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

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA

DEPT. COMM. NO. 392

DAWN N.S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE
FIRST DEPUTY

CIARA W.K. KAHAHANE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

MEGHAN L. STATTS
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

June 10, 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 2nd 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-HCR191-2ndQtr-KBAWG-Report-FY26.pdf

Sincerely,

Meghan Statts
Administrator

Enclosure

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HCR 191 HDR Working Group Progress Report #2

November 2025 – February 2026

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

Progress Report #2 captures achievements, challenges, recommendations, and next steps as tied to the areas laid out by the HCR 191 HD 1 for the period of November 2025 - February 2026.

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

Coordinated and implemented three meetings.

Meeting # 3 was held virtually on December 30, 2025 from 10:30a-12:00p.

Meeting #4 was held in-person on January 27, 2026 from 10:00a-12:00p, located at King Kamehameha Hotel located at 75-5660 Palani Rd, Kailua-Kona, HI 96740.

Meeting #5 was held virtually on February 24, 2026 from 10:30a-12:00p.

The culmination of these three meetings identified and prioritized areas of Kailua Pier infrastructure to be fixed, upgraded or addressed. In achieving alignment and agreement between community, County agency and State department objectives, DLNR DOBOR is drafting a multi-discipline contract to address short-term infrastructure/facility gaps and including additional planning activities to address longer term issues.

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

The culmination of these three meetings identified and prioritized areas of Kailua Pier infrastructure to be fixed, upgraded or addressed. In achieving alignment and agreement between community, County agency and State department objectives, DLNR DOBOR is drafting a multi-discipline contract to address short-term infrastructure/facility gaps and including additional planning activities to address longer term issues.

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

At meeting #4, held on January 27, 2026, WG members agreed to explore a Friends of Kailua Bay hui to plan, coordinate and co-host community educational & cultural events that benefit residents, business owners and visitors. Future steps include exploring successful models that this hui can learn from.

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

Meetings 3, 4, and 5 focused on identifying and prioritizing necessary repairs, upgrades, and funding to maintain the pier's long-term sustainability. Please see the meeting notes for further detail.

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

At meeting #4 it was determined that water quality, marine life protection, and pollution affecting Kailua Pier and Kailua Bay should be integrated into new and renovated public signage. Additionally, it was determined at meeting #5 that these topics will be agendized and focused on at subsequent meetings.

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

See full meeting notes #4 and 5 for additional context and detail.

Updates provided by DLNR DOBOR

Meghan Statts, WG Chair & DOBOR Administrator provided detailed updates on how they are moving the group’s ideas into actual projects and funding paths. The Chair explained that after the site visit, she met with DOBOR’s boating engineer and went through each concern (restrooms, black water, showers, drainage, lighting, docks, etc.) to decide what should be ***addressed via a multi-discipline contract and what should be a CIP (capital improvement project) request versus using the Boating Special Fund.***

- *For the restrooms, black-water (sewer) system, showers, drainage, and some lighting, DOBOR’s strategy is to:*
  - *Create a bundled services contract (like they’ve successfully done on Maui at Mā‘alaea and Kīhei) rather than wait solely on CIP.*
  - *This contract would cover:*
    - *Restroom upgrades (fixtures, signage on the bathrooms, painting, replacing severely rusted gates/metal, etc.)*

        - *Investigation and fixes for the black-water / sewer line (including understanding if sand from showers is contributing to blockages).*
        - *Shower and drainage redesign, including a better sand-management system and possibly relocation (with attention to land-division vs harbor jurisdiction).*
        - *Facility lighting upgrades.*
    - *Chair Statts noted this contract approach is faster than relying only on new CIP appropriations, which, even if approved this session, likely wouldn't be released until about this time next year.*
- *Water and sewer lines:*
    - *They still need engineering investigation to confirm conditions and the relationship between the sewer line, water line, and shower drainage.*
    - *Some problems may be due to people shoving inappropriate items down toilets, so they need a clearer diagnosis before deciding how much to replace or re-engineer.*
- *Shade structures, cameras, and some other items:*
    - *The chair did not request CIP for shade structures.*
    - *Instead, she anticipates working with private donors/partners (e.g., business improvement district, other supporters) and using Boating Special Fund where appropriate.*
    - *For security cameras, they'll likely handle this with DOBOR funds and their IT specialists, not through CIP, to move more quickly and choose appropriate systems for the pier.*
- *Lockers/theft prevention, she said:*
    - *This needs more discussion and is not currently a CIP ask.*
    - *They need to better understand the operational model, management, and whether it fits DOBOR's scope.*

For true CIP requests, she described two specific Kailua Pier asks she sent to Senator Kanuha and Representative Lowen:

1. *Design and permitting to replace the existing wooden loading platforms on the north side of the wharf with standardized floating dock-type platforms — requested at $5.5 million.*
2. *Replacement of the existing fendering system on the south side of the wharf/pier — requested at $3.5 million.*

She emphasized:

- *The contract approach will be used for restrooms, black water, showers, drainage, and some lighting, so those can move ahead faster under the Boating Special Fund.*
- *The CIP requests are focused on the docks and fendering.*
- *Before finalizing the scope of the restroom/black-water/shower/lighting contract, she wants to:*
    - *Get clarity from the engineer on the level of detail needed, then*

- *Meet with this working group (likely April or May) so the community's priorities and specifics (e.g., benches, fixtures, layouts) are reflected before the contract is issued.*

In conclusion, DOBOR is:

- *Using a flexible contract + Boating Special Fund path for urgent facility and safety upgrades, and*
- *Pursuing CIP for major dock and fender replacements, with a commitment to circle back to the working group for detailed input on the contract scope.*

(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

On-going

(9) Convene on a monthly basis

Schedule of Proposed Next meetings:

March 24, 2026, 10:00-12:00p (In-person)

April 21, 2026 (Proposed reschedule - from April 28), 10:30-12:00p (Virtual)

May 26, 2026

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 #3, December 30, 2025
Meeting notes from Meeting #3, December 30, 2025
Joint Presentation from the Governor's Coordinator & DLNR's Chair's Office, Cultural Resources Manager/Homelessness Coordinator. Meeting #3, December 30, 2025
Agenda Meeting #4, January 27, 2026
Meeting notes from Meeting #4, January 27, 2026
Agenda Meeting #5, February 24, 2026
Meeting notes from Meeting #5, February 24, 2026

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AGENDA

HCR 191 HD1
Working Group Meeting

Tuesday, December 30, 2025
10:30 – 12:00pm
Zoom Link: **https://zoom.us/j/99976322580**

