



waimea **community** development plan committee newsletter

march 2007

lifted out of the sea on the back of a turtle—

waimea's pu'u

Whether you are driving through town, coming out of the food store, or enjoying a coffee outdoors at one of our local coffee shops, it is hard to miss those bright green pu'u that rise prominently above Waimea town. Do you know your pu'u? There is Pu'ula'ela'e (clear hill), Pu'u'ohu (misty hill), Pu'ukakanihia (noisy hill), Pu'ulala (diagonal hill), Hāloa (long breath or long life), Pu'upelu (turned-over hill), Pu'uiki (small hill), Pu'u'owā'owaka (glittering hill), Pu'ukī (ti plant hill) and Hōkū'ula (red star), just to name a few. Hōkū'ula is said to have been lifted out of the sea by a turtle. It is also where Lonoikamakahiki of Hawai'i defeated Kamalālāwalu of Maui. In addition to being beautiful, these pu'u are places of historical and cultural significance. Next time you are nurturing a warm coffee in the cool air, close your eyes and imagine a fierce battle taking place all around you with the tops of Hōkū'ula and Pu'u'owā'owaka held by Kamalālāwalu and his Maui warriors.

The State of Hawai'i owns approximately 420 acres of the land which includes Hōkū'ula, Pu'u'owā'owaka and Pu'ukī (TMK No. 6-5-001:020). A significant portion of this parcel is zoned Agricultural (A-1a) by the County, which would allow it to be subdivided into one-acre lots. There is general agreement in the community regarding the cultural, historical and visual significance of these pu'u and a number of actions have been taken to encourage conservation.

Most recently, the Hawai'i County Council passed a resolution directing Planning Director Chris Yuen to initiate a zoning code amendment for an ordinance to change the classification from agricultural (A-1a) to Agricultural (A-500a), which would prohibit development, but allow agricultural and recreational use while meeting the goal of preservation of open space and areas of cultural significance.

The Council resolution directed Mr. Yuen to prepare a change of zone ordinance for the State-owned parcel by March 1, 2007, however, the Council recently granted a 45 day extension and the ordinance will be delivered in mid-April. Peter Young, Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, has sent a letter to Chris Yuen stating that the DLNR has no interest in further developing the site, that they support protecting the open space above Waimea, and do not object to rezoning the State parcel. Senator Loraine Inouye and Representative Cindy Evans both support the rezoning and are working for the conservation of the State parcel.

Much work remains to be done and volunteers are needed! To volunteer call Margaret Wille at 887-1419.

mark your calendar:

- Waimea CDP Committee meets the third Wednesday of each month at the Waimea Community Center. Next Meeting is April 18th, 6:00 pm. Call Bob Hunter for details at 885-4194.
- Waimea Community Association has a Town Meeting the first Thursday of the month. Next Town Meeting is April 5th. Call Riley Smith for details at 936-7129.

Editor's Note: The literal meaning of the names of the pu'u were taken from, Place Names of Hawai'i by Pukui, et al. The literal translations represent only a tiny glimpse of the beautiful, often elaborate stories behind the names. The Waimea CDP Committee is seeking persons with cultural knowledge about the pu'u to share this information with the community.



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The County of Hawai'i revised General Plan, approved in 2005, established the Community Development Plan (CDP) Program.

Community Development Plans (CDPs) translate broad General Plan goals, policies, and standards into implementation actions for specific geographical regions around the island.

- * CDPs serve as a forum for community input into land-use, delivery of government services and any other matters relating to the planning area.
- * The CDP will be adopted by the County Council as an "ordinance", giving the CDP the force of law.
- * The CDP will include indicators to monitor progress in achieving the goals and objectives.

THE CDP AFFECTS ME!

the south kohala community development plan

what is the community development plan process and why are we doing it?

There are many decisions that are made at the County level that affect life in Waimea. Decisions about housing developments, shopping centers, roads, police, fire safety, water, environmental quality, recreation, energy, and transportation, just to name a few. These important decisions are not just made arbitrarily, County decision makers must make decisions according to a plan. This plan is called the County of Hawai'i General Plan, and it is the document that guides long range comprehensive development for the Island of Hawai'i. The part of the General Plan that the people of Waimea get to shape is called the Community Development Plan. The Community Development Plan for South Kohala will determine how the County distributes funds, passes laws, governs development, provides roads and public facilities, and generally makes decisions in Waimea until the year 2015.

how are the people of waimea shaping the south kohala community development plan?

Most of us don't know the first thing about community planning, but we have a clear idea about the quality of life we want. The Community Readiness Program began in 2005, to help educate the community about planning concepts and the CDP process, to ask for community input in identifying problems and future opportunities for the community, and to plan and implement some small projects. Community input was taken through a series of small group meetings and the major themes were summarized (see chart to right.) As a part of this process, the Waimea Community Development Plan Committee (a part of the Waimea Community Association) has been holding educational workshops, has developed a comprehensive resource website at www.waimeaplan.org, and has been working on a number of pilot projects, as described in this newsletter.

