

Appendix V2: Planning Process



2 Overview

3 One of the principal purposes of CDPs is to serve as the forum for community input into managing growth
4 and coordinating the delivery of government services to the community, so CDPs must be developed with
5 participation by the affected communities. The purpose of this appendix is to explain the participatory
6 process used to craft the Ka’ū Community Development Plan (CDP).

7 First, the [three foundations of the planning process](#) are introduced – balanced perspectives, appropriate
8 roles, and planning steps marked by extensive community input and clear decisions by the CDP Steering
9 Committee. Next, the specific community input, analysis, and decisions made at each step are explained in
10 the context of the [five phases](#) of the CDP planning process. Finally, greater detail about the nature of
11 [community engagement](#) during the CDP process is provided, including overviews of the CDP Steering
12 Committee, stakeholder analysis, capacity building, and communication strategies.

13 To facilitate navigation within the appendix, a Table of Contents and List of Figures are provided below.

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1 **Foundations of the CDP Process**

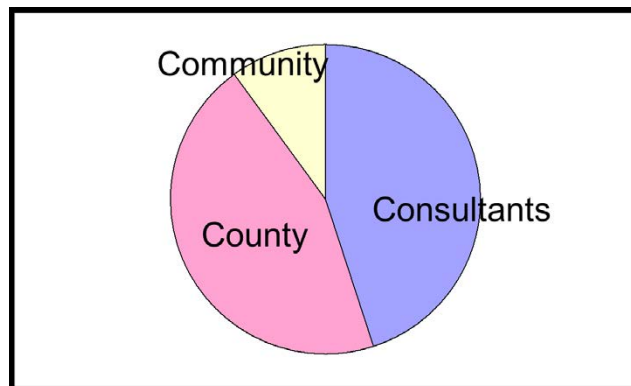
2 During introductory meetings throughout Ka‘ū in 2008, the County established the foundations of the CDP planning
 3 process. In July 2009, the Steering Committee affirmed these foundations in the project work plan. There are three
 4 foundational features of the CDP planning process:

- 5 ▪ **Balanced perspectives** among the three partners in the process – the community, the County, and consultants
- 6 ▪ **Appropriate roles** for each of those partners
- 7 ▪ **A step-by-step process, with each step marked by extensive community input and a clear decision** by the Steering
 8 Committee.

9 **Balanced Perspectives**

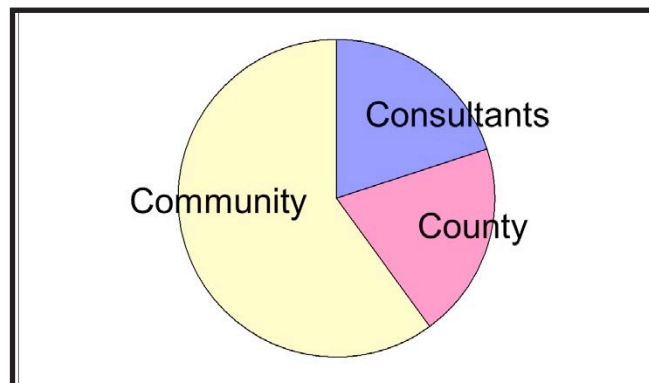
10 In government planning, it is common to limit community input to the minimum required by law. Because the bulk
 11 of the planning is done by government staff and consultants, the resulting plans often neglect critical issues and local
 12 knowledge and have little community buy-in or ownership (see [“Figure 1: Unbalanced Perspectives Common in Government Planning”](#)).

14 **Figure 1: Unbalanced Perspectives Common in Government Planning**



16 The other extreme is also common. Communities sometimes initiate their own planning processes, but these
 17 processes often fail to take into consideration existing policies and plans, important technical details, or lessons
 18 learned from other communities that have tried to achieve similar goals. The people involved typically have strong
 19 ownership of these plans, and they often do a good job of capturing community vision and priorities, but they often
 20 lack the depth or feasibility-testing required for implementation (see [“Figure 2: Unbalanced Perspectives Common in Community Planning”](#)).

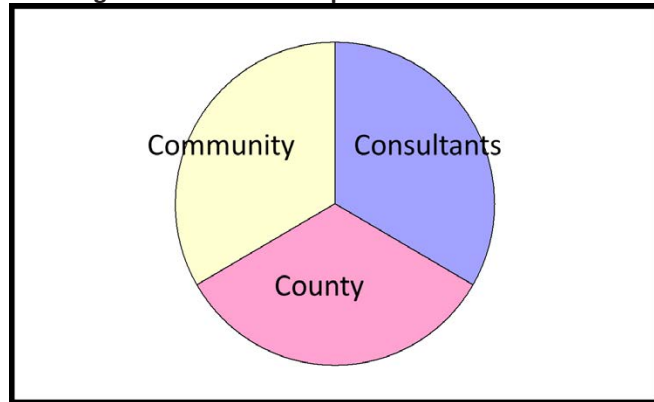
22 **Figure 2: Unbalanced Perspectives Common in Community Planning**



1 In contrast, when the three partners’ perspectives are relatively balanced, a plan can be produced that
 2 reflects community priorities, government operations, and consultant expertise (see [“Figure 3: Balanced Perspectives in the Ka’ū CDP”](#)). The Ka’ū CDP planning process seeks to strike that balance.

4
5

Figure 3: Balanced Perspectives in the Ka’ū CDP



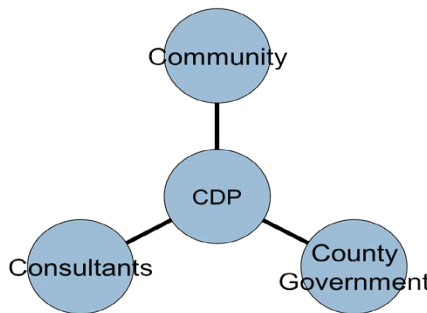
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7 **Specific, Appropriate Roles**

8 The second critical foundation of the Ka’ū CDP planning process is specific, appropriate roles. The best
 9 outcomes result when each of the three principal partners assumes roles well-suited to its responsibilities
 10 and expertise (see [“Figure 4: Partners Make Unique Contributions to the CDP”](#)).

11

Figure 4: Partners Make Unique Contributions to the CDP



12

13 **County Government’s Role:** The Planning Department provides overall project management and
 14 coordination. This includes managing consultant contracts, the Steering Committee, communications, and
 15 technical and regulatory input and analysis.

