

DATE: June 27, 2022

TO: ZENDO KERN
Planning Director, Planning Department

FROM: LONG RANGE DIVISION
Community Planning Section

SUBJECT: Action Committee Infrastructure Priorities

Aloha Director Kern,

At the May Action Committee meetings and at your request, we presented the opportunity to identify infrastructure needs in various districts around the island. The information discussed and provided by both Action Committee members and community has been compiled for your review and consideration. The following projects are organized by CDP district, listed in no order of priority, and do not represent an exhaustive account of all possible infrastructure needs. These items are intended to provide a starting point and an invitation for a continued conversation on how to align these local community needs with ongoing County priorities. The Action Committee members and community partners expressed an overwhelming sentiment of gratitude for this opportunity, as well as a desire to continue to be a resource to the Mayor's taskforce to prioritize and disperse funds from the Federal Infrastructure Bill.

If you have any questions, please contact our Community Planning section lead, Keiko Mercado, Keiko.Mercado@hawaiiicounty.gov or (808) 961-8134.

Mahalo,



April J. Surprenant

Manager of Long Range Planning and Board of Appeals

Puna CDP Planning Area – May 3, 2022 Action Committee Meeting

Mass Transit:

- Develop Transit Hubs
Kea‘au, Pāhoa, Volcano, and Mountain View
- Park and ride lots at transit hubs above and HPP

Roadway Networks:

- Plan and design PMAR alignment – for emergency preparedness, critical need for redundant evacuation routes
 - Construct a two-lane roadway between Kaloli and Kea‘au
[between 16th avenue & 10th avenue]
- Create connectivity alignments between various subdivisions
 - Puna Connectivity Locations
For details see the [Connectivity and Emergency Response Subcommittee \(CERS\) Report](#), [Ad Hoc Committee on Puna Connectivity Report](#), and the Mayor’s Puna Roads committee work
- Feasibility study of an alternate route between Pāhoa and Hwy 11
- Feasibility study of an alternate route between Hwy 11 and Steinbeck
- Improvements to Stainback Highway and Kulani Road
- Pohoiki Road improvements and boat ramp

State Highways:

- Intersection improvements on Hwy 11 and 130
- Construct a right exit lane on Hwy 11 below Kea‘au Ag lots to Kea‘au Village using the Old Volcano Road right-of-way
- Create a right-hand turn lane from Hwy 132 onto Hwy 130
- Highway 11 – acceleration/deceleration lanes

Non-Motorized Travel:

- Safe Routes to school with Kea‘au improvements as a priority
- Pedestrian, bicycle, and parking related improvements in village/town centers

Additional points of discussion:

- Urge the County to implement infrastructure standards to identify future needs
- Allocate government funds toward private infrastructure that serves a public purpose (particularly roads)
- Direct services and growth toward Town Centers

South Kohala CDP Planning Area – May 9, 2022 Action Committee Meeting

The South Kohala Action Committee wished to reiterate the infrastructure priorities that they identified in their [March letter \(Communication Number 2022-06.3\)](#):

- Construct a second access road from Waikoloa Village to Queen Ka‘ahumanu Highway to accommodate increasing traffic volumes and provide a second emergency egress route for residents
- Implement short-term traffic mitigation improvements in Waimea Town Center
- Design and Construct the Parker Ranch Connector Road (from Ala Ohia Rd to Kamamalu St) and the Lalamilo Connector Road
- Waikoloa Road/Paniolo Ave. Intersection Improvements
- Safety improvements to four bridges along Kawaihae Rd/Akoni Pule highway between Pu‘ukoholā Heiau and Kawaihae Hawaiian Homes
- Emergency access route in and out of the Kailapa Community

Additional points from discussion:

Waimea:

- To provide walkways and bikeways for Waimea – Church Row jeep road up to forest reserve by DHHL hall then from Hale Kea down to Ouli “Clark” Park
- Waiaka Bridge Improvements
- Waimea/Kawaihae Bypass Road – preferred alignment shown in the SKCDP