The County has selected Townscape, Inc. as the CDP Consultant for Kohala. The next step in the CDP process is the appointment of a Steering Committee for South Kohala. Steering Committee applicants were solicited from the community and will be reviewed by the Planning Department, appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the County Council in the next few months. The Steering Committee members will work with the Planning Department and CDP Consultants to; identify and include the main stakeholders, serve as community liaisons, advise the planners, monitor progress, help the CDP to be a high quality product, review all plan drafts and recommend approval of the CDP to the Planning Director, and should amendments to the CDP be made by the

DRAFT: SOUTH KOHALA COMMUNITY READINESS: The following breakdown provides a framework of Key Areas and categories addressed by 1971 ideas gathered from 72 small group meetings with a broadest community representation & participation in South Kohala (please refer to demographic profile). For the purpose of simplification and sustainability, the categories are broken down into 4 Key Areas: I. INFRASTRUCTURE - ROADS, PUBLIC SERVICES, FACILITIES & UTILITIES; II. COMMUNITY, CULTURE & HOUSING; III. REGIONAL GROWTH; IV. OPEN SPACE, PARK, HISTORIC SITE & WORKING LAND. Many of these categories are highly interconnected, and each Key Area contains several sub-categories. Please refer to the Appendix for detailed quantitative breakdown. Mahalo Nui Loa!

Code(s)*	Key Areas & Categories	Number of Ideas	Percent of Total
I. INFRASTRUCTURE ROADS, PUBLIC SERVICES, FACILITIES, & UTILITIES			
		18	69.4%
		169	35.2%
BYPASS	FIX TRAFFIC/ BUILD BYPASS, CONNECTOR & ALTERNATE ROADS (WK)	169	
ROADS	UPGRADE EXISTING ROADS TO MAKE IT SAFER/BETTER	136	
EDU/ SCHOOLS	IMPROVE EDUCATION SYSTEM - MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL (WAI/WK)	125	
HARBOR	DESIGN & IMPROVE KAWAIIHAE HARBOR AS MULTI USE FOR ALL	56	
TRANSIT	MORE CHOICES FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION - YOUTH, ELDER, WORKER	56	
WST	BETTER WASTE & WATER MANAGEMENT; MORE RECYCLING PROGRAM	49	
PUBL - 50	IMPROVED PUBLIC FACILITIES - POLICE & FIRE	46	
ENG	ALTERNATIVE, RENEWABLE, NATURAL ENERGY	39	
II. COMMUNITY, CULTURE & HOUSING			
		510	25.9%
CTR	PRESERVE OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE & COMMUNITY CHARACTER	191	
HALEKANAKA	AFFORDABLE HOUSING & LAND FOR LOCAL PEOPLE	131	
HEALTH - REC	HEALTHY RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL AGES	128	
GOV	MORE LOCAL REPRESENTATION & GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY	54	
SOC	SOCIAL ISSUES - SUPPORT FOR KUPUNA, HOMELESS & DRUG PREVENTION	51	
III. OPEN SPACE, PARKS, HISTORIC SITES, & WORKING LAND			
		388	19.7%
ATNA	PRESERVE & MAINTAIN OUR AHAU/ KEEP IT GREEN!	160	
PARK	LARGE AND SMALL PARKS - WALKING, BIKING & HORSE PATHS	87	
AG	PROTECT OUR AGRICULTURE LAND AND HERITAGE	52	
PU'U	SAVE THE PU'U'S	44	
KAI	OCEAN AND MOUNTAIN ACCESS	28	
HST	RESPECT & HONOR OUR HISTORICAL SITES & TRAILS	21	
IV. REGIONAL GROWTH			
		378	19.2%
TOWN CENTER	WALKABLE TOWN CENTERS & COMMUNITY GATHERING SPACES	109	
GM	GROWTH MANAGEMENT - SLOW, RESTRICT, LIMIT, STOP GROWTH	96	
PLAN	BETTER PLANNING, HAZARD PREPARATION AND MITIGATION	63	
ECON	DIVERSIFIED ECONOMY & MORE LOCAL BUSINESSES	60	
CONCURRENCY	INFRASTRUCTURE BEFORE ANY MORE DEVELOPMENT	51	
TOTAL		1971	100.0%

*These codes can be found in the full database of ideas at www.hawaiiislandplan.com

County Council, the Steering Committee will have a chance to review and comment on those amendments prior to adoption of the CDP by Ordinance by the County Council.

In January 2007, the County Council passed a resolution which temporarily delays any new rezoning in the South Kohala district for one year. The intent of this resolution was to give the CDP process some “breathing” time to determine how best to solve existing problems in our community and where to allocate space for new growth.

let's go for a nature walk... through waimea town!