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

1. **Welcome & Opening Protocol**
2. **Review and finalize draft meeting notes**
3. **Approval of draft quarterly report**
4. **Revise the draft 2050 Vision statement for Kailua Bay**
5. **Finalize draft Collective Values and Community Agreements**
6. **Joint Presentation from the Governors Coordinator & DLNR's Chair's Office, Cultural Resources Manager/Homelessness Coordinator**
7. **Discussion on opportunities for possible CIP funds — include in Q1 Report, align with leg session**
    a. **Fixing infrastructure damage + vandalism >> restrooms and pier**
    b. **Permanent arrival shade structure >> retractable awnings**
    c. **Educational signage**
    d. **NOTE: solutions in these areas may help relieve other priority issues**
8. **Identification of next meeting topics**
9. **Community Announcements & Adjournment**

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HRC 191 HD1 Working Group Meeting #3 on Tuesday, December 30, 2025
FINAL NOTES

10:30am to 12pm
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
- **Iokepa Command** on behalf of Senator Dru Mamo Kanuha, Senator for the Kailua Bay Area
- **Davelyn Barido and Candy Alnas** on behalf of Council Member Rebecca Villegas, Hawai'i County Councilmember for Kailua Bay Area
- **Jun Yang,** Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness
    - **Sam Kim** and **Brandon Mitsuda,** supporting staff
- **Sergeant Wyatt Nahale** on behalf of Interim Chief Reed K. Mahuna, Chief of the Hawai'i Police Department
- **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
- **Puamaile Kimitete**, representative of the Kai 'Ehitu Outrigger Team of Kailua-Kona, President/Family Owner of Kai 'Ehitu Outrigger Team
- **Brock Stratton**, Kailua Village Business Improvement District, Co–CEO of Kona Boys
- **Revell Newton**, representative of the Courtyard King Kamehameha's Kona Beach Hotel, General Manager, King Kamehameha Kona Beach Resort
- **Reginald Lee**, community at-large member appointed by Senator
- **Michael Bell**, community at-large member appointed by House Rep, GM of Body Glove Cruises
- **Teri Leicher**, community at-large member appointed by House Rep, owner of Jack's Diving Locker

Additional DLNR Staff:

- **Todd Tashima**, DOBOR Acting Asst. Admin
- **Randall Albright**, DLNR DOBOR Security Officer
- **Tracey Carvalho**, DLNR DOBOR Harbor Agent for Kailua Bay

- **Rebecca Crall**, DLNR Outreach Coordinator - Chairs Office

Additional Attendees (Guest Presenters):

- **Pua Aiu**, DLNR
- **Dr. Kalani Spain**, HOPE Services
- **Greg Payton**, Mental Health Kokua
    - **Maika Cristoforo,** Mental Health Kokua
    - **Cordula Diaz**, Mental Health Kokua

1. **Opening & Agenda**
   The meeting started at 10:30am. Mahina Paishon-Duarte of Mahina Consulting, fulfilling the role of facilitator, started the meeting, welcoming attendees on the call. Mahina began by providing an overview of the agenda. She noted that she would provide opening protocol on behalf of the group.

2. **Opening Protocol**
   Mahina offered opening protocol, offering homage to ancestors affiliated with the mountain Hualālai. She welcomed attendees to say the names of these ancestors. They are:
   - Hainoa: The highest peak of hualalai mountain
   - Kahoupōakāne: Sister of Lilinoe, of Poliahu, and of Waiau

   Mahina prompted the group to remember these names to continue their connection to these important and sacred places, so that all can show respect and aloha for these ancestors.

3. **Meeting #1 and #2 Notes Review**
   Mahina moves to the first item on the agenda: "Review and finalize draft meeting notes." She asks if the notes from the first and second meeting accurately reflect the discussions held. No objections or corrections were posed by the group. The group agreed on the accuracy of the notes and motioned in favor of finalizing them.

4. **Quarterly Progress Report Review**
   Mahina moves to the next item on the agenda: "Approval of draft quarterly report." Becca Crall, DLNR Outreach Coordinator, is invited to provide further context on the purpose of the report. Becca explained that the resolution HCR 191 requires monthly meetings and public quarterly reports to the legislature, which will be posted on both the legislature's and DLNR's websites. The quarterly reports will summarize progress, recommendations, and concerns, covering the first two meetings for the initial report and continuing on a regular cadence after each quarter. Because these reports are public, members should be mindful to redact sensitive information from reports or attached meeting notes before publication.

Mahina continued sharing the report with the group, which detailed the group's activities, including completing a survey and identifying priority issues. She asked the group if the report accurately reflected what has been discussed so far. The group motioned yes.

She then asked if there are any corrections to be made to the report. Teri Leicher, community at-large member appointed by the House Representative, suggested adding fishery management under health of the bay. Mahina agreed to add this into the report using information from Meeting Notes 2. No further corrections were noted and the quarterly report was approved by the group.

5. Revised 2050 Vision Statement for Kailua Bay

Mahina continued with the next agenda item: "Finalize draft 2050 Vision Statement for Kailua Bay." Mahina reminded the group of the origin of the vision statement, which was based on the survey input and discussions held during Meeting #2. Previous suggestions to add language around shade facilities, benches, educational signage, and ocean safety measures were incorporated into this revised version of the 2050 Vision Statement. Matt Sueda, Hawai'i Tourism Authority, read the revised vision statement for the group. Mahina asked the group for feedback. Reggie Lee, community at-large members appointed by Senator, asked for further clarification and a desire to see a breakdown of diverse users and commercial, cultural, recreational, and educational uses of Kailua Bay. Mahina noted that the vision statement is aspirational, and when the group begins to dive into priority areas we can start to define and put specifications/ breakdowns on the agenda for upcoming meetings and ongoing conversations.

Teri Leicher shared personal observations of diverse users in Kailua Bay, however noting that historical components of the area are not as obvious upon observation, and calling for a balance in cultural and educational uses with recreational usage. Teri suggested simplifying language on existing signage and making them more visually appealing. Mahina suggested adding clear educational and cultural signage to the vision statement.

Mike Atwood, representative of the Kai 'Opua Canoe Club, suggested having signage in 'Ōlelo Hawai'i as well. Mahina noted this would be reflected in the vision statement.

The group approved the following **2050 Vision Statement for Kailua Bay**:

"Kailua Bay and Harbor is a vibrant, resilient, and safe place shaped by and for the community, where residents, local businesses, cultural practitioners, and visitors come together with a shared commitment to care for and protect the bay. The bay reflects continued restoration by a caring community, clean and healthy natural ecosystems, and thriving native marine life, alongside a welcoming built environment that supports daily community use through thriving local businesses, ocean safety for all users, shade, seating, and clear educational signage in English and 'Ōlelo Hawai'i about culture, ocean safety, marine life, and rules for use.

