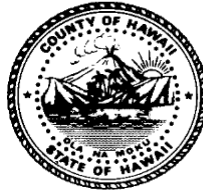


Mitchell D. Roth  
Mayor



Gregory Henkel  
Jennifer Scheffel  
Martha Morishige  
Kanoë Wilson, Chair  
Leilani DeMello, Vice Chair  
Vacant  
Leila Kealoha  
Susan Osborne  
Franny Brewer

## County of Hawai‘i

### PUNA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN ACTION COMMITTEE

Aupuni Center • 101 Pauahi Street, Suite 3 • Hilo, Hawai‘i 96720  
(808) 961-8288 • Fax (808) 961-8742

### AGENDA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of the following matters to be considered by the Puna Action Committee in accordance with the provisions of Section 92-7, Hawai‘i Revised Statutes (HRS). This meeting will be held in-person at the location listed in this notice and by Interactive Conference Technology (ICT) through Zoom.

**DATE:** Thursday, April 18, 2024  
**TIME:** 5:00 P.M.  
**IN PERSON LOCATION:** Kea‘au Community Center  
16-186 Pili Mua Street  
Kea‘au, HI 96749

**ONLINE/ZOOM:**

<https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIsd-CoqToqHIAyVhcvroHCnxZUBuLcP-k>

**NOTICE REGARDING PUBLIC TESTIMONY:** The public may provide oral testimony at the meeting by joining Zoom or attending in-person at the physical location listed above. Although not required, to register in advance for oral testimony please contact staff at [cdp@hawaiiicounty.gov](mailto:cdp@hawaiiicounty.gov) or (808) 961-8288. Pursuant to §92-3, HRS, interested persons who want to provide oral testimony may do so either at the time the committee takes public statements on the agenda, or at the time the specific agenda item is called. Please note that public testimony may be limited to three (3) minutes in length per agenda item. In addition, although not required, to ensure timely delivery of written testimony to committee members, it is requested that written testimony be submitted by 4:30 p.m. at least two business days prior to the meeting via email to [cdp@hawaiiicounty.gov](mailto:cdp@hawaiiicounty.gov). When submitting written testimony, please specify for which agenda item written testimony is being submitted. All written testimony will be a part of the public record.

**NOTICE REGARDING INTERACTIVE CONFERENCE TECHNOLOGY (ICT):** A meeting held by ICT shall be automatically recessed for up to 30 minutes to restore communication when audiovisual communication cannot be maintained with all members participating in the meeting or with the in-person location identified in this notice. The meeting may reconvene when either audiovisual communication is restored, or audio-only

communication is established after an unsuccessful attempt to restore audiovisual communication. If it is not possible to reconvene the meeting as provided in this subsection within 30 minutes after an interruption to communication, the meeting will be automatically terminated.

## **AGENDA**

### **I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

### **II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** The Committee will consider approving the draft minutes from February 1, 2024.

### **III. PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON AGENDA ITEMS:** Pursuant to §92-3, HRS, interested persons who want to provide oral testimony may do so now, or at the time the specific agenda item is called. Public testimony may be limited to three (3) minutes in length per agenda item.

### **IV. BUSINESS:**

- 1. Puna Brochure Permitted Interaction Group** – Decision making on whether to create a Permitted Interaction Group to investigate the existing Puna brochure.
- 2. Orchidland Neighbors Park Update** – Update by Orchidland Neighbors representative.
- 3. Overview of CDP Action Committee Purpose and Puna CDP Implementation Priorities for 2024** – Brief presentation by Planning Department staff on the background and purpose of the CDP Action Committee. Discussion to establish which implementation projects the committee will pursue in 2024 based off findings in the Puna CDP document.

### **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None

### **VI. AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:** Action Committee members will discuss potential agenda items for the next meeting.

### **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

This agenda and all related documents are available in the Planning Department's Puna Community Development Plan Action Committee folder via the County of Hawai'i Public Documents Repository: <https://records.hawaiicounty.gov/Weblink/Browse.aspx?dbid=1&cr=1>. These documents may also be requested from the Planning Department by calling (808) 961-8288 or emailing [cdp@hawaiicounty.gov](mailto:cdp@hawaiicounty.gov).

**NOTICE:** The purpose of the public hearings is to afford all interested persons a reasonable opportunity to be heard on the above items. A person desiring to submit oral or written testimony shall indicate their name and whether the testimony is on their behalf or as a representative of an organization or individual. Written testimony can be submitted via email or hard copy. Hard copies should include an original and nine copies and be submitted no later than 4:30pm two business days prior to the meeting.

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service, other reasonable modification, or language interpretation to access this meeting please contact the Planning Department at (808) 961-8288

or [cdp@hawaiiicounty.gov](mailto:cdp@hawaiiicounty.gov) as soon as possible, but no later than five business days prior to the meeting date, to arrange for accommodations. If a response is received after the five-business days deadline, we will try to obtain the auxiliary aid/service or accommodation, but we cannot guarantee that the request will be fulfilled. “Other reasonable modification” refers to communication methods or devices for people with disabilities who are mentally and/or physically challenged. Upon request, this notice is available in alternate formats such as large print, Braille, or electronic copy.

If you are a lobbyist, you must register with the Hawai‘i County Clerk within five days of becoming a lobbyist. (Article 15, Section 2-91.3(b), Hawai‘i County Code). A lobbyist means, “any individual engaged for pay or other consideration who spends more than five hours in any month or \$275 in any six-month period for the purpose of attempting to influence legislative or administrative action by communicating or urging others to communicate with public officials.” (Article 15, Section 2-91.3(a)(6), Hawai‘i County Code). Registration forms and expenditure report documents are available at the Office of the County Clerk-Council, 25 Aupuni Street, Hilo, Hawai‘i 96720.

PUNA CDP ACTION COMMITTEE

**PUNA CDP ACTION COMMITTEE  
COUNTY OF HAWAII**

**MINUTES  
February 1, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Wilson called the Puna Community Development Plan (PCDP) Action Committee (AC) meeting to order at 4:01 PM. This meeting was held in-person at the Pahoia Community Center and online via Zoom. Quorum was established at this meeting.

The YouTube video of this meeting can be found here:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LQQWJTOOb0M>

**ROLL CALL**

AC Members Present (in person): Frannie Brewer, Leila Kealoha, Kanoe Wilson, Jennifer Scheffel, Gregory Henkel, and Martha Morishige

AC Members Present (via Zoom): Susan Osborne (in late 4:04PM)

AC Members Absent-Excused: Leilani DeMello

Left Early: Susan Osborne (5:40PM) and Leila Kealoha (5:40 PM)

County Staff: Maryam Palma, Janice Hata, Kawelo Kalili, and Bethany Morrison (Zoom)

County Officials: Deputy Corporation Counsel, Suzanna Tiapula (Zoom)

Members of the public: 7 in person, also via Zoom

**ANNOUNCEMENTS [SEE YOUTUBE TIME STAMP 5:10]**

**1. Glenwood Zip code- Update from Planning Department Staff**

Planning Staff Maryam Palma gave an update that Zip codes are handled by the USPS.

**2. Puna AC Tentative Meetings for 2024 (Subject to change):**

Chair Wilson gave an update on the meeting cadence for 2024, first Thursday of every other month. Chair Wilson noted the date change for the month of April from Thursday the 4<sup>th</sup> to Thursday the 18<sup>th</sup>.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES [SEE YOUTUBE TIME STAMP 8:54]**

*Committee Member Kealoha made a motion to approve the December 11, 2023, minutes. Motion seconded by Committee Member Osborne. Motion passed with 7 votes aye, 0 votes nay.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:**

Robert Golden public testimony (via zoom) [SEE YOUTUBE TIME STAMP 59:08]

Amedeo Markoff public testimony [SEE YOUTUBE TIME STAMP 1:02:19]

Hannah Hendrick public testimony [SEE YOUTUBE TIME STAMP 1:05:58]

**BUSINESS:**

**1. Disaster Recovery Division Update [SEE YOUTUBE TIME STAMP 12:50]**

This item was called to order at 4:13 PM

County Staff Douglas Le gave an update on Disaster Recovery Division. Douglas noted that the Final Environmental Assessment has been published, currently in the procurement process.