16 Early in the planning process, the Department of Research & Development managed the public input process
 17 for [identifying community values and vision](#) and [provided facilitation workshops](#) for community members
 18 involved in that initial input process.

19 While developing the [Community Profile](#) and assessing alternative CDP strategies, many County agencies
 20 also provide information about past, current, and future County initiatives and programs.

21 Because the CDP is a County plan adopted by ordinance, it also goes through the formal process of County
 22 review, recommendations, hearings, and votes. During the [adoption process](#), the Planning Director and the
 23 Windward Planning Commission will make formal recommendations on the draft CDP. The County Council
 24 will then adopt, amend, or reject the Ka’ū CDP. If the plan is adopted, it goes to the Mayor’s desk for
 25 signature before it becomes law.

26 **Consultants’ Role:** Planning consultants are like architects – they listen to the client’s values, vision, and
 27 objectives and then translate them into specific strategies. They provide a critical, objective, third-party
 28 perspective grounded in professional expertise and lessons learned in other communities.

1 For the Ka'ū CDP, the County engaged planning and community-based economic development consultants. In
2 addition, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) developed a comprehensive hazard
3 assessment in support of the [Community Profile](#), and the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails and Conservation
4 Assistance (RTCA) program provided three years of technical assistance related to natural and cultural resource
5 management and community-based economic development.

6 **Community Roles:** Most community members don't have the knowledge or expertise needed to write a legal plan,
7 which is why that work is left to consultants and the County. However, only community members can:

- 8 ▪ Identify core values,
 - 9 ▪ Clarify the community vision for the future,
 - 10 ▪ Provide local knowledge about past and current conditions,
 - 11 ▪ Use all of that input to craft community objectives or goals, and
 - 12 ▪ When the County and consultants come up with alternative strategies and drafts of the plan, only community
13 members can confirm which strategies best achieve the objectives and whether the plan truly reflects community
14 values and vision.
- 15 During the planning process, the [Steering Committee](#) serves as the formal liaison with the County and consultants.
16 After adoption, the CDP Action Committee will serve as the proactive, community-based steward of plan
17 implementation.

18

19 **Building on Decision Points Informed by Community Input**

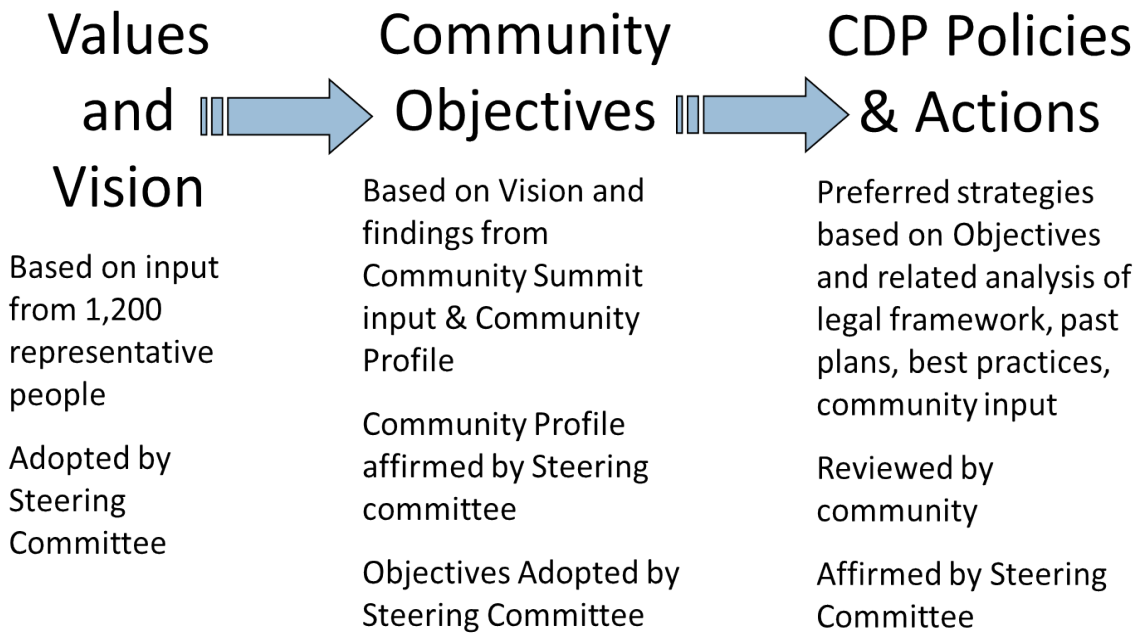
20 The third foundation of the CDP process is a series of clear decision points, each of which is informed by community
21 input. In practice, this means that each step in the process is identified, the roles of community input at that step
22 are defined, the Steering Committee deliberates based on that community input as well as analysis provided by the
23 County and consultants, and explicit decisions by the Steering Committee mark the transition to the next step.
24 "[Figure 5: Building on Decision Points informed by Community Input](#)" shows the relationship of each of the basic
25 steps that build toward drafting the CDP:

- 26 • [Identifying community values and vision](#), based on extensive community input and adopted by the Steering
27 Committee
- 28 ▪ [Defining community objectives](#), again based on input at [Community Summits](#) as well as baseline data about Ka'ū,
29 and adopted by the Steering Committee
- 30 ▪ [Drafting policies and actions](#), which will be reviewed by the community and affirmed by the Steering Committee
31 before the CDP is submitted to the County for adoption.

32 Note the clear role of community input and of Steering Committee decisions at each step.

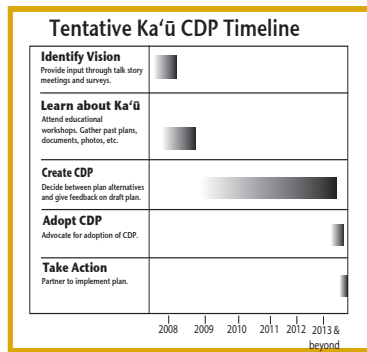
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Figure 5: Building on Decision Points informed by Community Input