Diverse uses—commercial, cultural, recreational, and educational—are guided by community values and thoughtfully balanced to protect coastal and marine resources while sustaining livelihoods and ensuring safe access for both people and marine life. The bay honors and perpetuates cultural heritage, traditional practices, and historical significance through dedicated educational and cultural spaces, community-driven place-based knowledge, and sustained funding for site maintenance, repair, and preservation. Rooted in shared understanding,

education, and mālama ʻāina, Kailua Bay stands as a living expression of collective stewardship, cultural continuity, and sustainable prosperity for present and future generations."

6. Revised Collective Values & Group Agreements

Mahina moved onto the next agenda item: "Finalize draft Collective Values & Community Agreements." She noted that Jerome Kanuha, community at-large member appointed by Senator, advocated adding "pono" to each of the values previously discussed and that feedback was reflected in the revised Collective Values & Group Agreements. Mahina asked the group if there was anything missing from the revision. The group responded no. The group approved of the following:

"Mālama Pono — Care for What Is Right

We care for Kailua Bay and one another through respect, education, and collective action. We listen openly, avoid assumptions, and act with empathy.

- ***Kuleana Pono — Shared Responsibility***
  We accept responsibility to leave the bay better for future generations. Kūpuna guide us, and kuleana is carried by both individuals and the community.
- ***Hoʻokipa Pono — Respectful & Reciprocal Hospitality***
  We honor the unique character of Kailua Bay, Kona's historic seaside village, and the bay as a living, healing place. Our well-being is tied to the health of the ocean.
- ***ʻOhana Pono — One Family***
  We are all connected and accountable to these values. People are guests; the land and ocean come first."

7. Joint Presentation from the Governorʻs Coordinator & DLNRʻs Chairʻs Office, Cultural Resources Manager/Homelessness Coordinator

Jun Yang, Governorʻs Coordinator on Homelessness, introduced the presentation on homelessness and homelessness at Kailua Bay featuring partner organizations. The presentations were as follows:

Mental Health Kokua:
Greg Payton, Executive Director of Mental Health Kokua MHK, presented an overview of the organization's services, focusing on their work with homeless adults experiencing serious mental illness. He explained that MHK provides case management, housing support, and residential services across 50 locations statewide, serving approximately 3,000 people annually. Greg highlighted their unique approach of building relationships with vulnerable individuals and their success in helping people transition from homelessness to stable housing. He also discussed their various facilities, including specialized housing for homeless seniors and their collaboration with other organizations to support clients in achieving independent living.

HOPE Services:
Hope Services, represented by Dr. Kalani Spain, presented their vision and efforts to address homelessness in Hawaii, highlighting the high cost of housing and the challenges of staffing in rural areas. He emphasized the need for increased funding, rent stabilization, and more permanent supportive housing to reduce homelessness. He also provided the statistics that 47% of people experiencing homelessness identify as Native Hawaiian, and that average rents have gone up 123% since 2019. Dr. Kalani also

discussed their success in keeping housed individuals stable over two years and their work in providing mental health services to those they serve.

DLNR:
Pua Aiu from the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) highlighted the limited services available in the area. Pua emphasized the need for funding from legislators to establish programs and shelters, as DLNR is currently limited in its ability to address the issue effectively. She outlined the limited efficacy of current solutions and the need for more services and funding in kona.

In conclusion Jun noted the importance of coordinating services between counties and state facilities, and mentioned the need for a deeper discussion on innovative solutions. Examples provided to the group included the Aloha Ambassadors model that exists in Waikiki, and that if there is interest in bringing a kauhale to the Kona side of the island he recommends having this discussion with legislative leadership. Potential collaborations between the 808 Homeless task Force and the Institute for Human Services were discussed as ways to improve services and staffing challenges on Hawai'i. The conversation ended with an emphasis on finding collaborative solutions to support both park users and those experiencing homelessness.

8. Discussion on Prioritizing Issue and Opportunity Areas

Mahina continued facilitating the meeting, moving onto the next agenda items: "Discussion on prioritized issue and opportunity areas; and a Discussion on opportunities for possible CIP funds." Mahina asked the group what are the biggest fix areas, and what are the priorities, that will benefit not only the health of the bay but also the most users?

The following were suggested regarding updates on Kailua pier (upgrade of bathrooms, showers, waterline replacement, additional seating and shaded areas, additional cultural and educational signage). Additional context below:

- Brock Statton, Kailua Village Business Improvement District, emphasized the need for improved bathrooms and showers. Noting their current state as a sanitary and visual issue. He also highlighted the importance of these facilities for both local residents and visitors.
    - Matt Sueda, HTA, reiterated this point and the sense of urgency for a solution for cleanliness and working order.
    - Mike Atwood emphasized the importance of restroom and shower facilities for canoe clubs and regattas.
- Teri Leicher suggested prioritizing seating and shade at the pier.
- Megahn Statts, DOBOR, noted that the entire waterline needs to be replaced due to vandalism and seawater intrusion due to sea level rise, and that may be a use of Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funds.
    - Tracy Carvalho, Harbor Agent for Kailua Bay (DLNR DOBOR), confirmed that the restrooms are in working order with maintenance crews working on new walls for the stalls.

Agreement was provided by the group to prioritize these areas. DLNR DOBOR mentioned the cultural and historical sensitivity required in any repairs being made to maintain the area's significance.

Mahina asked for additional CIP fund ideas to address the needs of unsheltered neighbors in the area. Jun Yang suggested partnering with service providers and opening facilities to surrounding communities for showers, laundry, and case management. Puamaile Kimitete, representative of the Kai 'Ehitu Outrigger Team of Kailua-Kona, noted the need for collaboration and safety for the community.

Additionally, Reggie Lee raised concerns about the dock area and the difficulty local fishermen face in accessing the pier.

The conversation concluded with Iokepa Command, Senator Kanuha's Office, mentioning they will look out for the cost estimate on CIP funds. He noted that permanent arrival shade has been discussed previously, as Destination Kona Coast has had this on their radar for a while and are looking to replace damaged structures. He also mentioned curiosity on DLNR's perspective on educational signage, noting it can be addressed in the next meeting.

Mahina brought forth a sentiment from a previous conversation with Jerome Kanuha in which they discussed the importance of being mindful of Kailua Bay as a gathering place for residents and families. She charged the group with this in mind to consider how this can be achieved, and what infrastructure is needed to support this.

9. Closing

Mahina closed the meeting by thanking everyone for their time and confirming the next meeting date and location on Tuesday January 27th.

