



Hāmākua Community Development Plan



Hāmākua CDP Steering Committee

Ku'ulei Badua is a lifetime resident of Kukuihaele and has held several leadership roles in community organizations, including the Kukuihaele Community Association and the Waipi'o Taro Farmers Association. Ku'ulei is a respected kupuna and currently works as a Community Building Facilitator for Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center where she is active in perpetuating the Hawaiian culture through education. In addition, Ku'ulei was involved in the first phase of the CDP as a 'Talk Story' Facilitator. Ku'ulei can be reached at 775-9894 or dbadua@qlcc.org.

Glenn Carvalho is a 29 year resident of Pepe'ekeō and a former ILWU organizer who currently works as a paralegal for the Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i. Glenn has held leadership roles in numerous community service organizations in Rural South Hilo. Glenn was instrumental in helping to educate, train, and prepare displaced sugar workers for other employment opportunities and provide for the needs of workers and their families along side the Office of Social Ministries. Due to his extensive work in planning area communities, Glenn will be effective in getting people to participate in the CDP process. Glenn understands the challenges facing residents and has been through three previous visioning/planning processes for the area over several decades. In addition, Glenn was involved in the first phase of the CDP as a 'Talk Story' Facilitator. Glenn can be reached 964-5340 (between 6-8pm) or gicarva60@yahoo.com.

Scott Enright is a 20-year resident of 'Ō'ōkala. He was founding president of the 'Ō'ōkala Community Association and served on the board for 13 years. Scott was cultivation and irrigation superintendent for Hāmākua Sugar Company where he was responsible for the company's cultivation department, water systems, and human resource management aspects of the operation. Currently, he is co-chair of the County of Hawai'i's Environmental Management Commission and is a member of the Governor's East Hawai'i Community Advisory Council. He also is a board member of the Hilo-Hamakua Community Development Corporation, and recently was elected as District Chair of District 1 (Hāmākua, Kohala) for the Hawai'i County Democratic Party. Scott received dual bachelor's degrees in psychology and philosophy from the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. He will be conferred a Master of Science degree in conflict analysis and resolution from George Mason University, Virginia, in December 2010. Scott can be reached at 808-854-1200 or enright.scott@gmail.com.

Farrah-Marie Gomes was born in Honoka'a, raised in Pa'auilo, and is currently the director of the North Hawai'i Education and Research Center (NHERC) in Honoka'a. For the past three years, she has been the Hāmākua /North Hilo Healing Our Island (HOI) liaison and during the early input gathering phase for the Hāmākua CDP, she has served as a Community Liaison. Through these and other community service roles, Farrah has built relationships with many individuals, organizations, and businesses in Hāmākua and North Hilo. Farrah supports the full spectrum of education from preschool to lifelong learning as well as eldercare within the community and will effectively represent young, working families in the area. Farrah can be reached at 937-4054 or farrahmarie@yahoo.com.

Richard Ha has owned and run Hāmākua Springs Country Farms in Pepe‘ekeō Mauka for 16 years. Having grown the business from just two acres of land, Richard now employs 66 workers in his 600 acre fee simple farming operation and is thoroughly familiar with both the business and operations aspects of agriculture. Richard is an advocate for alternative energy sources, food security, sustainability, and both small and large scale agriculture. He is a pragmatist who understands the need to listen to all sides of an issue. He was a former director of the Hawai‘i Farm Bureau Federation as well as the Hāmākua Soil and Water Conservation District. Richard’s community service includes directorships for both the Kohala Center and the Hawai‘i Island Economic Development Board. He is a member of the Hawai‘i Clean Energy Initiative steering committee as well as a member of the Geothermal Energy working group which is studying the feasibility of geothermal energy as the primary base power for Hawai‘i Island . In addition, Richard is an advisory board member for the Hawai‘i Community College and the Keaholoa STEM program at UH Hilo. Richard can be reached at 960-1057 or richard@hamakuasprings.com.

Brad Kurokawa lives in Honomū village. He is a former Deputy Planning Director for Hawai‘i County and is a registered Landscape Architect and LEED Accredited Professional with Ki Concepts LLC, a landscape architecture and planning firm with offices on Oahu and Hawai‘i Island. Brad was born and raised in Hawai‘i, and worked for 25 years on the mainland before returning home in 2005. His professional experience, passion for sustainable development and tenure with the County provides him with a strong understanding of local and broader planning issues. Brad is a skilled facilitator and has been active in community work across the planning area since returning to Hawaii, including board membership on the Hilo-Hāmākua Community Development Corporation (HHCDC). Brad was recently involved as a CDP ‘Talk Story’ Facilitator." Brad can be reached at 756-7442 or brad.kurokawa@gmail.com.