This item concluded at 4:39 PM

**2. Pahoa Transit Hub and Library Project Update [SEE YOUTUBE TIME STAMP 40:02]**

This item was called to order at 4:41 PM

Planner Heather Bartlett from SSFM gave an update on the Pahoa Transit Hub and Library Project. Heather explained that there are three preferred sites for the Hub. Heather noted that they are working on the Draft Environmental assessment. The County & SSFM will update the public on the status of the Draft Environmental Assessment public comment period.

This item concluded at 5:02 PM

**3. Draft General Plan 2045 Presentation [SEE YOUTUBE TIME STAMP 1:11:01]**

This item was called to order at 5:05 PM

Bethany gave an update on the General Plan, explaining that the public comment period will be open until March 1, 2024. General Plan comments are welcome online through the Konveio platform as well as through email to the Planning Department. Also gave a walkthrough of how to access the functions within Konveio. Bethany answered questions from the Action Committee members as well as the public.

This item concluded at 6:10 PM

**PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING [SEE YOUTUBE TIME STAMP 2:10:03]**

1. Puna Brochure- Establish PIG
2. PONC Presentation update
3. Pahoa Transit Hub and Library- EA update
4. Upper Puna connectivity issue
5. Orchid land Park – P&R or Orchid land Estate involvement

72 **ADJOURNMENT:**

73 *Committee Member Brewer made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Committee*  
74 *Member Henkel. Motion passed 5 ayes; meeting adjourned at 6:18 P.M*

75 These minutes and all related documents are available in the Planning Department's Puna  
76 Community Development Plan Action Committee folder via the [County of Hawai'i Public](#)  
77 [Documents Repository](#). These documents may also be requested from the Planning Department  
78 by calling (808) 961-8288 or emailing [cdp@hawaiiicounty.gov](mailto:cdp@hawaiiicounty.gov).

DRAFT



## IMPLEMENTATION

| Section      | Action Item                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Responsibility |                | Timetable |         |         | Est. Cost      |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------|---------|---------|----------------|
|              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Lead           | Supporting     | 2008-12   | 2013-17 | 2018-30 | \$1,000 (2007) |
|              | <b>MĀLAMA I KA ‘ĀINA</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                |                |           |         |         |                |
| <b>2.1.3</b> | <b>Historic, Cultural, and Scenic Resources</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                |                |           |         |         |                |
| a.           | Seek Special Design District designations for the following areas:                                                                                                                                                                                  |                |                |           |         |         |                |
| 1)           | Volcano Village                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | PD             | COU            | X         |         |         |                |
| 2)           | Pāhoa Town                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | PD             | COU            | X         |         |         |                |
| 3)           | Kea‘au Town                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | PD             | COU            |           | X       |         |                |
| 4)           | Kurtistown-Mountain View corridor                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | PD             | COU            |           | X       |         |                |
| b.           | Propose amendments to the county building code for traditional Hawaiian building design and construction methods                                                                                                                                    | DPW            | COU/DPW        | X         |         |         |                |
| <b>2.2.3</b> | <b>Native Forests and Geological Features</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                |                |           |         |         |                |
| a.           | Enact a BRBZ Design District for the Volcano area                                                                                                                                                                                                   | COU            | PD/DPW         | X         |         |         |                |
| b.           | Propose amendments to the County code to protect native species, geological and historic features outside of the BRBZ                                                                                                                               | COU            | DPW/DP         | X         |         |         |                |
| c.           | Propose the establishment of an Office of County Ecologist within the Planning Department                                                                                                                                                           | COU            | PD             | X         |         |         |                |
| d.           | Provide County support for forest preservation by offering real property tax reductions and contributing land                                                                                                                                       | COU            | FIN, DPW       | X         | X       | X       |                |
| e.           | Reduce the minimum lot size to qualify for the native forest preservation tax reduction and allow it in any zoning district                                                                                                                         | COU            | FIN            | X         |         |         |                |
| f.           | Investigate alternatives to herbicides for weed control on public lands                                                                                                                                                                             | DOT, DPW       | DOE, DPR, DLNR | X         |         |         |                |
| <b>2.3.3</b> | <b>Aquifers and Coastal Waters</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                |                |           |         |         |                |
| a.           | Encourage State legislation to prohibit the use of cesspools as a means for wastewater disposal in areas below 1,000 feet Mean Sea Level                                                                                                            | LEG            | DOH/DLNR       | X         |         |         |                |
| b.           | Seek state Department of Health acceptance of small-footprint septic wastewater treatment designs and clustered septic systems                                                                                                                      | LEG            | DOH            | X         |         |         |                |
| c.           | Prepare watershed management plans for the Volcano-to-Mountain View and Hawaiian Acres-to-Orchidland areas to address localized flooding problems                                                                                                   | DPW            | DW/DP          |           | X       |         |                |
| d.           | Ensure legislation for a corridor of the Puna watershed at least two miles wide including the Wao Kele O Puna forest area and the State lands mauka of Highway 130 between ‘Āinaloa subdivision and Pāhoa is preserved for future potable water use | LEG            | DOH/DLNR       |           | X       |         |                |
| e.           | Encourage legislation that requires all blackwater wastewater disposal systems to be contained or connected to a collection system in areas below 100 feet Mean Sea Level                                                                           | PD             | DOH, DPW, DEM  | X         |         |         |                |
| f.           | Prepare an EA or an EIS for a wastewater treatment facility to service the Kapoho Beach Lots/Vacationland Hawai‘i area                                                                                                                              | DEM            | DOH, PD        |           | X       |         |                |
| g.           | Provide tax credits to Kapoho residents who convert their existing cesspools into aerobic treatment systems                                                                                                                                         | LEG            | DEM, DOH       |           | X       |         |                |
| <b>2.4.3</b> | <b>Shoreline Area</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                |                |           |         |         |                |
| a.           | Expand and improve database, references and skills at County level to review shoreline permit applications                                                                                                                                          | PD             | UH, DBEDT, FED | X         |         |         |                |
| b.           | Research and record information on trails and historic resources in the coastal zone                                                                                                                                                                | DLNR           | PD             | X         |         |         |                |

