

# Ka'ū CDP Materials Available for Public Review

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The Planning Department invites public review of strategies for managing natural and cultural resources in Ka'ū. These draft materials supporting the Ka'ū Community Development Plan (CDP) are available at [www.kaucdp.info](http://www.kaucdp.info).

The available analysis document is slated as an appendix to the Ka'ū CDP. For each of Ka'ū's four resource management priorities – shoreline, agricultural land, mauka forests, and cultural resources – the appendix does three basic things: outlines existing policy, summarizes related planning initiatives, and introduces alternative strategies available to achieve Ka'ū's community objectives. Please note that the appendix does **not** include the policies and plans of action that will make-up the heart of the CDP.

“The appendix helps to identify strategies to include in the CDP,” says Planning Director BJ Leithead-Todd. “Existing policy provides the context, other plans identify related initiatives, and the review of strategies introduces the ‘tool box’ from which the best tools can be selected for Ka'ū.”

The draft material is a work-in-progress. It is expected that the document will be revised as conditions change and new information becomes available. Feedback, suggested additions, updates, and corrections are welcome and encouraged. The project web site includes forms for submitting comments.

During its April 9 meeting at the Pāhala Community Center, the Ka'ū CDP Steering Committee will discuss the draft materials. Like all CDP meetings, the 5:30 p.m. meeting is open to the public, and comment is invited. The Steering Committee is a County advisory board composed of volunteers representing the diverse communities in Ka'ū.

Steering Committee Chair Leina'ala Enos of Wai'ōhinu is pleased with the progress being made with the CDP: “We know from past planning projects that the CDP has to be comprehensive, built on extensive community input, and informed by in-depth research. We are glad that the community and the County are committed to preparing the best plan possible.”

Other elements of the CDP appendix are also available for public review and comment, including the CDP Purpose and Scope and the Planning Process. The County will release analysis documents focused on the other two community priorities – strengthening community and building a resilient, local economy – once initial drafts are finished. A complete first draft of the CDP, including the preferred strategies identified from amongst the many alternatives, will then be prepared for public review.

The Ka'ū CDP is in the final phase of production. Based on thousands of “talk story” and survey comments from 14% of the local population, the Steering Committee first adopted a foundational Values and Vision Statement. Next, building both on available data and local knowledge documented at two Community Summits, a baseline Community Profile was drafted. Using those two pillars, the Steering Committee then adopted Community Objectives focused on natural resources, community character, and the local economy. All of the background analysis and exploration of alternative strategies is focused on achieving those objectives.

After the first draft of the CDP is finished, it will undergo extensive community review. After the Steering Committee recommends approval, the CDP will be considered for adoption as an ordinance by the County.

CDPs are intended to translate broad General Plan goals, policies, and standards into implementation actions for regions around the Island. The General Plan is the County's policy document for the long range comprehensive development of the island of Hawai'i. CDPs serve as a forum for community input into land-use, the delivery of government services, and other matters relating to the planning area. CDPs for Puna, Kona, and North and South Kohala were the first CDPs to be developed and adopted.

More information about the Ka'ū CDP is available at [www.kaucdp.info](http://www.kaucdp.info).