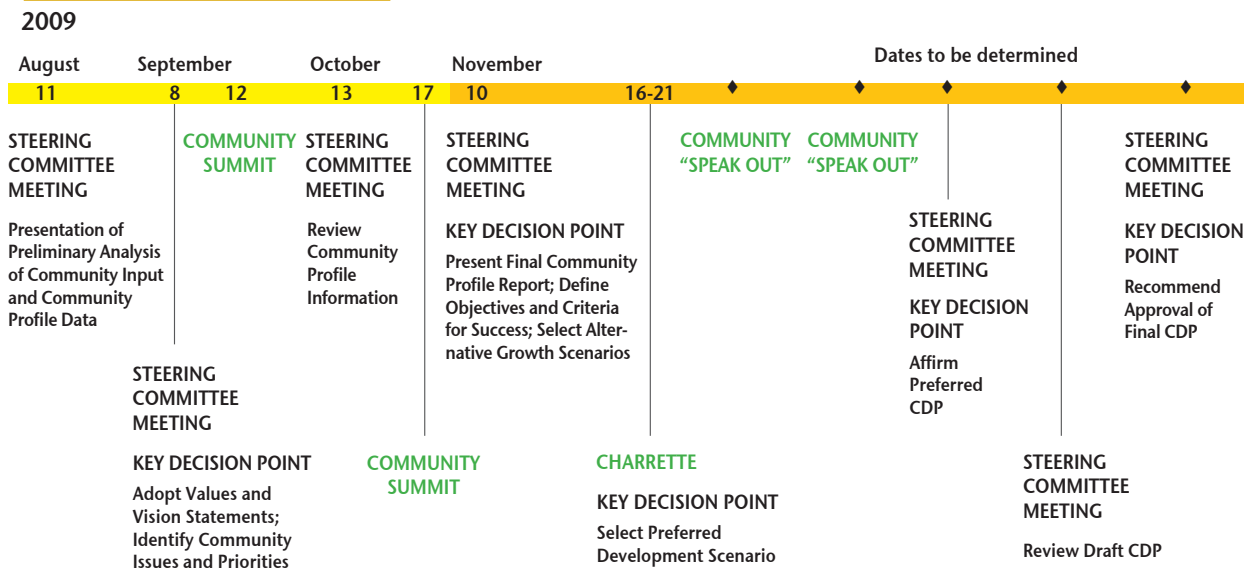


2 “Figure 6: Ka’ū CDP: Decision Points” lays out the key steps in the CDP process on a timeline.

3 Figure 6: Ka’ū CDP: Decision Points



Ka’ū CDP: Decision Points



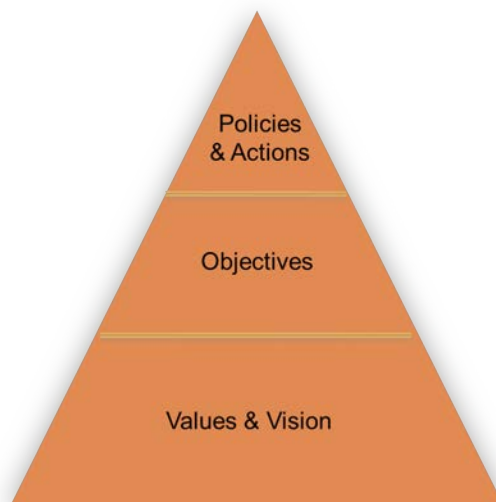
The Work Plan is organized around public engagement, building on the first phase’s mission to Identify Vision and Values. Steering Committee meetings are open and will set aside time for public comment. Plus, five events – the charrette, the two community summits, and the two community “Speak Outs” (noted in green on the timeline) – will elicit community feedback before moving to the next stages of the process.



1 Each step builds on and should be consistent with the previous steps. Part of the [Steering Committee's](#) role is to
2 ensure that each step is well-aligned with earlier steps and decisions. If they are, they naturally build on one another,
3 as depicted in "[Figure 7: Well-Aligned CDP Building Blocks](#)".

4

Figure 7: Well-Aligned CDP Building Blocks



5

6 **Community Input and Decision Points**

7 The three steps illustrated in Figures 5 and 6 correspond with the first three phases of the CDP process: "[Identify](#)
8 [Values and Vision](#)", "[Learn about Ka'ū](#)", and "[Create the CDP](#)". The fourth and fifth phases are "[Adopt the CDP](#)" and
9 "[Take Action](#)", during which community participation and input continue to play significant roles. Each of those
10 phases is described in more detail below.

11 **Phase I: Identify Values and Vision**

12 This step was particularly important because it is the starting point for the CDP planning process, where large scale,
13 representative community was received.

14 **Community Input:** Between October 2008 and February 2009, using paper and online surveys as well as scores of
15 informal small group meetings, the County facilitated the collection of thousands of comments. Two questions were
16 posed: "What do you love about Ka'ū?" and "What would you like to see in Ka'ū in 20 years?"

17 Community liaisons were contracted to maximize participation, and outreach was targeted to segments of the
18 community that might not typically be heard (e.g., Marshallese). Demographic information was collected from
19 participants to confirm that the input was truly representative of the community's diversity. In the end, over 1,200
20 people in Ka'ū commented (14% of the population), and the participation was closely correlated to the community's
21 demographics.

22 **Analysis:** The County then compiled, analyzed, and summarized the comments. All of the raw data, the analysis, and
23 summaries are available in the "CDP Input" section of www.kaucdp.info, including a summary of survey and talk
24 story participation by region, ethnicity, age, generation in Hawai'i, length of residence in Ka'ū, education level, and
25 household income.

26 **Decision – Values and Vision Statement:** In collaboration with consultants, the County also drafted a Values and
27 Vision Statement for consideration by the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee improved upon it and then
28 formally adopted it in September 2009. The Statement included the summary lists of community values and
29 priorities as well as an integrating statement (see "[Figure 8: Ka'ū Community Values](#)", "[Figure 9: Ka'ū Community Key](#)
[Issues and Priorities](#)" and "[Figure 10: Ka'ū Community Values and Vision Statement](#)").

31 The Values and Vision Statement is the first, most fundamental building block of the CDP. It is therefore critical that
32 the CDP be consistent with the values and vision described in the statement.