# PUNA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN



| Section                | Action Item                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Responsibility |                             | Timetable |         |         | Est. Cost<br>\$1,000 (2007) |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------------------------|
|                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Lead           | Supporting                  | 2008-12   | 2013-17 | 2018-30 |                             |
| c.                     | Conduct historic and biological surveys for review of shoreline permit applications and certifications and recommend increased scrutiny of applications for SMA permits for subdivision of properties likely to be underwater in 100 years | PD, DLNR       | NGO                         | X         |         |         |                             |
| d.                     | Take into account subsidence and storm waves in shoreline certifications                                                                                                                                                                   | DLNR           | PD                          | X         |         |         |                             |
| e.                     | Study storm wave and high tide patterns to develop refined coastal flood zone maps                                                                                                                                                         | FED, UH, DLNR  | DPW                         | X         |         |         |                             |
| f.                     | Implement special zoning and development controls for Kapoho area to address subsidence issues                                                                                                                                             | PD             | UH, DBEDT, FED              | X         |         |         |                             |
| <b>MANAGING GROWTH</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                |                             |           |         |         |                             |
| <b>3.1.3</b>           | <b>Land Use Pattern</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                |                             |           |         |         |                             |
| a.                     | Provide county support for land use entitlements and land assembly for voluntary land pooling projects by:                                                                                                                                 |                |                             |           |         |         |                             |
| 1)                     | Initiating a special use permit request or petition for land use boundary amendment                                                                                                                                                        | PD             | LUC                         |           | X       | X       |                             |
| 2)                     | Seeking amendment to State Land Use Law to enable “rural town/village” standards                                                                                                                                                           | PD             | LUC                         | X         |         |         |                             |
| 3)                     | Seeking State enabling legislation to allow County to retain lots delinquent in real property taxes                                                                                                                                        | PD             | FIN                         | X         |         |         |                             |
| 4)                     | Extending technical assistance and advice to community-based land pooling associations                                                                                                                                                     | CC, FIN        | NGOs                        | X         | X       | X       |                             |
| b.                     | Establish the following general classifications for village and town centers: Regional, Community and Neighborhood                                                                                                                         | PD             | CA                          | X         |         |         |                             |
| c.                     | Facilitate land use entitlements and other tools for the development of existing and future village/town centers and special design districts by:                                                                                          |                |                             |           |         |         |                             |
| 1)                     | Recommending approval of applications for commercial zoning or use permits for existing commercial uses in designated village/town centers                                                                                                 | PD             | COU                         | X         |         |         |                             |
| 2)                     | Recommending denial of applications for zone changes for commercial or light industrial use on sites that are not within designated village/town centers                                                                                   | PD             | COU                         | X         | X       | X       |                             |
| d.                     | Facilitate land use entitlements and financing for the development of new village/town centers by:                                                                                                                                         |                |                             |           |         |         |                             |
| 1)                     | Creating a regional town center plan for each village/town center                                                                                                                                                                          | PD             | CA                          | X         |         |         |                             |
| 2)                     | Providing loan guarantees or grants to community associations or partnerships for infrastructure development                                                                                                                               | COU            | FIN                         |           | X       | X       |                             |
| e.                     | Propose amendments to the zoning code and/or apply district-wide rezoning to limit allowable building footprint on residential and agricultural-zoned lands                                                                                | COU            | PD                          | X         |         |         |                             |
| f.                     | Require County agencies to establish and report on Level of Service standards for infrastructure and services                                                                                                                              | COU            | PD, DPW, HFD, HPD, DWS, DPR | X         | X       | X       |                             |
| g.                     | Urge the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) to conform to the goals and objectives of the PCDDP                                                                                                                                      | COU/LEG        | DHHL                        | X         |         |         |                             |
| h.                     | Propose reduction of property tax assessments and payments for properties whose development rights have been removed or reduced                                                                                                            | COU            | FIN                         |           | X       |         |                             |
| i.                     | Conduct study on the impacts from subdivision build-out                                                                                                                                                                                    | PD             | DLNR, DWS                   | X         |         |         |                             |
| j.                     | Recommend legislation for wider notice of pending applications for special permits, variances and zoning changes                                                                                                                           | PD             | COU                         | X         |         |         |                             |

## IMPLEMENTATION



| Section      | Action Item                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Responsibility |                | Timetable |         |         | Est. Cost<br>\$1,000 (2007) |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------------------------|
|              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Lead           | Supporting     | 2008-12   | 2013-17 | 2018-30 |                             |
| <b>3.2.3</b> | <b>Agriculture and Economic Development</b>                                                                                                                                                                        |                |                |           |         |         |                             |
| a.           | Limit water system and road standard variances for new subdivisions on agricultural-zoned land                                                                                                                     | PD             | COU            | X         |         |         |                             |
| b.           | Consider down-rezoning of lands in Agricultural zoning districts to discourage further subdivision into small lots                                                                                                 | PD             | COU            | X         |         |         |                             |
| c.           | Reconsider Urban Expansion Areas for Pāhoa on the LUPAG, except where they correspond to existing residential zoning and designated Regional Town Center and industrial boundaries                                 | COU            | PD             | X         |         |         |                             |
| d.           | Seek State legislation to impose higher conveyance and/or capital gains taxes on short-term property re-sales                                                                                                      | LEG            | FIN            | X         |         |         |                             |
| e.           | Seek state legislation to allow the county to hold onto properties that are in foreclosure due to property taxes in arrears rather than immediately auctioning them to the highest bidder                          | COU, LEG       | FIN            | X         |         |         |                             |
| f.           | Provide land and infrastructure for farmers' markets within village/town centers                                                                                                                                   | R&D            | DPW            | X         | X       |         |                             |
| g.           | Seek State authorized lower General Excise Tax rate on local agricultural products sold at County farmers markets                                                                                                  | LEG            | R&D            | X         |         |         |                             |
| h.           | Develop an agri/eco-tourism policy, necessary zoning and other County assistance for farmers markets, special events, restaurants specializing in local food products, and similar promotions of local agriculture | R&D            | PD             | X         |         |         |                             |
| i.           | Develop business incubator districts in Kea'au, Pāhoa, and Mountain View                                                                                                                                           | R&D            | DBEDT/DP       | X         | X       |         |                             |
| j.           | Promote use of the incentives offered by the designation of an Enterprise Zone                                                                                                                                     | R&D            | DBEDT          | X         | X       | X       |                             |
| k.           | Support the HCC-Bay Clinic or similar partnership to establish a youth business center in Kea'au                                                                                                                   | HCC, NGO       | DBEDT, R&D     | X         |         |         |                             |
| l.           | Support the development of a community-based organic farming operation and training facility in cooperation with HCC and UH                                                                                        | HCC, UH        | R&D            | X         |         |         |                             |
| m.           | Develop job opportunities in Puna in renewable energy generation                                                                                                                                                   | R&D            | DBEDT          |           | X       | X       |                             |
| n.           | Conduct a study to define and identify important agricultural lands in Puna                                                                                                                                        | PD             | R&D            | X         |         |         |                             |
| o.           | Create a real property tax exemption (perhaps 4 to 6 years) for farmers entitled to Federal crop loss insurance                                                                                                    | COU            | FIN            |           | X       |         |                             |
| p.           | Encourage organic farming and gardening by establishing a Puna agriculture scholarship with HCC and UH Hilo                                                                                                        | HCC, UH        | LEG/COU        | X         | X       | X       |                             |
| <b>3.3.3</b> | <b>Social Services and Housing</b>                                                                                                                                                                                 |                |                |           |         |         |                             |
| a.           | Develop a centrally located full-service medical facility based on a non-profit model                                                                                                                              | NGO            | LEG/DOH        | X         | X       | X       |                             |
| b.           | Establish "one-stop" social services assistance centers at various locations                                                                                                                                       | NGOs           | DHS, OHCD      | X         | X       |         |                             |
| c.           | Build partnerships between the County and non-profit organizations for social services and economic development                                                                                                    | COU            | NGO, OHCD, R&D | X         | X       | X       |                             |
| d.           | Seek State enabling legislation to help lower self-help housing construction costs                                                                                                                                 | LEG            | COU/OHCD, DPW  | X         |         |         |                             |
| e.           | Offer educational programs to develop financial skills of renters and rental strategies for owners and tenants                                                                                                     | OHCD           | HFDC           | X         | X       | X       |                             |
| f.           | Promote programs to increase homeownership opportunities                                                                                                                                                           | OHCD           | HFDC           | X         | X       | X       |                             |

