vacant lots?

Mahalo for the opportunity to request better communication going forward.

DHHL.HAWAII.GOV

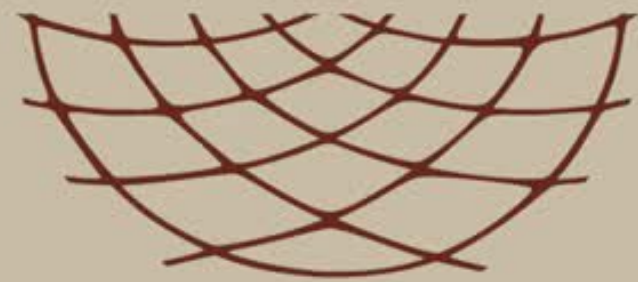
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Revised in September 2025



Blessing



PU'UHONA

WAIKAPŪ • MAUI

The Urgency of DHHL Housing



Large & Aging Waitlist

- 29,000+ beneficiaries & qualified applicants are increasing
- More than 90% over age of 40
- 50% over age of 65



פֿֿלֿ נֿתֿבֿ הֿאֿ פֿכֿ לֿיֿבֿ טֿ זֿ

- Slow & costly construction
- Labor shortages
- Complicated approvals



The Human Impact

- Decades-long waits
- Kūpuna passing before homesteads
- Keiki leaving

THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF DHHL HOMES

Benefiting Hawai'i's Future

Beneficiaries

- Affordable Homes
- Rental Opportunities
- Build-Ready Lots

General Public

- Eases Housing Demand
- Stabilizes the Market

Hawai'i Community

- Stronger Neighborhoods
- Economic Resilience

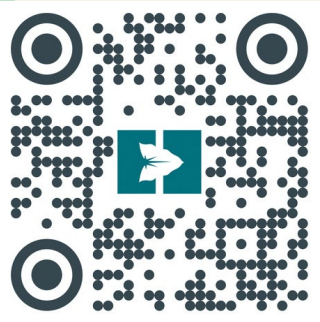


ROADMAP FOR TODAY

#	SUBJECT MATTER
I	Summary of Act279
II	¾ ©¾ ÆΣ ÖCöÆ¾
III	Projections

For More Information

To learn more about the department and awards process, visit DHHL’s YouTube page.



dhhhl.hawaii.gov

Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

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SUMMARY OF ACT 279
& STRATEGIC EFFORTS



Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
dhhhl.hawaii.gov

SUMMARY OF ACT 279

New Homestead Lot Development

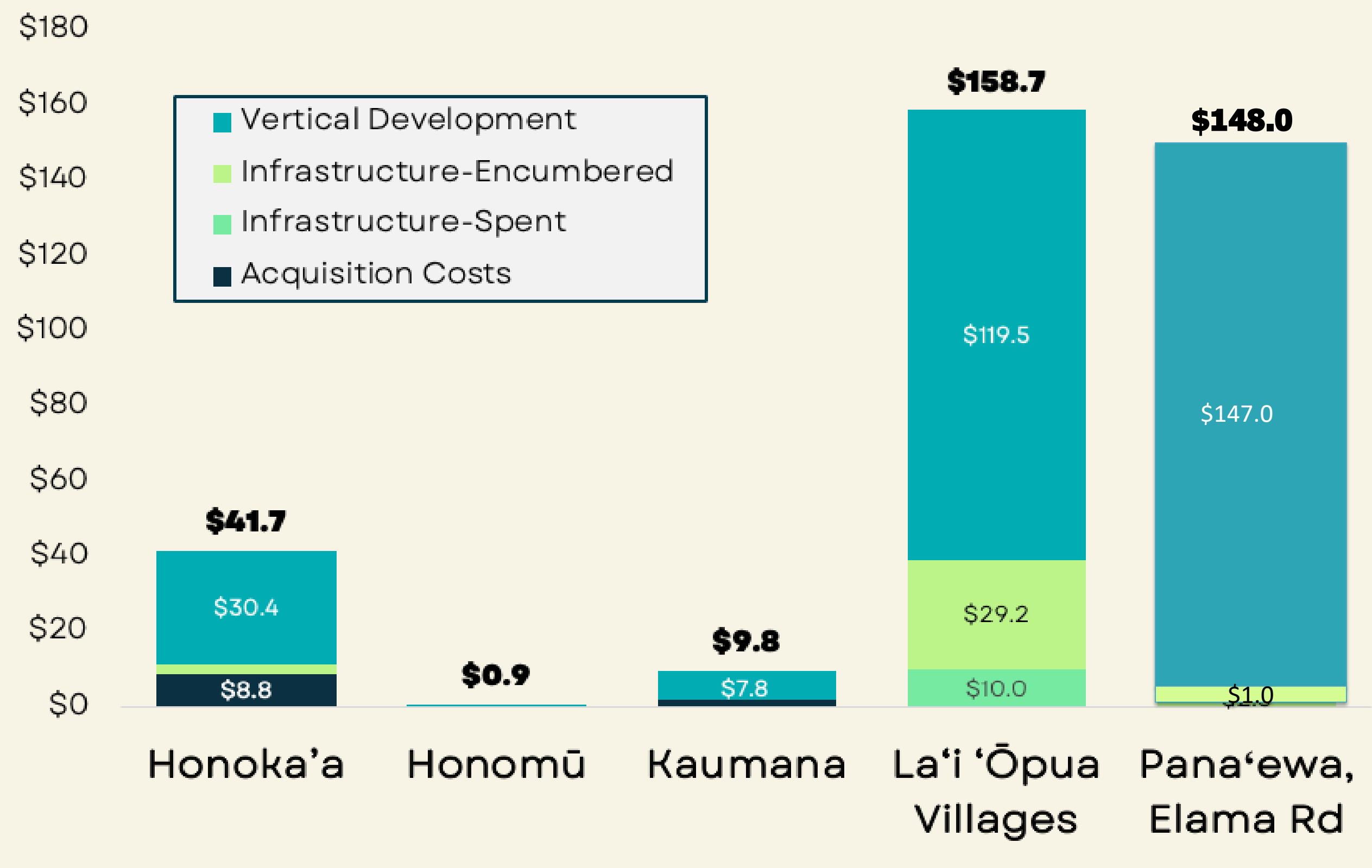
Statewide Lot Development Projects Leases			
COUNTY	2022 STRATEGIC PLAN	2024 HHC APPROVED	2025 COMPLETED
Hawai'i	440	1,684	408
Maui	572	1,514	1,212
Honolulu	1,520	1,790	725
Kauai	190	1,297	82
Scattered Lots Statewide	0	107	45
TOTAL	2,722	6,392	2,472
*\$600M encumbered by 12/31/2025. Currently \$120M expended.			

New Homestead Lot Development

Hawai'i County Lot Development Projects				
Project	2022 Leases	2024 HHC	Production Pipeline Status	New Project Leases
Honomū Subsistence Ag Lots, Phase 2	40	40	Engineering Design	40
La'i'ōpua Village 1, 2 and Water Source Development	400	580	Planning & Environmental Compliance (Water Development)	368
			Engineering Design (Lot development)	
Kaumana*		168	Acquisition	N/A
Honoka'a Residential Subdivision*		296	Acquisition Planning & Environmental Compliance (Water Development)	Q4 2026
Pana'ewa Residence Lots		600	Planning & Environmental Compliance (Water Development)	Q1 2026
TOTAL	440	1,684	---	---
*Acquisitions				

New Homestead Lot Development

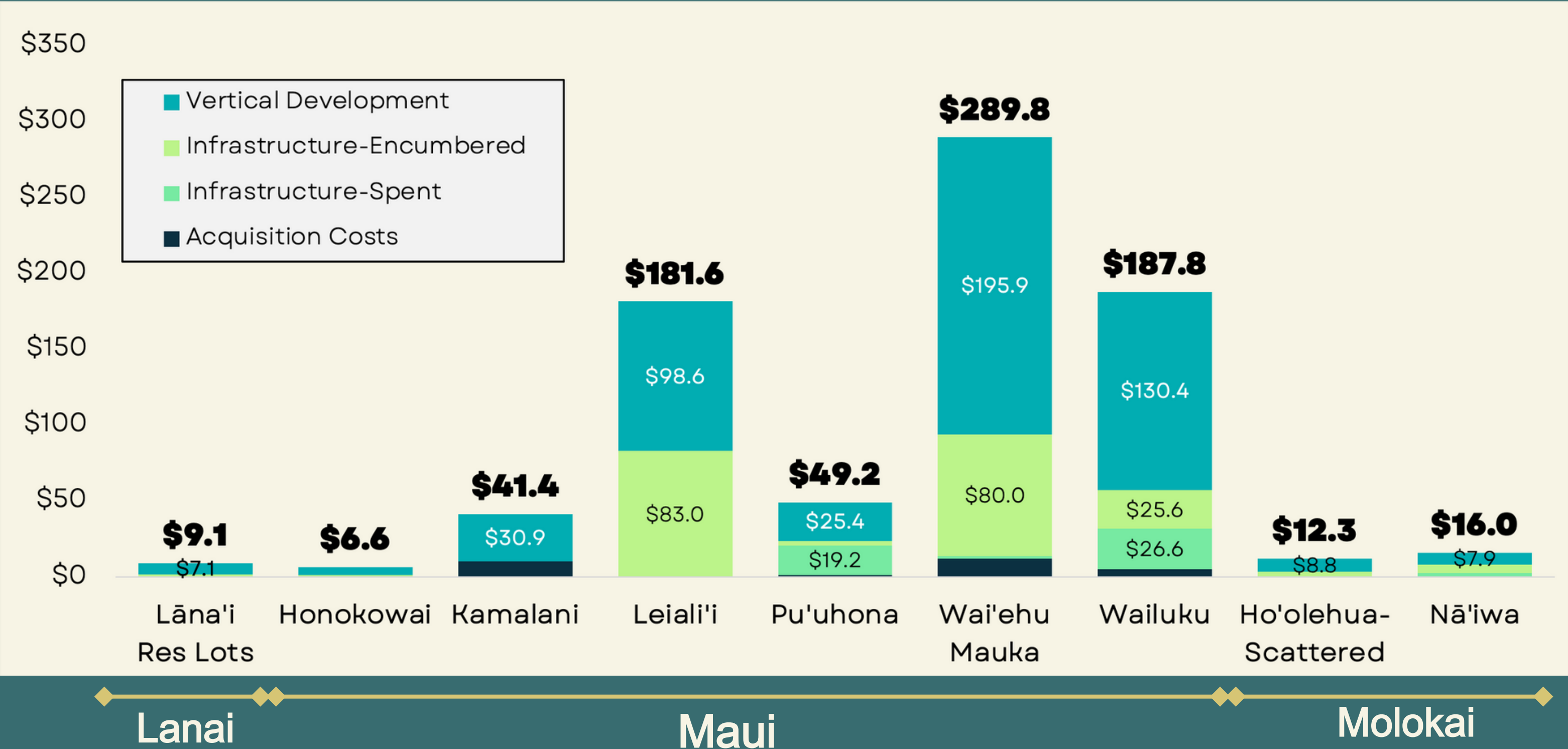
Act 279 & Private Vertical Development Spending Hawaii County (in \$millions)



Maui County Lot Development Projects				
Project	2022 Leases	2024 HHC	Production Pipeline Status	New Project Leases
Lānaʻi Residence Lots & Off- Site Infrastructure	75	75	Engineering Design	Q4 2025
Hoʻolehua Scattered Lots	20	20	Planning and Env. Compliance	Q3 2026
Nāʻiwa Agriculture Subdivision	16	16		Q3 2026
Puʻuhona (Puʻunani) Homestead Subdivision & Water Tank	161	161	Engineering Design	161
Honokōwai Subsistence Agriculture	50	50		50
Maui Leialīʻi 1B – Residential Subdivision & Off-Site Water Source Development	250	181	Planning and Env. Compliance Engineering Design	Q4 2025
Wailuku Single Family Residential Subdivision		207		Q4 2025
Waiehu Mauka Residential Subdivision		55		55
Waiehu Mauka Residential Subdivision		349		Q4 2025
Kamalani Residential Subdivision*		400		Q4 2025
TOTAL	572	1,514	---	---
*Acquisitions				

New Homestead Lot Development

Act 279 & Private Vertical Development Spending Maui County (in \$millions)

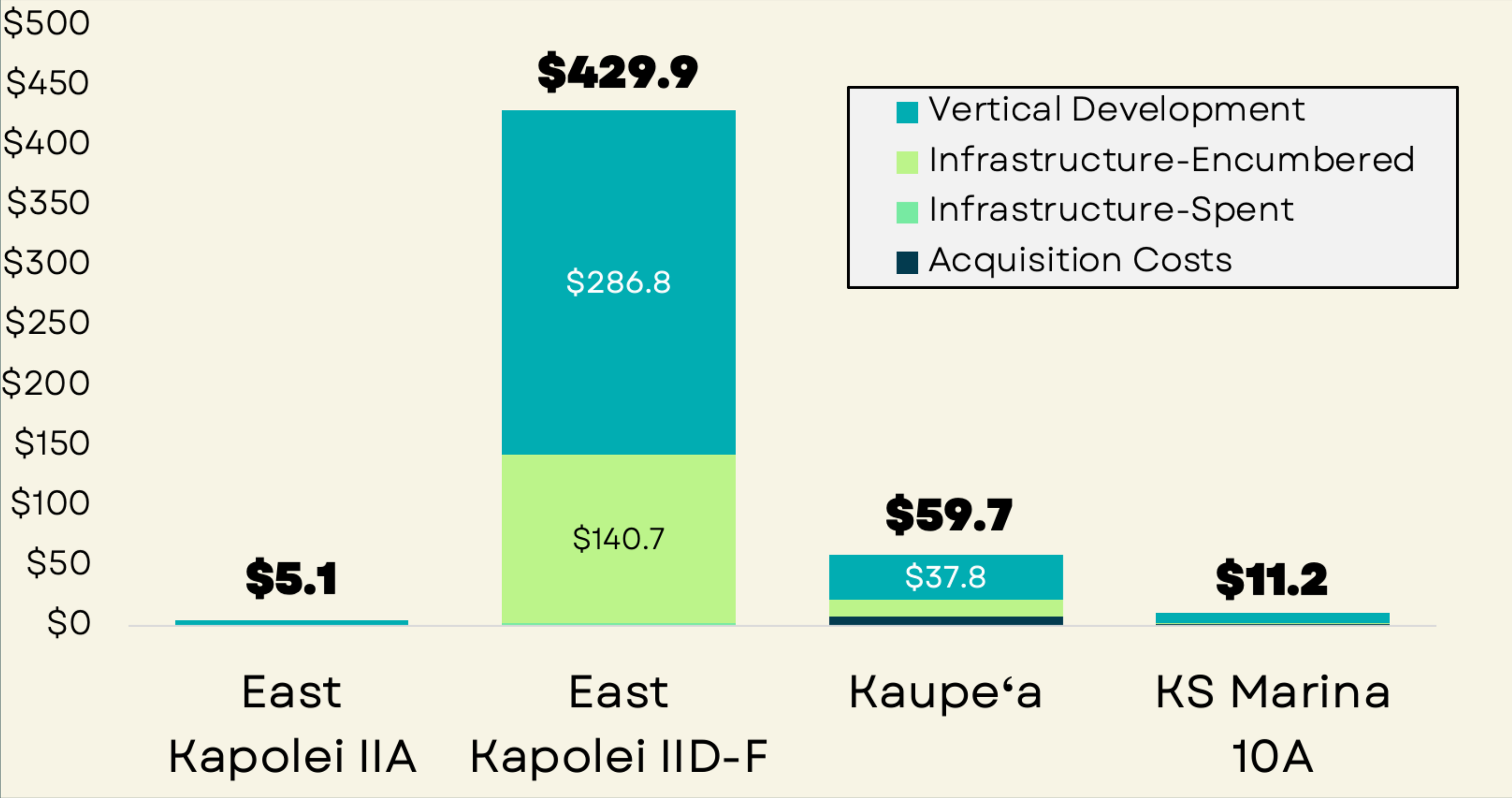


New Homestead Lot Development

City & County of Honolulu Lot Development Projects				
Project	2022 Leases	2024 HHC	Production Pipeline Status	New Project Leases
Kaupea Residential Subdivision*	60	60	Engineering Design	60
East Kapolei Mixed-Use and Residential Subdivision	721	1050		665
Maunaloa (Marina 10A) Land Acquisition & Multifamily Units*		80	Planning & Env. Compliance	Q4 2026
Ma'ili Residential Subdivision	144		Engineering Design	N/A
Ewa Beach Residential Subdivision	600	600	Planning & Env. Compliance	Q3 2026
TOTAL	1,525	1,790	---	---
*Acquisitions				

New Homestead Lot Development

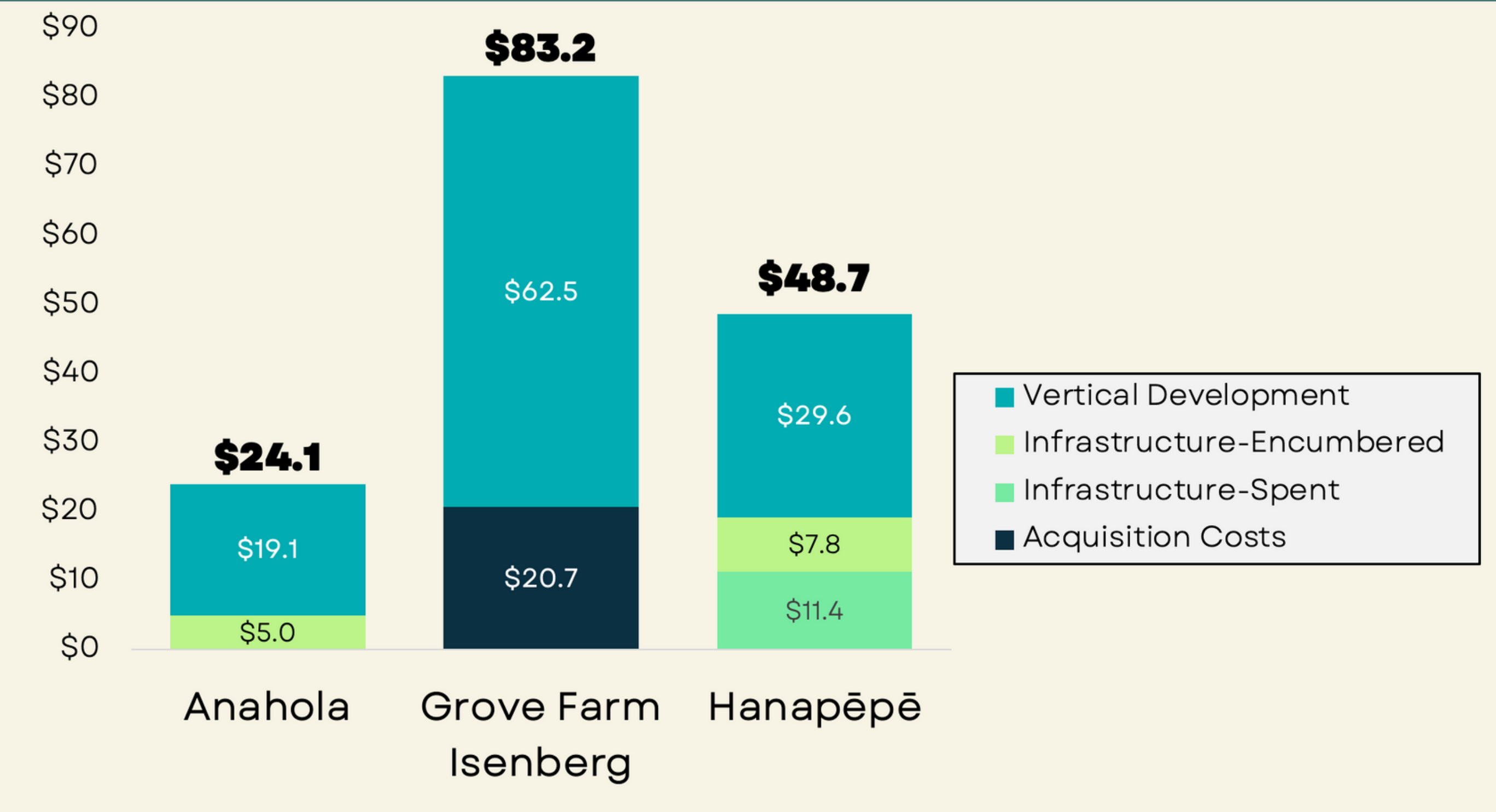
Act 279 & Private Vertical Development Spending Honolulu County (in \$millions)



Kaua'i County Lot Development Projects				
Project	2022 Leases	2024 HHC	Production Pipeline Status	New Project Leases
Hanapēpē Residence Lots, Phase 2	75	82	Engineering Design	Q1 2026 (30) Q3 2026 (52)
Anahola Kuleana Homestead Lease Agriculture & Pastoral	115	115		Q4 2026
Līhu'e (Grove Farm Isenberg) Residential Subdivision*		1,100	Planning & Env. Compliance	Q4 2026
TOTAL	190	1,297	---	---
*Acquisitions				
Statewide Lot Development Projects				
Project	2022 Leases	2025 Leases	Production Pipeline Status	Project Leases
Scattered Lots (Residential Subdivision)		107	Engineering Design	45
TOTAL		107	---	---

New Homestead Lot Development

Act 279 & Private Vertical Development Spending Kauai County (in \$millions)





Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
dhhhl.hawaii.gov

STRATEGIC EFFORTS

NEW APPROACH



Project Leases



Financial Assessments



Financial Literacy & Preparation



Developers Shape Capital Stack & Program Vertical Development

- Transforming Development to Better Serve Our Beneficiaries

HOUSING PRODUCTS



Rent With Option to Purchase



Turnkey Homes



Self-Help Housing



Owner-Builder Lot

**Creating Pathways of Choice
for Our Beneficiaries**

A diverse range of housing options are available across our homestead communities, ensuring every family has the chance to achieve homeownership. By providing multiple products, our 'ohana can select the home that best suits their individual needs, aspirations, and financial situations. Our department's mission is to support our beneficiaries at every stage of their journey to owning a home, ensuring no one is excluded from the process.



- **State Appropriations**
- **Federal Grants**
- **County GET (Set Aside)**
- **Tax Credits**
- **Private Capital**

FEDERAL GRANTS

Here's a summary of the grants that DHHL has applied for so far.

For context, a couple of opportunities were either canceled (e.g., PROTECT) or significantly altered by the federal government (e.g., RTA being pushed back from June to September).

- **June 2025:** USDOT – Regional Infrastructure Accelerator Program (\$2M for East Kapolei)
- **September 2025:** USDA – Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program (\$2.5M for Maui projects, \$2.5M for East Kapolei TOD)
- **September 2025:** USDA – Water and Environmental Program Application (\$5M for Moloka'i water)

- **Exploring alternative construction methods:**

- 3D-printed homes
- Structurally Insulated Panels (SIPs)
- Prefabricated homes
- On-site prefabrication
- Modular construction

- **Purpose of exploration:**

- Address persistent challenges in housing delivery
- Reduce construction time
- Lower overall project costs
- Enhance build quality
- Maximize the use of local labor and resources

- **Ultimate goal:**

- Accelerate home development for beneficiaries
- Improve long-term housing outcomes across DHHL programs



Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
dhhl.hawaii.gov



3D PRINTED



ON-SITE PREFABRICATION



STRUCTURALLY INSULATED PANELS



MODULAR FOUNDATION SYSTEMS

LEVERAGING PILINA

FINANCIAL LITERACY
ENGAGEMENT

7K



INDIVIDUAL
FINANCING

\$45M



LEASE AWARDS BY
END OF 2026
7,000 leases

DEVELOPER
FINANCING
\$2B



Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
dhhf.hawaii.gov

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES



MONETIZING
AFFORDABLE HOUSING
CREDITS
2,300

COUNTY MONIES
\$90M

EXCHANGE OF
COUNTIES LANDS
250 acres



EXCHANGE OF
STATE LANDS
50k acres



EXCHANGE OF
FEDERAL LANDS
1,040 acres



DHHL.HAWAII.GOV

Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

Where are we going?

STRATEGIC TARGET

Innovative Partnership

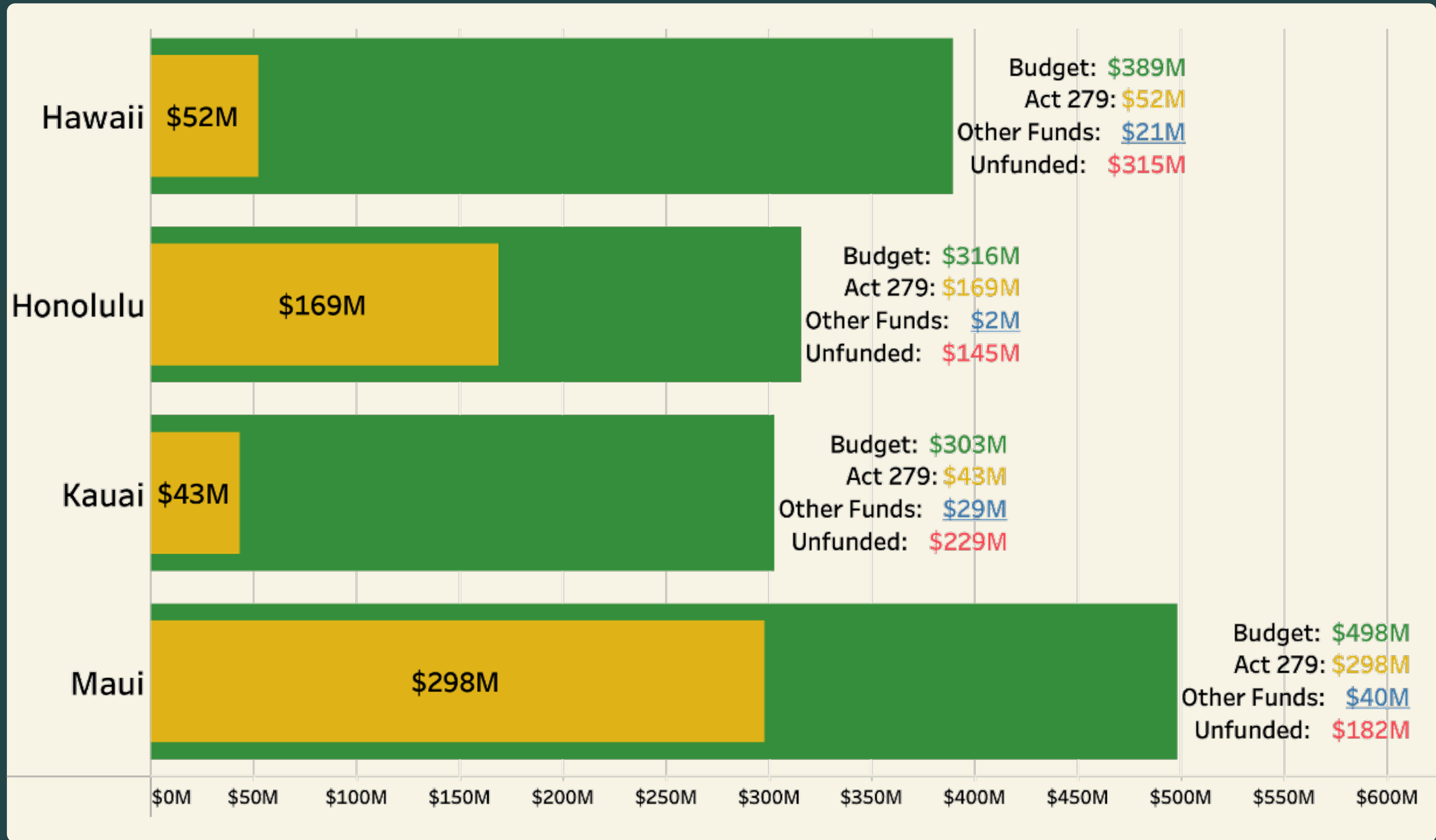
Partnerships with County and State Entities

- Purpose: expedite development schedules for DHHL projects
- Example:
 - shared infrastructure
 - upsizing an ongoing county off-site infrastructure project and sharing in the cost

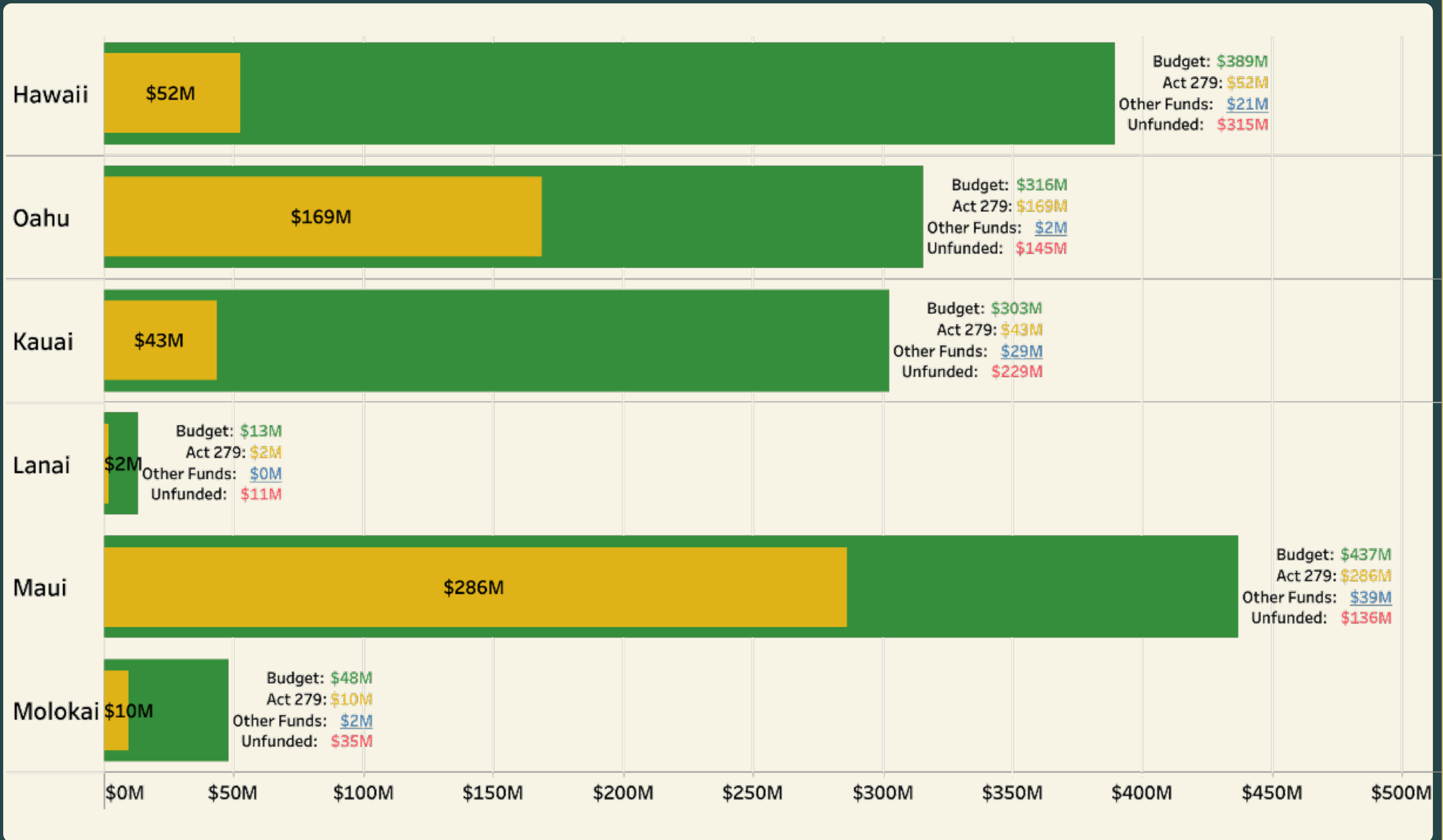
Public and Private Partnerships

- Financial assessments, financial literacy, and homebuyer education
- Leverage compensation of access easements in return for shared Infrastructure with neighboring landowners and developers