Figure 8: Ka'ū Community Values

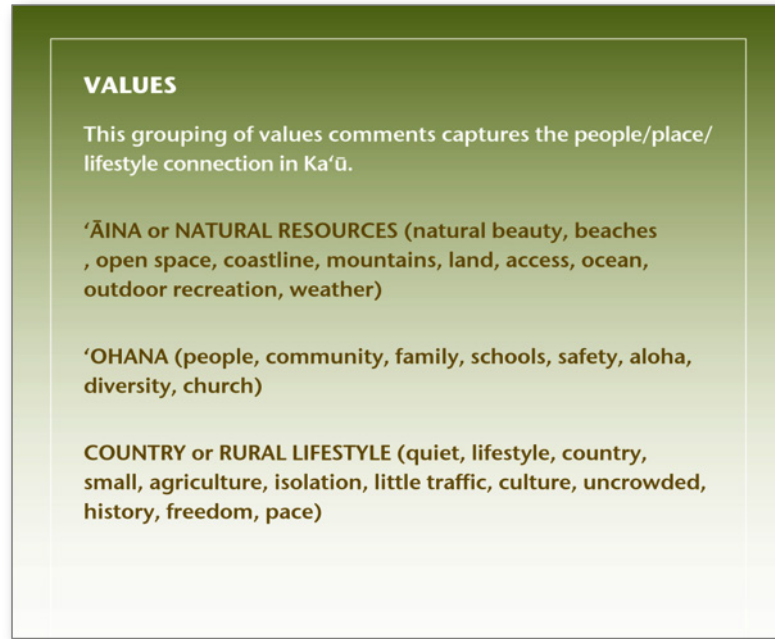


Figure 9: Ka'ū Community Key Issues and Priorities



VALUES AND VISION STATEMENT

The Ka'ū CDP should honor Ka'ū's unique rural lifestyle, its connection between people and place, and its distinctive Hawaiian cultural heritage. It must plan for the future in ways that:

- Increase economic opportunities through a diverse, resilient, and sustainable economy.
- Protect and provide reasonable access to natural and recreational resources, including the mauka forests, the coastline, open spaces, and park facilities and programs.
- Strengthen families, communities, and the diversity of local cultures.

2 Phase II: Learn about Ka'ū

3 **Analysis:** Next, consultants led the development
 4 of the Community Profile, which is a summary of
 5 environmental, community, and economic data
 6 about Ka'ū. A number of County, State, and
 7 Federal agencies were consulted to confirm data,
 8 the status of current projects, and future plans.
 9 Maps, tables, and text were used to summarize
 10 the characteristics of Ka'ū's physical environment,
 11 natural hazards, coastal resources, infrastructure,
 12 public facilities, heritage, socio-economics, and
 13 land use.

14 **Community Input:** In September 2009, after an
 15 initial draft of the Profile was prepared, a
 16 Community Summit was held to verify
 17 information and fill in the gaps with local

18 knowledge. It was clear that technical data provided a sterile snapshot of the community, and it was critical to add
 19 the perspective of those who know Ka'ū best. The consulting team then made revisions and brought an updated
 20 draft back for a second Community Summit in October 2009.

21 190 people participated in the two Summits, making over 500 comments. Summaries of the community input from
 22 both Summits are available in the "CDP Input" section of www.kaucdp.info.

23 **Decision – Community Profile:** In November 2009, the Steering Committee reviewed the second draft of the Profile,
 24 recommended additional revisions, and then affirmed it as a planning baseline. That draft of the Community Profile
 25 is available in the "CDP Input" section of www.kaucdp.info, and the version incorporating the recommended
 26 revisions is in Appendix V3 of the CDP.

