JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA

DEPT. COMM. NO. 337

DAWN N.S. CHANG
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ADMINISTRATOR
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION

STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA
DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION

4 SAND ISLAND ACCESS ROAD
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96819

January 26, 2026

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi, President
and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol
415 South Beretania St., Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura, Speaker
and Members of the House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol
415 South Beretania St., Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Nakamura, and Members of the Legislature:

For your information and consideration, I am transmitting a copy of the 1st Quarterly Report from the KAILUA BAY ADVISORY WORKING GROUP, pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 191 House Draft 1 (2025).

In accordance with Section 93-16, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, a copy of this report has been transmitted to the Legislative Reference Bureau.

An electronic version of the report is available at: https://files.hawaii.gov/dlnr/reports-to-the-legislature/2026/BD26-HCR191-HD-1-KBAWG-Report-FY25.pdf

Sincerely,

Meghan Statts
Administrator

Enclosure

STATE OF HAWAIʻI
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION

KAILUA BAY ADVISORY WORKING GROUP
1ST QUARTERLY REPORT

DECEMBER 2025

SUBMITTED TO THE
THIRTY-THIRD STATE LEGISLATURE

DLNR Kailua Bay Advisory Working Group Quarterly Report
HCR 191 HD1
December 1, 2025

The Legislature of the State of Hawai‘i, during its Regular Session of 2025, passed House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 191 HD1 which specifically requested the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR) to convene the Kailua Bay Advisory Working Group.

HCR 191 HD1 requested that the collaborative working group include a specific list of members. Letters were sent to the named working group members as listed in HCR 191 HD 1 in August of 2025, inviting them to participate in the working group and/or name a designee. By the mid-September 2025, all members/their designees were confirmed and their contact information received by DLNR’s Outreach Coordinator.

Accordingly, the working group members are:

- DOBOR Administrator (or designee), will serve as Chair -- Meghan Statts
- Senator for the Kailua Bay Area -- Senator Dru Mamo Kanuha
- House Representative for the Kailua Bay Area -- Representative Nicole Lowen
- Hawai‘i County Councilmember for Kailua Bay Area -- Council Member Rebecca Villegas
- Mayor of the County of Hawai‘i (or designee) -- Mayor Kimo Alameda (Mayor did not name a designee but offered support for any “county barriers”
- Governor’s Coordinator on Homelessness (or designee) -- Jun Yang and /or Sam Kim
- Representative of the Hawai‘i Tourism Authority -- Matthew Sueda, HTA Destination Manager for Hawai‘i Island
- Chief of the Hawai‘i Police Department (or designee) -- Lieutenant Sheldon Nakamoto, Administrative Lieutenant - Kona Patrol
- Representative of the Kai ‘Opua Canoe Club -- Mike Atwood
- Representative of the Kai ‘Ehitu Outrigger Team of Kailua-Kona -- Puamaile Kimitete
    - Nanette Gree and/or Brian Cornel as alternates
- Kailua Village Business Improvement District -- Brock Stratton
- Representative of the Courtyard King Kamehameha’s Kona Beach Hotel -- Revell Newton
- Community At-Large Member Appointed by Senator -- Reginald Lee
- Community At-Large Member Appointed by Senator -- Jerome Kanuha
- Community At-Large Member Appointed by House Representative -- Michael Bell
- Community At-Large Member Appointed by House Representative -- Teri Leicher

DLNR Kailua Bay Advisory Working Group Quarterly Report
HCR 191 HD1
December 1, 2025

Progress for the period of September 19, 2025 – November 05, 2025 is as follows with notes from Advisory Group meetings attached, which shows actual meeting attendance.