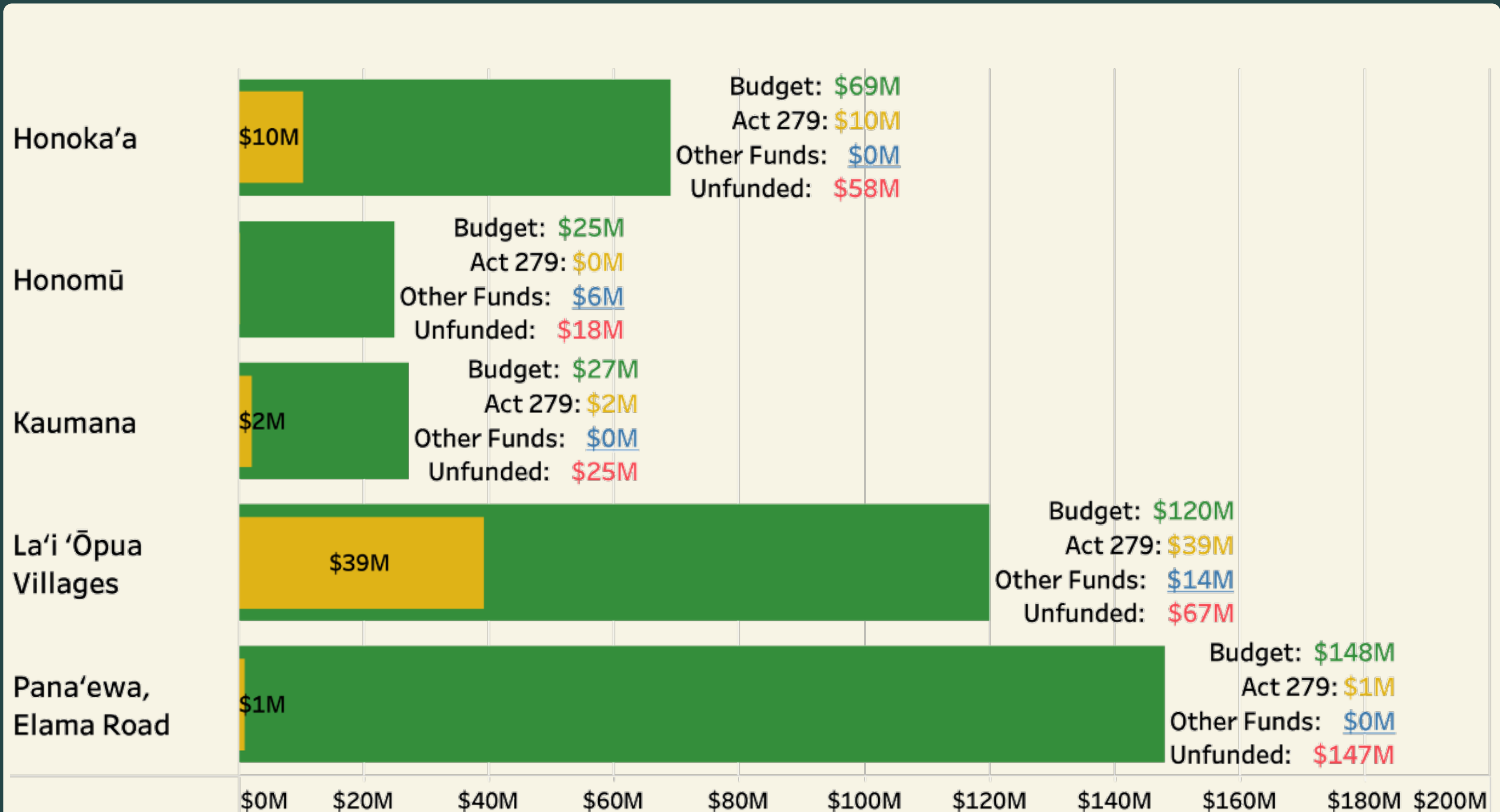
Act 279 Spending by County



Act 279 Spending by Island



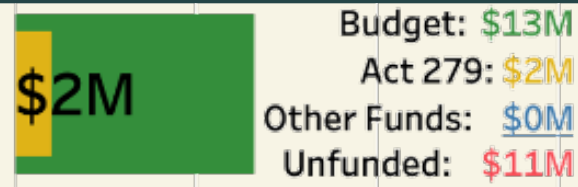
Act 279 Spending - Hawaii County



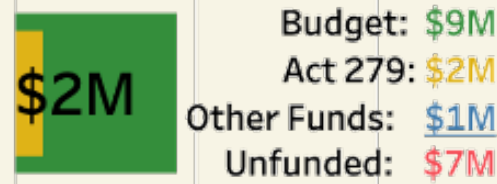
Act 279 Spending - Maui County

Lanai

Lānaʻi Res Lots



Honokowai



Kamalani



Leialiʻi



Puʻuhona



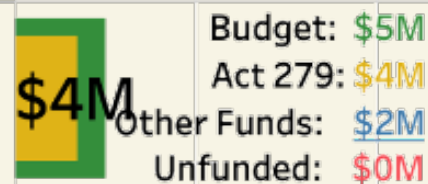
Waiʻehu Mauka



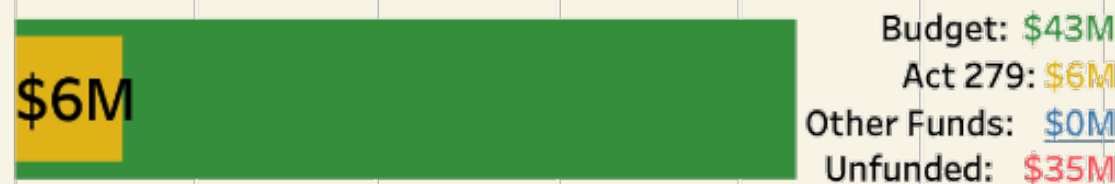
Wailuku



Hoʻolehua -
Scattered Lots



Nāʻiwa

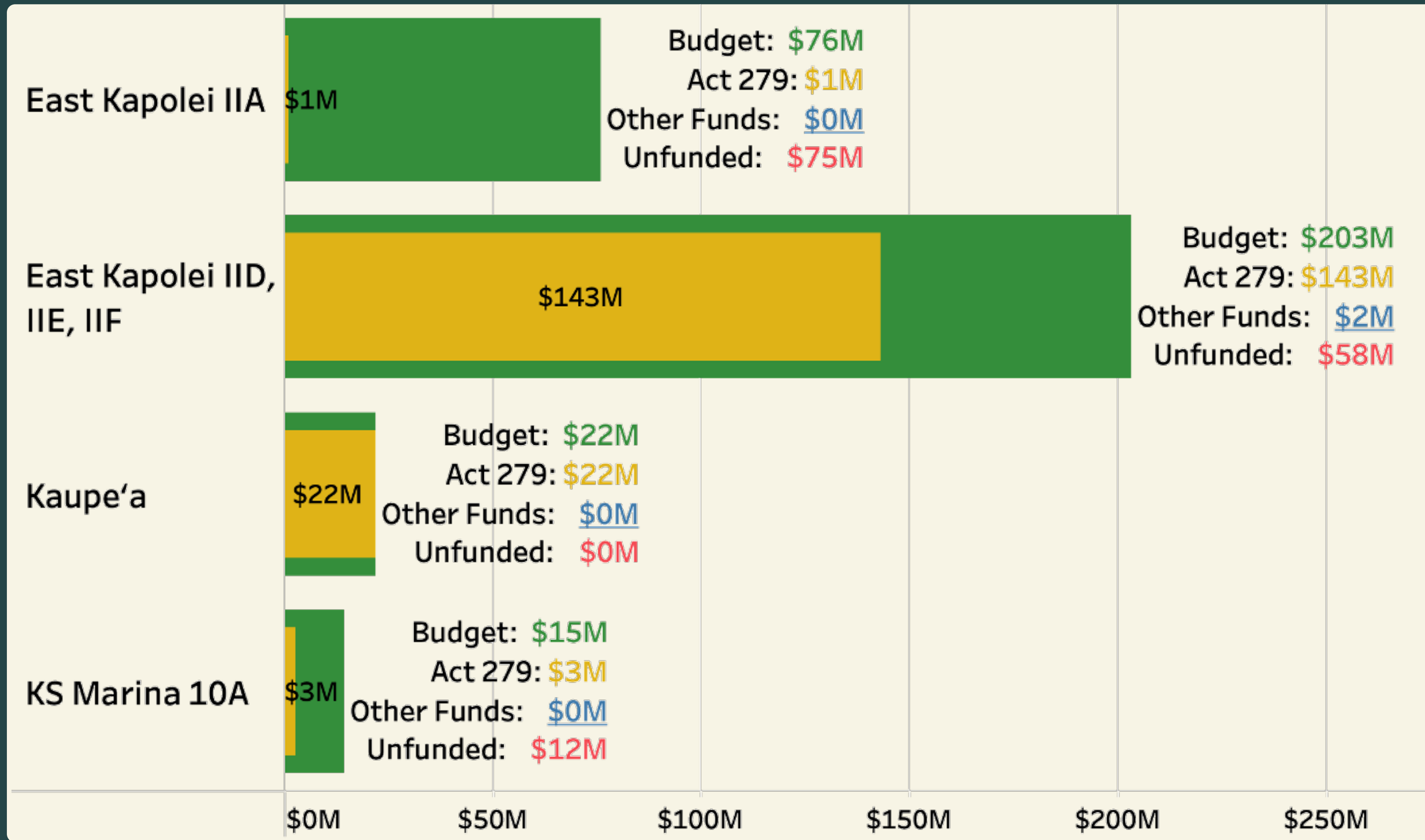


Maui

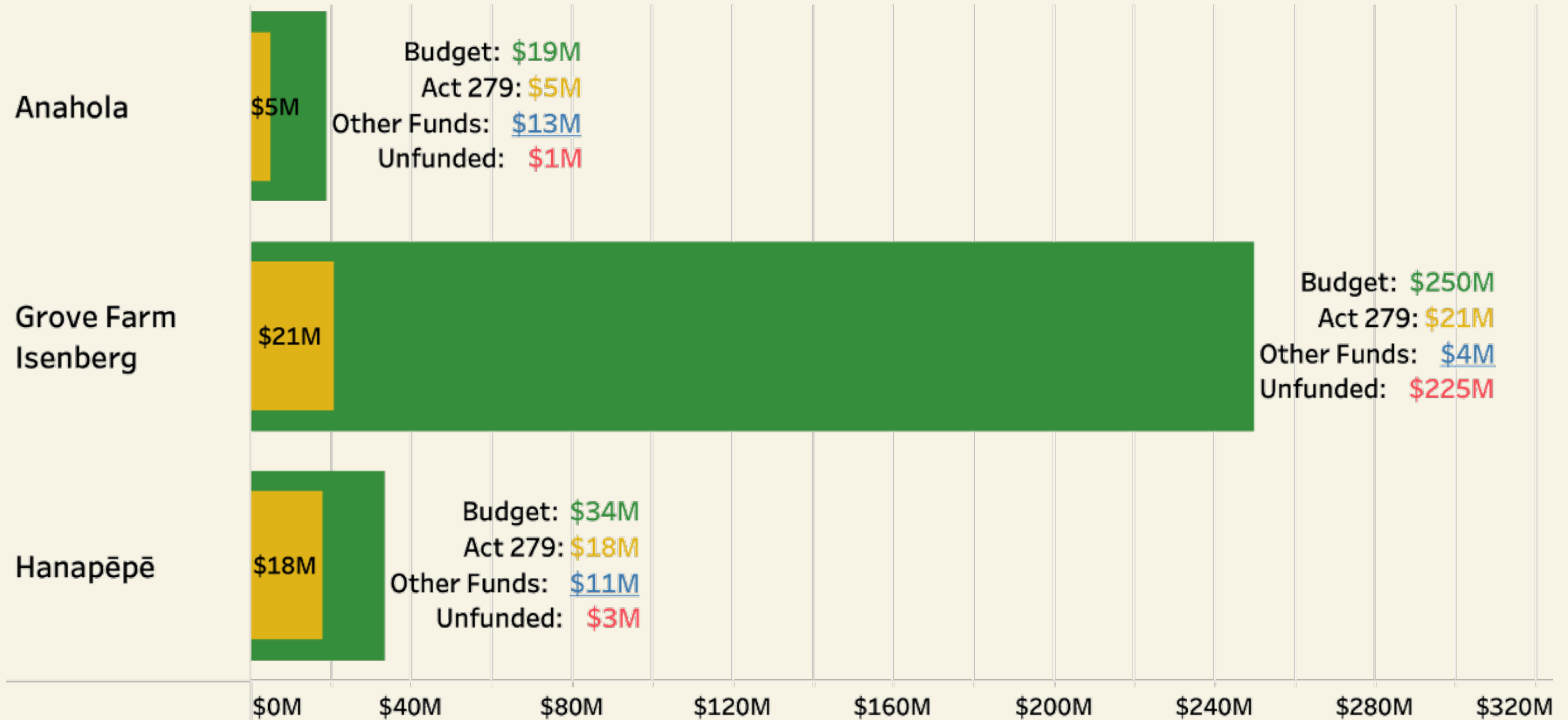
Molokai

\$0M \$10M \$20M \$30M \$40M \$50M \$60M \$70M \$80M \$90M \$100M \$110M \$120M

Act 279 Spending - Honolulu County



Act 279 Spending - Kauai County



DHHL.HAWAII.GOV

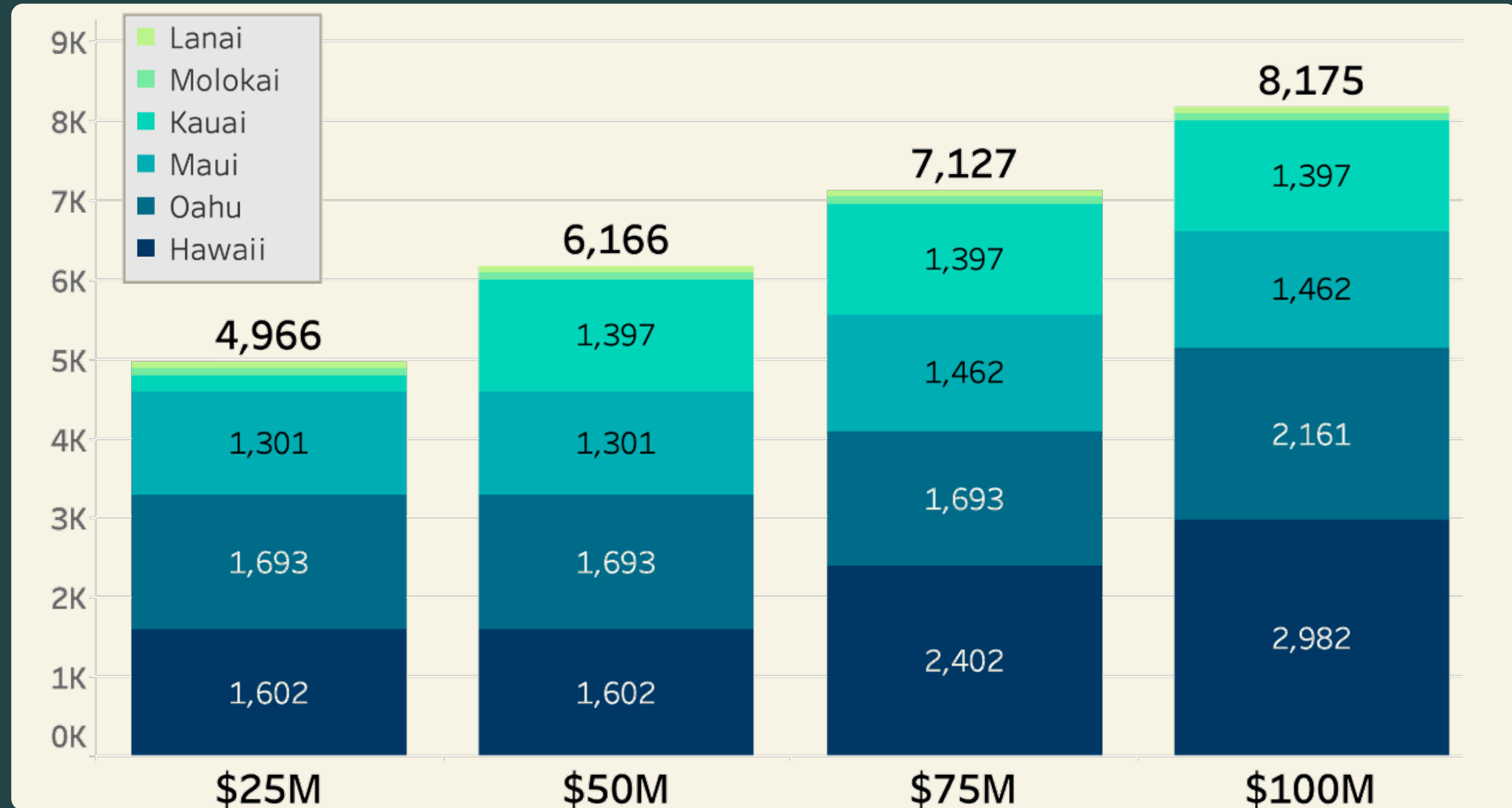
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

How can we get there?