27



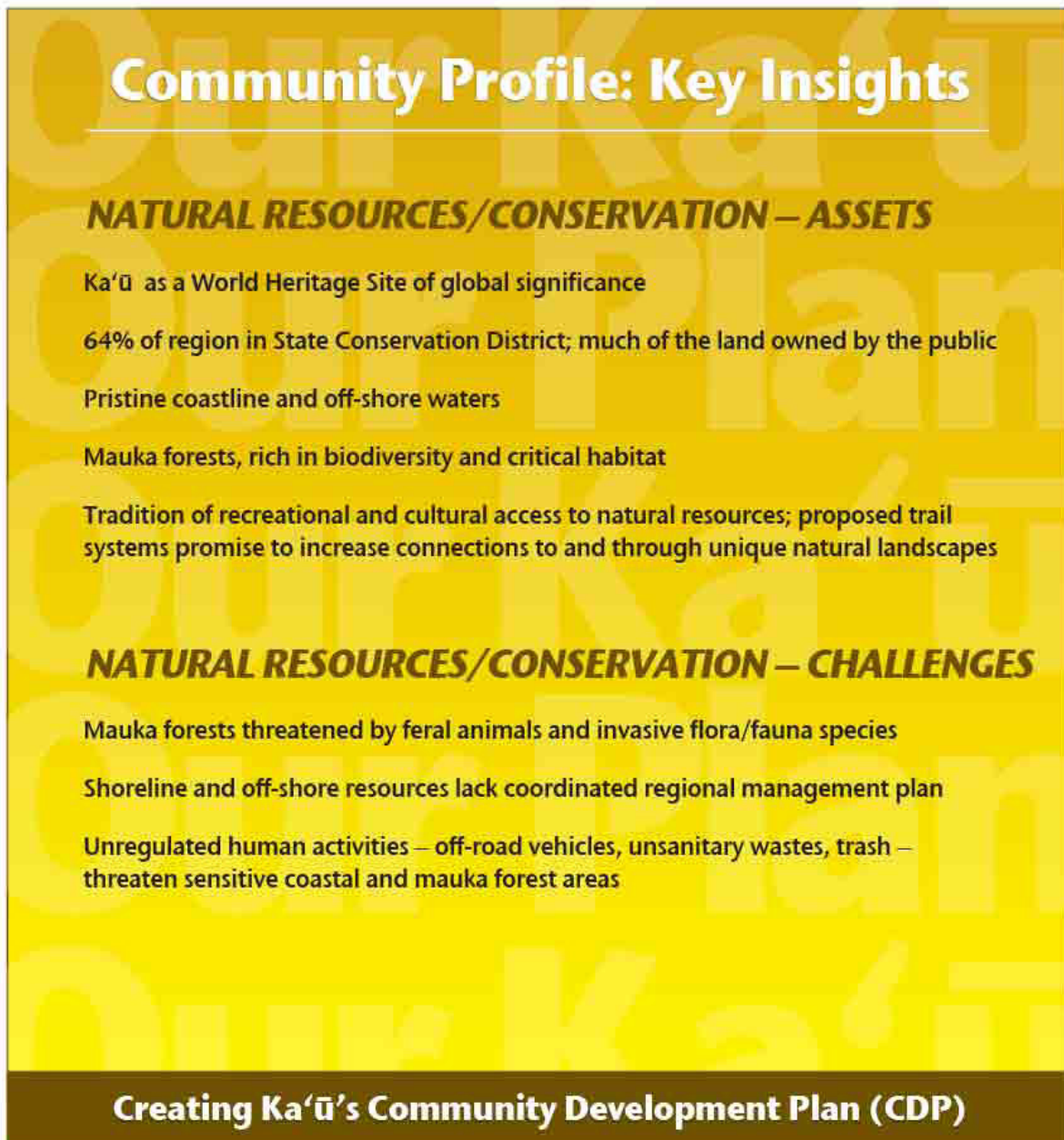
1 Phase III: Create the CDP

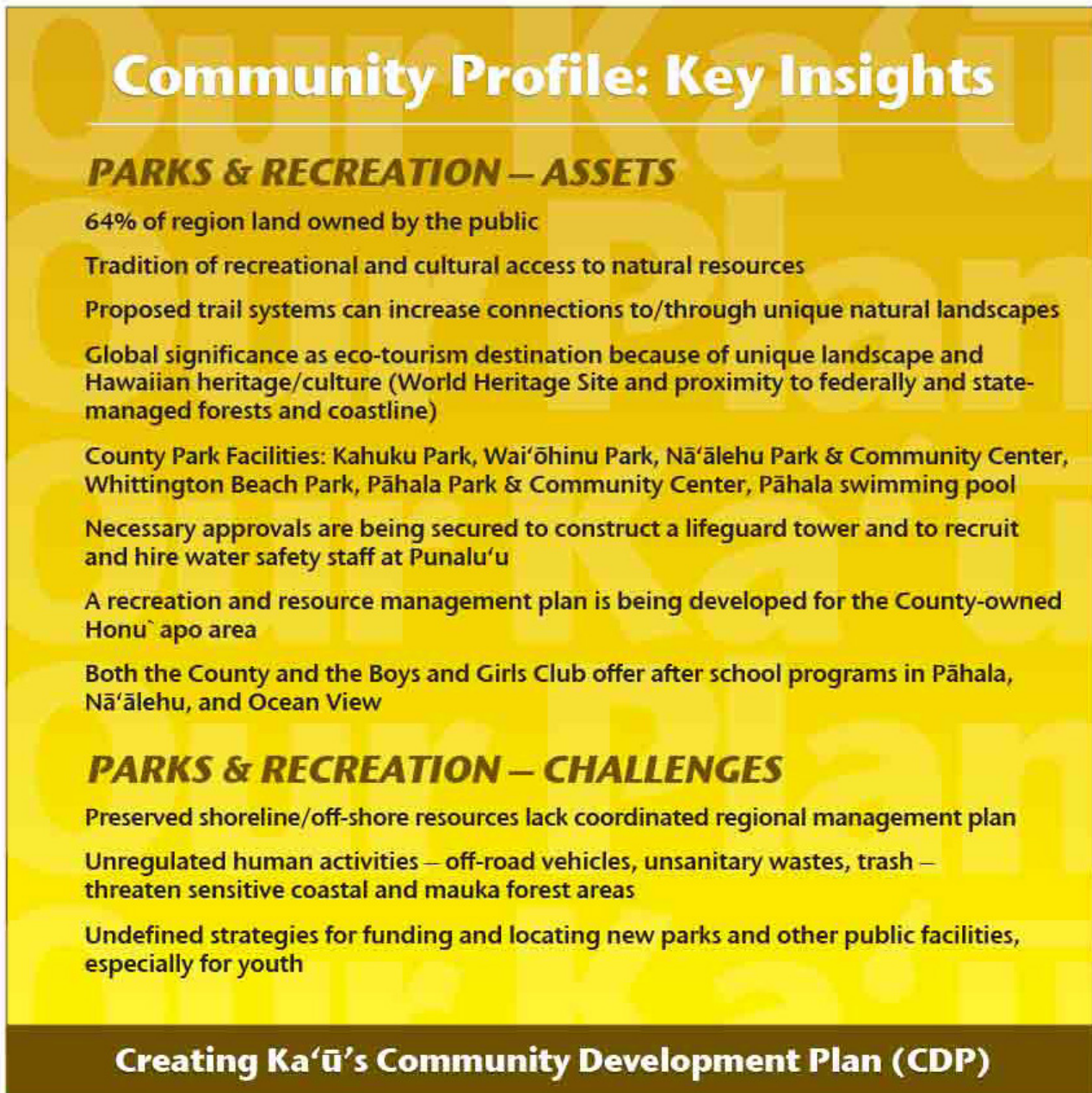
2 **Analysis:** The County and consultants then summarized the key insights from the Community Profile – both
3 assets and challenges. Those are summarized in “[Figure 11: Community Profile Key Economic Insights](#)”,
4 “[Figure 12: Community Profile Natural Resources Key Insights](#)”, “[Figure 13: Community Profile Parks and
Recreation Key Insights](#)”, “[Figure 14: Community Profile Health and Education Key Insights](#)” and “[Figure 15:
Community Profile Real Estate Key Insights](#)”.

7
8

Figure 11: Community Profile Key Economic Insights







Community Profile: Key Insights

HEALTH & EDUCATION – ASSETS

Elementary, Intermediate, and High Schools in Nā'ālehu and Pāhala

The library system is looking for a new site in Nā'ālehu

Ka'ū Hospital and Rural Health Clinic in Pāhala provides clinical, emergency, and long term care

Bay Clinic plans to expand its medical clinic in Nā'ālehu

Ocean View Family Health Clinic has nurse practitioner and offers monthly DOH clinics

Access to healthy local food from the ocean, mauka forests, and agricultural lands

'Ohana traditions that encourage extended-family support for schools, churches, and community organizations

HEALTH & EDUCATION – CHALLENGES

Long commutes for school children from Ocean View

Undefined strategies for schools, clinics, and other facilities to accommodate healthy growth and a sustainable local economy

Public health threats from vog and natural hazards (lava inundation, tsunamis, earthquakes, and hurricanes)

Limited opportunities for adult, vocational, and higher education

Creating Ka'ū's Community Development Plan (CDP)

Community Profile: Key Insights

APPROPRIATE REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT – ASSETS

Global significance as eco-tourism destination because of unique landscape and Hawaiian heritage/culture (World Heritage Site and proximity to federally and state-managed forests and coastline)

Pristine coastline that is susceptible to coastal hazards

Mauka forests, rich in biodiversity and critical habitat

Tradition of recreational and cultural access to natural resources; proposed trail systems promise to increase connections to and through unique natural landscapes

