

# BUILDING PERMIT INTERACTION GROUP REPORT

**SIMPLIFYING PERMITTING FOR  
ENHANCED ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT (SPEED) TASK FORCE**

**DECEMBER 2025**

# REPORT HIGHLIGHTS



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# INTRODUCTION

**The SPEED Task Force was established through Act 133 (SLH 2025) and House Concurrent Resolution No. 157 (HCR 157). The SPEED Task Force chose to conduct its meetings under the Sunshine Law to provide transparency throughout the process.**

**The SPEED Task Force has worked on identifying actions taken, challenges encountered, and legislative measures necessary to facilitate, expedite, and coordinate state and intergovernmental development permit processes.**





# **MESSAGE FROM CHAIR ILAGAN**

**As we delve into the SDGs Progress Report, I want to express my gratitude for the unwavering commitment each of you has shown toward advancing sustainable development.**

**Our collective efforts are not just about meeting goals; they are a testament to our shared responsibility in shaping a better future.**

# KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Collection and discussion of 79 SWOT Recommendation Forms;**
- **Convened 7 meetings;**
- **Membership represented 15 different disciplines, technical proficiencies and business expertise;**
- **Approximately 270 hours were invested in the investigation and evaluation of SWOT Recommendation Forms.**



# PERMITTED INTERACTION GROUP

PIGs provide a forum for participants to express their thoughts and experiences, making it a valuable tool in exploring deeper qualitative insights on various subjects.

The task and scope of work to be performed by the PIG was to investigate all submitted Recommendation/SWOT Forms and gather insights from subject matter experts, building code officials, user and their reflections and lived experiences **to strengthen the construction permit process and improve permit issuance time.**



# Level Setting

## Family of Constuction Code

- IBC, IRC, IEBC, IECC, UPC, NEC/NFPA 70

## Governor's Emergency Proclamation

## Vertical Only

- Assumes land use/zoning, regulatory entitlements, plan approval have been secured and/or cured



### (Salty Insights from PIG Members)

- **Workforce** - hiring process frustrating, staff retention and vacancy challenges related to limited wages;
- **Plans** - range in quality;
- **Resources** - Department budgets have limits to meet desired outcomes;
- **Self-Resolve** - lack of trainings and resources housed on one platform/website to do research prior to submitting an application.

# FEEDBACK...

# SALTY & SWEET

# INSIGHTS

### (Sweet Insights from PIG Members)

\*Average on a 5 points scale

- All views were shared and explored = 4.67
- Organization and discussions of SWOT forms were thoughtful and themed.
- Open/inclusionary approach worked well and should be advanced in future PIGs.
- Additional convening should be considered in areas of the landuse regulatory process and other zoning requirements.

# FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

“Are we planting Kalo, or are we planting Koa?”

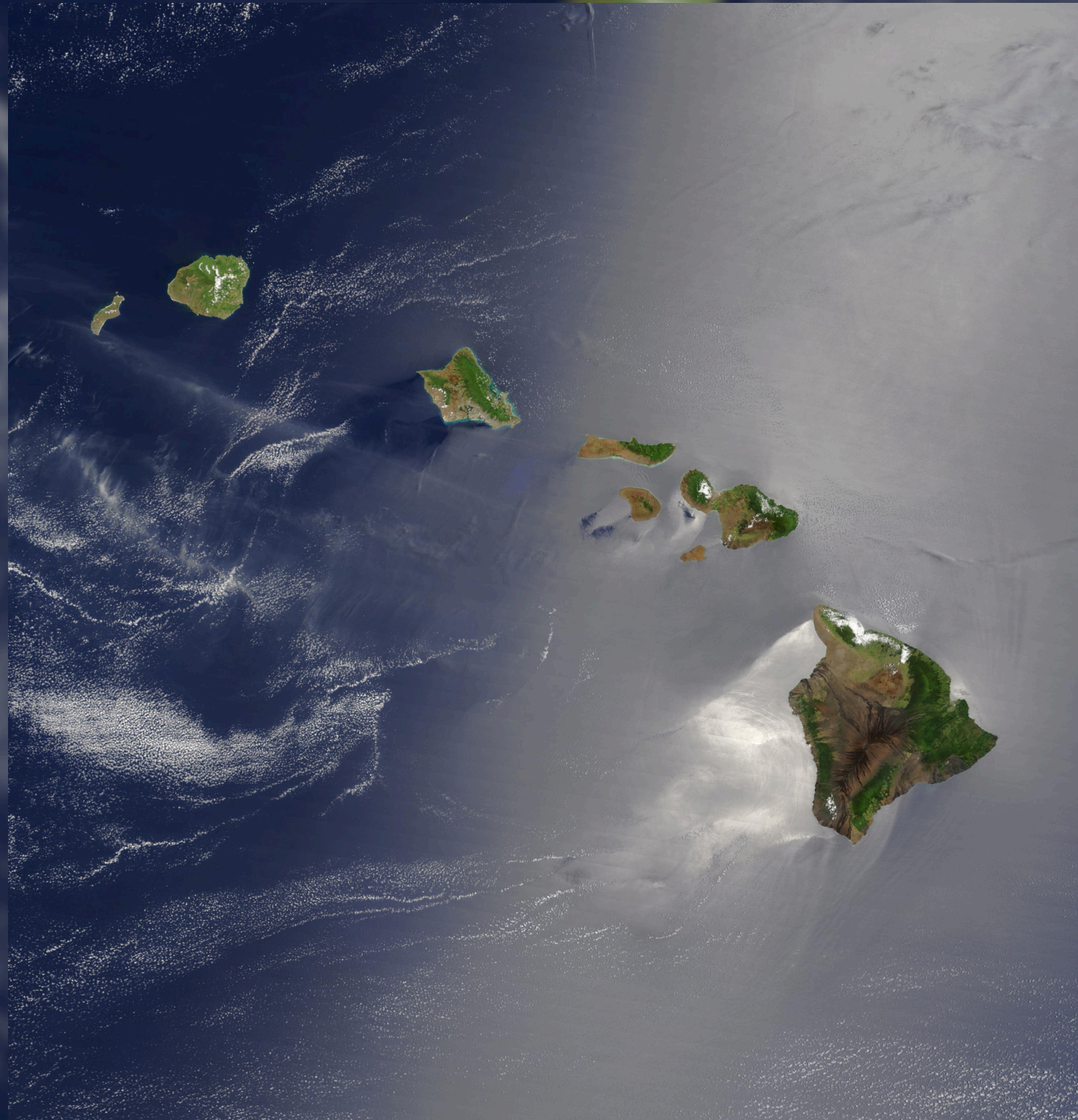


**Kalo - meeting current aims and goals - Common aims lifted out of this PIG to “speed” up the construction permit process would include:**

- Resources dedicated to development of a workforce pipeline;
- Resources dedicated to professional development and training on new codes and technology to improve plans and permit issuance time.
- Resources dedicated to the development of a universal platform or program (AI) to assist with review of application submittals.



**Koa - meeting long lasting system needs - While not in alignment with the goals of SPEED, this PIG strongly encourages a commitment of resources to the Office of State Planning for the immediate exploration and investigation in the establishment of a state pre-approval program and permitting process for off-site constructed housing and innovative housing solutions. This request is aimed at improving all government jurisdictional review and meeting the State’s goal and desired outcome of increasing housing options/stock for all in the State of Hawai’i.**



# MAHALO

December 15, 2025