PROJECTIONS

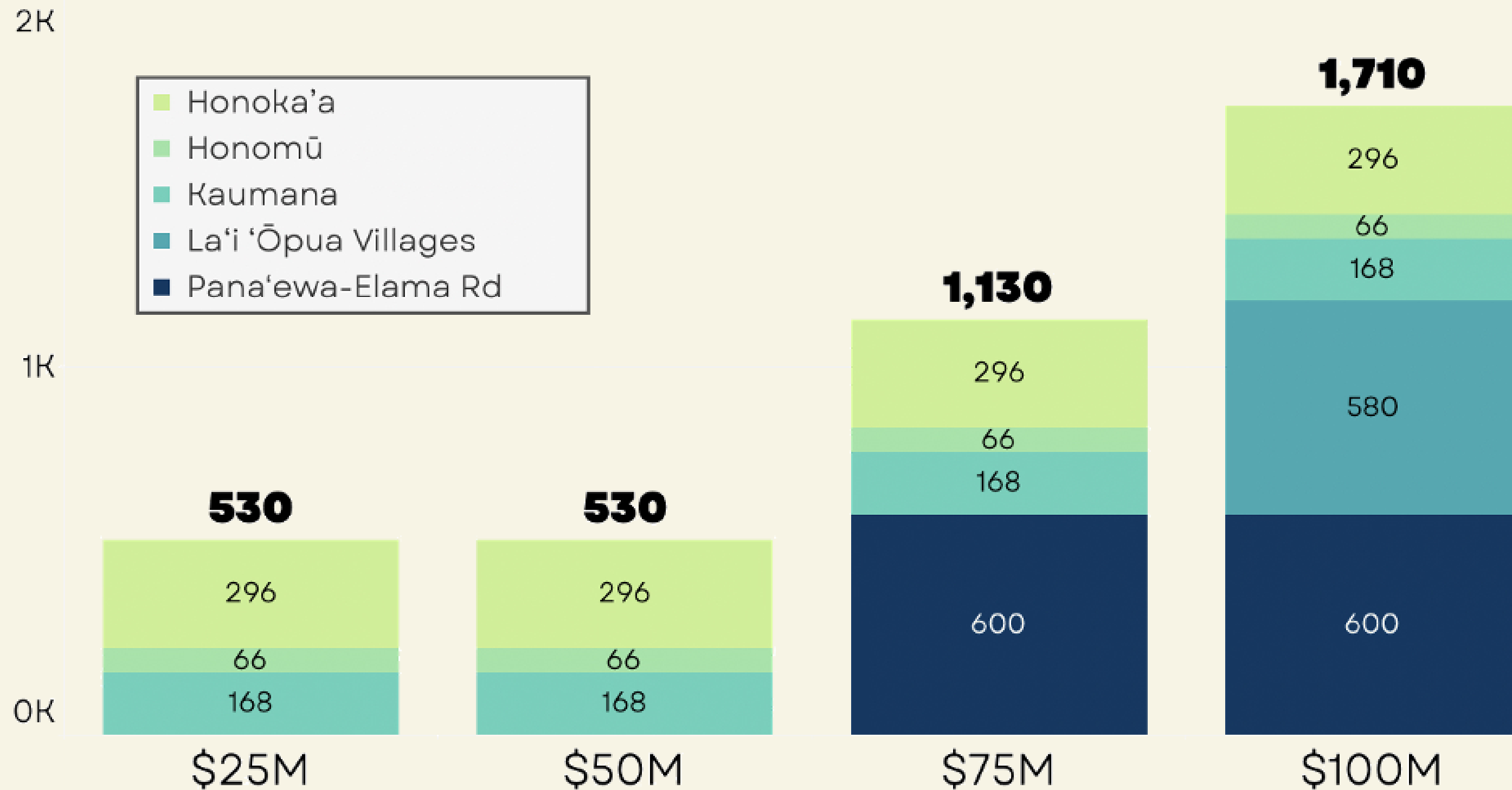
Lots Developed by DHHL - 2035

by annual additional funding for DHHL projects



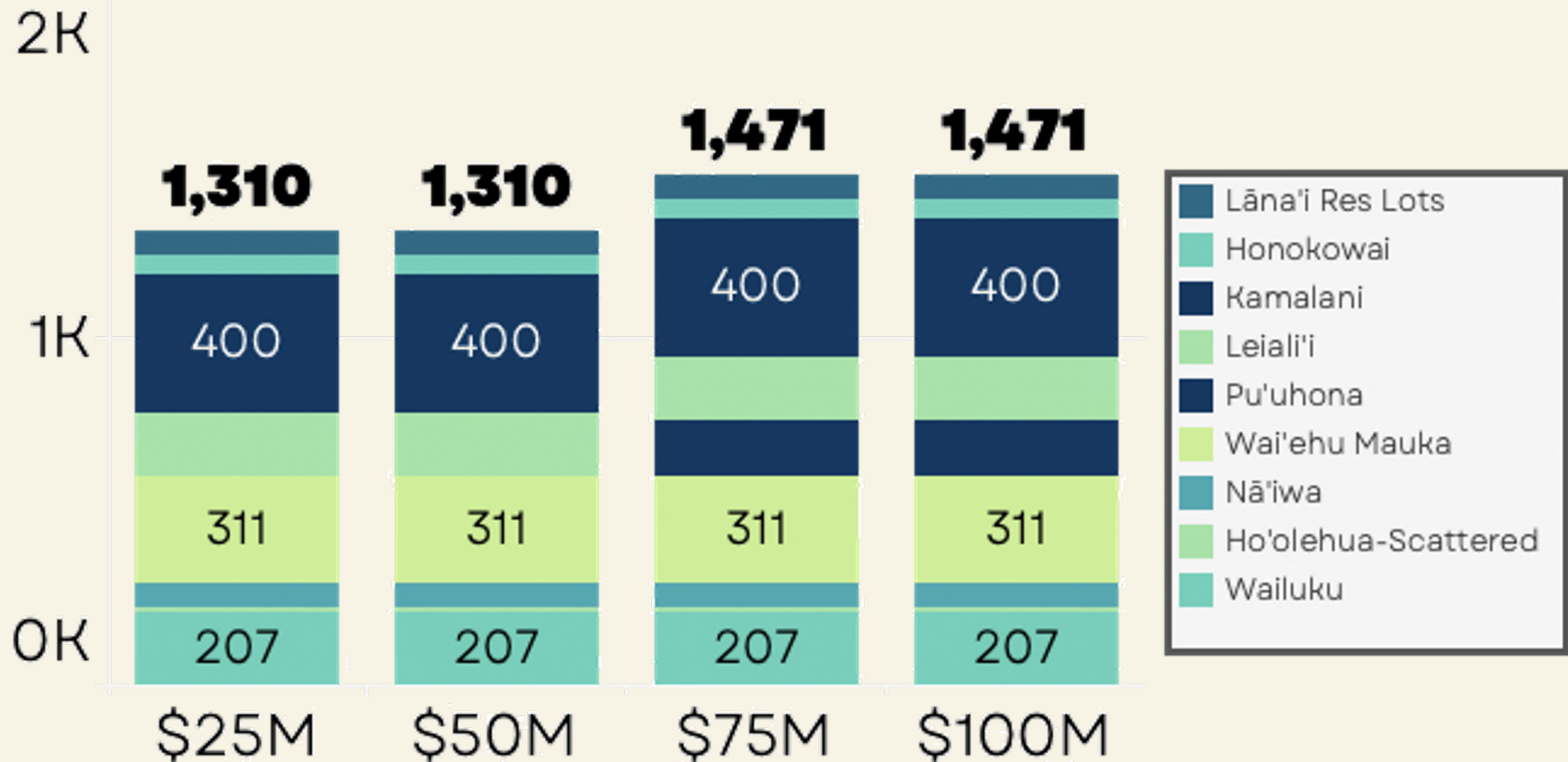
Lots Developed by County

Hawaii County



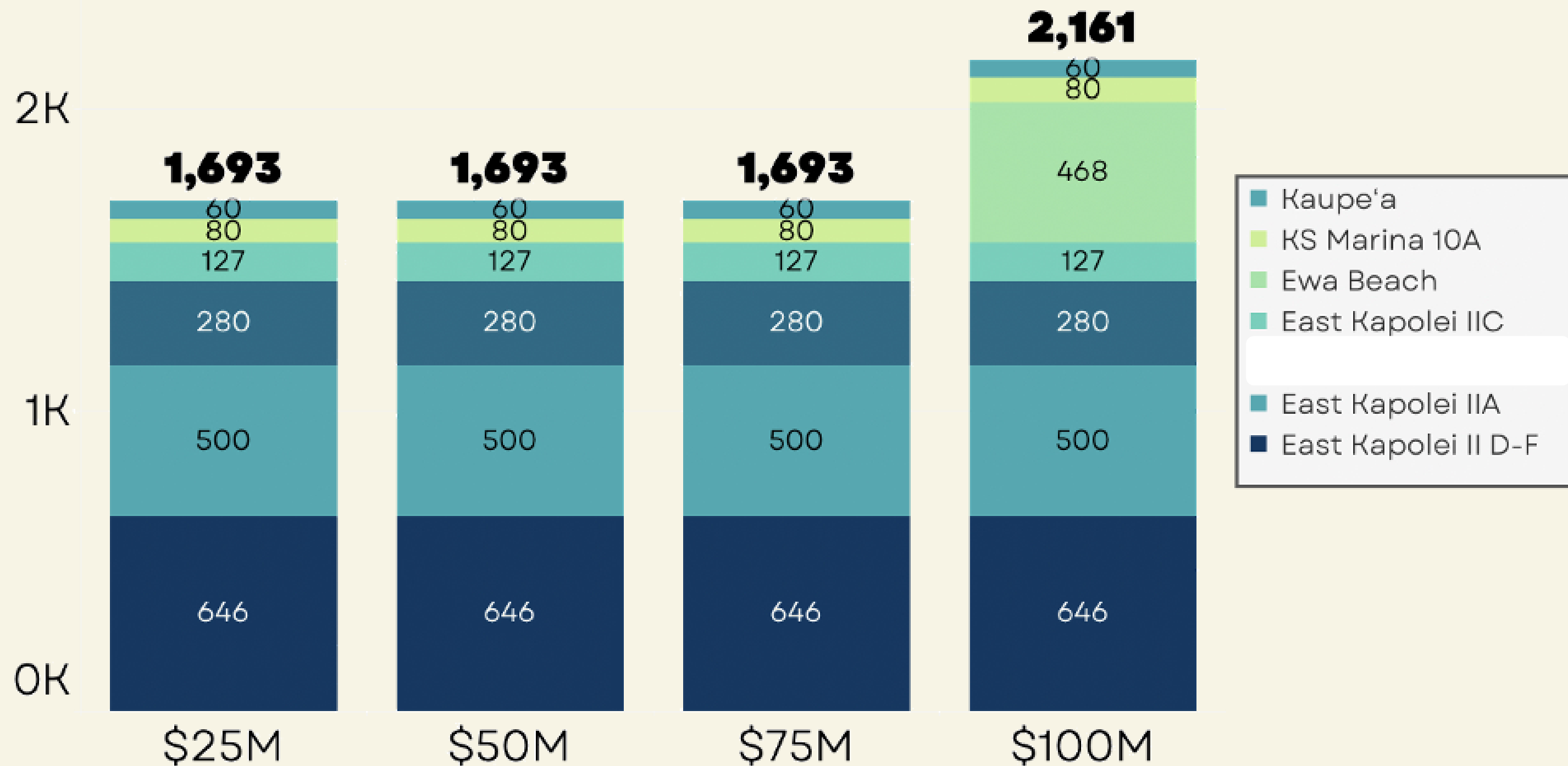
Lots Developed by County

Maui County



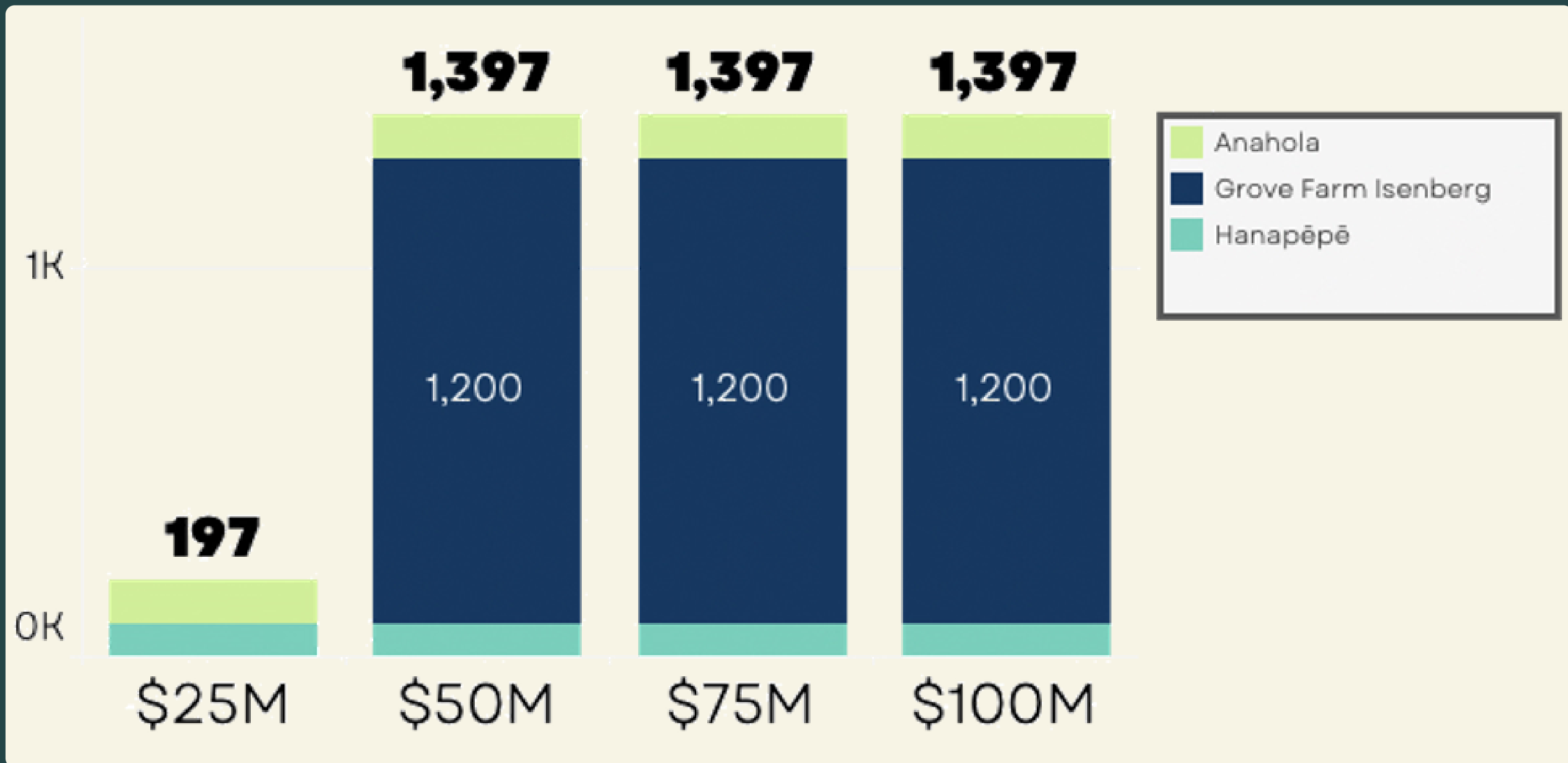
Lots Developed by County

Honolulu County

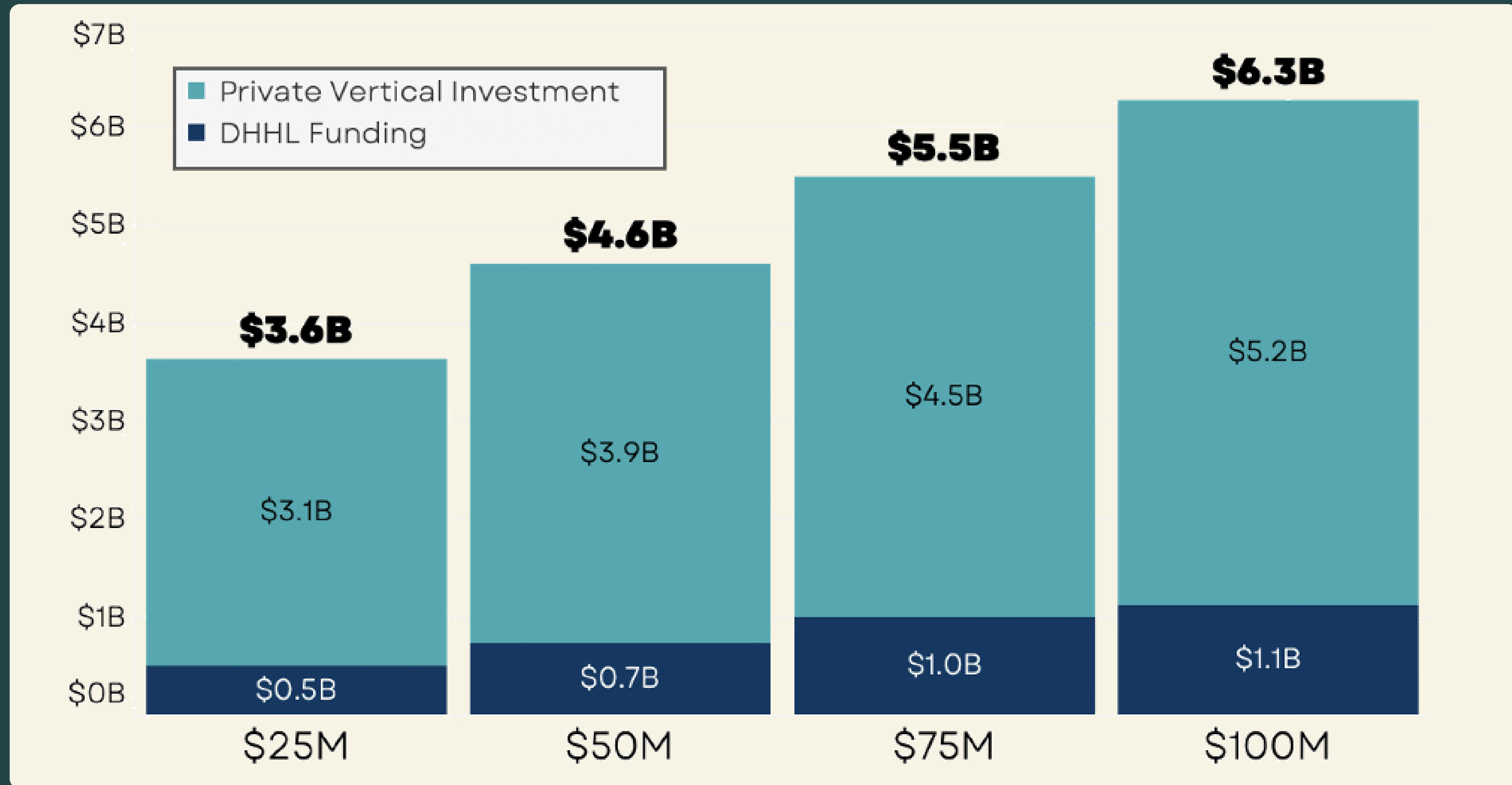


Lots Developed by County

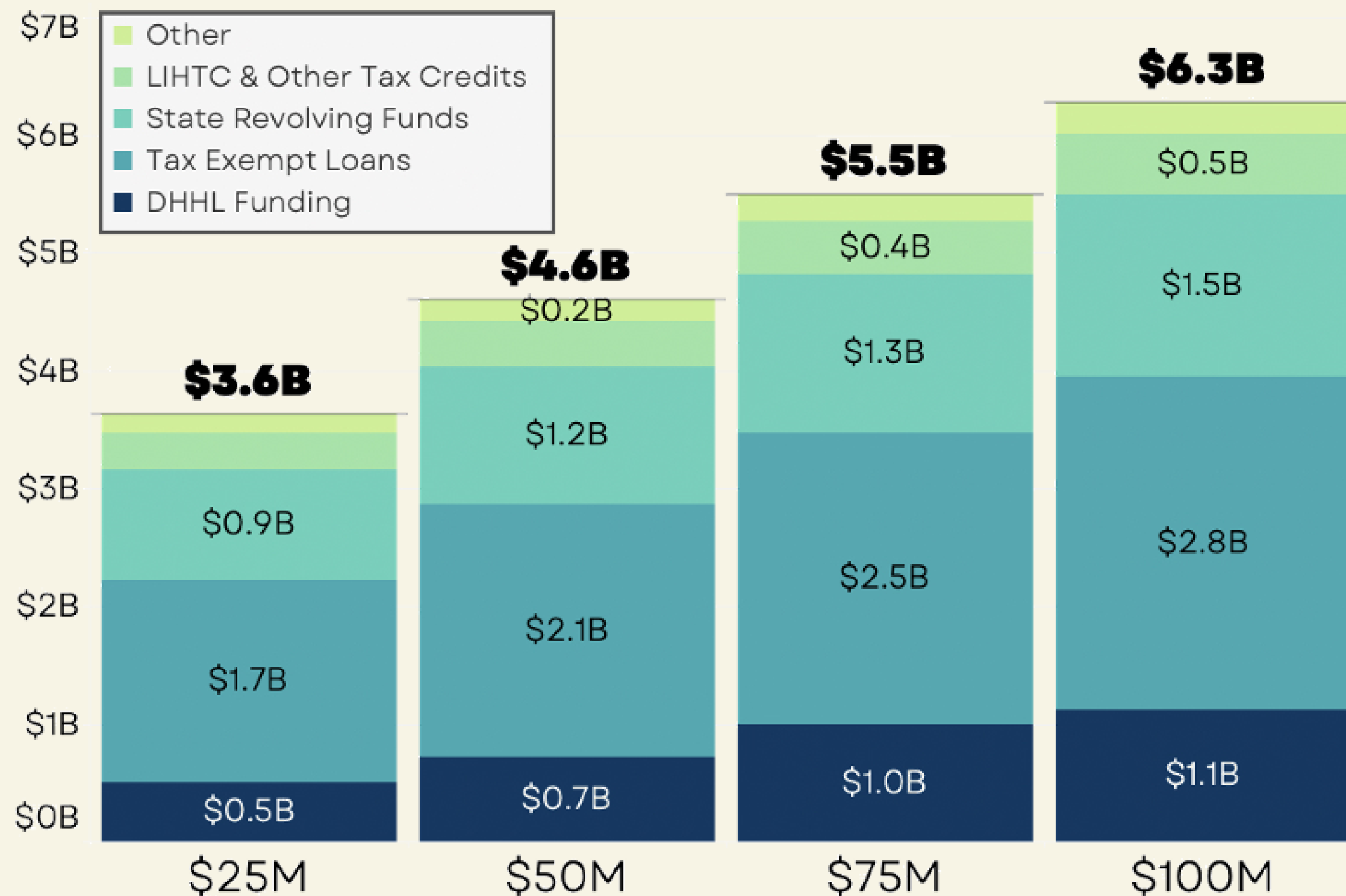
Kauai County



Investments in DHHL Infrastructure & Vertical Construction



Investments in DHHL Infrastructure & Vertical Construction



Value of Dedicated Funding for Advancing DHHL Goals

- **Strategic Planning & Stability** – Enables long -term project design and alignment with DHHL's mission.
- **Efficiency & Cost Savings** – Reduces the need for rushed spending cycles that drive up costs.
- **Capacity Building** – Provides time and resources to strengthen staff, systems, and partnerships.
- **Community Impact** – Supports consistent delivery of housing, infrastructure, and services to beneficiaries.
- **Resilience & Flexibility** – Allows DHHL to adjust priorities as needs evolve without losing funding.
- **Generational Outcomes** – Ensures sustainable progress toward reducing waitlists and fulfilling trust obligations.



HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION • DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

Maui Island Projects Update

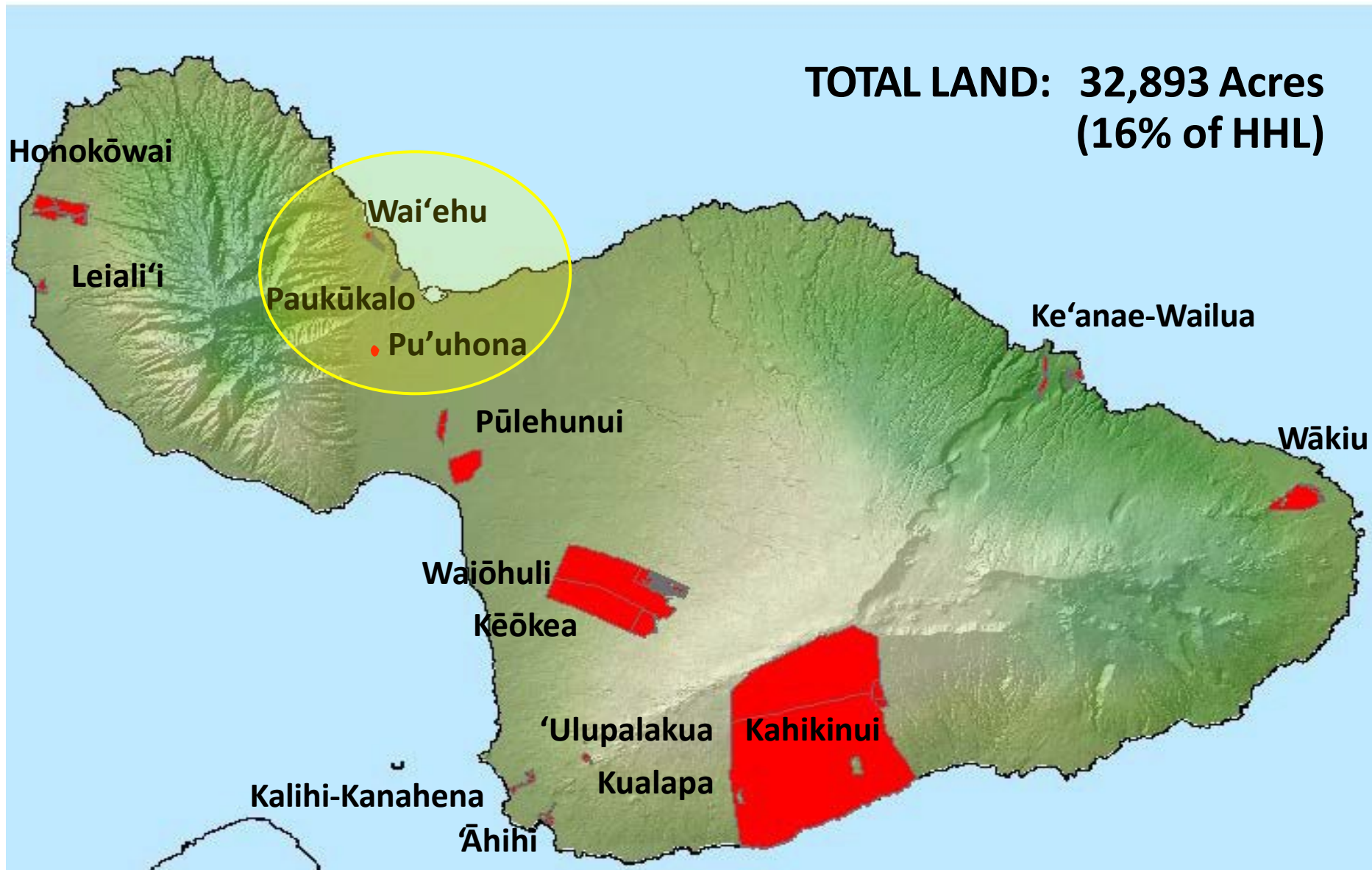
LAND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Item E-4 (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

October 20-21, 2025

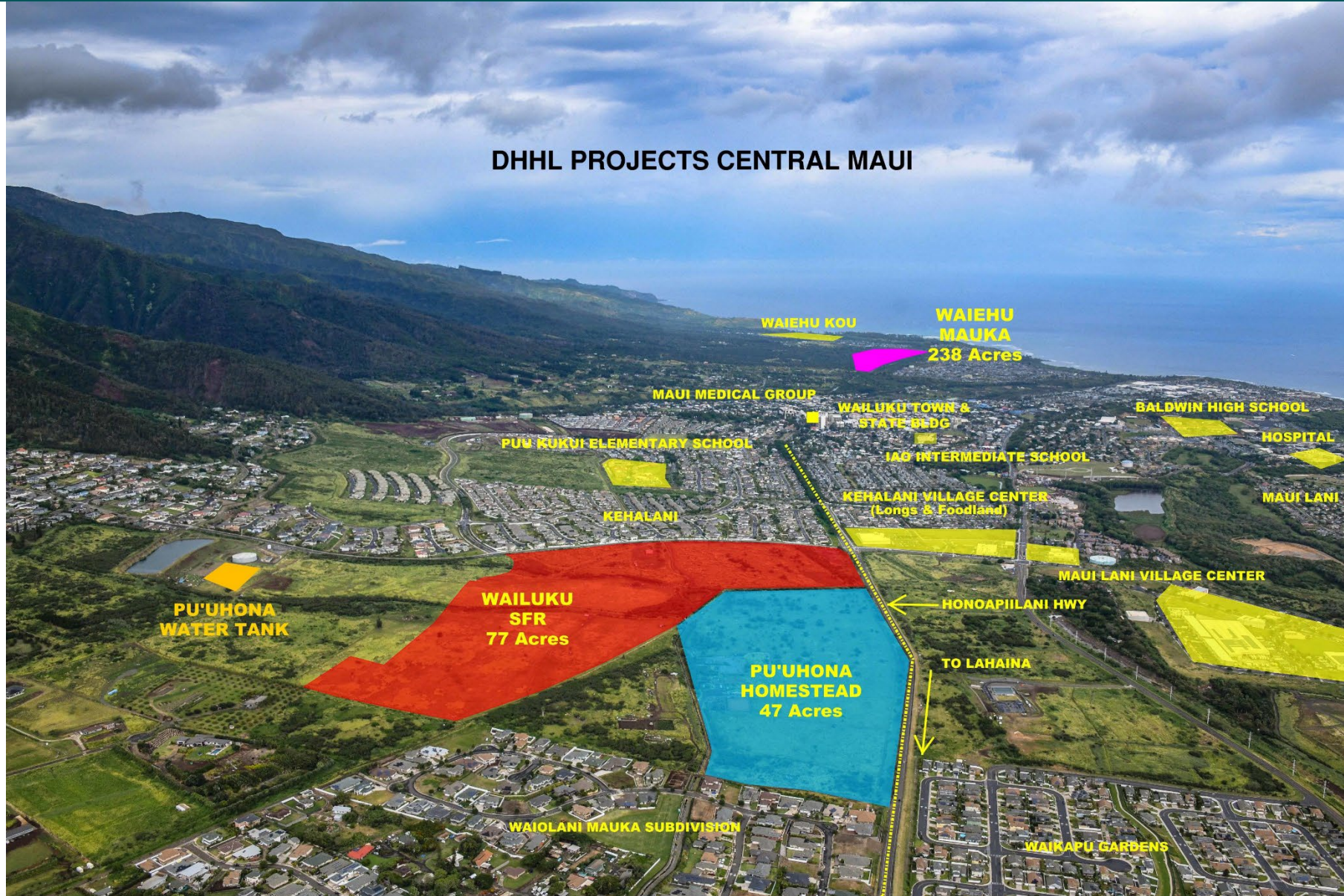


Island of Maui





CENTRAL MAUI





Pu'uhona Homestead

Puuhona.com





Pu'u'hona Homestead

Puuhona.com

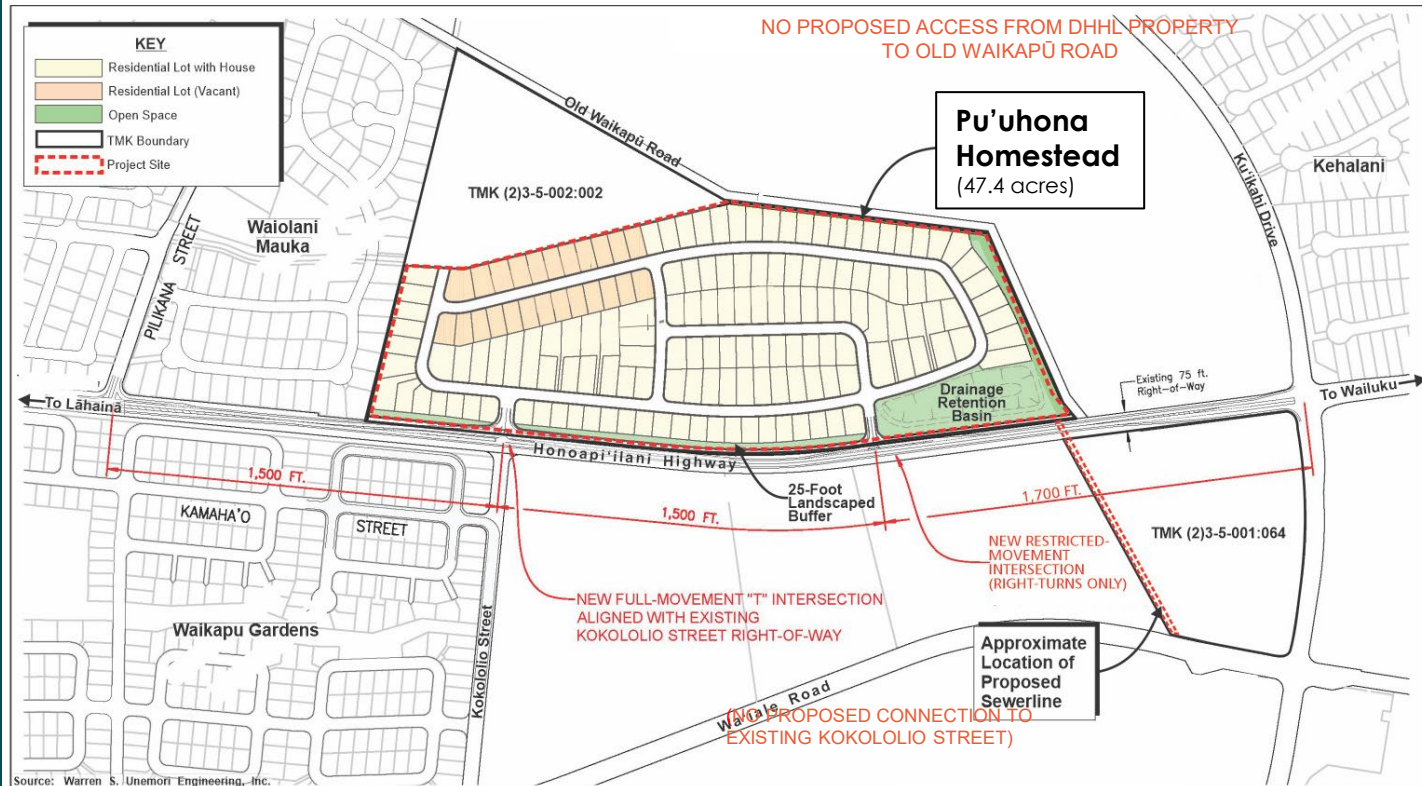


October 7, 2025



Pu'uhona Homestead Timeline

- 161 total residential lots
- Water allocation approved in early 2022
- Sitework Construction cost of \$17.2M from ACT 279, SLH 2022
- Sitework Construction Broke Ground – May 24, 2023
- Awarded 137 residential lots
- Home Construction Started – November 18, 2024
- \$Key turnover: Started in July 2025 with 14. Continuing to deliver 6 to 8 homes per month to awardees thereafter.
- Housing Completion – 4th Quarter 2026





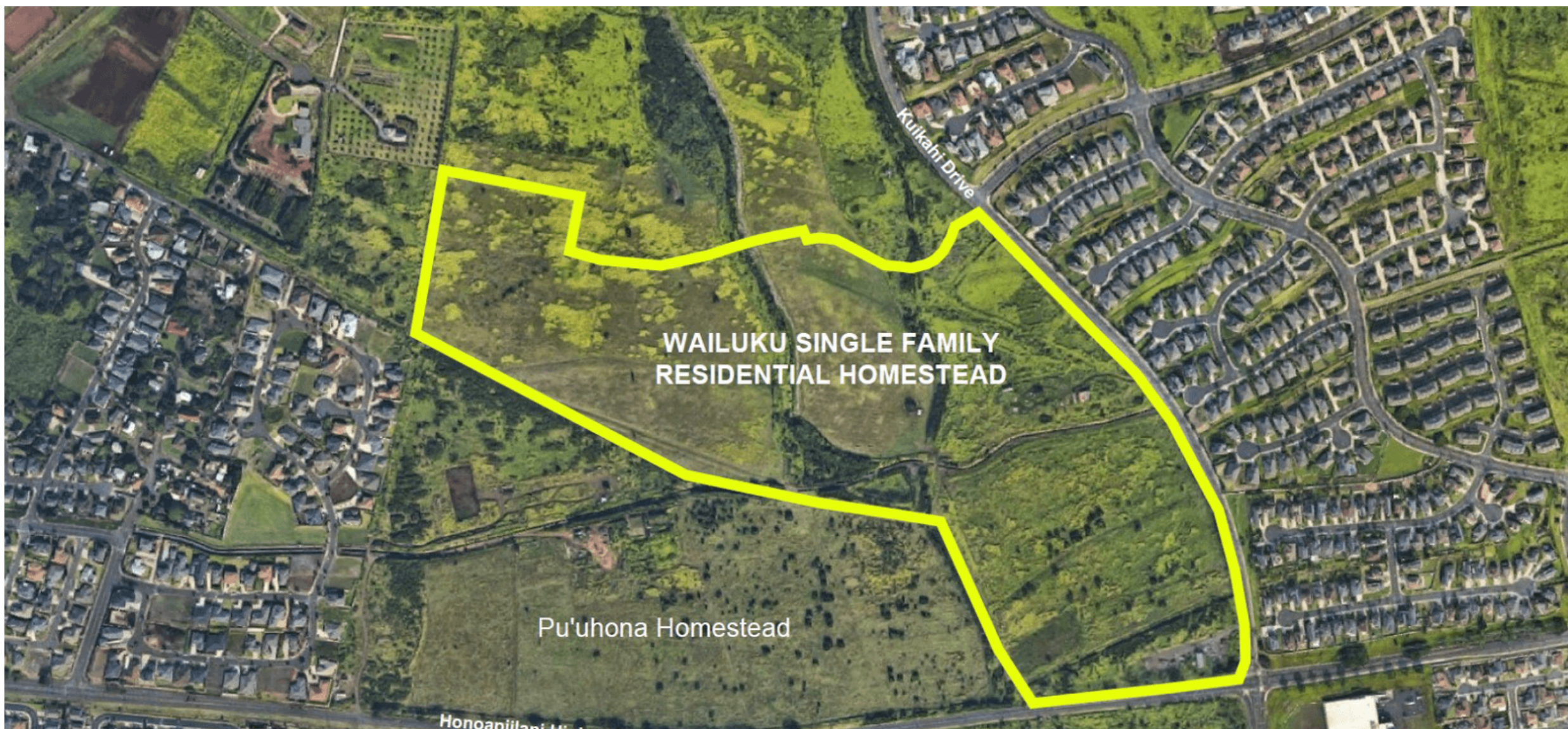
Pu'uhona Homestead Offsite Water Tank



October 7, 2025



Wailuku Single Family Residential



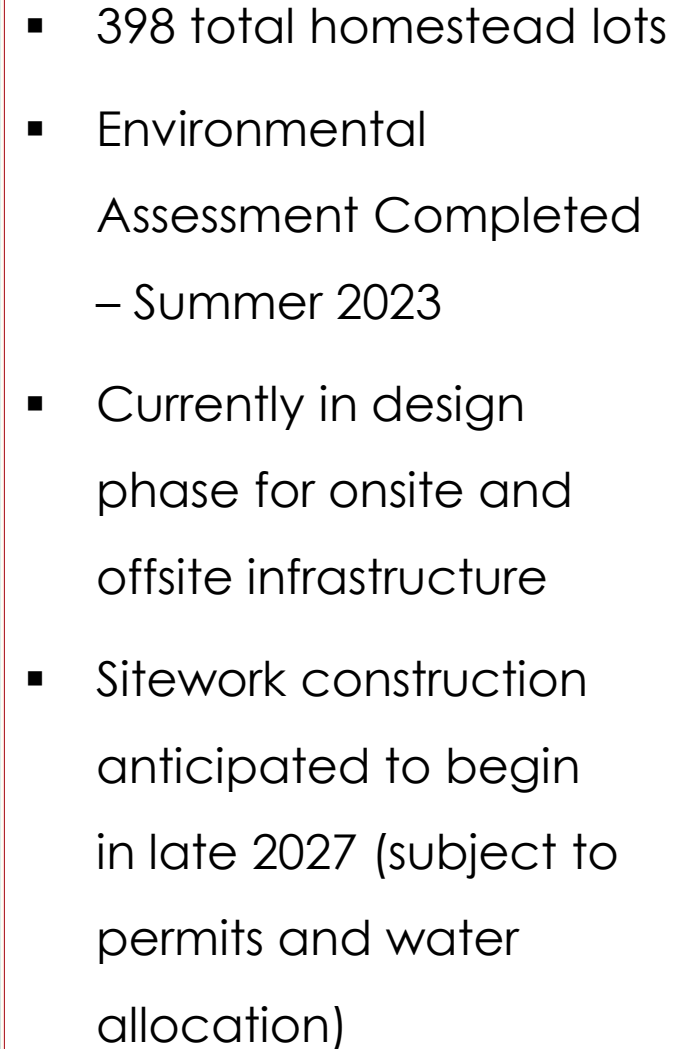


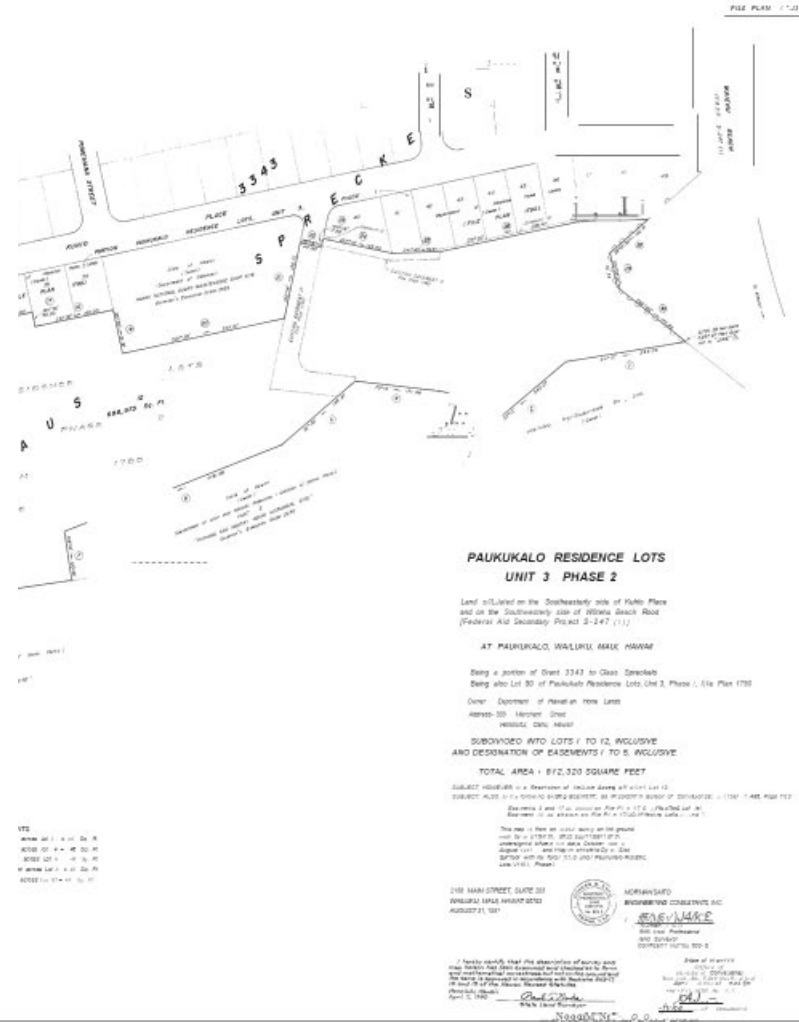
- 204 total residential lots
- Environmental Assessment Completed – Summer 2024
- Sitework construction plans permit submitted January 2025
- Sitework construction scheduled to start in 2026 (subject to permits and water allocation)
- Delivery of first homes is anticipated to begin in 2029