Next steps include:

- Revising and submitting Quarterly Report
- Identifying specific Capital Improvement Projects based on identified priority areas

Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions

Jun Yang - Coordinator on Homelessness
Kailua-Kona Bay Advisory Working Group
December 30, 2025

SOHHS Overview

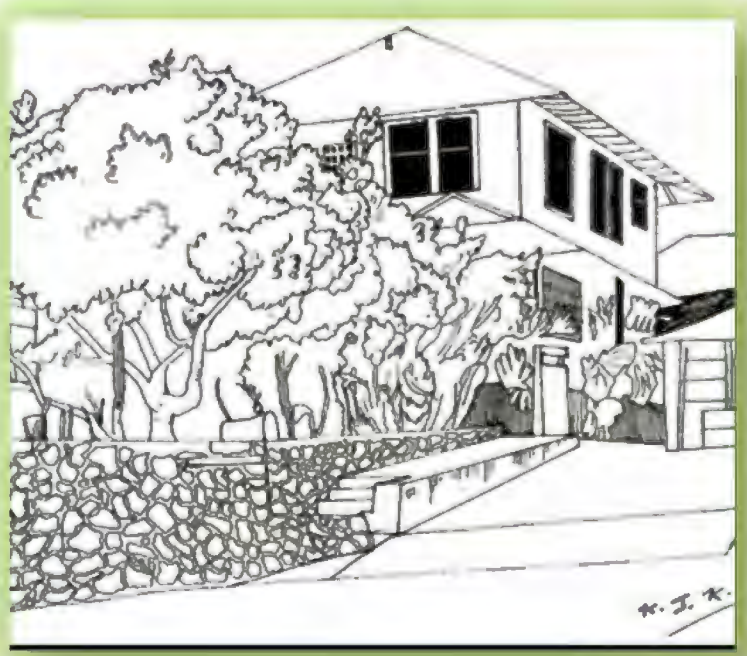
- Established as an attached agency to DHS via Act 252 (SLH 2022), previously a temporary special project
- Function:
  - Develop and test innovative solutions to ending homelessness
  - Identify and address gaps in the homeless service system
  - Coordinate Hawai‘i Interagency Council on Homelessness

- Administering and overseeing innovative initiatives such as the:
  - The Kauhale Initiative
  - Ohana Zones Program
  - Return to Home Program



SOHHS Partners

- HOPE Services
  - Dr. Kalani Spain
- Mental Health Kokua
  - Greg Payton
  - Maika Cristoforo
  - Cordula Diaz
- DLNR
  - Pua Aiu
- County of Hawaii



Our Story

Who We Are…
What We Do

Opportunities To Begin Again…



Mission:

Mental Health Kokua
Assists People
with Mental Health
and Related Challenges,

To Achieve Optimum Recovery
and Functioning
in the Community

MHK Hawaii
Opportunities to begin again!



Core Principles:

Recovery

MHK is Dedicated to the Recovery of the People We Serve

Safety

MHK Ensures the Safety of Our Stakeholders

Cost Effectiveness

MHK Provides Cost effective Care



Service Philosophy:

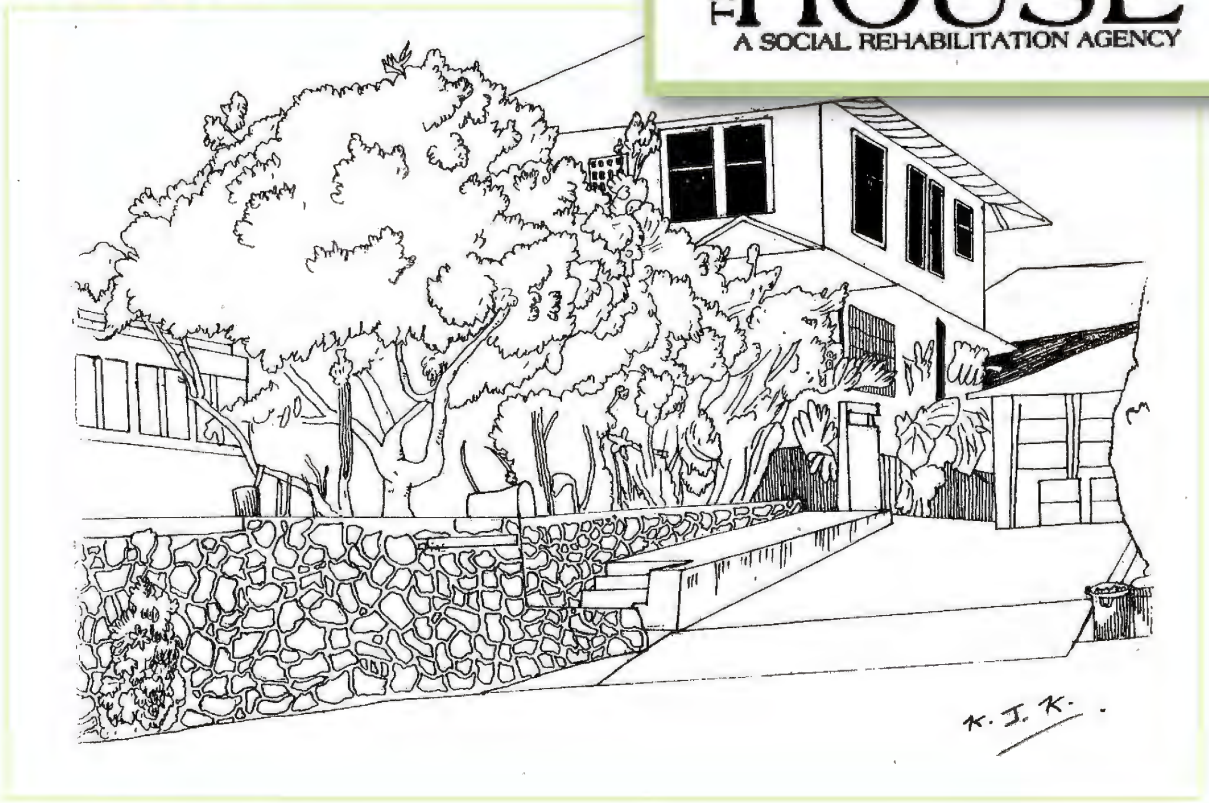
Mental Health Kokua

- **Recovery Model** (SAMHSA) - Recovery is a personal journey with many pathways, focusing on wellness and self-directed lives. It promotes person-centered care, including managing conditions, finding stable housing, engaging in meaningful activities.

- **Therapeutic Community** – MHK follows best practices in rehabilitation, focusing on peer/mutual support, skill-building, and holistic recovery, benefiting clients with higher quality care and better chances for lasting change.



THE HOUSE
A SOCIAL REHABILITATION AGENCY



"The House" circa 1973

MHK Hawaii
Opportunities to begin again!





Sierra House today – “The House”

MHK Hawaii
Opportunities to begin again!