(1) Provide a structured forum for state, county, and community stakeholders to collaborate on interjurisdictional issues affecting Kailua Pier

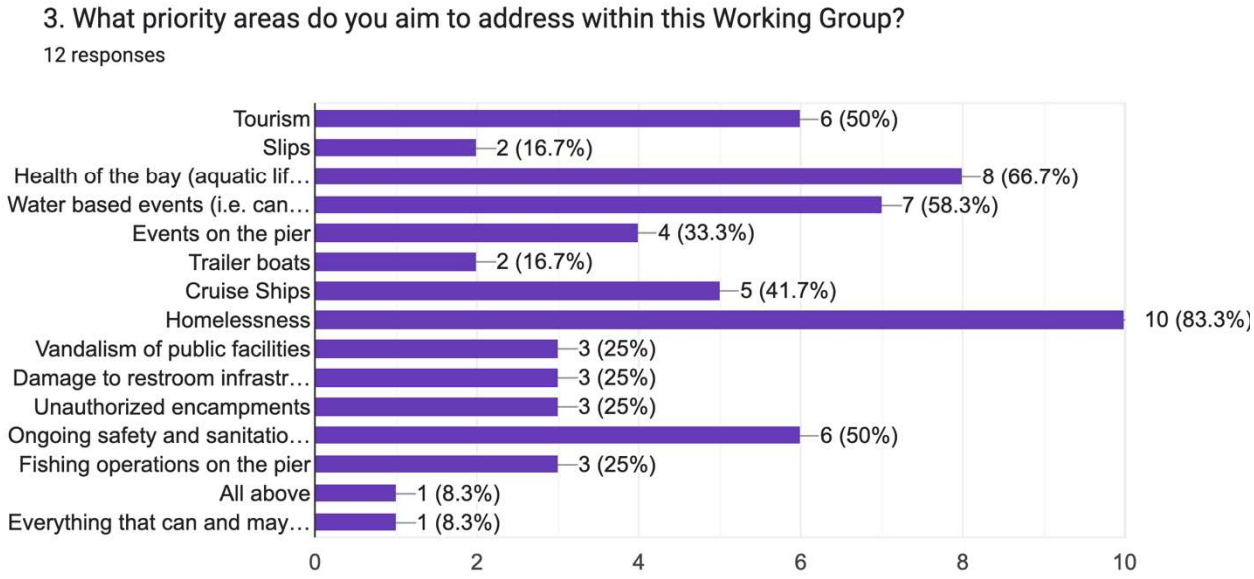
Coordinated and conducted two meetings. The first meeting took place on October 21, 2025, via Zoom from 12:00-1:15p as a kickoff. The primary aim of the first meeting was to provide a high-level overview of HCR 191 HD1; an opportunity for Kailua Bay Advisory Working Group (KBAWG) members to introduce themselves to one another; and to schedule standing monthly meetings.

The second meeting took place in-person at the King Kamehameha Kona Beach Hotel on November 5, 2025, from 10:30a-12:30p. At the second meeting, the KBAWG members co-developed a draft twenty-five-year vision for Kailua-Kona Bay; a set of cultural values to guide discussions and decision-making; and to begin prioritizing key issue areas to tackle between November through March 2026.

(2) Identify and implement solutions to enhance safety for pier users, including swimmers, boaters, and visitors

KBAWG members completed a survey to prioritize and sequence the issues that are described in HCR 191 HD1. The survey question asked the following: *What priority areas do you aim to address within this Working Group?* Respondents had the option to select all issue areas including: tourism, slips, health of the bay; water-based events; events on the pier; trailer boats; cruise ships; homelessness, vandalism of public facilities; damage to restroom infrastructure; unauthorized encampments; ongoing safety and sanitation concerns for residents and visitors; fishing operations on the pier; and other.

Upon review of the survey results and further discussion, the KBAWG members determined to address homelessness first by focusing on recommendations to upgrade and renovate the restroom facilities and to improve sanitation for residents and visitors.



(3) Ensure that commercial, recreational, and cultural activities at the pier remain viable and beneficial to the West Hawai'i community

To discuss at December 2025, January 2026 and February 2026 meetings:

- Opportunities for possible CIP funds — include in Q1 Report, align with leg session
  - Fixing infrastructure damage + vandalism >> restrooms and pier
  - Permanent arrival shade structure >> retractable awnings
  - Educational signage
  - NOTE: solutions in these areas may help relieve other priority issues
- Homelessness — possibly the single biggest problem
  - ADA access at pier is often obstructed — consider geoband use
  - Need to protect general safety and health of families, keiki using the pier
    - 808 Homeless Task Force — flyback program, return home to families
    - HOPE Services — outreach programs, shelter, housing, services
  - Mental health and substance abuse issues — need alternative approaches
    - Mental Health Kōkua — outreach workers
- Health of the Bay
  - Ensure appropriate sunscreen use
  - Support more community clean ups — in and out of water
  - More events on the pier — so that the community can reclaim the space
    - The people in the space can then provide the education needed
    - Kupuna, community will safeguard and educate everyone
    - Importance of strong community presence