Prime agricultural lands

Historic settlements, ranch lands, mauka forests, and shorelines that exemplify rural character and lifestyle

APPROPRIATE REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT – CHALLENGES

The bulk of Ka’ū’s buildout potential is in the pre-code subdivisions of Ocean View, Discovery Harbour, Green Sands, and Mark Twain, where there are ~12,463 vacant lots, representing 82% of the 15,234 house lots in all of Ka’ū

The pre-code subdivisions mostly lack infrastructure and entitlements to create viable town/village centers

Ka’ū’s sole resort node at Punalu’u is under-developed

Agricultural lands vulnerable to inappropriate development

Potential for existing and new developments to build out in ways that undermine Ka’ū’s unique character and rural lifestyle

Undefined strategies for rural road networks; water, sewer, and energy infrastructure; and schools, clinics, and public facilities to accommodate healthy growth and a sustainable local economy

Creating Ka’ū’s Community Development Plan (CDP)

3 Next, the County and consultants synthesized those key insights with the principles embedded in the Values
4 and Vision Statement to draft Community Objectives (see “[Figure 16: Ka’ū Community Objectives](#)”).

5 **Decision – Community Objectives:** In 2009, the Steering Committee made improvements to draft objectives
6 and then formally adopted them. Because the Community Objectives are grounded in community values
7 and vision as well as baseline, objective information, all of the CDP strategies should be consistent with and
8 work toward achieving those objectives.

9

10

COMMUNITY OBJECTIVES

MANAGE AND CONSERVE NATURAL RESOURCES

- Protect, restore, and enhance ecosystems, including mauka forests and the shorelines, while assuring responsible access for residents and for visitors.
- Preserve prime and other viable agricultural lands and preserve and enhance viewsapes that exemplify Ka'ū's rural character.
- Encourage community-based management plans to assure that human activity doesn't degrade the quality of Ka'ū's unique natural and cultural landscape.

BUILD A RESILIENT, SUSTAINABLE LOCAL ECONOMY

- Preserve and greatly enhance nā 'ohana economy.
- Increase the number and diversity of income sources for residents, including jobs and entrepreneurial opportunities that complement Ka'ū's ecology, culture and evolving demographics.
- Establish or expand retail, service, dining, and entertainment centers in rural villages and towns capable of supporting Ka'ū-appropriate growth.
- Encourage and enhance agriculture, ranching, and related economic infrastructure.

PRESERVE AND STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY CHARACTER

- Protect, restore, and enhance Ka'ū's unique cultural assets, including archeological and historic sites and historic buildings.
- Establish and enforce standards for development and construction that reflect community values of architectural beauty and distinctiveness.
- Encourage future settlement patterns that are safe, sustainable, and connected. They should protect people and community facilities from natural hazards, and they should honor the best of Ka'ū's historic precedents: concentrating new commercial and residential development in compact, walkable, mixed-use town/village centers, allowing rural development in the rural lands, and limiting development on shorelines.
- Identify viable sites for critical community infrastructure, including water, emergency services and educational facilities to serve both youth and adults.
- Establish a rural transportation network, including roadway alternatives to Highway 11, a regional trail system, and an interconnected transit system.

1 **Community Input:** In November 2009, consultants facilitated a planning workshop – called a “charrette” –
 2 where the Community Objectives and current settlement patterns in Ka’ū were used to assess five different
 3 scenarios for future settlement
 4 patterns. Focused topic meetings
 5 were also held to address questions
 6 raised by the Community
 7 Objectives and key insights from
 8 the Community Profile, which the
 9 CDP should address. Over 300
 10 people participated in the
 11 charrette.



12 Responding to charrette
 13 participants’ suggestions and
 14 course corrections, consultants
 15 illustrated various CDP scenarios. That work in progress was then pinned up for community view and refined
 16 into versions presented during the closing public meeting.

17 The final charrette presentation summarized the elements of preferred, regional land use patterns and a
 18 framework for community-based economic development. A detailed summary of the scenarios considered
 19 and criteria used to evaluate them is in Appendix V4D.

20 The “CDP Input” section of www.kaucdp.info includes materials presented during the charrette, settlement
 21 patterns and future scenarios considered, and the final presentation.

22 **Analysis:** The charrette established the CDP framework, but specific strategies for building on the
 23 community’s assets to address its challenges still had to be identified. And once identified, they had to be
 24 vetted against the community’s values and vision, the Community Objectives, and many other factors that
 25 impact feasibility and implementation.

26 The following resources were reviewed and summarized to identify alternative strategies for each of the
 27 community’s priorities (e.g., shoreline, agricultural lands, mauka forests, recreation, public infrastructure,
 28 economic development, etc.):

- 29 ▪ **Current Policy:** General Plan policies and courses of actions as well as other Federal, State, and County
 30 policies were reviewed to identify:
 - 31 ○ Current policy aligned with Ka’ū’s Community Objectives
 - 32 ○ Policy gaps that inhibit the achievement of Ka’ū’s Community Objectives.
- 33 ▪ **Existing Tools and Initiatives:** Existing regulation, specific strategies developed to achieve objectives similar
 34 to Ka’ū’s, and past studies, reports, and plans were reviewed to identify:
 - 35 ○ Tools and initiatives that could be employed or expanded in Ka’ū
 - 36 ○ Barriers to using available tools that would advance Ka’ū’s Community Objectives
 - 37 ○ Gaps in current tools and initiatives, where innovative strategies may have to be developed to
 38 achieve Ka’ū’s Community Objectives.
- 39 ▪ **Other Tools and Initiatives:** Planning best practices and lessons learned, including case studies, examples,
 40 and models from communities with similar objectives, were reviewed to identify high potential strategies
 41 that could be piloted in Ka’ū.

42 Key stakeholders in agencies and within the community who have experience or expertise related to
 43 particular strategies were also consulted.

1 Most of the materials reviewed are available at www.kaucdp.info, either in the “About Ka’ū” or “Planning Resources”
2 sections. A list of stakeholder meetings is also available in the “CDP Input” section.

3 The analysis is summarized in Appendix V4 and will be updated as conditions change, new information is brought to
4 light, and in response to feedback from the community.

