

1 KONA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN
2 ACTION COMMITTEE
3 COUNTY OF HAWAII

4 DRAFT MINUTES
5 July 23, 2024

6 **CALL TO ORDER**

7 Chair Young called the Kona Community Development Plan (CDP) Action Committee (AC)
8 meeting to order at 2:47 p.m. A quorum was established with five members in attendance. This
9 meeting was held in person at the West Hawai'i Civic Center, C1 Conference Room and online
10 via the Zoom platform.

11 The full YouTube video of this meeting can be found here:

12 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2oDJiDQ1k2Q>

13 **ROLL CALL**

14 Members Present (in person): Charles Young (Chair), Nancy Pisicchio (Vice-Chair), and David
15 Hureta

16 Members Present (via Zoom): Heather Korotie and John Pelletier

17 Members Absent: Gary Jaster and Roselyn Molina

18 County Staff Present (in person): Jessica Lahip and Kawelo Kalili

19 County Staff Present (via Zoom): April Surprenant (Planning Department Long Range Division
20 Manager) and Deputy Corporation Counsel, Jean Campbell

21 There were approximately 12 members of the public in attendance (2 in person and 10 via
22 Zoom).

23 Chair Young read a Hawaiian proverb. “A‘ohe pau ka ‘ike i ka hālau ho‘okahi. All knowledge is
24 not taught in the same school. One can learn from many sources.” [SEE YOUTUBE
25 *TIMESTAMP 3:30*]

26 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

27 Vice-Chair Pisicchio moved to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2024 meeting. Committee
28 Member Huerta seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Vice Chair Pisicchio
29 moved to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2024 meeting. Committee Member Huerta
30 seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. [SEE YOUTUBE *TIMESTAMP 3:50*]

31 **BUSINESS**

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33 **1. Submitted letter to County Council** – Discussion of submitted letter regarding the Kona Three,
34 LLC Rezone Application (PL-REZ-2022-000033). [SEE YOUTUBE TIMESTAMP 6:40]

35 Chair Young discussed his submission of the letter to Council and his experience attending the
36 Council meeting to read the letter on behalf of the AC. The letter addressed the Cultural
37 Resources Commission (CRC) and issues of flooding and concurrency related to the Kona CDP.
38 Chair Young shared three highlights from the meeting. First, the Deputy Planning Director
39 indicated that the County has accepted the conditions proposed by the developer regarding the
40 decision to proceed with the project. Secondly, the developer asserted that the CDP does not
41 apply to their proposal because it is not within a Transit Oriented Development (TOD) area.
42 Lastly, the Leeward Planning Commission submitted a negative report, not due to a vote, but
43 because they ran out of time in their last meeting. The AC members discussed the process for
44 similar future actions and reached a consensus. [SEE YOUTUBE TIMESTAMP 7:10]

45 Daryn Arai provided public testimony. [SEE YOUTUBE TIMESTAMP 17:70]

46 Cheryl Tanguay provided testimony. [SEE YOUTUBE TIMESTAMP 18:31]

47 **2. Inquiries to Department of Parks and Recreation** – Discussion and potential decision
48 making regarding Old Airport District Park, Kealakehe Regional Park, and Nāpo‘opo‘o Park.
49 [SEE YOUTUBE TIMESTAMP 22:00]

50 Committee member Korotie updated the AC regarding submitted letters to Parks and Recreation
51 regarding Old Airport Park and Nāpo‘opo‘o Park. There has been no correspondence back from
52 Parks and Recreation. Heather plans to connect with Planning staff on how best to follow up
53 with the inquiries. [SEE YOUTUBE TIMESTAMP 22:25]

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55 Committee member Pelletier has not gotten a response back from Parks and Recreation and
56 discussed the most recent update. [SEE YOUTUBE TIMESTAMP 22:58]

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58 The AC discussed the next steps and agreed to add this item to the next agenda. [SEE YOUTUBE
59 TIMESTAMP 24:25]

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61 **3. Vote for a Permitted Interaction Group** – Discussion and decision making on whether to
62 form a Permitted Interaction Group regarding a County Council Election Candidate Forum. [SEE
63 YOUTUBE TIMESTAMP 26:43]

64 Vice Chair Pisicchio provided her rationale for requesting this item. The Corporation Counsel
65 advised the AC to take precaution for holding a forum for council candidates to provide their
66 positions on policies in the KCDP. This can easily be interpreted as a campaigning opportunity,
67 which is not permissible by the County. [SEE YOUTUBE TIMESTAMP 27:00]

Vice Chair Pisicchio moved to form a Permitted Interaction Group to explore the possibility of the Kona CDP AC to host a candidate forum before the general election. The motion was seconded by committee member Pelletier. [SEE YOUTUBE TIMESTAMP 30:10]

Corporation Counsel explained in detail the procedure for forming a Permitted Interaction Group. The AC discussed if creating a Permitted Interaction Group was feasible considering time limitations. Vice Chair Pisicchio moves to withdraw her motion to form a Permitted Interaction Group. Committee member Pelletier approves. Vice Chair Pisicchio and committee member Pelletier will work together with Corporation Council to investigate the possibility of hosting a candidate forum. [SEE YOUTUBE TIMESTAMP 31:35]

4. Tree City USA – Discussion and decision making if the Committee is interested in researching how the County of Hawai‘i could attain the Tree City USA designation from The Arbor Day Foundation. [SEE YOUTUBE TIMESTAMP 40:20]

1. Committee member Korotie spoke about her interest in investigating the history and possible implementation of the Tree City USA designation for Hawai‘i County. The AC discussed putting this item on the next agenda to give time for more research and decision making relative to specific areas in the Kona CDP. Heather agreed to prepare that for the next meeting. [SEE YOUTUBE TIMESTAMP 40:40]

AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING: [SEE YOUTUBE TIMESTAMP 44:25]

1. Tree City USA
2. Resources for the AC to Stay Updated with Other County Agencies and Notices
3. Discussion with the Chairman of the Cultural Resources Commission
4. Update for Kealakehe Regional Park, Nāpo‘opo‘o Park and Old Airport District Park

ADJOURNMENT

Committee member Hureta moved to adjourn this meeting. Vice-Chair Pisicchio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

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