(4) Monitor and advocate for necessary repairs, upgrades, and funding to maintain the pier's long-term sustainability

To discuss at December 2025, January 2026 and February 2026 meetings:

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        - The people in the space can then provide the education needed
        - Kupuna, community will safeguard and educate everyone
        - Importance of strong community presence
        - Fisheries management

(5) Address issues, including water quality, marine life protection, and pollution, affecting Kailua Pier and Kailua Bay

To discuss at December 2025, January 2026 and February 2026 meetings:

- Opportunities for possible CIP funds — include in Q1 Report, align with leg session
    - Fixing infrastructure damage + vandalism >> restrooms and pier
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    - NOTE: solutions in these areas may help relieve other priority issues
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- Health of the Bay
    - Ensure appropriate sunscreen use
    - Support more community clean ups — in and out of water
    - More events on the pier — so that the community can reclaim the space
        - The people in the space can then provide the education needed
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        - Importance of strong community presence

(6) Offer policy and operational recommendations to improve pier management and operations

To discuss at a future meeting.

(7) Serve as a liaison between government entities and the public, ensuring that community voices are heard and considered in decision-making

On-going.

(8) Track ongoing and emerging challenges, including homelessness, parking availability, and user conflicts, and propose collaborative solutions

See attached meeting notes for meeting #1 and #2.

(9) Convene monthly

In progress

- Schedule to Date
    - Meeting #1: October 21, 2025, 12:00-1:15p, virtual
    - Meeting #2: November 5, 2025, 10:30am-12:30pm, In Person
        - Set Monthly Standing Meetings: last Tuesday of every month
            - 10:30a – 12:30p, in person | 10:30a – 12:00p, virtual
    - Meeting #3: Tuesday, December 30, 10:30a-12:00p, Virtual
- ACTION ITEMS:
    - Mahina Consulting to finalize the 2050 Kailua-Kona Bay Vision with KBAWG edits
    - Mahina Consulting to finalize the group agreements and guiding values with KBAWG edits
    - Sam Kim representing the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness will provide the KBAWG members with additional information on status of homelessness and strategies to consider

DLNR Kailua Bay Advisory Working Group Quarterly Report
HCR 191 HD1
December 1, 2025

The members of the Kailua Bay Advisory Working Group are thankful for the opportunity to participate and are eager to work together to provide recommendations and strategies to protect, manage, and sustain Kailua Bay for current and future generations.

Enclosures:
Agenda Meeting #1, 10.21.25
Meeting notes from Meeting #1, 10.21.25
Agenda Meeting #2, 11.05.25
Meeting notes from Meeting #2, 11.05.25

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4 SAND ISLAND ACCESS ROAD
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AGENDA

HCR 191 HD1
Working Group Meeting

Tuesday, October 21, 2025
12:00 noon – 1:15pm

Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81510905184
Meeting ID: 815 1090 5184

HCR 191 HD 1 (2025) Requests "THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO CONVENE A KAILUA BAY ADVISORY WORKING GROUP"

1. **Opening Protocol,** Mr. Jerome Kanuha, Kupa'āina and Cultural Practitioner
2. **Welcome**
3. **Introductions**
4. **Facilitation team**
5. **Overview of HCR 191_HD1**
    a. Review the purpose of the Kailua Bay Advisory Working Group
    b. Review the role and responsibilities set forth
6. **Q&A / Discussion**
7. **Schedule monthly meetings from November 2025 through September 2026**
    a. Next meeting: November 5, 2025, from 10:30am – 12:30pm (In-person w virtual option) Location: TBD
    b. Dec 2025 – September 2026 meeting dates
8. **Closing & Adjournment**

Notes from

HRC 191 HD1 Working Group Meeting on

October 21, 2025

12:00 pm - 1:15 pm

Held via ZOOM

HCR 191 HD 1 (2025) Requests "The Department of Land and Natural Resources to convene a Kailua Bay Advisory Working Group."