Kawaihae:

- Access and distribution of potable water in Kawaihae
 - Complete Ouli Well Field
- Affordable housing for kupuna
- Emergency connector road out of the Kailapa neighborhood – housing the only emergency shelter in the area

Puakō:

- Puakō wastewater treatment system

The South Kohala Action Committee also received the following letter of testimony regarding infrastructure needs:

[Communication Number 2020-11 Jojo Tanimoto](#)

Kona CDP Planning Area – May 12, 2022 Action Committee Meeting

Water Resource Availability and Conservation:

- R1 upgrade to the Kealakehe wastewater treatment plant
- Facilitate appropriate use of R2 greywater for uses such as irrigation
- Promotion of home and commercial water reclamation and recycling methods – educational components, incentives, and/or adjustments to building code
- Drainage swales to capture water runoff, include in engineering plans for new or improved roadways
- Additional call to look at development capacity as it is impacted by water resource availability in Long Range planning and future permitting

Mass transit:

- Linking TOD nodes and addressing transportation needs for residents, including the homeless population

Additional points of discussion:

- Affordable housing and infrastructure to support it
- Flood mitigation and erosion control consideration
- The need to reduce sprawl in Kona by concentrating services and development toward the downtown area
- Work with local businesses and freight companies to identify specific needs that will reduce the cost burden of shipping to the Big Island
- Increasing equitable access to broadband infrastructure
- Complete the Kona Open Space Network plan

The AC identified water resource availability and the need to direct investment toward TOD nodes as primary/requisite needs. The following longstanding priorities have been identified from previous discussions and may be of consideration ([Communication Number 2018-24](#)):

- Ane Keohokālolo Highway Phase III
- Lako Street Connector between Ali'i Drive and Kuakini Highway
- Kailua Village Redevelopment
- Kahului-Keauhou (Ali'i Parkway) – in collaboration and with consent of kupuna iwi descendants and other impacted individuals

The Kona Action Committee also received the following letters of testimony regarding infrastructure needs:

- [Communication Number 2022-11 – Simmy McMichael](#)
- [Communication Number 2022-12 – Dr. R.H. Bennett](#)
- [Communication Number 2022-13 – Keola Childs](#)

Hāmākua CDP Planning Area – May 17, 2022 Action Committee Meeting

Reiterating Infrastructure Priorities from the CDP:

- Improve/replace substandard bridges in the Hāmākua Planning area (Policy 67)
- Complete the extension linking Pikake and Pakalana Street (Policy 70)
- Provide a cross-town connection to Plumeria Street by extending Kamani Street (Policy 70)
- Provide a mauka-makai connection from the Kamani Street extension to Māmane Street on the Hilo side of the elderly housing (Policy 70)
- Improve substandard sections of the Old Māmalahoa Highway and maintain for use as an alternative, emergency route to Highway 19 (Policy 71)
- Kokua Action 10: Develop turn lanes or other safety improvements at intersections per DOT guidelines on Highway 19; in particular at the following identified locations:
 - Kalanianaʻole School and Onomea Scenic Route intersection in Pāpaʻikou;
 - Mill Road intersection in Pāpaʻikou;
 - Honomū Road intersection
 - Old Māmalahoa Intersection at the School/Pool/Transfer Station turn-off in Laupāhoehoe.
- Kokua Action 49: Assess Highway 19 for passing opportunities and passing zones per DOT standards and implement these standards where feasible.

Public Facilities:

- Emergency shelters – harden existing public facilities, coordinate with the State DOT and DLNR
- Repairs to Hakalau School and Old Gym
- Papaʻaloha Gym replacement project
- Laupāhoehoe Boat Ramp, road and bridge

Wahi Pana:

- Waipiʻo Valley roadway access – in conjunction with a long range management plan to address public access, carrying capacity, resource management, and on-going maintenance of streams and roads

HB:bm:as

Sent by email