Waiehu Mauka Homestead





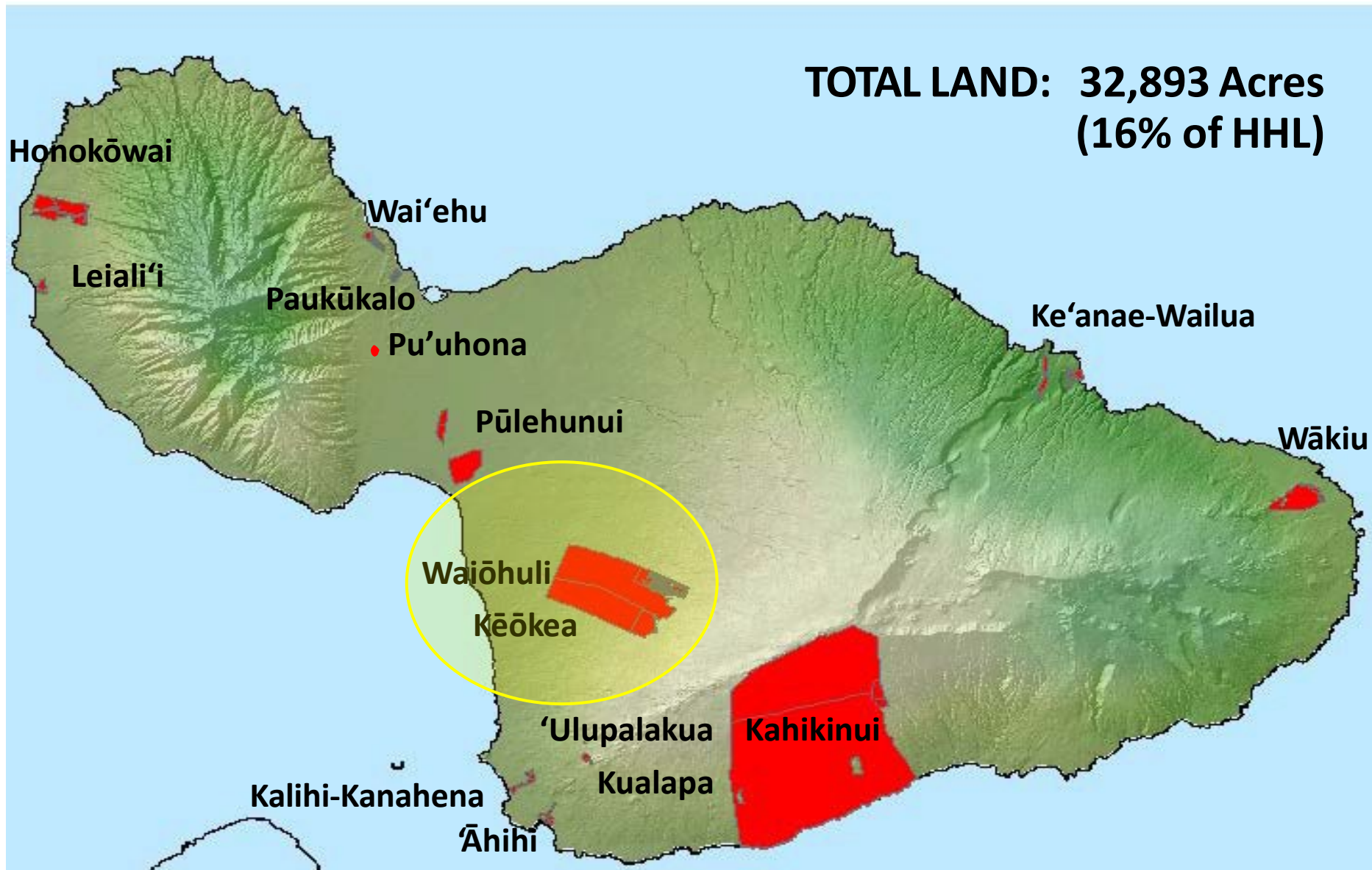


DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS



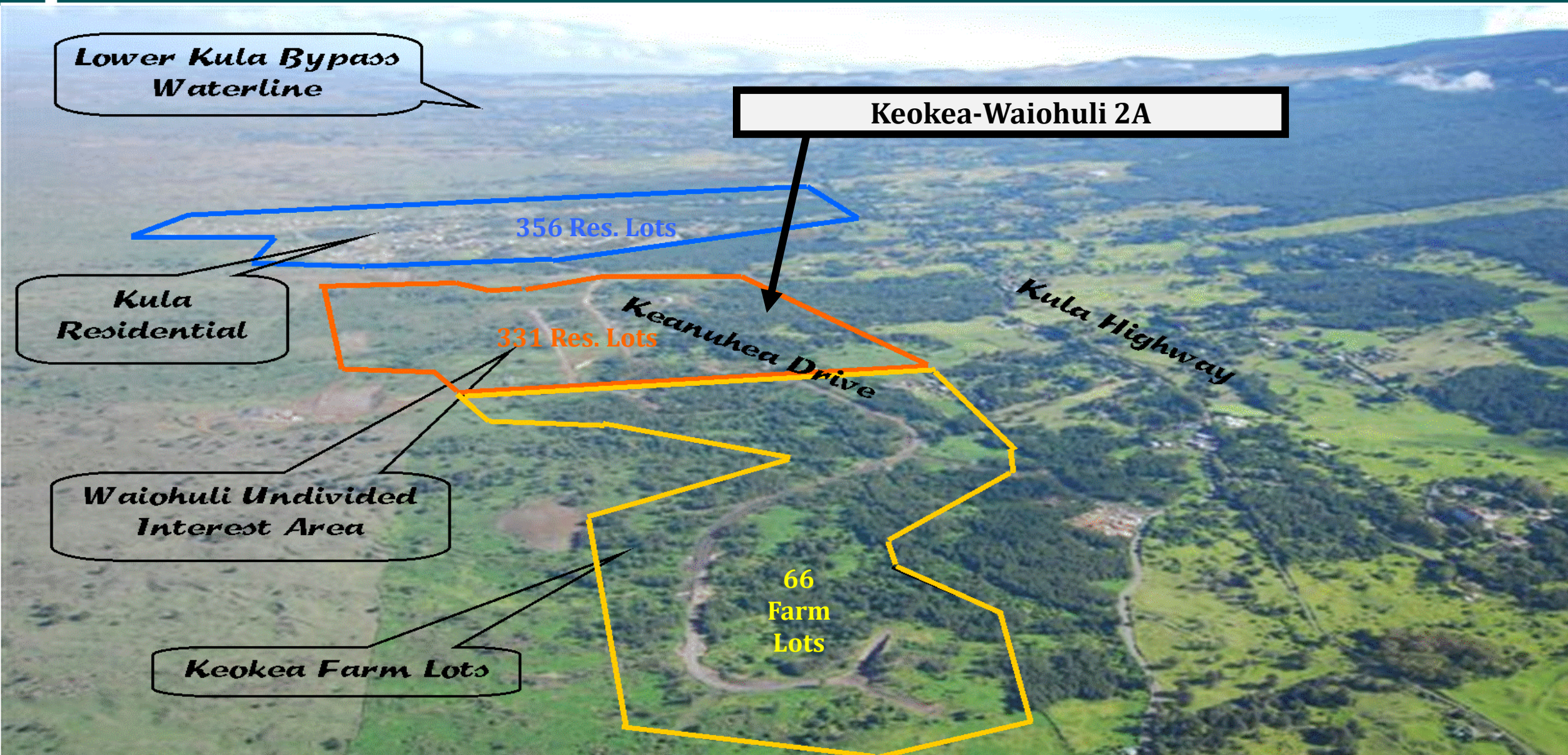


UPCOUNTRY MAUI (Kēōkea, Waiōhuli)



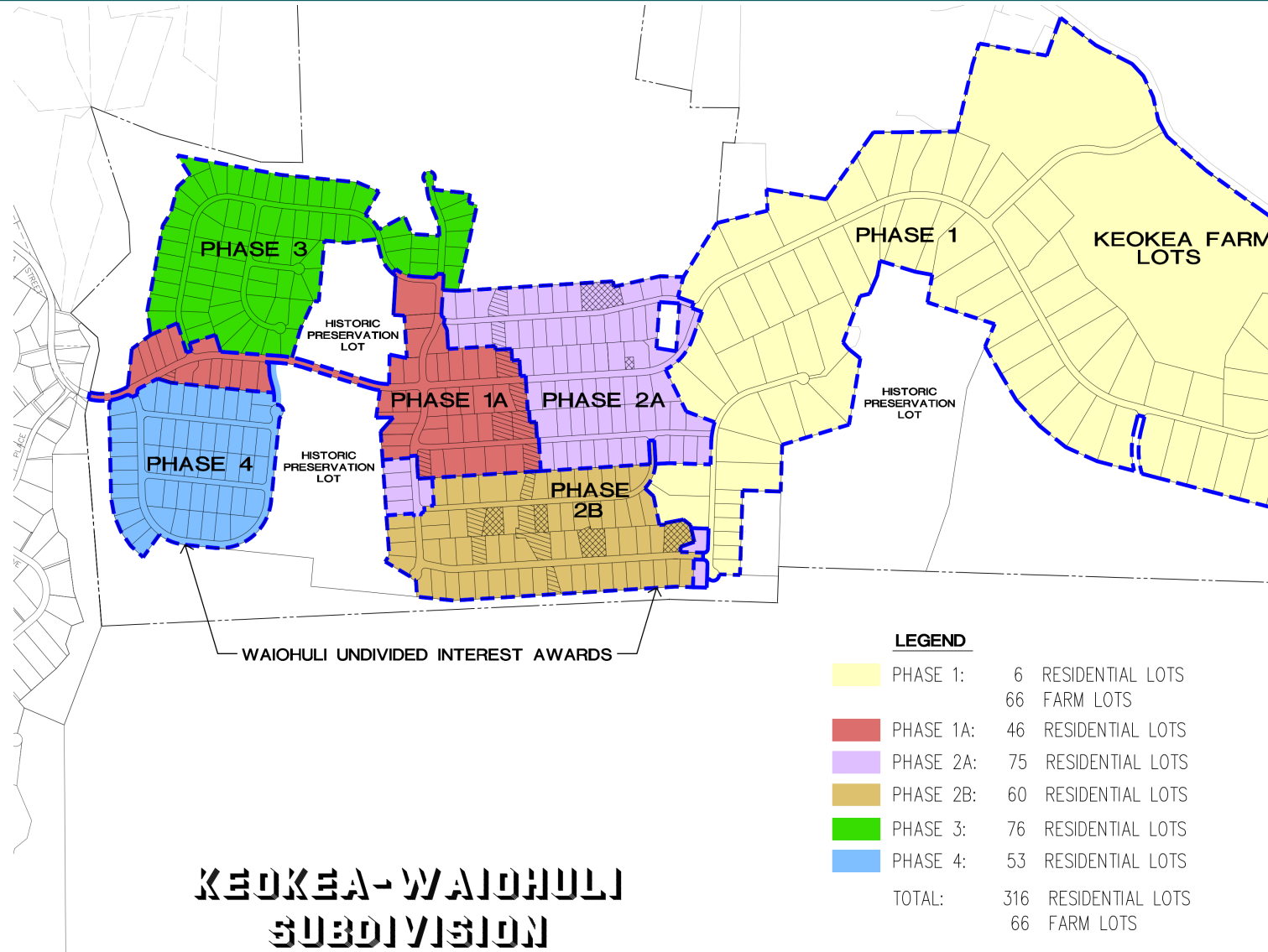


Kula – Waiōhuli - Kēōkea Development



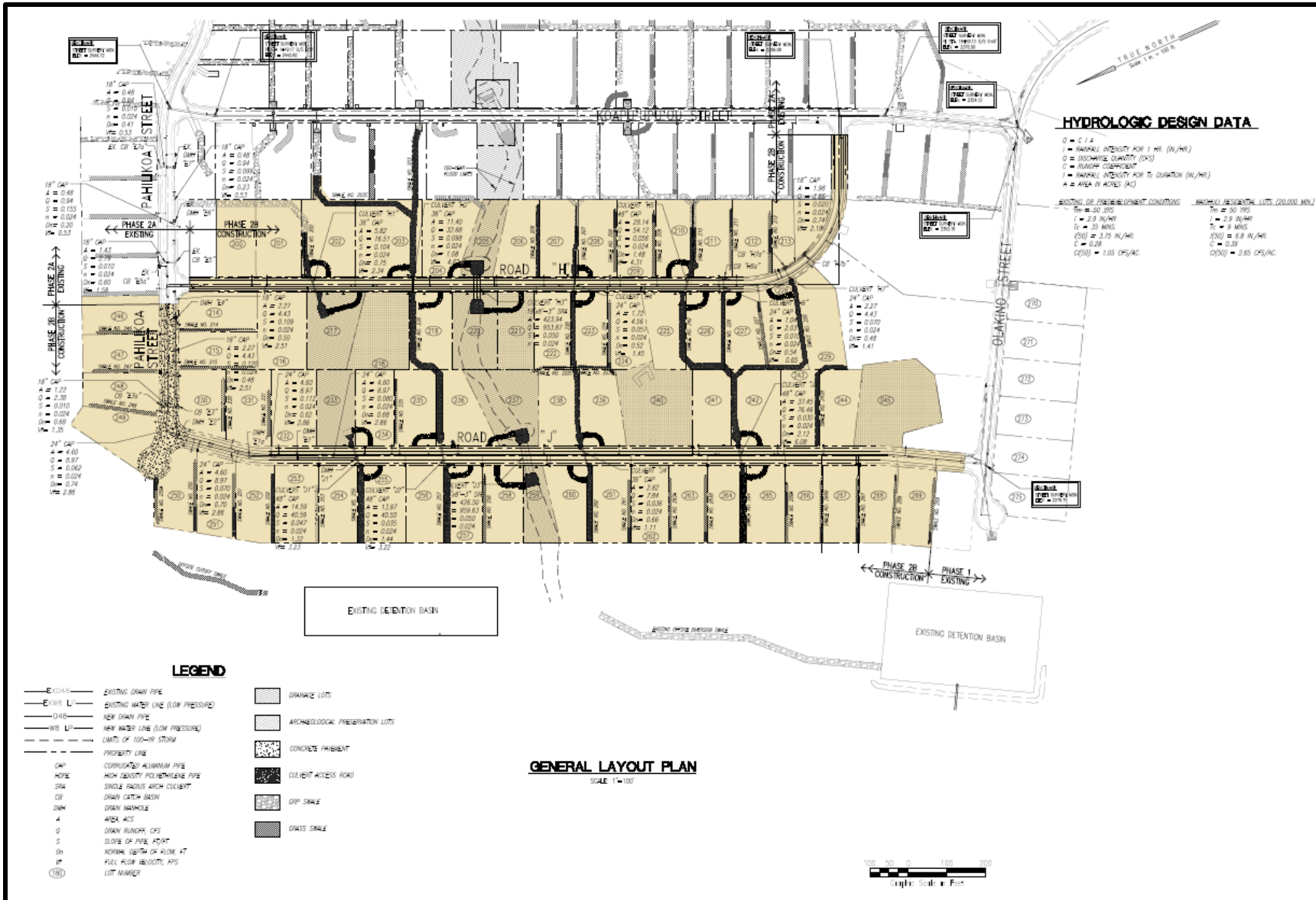


Kēōkea – Waiōhuli Development





Kēōkea – Waiōhuli Development: Phase 2B



- \$16,144,365 Construction Contract awarded to Alpha Inc.
- Construction start in 2026; subject to SHPD and permitting approval
- 60 Residential Lots



Waiohuli Hikina - Project Lease Awards

58 KAUILA AHA ST



17 KEANUHEA ST



343 PUEO DR



296 HIIPALI LOOP



SEPTEMBER 2025:

- Workshop for Maui Scattered Lots
- Awards are being conducted to the Undivided Interest Lessees for Waiohuli

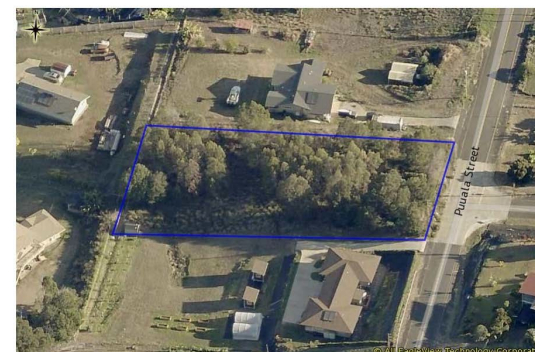
52 AHULUA ST



112 AHULUA ST



41 PUUALA ST

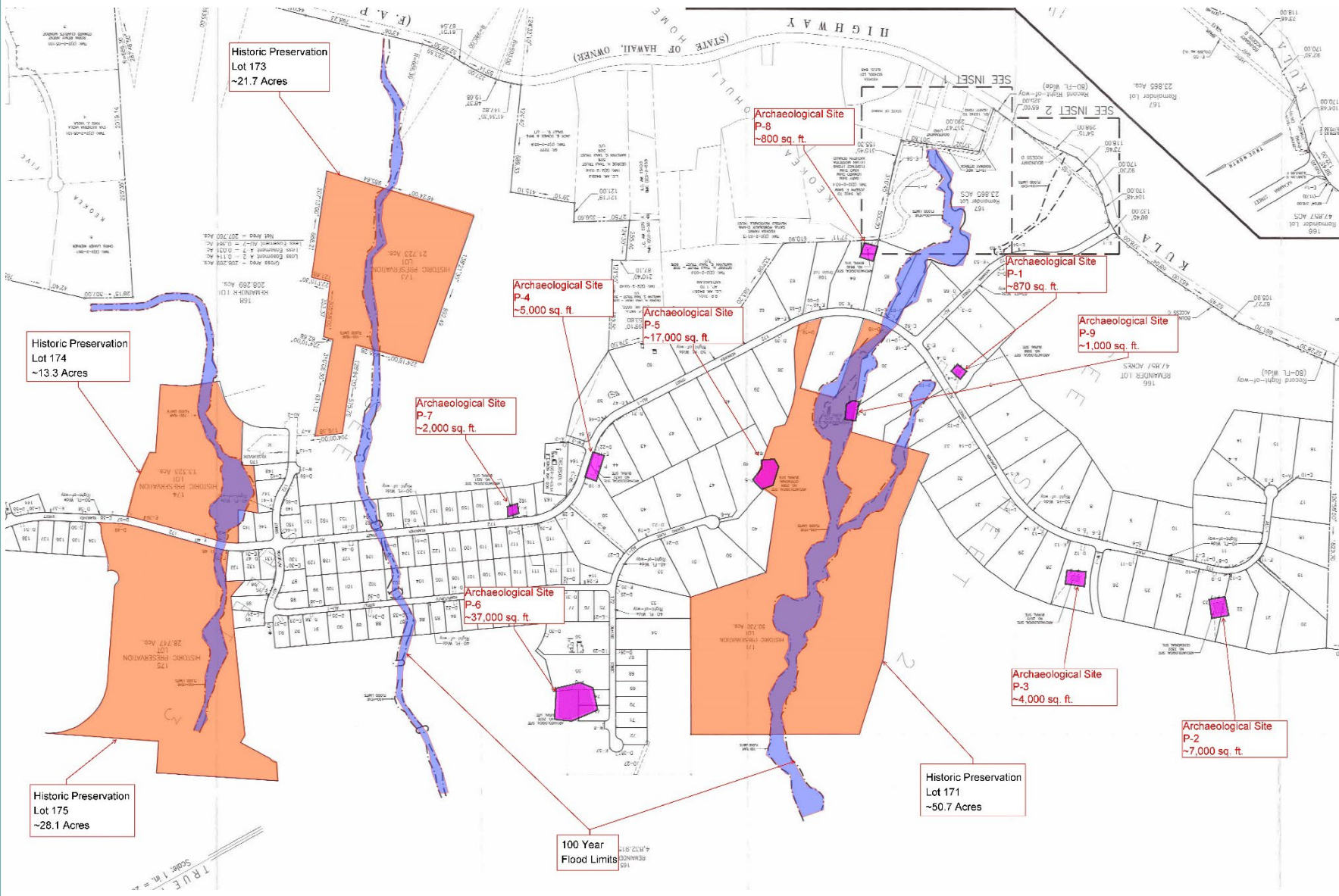


283 KEANUHEA ST





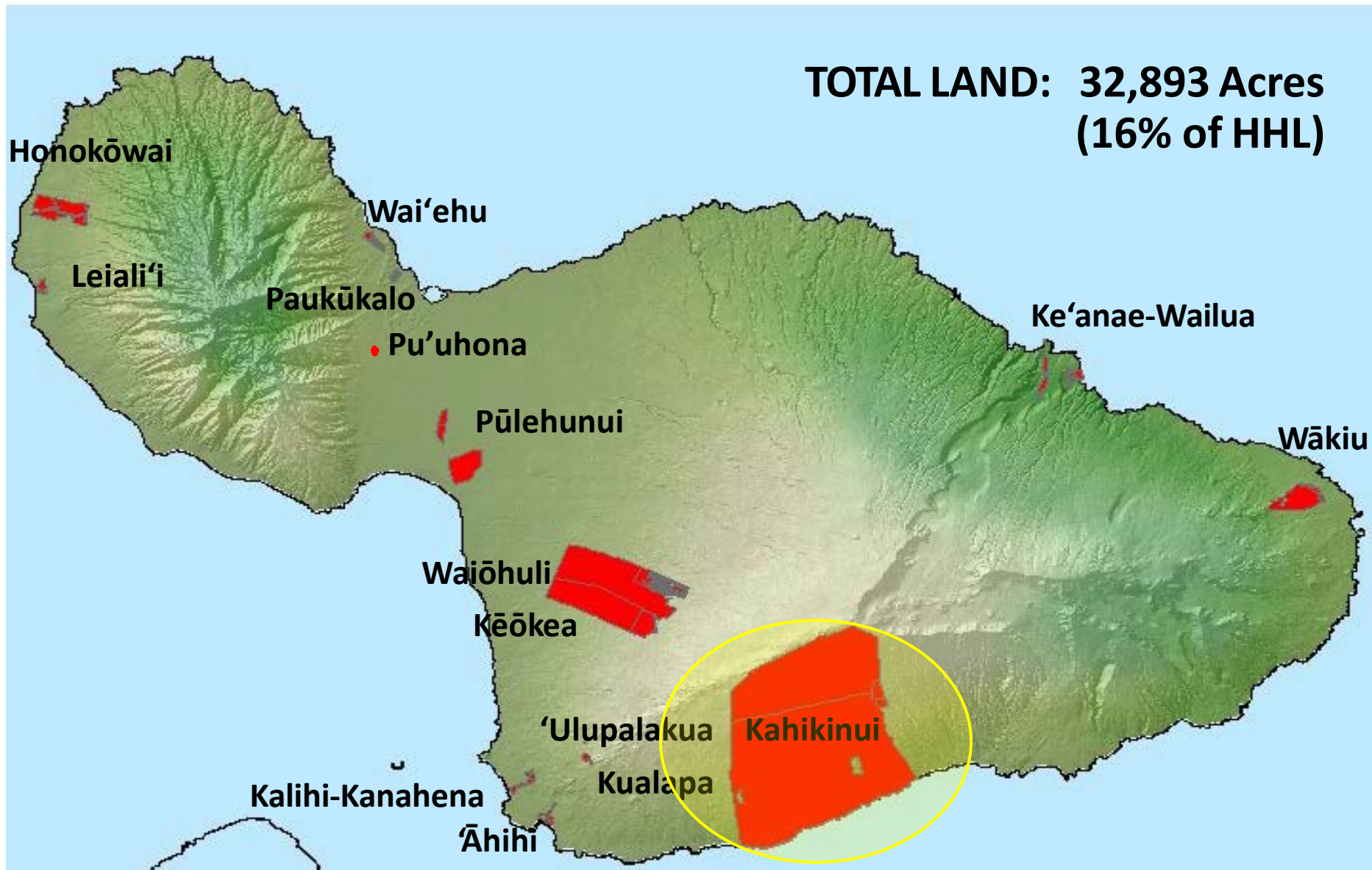
Waiōhuli Archaeological Improvements



- ▶ \$1M contract with Community Planning and Engineering
- ▶ Phase 1 Keokea/Waiohuli Lots with Arch Preserve Easements
- ▶ Phase 2 Historic Preservation Lots
- ▶ Community Collaboration Meetings 2026



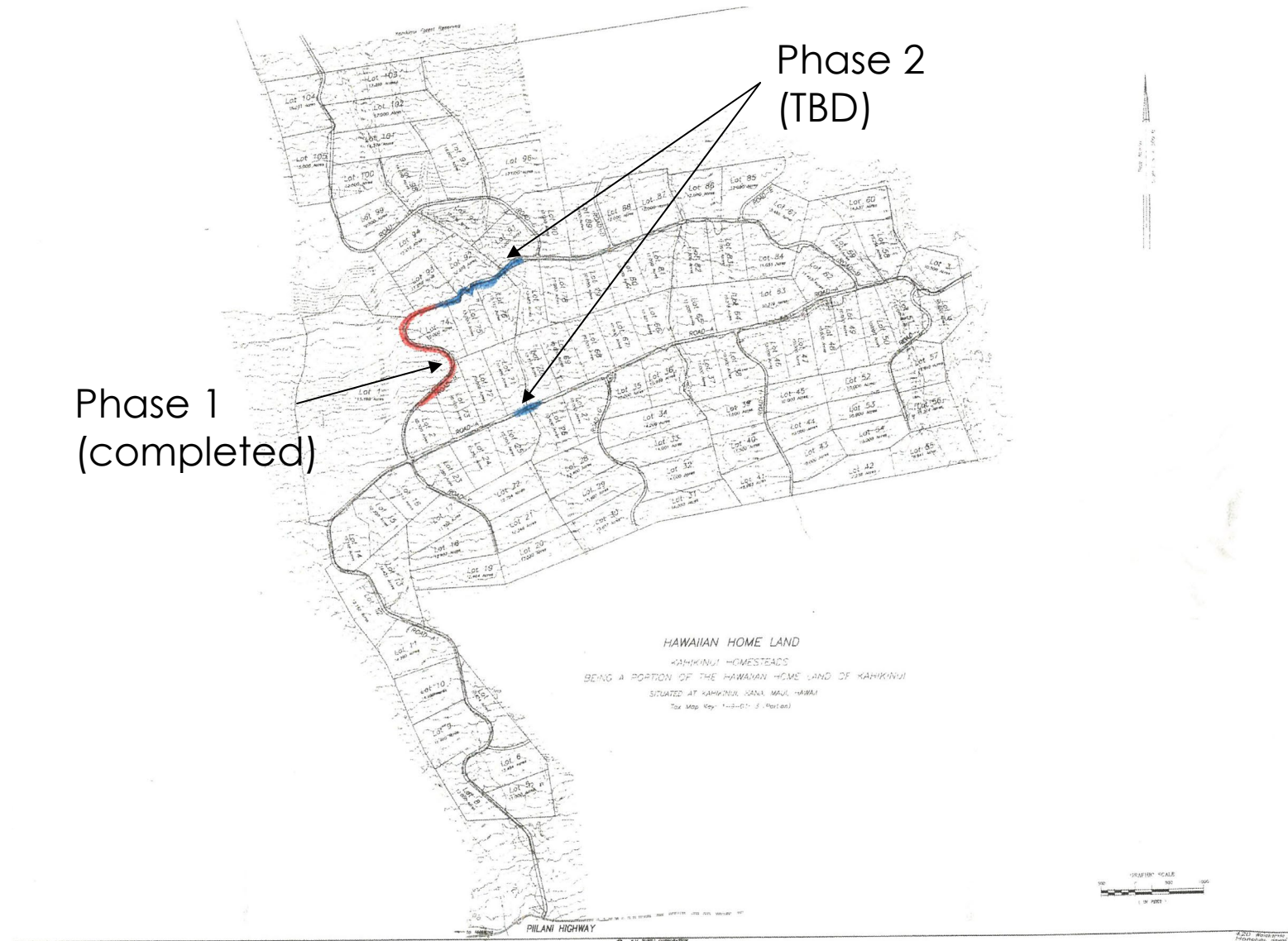
EAST MAUI (Kahikinui)