Working Group Attendees:

- **Meghan Statts**, DOBOR Administrator serving as Chair of the Kailua Bay Advisory Working Group
- **Senator Dru Mamo Kanuha,** Senator for the Kailua Bay Area
- Representative Nicole Lowen, House Representative for the Kailua Bay Area
- **Stanton Nakamoto representing Chief Reed K. Mahuna,** Chief of the Hawai'i Police Department
- **Brock Stratton**, Kailua Village Business Improvement District, Co–CEO of Kona Boys
- **Jerome Kanuha**, community at-large member appointed by Senator
- **Jun Yang,** Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness
    - **Brandon Mitsuda** supporting Jun Yang
- **Matthew Sueda,** representative of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority, HTA Destination Manager for Hawai'i Island
- **Michael Bell,** community at-large member appointed by House Rep, GM of Body Glove Cruises
- **Mike Atwood,** representative of the Kai 'Opua Canoe Club
- **Revell Newton**, representative of the Courtyard King Kamehameha's Kona Beach Hotel, General Manager, King Kamehameha Kona Beach Resort
- **Teri Leicher,** community at-large member appointed by House Rep, owner of Jack's Diving Locker
- **Nanette Greer and Brian Cornell representing Puamaile Kimitete**, representative of the Kai 'Ehitu Outrigger Team of Kailua-Kona

DLNR Representation Attendees:

- **Todd Tashima**, DOBOR
- **Lawrence Terlep,** DLNR DOCARE Supervisor
- **Dale Viloria,** DOCARE Conservation Enforcement
- **Randall Albright**, DLNR DOBOR Security Officer
- **Tracey Carvalho**, DLNR Harbor Agent for Kailua Bay (DOBOR)
- **Rebecca Crall**, DLNR Outreach Coordinator - Chairs Office

Other Attendees:

- HPD
  - **John Harvey,** Officer
  - **Calvin Delaries,** Captain
  - **Wyatt Nahale**, Sergeant
- Community Members
  - **Dave Gibson**, Kona Aquatics
  - **Greg Olsen**, Destination Kona Coast

1. **Meeting Etiquette**

   The meeting started at 12:00pm. Mahina Paishon-Duarte of Mahina Consulting, fulfilling the role of facilitator, started the meeting, welcoming attendees on the call. Began by going over meeting etiquette, including fostering open, transparent, and efficient communication. Mahina also asked for permission to record KBAWG meetings for the purpose of note taking.

   - Recordings will not be disseminated for public use or reference.
   - Recordings will be deleted when KBAWG is sunsetted.

2. **Opening Protocol**

   Conducted by Working group member, Mr. Jerome Kanuha, Kupaʻāina and Cultural Practitioner. Mr. Kanuha offered pule, or prayer, for the group and for the collaborative work ahead being conducted in the interest of Kailua Bay.

3. **Welcome**

   Following opening protocol, Chair of the Kailua Bay Advisory Working Group, Meghan Statts (DOBOR Administrator), formally welcomed attendees.

4. **Agenda & Introductions**

   The facilitation team from Mahina Consulting, Mahina Paishon and Mahealani duPont, introduced themselves prior to going over the agenda for the meeting. The draft agenda included

   - Overview of HCR 191_HD1
   - Q&A Discussion
   - Scheduling monthly meetings
   - Closing & Adjournment

   Mahina paused for questions on the agenda in which there were none, then moved to having the Working Group members present introduce themselves. Attendees were prompted to share their first and last name, as well as a relationship they have to Kailua Kona Bay. The nature of the relationship did not have to be an official role.

5. **Overview of HCR 191_HD1**

   Senator Kanuha began by sharing personal connections and impetus for supporting HCR 191. He spoke to the intentions and spirit of the ongoing Working Group meetings, then gave an overview of HCR 191_HD1.

   - https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=HCR&billnumber=191&year=2025

   He reviewed the purpose of the Kailua Bay Advisory Working Group and the roles and responsibilities set forth. Representative Lowen remarked that Senator Kanuha effectively provided a high-level overview of the measure.