MENTAL HELP HAWAII

"The House"
Changed in 1994 to
Mental Help Hawaii

MHK Hawaii
Opportunities to begin again!

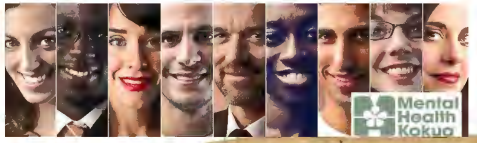


Mental Health
Kokua

Mental Help Hawaii
Merged in the Year 2000 With
Maui Kokua Services
To Become

Mental Health Kokua

MHK Hawaii
Opportunities to begin again!



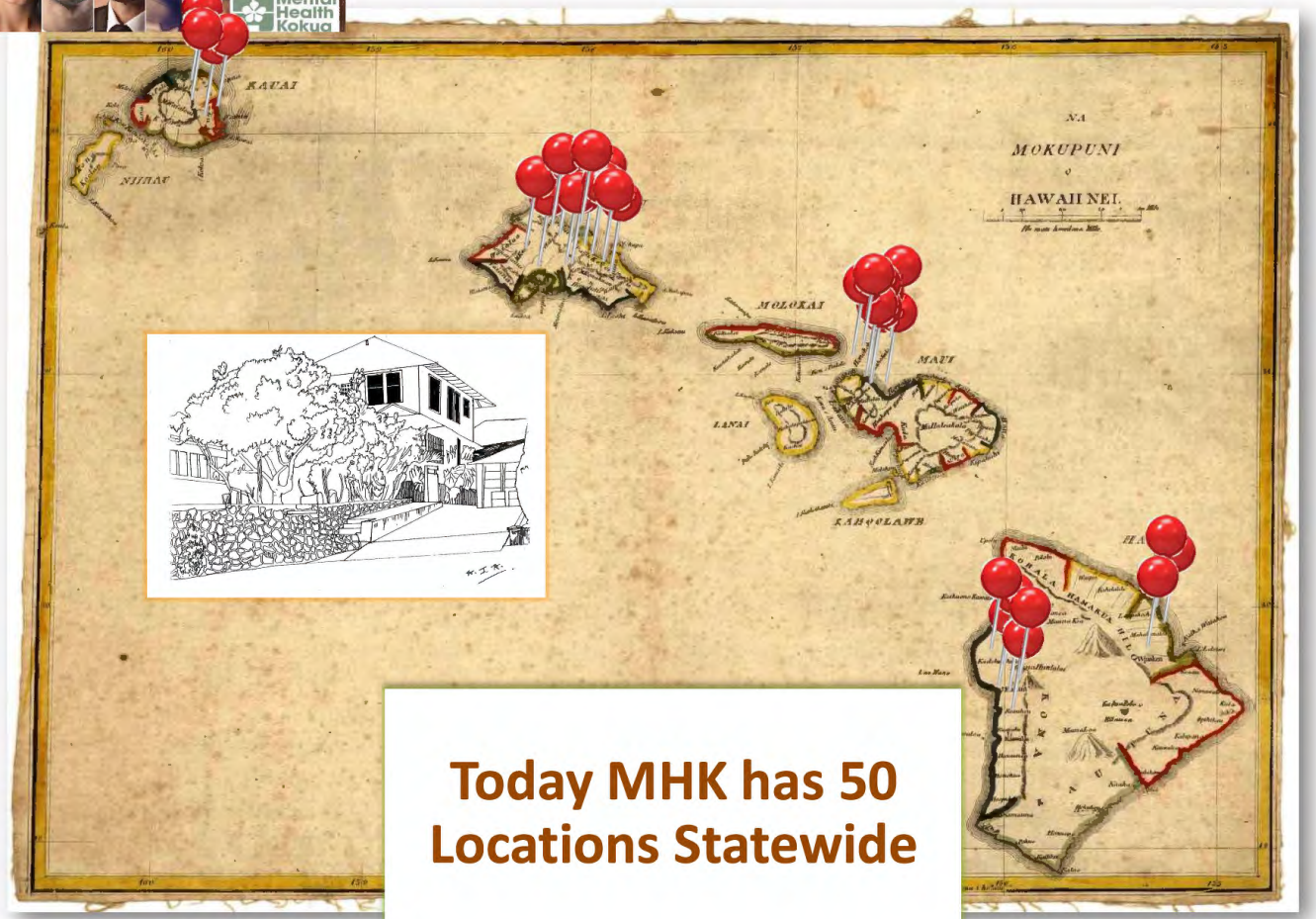


THE HOUSE
A SOCIAL REHABILITATION AGENCY

MHK Started With One House On Sierra Drive

MHK Hawaii
Opportunities to begin again!





Today MHK has 50 Locations Statewide

MHK Hawaii
Opportunities to begin again!



<u>Today</u> MHK Statewide Serves More Than 3,000
Adults with Serious Mental Illness
Per Year in Case Management & Housing

MHK Hawaii
Opportunities to begin again!



<u>Today</u> MHK Statewide Case Manages More Than 1,100 Adults with Serious Mental Illness Per Year



Today MHK Statewide Employs 275 People



MHK is Funded by:

- Dept. of Health (Adult Mental Health Division)
- HUD (Section 811 & Hearth)
- United Way (all islands)
- City & County of Honolulu
- County of Maui
- County of Hawaii
- Ohana Health Plan
- Kaiser Permanente
- HMSA
- Aloha Care



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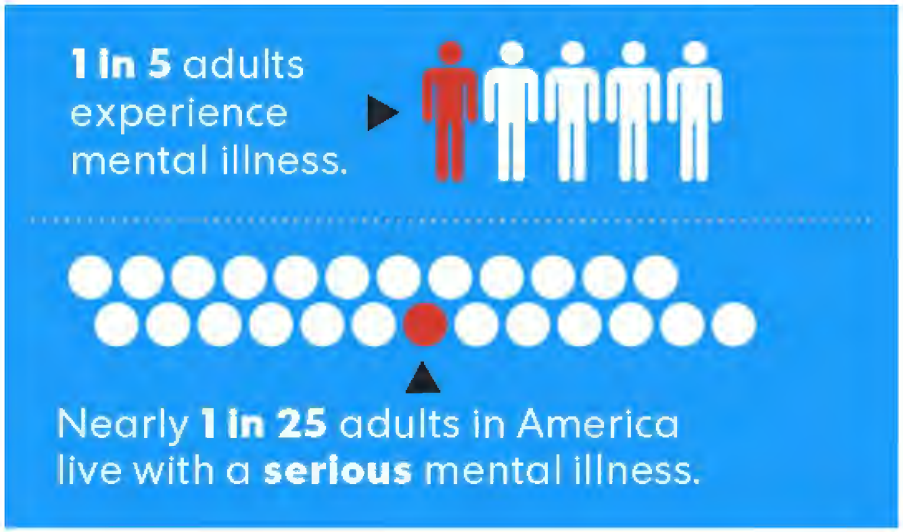
MHK - Accredited
at 3-Year Level
Since 1997

MHK Hawaii
Opportunities to begin again!





