

Hāmākua Community Development Plan

Community Objectives

Originally Adopted by the Steering Committee on 2.5.13

Revised by Steering Committee on 11.21.15

‘ĀINA [Natural Resources & Ag as related to conservation of natural resources, Public Access]

Protect, restore, and enhance watershed ecosystems, sweeping views, and open spaces from mauka forests to makai shorelines, while assuring responsible public access for recreational, spiritual, cultural, and sustenance practices.

Protect and restore viable agricultural lands and resources. Protect and enhance viewsapes and open spaces that exemplify Hāmākua’s rural character.

Encourage community-based collaborative management plans to assure that human activities are in harmony with the quality of Hāmākua’s unique natural and cultural landscape.

COMMUNITY [Culture, Town Planning, Infrastructure, Public Facilities, Services, Transportation]

Protect and nurture Hāmākua’s social and cultural diversity and heritage assets, including sacred places, historic sites and buildings, and distinctive plantation towns.

Direct future settlement patterns that are sustainable and connected. Honor Hāmākua’s historic and cultural assets by concentrating new development in existing, walkable, mixed-use town centers while limiting rural sprawl.

Develop and improve critical community infrastructure, including utilities, healthcare, emergency services, affordable housing, educational opportunities and recreational facilities to keep our ‘ohana safe, strong, and healthy.

Establish a rural transportation network that includes improving roadway alternatives to Highway 19, expanding and improving the existing transit system, and encouraging multiple transportation options.

ECONOMY [Employment, Industry, Business Development, Small Town Revitalization, Agriculture, Tourism]

Promote, preserve and enhance a diverse, sustainable, local economy.

Encourage the increase and diversity of employment and living options for residents, including living wage jobs and entrepreneurial opportunities that allow residents to work and shop close to home and that complement Hāmākua’s ecology, rural character, and cultural heritage.

Revitalize retail, service, dining, and entertainment centers that complement the community’s rural character and culture.

Enhance and promote local and sustainable agriculture, farming, ranching, renewable energy, and related economic support systems.

Preserve traditional subsistence practices and encourage a reciprocity (e.g. bartering) economy as a sustainable complement to Hāmākua’s resource-based economy.

Promote appropriate rural tourism that welcomes guests for an alternative visitor experience.

Promote Hawai’i’s host culture and Hāmākua’s heritage, including historic roads and plantation towns, and festivals that celebrate our rich multi-cultural music, art, and agriculture.