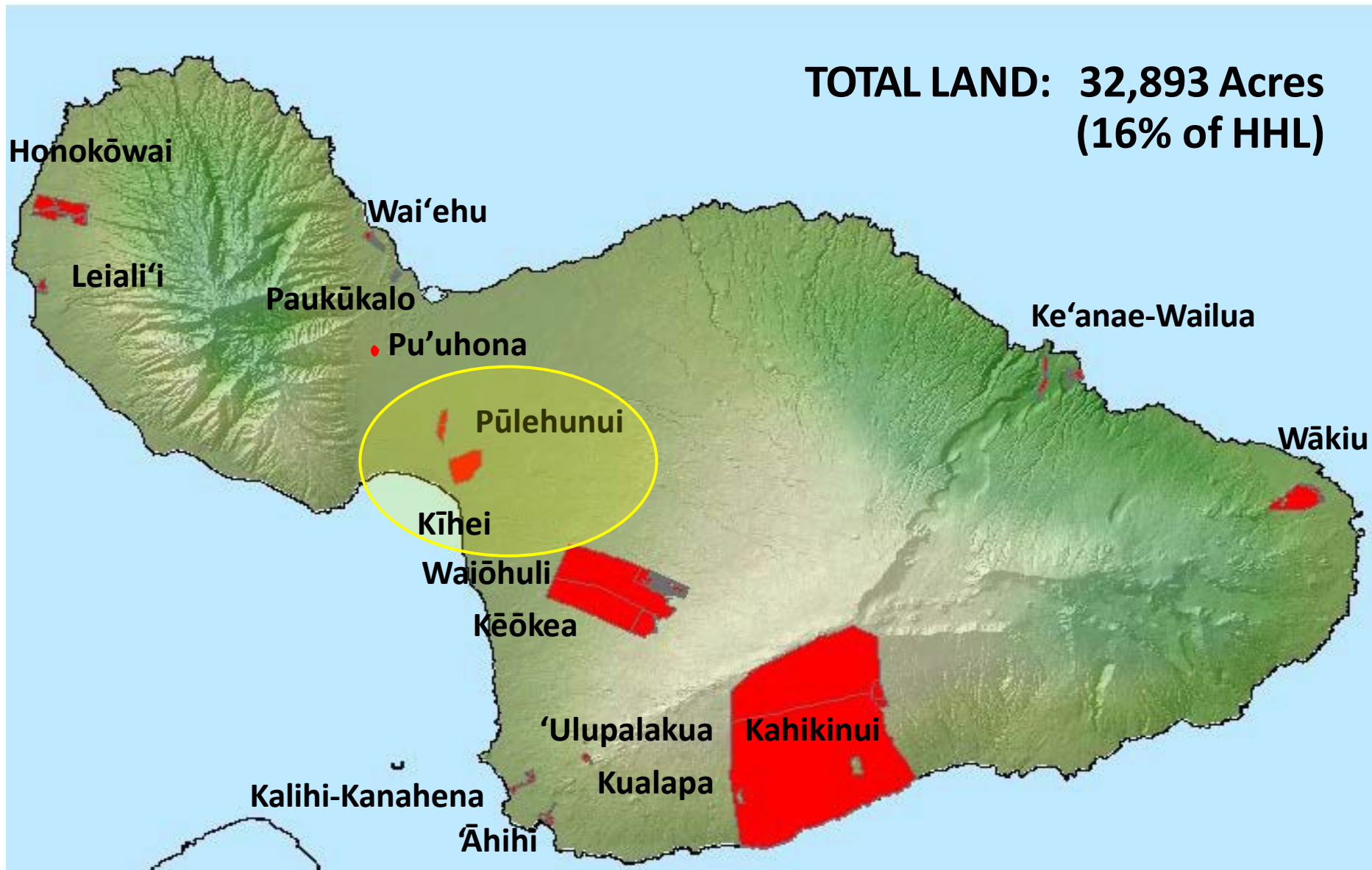
Kahikinui Road Improvements

- Road Improvements, Phase 1
Completed November 2020
- Road Improvements, Phase 2
TBD





SOUTH MAUI (Kīhei)





Pulehunu Regional Infrastructure Master Plan

DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION - REGIONAL WASTEWATER COLLECTION SYSTEM



Figure 1-2:
Aerial Photograph
PŪLEHUNUI REGIONAL
INFRASTRUCTURE MASTER PLAN

LEGISLATIVE CIP:

\$ 4,000,000	PLANNING AND DESIGN
\$17,500,000	CONSTRUCTION
\$ 3,000,000	ADDTL CONSTRUCTION

CONSTRUCTION OF COLLECTOR SYSTEM:

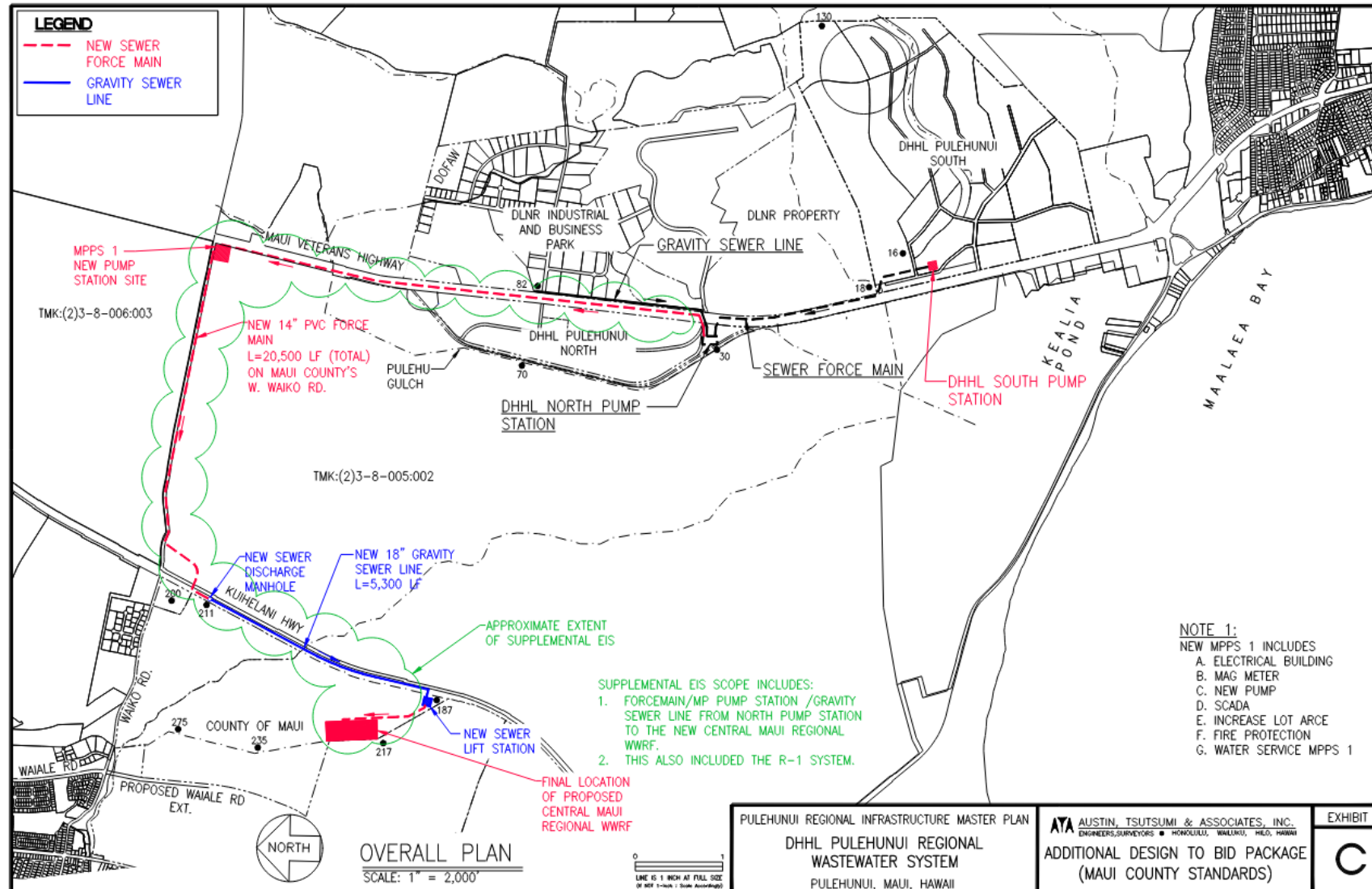
\$12,711,045 ALPHA CONSTRUCTION

- Notice to Proceed subject to approval by County WWRD
- DHHL responsibilities end at the Maui Humane Society

NEW COUNTY OF MAUI CENTRAL MAUI WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY (CMWTF)

- The new facility will accept wastewater from State properties, eliminating the need for a private package plant.
- The County will manage the transmission of wastewater to the facility.
- The County plans to return treated R-1 water to State properties for reuse.
- The Hawaii Community Development Authority is leading efforts to coordinate regional infrastructure development.

Planned Central Maui Sewer Facilities



JOB NO. M-16-576
FILENAME: Z:\2016\16-576\16-576.DWG PROJECT FROM BRYAN\THIS FOLDER ADHERE\REVISED EXHIBITS\COUNTY WWTP MODIFICATIONS-EXHIBIT C.DWG Oct 08, 2025-12:11 PM

REV. 3/1, 2020
REV. OCT. 8, 2025
REV. OCT. 10, 2025
REV. JAN. 5, 2022
REV. OCT. 5, 2021



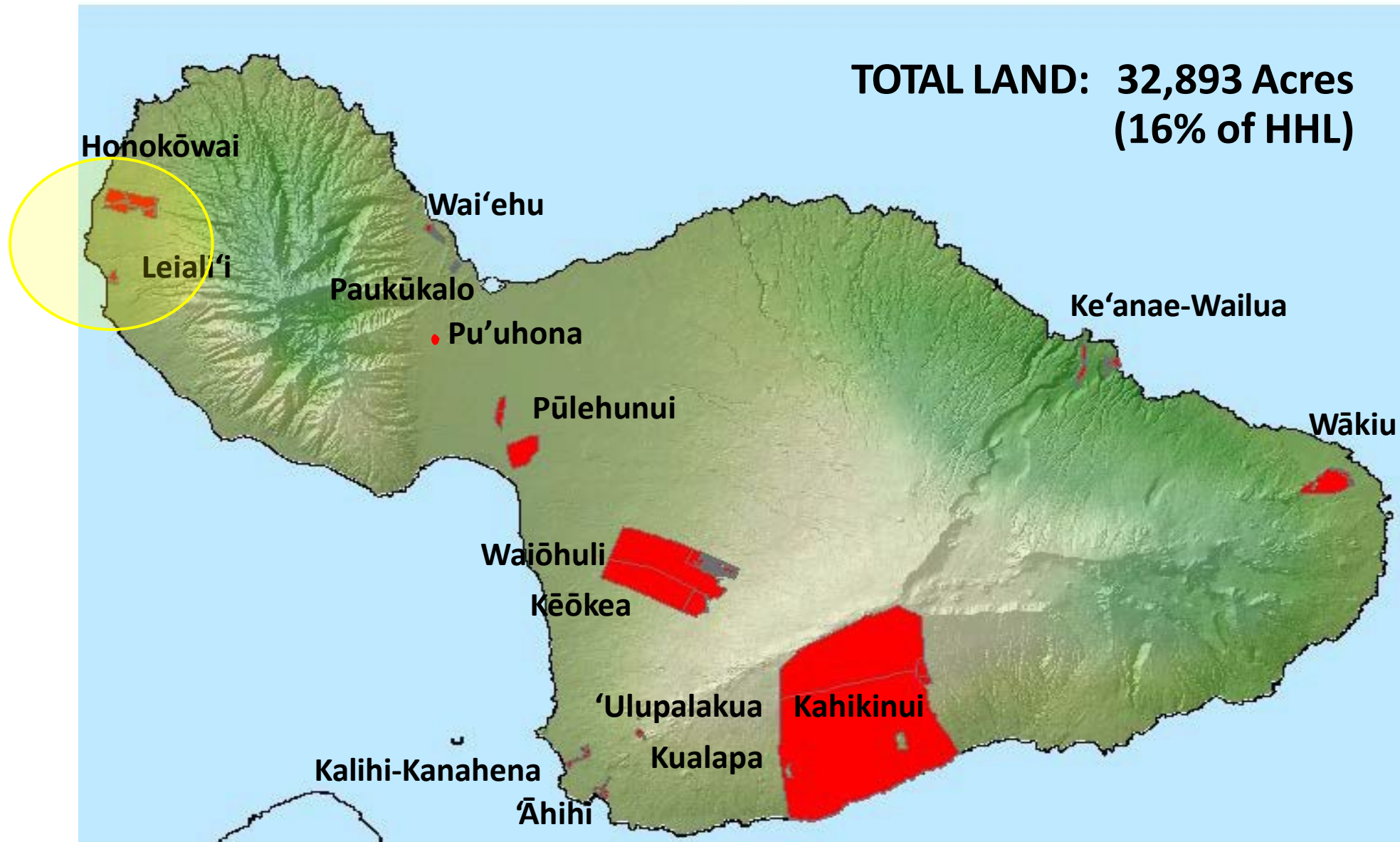
KAMALANI

- ▶ SUBMITTING SUBDIVISION MAP FOR PHASE 1 IN 2026
- ▶ **APPROXIMATE LOT COUNT:** 400
- ▶ **DEVELOPER SELECTED:** GENTRY MAUI DEVELOPMENT, LLC





WEST MAUI (Lahaina, Honokōwai)





Villages of Leiali'i 1-B



Prepared for: State of Hawai'i, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

 MUNEKIYO HIRAGA

Development Agreement

Leialii 1B Subdivision:
\$68M (Act 279)

Leiali'i Parkway and
Honoapi'ilani Highway
Improvements: \$9M
(Capital Improvement
Program)



Villages of Leiali'i 1-B: 155 LOTS TOTAL

Environmental Assessment:

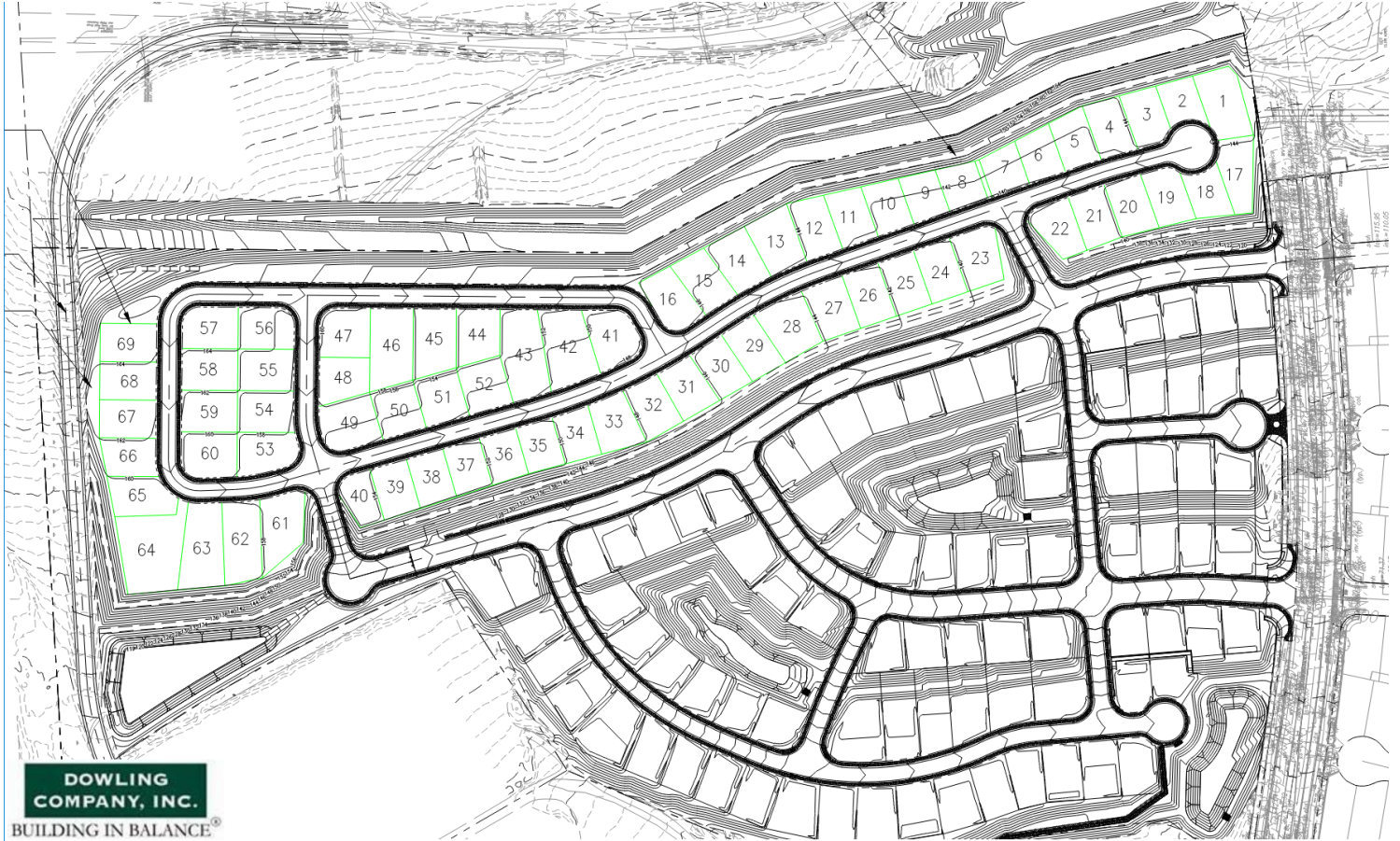
- Completed November 2023

Increment 1:

- 86 Single Family Lots
- Sitework construction anticipated to start mid 2026 (subject to permits)
- Delivery of first homes is anticipated to begin in late 2028 (subject to permits)

Increment 2:

- 69 Single Family Lots
- Subject to funding





Honokōwai Water System

Proposed 0.5 MG
Mixing Tank

Honokowai
Agricultural Lots

12" Water Transmission
Line from Well Site to
Mixing Tank

Development Agreement

- \$15M (Act 279)
- Drinking water well
- 8,000 feet of piping, control tank, control building
- Connection to County mixing tank

Proposed Lahaina By-pass

Proposed 0.5 MG
Reservoir

Villages of Leialī



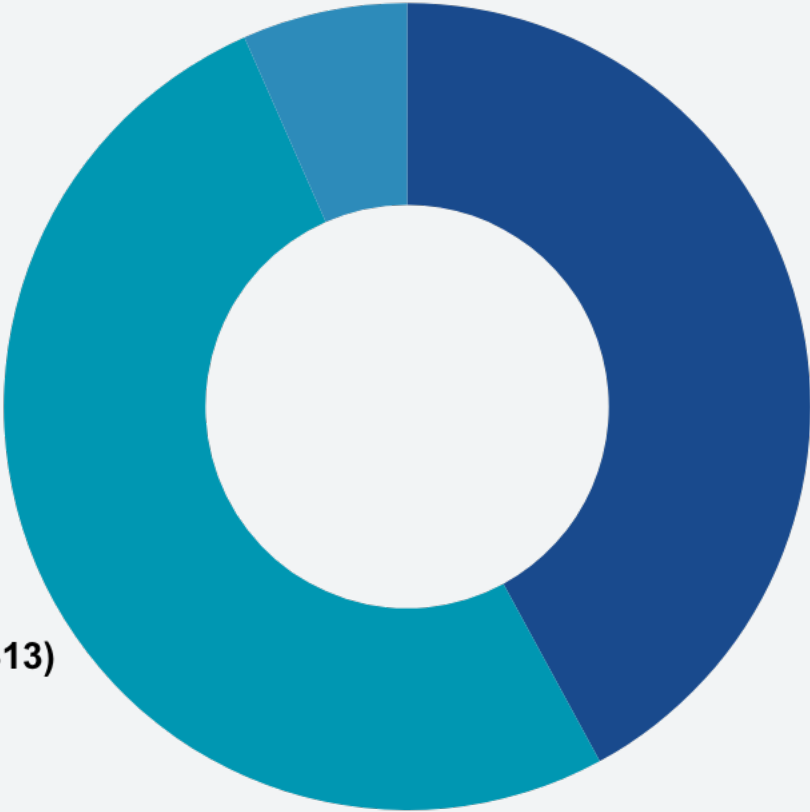
October 2025 - Hawaiian Homes Commission Meeting

DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS
WAIOHULI WELLS
INFORMATIONAL



MAUI WAITLIST

PASTORAL (620)
6.6%



RESIDENTIAL (3947)
42.1%

AGRICULTURAL (4813)
51.3%

AVERAGE WAITLIST AGE

59 YEARS OLD

TOTAL WAITLIST

9,380



WAIOHULI WELLS - BENEFICIARY NEEDS



Water Limitations:

The current water supply is limited and tied to existing systems.

Current DHHL Development:

Without new water sources, projects may face delays or remain unbuilt.

Future DHHL Projects:

Future DHHL housing on Maui cannot proceed without securing additional water.



WAIOHULI WELLS - PROJECT OVERVIEW



Proposed development of three wells and a water transmission system in Upcountry Maui.

This critical water infrastructure will not only secure DHHL's long-term water access but also **directly support the development of over a thousand homestead lots for native Hawaiian families now**, instead of waiting for additional water to become available. The system is expected to generate **advanced water credits**, which will unlock the ability to provide:

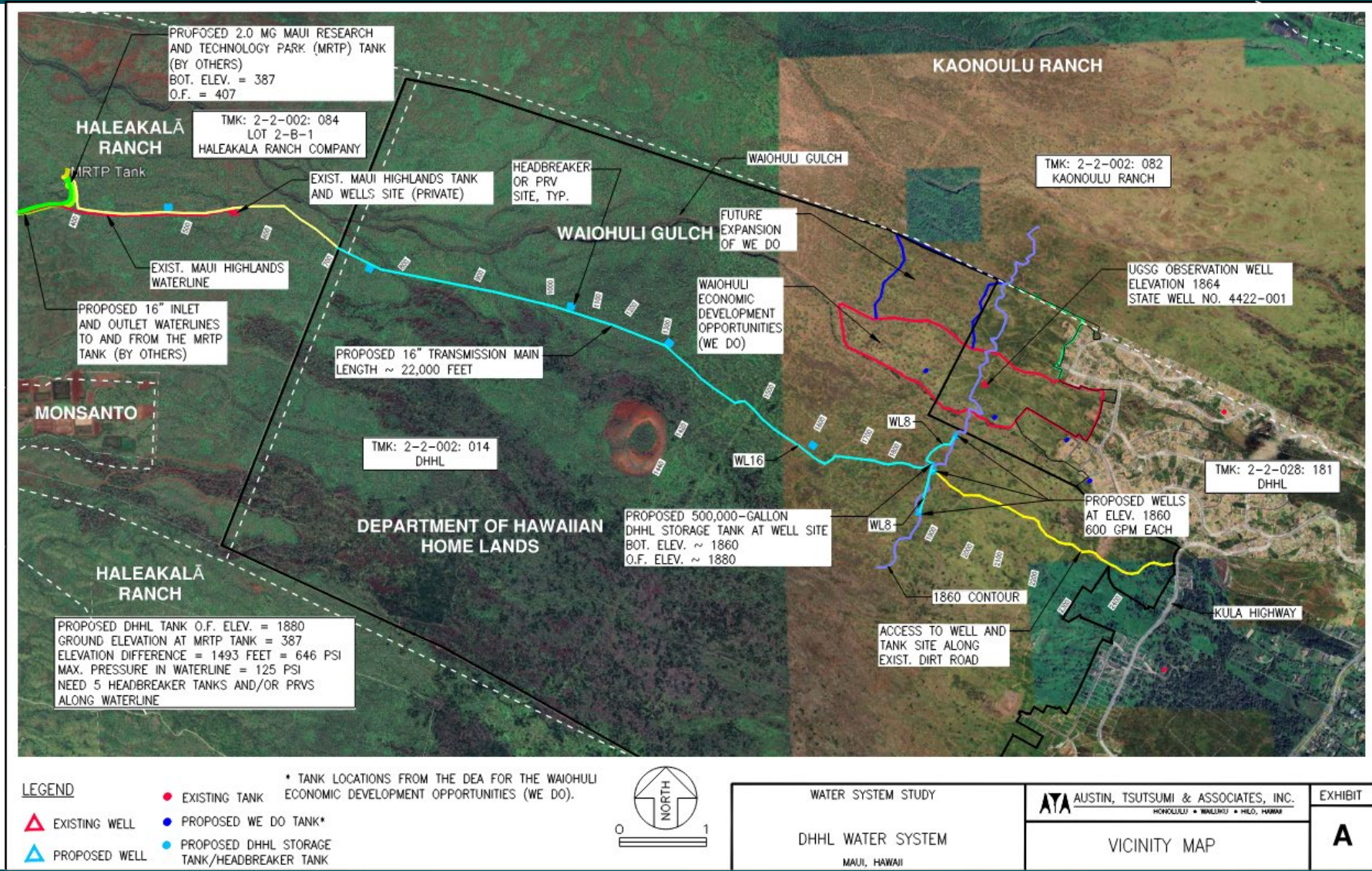
- Support to the Waiohuli Economic Development Opportunity area
- **950** single-family residential lots in Waiehu Mauka, Wailuku, and Kamalani
- **55** agricultural lots to support 'ohana farming and self-sufficiency
- Additional future lots in all of Pulehunui and surrounding areas

In total, this system could serve an estimated **2,880** residential units for Hawaiian Home Land beneficiaries.

WAIIOHULI WELLS - LOCATION MAP



WAIOHULI WELLS - VICINITY MAP



WAIOHULI WELLS - PROJECT PURPOSE



Faster Housing Development:

These water credits enable DHHL to begin home construction sooner by removing one of the biggest development hurdles, water availability.



Supports Economic Opportunities:

The wells will enable various uses in the Waiohuli Economic Development Opportunity area, creating new avenues for local business, farming, and community investment.



Strengthens Water Sovereignty:

Developing our own water sources protects DHHL from reliance on private systems and affirms our ability to steward Hawaiian lands for Hawaiian people.



Future Generations:

This system lays the foundation for long-term homestead expansion and sustainability.

DRAFT MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH MAUI DWS



ESTIMATED OPERATING
CAPACITY

1,728,000 GPD

FOR ALL 3 WELLS

WHO
BENEFITS?

DHHL

NOT GENERAL PUBLIC

SOURCE
CREDITS TO DHHL

1,728,000 GPD

COMPLETION OF WELLS

ADVANCED WATER
CREDITS

39.5%

OF DHHL NEED

AGREEMENT WITH DWS MAUI



TRANSMISSION LINES

The agreement will allow DHHL to use existing transmission lines to supply water for developments in Central, South, and Upcountry Maui.



ADVANCED WATER CREDITS

The agreement will provide advanced water credits for DHHL to begin future homestead projects now.



