
SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TO CONSULT WITH THE KAHANA BAY STEERING COMMITTEE, COUNTY OF MAUI, DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, AND UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS REGARDING A PATH FORWARD FOR THE PROPOSED KAHANA BAY EROSION MITIGATION PROJECT.

1 WHEREAS, at the urging of the County of Maui Department of
2 Planning, the owners of units in the nine condominium projects,
3 through their owners' associations, and one residential kuleana
4 parcel on Kahana Bay, are members of, and have provided funding
5 for, the Kahana Bay Steering Committee to develop and implement
6 the Kahana Bay Erosion Mitigation Project, which is a proposed
7 regional project to restore the eroded beaches on Kahana Bay;
8 and

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10 WHEREAS, in 2018, the Kahana Bay Steering Committee
11 retained Oceanit to assist in the engineering, planning,
12 permitting, and implementation of the Kahana Bay Erosion
13 Mitigation Project; and

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15 WHEREAS, by 2019, Oceanit had engaged in extensive
16 community and agency consultation, prepared an environmental
17 impact statement preparation notice, and held scoping meetings;
18 and

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20 WHEREAS, Oceanit published the Kahana Bay Erosion
21 Mitigation Project Second Draft Environmental Impact Statement
22 on November 8, 2021; and

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24 WHEREAS, unfortunately, the Kahana Bay Erosion Mitigation
25 Project has been stalled, and no final environmental impact
26 statement has been prepared; and

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28 WHEREAS, the Kahana Bay Steering Committee proposed to fund
29 the Kahana Bay Erosion Mitigation Project, at an estimated cost
30 of \$26 million to \$40 million, through community facilities
31 district financing pursuant to Chapter 3.75, Maui County Code,



1 which would require public ownership of the rock groins
2 necessary to hold the replenished sand in place; and

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4 WHEREAS, the County of Maui has indicated that it is
5 unwilling to assume the liability risks of owning the groins and
6 has not promulgated rules to implement the community facilities
7 district financing program; and

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9 WHEREAS, the Board of Land and Natural Resources has urged
10 condominium associations along Kahana Bay to develop a
11 collective solution to protect public resources; and

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13 WHEREAS, the United States Army Corps of Engineers might be
14 willing to assume control of the Kahana Bay Erosion Mitigation
15 Project if requested to do so by the State, the County of Maui,
16 or an agency of the State or the County of Maui; now, therefore,

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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
19 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025,
20 that the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development is urged
21 to consult with the Kahana Bay Steering Committee, County of
22 Maui, Department of Land and Natural Resources, and United
23 States Army Corps of Engineers regarding a path forward for the
24 proposed Kahana Bay Erosion Mitigation Project; and

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the aforementioned parties are
27 urged to consider:

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29 (1) Whether the United States Army Corps of Engineers
30 would undertake an evaluation of the Kahana Bay
31 Erosion Mitigation Project under Section 103 of the
32 River and Harbor Act of 1962;

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34 (2) The path forward, timeline, and roles of the Kahana
35 Bay Steering Committee, County of Maui, Office of
36 Planning and Sustainable Development, and Department
37 of Land of Natural Resources if the United States Army
38 Corps of Engineers, following the requested
39 evaluation, assumes control of the Kahana Bay Erosion
40 Mitigation Project; and



1 (3) Financing options for the Kahana Bay Erosion
2 Mitigation Project, both with and without United
3 States Army Corps of Engineers' participation; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of Planning and
6 Sustainable Development is urged to submit to the Legislature,
7 no later than December 31, 2025, a report on the progress in
8 moving the Kahana Bay Erosion Mitigation Project forward; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
11 Resolution be transmitted to the Chief of Engineers and
12 Commanding General of the United States Army Corps of Engineers,
13 Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Director
14 of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, Mayor of
15 the County of Maui, Planning Director of the County of Maui, and
16 Chair of the Kahana Bay Steering Committee.