5 To draft the body of the CDP, the advantages and disadvantages of alternative strategies will be considered relative to
6 the Community Objectives, and “preferred” strategies will be identified. Four types of strategies are likely to emerge:

7 ▪ Policy, including affirmation of existing policy and new County policies needed to achieve Ka’ū’s Community
8 Objectives

9 ▪ Advocacy required to advance policy and programs outside County jurisdiction

10 ▪ Community-based, Collaborative Action that require community leadership and partnerships with other agencies
11 and organizations to use existing tools and initiatives and/or employ new strategies

12 ▪ Acquisition priorities for achieving Ka’ū’s Community Objectives.

13 Those strategies will be summarized in section IV of the CDP. When section IV is complete, sections I, II, and III – the
14 “Executive Summary”, “Ka’ū Today”, and “Ka’ū Tomorrow” – will be drafted as concise, easy-to-understand synopses.

15 Currently, the CDP is structured as follows:

16 **I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

17 **II. KA’Ū TODAY – BRIEF SUMMARY OF VALUES, ASSETS, CHALLENGES**

18 **III. KA’Ū TOMORROW – BRIEF SUMMARY OF VISION, OBJECTIVES, STRATEGIES**

19 **IV. THE PLAN – STRATEGIES: POLICIES, ADVOCACY, AND ACTIONS**

20 1. CONSERVE NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

21 2. STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY

22 3. BUILD A RESILIENT LOCAL ECONOMY

23 4. BUILD COMMUNITY CAPACITY

24 **V. APPENDIX**

25 1. CDP PURPOSE AND SCOPE

26 2. PLANNING PROCESS

27 3. COMMUNITY PROFILE

28 4. BACKGROUND ANALYSIS

29 A. *Natural and Cultural Resource Management Analysis*

30 B. *Community Analysis*

31 C. *Local Economy Analysis*

32 D. *Regional Land Use Analysis*

33 5. IMPLEMENTATION METHODS AND TOOLS

34 A. *Action Matrix*

35 B. *Finance Plan*

36 C. *Monitoring Plan*

37 6. GLOSSARY

38

39 The first draft of the CDP is called the “Preferred CDP” because it identifies preferred strategies among the
40 alternatives considered. All of the core elements of the CDP will be in this draft. Because they are useful reference
41 documents, Appendices V1, 2, 3, and 6 will be available for review along with the analysis in Appendix V4.

42 **Community Input:** The analysis described above is best done thoroughly and methodically and is very reading- and
43 writing-intensive. Though it involves many planners and consultants working in collaboration, it is difficult and

1 inefficient to do “by committee.” Moreover, because all of the CDP strategies are inter-related, public
 2 review and discussion of alternative CDP strategies best follows completion of the complete “preferred” draft
 3 the CDP. However, sections of the background analysis can be shared for public review and comment as they
 4 are completed. This is being done, and feedback to strengthen the analysis is invited and encouraged.

5 When the complete first draft of the CDP is completed, it will be shared publically for review, and extensive
 6 public comment will be invited. The Steering Committee has already developed the following strategies for
 7 community feedback and Steering Committee discussion:

8 ▪ Materials will be available online and at community centers, libraries, etc. 10-14 days in advance of events
 9 related to the draft materials

10 ▪ There will be three components:

11 ○ Educational Workshops (as Steering Committee meetings), where contextual information will be
 12 shared and draft elements of the CDP will be introduced

13 ○ “Speak Out” type events to solicit community feedback

14 ○ Steering Committee review of public comment, discussion with specific stakeholders as needed,
 15 and deliberations

16 ▪ Events will be held in Pāhala, Nā‘ālehu, and Ocean View on both weekday evenings and weekends

17 ▪ As possible, the small group “talk story” format used at the beginning of the CDP process will be employed
 18 to get community feedback.

19 **Decision – Affirm Drafts and Recommend Final CDP Approval:** When that public review and comment
 20 process is completed, Steering Committee meetings will be held to deliberate about the draft, hear
 21 stakeholders’ comments, and craft recommendations for improvement relative to the Values and Vision
 22 Statement and the Community Objectives. It will formally affirm the first draft with recommended revisions.

23 The second draft of the CDP will incorporate the Steering Committee’s recommendations and add
 24 supplementary materials absent from the initial draft (e.g., Appendix V5A and B: “Implementation Methods
 25 and Tools”). Again, that draft will undergo public review, and the Steering Committee will formally affirm the
 26 second draft with additional recommendations.

27 The third draft will incorporate those recommendations and add any final components of the CDP (e.g.,
 28 Appendix V5C: “Monitoring and Evaluation”). After a final round of public review and Steering Committee
 29 deliberations, the Steering Committee will be invited to recommend adoption of the CDP after any final,
 30 necessary revisions are incorporated.

31 **Phase IV: Adopt the CDP**

32 **Community Input:** Once the Steering Committee recommends adoption of the CDP, the Planning Director
 33 prepares a background and recommendations report, the Windward Planning Commission makes
 34 recommendations, and then the County Council considers the CDP for adoption. During that adoption
 35 process, community input can be provided as testimony to the Planning Commission and County Council,
 36 either in writing or at public hearings.

37 In addition, if the Council considers substantive changes to the CDP, the Steering Committee will be given an
 38 opportunity to comment, and the public can comment at the associated Steering Committee meetings.

39 **Decisions:** The County Council may defer the CDP, reject it, adopt it with amendments, or adopt it as
 40 recommended by the Steering Committee. If the CDP is adopted, the Mayor may sign it, allow it to take
 41 effect without his signature, or veto it.

1 Phase V: Take Action

2 **Community Input:** After the CDP is adopted, a new community advisory committee – the Action Committee – will be
3 appointed to lead implementation of the CDP. As with the Steering Committee, Action Committee members will be
4 nominated by the Mayor and appointed by Council. Applications to serve on the Action Committee will be open to
5 the public, and the public can comment at Council meetings associated with Action Committee appointments.

6 Also like the Steering Committee, Action Committee meetings will be open to the public and will allow opportunities
7 for public comment. The Action Committee may also choose to form subcommittees, and the subcommittees could
8 include members of the public.

9 Community Engagement

10 Steering Committee

11 Chapter 15 of the General Plan requires that CDP processes have a Steering Committee composed of volunteer
12 members appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the County Council. The Steering Committee is an advisory
13 committee administered by the Planning Department, and its responsibilities include:

- 14 ▪ Work with the Planning Department and with any professional consultants to assist in tailoring the planning
15 process to the unique characteristics of Ka'ū and its stakeholders;
- 16 ▪ Promote the planning process within the community to maximize participation while maintaining a neutral,
17 approachable posture;
- 18 ▪ Monitor the development of the CDP to ensure that the best interests of the Ka'ū region as a whole are incorporated;
- 19 ▪ Recommend approval of the CDP and, if the Steering Committee decides amendments to the General Plan are
20 required to implement the CDP, recommend such amendments.