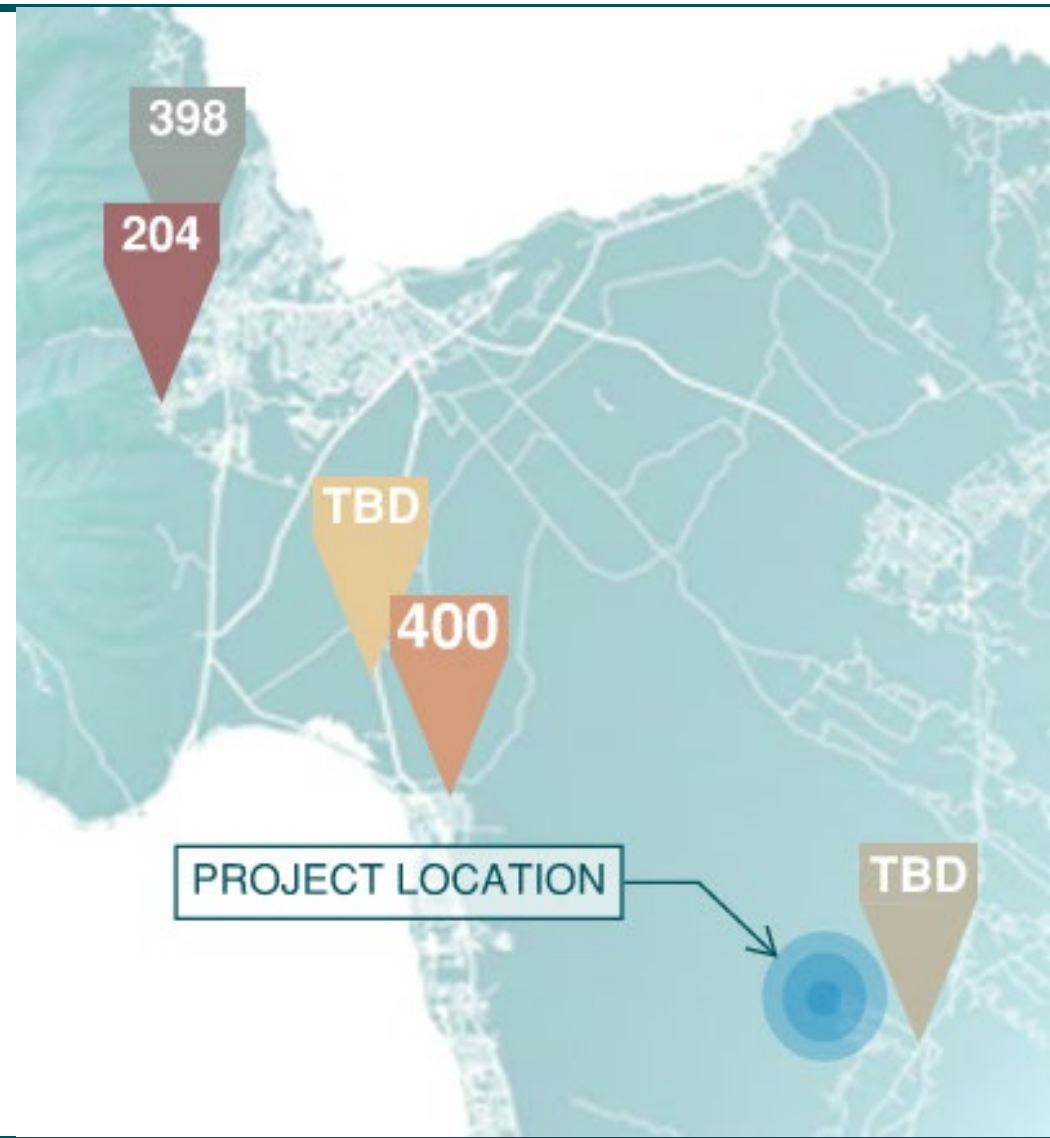
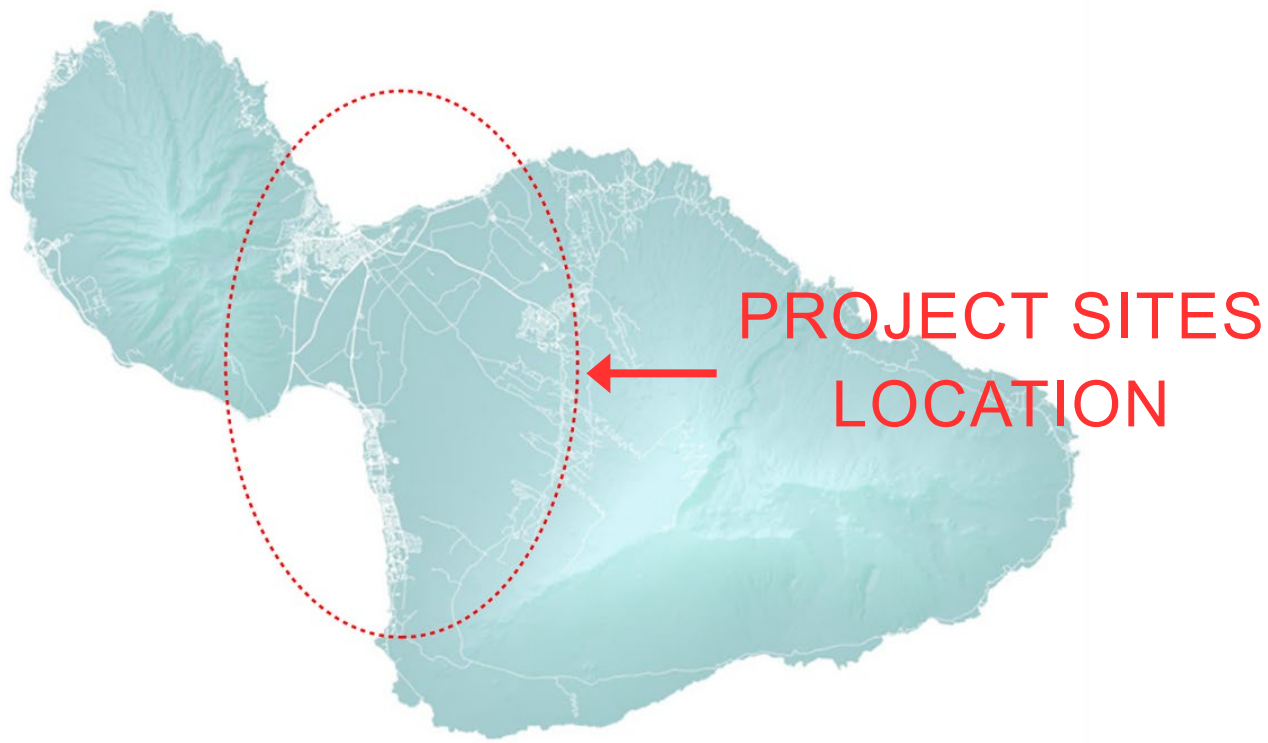
OPERATING COSTS

The agreement will save DHHL on operating costs that would otherwise cost the department millions of dollars a year.

WAIOHULI WELLS - PROJECT BENEFIT (NOW)



RES:	AG:	FUTURE PROJECTS:
TBD		WAIOHULI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
400		KAMALANI
TBD		PULEHUNUI
204		WAILUKU SINGLE FAMILY
343	55	WAIEHU MAUKA

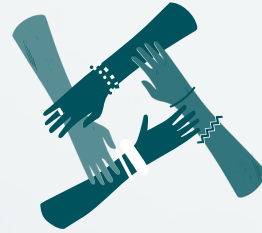


RESPECTING LAND AND CULTURE



ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

The Proposed Water Agreement accounts for DHHL's requirement to comply with HRS Chapter 343.



HISTORIC SITES COMPLIANCE

The Proposed Water Agreement accounts for DHHL's requirement to comply with HRS Chapter 6E.



KA PA'AKAI FRAMEWORK

The Proposed Water Agreement accounts for DHHL's requirement to comply with Article 12, Section 7.

CURRENT WORK BEING DONE



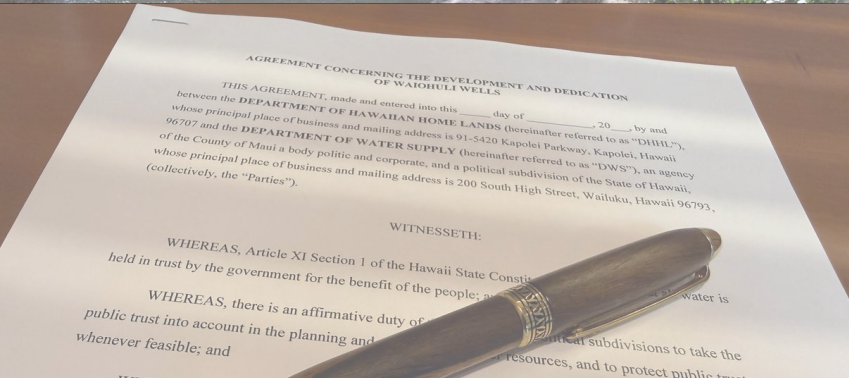
TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY (PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING)

AUSTIN TSUTSUMI & ASSOCIATES (ATA) HAS BEEN CONTRACTED TO PERFORM TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY WORK ON THE POTENTIAL WELL SITE LOCATIONS AND TRANSMISSION LINE. THEY ARE IN THE PLANNING AND DESIGN PHASE AND ARE FINALIZING A REPORT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS.



HYDROLOGY REPORT

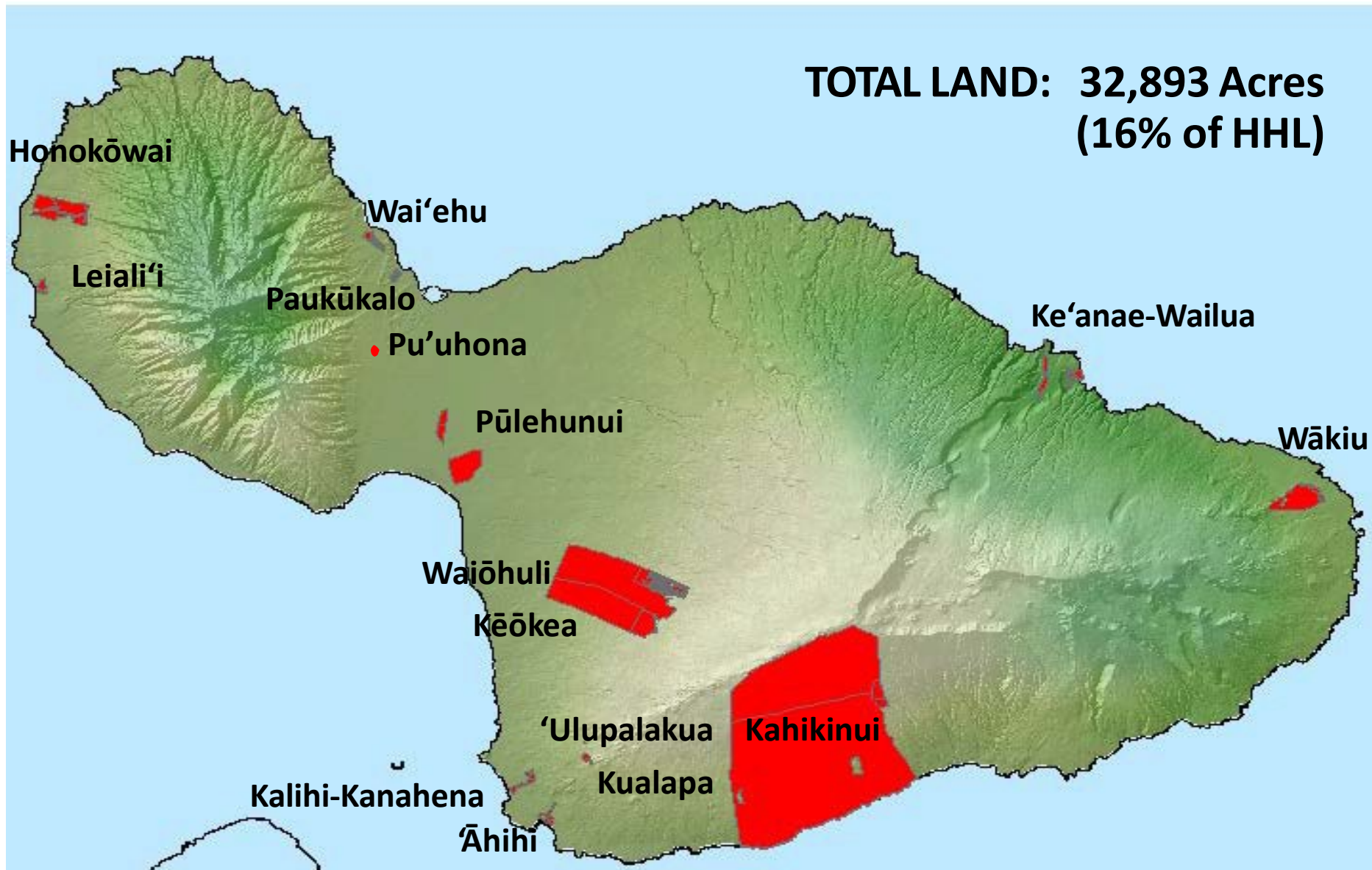
THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS (DHHL) IS IN THE PROCESS OF CONTRACTING CONSULTANTS TO CONDUCT HYDROLOGY STUDIES FOR THE PROPOSED WELL SITES. THE DRAFT MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) IDENTIFIES TOM NANCE WATER RESOURCE ENGINEERING AS THE FIRM RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WELL DESIGN, AND INTERA INCORPORATED AS THE FIRM RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARING THE HYDROLOGY REPORT.



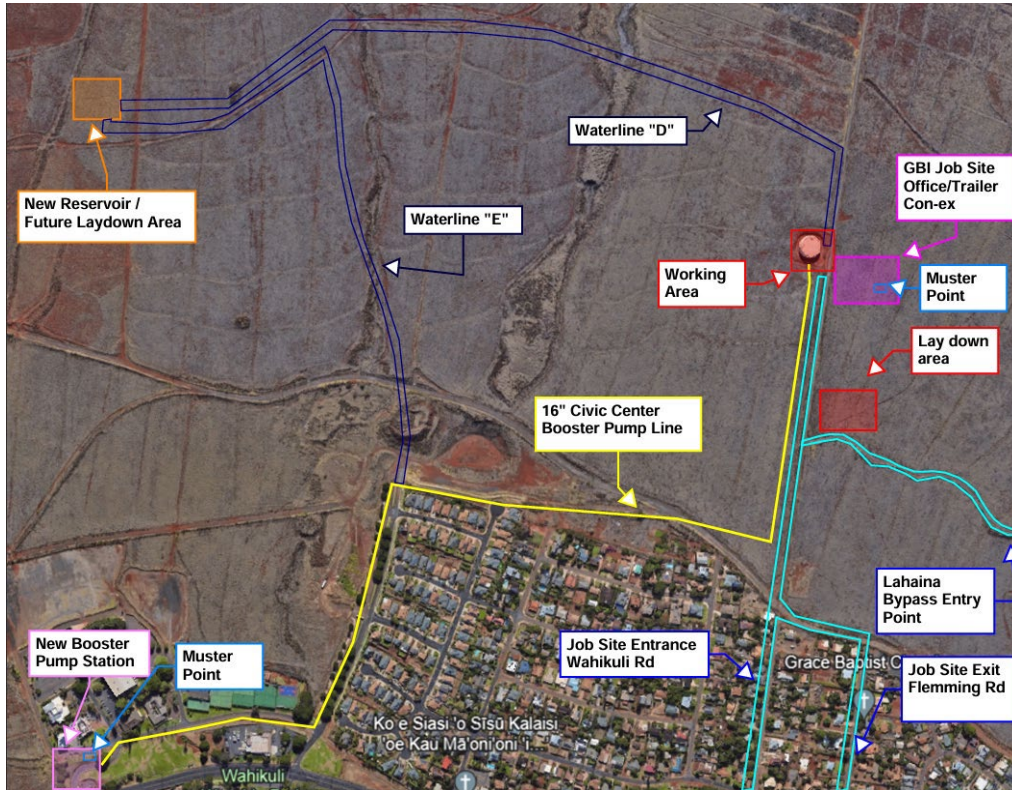
WELL DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH DWS MAUI

PREPARE THE WELL DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN DHHL AND DWS. THE AGREEMENT OUTLINES THE ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND COMMITMENTS OF EACH PARTY IN DEVELOPING, MANAGING, AND MAINTAINING THE WAIHOHULI WELLS. IT ALSO DEFINES HOW WATER RESOURCES WILL BE ALLOCATED, HOW COSTS WILL BE SHARED, AND ENSURES COMPLIANCE WITH ALL REGULATORY AND ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS.

DELIVERING RESULTS FOR MAUI: SUCCESS IN 2025



DELIVERING RESULTS FOR MAUI: SUCCESS IN 2025



NEW MONIES:

- \$22M from County of Maui towards shared infrastructure in West Maui (improving Water System from Civic Center through Leialii Parkway to above Leialii 1A.

FIRST KEY TO BE TURNED OVER:

- This year, we proudly turned over the first key to Aunty Mapuana Riley and her 'ohana — the first family to benefit from the \$600 million Act 279 funding — supported by \$22 million from the County of Maui for shared infrastructure in West Maui, marking a historic step in returning Native Hawaiian families to their lands.





DELIVERING RESULTS FOR MAUI: SUCCESS IN 2025

MAUI RESIDENTIAL: Pu'uhona

APRIL 2025:

- Awarding of 91 Maui residential lots at Pu'uhona.

MAUI AGRICULTURE: Honokowai & Waiehu Mauka

SEPTEMBER 2025:

- Awarded of 105 Maui Subsistence Agriculture Project Leases.

MAUI RESIDENTIAL: Scattered Lots

OCTOBER 2025:

- Awarding of 9 Maui Residential Leases for Scattered Lots on Maui located at Waiohuli, Hikina, and Paukūkalo.

MAUI RESIDENTIAL: Central, South, and West Maui

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2025:

- Awarding of 1,131 Maui Residential Project Leases for Leiali'i, Waiehu Mauka, Wailuku Single Family, Kamalani.



Mahalo



DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

dhh1.hawaii.gov



HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION • DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

**Declare a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Waianae Coast
Comprehensive Health Center 'Elepaio Food Campus Master Plan, Wai'anae,
Oahu TMK No. (1)- 8-6-001:012, 024, 025, 026, 027, 028 (por.)**

**Item G-1
Hawaiian Homes Commission**

Oct 20-21, 2025



HHC Role

- Under HRS Chapter 343, the HHC is the accepting entity, the kuleana of the **HHC is to issue a determination or a finding** of whether the proposed action will have a significant impact based on the 13 significance criteria or a FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI).
- It is my kuleana as staff to **oversee the preparation of this document**, technical studies, and bring this project to the HHC for information and ultimately for a determination.
- It is your kuleana as Commissioners to **question the quality of the document** and the quality of the work to ensure that the final product is truly in compliance with the HRS.
- As staff, **we invite your questions, critiques and concerns**. It is a necessary check & balance in this process.



PROJECT SITE

FINAL Environmental Assessment (FEA)

- Proposed Action: The proposed Food Campus will physically expand 'Elepaio current food storage and distribution network, grow food for security and sustainability, provide a community center that can shelter residents during emergencies, and offer training for future job opportunities.
- Location: TMK No. (1)- 8-6-001:012, 024, 025, 026, 027, 028 (por.)
- Prepared to **comply with HRS Chapter 343** and Ka Pa'akai Framework Analysis
- Briefing to the **HHC for information only – June 2025**
- Publication of **Draft EA in the June 8th, 2025 Issue of the Environmental Notice** with a 30-day comment period
- **HHC determination on Final EA & publishing in the next issue of the Environmental Notice** based on the decision today



HEPA Significance Criteria

1. Irrevocably commit a natural, cultural, or historic resource.
2. Curtail the range of beneficial uses of the environment.
3. Conflict with the State's environmental policies or long-term environmental goals established by law.
4. Have a substantial adverse effect on the economic welfare, social welfare, or cultural practices of the community and State.
5. Have a substantial adverse effect on public health.
6. Involve adverse secondary impacts, such as population changes or effect on public facilities.
7. Involve a substantial degradation of environmental quality.
8. Be individually limited but cumulatively have substantial adverse effect upon the environment or involves a commitment for larger actions.
9. Have a substantial adverse effect on a rare, threatened, or endangered species, or its habitat.
10. Have a substantial adverse effect on air or water quality or ambient noise levels.
11. Have a substantial adverse effect on or be likely to suffer damage by being located in an environmentally sensitive area such as a flood plain, tsunami zone, sea level rise exposure area, beach, erosion-prone area, geologically hazardous land, estuary, fresh water, or coastal waters.
12. Have a substantial adverse effect on scenic vistas and viewplanes, day or night, identified in county or state plans or studies.
13. Require substantial energy consumption or emit substantial greenhouse gasses.



Next Steps

- HHC approvals for the Final Environmental Assessment and Ka Paʻakai Analysis (Oct 20, 2025).
- Publish the Final EA in the next issue of The Environmental Notice at the next available issue of the Environmental Notice.
- Complete compliance with HRS CH 6E.
- Proceed with proposed action.



Recommended Motion/Action

That the Hawaiian Homes Commission (HHC) issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) declaration based on the Final Environmental Assessment (FEA) for the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center 'Elepaio Food Campus Master Plan, Wai'anāe, Oahu TMK No. (1)- 8-6-001:012, 024, 025, 026, 027, 028 (por.).



Mahalo



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HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

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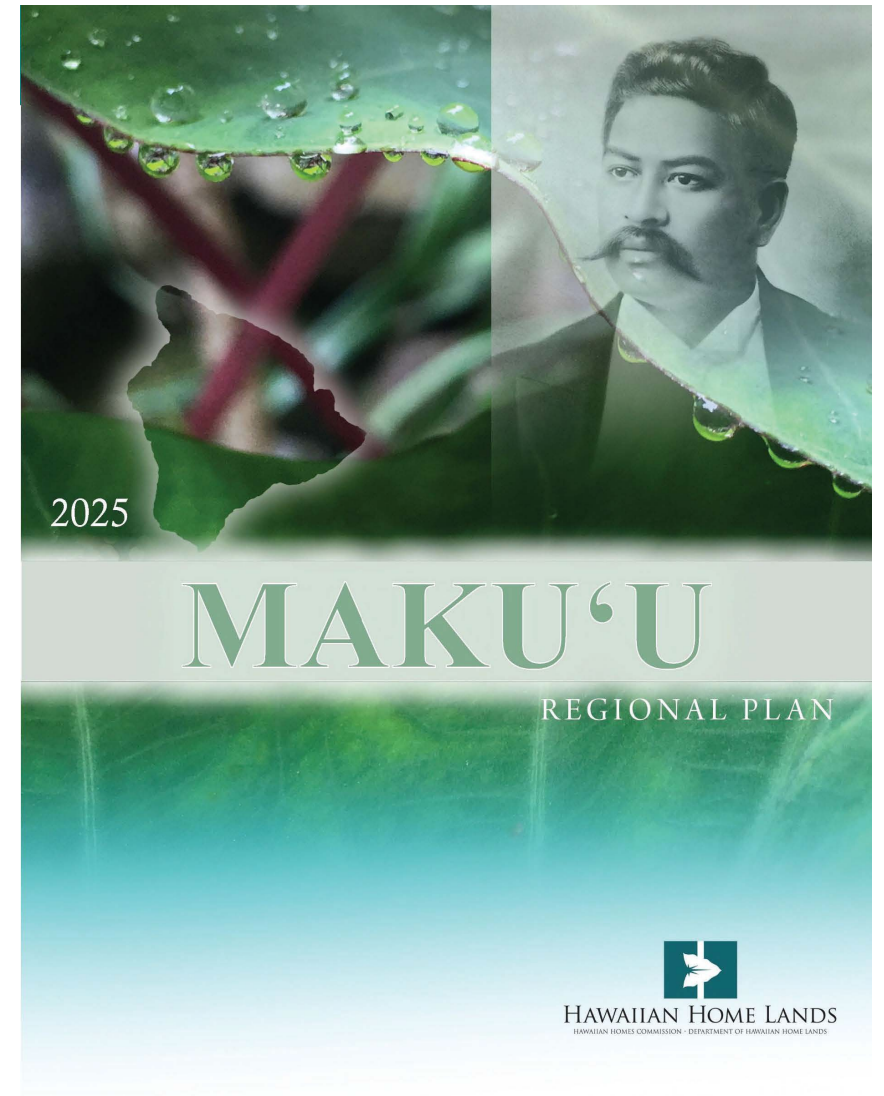
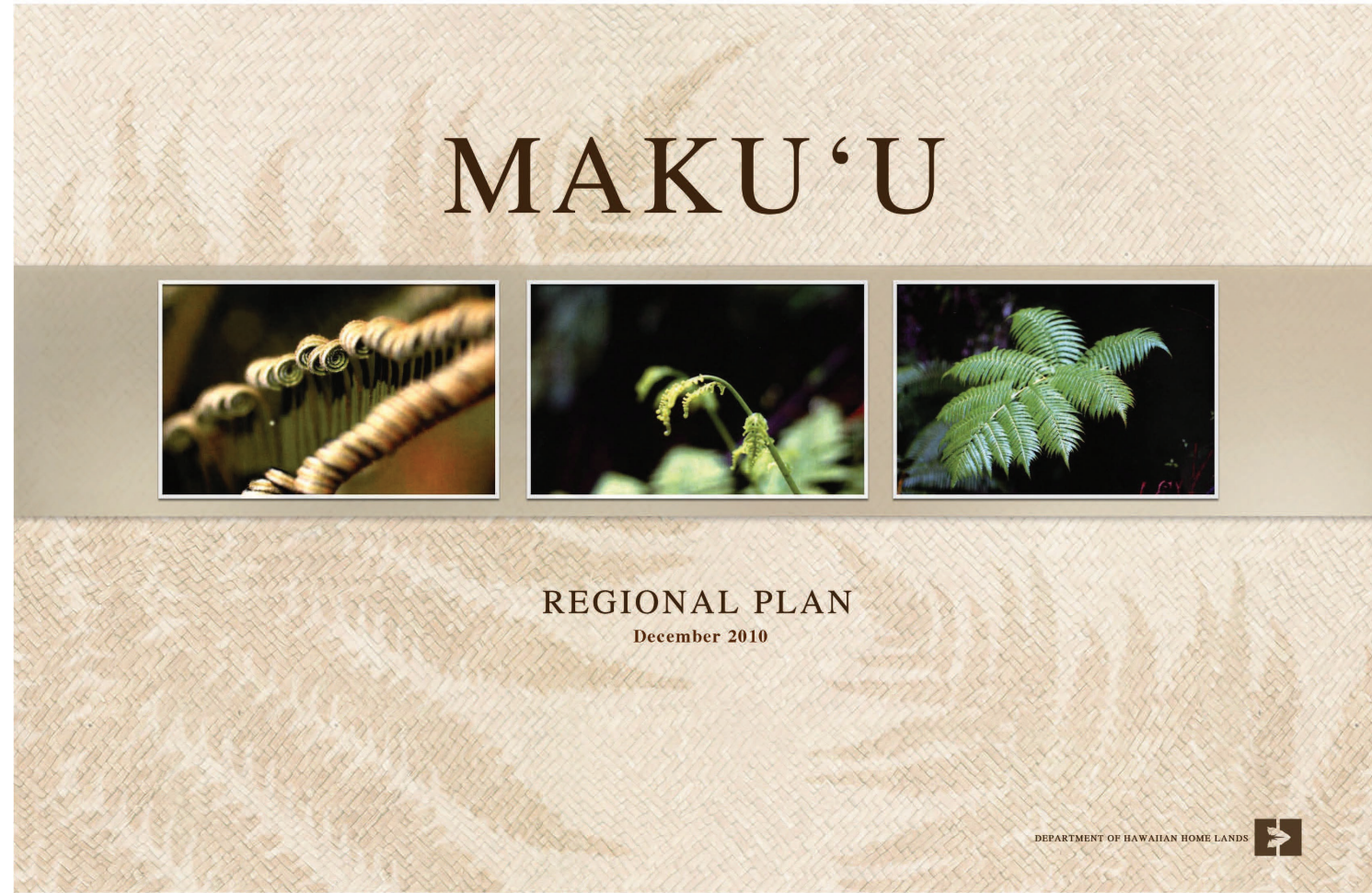
Item G-2

Adopt the Final Maku'u Regional Plan Update (2025)

October 20-21, 2025

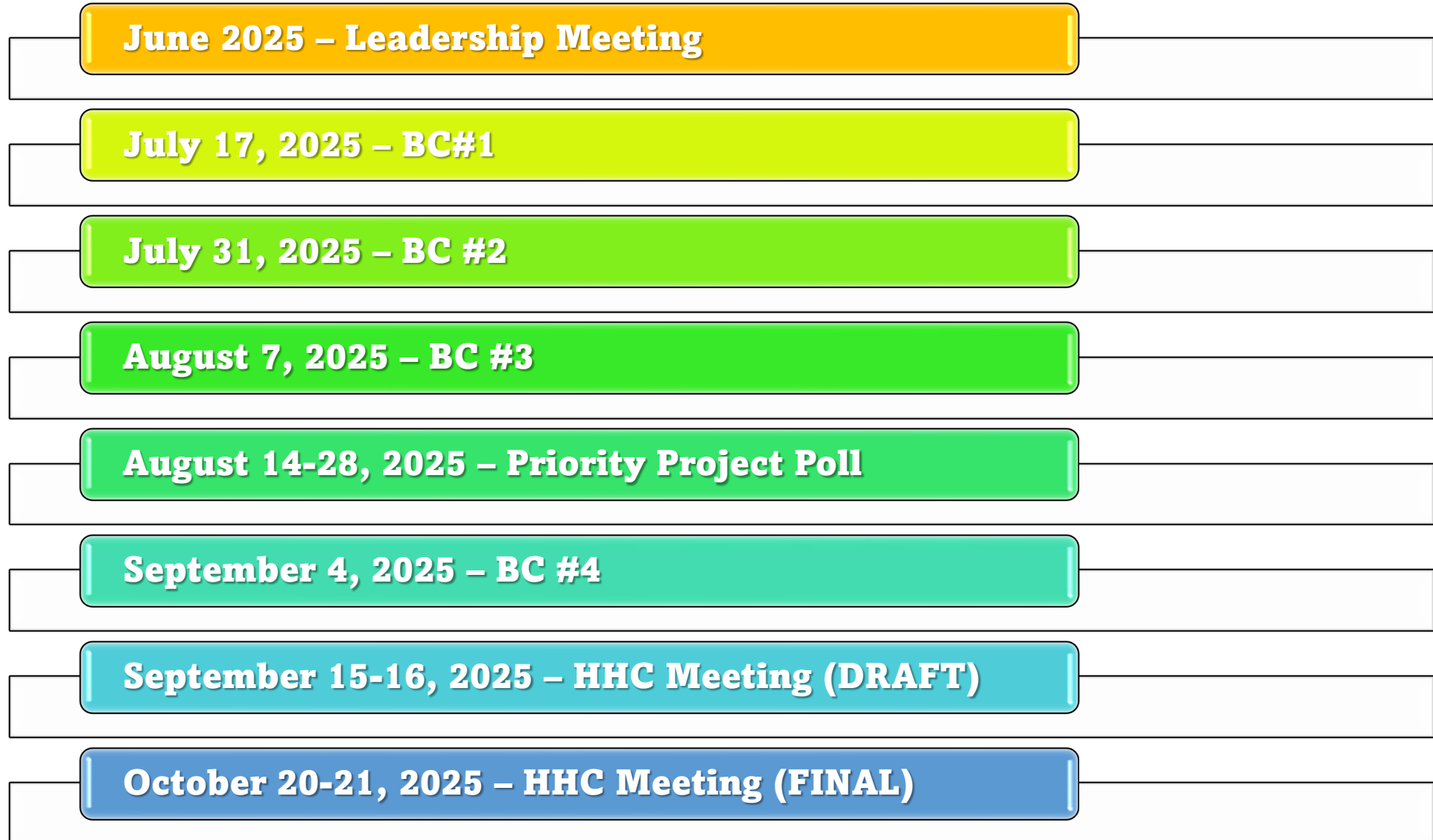


Waimea Nui Regional Plan





Planning Process & Timeline





Outreach & Engagement

- Outreach:

- Project website: <https://dhhl.hawaii.gov/po/hawaii-island/makuu-regional-plan-update-2025/>
- Postcard mailings (*151 recipients – existing Maku‘u lessees*)
- Email announcements & reminders
- Assistance from the Maku‘u Farmers Hawaiian Homestead Association (MFHHA) to notify membership and hosting every beneficiary consultation meeting

- Meeting Series:

- BC #1 – values, vision, issues & opportunities (*12 attendees + keiki*)
- BC #2 – confirm values & vision and draft Projects list (*7 attendees + keiki*)
- BC #3 – create and refine project ideas list (*14 attendees + keiki*)
- **Priority Projects Poll** – 13 participants, able to vote via hardcopy mailer, online via Google Forms, by email, & by telephone (*13 participants, only 12 could be verified as lessees*)
- BC #4 – review & comments on Draft Regional Plan (*5 attendees*)



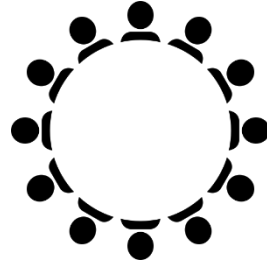
KAHUA



**Aloha kekahi i
kekahi**



Aloha nā akua



**Nurturing ‘ohana (keiki
to kūpuna) through
education, culture, and
community**



**Building community
capacity and economic
resilience**



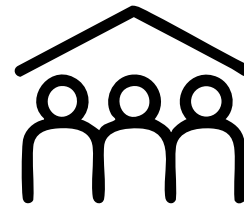
**Sustaining community
through cultural practice
and knowledge**



**Honoring, caring for, and
continuing the legacy of
our kūpuna**



**Stewarding
the ahupua‘a**



**Strengthening community
through gathering space**



**Honoring and
understanding Pele**



VISION

As established by the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920, Maku'u strives to ho'opulapula and perpetuate Native Hawaiian values and traditions. We support our 'ohana to become self-sustaining by being grounded in 'ike kūpuna and growing through educational and employment opportunities for future generations.



