

1 KONA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN
2 ACTION COMMITTEE
3 COUNTY OF HAWAI'I

4 DRAFT MINUTES
5 June 10, 2025

6 **CALL TO ORDER**

7 Chair Charles Young called the Kona Community Development Plan (CDP) Action Committee
8 (AC) to order at 12:03 p.m. This meeting was held in person at the West Hawai'i Civic Center, B2
9 Conference Room and online via the Zoom platform.

10 The full YouTube video of this meeting can be found here:
11 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=80ECudSgiAM>

12 **ROLL CALL**

13 Members Present (in person): Charles Young (Chair) and Nancy Pisicchio (Vice-Chair)

14 Members Present (via Zoom): John Pelletier

15 Members Absent: Roselyn Molina, David Hureta, Heather Korotie, and Charla Thompson

16 County Staff Present (in person): Kawelo Kalili and Maryam Palma

17 There were approximately 2 members of the public in attendance (2 in person and 0 via Zoom).

18 The committee did not meet quorum; therefore, no decisions were made.

19 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

20 The minutes were not approved due to lack of quorum.

21 **PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

22 There was no public testimony.

23 **BUSINESS:**

- 24 **1. Outreach on Sunshine Law Updates** – Discussion and potential decision making on
25 updating government officials on allowable interactions with the committee since the
26 adoption of SB 869, relating to Community Outreach Boards. [*SEE YOUTUBE*
27 *TIMESTAMP 3:36*]

28 The Action Committee (AC) discussed the need for greater clarity and education regarding
29 recent Sunshine Law updates. Members expressed interest in organizing a presentation from
30 the State Office of Information Practices (OIP), ideally through a joint session for all ACs or
31 for chairs and vice chairs. The goal would be to help members feel more confident and
32 informed about the legal requirements.

There was also a suggestion to draft a general invitation for government officials to attend future meetings and provide updates relevant to the community. The idea was to make the meetings more informative and welcoming without putting pressure on attendees.

The conversation touched on how recent legislative changes might help reduce long-standing frustrations related to quorum issues. The updates may allow more flexibility in scheduling and participation, including the ability for multiple members to attend community events or meetings without the need for formal agenda notices. Members recognized this as a positive development for accessibility and community engagement.

2. Kona International Airport (KOA) Master Plan Update – Update from Action Committee member John Pelletier, followed by a discussion on potential Committee actions. [*SEE YOUTUBE TIMESTAMP 10:21*]

The AC received an update from Committee Member Pelletier regarding the Kona International Airport's master plan update process. Member Pelletier had attended an initial stakeholder meeting and reported that the planning team emphasized aligning the airport's development with the Kona Community Development Plan (CDP). The update process is expected to take place over the course of the year and involves consultants and a range of stakeholders. The AC expressed appreciation that the CDP is being recognized in other planning efforts. There was support for having a committee representative continue participating in future meetings and providing updates to help maintain alignment and community involvement.

3. Keauhou Aquifer Water Management Plan Update – Update from Action Committee Chair Charlie Young, followed by a discussion on potential Committee actions. [*SEE YOUTUBE TIMESTAMP 15:02*]

The AC discussed the upcoming outreach efforts tied to the state's adaptive management plan focused on the Keauhou aquifer. Members considered the possibility of inviting representatives from the planning team to present at a future meeting, noting that the committee could serve as a neutral and public forum for community engagement. It was suggested that such a presentation could be scheduled between regular meetings, given the recent changes that allow more flexible scheduling.

There was also interest in potentially inviting Councilmember Inaba to speak on a related water management resolution, although some felt that both topics may be too substantial for a single agenda and would be better addressed in separate meetings.

The group discussed recent water-related webinars hosted by the Department of Health and emphasized the growing community interest in understanding water issues, including groundwater flow, contaminants, and aquifer cleanup. Members shared resources and agreed that ongoing engagement and coordination between different agencies and initiatives are essential.

70 The conversation touched on the recently signed State Bill 1602, which provides funding for
71 monitoring wells. Committee members emphasized the importance of incorporating data from
72 these wells into the adaptive management process. There was support for inviting state-level
73 officials involved in the legislation and aquifer planning to participate in future discussions,
74 pending confirmation and scheduling.

75 Josephine Keliipio provided testimony regarding concerns about unannounced power shutoffs
76 and their impact on water access, especially in neighborhoods reliant on electric pumps. She
77 emphasized the need for residents to prepare for extended outages and questioned what
78 resources or plans are in place to support affected communities. [SEE YOUTUBE TIMESTAMP
79 30:34]

80 **PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:** [SEE YOUTUBE TIMESTAMP
81 42:44]

- 82 1. Keauhou Aquifer Adaptive Management Plan Presentation
- 83 2. Bill 63 Proposal

84 **ADJOURNMENT**

85 The meeting was adjourned at 12:58 p.m. [SEE YOUTUBE TIMESTAMP 55:43]

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