21 Therefore, rather than advocate on behalf of particular interests or perspectives, Committee members' job is to
22 listen carefully to the diversity of community members and help craft a CDP that the community truly "owns."

23 **Recruitment, Review, and Appointment:** Clear Steering Committee roles and responsibilities as well as detailed
24 selection criteria were developed prior to soliciting membership applications. While applications were being
25 accepted, significant effort was made to encourage a broad range of people to apply. A review committee then
26 vetted the applicants based on the selection criteria, focusing largely on characteristics consistent with the role of
27 the Steering Committee detailed above. The committee also considered the need to balance geographic
28 representation, experience, and perspectives.

29 In April of 2009, the County Council confirmed ten Steering Committee nominees, plus one non-voting member.
30 They are broadly representative of the planning area as a whole and of each community within Ka'ū. More
31 information about the Steering Committee is available at www.kaucdp.info.

32 **Sunshine Law:** Hawai'i Revised Statutes Chapter 92 (i.e., the "Sunshine Law") protects the public's right to know and
33 opens the governmental process to public scrutiny and participation. It requires that discussions related to the
34 charge of County boards and commissions (including the CDP Steering Committee) are held at meetings, that six
35 days' notice is provided for meetings, that the meetings must be open to the public, and that public testimony is
36 allowed on meeting agenda items.

37 Stakeholder Analysis

38 Early in the planning process, a thorough stakeholder analysis was conducted to identify the full range of people and
39 organizations that have a stake in Ka'ū's future. The analysis identified civic and non-profit groups, business and
40 trade organizations, large landowners, and County, State, and Federal agencies with jurisdiction in Ka'ū. For each
41 stakeholder, specific points of contact during the planning process and the most appropriate [outreach strategies](#)
42 were identified.

43 Demographic data were also collected and used to assess community participation relative to key indicators of
44 community diversity. These data were used to ensure that the [initial community input](#) was representative.

1 Community Capacity Building

2 To strengthen community stakeholders’ role in the planning process, the County made significant
3 investments in building community capacity.

4 Before launching the process, the County hosted four introductory, informational meetings – one each in the
5 three population centers and a fourth in Marshallese. The slides from these presentations can be viewed in
6 the “Overview and FAQ” section of www.kaucdp.info.

7 Before initiating the [small group “talk story” meetings to solicit initial input](#), three facilitation training
8 workshops were offered to community volunteers who agreed to facilitate these meetings.

9 Early in the planning process, the County also offered three workshops designed to educate stakeholders
10 about issues critical to the CDP: “Land Use Planning 101”, “Introduction to County Government”, and
11 “Introduction to Natural Resource Management”. The slides from these presentations are available in the
12 “Planning Resources” section of www.kaucdp.info.

13 After the Steering Committee members were appointed, the County hosted a two-day orientation. Around
14 that same time, three different “Meet and Greet” tables were hosted at community events to introduce
15 people to the Steering Committee members.

16 Communications and Outreach

17 For the community and Steering Committee to effectively play their roles in the planning process, outreach
18 and related communications have to be timely, targeted, and diverse. The Ka’ū CDP uses a range of media:

19 **Web site:** The foundation of project communications is the www.kaucdp.info web site, which includes:

- 20 ▪ A CDP overview and FAQ
- 21 ▪ A guide to staying informed via email and other means
- 22 ▪ An events listing
- 23 ▪ [Steering Committee](#) records, including meeting agendas, minutes, and materials; member biosketches
24 and contact information; and detail about the selection process
- 25 ▪ An introduction to the members of the County and consultant planning team
- 26 ▪ Summaries of all community input, including the data from the [initial community input](#), public comment
27 at the [Community Summits](#), and [charrette](#) documentation
- 28 ▪ A comprehensive library of information about Ka’ū, including the [Community Profile](#), past plans and studies
29 developed for Ka’ū, historical documents, maps, and photos
- 30 ▪ An extensive library of planning resources, including [capacity building workshop](#) materials and a wide
31 range of reports, studies, and manuals documenting best practices for natural and cultural resource
32 management, community development, and community-based economic development.
- 33 ▪ A repository for draft CDP documents
- 34 ▪ Guidance on providing feedback about the planning process.

35 The web site is augmented and updated regularly.

36 **Email:** Free subscriptions to an email announcements listserv are available to anyone who wants to keep
37 abreast of CDP activity. See the “How to Stay Informed” section of www.kaucdp.info.

38 **Social Media:** The project established a Facebook page (www.facebook.com/kaucdp) to keep younger
39 generations informed.

- 1 **Mailings:** Preceding critical [decision points](http://www.kaucdp.info) in the planning process, letters from the Planning Director are sent to all
2 residents. Non-residents are also contacted via local private road corporations. Mailings are archived in the “How
3 to Stay Informed” section of www.kaucdp.info.
- 4 **Newspaper Inserts:** During the month preceding CDP community meetings, inserts are published in the *Ka’ū*
5 *Calendar*, which is distributed to every mailbox in Ka’ū. Inserts are archived in the “How to Stay Informed” section of
6 www.kaucdp.info.
- 7 **Radio:** The Steering Committee chair participates in KAHU radio’s show profiling community events and activities.
- 8 **Media Releases:** During important points in the planning process, the local newspaper, blog, and radio station are
9 asked to help spread the word.
- 10 **Posters and Flyers:** Preceding critical [decision points](http://www.kaucdp.info) in the planning process, flyers are also distributed in different
11 languages. Flyers are archived in the “How to Stay Informed” section of www.kaucdp.info.
- 12 **Schools and Community Organizations:** Flyers are sent home with school children, and articles are submitted for
13 inclusion in community newsletters.
- 14 **Direct Outreach:** Some Steering Committee members have attended farmers’ markets, flea markets, and other
15 community events to informally reach out to community members.
- 16 CDP planning team members also contact stakeholders directly as needed. For example, while building the
17 Community Profile, information was collected directly from agencies about their past, current, and future projects in
18 Ka’ū. Similarly, while completing the draft CDP, planning team members meet with stakeholders to discuss and test
19 potential policies, actions, and implementation roles. A list of those meetings is maintained in the “CDP Input”
20 section of www.kaucdp.info.