6. **Other Attendees**

   The floor was opened for questions from Working Group members, but none were posed. Time was then allocated to give non-Working Group meeting attendees the opportunity to introduce themselves with the same prompt as noted above.

7. **Ongoing Meeting Cadence**

   A poll was posed to determine a preferred meeting cadence from December 2025 to September 2026, noting the next standing meeting (#2) to be in person on November 5, 2025 from 10:30am to 12:30pm. Proposed days included the first or last Wednesday of each month at either 12-1:30pm or 3-4:30pm. The preferred option based on poll results

was: the first Wednesday of each month at 12-1:30pm. This time was tentatively slated to be revisited and confirmed at Meeting #2.

8. **Closing & Adjournment**

   Time was given at the end of the meeting for community announcements. Gratitude was expressed for the group‘s commitment and dedication to Kailua Kona Bay.

   Next steps include:

   - Mahina Consulting to draft agenda for Meeting #2 to determine Working Group priority areas, core cultural values, and vision for Kailua Kona Bay.

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AGENDA

HCR 191 HD1
Working Group Meeting

Wednesday, November 5, 2025
10:30am – 12:30pm

King Kamehameha Kona Beach Hotel
Conference Room 5

HCR 191 HD 1 (2025) Requests "THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO CONVENE A KAILUA BAY ADVISORY WORKING GROUP"

1. **Opening Protocol** – Mr. Reginald Lee, Working Group Member
2. **Welcome**
3. **Discuss Survey Results**
    a. Future State Vision
    b. Community and cultural values
    c. Group Agreements
4. **Determine Working Group Protocols**
    a. Registration process
    b. Non-Working Group Members
        - How to engage general public?
    c. AI note takers and asynchronous participation
5. **Prioritize issue and opportunity areas**
6. **Calendar**
    a. Poll new standing meeting dates and times
7. **Community Announcements**
8. **Closing and Adjourning**
9. **Ahu'ena Site-Walk -** Beach Side Walk

Notes from

HRC 191 HD1 Working Group Meeting on

November 5, 2025

10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Held in person at King Kamehameha Kona Beach Hotel — Conference Room 5

HCR 191 HD 1 (2025) Requests "The Department of Land and Natural Resources to convene a Kailua Bay Advisory Working Group."

Working Group Attendees:

- **Meghan Statts**, DOBOR Administrator serving as Chair of the Kailua Bay Advisory Working Group
- **Senator Dru Mamo Kanuha,** Senator for the Kailua Bay Area
- Representative Nicole Lowen, House Representative for the Kailua Bay Area
- **Stanton Nakamoto representing Chief Reed K. Mahuna,** Chief of the Hawai'i Police Department
    - Supporting HPD Staff:
        - **John Harvey,** Officer, and **Sheldon Nakamoto**
- **Jerome Kanuha**, community at-large member appointed by Senator
- **Sam Kim attending for Jun Yang,** Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness
- **Matthew Sueda,** representative of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority, HTA Destination Manager for Hawai'i Island
- **Mike Atwood,** representative of the Kai 'Opua Canoe Club
- **Revell Newton**, representative of the Courtyard King Kamehameha's Kona Beach Hotel, General Manager, King Kamehameha Kona Beach Resort
- **Teri Leicher,** community at-large member appointed by House Rep, owner of Jack's Diving Locker
- **Nanette Greer and Brian Cornell representing Puamaile Kimitete**, representative of the Kai 'Ehitu Outrigger Team of Kailua-Kona

DLNR Representation Attendees:

- **Todd Tashima**, DOBOR

- **Dale Viloria,** DOCARE Conservation Enforcement
- **Randall Albright**, DLNR DOBOR Security Officer
- **Tracey Carvalho**, DLNR Harbor Agent for Kailua Bay (DOBOR)
- **Rebecca Crall**, DLNR Outreach Coordinator - Chairs Office (attended via ZOOM)

---

1. **Opening Protocol**
   - E Hō Mai (na Edith Kanakaʻole)
   - Kākou (na Puanani Burgess)