Lorraine Mendoza is a lifetime resident of the planning area (Hakalau and Pepe‘ekeō) and has been involved in community activities for over 20 years, including active involvement in coordinating assistance for displaced sugar workers upon the closure of the plantations. Lorraine’s background includes leadership roles in the Hilo Hāmākua Community Development Corporation, Rural South Hilo Community Association, the Pepe‘ekeō Community Association, Hilo Coast Fishing Association, the Pepe‘ekeō Filipino Association and as the Director on the YWCA Hawai‘i Island Board. She also has experience with and has advocated for aquaculture, recreational development, primary education, and community-based economic development, through her role as the East Hawaii representative on the State DBEDT's CBED Advisory Board. In addition, Lorraine was involved in the first phase of the CDP as a 'Talk Story' Facilitator. Lorraine can be reached at 990-1755 or mendozalor@yahoo.com.

Marc Miranda was born and raised in Honoka‘a and recently moved to Pāpa‘ikou. For the past seven years, Marc has worked for the Office of the Governor, holding various positions, and for the past year and a half has been the Governors East Hawai‘i liaison. During his time as the East Hawai‘i Liaison, Marc has gained a deep understanding of the issues and the people of the planning area, as well as built relationships with individuals and organizations in many Hāmākua communities. Marc has also been a staff coach for UH Hilo Women’s Soccer since August 2008 and was recently named Head Coach. He has expressed an interest in representing the youth of his generation (Marc is 30) on the Steering Committee, as well encouraging them to participate in shaping the future of the area. Marc supports the creation of employment opportunities for Hāmākua residents so they can work closer to home and afford to stay in the area. Marc can be reached at 808-371-6739 or mmiranda50@hotmail.com.

Dr. Jason Moniz is a 25 year resident, veterinarian and rancher in Pa‘auilo and is employed as a Veterinary Program Manager for the State Department of Agriculture. He is presently the vice-president of the Hāmākua Farm Bureau and has been very active in the 4-H program for youth. Jason has a strong background and knowledge of the agricultural industries, particularly the livestock industries. In addition, Jason has participated in and is an advocate for rebuilding the plantation Ag infrastructure needed to keep Hāmākua viable for diversified agriculture. Jason knows the land, is experienced in planning processes, and will represent the agriculture perspective. Contact information for Jason is forthcoming.

Craig Neff is a 12 year resident of Pāpā‘ikou and owner of Hawaiian Force in Hilo. He is a current vice-president of the Rural South Hilo Community Association and also serves on the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission. Craig has been actively involved in eliciting participation in community issues through the creation of road signs and other methods. Craig desires to maximize community participation in the planning process and is especially interested in representing those who won’t normally step forward and have their voices heard in a large venue. As a member of the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission, Craig gained knowledge of land-use as well as coastal and ocean issues. In addition, Craig is extremely knowledgeable about historical and cultural sites. Craig can be reached at 934-7171 or alakukui@aol.com.

Ka‘iulani Pahi‘ō is a lifetime resident of Honoka‘a and is currently employed as a Principal Investigator for Statewide Initiatives for Kanu o ka ‘Āina Learning ‘Ohana (KALO), a non-profit community organization that “grow womb-to-tomb models of education that advance Hawaiian culture for a sustainable Hawai‘i” and the Coordinator for the Nā Lei Na‘auao – Native Hawaiian Charter School Alliance, made up of twelve independent Hawaiian-focused charter schools located on Kaua‘i, O‘ahu and Hawai‘i island, which provides viable choices in public education for over 3,000 native Hawaiian students, interested in perpetuating Hawaiian language, culture and traditions, while also acquiring the skills to succeed as 21st century global citizens. Ka‘iulani’s community work has included, as a: Community Advisory Board member of the North Hawai‘i Education and Research Center (NHERC), Advisory Council member of the Hāmākua Partners in Eldercare, Management Team member for the Waipi‘o Information & Education Officers with the Waipi‘o Circle Association, through Friends of the Future, Representative on the Native Hawaiian Education Hawai‘i Island Council (NHEC) and Advisory Board member for the Salvation Army – Honoka‘a Corp, as well as numerous leadership positions in native Hawaiian education. Ka‘iulani will bring her extensive local and cultural knowledge, willingness to learn from others, desire to get people involved, and passion for community improvement to the Steering Committee. Ka‘iulani can be reached at 960-5272 or kaiulani@kalo.org.