# PUNA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN



| Section      | Action Item                                                                                                                                                                          | Responsibility |               | Timetable |         |         | Est. Cost      |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------|---------|---------|----------------|
|              |                                                                                                                                                                                      | Lead           | Supporting    | 2008-12   | 2013-17 | 2018-30 | \$1,000 (2007) |
| g.           | Promote multi-family and special needs housing in village/town centers                                                                                                               | HFDC/OHCD      | PD            | X         | X       | X       |                |
| h.           | Propose amendments to the building code to allow occupancy of residential dwellings before final inspection                                                                          | COU            | BD            | X         |         |         |                |
| i.           | Urge the State to increase local control over public schools                                                                                                                         | LEG            | COU           | X         | X       |         |                |
| j.           | Urge the State to establish a Hawai'i Community College/UH-Hilo satellite campus in Puna                                                                                             | LEG            | UH            | X         |         |         |                |
| <b>3.4.3</b> | <b>Public Safety and Sanitation Services</b>                                                                                                                                         |                |               |           |         |         |                |
| a.           | Develop permanent fire stations at Hawaiian Beaches/Shores, Hawaiian Paradise Park, lower Volcano, and Mt. View                                                                      | COU            | HFD           |           | X       | X       |                |
| b.           | Provide additional volunteer stations in subdivisions as sites become available and growth warrants                                                                                  | HFD            | NGOs          | X         | X       | X       |                |
| c.           | Promote free wireless internet services                                                                                                                                              | COU, LEG       | FED           |           | X       | X       |                |
| d.           | Provide more emergency call boxes along State highways                                                                                                                               | DOT            |               |           | X       |         |                |
| e.           | Encourage enhancement of cell phone service to cover remote areas                                                                                                                    | LEG            | PUC           |           | X       |         |                |
| f.           | Boost Department of Environmental Management recycling budget                                                                                                                        | COU            | DEM           | X         | X       | X       |                |
| g.           | Increase County resources to handle abandoned/derelict car removal                                                                                                                   | COU            | DEM           | X         | X       | X       |                |
| h.           | Provide public financial support for infrastructure development within approved village/town centers                                                                                 | COU/FED        | DEM, DWS, DPW |           | X       | X       |                |
| <b>3.5.3</b> | <b>Parks and Recreation</b>                                                                                                                                                          |                |               |           |         |         |                |
| a.           | Consider expanding the Camp Ground at MacKenzie State Park to include public property south of MacKenzie                                                                             | DLNR           | DPR           |           | X       |         | 450            |
| b.           | Improve and expand Coastal Activity Areas as follows:                                                                                                                                |                |               |           |         |         |                |
| 1)           | Ahalanui Beach Park                                                                                                                                                                  | DPR            | COU           | X         |         |         | 925            |
| 2)           | Consider modifications to tidepools beyond "Shacks" for use as "keiki pools"                                                                                                         | DLNR           | DPR, NGO      |           | X       |         | 185            |
| 3)           | Pursue development of a camp ground and/or ocean recreation park with potential boat launch ramp and marina facilities at Cape Kumukahi                                              | DLNR           | LEG           |           | X       |         | TBD            |
| 4)           | Consider acquisition and development of Honolulu Landing, Kapoho Crater and Sand Hill                                                                                                | DLNR, DPR, COU | DPR, DLNR     |           |         | X       | TBD            |
| 5)           | Develop support facilities for Kehena Beach State Park                                                                                                                               | DLNR           | DPR           | X         |         |         | TBD            |
| 6)           | Encourage development of hike/camp coastal trail system                                                                                                                              | DLNR, DPR      | NGO           |           |         | X       | TBD            |
| c.           | Improve and expand Community Parks as follows:                                                                                                                                       |                |               |           |         |         |                |
| 1)           | Develop new community parks in: a) Hawaiian Acres; b) North Kūlani; c) Glenwood; d) Nānāwale Estates; e) Leilani Estates; f) Orchidland Estates; and g) Hawaiian Beaches subdivision | DPR            | COU           |           | X       |         | TBD            |
| 2)           | Various improvements to Pāhoa Regional Park                                                                                                                                          | DPR            | COU           | X         | X       | X       | 3,750          |
| 3)           | Various improvements to Shipman (Kea'au) Regional Park                                                                                                                               | DPR            | COU           | X         | X       | X       | 3,300          |
| 4)           | New district park and various improvements at Hawaiian Paradise Park                                                                                                                 | DPR            | COU           | X         | X       | X       | 9,400          |
| 5)           | Develop recreational programs for Cooper Center and Volcano Community Park                                                                                                           | DPR            | COU           | X         |         |         |                |
| 6)           | Provide improvements at Mountain View Community Park and A. J. Watt Gym                                                                                                              | DPR            | COU           |           | X       |         | 185            |
| 7)           | Expand hours of operation at regional and larger community parks                                                                                                                     | DPR            | COU           |           | X       |         |                |

# IMPLEMENTATION



| Section      | Action Item                                                                                                                                                 | Responsibility |            | Timetable |         |         | Est. Cost      |
|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------|-----------|---------|---------|----------------|
|              |                                                                                                                                                             | Lead           | Supporting | 2008-12   | 2013-17 | 2018-30 | \$1,000 (2007) |
| 8)           | Develop a new senior center in Mountain View                                                                                                                | DPR            | OHCD       |           | X       |         | 185            |
| 9)           | Provide in each village center a recreational park and village green                                                                                        | DPR, NGOs      | COU        |           | X       | X       | TBD            |
| 10)          | Make recreation facilities and meeting rooms at public schools available for community use after school hours                                               | DOE            | DPR, NGOs  | X         |         |         |                |
| 11)          | Create small community parks as part of right-of-way acquisition for new connecting road segments between subdivisions                                      | DPW            | NGOs       |           | X       | X       |                |
| d.           | Create and improve Linear Parks as follows:                                                                                                                 |                |            |           |         |         |                |
| 1)           | When acquiring rights-of-way for constructing new roadways or improving existing major roadways, make provisions for parallel multi-use recreational trails | DPW, DOT       | COU        |           | X       | X       |                |
| 2)           | Complete development of Old Volcano Trail as a pedestrian and cycle pathway                                                                                 | DPW            | COU        | X         |         |         |                |
| 3)           | Acquire former railroad right-of-way from Kapoho through Hawaiian Paradise Park for hiking, bicycling and horse-back riding                                 | DPW            | DLNR       |           | X       |         |                |
| 4)           | Plan for acquisition and development of the former railroad right-of-way from Hawaiian Paradise Park to Railroad Avenue in Hilo                             | DPW            | DLNR       |           |         | X       |                |
| 5)           | Plan for public access along Old Government Road (coastal trail) as a bicycle and hiking trail                                                              | DLNR           | DPW        |           | X       |         |                |
| e.           | Create and improve Preserves as follows                                                                                                                     |                |            |           |         |         |                |
| 1)           | Assess appropriate level of site visitor usage and implement self-guided or steward-led tours                                                               | DLNR           | DPR        | X         |         |         |                |
| 2)           | Improve conditions at Wai'ōpae Tidepools                                                                                                                    | DLNR           | LEG        |           | X       |         | 600            |
| 3)           | Consider acquiring Green Lake and vicinity for native habitat restoration and nature center                                                                 | DLNR           | LEG        |           | X       |         | TBD            |
| 4)           | Consider hiking trails through Nānāwale Forest Reserve                                                                                                      | DLNR           | PD, NGO    |           | X       |         | 300            |
| 5)           | Pursue development of passive cultural/botanical park in Hawaiian Paradise Park                                                                             | DLNR           | DPR        |           |         | X       | TBD            |
| <b>3.6.3</b> | <b>Energy Sustainability</b>                                                                                                                                |                |            |           |         |         |                |
| a            | Apply LEED standards for public buildings, with a minimum goal of silver level                                                                              | BD             | COU        | X         |         |         |                |
| b.           | Investigate ground-water cooling for public buildings                                                                                                       | DBEDT          | DPW        | X         |         |         |                |
| c.           | Promote energy efficiency standards for larger residences                                                                                                   | BD             | COU        | X         | X       |         |                |
| d.           | Incorporate energy-efficient features into the construction of lower-cost homes with the use of public subsidies                                            | OHCD, HFDC     | PUC        | X         | X       | X       |                |
| e.           | Establish a Renewable Energy Research & Development fund with UH-Hilo                                                                                       | UH             | DBEDT/R&D  |           |         |         |                |
| f.           | Apply the PUC Public Benefits Fund to retrofit dwellings for alternative energy, with sliding scale to reach low-income households                          | PUC            | COU, OHCD  | X         | X       | X       |                |
| g.           | Negotiate a direct use of geothermal agreement for agricultural uses as part of any expansion of the capacity of the Puna Geothermal Venture plant          | HELCO, PUC     | R&D        | X         |         |         |                |
| h.           | Promote biomass energy and fuel production using wood chips from exotic trees                                                                               | PUC            | DBEDT, R&D | X         | X       | X       |                |
| i.           | Pursue new renewable energy sources (OTEC, wave energy, solar capture) as technology advances                                                               | PUC            | DBEDT, R&D |           | X       | X       |                |
| 1)           | Pursue an ocean energy or enterprise subzone                                                                                                                | R&D            | DBEDT, PD  |           | X       |         |                |
| 2)           | Pursue other applications besides energy capture (e.g., aquaculture and agricultural product washing)                                                       | R&D            | DBEDT      |           | X       | X       |                |