Priority Projects

PROJECT IDEAS	LESSEE VOTES
Homestead Safety and Security	25
Hālau Initiative	8
Support for Agricultural Use & Infrastructure	8
Alternative Financing Program for Lava Zone 2 and Kūpuna Housing	7
Water System Governance, Infrastructure, & Community Benefits	5



Final Steps

- September 15-16, 2025 – HHC Meeting (*Draft for info only*)
- September 25, 2025 – End Comment Period on Draft Plan
- October 20-21, 2025 – HHC Meeting (*Final for adoption*)



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Recommendations

- Add clearer language regarding due diligence and include a mechanism to void the Water Agreement should the results of the technical studies indicate significant adverse impacts from the proposed water source development.
- Allocate a portion of the water from these wells for use in the Kula/Upcountry region to benefit existing lessees and planned future development on HHL.



Recommendations

- Fund & prioritize efforts for future water source development to support the homesteads that are outside of the Kula/Upcountry region that will be utilizing the water supplied from these wells so that the water sourced from the Waiohuli Wells will eventually be able to be fully used within the Kula/Upcountry region for DHHL and beneficiary use.
- Indicate a term limit on the dedication of the well source and infrastructure to the County DWS to allow an option in the future to revisit operation and maintenance of the system by the Department or another entity.



Additional Follow-ups

- Recent comments from beneficiaries indicate that the current procedure of postcard mailing notification is not sufficient. Additional investigation is needed to better understand the issues impacting notice to our beneficiaries.
- The current process for notification does not include formal notice to homestead associations. This can be added to the process to better ensure publicity for notices to beneficiaries in the future.



Recommended Motion/Action

Staff respectfully requests that the Hawaiian Homes Commission approve a motion to **either accept this beneficiary consultation report as complete or defer the acceptance of this report** at this time.

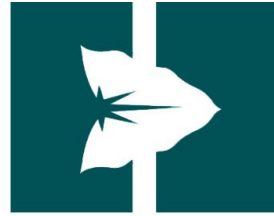


Mahalo



DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

Nīnau?



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Accept the Beneficiary Consultation Report of the Waiohuli Wells Water Agreement

Tax Map Keys (2) 2-002-014-0000, (2) 2-028-181-
0000, (2) 2-002-084-0000, Waiohuli, Island of Maui

Hawaiian Homes Commission Item G-3

October 20-21, 2025



Overview of Presentation

- i. Waiohuli Wells, Proposal, and Draft Agreement
- ii. Beneficiary Consultation Process
- iii. Summary of Beneficiary Comments
- iv. Recommended Revisions & Follow-ups
- v. Recommended Motion/Action



Recommended Motion/Action

Staff respectfully requests that the Hawaiian Homes Commission approve a motion to **either accept this beneficiary consultation report as complete or defer the acceptance of this report** at this time.



Waiohuli Wells Proposal and Draft Agreement

- **See Agenda Item E-5 “For Information Only – Waiohuli Wells” for more details on the proposed project**
- **First submittal (deferred) asked for HHC action as follows:**
 1. Approval of Agreement
 2. Authorization to Proceed with Construction and Dedication
 3. Recognition of Water Source Credits
 4. Delegation of Authority to the Chair
- **Trigger for Beneficiary Consultation:**
 - **This action triggers priority policy No.4 of the [Water Policy Plan](#)**
 4. *Affirmatively communicate our decisions, our reasoning, and our performance in managing, stewarding, and using water before and after making major water decisions.*





Beneficiary Consultation Process

- **Meeting:**

- Date & Location: In-person on August 21, 2025 at the Waiohuli Center
- Notice: 4,999 postcards were mailed to beneficiaries in Central, Upcountry, and South Maui:
- Presentation: See Exhibit D
- Website: <https://dhhl.hawaii.gov/po/maui/waiohuli-water-agreement-beneficiary-consultation/>

- **Comment Period**

- August 21 to September 20, 2025
- Comments accepted via google form, email or telephone

- **Report**

- HHC action is needed to complete the beneficiary consultation process



Participation

Beneficiary Consultation Meeting	Participants	# Self-ID as Beneficiaries/ Ben. org
8/21	62	50
Comment Period	33	32



Beneficiary Comments

- Concerns with substance of the proposed water agreement
 - Adversely impacts water rights
 - DHHL should not have to “beg for water”
 - Concerns for environmental and cultural impacts
- Loss of beneficiary trust
- Delayed dissemination of information
- Insufficient staff responses to questions



Beneficiary Comments

- Inconsistency with existing plans
 - The Makawao-Pukalani-Kula Community Plan
- Potential to cause division between lessees and applicants
- Concerns about sufficient notification for BC
- Requests to pause and restart the process with more beneficiary inclusion



Beneficiary Comments

- Proper beneficiary consultation:
 - Broad and timely notification
 - Maps and materials available well beforehand
 - Answers to fundamental questions about project
 - Formal notice to include homestead associations



Recommendations

- Add clearer language regarding due diligence and include a mechanism to void the Water Agreement should the results of the technical studies indicate significant adverse impacts from the proposed water source development.
- Allocate a portion of the water from these wells for use in the Kula/Upcountry region to benefit existing lessees and planned future development on HHL.



Recommendations

- Fund & prioritize efforts for future water source development to support the homesteads that are outside of the Kula/Upcountry region that will be utilizing the water supplied from these wells so that the water sourced from the Waiohuli Wells will eventually be able to be fully used within the Kula/Upcountry region for DHHL and beneficiary use.
- Indicate a term limit on the dedication of the well source and infrastructure to the County DWS to allow an option in the future to revisit operation and maintenance of the system by the Department or another entity.



Additional Follow-ups

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- The current process for notification does not include formal notice to homestead associations. This can be added to the process to better ensure publicity for notices to beneficiaries in the future.



Recommended Motion/Action

Staff respectfully requests that the Hawaiian Homes Commission approve a motion to **either accept this beneficiary consultation report as complete or defer the acceptance of this report** at this time.



Mahalo



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Nīnau?

PROPOSED ACTION (areas in red)



Proposed uses:

- Aquaponics
- Bunkhouse
- Fish ponds
- Dryland kalo expansion
- Drip irrigation kalo expansion
- Lo'i kalo expansion
- Field shelter
- Barn for livestock



HEPA Significance Criteria

1. Irrevocably commit a natural, cultural, or historic resource.
2. Curtail the range of beneficial uses of the environment.
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12. Have a substantial adverse effect on scenic vistas and viewplanes, day or night, identified in county or state plans or studies.
13. Require substantial energy consumption or emit substantial greenhouse gasses.



Next Steps

- DEA publication in the *The Environmental Notice* on October 23, 2025.
- 30-Day public comment period on DEA from October 23 to November 22, 2025.
- Incorporate and revise DEA based on public comments received.
- HHC for acceptance of the Final EA in December 2025.
- Publishing of the Final EA in the next issue of *The Environmental Notice* (December 2025).
- 30-day legal challenge period.
- Additional action needed to resolve permitting for several unpermitted structure, may be an opportunity for DHHL to consider issuance of permits.
- Compliance with HRS CH. 6E currently underway.



Mahalo



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For Information Only - Draft Environmental Assessment and Anticipated
Finding of No Significant Impact for the Cultural Learning Center and
Community Farm at Ka'ala, Wai'anae, O'ahu.

Item G-4
Hawaiian Homes Commission

October 20-21, 2025



HHC Role

- Under HRS Chapter 343, the HHC is the accepting entity, the kuleana of the **HHC is to issue a determination or a finding** of whether the proposed action will have a significant impact based on the 13 significance criteria or a FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI).
- It is my kuleana as staff to **oversee the preparation of this document**, technical studies, and bring this project to the HHC for information and ultimately for a determination.
- It is your kuleana as Commissioners to **question the quality of the document** and the quality of the work to ensure that the final product is truly in compliance with the HRS.
- As staff, **we invite your questions, critiques and concerns**. It is a necessary check & balance in this process.



PROJECT SITE

Draft Environmental Assessment (Draft EA)

- **Proposed Action:** Since July 1, 2008, KFI has held a gratis license from the Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL) for community and cultural land uses on the 97-acre DHHL parcel in upper Wai‘anae Valley (TMK: 8-5-005:036)..
- **Prepared to:** comply with HRS Chapter 343, in preparation of a request for a long-term land disposition for their current use.
- **Briefing for:** Info Only to the HHC, allowing for comment from Commissioners and beneficiaries
- **Publishing:** the Draft EA in the next available issue of the Environmental Notice (tent. October 23, 2025) with a 30-day comment period (open until November 22, 2025)
- **For Action:** the Final EA will be brought before this HHC for acceptance tentatively at the December 2025 HHC meeting

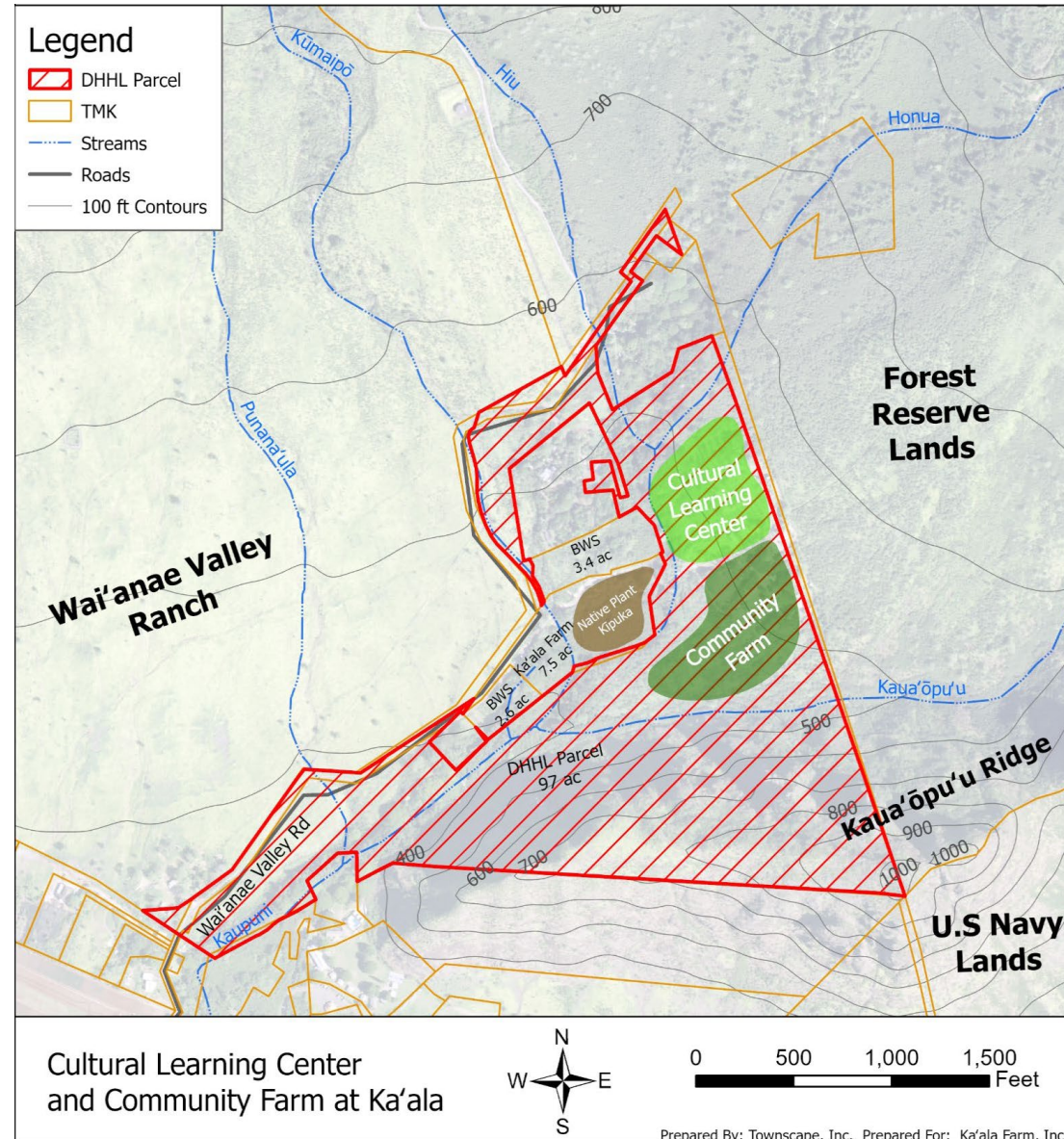


PROPOSED ACTION *(retroactive)*





PROPOSED ACTION *(retroactive)*





HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION • DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

For Information Only - Draft Environmental Assessment and Anticipated
Finding of No Significant Impact for the Ka'ū Hawaiian Cultural Center

Item G-5
Hawaiian Homes Commission

October 20-21, 2025



HHC Role

- Under HRS Chapter 343, the HHC is the accepting entity, the kuleana of the **HHC is to issue a determination or a finding** of whether the proposed action will have a significant impact based on the 13 significance criteria or a FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI).
- It is my kuleana as staff to **oversee the preparation of this document**, technical studies, and bring this project to the HHC for information and ultimately for a determination.
- It is your kuleana as Commissioners to **question the quality of the document** and the quality of the work to ensure that the final product is truly in compliance with the HRS.
- As staff, **we invite your questions, critiques and concerns**. It is a necessary check & balance in this process.



PROJECT SITE

Draft Environmental Assessment (Draft EA)

- **Proposed Action:** cultural center, including learning centers, gathering spaces, ceremonial stage, and seating for the Ka'ū community on a portion of TMK No. (3) 9-5-005:003.
- **Prepared to:** comply with HRS Chapter 343
- **Briefing for:** Info Only to the HHC, allowing for comment from Commissioners and beneficiaries
- **Publishing:** the Draft EA in the next available issue of the Environmental Notice (tent. Nov 8, 2025) with a 30-day comment period (open until Dec 7, 2025)
- **For Action:** the Final EA will be brought before this HHC for acceptance tentatively at the December 2025 HHC meeting

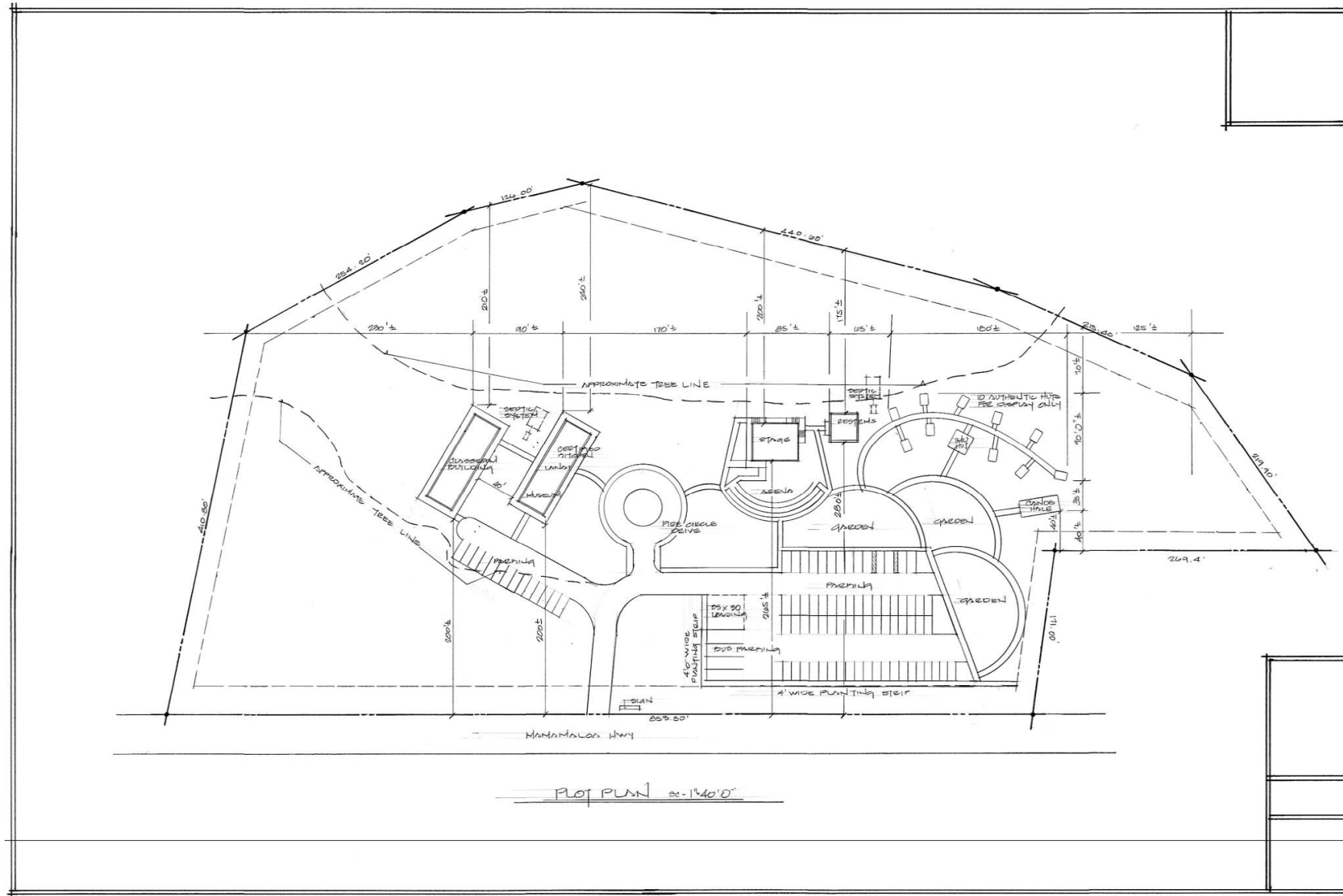


PROPOSED ACTION





PROPOSED ACTION





HEPA Significance Criteria

1. Irrevocably commit a natural, cultural, or historic resource.
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12. Have a substantial adverse effect on scenic vistas and viewplanes, day or night, identified in county or state plans or studies.
13. Require substantial energy consumption or emit substantial greenhouse gasses.



Next Steps

- DEA publication in the *The Environmental Notice* on November 8, 2025.
- 30-Day public comment period on DEA from November 8 to December 7, 2025.
- Incorporate and revise DEA based on public comments received.
- HHC for acceptance of the Final EA in December 2025.
- Publishing of the Final EA in the next issue of *The Environmental Notice* (Dec/Jan).
- 30-day legal challenge period.
- Additional compliance needed with HRS CH. 6E, currently underway.



Mahalo



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Water Policy Plan Update on Water Projects and Issues for Maui Island

Item G-6

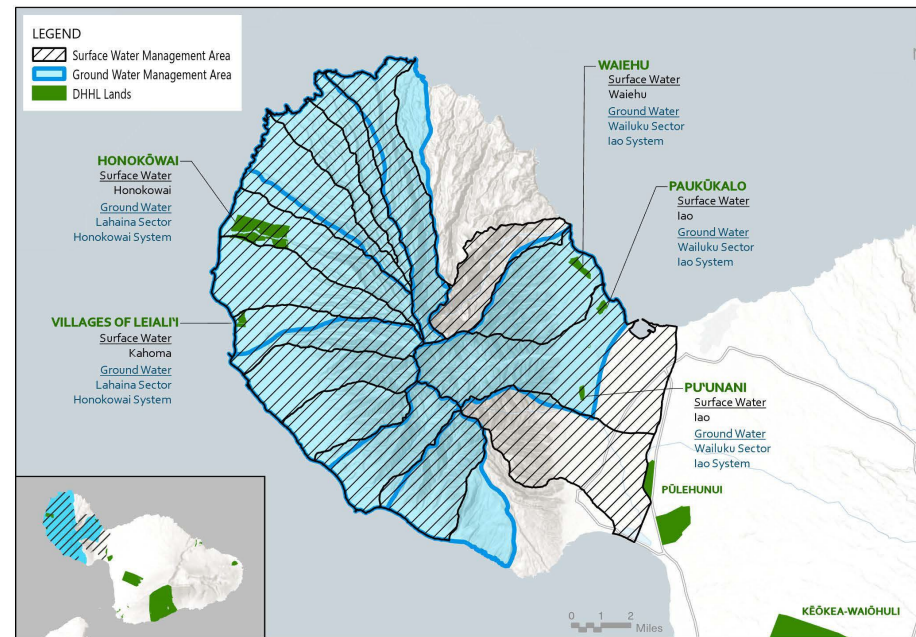
**Hawaiian Homes Commission
& Community Meeting**

October 20-21, 2025



HHC Water Policy Plan Priority Goal #1

Affirmatively communicate with beneficiaries regarding water decisions, performance, and water rights on a regional and annual basis.



**DESIGNATED WATER MANAGEMENT AREAS
ISLAND OF MAUI**

DLMR COMMISSION OF WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT | 5-17-2023





Agenda

- 1. The East Maui Irrigation System & The East Maui Water Authority**
- 2. The Commission on Water Resource Management & Water Use Permit Applications in West Maui**
- 3. Related Work with beneficiaries and capacity building to secure water resources and address water issues**

A large, light teal water drop shape is centered behind the text. It has a pointed top and a rounded bottom, with a circular base.

1. The East Maui Irrigation (EMI) System & The East Maui Water Authority



- [illegible]



DHHL Interest Related to the EMI

- **Water reservations**
 - 11.455 mgd water reservation requested in 2020
 - Request not fully granted
- **Traditional and customary rights**
 - Historically dewatered DHHL lands at Ke`anae and Wailuanui
- **Entitled 30% of water lease revenue**
- **DHHL seat on the East Maui Water Authority**
- **East Maui Stakeholder Interim Committee**





Background on the East Maui Water Authority

- **Established November 9, 2022**
- **Nāhiku, Ke`anae, Honomanū, and Huelo water license areas**
- **Alternative to the state issuing a long-term license to the EMI to a private party**
- **Includes a designated seat for a representative of the HHC, Dr. Jonathan Likeke Scheuer**





Significant Events with BLNR and the EMI

DATE	EVENT
September 20, 2024	BLNR agendized the issuance of a water license for the EMI and a contested case hearing (CCH)
September 26, 2024	BLNR deferred the item before the meeting
November 1, 2024	BLNR agendized a CCH for the proposed disposition of a water license for the EMI
November 8, 2024	BLNR denied the action at the meeting
December 13, 2024	BLNR granted Mahi Pono a revocable permit, with the condition that the County of Maui coordinate monthly meetings for an <i>East Maui Stakeholder Interim Committee</i>



DHHL Involvement

- **East Maui Stakeholder Interim Committee**
 - Monthly meetings
 - Various topics that touch upon stakeholder interests
- **East Maui Water Authority**
 - The Directory sent a mid-year update to the BLNR Chair in August 2025
 - Highlighted DHHL's 11 mgd reservation of water and its need to be included in any agreement reached
 - Contained a letter jointly signed by Mayor Bissen and Mahi Pono CEO Shan Tsutsui that ongoing discussions in later 2024 have been productive



**The proposed license will return in
BLNR: NOVEMBER 14, 2025**

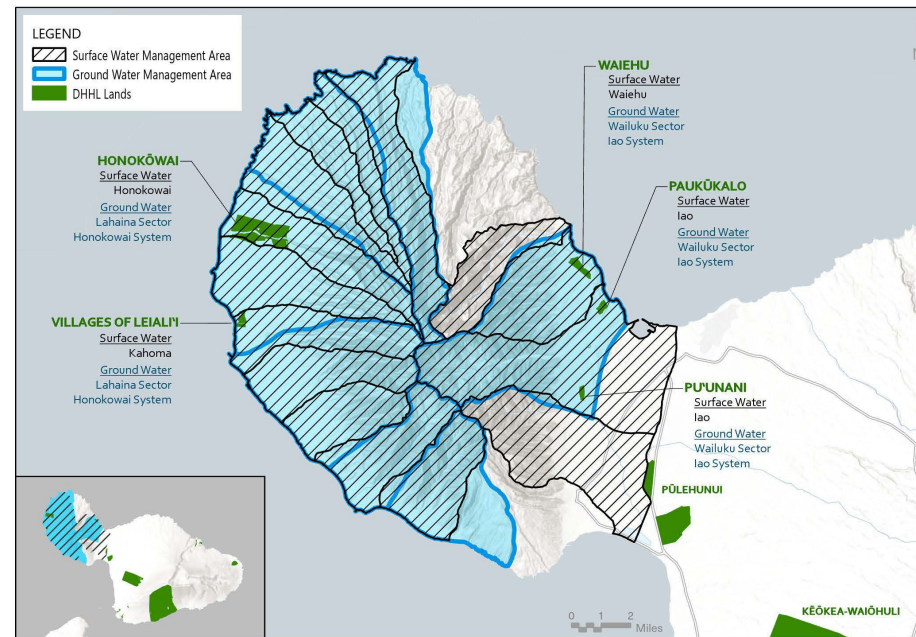


2. The Commission on Water Resource Management (CWRM) & Water Use Permit Applications in West Maui



Designated Water Management Areas

- On August 6, 2022, Lahaina Aquifer Sector Area designated as both a Surface and Ground Water Management Area
- Additional regulation required, including Water Use Permits**
- CWRM the approving entity of these permits



DESIGNATED WATER MANAGEMENT AREAS
ISLAND OF MAUI

DLM COMMISSION OF WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT [3-17-2023]

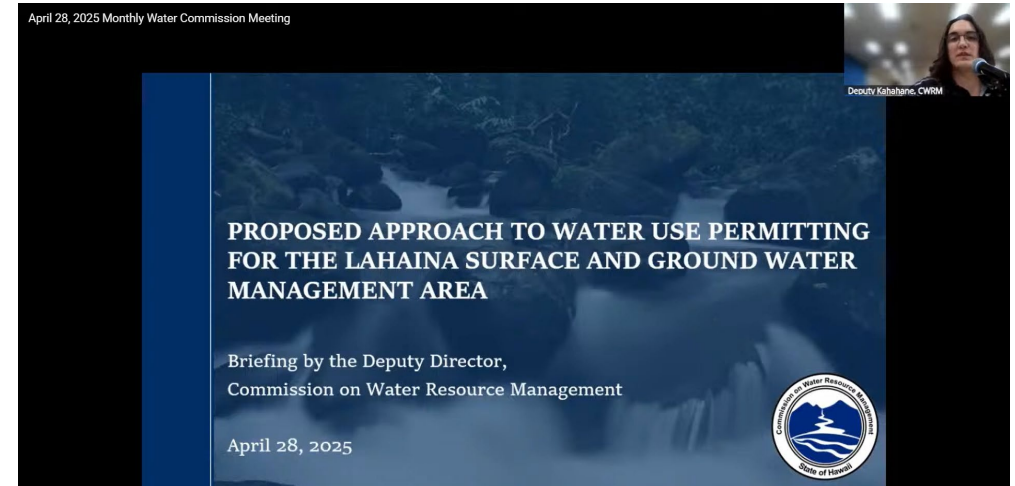




April 2025 CWRM Meetings in Lahaina

- **On April 7, 2025, CWRM held a community meeting in Lahaina on the Water Use Permitting Process**

- This meeting was the preface to the April 28, 2025, meeting



- **At the April 28, 2025, CWRM meeting in Lahaina:**

- Shared CWRM's challenges with reviewing the Water Use Permit Applications (WUPA) for existing uses
- Expressed existing uses may continue until CWRM has acted upon the WUPA
- Noted CWRM may issue an "*interim*" permit valid for a limited amount of time
- Presented potential framework for the renewal of permits



CWRM's Potential WUPA Reviewal Framework

- “Phasing” permits
- Beginning with the Honokōwai groundwater hydrologic unit and the Honokōhau surface water hydrologic unit
 - DHHL has unfulfilled reservations from these two hydrologic units
- No updates from CWRM at this time

Potential Framework to Phase Permits

Tier 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appurtenant (kuleana) rights – existing and new• T&C rights – existing and new
Tier 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Municipal use – existing use & new <i>source</i>• Other public trust uses, mainly domestic use – existing use & new <i>source</i>
Tier 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Other existing uses
Tier 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New uses?