2. **Welcome & Introductions**
   - Attendance Spreadsheet
   - Our Collective Kuleana — joint resolution to serve as guiding star

3. **Discuss Survey Results**
   - 2050 Vision — what is missing? (post-it exercise)
     - A Thriving and Protected Hub
       1. add “continued” to read: featuring continued restored, clean…
       2. add shade facilities, benches, educational signage (fish, rules, etc.)
       3. add ocean safety for all users
          a. with everyone following the rules / law
       4. add thriving businesses, so statement includes built environment
     - Coexistence and Harmony
       - add “safe” and remove “recreational” to read: ocean for safe use by all
       - clearer language around types of “use”
         - i.e. commercial, recreational, sustainable
       - blend of business and recreation, better protection of marine resources
       - add safe access for marine life
       - add user group: residents, visitors, and local businesses
       - need educational opportunities — teach people how to interact safely and harmoniously
       - desire for everyone to understand their roles & responsibilities in all areas (no passing blame, pointing fingers due to disjointed community)
     - Cultural and Historical Preservation
       - eliminate word “potentially” to read: significance, including dedicated
       - provide dedicated funding for cultural site repairs, maintenance work, and preventative measures
       - add place-based knowledge as type of preservation, community-driven
     - Sustainable Development
       - add residents, more sustainable fishing rules & educational signage
   - Collective Values — top 3 core cultural values
     - Mālama / Mālama Pono
       - annual pier clean-ups, community coming together

        - high school education initiatives, mutual respect
        - respect nature and others, avoid assumptions, build empathy
    - Kuleana / Kuleana Pono
        - leave it better for future generations
        - kupuna take role of teacher, educate others, pass on gift that is the bay
        - social responsibility to each other, ethics of caring for others
        - requires both individual and community effort
    - Hoʻokipa / Hoʻokipa Pono
        - cruise ship experience is unique here: environment, music, aloha
            - Kona as last historic seaside village remaining in Hawaiʻi
        - King Kamehameha Hotel as focal point for local families
        - healing space, where the ocean is alive >> it dies we die
    - ** SUGGEST ADDING 4th VALUE: ʻOhana / ʻOhana Pono
        - we are all connected, one family
        - identifies who is responsible for maintaining these values
        - reminder that kānaka are guests, land is paramount
- Top 6 priority areas you would like addressed within this working group
    - Homelessness
    - Health of the Bay
    - Water-based Events
    - On-going Safety and Sanitation
    - Tourism
    - Cruise Ships

4. Determine Working Group Protocols

- NOTE: input from this meeting will guide future discussions

5. Prioritize Issue and Opportunity Areas

- Opportunities for possible CIP funds — include in Q1 Report, align with leg session
    - Fixing infrastructure damage + vandalism >> restrooms and pier
    - Permanent arrival shade structure >> retractable awnings
    - Educational signage
    - NOTE: solutions in these areas may help relieve other priority issues
- Homelessness — possibly the single biggest problem
    - ADA access at pier is often obstructed — consider geoband use
    - Need to protect general safety and health of families, keiki using the pier
        - 808 Homeless Task Force — flyback program, return home to families
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- Health of the Bay
    - Ensure appropriate sunscreen use
    - Support more community clean ups — in and out of water
    - More events on the pier — so that the community can reclaim the space
        - The people in the space can then provide the education needed
        - Kupuna, community will safeguard and educate everyone
        - Importance of strong community presence
- What are we missing? OTHER POSSIBLE ISSUES:
    - Rampant fishing without proper regulation or education

6. Q&A / Discussion

7. Calendar

- Monthly Standing Meetings:
  - last Tuesday of every month
  - 10:30a – 12:30p, in person | 10:30a – 12:00p, virtual
- **MEETING #3: Tuesday, DECEMBER 30, 10:30a-12:00p, virtual**

8. Closing & Adjournment

- Community Announcements
  - Dec 6, 5p — annual tree lighting ceremony, at King Kamehameha Hotel
  - Dec 6, 9a — hoʻolewa for Zac Kahikina Kanuha, Sr, at Makaʻeo Pavilion

9. Ahuʻena Site Walk – to be rescheduled.