# PUNA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN



| Section      | Action Item                                                                                                 | Responsibility |                | Timetable |         |         | Est. Cost<br>\$1,000 (2007) |
|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------------------------|
|              |                                                                                                             | Lead           | Supporting     | 2008-12   | 2013-17 | 2018-30 |                             |
| <b>4.1.3</b> | <b>TRANSPORTATION<br/>Traffic Demand Management</b>                                                         |                |                |           |         |         |                             |
| a.           | Promote VanPool and ride-sharing alternatives more actively                                                 | DOT            | R&D, EMPL      | X         |         |         |                             |
| b.           | Promote staggered work hours and telecommuting with major employers and institutions                        | COU, UH        | EMPL           | X         |         |         |                             |
| c.           | Facilitate telecommuting by developing free Wi-Fi reception in Puna                                         | COU, LEG       | FED            |           | X       | X       | TBD                         |
| <b>4.2.3</b> | <b>Mass Transit</b>                                                                                         |                |                |           |         |         |                             |
| a.           | Prepare a county-wide Transit Master Plan                                                                   | MTA            | FED            | X         |         |         | TBD                         |
| b.           | Improve transit service operations by:                                                                      | MTA            | FED            |           |         |         |                             |
| 1)           | Increasing transit service to a minimum of two additional runs during peak hours                            | MTA            | FED            | X         |         |         | 1,200                       |
| 2)           | Establish demand responsive transit in subdivisions                                                         | MTA            | FED            |           | X       |         | TBD                         |
| 3)           | Provide commuter express bus service from Pāhoa to Hilo and Volcano to Hilo                                 | MTA            | FED            |           | X       |         | TBD                         |
| 4)           | Establish a hub-and-spoke transit system                                                                    | MTA            | FED            |           | X       |         | TBD                         |
| c.           | Develop transit hubs at the following locations:                                                            |                |                |           |         |         |                             |
| 1)           | Kea'au (Primary Hub)                                                                                        | MTA            | FED            |           | X       |         | TBD                         |
| 2)           | Pāhoa (Secondary Hub)                                                                                       | MTA            | FED            |           | X       |         |                             |
| 3)           | Volcano (Secondary Hub)                                                                                     | MTA            | FED            |           | X       |         |                             |
| 4)           | Mountain View (Secondary Hub)                                                                               | MTA            | FED            |           | X       |         |                             |
| d.           | Provide park-and-ride lots at transit hubs and HPP                                                          | MTA            | FED            | X         | X       |         |                             |
| e.           | Develop a cooperative program with public and private schools to provide student passes for the Hele-On Bus | MTA            | DOE, LEG, NGOs | X         |         |         |                             |
| f.           | Launch public education campaign promoting transit services                                                 | MTA            | NGOs           | X         | X       | X       |                             |
| g.           | Cultivate public/private partnerships, such as employer-sponsored bus passes                                | MTA            | NGOs, EMPL     | X         | X       | X       |                             |
| h.           | Expand MTA staff to provide greater support for transit operations                                          | COU            | FIN, MTA       | X         | X       |         |                             |
| i.           | Investigate other fare/ticketing incentives to increase ridership                                           | MTA            | FED            | X         |         |         |                             |
| j.           | Work with DOT in creating safe pedestrian conditions for using mass transit                                 | MTA            | DOT            | X         | X       |         |                             |
| k.           | Expand Hele-On service to include regular service to the Hilo and Keahole International Airports            | MTA            | DOT, COU       | X         |         |         |                             |
| <b>4.3.3</b> | <b>Roadway Network</b>                                                                                      |                |                |           |         |         |                             |
| a.           | Short Term (2008-2012)                                                                                      |                |                |           |         |         |                             |
| 1)           | Plan and design PMAR alignment                                                                              | DPW            | DOT            | X         |         |         |                             |
| 2)           | Require building setbacks in HPP for potential PMAR extension                                               | PD             | DPW            | X         |         |         |                             |
| 3)           | Establish emergency routes using mostly existing road beds                                                  | DPW            | NGOs           | X         |         |         |                             |
| 4)           | Include pedestrian and bicycling requirements in all projects                                               | DPW            | NGOs           | X         |         |         |                             |
| 5)           | Create connectivity alignments between various subdivisions                                                 | DPW            | NGOs           | X         |         |         |                             |
| b.           | Medium Term (2013-2017)                                                                                     |                |                |           |         |         |                             |
| 1)           | Construct a two-lane roadway between Kaloli Dr and Kea'au                                                   | DPW            | NGO            |           | X       |         | 19,200                      |
| 2)           | Construct unpaved two-lane roadway between Kahakai Blvd and HPP                                             | DPW            | DLNR, NGO      |           | X       |         | 4,400                       |
| 3)           | Construct a two-lane roadway from Nānāwale to Kahakai Blvd                                                  | DPW            | NGO            |           | X       |         | 4,000                       |

## IMPLEMENTATION



| Section      | Action Item                                                                                                                                                                     | Responsibility |            | Timetable |         |         | Est. Cost      |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------|-----------|---------|---------|----------------|
|              |                                                                                                                                                                                 | Lead           | Supporting | 2008-12   | 2013-17 | 2018-30 | \$1,000 (2007) |
| 4)           | Study need/feasibility of Pāhoa-Hwy 11 and Hwy 11-Stainback Highway alternative routes                                                                                          | DPW            | DOT        |           |         | X       |                |
| c.           | Long Term (2018-2030)                                                                                                                                                           |                |            |           |         |         |                |
| 1)           | Construct Phase II segments of PMAR                                                                                                                                             | DPW            | DOT        |           |         | X       | 33,500         |
| 2)           | Acquire additional right-of-way through HPP to extend PMAR                                                                                                                      | DPW            | DOT        |           |         | X       | 1,700          |
| 3)           | If traffic demands, construct PMAR extension through HPP to connect to Kahakai Boulevard                                                                                        | DPW            | DOT        |           |         | X       | 23,000         |
| <b>4.4.3</b> | <b>Highways</b>                                                                                                                                                                 |                |            |           |         |         |                |
| a.           | Short Term (2008-2012)                                                                                                                                                          |                |            |           |         |         |                |
| 1)           | Intersection improvements on Highways 11 and 130                                                                                                                                | DOT            | LEG/FED    | X         |         |         | 5,500          |
| 2)           | Reduce speed limit on Hwy 130 to 45mph (Kea'au Bypass to Ainaloa Blvd)                                                                                                          | DOT            | LEG/FED    | X         |         |         |                |
| 3)           | Determine most effective ways to improve highway safety for all travel modes                                                                                                    | DOT            | LEG/FED    | X         |         |         |                |
| 4)           | Implement the Hwy 130 shoulder lane conversion project between Kea'au Bypass and Shower Drive and consider using the 3 <sup>rd</sup> lane as a reversible lane for peak periods | DOT            | LEG/FED    | X         |         |         | 6,500          |
| b.           | Medium Term (2013-2017)                                                                                                                                                         |                |            |           |         |         |                |
| 1)           | Increase capacity on Hwy 130 between bypass road and Ainaloa, based on optimal safety                                                                                           | DOT            | LEG/FED    |           | X       |         | 28,000         |
| 2)           | Construct a right exit lane on Hwy 11 below Kea'au Ag lots to Kea'au Village using the existing Old Volcano Rd ROW                                                              | DOT            | LEG/FED    |           | X       |         |                |
| 3)           | Create a right hand turn lane from Hwy 132 onto Hwy 130                                                                                                                         | DPW            | LEG/FED    |           | X       |         |                |
| <b>4.5.3</b> | <b>Non-Motorized Travel and Scenic Byways</b>                                                                                                                                   |                |            |           |         |         |                |
| a.           | Request that the STIP allocate a larger share of federal "flex funds" to transit-related and alternative travel modes                                                           | COU            | DOT, FED   | X         | X       | X       |                |
| b.           | Allocate funding to DPW for safe routes to schools/parks improvements, with Kea'au improvements as a priority                                                                   | COU            | DPW        | X         | X       | X       |                |
| c.           | Invest in pedestrian-, bicycle- and parking-related improvements in approved village/town centers                                                                               | COU            | DPW        | X         | X       | X       |                |
| d.           | Allocate funding to the HPD to monitor traffic operations along safe routes to schools/parks                                                                                    | COU            | HPD        | X         | X       | X       |                |
| e.           | Complete surveys, acquisition of right-of-way, maintenance agreements, planning and design, and construction for multi-purpose trails                                           | DPW, DLNR      | COU, LEG   | X         | X       |         | 10,700         |
| f.           | Designate and improve Highway 137 (Red Road) as a Scenic Byway                                                                                                                  | DPW            |            |           | X       | X       | 1,100          |