Serious Mental Illness...



Diagnoses:

- ✓ Schizophrenia
- ✓ Bipolar Disorder
- ✓ Major Depression
- ✓ PTSD





Serious Mental Illness…

- ***GAPS*** – People can live ***proud, productive*** lives, with support.
- All MHK clients have serious mental illness
  - ✓ Schizophrenia
  - ✓ Bipolar Disorder
  - ✓ Major Depression
  - ✓ PTSD
- All MHK clients were previously homeless.

MHK Hawaii
Opportunities to begin again!



Service Delivery & Gaps:

Mental Health Kokua

- **Residential - Least to Most Restrictive Care** – MHK clinically assesses each person, including an acuity scale to determine what level of housing supervision is recommended, e.g., 24-hour, semi-supervised, etc. Person-Centered - Not a one-size fits all model.

- **Services GAPS** – ineffective services for homeless adults with serious mental illnesses, e.g., schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, major depression, and PTSD. Adults with SMI don't function well in shelters and Permanent Supportive Housing.

- **Kauhales** – MHK participates in Governor Green's innovative program to end homelessness:
  - **Central House Maui** – 10 beds for homeless seniors.
  - **Vineyard House Maui** – 16 beds for homeless adults with serious mental illness.
  - **Kauhale at Iwilei** – 50 bed facility for homeless adults with serious mental illness. Psychiatry and Primary Care onsite.



MHK
Home Tour

MHK Hawaii
Opportunities to begin again!

New Kauhale Projects
2025-2026



MHK's 138 Central Ave, Wailuku, 96793

Existing staff
10 beds
Open Now



MHK's 2276 Vineyard St, Wailuku, 96793

Existing staff
16 Beds
Open Now

New staff
50 beds
Open Now



505 Kaaahi St., Honolulu 96817
C&C Honolulu owns building
Gov. Homeless Office funds services





MHK Kauai

Waialua





Aukoi



Apelila St.



Lihue

Admin

Residential

Case Management

MHK Hawaii
Opportunities to begin again!

MHK Maui

167 Market St.





Iao House

Vineyard St.





MHK Maui

133 Market St.

Maui Safe Haven





Lanai St.



Central Ave.

MHK Hawaii
Opportunities to begin again!

MHK Maui

Kaulana St., Kahului





Wailupe St. Wailuku



MHK Kona

Administration
Housing
Psychiatry
Case Management



Kealapua St.





Alahou St - Kona Apartments



MHK Kona

Hale Alanoe





Kona Kokua



Kealahou

MHK Hawaii
Opportunities to begin again!



MHK Hilo

Patch Place





Hale Amau

Hilo Hale & Case Mgt



MHK Hawaii
Opportunities to begin again!

MHK Admin

Human Resources

Accounting

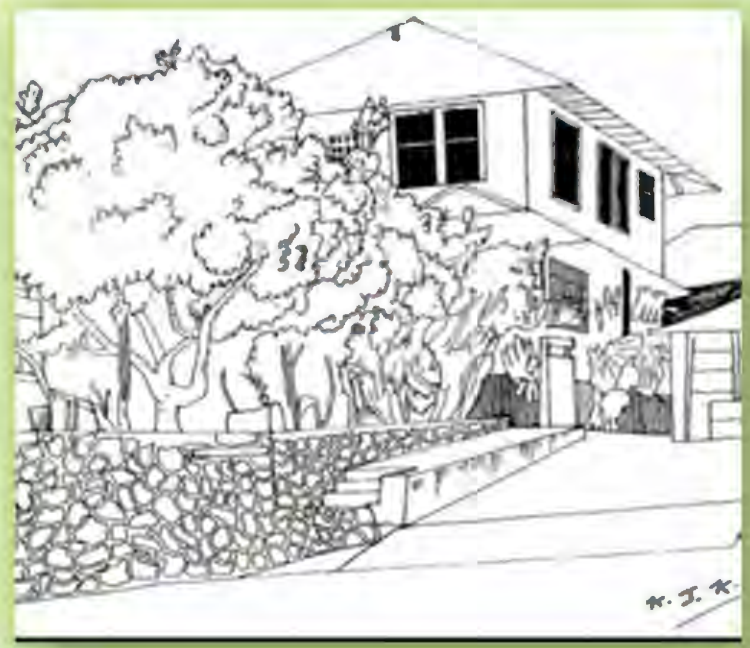
Information Technology

Quality Management

HUD Section 811 Housing

Peer Coach

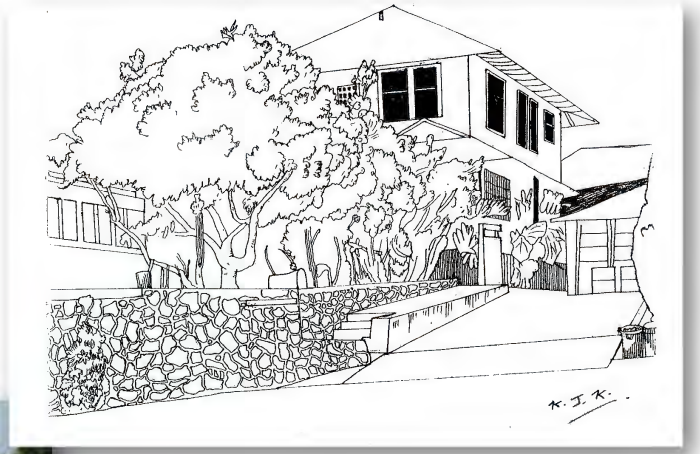
Case Management





MHK Oahu
Sierra House

Architectural Rendering, 1973
The Original MHK "House"





Sierra House
Therapeutic Living (TLP)

MHK Oahu

Dominis, Honolulu





Ahukini St., Honolulu

Keolu Dr., Kailua



MHK Oahu

Duncan (Kaneohe)





12th Ave, Honolulu



Pahoa House (Honolulu)



Kinau St





Mahani Loop



Rooke Ave.

MHK Hawaii
Opportunities to begin again!