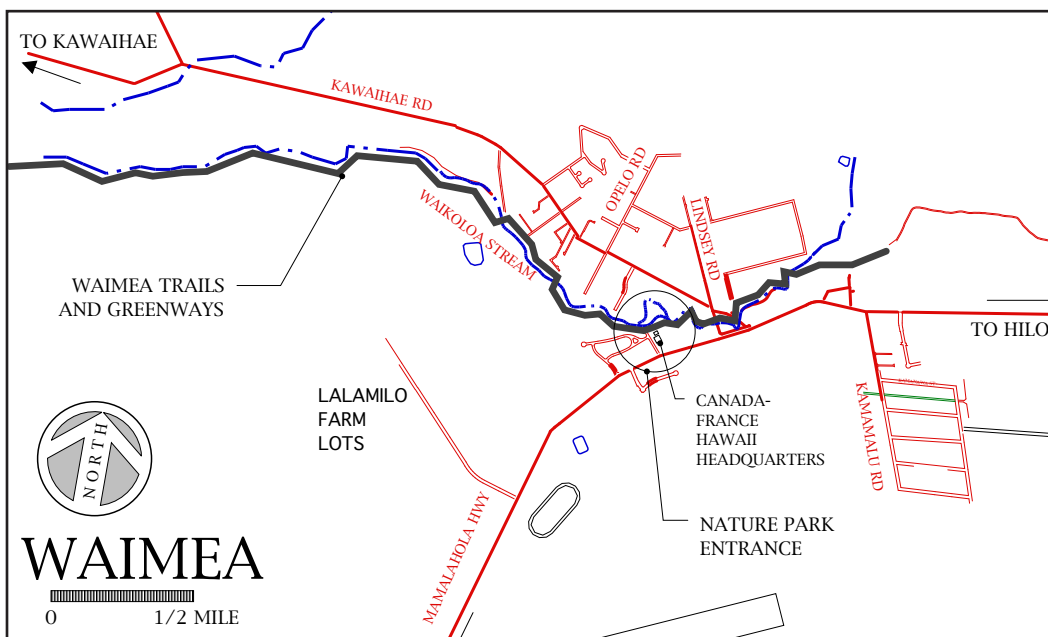
Want to meet a friend for some walking and talking? Or perhaps take the kids for a bike ride and ice cream at the end of the trail? Well, thanks to the Waimea Trails & Greenways project (a project of the Waimea Preservation Association), the Waimea community will soon be able to walk and bike through the “backwoods” of Waimea town on a new trail.

The trail will create a green corridor through the heart of Waimea along the Waikoloa Stream and will provide an accessible connecting pathway between residences, businesses & schools. The trail will generally extend along the stream from South Kohala View Estates on the west through Waimea Nature Park (Ulu La'au) to the state land north of Church Row on the east. The first phase will extend from the east end of Sandalwood subdivision to the Lindsey Road Bridge.

In town, a portion of the proposed route follows the north bank of the stream through property owned by the Parker School Trust Cooperation (behind the KTA Shopping Center). The project is also investigating the feasibility of a trailhead/picnic/parking area to be located on state land near the Waimea Transfer Station. The County and its consultants are responsible for negotiating easements with the seven landowners through whose property the trail will extend.

The County's consultant has delivered the preliminary design to the County, and the Pre-Final Drawings are scheduled to be complete by May 25 2007. The first phase of construction will be from the top of Sandalwood Estates to Lindsey Road.

Work on the Waimea Trails & Greenways project began in 1994 and has been under the leadership of architect Clem Lam. To get involved in the project, you are invited to attend a Waimea Trails & Greenways committee meeting. Meetings are held on Mondays (except holidays) from 5 – 6 pm in the Kohala Center building (behind High Country Traders) in Waimea.



what's next and how can i get involved?

The formal CDP process begins when the consultants are hired, which is targeted for sometime in April. The consultants will use the results of the Community Readiness Program as the basis for design. The County is still defining how the community will continue to participate in the design process, but it is likely that participation will become more focused and project based.

Join the Waimea Community Development Plan Committee.

get involved in the waimea community development plan (cdp) committee!

pick your project:

Waimea Community Development Plan Committee:
Bob Hunter, 885-4194

Waimea Pu'u:
Margaret Wille,
887-1419

Waimea Trails & Greenways (WT & G):
Clemson Lam,
885-4431

Waimea Parks Project:
Sherm Warner,
885-1725 or
Mel Macy, 960-3053

On the web:
waimeaplan.org

Waimea Community Development Plan Committee

c/o The Kohala Center

P.O. Box 437462

Kamuela, HI 96743

Check out our website at WaimeaPlan.org

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The County of Hawai'i contributed funds toward preparation and printing of this material.



waimea parks project

There have been many community discussions about Waimea parks. Parker Ranch will be donating land as a part of a development agreement, but a number of challenging questions have been identified by the County and the community, such as: Where will the park be located? Will there be just one park, or a series of community parks? Who will pay to maintain the park(s)? Is there access to water? What about impact to adjacent agricultural operations? These questions must be answered to the

satisfaction of the community and the County, who would likely take final responsibility for the maintenance of a park and any park facilities.

To this end, on January 19th, the Hawai'i County Council voted to approve a bill to allocate \$149,000 to hire a planner to help the Waimea community select location(s) for and decide on the features of the Waimea District Park. To get involved in the Waimea Parks Project call Sherm Warner 885-1725 or Mel Macy 960-3053.

www.WaimeaPlan.org