Puna Community Development Plan Action Committee  
Refresher & Implementation Guide



# Purpose of the CDP Action Committee

- Be a proactive, community-based steward of the implementation and updating of the CDP.
- Provide ongoing input and advocacy to advance implementation of the CDP goals, objectives, policies, and actions.

# CDP AC Roles

## Planning Department

- Administrative support such as the timely preparation and distribution of the agenda for each meeting to satisfy meeting notice requirements, meeting logistics, correspondence, annual reports, website publications, and preparation and official posting of meeting minutes;
- Liaise between the Committee and governmental agencies in furtherance of the CDP's goals and objectives.
- Facilitate the implementation of the CDP and serve as a planning resource to the Committee and community;

## AC Chair

- Open all meetings of the Committee
- Maintain order, clarity of process and action, and proper decorum
- Review all matters properly brought before the Committee, call for votes upon the same and announce the results;
- Authenticate by signature all acts of the Committee as may be required by law

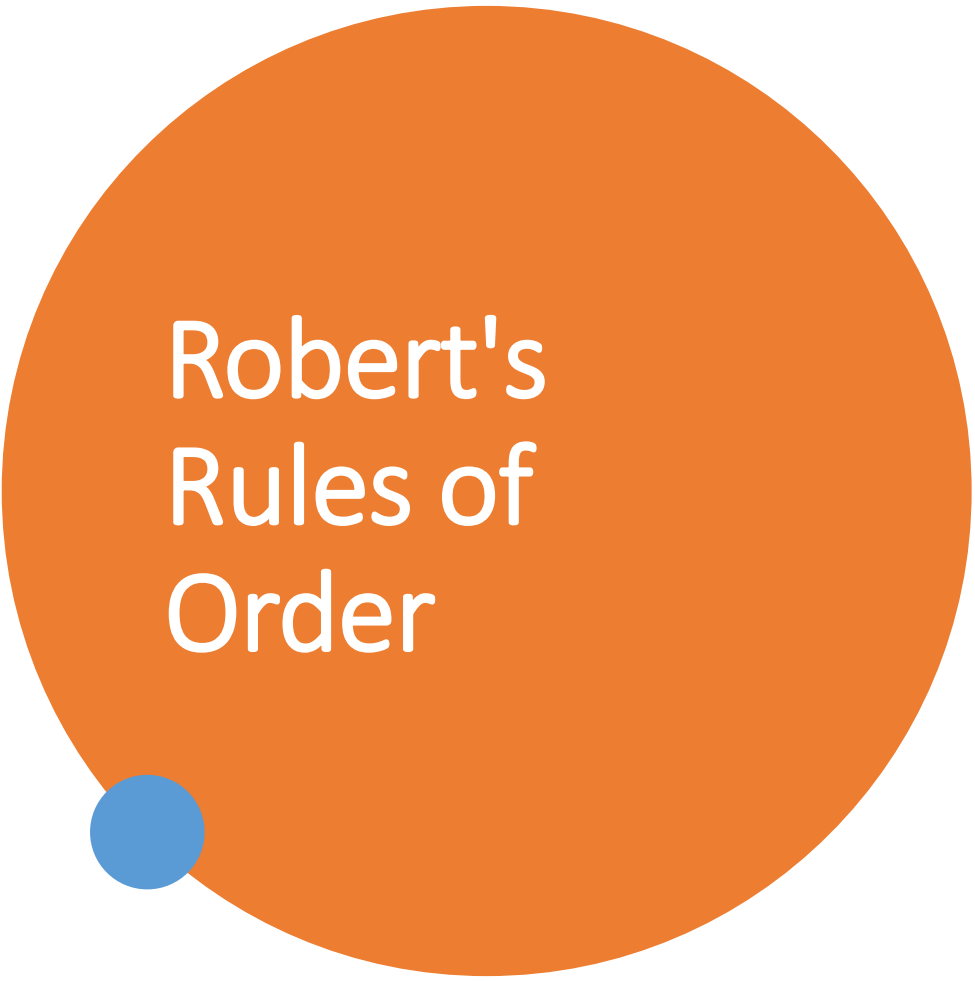
## AC Members

- Regularly attend Action Committee meetings
- Develop priorities and a work plan to implement community actions in the CDPs
- Develop partnerships with individuals, non-profits, businesses, and community groups/associations to implement CDP policies and actions
- Transmit project updates and involvement opportunities regularly to their CDP region
- Intentionally and explicitly engage all factions of their community with specific attention to those who are marginalized and underrepresented
- Invest a minimum of eight (8) hours of work each month advancing CDP implementation through priority projects



# Sunshine Law

The Sunshine Law is Hawai'i's open meeting law. It governs the manner in which all state and county boards must conduct their business. The Sunshine Law outlines requirements for committee and subcommittee meetings. It also dictates how committee members are allowed to interact with each other concerning committee business.



# Robert's Rules of Order



As for committee meetings, we follow a modified version of Robert's Rules of Order. This protocol is intended to be a guide for conducting meetings and making decisions as a group. These rules help to define how a committee conducts committee business and also helps committee members understand the appropriate way to participate in a cooperative manner.