MHK Oahu

Punawai
(Kaneohe)





Awapapa
(Kaneohe)



Hale Imua
(Kaneohe)

MHK Oahu

Duplex 1

(Central Oahu)





Duplex 2

(Central Oahu)

MHK Oahu

Fort Weaver Rd

Ewa Beach





Niolo Place

Ewa Beach

MHK's Pūnāwai Rest Stop



MHK's Pūnāwai Rest Stop



MHK's Pūnāwai Rest Stop




Mental
Health
Kokua


REFERRALS



Mental Health Kokua

Opportunities To Begin Again...



Mahalo

Opportunities To Begin Again...

MHK Hawaii
Opportunities to begin again!

Vision: We envision a world where those who face great challenges realize their value and self worth.

Mission: We bring to life gospel values of justice, love, compassion and hope through service, empowerment and advocacy.

WHO WE ARE

- The largest homeless and housing service provider on Hawai'i island
- Serving nearly **1,600** individuals/year
- With **150** employees + **850** volunteers
- Operating **7** emergency shelters providing **164** shelter beds
- Managing **155** Housing Units at **29** different locations
- Supporting another **155** households in the community stay housed
- Assisting **350** individuals living in unsheltered situations

ECONOMIC REALITIES

- Housing in Hawai‘i is the most expensive in the nation.
- Many of our clients work full-time, yet they’re still unhoused.
- Economic instability—compounded by a tourism-based economy and limited affordable housing—makes surviving here a daily challenge for too many families.

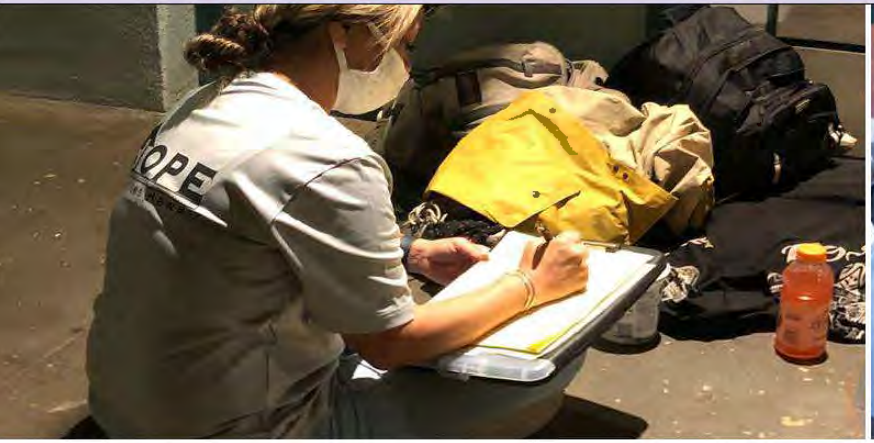


STREET OUTREACH





Cultural Values In Action







EMERGENCY SHELTERS





AFFORDABLE HOUSING



Mental health Services

- Provide Community Integrated Services islandwide.

- Provide Community Care Services

Community Partnerships

- State Office of HHS
- State Medicaid
- State Legislators
- County/Local Govt
- Philanthropic Donors
- Religious Institutions
- Health Insurance Plans
- Local Hospital
- Federally Qualified Health Centers
- Non-Profit Partners

Challenges

- We still face major challenges—rural isolation, a shortage of housing, NIMBYism, natural disasters and limited funding.
- Staff burnout is real.
- We are constantly learning and evolving. But we won't compromise on what matters: relationships, respect, and community-rooted care.

Kailua Pier Homeless Resources - DLNR

- DOCARE
- Homeless Coordinator-cleanups
- Limited efficacy

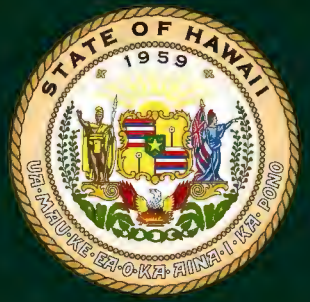
- NO shelters
- NO bathrooms, other than the pier
- NO mental health services

Solutions:

Work with your legislators and council members to fund programs in Kona and beyond.

- Can Hope Services expand with funding?
- Mental Health Services
- Housing

Mahalo



Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions

JUN YANG - COORDINATOR ON HOMELESSNESS

(808) 586-0193
gov.homelessness@hawaii.gov
homelessness.hawaii.gov

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

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA

DAWN N.S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE
FIRST DEPUTY

CIARA W.K. KAHAHANE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

MEGHAN L. STATTS
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

AGENDA

HCR 191 HD1
Working Group Meeting

Tuesday, January 27, 2026
10:00am – 12:00pm

King Kamehameha Kona Beach Hotel
Conference Room 5

2050 Vision Statement for Kailua Bay

"Kailua Bay and Harbor is a vibrant, resilient, and safe place shaped by and for the community, where residents, local businesses, cultural practitioners, and visitors come together with a shared commitment to care for and protect the bay. The bay reflects continued restoration by a caring community, clean and healthy natural ecosystems, and thriving native marine life, alongside a welcoming built environment that supports daily community use through thriving local businesses, ocean safety for all users, shade, seating, and clear educational signage in English and 'Ōlelo Hawai'i about culture, ocean safety, marine life, and rules for use.

Diverse uses—commercial, cultural, recreational, and educational—are guided by community values and thoughtfully balanced to protect coastal and marine resources while sustaining livelihoods and ensuring safe access for both people and marine life. The bay honors and perpetuates cultural heritage, traditional practices, and historical significance through dedicated educational and cultural spaces, community-driven place-based knowledge, and sustained funding for site maintenance, repair, and preservation. Rooted in shared understanding, education, and mālama 'āina, Kailua Bay stands as a living expression of collective stewardship, cultural continuity, and sustainable prosperity for present and future generations."

1. Welcome & Opening
2. Review and finalize draft meeting #3 notes
3. Follow-on discussion on opportunities for possible CIP funds
    a. Fixing infrastructure damage + vandalism >> restrooms and pier
        i. Objective - to Improve/upgrade bathrooms and showers
        ii. Objective - to fix/replace the waterline
    b. Permanent arrival shade structure >> retractable awnings
        i. Objective - to address the need for a permanent arrival shade structure >> retractable awnings
    c. Educational signage
        i. What specific improvements are needed to improve/expand the existing educational signage?
4. Identification of next meeting topics
5. Community Announcements
6. Closing and Adjournment
    a. Next meeting - Tuesday, February 24, 2026 - Virtual

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

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA

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DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION