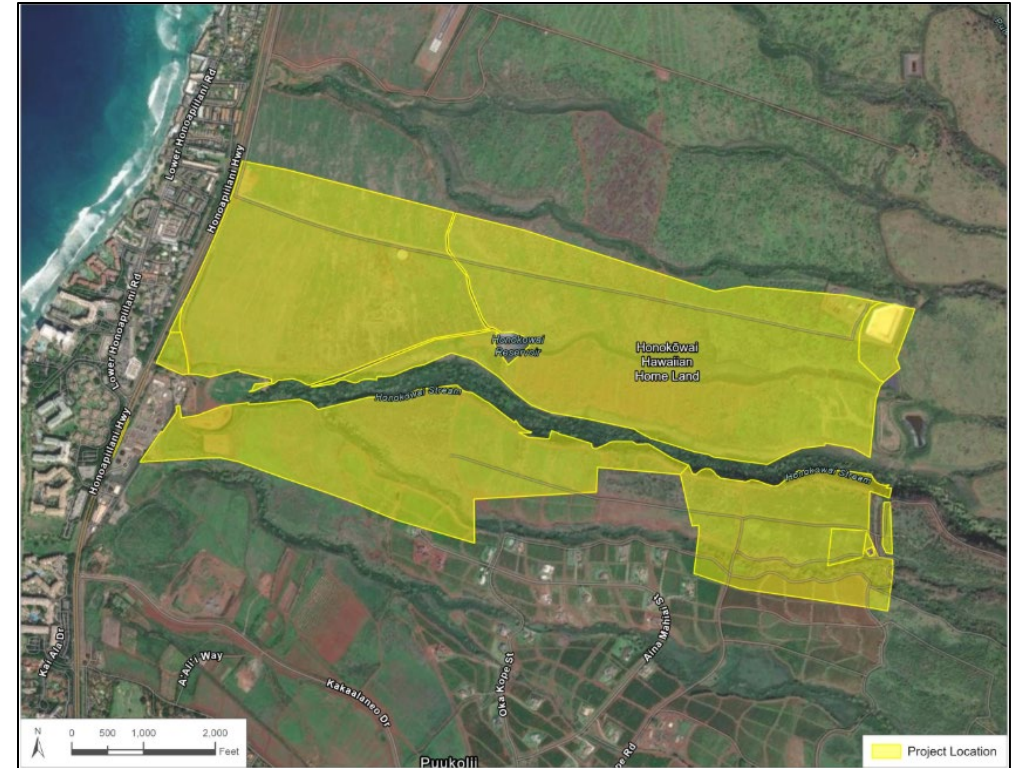
Status of the Lahaina WUPAs

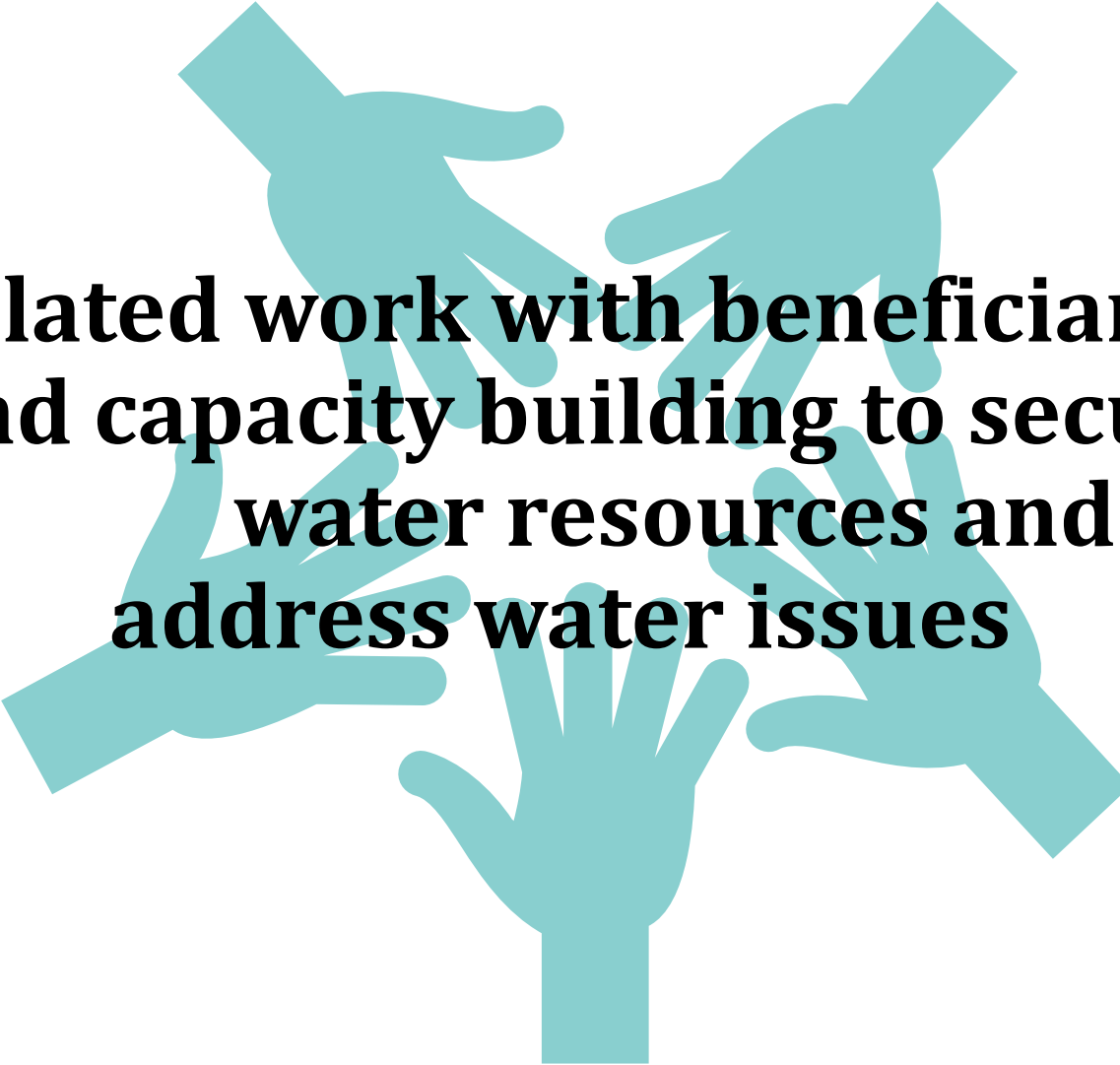
- **No WUPAs have been processed**
- **No “interim” permits have been issued**



DHHL's Honokōwai Well

- In the process of completing a new use Water Use Permit Application
- Anticipated to have the capacity of 1 mgd and reliably yield 2/3 of that amount
 - A 2017 MOU entitles DHHL and the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to one half of the available capacity of the well
- Necessary for DHHL's ability to actualize the Honokōwai lands and deliver homesteads
- DHHL plans to dedicate the well to Maui DWS upon completion



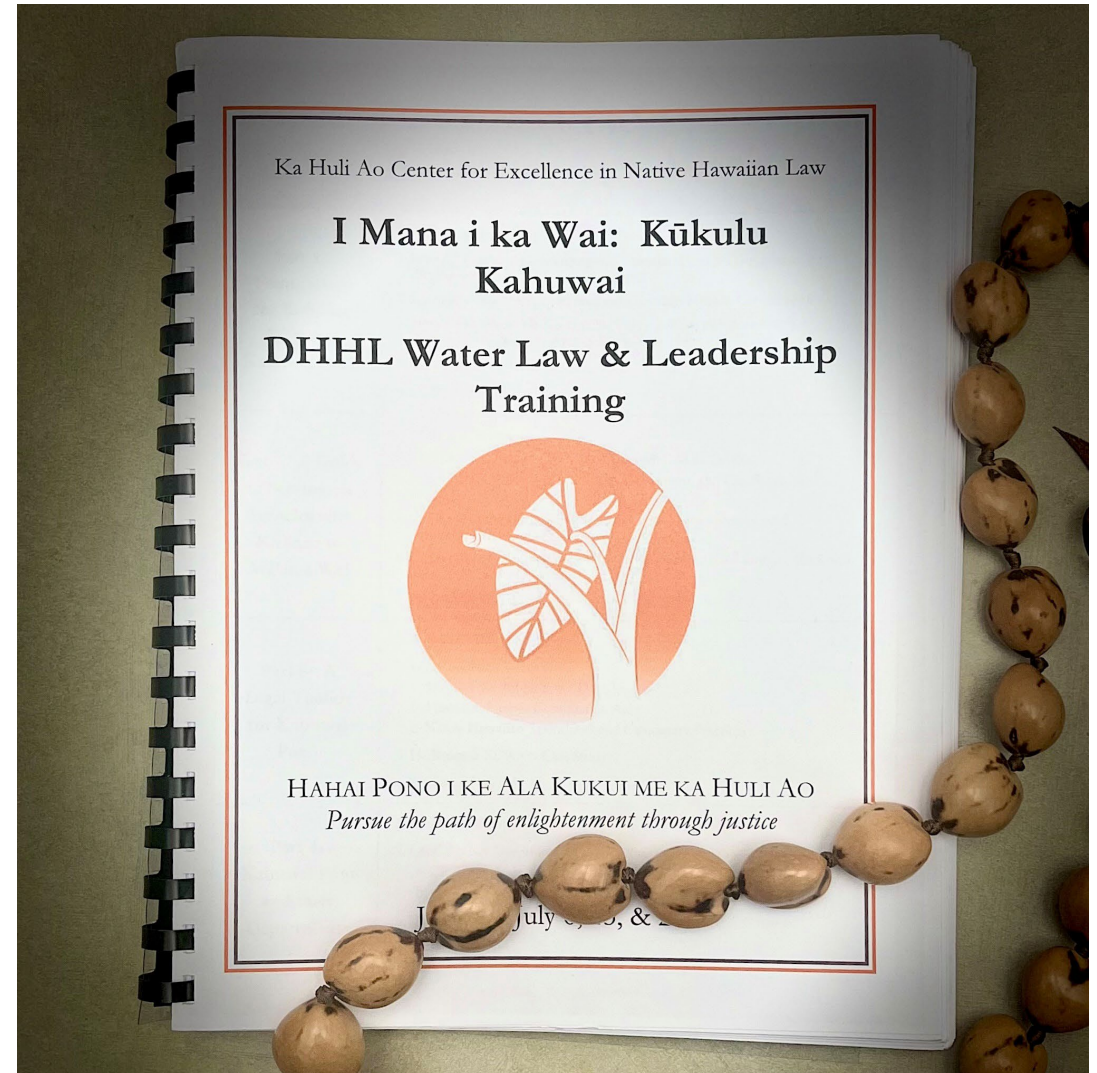
A graphic consisting of five teal-colored hands of varying sizes, arranged in a circular pattern with palms facing outwards, surrounding the central text.

3. Related work with beneficiaries and capacity building to secure water resources and address water issues



Beneficiary Water Rights Training

- **Proposed by DHHL's beneficiaries**
- **In collab with Ka Huli Ao**
- **Participants from across the Pae `Āina**
- **Five cohorts completed**
- **Next cohort begins October 21, 2025**





Mahalo



DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

Nīnau?



PLANNING OFFICE

Item G-7 Maui Island Planning Update

HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

OCTOBER 20-21, 2025



UPDATE ITEMS

1. Mo'okū'auhau of Maui's Hawaiian Home Lands Trust
2. Updated Data on new homestead development, number of planned lots/lease awards
3. Maui Initiatives – work in progress
4. Maui Island Plan data
5. Maui Regional Plan Priority Projects

Maui's Hawaiian Homes Land Trust

5. Honokōwai

13. Leiali'i

16. Wailuku-Waikapū

14. Pu'uhona

12. Wai'ehu Kou

15. Wai'ehu Mauka

4. Paukūkalō

6. Pūlehunui

17. Kamalani

2. Waiohuli

3. Kēōkea

9. 'Ulupalakua-Kualapa

10. Kalihi-Kanahena

11. 'Āhihi

7. Ke'anae-Wailuanui

8. Wākiu

1. Kahikinui

Google Earth

Image © 2024 Airbus
Data SOEST/UHM
Data USGS
Data MBARI



CURRENT HOMESTEAD DEVELOPMENT

	HOMESTEAD AREA	EXISTING LESSEES	PLANNED TOTAL	EXISTING + PLANNED
1	Waiohuli	621	-	621
2	Wai‘ehu Kou 1-4	359	-	359
3	Paukūkalo	178	-	178
5	Kahikinui	100	-	100
6	Kēōkea	64	-	64
4	Leiali‘i IA and IB	103	181	284
7	Pu‘uhona	19	161	180
8	Honokōwai	-	1,181	1,181
9	Pūlehunui		110	110
10	Wākiu		238	238
11	Wai‘ehu Mauka		398	398
12	Wailuku-Waikapū		204	204
13	Kamalani		400	400
14	Ke‘anae-Wailuanui		-	-
15	‘Ulupalakua-Kualapa		-	-
16	Kalihi-Kanahena		-	-
17	‘Āhihi		-	-
	TOTALS	1,444	2,873	4,317
			199%	299%

SUMMARY TAKE-AWAYS

- 17 Homestead Areas on Maui
 - 7 Homesteads have Existing Leases totaling 1,444
 - 2 Existing Homesteads will be EXPANDED adding 342 Leases
 - 6 NEW HOMESTEADS will be developed adding 2,531 Leases.
- The Planned Homestead Development will **triple** the number of lessees on Maui.
 - A Project Lease changes your status from Applicant to Lessee.
 - No financial pre-qualification
 - You can transfer to your 25% family member.



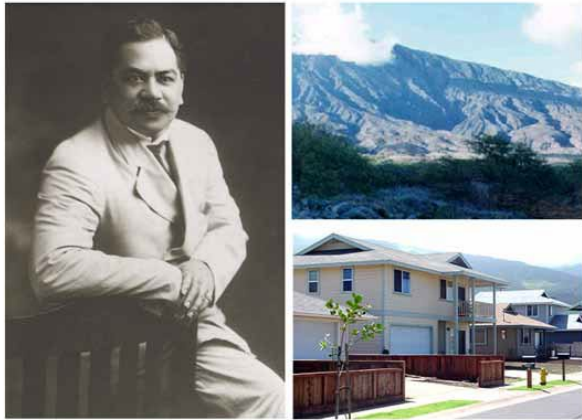
BOTTOM LINE

1. There's 2,873 planned Lots that will be awarded.
 - 1,800 Single-Family Residential
 - 573 Multi-Family Residential
 - 2,373 Total Residential
 - 496 Subsistence Ag Lots
 - 4 Pastoral Lots
2. There's 3,936 Applicants on the Residential Waitlist
3. There's 4,842 Applicants on the Agricultural Waitlist
4. There's 622 Applicants on the Pastoral Waitlist



MAUI PLANNING INITIATIVES: MAUI ISLAND PLAN

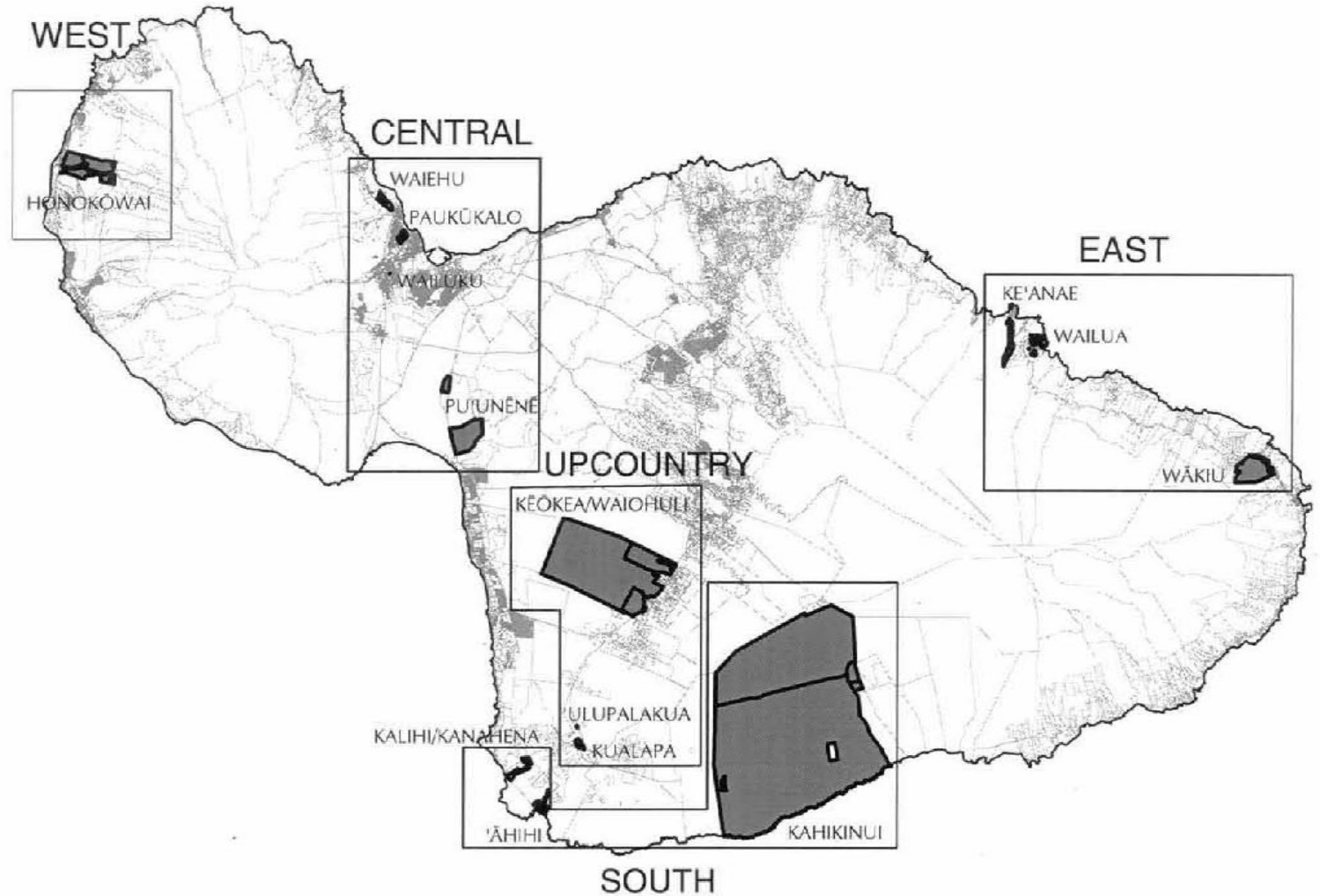
MAUI ISLAND PLAN



Prepared for:
The State of Hawai'i
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

Prepared by:
PBR
HAWAII
September 2004

SEPTEMBER 2004



Maui Island Plan



LAND USE DESIGNATIONS = ZONING

MAUI LAND USE DESIGNATIONS	ACRES	PERCENT
Homestead Land Use Designations:		
General Agriculture	5,384	16.8%
Residential	1,578	4.9%
Subsistence Agriculture	686	2.1%
Pastoral	675	2.1%
Supplemental Agriculture	233	0.7%
Non-Homestead Land Use Designations:		
Special District	15,525	48.4%
Conservation	7,483	23.3%
Commercial	190	0.6%
Community Use	187	0.6%
Industrial	113	0.4%
MAUI ISLAND TOTAL:	32,054	100%

THINK ABOUT NEW DESIGNATIONS—NEW ZONING

2. Non-Homestead Land Use Designations

STEWARDSHIP

Land not currently used for homesteading. Allow uses that maintain or enhance the value and condition of the land to the benefit of beneficiaries and the Trust. May serve as an interim use until opportunities for higher and better uses become available.

COMMUNITY AGRICULTURE

Common areas used for the cultivation of fruits, vegetables, plants, flowers, or herbs by multiple users. The land must be served by a water supply sufficient to support the cultivation practices used on the site.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Lands suitable for siting projects for the generation and transmission

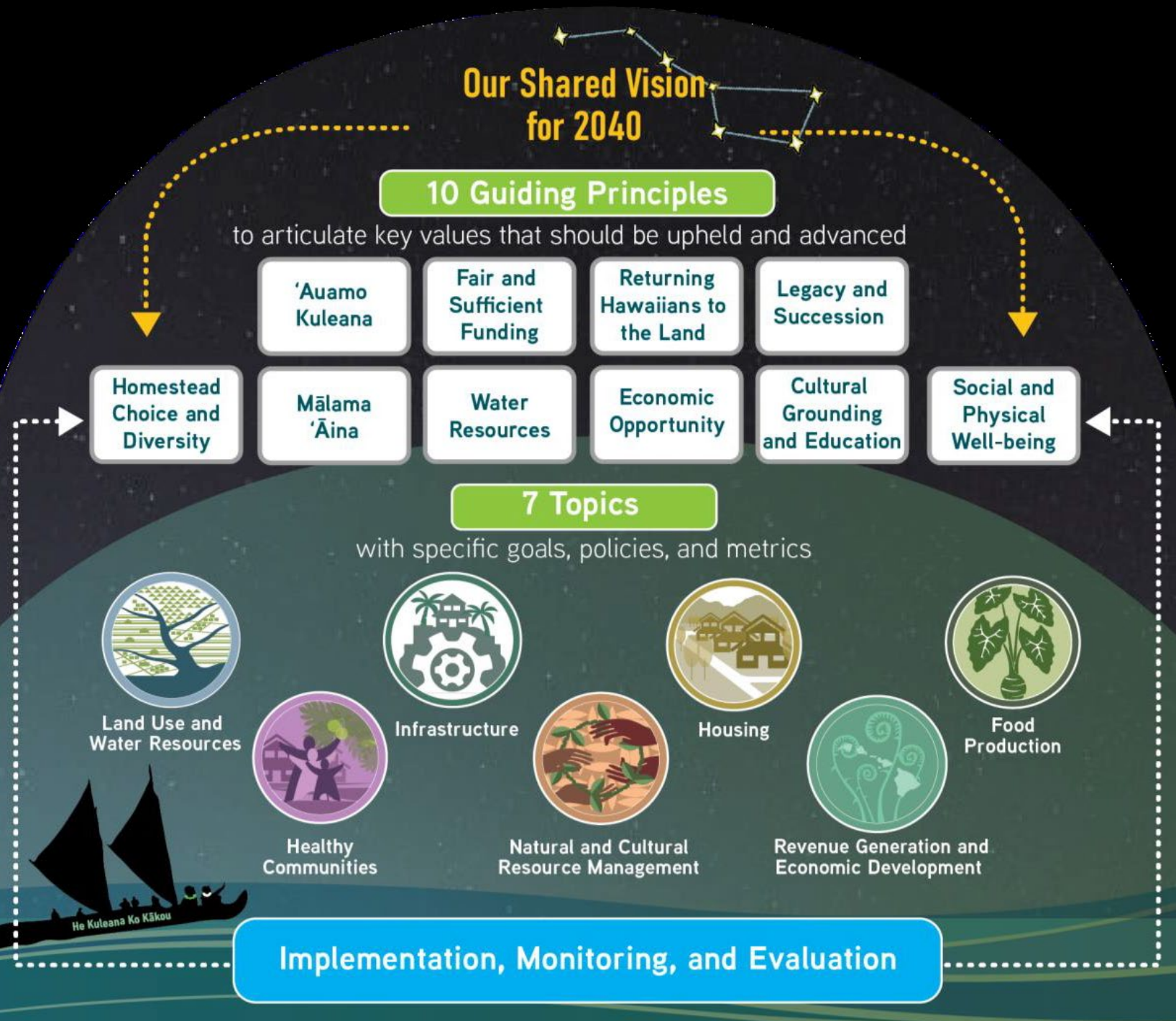
GENERAL PLAN

VISION:

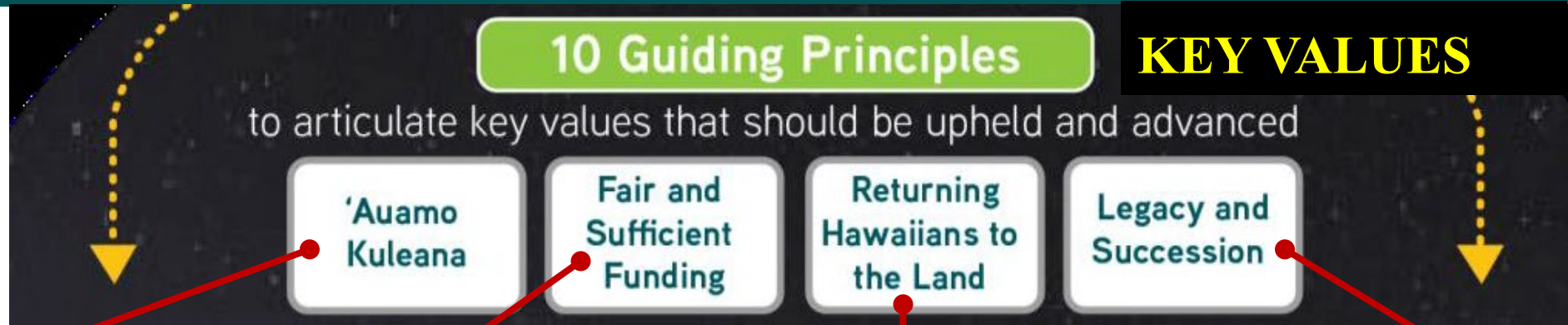
By 2040, the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust and its beneficiaries will be thriving, self-sufficient, and connected to one another and the 'āina.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

Broad **themes** that articulate **key values** that the Dept. should uphold and advance in implementing the Vision.



VISION: By 2040, the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust and its beneficiaries will be thriving, self-sufficient, and connected to one another and the ‘āina.



- Shared Kuleana to fulfill mission of Trust
- Advocate for funding
- Explore revenue streams
- To support self-sufficiency and self-determination
- Using and acquiring lands suitable for homestead development
- Explore/expand opps for beneficiaries
- Opps to share and pass down ancestral wisdom and practices
- Pass lands and legacy to future generations.



- Meet diverse needs/desires
- Creative models, innovative ideas
- Access to trust lands
- Manage/steward lands—health, resilience, and abundance.
- Access to water to support well-being and self-sufficiency
- Support CBED
- Community reinvestment
- Teach and practice cultural traditions
- Sustainable management of ‘āina
- Safe, healthy communities
- Enforcement that support well-being



DHHL GENERAL PLAN



- **GOALS**: General descriptions of desired outcomes for each Policy topic.

- **POLICIES**: Specific guidelines or actions called for to achieve the Goals.

MAUI PLANNING INITIATIVE: REGIONAL PLAN UPDATE

VILLAGES OF LEIALI`I and HONOKŌWAI



DECEMBER 2009

December 2008

Department of Hawaiian Home Lands



PAUKŪKALO-WAI`EHU KOU



JUNE 2010

June 2010

KĒŌKEA-WAIOHULI



JUNE 2010

June 2010

KAHIKINUI



REGIONAL PLAN

July 2011

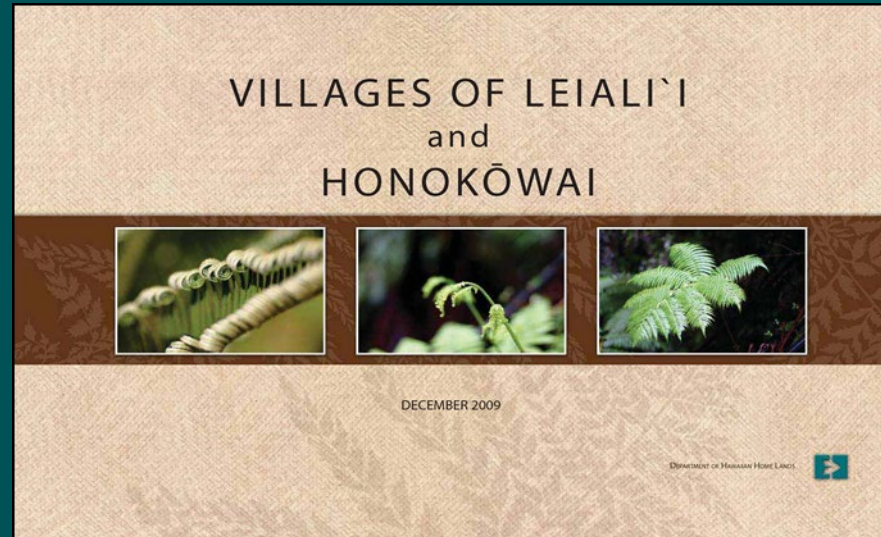
July 2011



WHY ARE REGIONAL PLANS IMPORTANT?

1. It's for existing homestead lessees—to improve your hmstd
2. It produces information that is relevant to your homestead
 1. Other projects—potential opportunities, potential problems
 2. What's your existing infrastructure? Water, Sewer, Roads, Drainage
 3. Describes DHHL land in the region
 4. Identifies census information about your homestead/region
3. It convenes homestead lessees to identify issues, problems, opportunities, needs.
4. You solve the picture--bring your ideas to the table—no idea left behind—we create a long-list of Potential Projects.
5. Pull in your whole family because everyone gets to vote; top 5 projects become “Regional Plan Priority Projects”

Leiali'i – Honokōwai Regional Plan Priority Projects



- **Leiali'i Parkway and Honoapi'ilani Highway Intersection Improvements**
- **Neighborhood Park Development**
- **Preliminary Review of Honokōwai Lands**
- **Water Source Development**

PAUKŪKALO-WAI`EHU KOU



JUNE 2010

DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Paukūkalo-Wai'ehu Kou Priority Projects

- **Paukūkalo Armory Site Development**
- **Investigate Feasibility of Use of Wai'ehu Kou Vacant Lands between Wai'ehu Kou III and IV**
- **Address Traffic Congestion and Transportation Needs**
- **Address Drainage Issue at Paukūkalo**
- **Identify Community Economic Development Uses at Pu'unēnē-Paukūkalo**
- **Identify Sites for a Potential Community Center at Wai'ehu Kou**



MAUI AG EXTENSION AGENT ACTIVITIES

- Cooperative Extension Service – Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (CES – DHHL) provides assistance services in a place-based Agricultural Education Program. The purpose of this program is to increase the number of successful Hawaiian Home Lands agricultural and pastoral homesteaders.
- The Extension Agent's role is to provide practical as well as research-based information, education, and assistance to homesteaders that can be applied on their farm lots.
- The Agent provides educational programs, farm development activities such as educational seminars, hands-on workshops, and individual consultations through farm visits, phone calls, e-mails, and office visits.



MAUI AG EXTENSION AGENT ACTIVITIES

- The focus of DHHL Agricultural Educational Program is on the Kahikinui pastoral and Kēōkea agricultural lots
- Drought conditions, limited infrastructure and high cost of imported foods, have homesteaders looking to water-efficient means of becoming self-sustaining and less dependent on foods being brought in. This has laid the groundwork for current and future projects for the Kahikinui-Kēōkea Homesteads.
- One Kahikinui kupuna on a limited income needed assistance in growing vegetables, so they installed a mini-hydroponic system and a container of bush beans.
- Native 'uala was found in Kanaio and brought to Kahikinui homestead for propagation.
- Attended 2 Kēōkea Farm Lots Assn. meetings, and an 'Ike Kupuna meeting between Kēōkea homesteaders and Kula School VP Kalani Au and the Kula School Agricultural Center staff. At another meeting, USDA – NRCS Maui Soil conservationist La'akea Low was invited to share programs that might be helpful to Kēōkea farmers.
- Our ag extension agent is current working on a limu project: collecting oral histories of Kēōkea Kai and Waiohuli Kai, the areas homesteaders would like to help restore.



MAUI AG EXTENSION AGENT ACTIVITIES

- July 2024-Dec 2024--
 - 80 contact points with homesteaders
 - Attended 3 DHHL Kuleana Program meetings with 25 new lessees of Kahikinui.
- Jan 2025 –June 2025
 - Made 167 contact points with homesteaders.
 - The start of the new year began with meeting with Kēōkea Homestead Farm Lots Association (KHFLA) board members, to assess what their vision is for Malalani, Kēōkea Homestead's community garden.