# Puna Community Development Plan

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## **PUNA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN**



**SEPTEMBER 2008**  
(As Amended)

# CDP Purpose & Priorities:

- General Purpose of the CDP's:
- Guide County actions
- Guide the policy and actions of State and federal agencies
- **Focus and guide community action**
- 3 Puna CDP Themes:
- Mālama i ka 'āina
- Growth management
- Transportation

# How to navigate the CDP?

## Chapter 1: Introduction

## Chapter 2: MĀLAMA I KA 'ĀINA

- Historic, Cultural, Science Resources, Native Forests and Geological Features, Aquifers, Coastal Waters and Stormwater, Shoreline Area

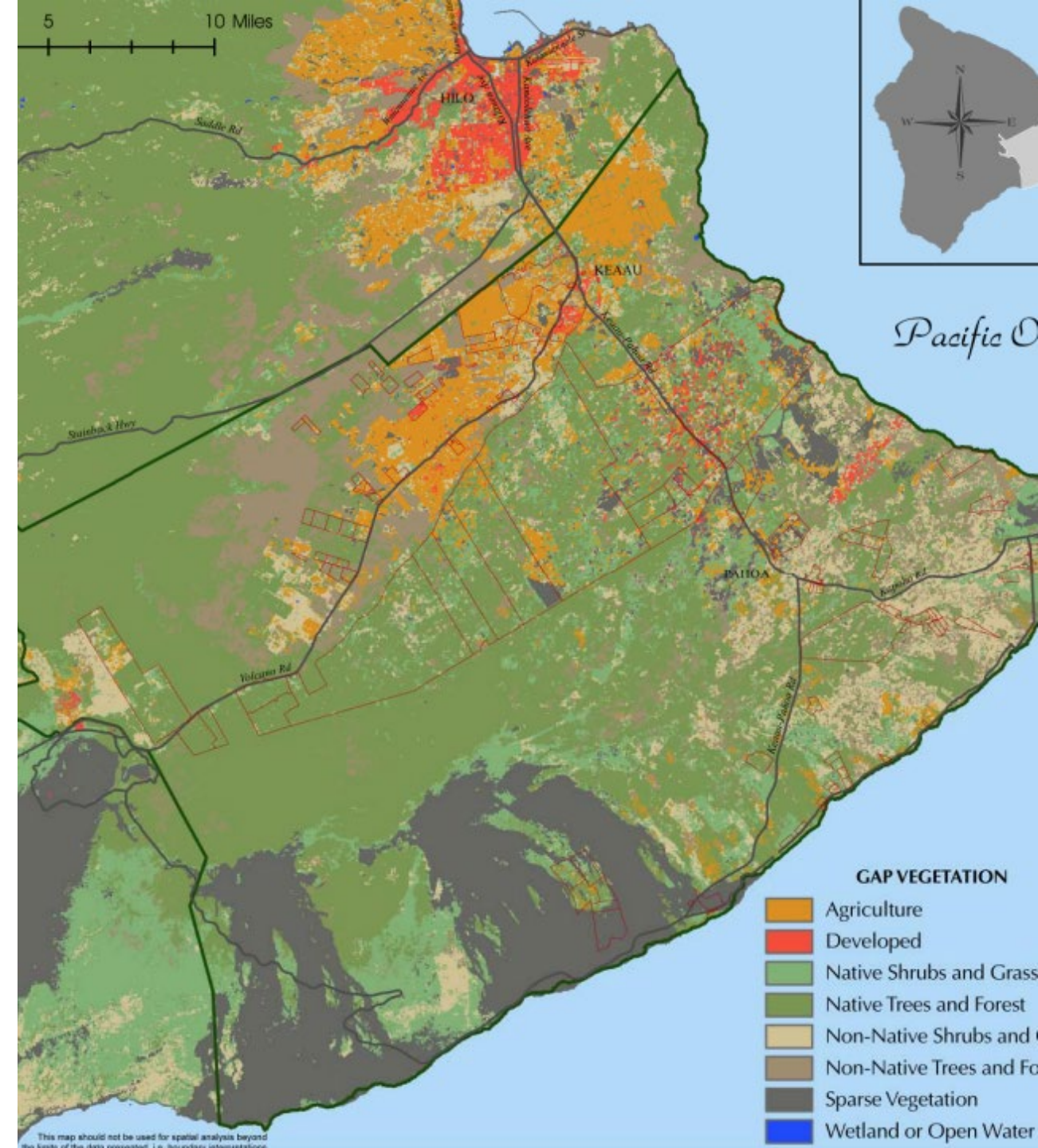
## Chapter 3: MANAGING GROWTH

- Land Use Pattern, Agriculture and Economic Development, Social Services and Housing, Public Safety and Sanitation Services, Parks and Recreation, Energy Sustainability

## Chapter 4: TRANSPORTATION

- Traffic Demand Management, Mass Transit, Roadway Network, Highways, Non-Motorized Travel and Scenic Byways

## Chapter 5: Implementation



| Section           | Action Item                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Responsibility       |                          | Timetable |         |         | Est. Cost      |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------|---------|---------|----------------|
|                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Lead                 | Supporting               | 2008-12   | 2013-17 | 2018-30 | \$1,000 (2007) |
| MĀLAMA I KA ʻĀINA |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                      |                          |           |         |         |                |
| 2.1.3             | Historic, Cultural, and Scenic Resources                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                      |                          |           |         |         |                |
| a.                | Seek Special Design District designations for the following areas:<br>1) Volcano Village<br>2) Pāhoa Town<br>3) Keaʻau Town<br>4) Kurtistown-Mountain View corridor                                                                                 | PD<br>PD<br>PD<br>PD | COU<br>COU<br>COU<br>COU | X<br>X    |         | X<br>X  |                |
| b.                | Propose amendments to the county building code for traditional Hawaiian building design and construction methods                                                                                                                                    | DPW                  | COU/DP                   | X         |         |         |                |
| 2.2.3             | Native Forests and Geological Features                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                      |                          |           |         |         |                |
| a.                | Enact a BRBZ Design District for the Volcano area                                                                                                                                                                                                   | COU                  | PD/DPW                   | X         |         |         |                |
| b.                | Propose amendments to the County code to protect native species, geological and historic features outside of the BRBZ                                                                                                                               | COU                  | DPW/PD                   | X         |         |         |                |
| c.                | Propose the establishment of an Office of County Ecologist within the Planning Department                                                                                                                                                           | COU                  | PD                       | X         |         |         |                |
| d.                | Provide County support for forest preservation by offering real property tax reductions and contributing land                                                                                                                                       | COU                  | FIN, DPW                 | X         | X       | X       |                |
| e.                | Reduce the minimum lot size to qualify for the native forest preservation tax reduction and allow it in any zoning district                                                                                                                         | COU                  | FIN                      | X         |         |         |                |
| f.                | Investigate alternatives to herbicides for weed control on public lands                                                                                                                                                                             | DOT, DPW             | DOE, DPR, DLNR           | X         |         |         |                |
| 2.3.3             | Aquifers and Coastal Waters                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                      |                          |           |         |         |                |
| a.                | Encourage State legislation to prohibit the use of cesspools as a means for wastewater disposal in areas below 1,000 feet Mean Sea Level                                                                                                            | LEG                  | DOH/DLNR                 | X         |         |         |                |
| b.                | Seek state Department of Health acceptance of small-footprint septic wastewater treatment designs and clustered septic systems                                                                                                                      | LEG                  | DOH                      | X         |         |         |                |
| c.                | Prepare watershed management plans for the Volcano-to-Mountain View and Hawaiian Acres-to-Orchidland areas to address localized flooding problems                                                                                                   | DPW                  | DW/PD                    |           | X       |         |                |
| d.                | Ensure legislation for a corridor of the Puna watershed at least two miles wide including the Wao Kele O Puna forest area and the State lands mauka of Highway 130 between ʻĀinaloa subdivision and Pāhoa is preserved for future potable water use | LEG                  | DOH/DLNR                 |           | X       |         |                |
| e.                | Encourage legislation that requires all blackwater wastewater disposal systems to be contained or connected to a collection system in areas below 100 feet Mean Sea Level                                                                           | PD                   | DOH, DPW, DEM            | X         |         |         |                |

# Implementation Table (Page 81-87)

The Implementation Table on the following pages identifies, for each of the proposed actions in the Puna Community Development Plan, the organization(s) responsible for taking the lead or supporting role for implementation, the projected timeframe for implementation, and the estimated cost, in 2007 dollars, of implementing the action, if it is a major capital improvement project.



## Action Item: 3.2.3 (p)

- Encourage organic farming and gardening by establishing a Puna agriculture scholarship with HCC and UH Hilo
- Lead: HCC, UH
- Supporting: LEG/COU
- Timetable: 2008-2030

## **Action Item: 3.4.3 (c)**

- Promote free wireless internet services
- Lead: COU, LEG
- Supporting: FED
- Timetable: 2013-2030

## **Action Item: 4.1.3 (c)**

- Facilitate telecommuting by developing free Wi-Fi reception in Puna
- Lead: COU, LEG
- Supporting: FED
- Timetable: 2013-2030



## Action Item: 4.5.3 (b)

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- Allocate funding to DPW for safe routes to schools/parks improvements, with Kea'au improvements as a priority
- Lead: COU
- Supporting: DPW
- Timeline: 2008-2030



# Puna CDP Action Item Examples:

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| Acton Item # | Action                                                                                                         | Lead   Supporting                 | Timetable |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| 3.2.3 (p)    | Encourage organic farming and gardening by establishing a Puna agriculture scholarship with HCC and UH Hilo    | Lead: HCC, UH<br>Supporting: R&D  | 2008-2030 |
| 3.4.3 (c)    | Promote free wireless internet services.                                                                       | Lead: COU, LEG<br>Supporting: FED | 2013-2030 |
| 4.1.3 (c)    | Facilitate telecommuting by developing free Wi-Fi reception in Puna.                                           | Lead: COU, LEG<br>Supporting: FED | 2013-2030 |
| 4.5.3 (b)    | Allocate funding to DPW for safe routes to schools/parks improvements, with Kea'au improvements as a priority. | Lead: COU<br>Supporting: DPW      | 2008-2030 |

## E Mālama Kākou I Ka 'Āina *Let's All Steward The Land*

Wherever your property is in Puna, untouched land may have native or endemic bird, insect, and plant species found nowhere else on earth. Some may very well be rare and/or endangered.

Responsible stewardship means building and living in a way that minimizes your impact on Hawai'i's unique ecosystems.



## Wildlife Corridors

Many parcels of land in Puna either abut or are close to protected areas such as Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, Kahauale'a Natural Area Reserve, Ola'a Forest Reserve, Wao Kele o Puna, Keau'ohana Forest Reserve, Nānāwale Forest Reserve and several others. These areas are of high ecological sensitivity and development can break the continuity of critical habitat. Bird and plant populations become genetically isolated and are at greater risk. By clearing minimally, removing invasive species and landscaping with native plants or non-invasive non-native plants, you can help to maintain the biological integrity of our at risk native species.

## Informational Resources

- County Department of Public Works (DPW) <http://www.hawaiicounty.gov/public-works/>
- State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) <http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/>
- State Division of Forestry & Wildlife (DOFAW) <http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/dofaw/>
- College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) <https://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/site/Extprogrms.aspx>
- Hawaiian Alien Plant Studies (University of Hawai'i) [http://www.botany.hawaii.edu/faculty/cw\\_smith/aliens.htm](http://www.botany.hawaii.edu/faculty/cw_smith/aliens.htm)
- Big Island Invasive Species Committee (BIISC) <http://www.biisc.org/>

## Mahalo Nui Loa

The agencies and organizations listed below have contributed information used in the development of this brochure.

- County of Hawai'i Planning Department
- Puna Community Development Plan Action Committee
- Volcano Community Association
- Mālama O Puna

*The information contained in this brochure is for general information purposes only and is not conclusive. Please confirm all building and permitting requirements with the respective approving agency.*

Communication No. 2024-06

# BEFORE YOU BUILD IN PUNA



## A Guide to Protecting Puna's Forests

Produced by the  
Puna Community Development Plan  
Action Committee



County of Hawai'i Planning Department  
101 Pauahi Street, Suite 3  
(808) 961-8288

## Protecting Puna's Forests

Endemic to Hawai'i means that the species cannot be found anywhere else in the world, making it ever more important for us to protect the habitat of our endemic species!



The endemic 'Amakihi sipping from an endangered Hau Kuahiwi flower.

- There are 26,608 species in the state of Hawai'i
- 10,000+ of these species are endemic
- Hawai'i has already lost 26 native bird species with 27 more species currently endangered.
- 90% of terrestrial species in Hawai'i are endemic

## Benefits of Saving Your Forest

- **Visual and noise buffers are free** and provide increased privacy.
- **Natural landscaping** provided by native forest is both valuable and appealing.
- **Essential habitat is saved** for native and endemic bird, insect, and plant species.
- **Aggressive invasive species can spread quickly** on cleared land. Limiting dozing and clearing helps to limit the introduction of invasive species which may save you time, money, and the use of herbicides.
- **Serious flooding problems can happen** for you and/or your neighbors when improper or excessive grading occurs.
- **Vegetation impacts localized climates** through natural processes. Forested areas can help reduce localized air temperatures.

## Suggestions for Preparing Your Lot

- **Get a permit.** The County of Hawai'i Department of Public Works regulates grubbing and grading requirements and permits. Those found in **violation** of Hawai'i County Code (HCC) Chapter 10 are subject to fines. See HCC Chapter 10 Section 10-8. <http://www.hawaiicounty.gov/lb-countycode/#countycode>
- **Preserve existing native forest.** Avoid clearing your lot "pin-to-pin" preserving areas with the healthiest forest. There are organizations that can help you identify native plants. (See resources on the back)
- **Minimize cleared areas.** Hand clear or use small machinery and equipment when clearing your lot. Being present to supervise clearing can help minimize misunderstandings.
- **Remove existing invasive species during land preparation.** Such species include Albizia, Myrica, Faya, Strawberry Guava, Tibouchina, Himalayan Raspberry, Miconia and Ginger.

## Reduce the Spread of R.O.D.

Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death (ROD) is a disease that has killed hundreds of thousands of 'ōhi'a trees. This disease is caused by a fungus called *Ceratocystis fimbriata*. 'Ōhi'a lehua is a keystone species of Hawai'i's native forests and watersheds, and possibly the most important tree in Hawai'i. You can help reduce the spread of rapid 'ōhi'a death by:

- Not moving 'ōhi'a wood, firewood or posts, especially from areas known to have ROD.
- Not moving 'ōhi'a plants, wood, or other plant parts interisland without a permit. [Hawai'i Administrative Rule §4-72-13]
- Cleaning tools used for cutting 'ōhi'a trees (especially infected ones) with 70% rubbing alcohol or 10% bleach.
- Cleaning shoes, gear and clothing. Decontaminate shoes by dipping the soles in 10% bleach or 70% rubbing alcohol. Other gear can be sprayed with the same proven cleaning solutions. Wash clothing in hot water with detergent.
- Washing tires and undercarriage of vehicles with detergent, especially after traveling from an area with ROD and/or if you have traveled off-road.

## Building with the Environment

- **Much of our native forests are heavily degraded.** Help restore our forests by planting native and endemic species appropriate to YOUR local conditions/climate.



'Ōhi'a Lehua Blossom

- **Beware of invasive species and aggressive invasive plants.** Potted plants can carry hitchhikers like coqui frogs, fire ants, and stinging-nettle caterpillars. Check all plants before taking them home! Ensure that you are planting non-invasive plant species.
- **Prevent standing water.** Mosquitoes breed in containers of standing water, and the avian malaria they carry is deadly to native birds. Turn over empty pots, buckets & tires.
- **Outdoor lighting and reducing light-pollution.** Keep native seabirds safe by limiting exterior lighting. Improperly installed exterior lighting can disorient birds as they overfly forests at night. The law requires that all outdoor lights face the ground, not outward or upward. Rules and regulations for outdoor lighting can be found in Hawaii County Code Chapter 14: General Welfare Article 9. <http://www.hawaiicounty.gov/lb-countycode/#countycode>

## E Mālama I Ka 'Āina

**Research permitting requirements before grubbing and grading!**



**This is the result of clear-cutting**