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HONOLULU, HAWAII 96819

HRC 191 HDR Working Group Meeting #4 on 1.27.2026
FINAL NOTES

January 27, 2026
10:00am - 12:00pm
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
- **Iokepa Command via ZOOM on behalf of Senator Dru Mamo Kanuha,** Senator for the Kailua Bay Area
- **Will Lobendahn and Jun Shin via ZOOM on behalf of Representative Nicole Lowen**, House Representative for the Kailua Bay Area
- **Jun Yang,** Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness
- **Matthew Sueda,** representative of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority, HTA Destination Manager for Hawai'i Island
- **Lt. Sheldon Nakamoto** on behalf of chief of the Hawai'i Police Department
- **Mike Atwood,** representative of the Kai 'Opua Canoe Club
- **Puamaile Kimitete**, representative of the Kai 'Ehitu Outrigger Team of Kailua-Kona
    - **Nanette Greer** and **Brian Cornell,** support
- **Brock Stratton**, Kailua Village Business Improvement District, Co–CEO of Kona Boys
- **Revell Newton**, representative of the Courtyard King Kamehameha's Kona Beach Hotel, General Manager, King Kamehameha Kona Beach Resort
- **Mr. Reginald Lee**, community at-large member appointed by Senator
- **Mr. Jerome Kanuha**, community at-large member appointed by Senator
- **Michael Bell**, community at-large member appointed by House Rep, GM of Body Glove Cruises
- **Teri Leicher**, community at-large member appointed by House Rep, owner of Jack's Diving Locker

Additional DLNR Staff:

- **Todd Tashima**, DOBOR Acting Asst. Admin
- **Randall Albright,** DLNR DOBOR Security Officer
- **Tracey Carvalho**, DLNR DOBOR Harbor Agent for Kailua Bay
- **Rebecca Crall**, DLNR Outreach Coordinator - Chairs Office (attended via ZOOM)

Additional HPD Support:

- **Officer Adam Hanes**

Agenda

1. Welcome & Opening
2. Review & Finalization of Draft Meeting #3 Notes
3. Site visit on Pier
4. Follow-on discussion on opportunities for possible CIP funds (Infrastructure & Education)
5. Identification of next meeting topics
6. Community Announcements
7. Closing and Adjournment

---

1. Welcome & Opening

The meeting started at 10:00am. Mahina Paishon-Duarte of Mahina Consulting, fulfilling the role of facilitator, started the meeting, welcoming attendees to the in-person meeting at King Kamehameha Kona Beach Hotel.

Mahealani duPont is introduced as part of the Mahina Consulting team.

Mahina invites Mike Atwood, representative of the Kai ʻOpua Canoe Club, and Iokepa Command, attending on behalf of Senator Dru Mamo Kanuha, to read the vision statement of the group to open the meeting:

2050 Vision Statement for Kailua Bay

"Kailua Bay and Harbor is a vibrant, resilient, and safe place shaped by and for the community, where residents, local businesses, cultural practitioners, and visitors come together with a shared commitment to care for and protect the bay. The bay reflects continued restoration by a caring community, clean and healthy natural ecosystems, and thriving native marine life, alongside a welcoming built environment that supports daily community use through thriving local businesses, ocean safety for all users, shade, seating, and clear educational signage in English and ʻŌlelo Hawaiʻi about culture, ocean safety, marine life, and rules for use.

Diverse uses—commercial, cultural, recreational, and educational—are guided by community values and thoughtfully balanced to protect coastal and marine resources while sustaining livelihoods and ensuring safe access for both people and marine life. The bay honors and perpetuates cultural heritage, traditional practices, and historical significance through dedicated educational and cultural spaces, community-driven place-based knowledge, and sustained funding for site maintenance, repair, and preservation. Rooted in shared understanding, education, and mālama ʻāina, Kailua Bay stands as a living expression of collective stewardship, cultural continuity, and sustainable prosperity for present and future generations."

Roll call was then conducted, as reflected in the attendance list above.

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2. **Review & Finalization of Draft Meeting #3 Notes**

Corrections are noted including spelling corrections and the addition of page numbers.

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3. **Site visit on Pier**

Meeting attendees were invited to go on a site visit to the nearby Kailua Bay & Pier. The key notes and takeaways from the site visit / walk-around portion of the meeting are as follows. Impacts relevant to CIP are included:

A. Water Line & Sewer / Black Water Issues

- The sewage line from the restroom facility is very old and narrowing, contributing to clogs and restroom shutdowns
- Clogs have been caused both by:
  - Aging infrastructure
  - Improper use (e.g., clothing and other items being flushed; one individual frequently implicated)
- The freshwater line is a 4-inch copper pipe coming from the County, running toward the canoes and out to the boating area
  - Has broken at least twice within a year (one break out by the pier, another near the comfort station).
  - Was likely installed incorrectly (not properly bedded in sand; surrounded by gravel so vehicle loads can damage it)
  - A section is still exposed where repairs were made; the asphalt is still cut open
- ****Key Takeaways****
  - A capital improvement request (CIP) is needed to:
    - Repair/replace sections of the **sewage line** leaving the restroom.
    - Address water line vulnerabilities, possibly replacing or upgrading segments.
    - Meghan Statts noted:
      - These line repairs may be integral to any restroom/shower upgrades, because upgraded facilities won't function well if the downstream lines are failing.
      - It may be advantageous to package restroom/shower upgrades and line repairs as a single CIP project, so the infrastructure and facility improvements are aligned.
  - Construction impacts:
    - Water will need to be shut off during some parts of the project.
    - DLNR can plan for porta potties and wash stations during closures, written into the solicitation
    - Work would be scheduled around high-impact events (Ironman, long-distance canoe races, cruise ship Wednesdays, paddling season, Beer Fest, high cruise season in winter, etc.)

B. Restrooms: Condition, Safety, Maintenance

- Restrooms are dilapidated, with:
  - Corroded gates/metal

    - Fixtures in poor condition
    - Mold/rust and overall run-down appearance
- Frequent closures due to
    - Sewer line clogs
    - Maintenance limitations
- Safety concerns
    - Drug use, drinking, overdoses very close to the restrooms and in front of the doors; one overdose occurred "two feet from the door"
    - Families and keiki feel unsafe using the restrooms, especially during practices and high-use times
- Maintenance & union constraints
    - DLNR staff clean once daily, with midday restocking, and respond to emergencies
    - Offers from the Business Improvement District to provide additional cleaning (e.g., cruise ship days) were rejected due to union constraints: DLNR must prioritize work for union BW employees; contracting out can trigger union grievances
- Operational details
    - Restrooms are locked at night by private security
    - Closed roughly 6:30–7:00 pm and reopened around 6:00 am
    - Suggestion to add clear signage for:
        - Operating hours
        - Possibly not committing to exact cleaning frequency (to avoid complaints if short-staffed)
- ****Key takeaways****
    - Strong desire for:
        - **Cosmetic** upgrades that can be done **soon** (painting, cleaning, fixtures), not waiting years for full line work.
        - **Industrial-grade fixtures** and better finishes to handle heavy use.
        - Safety-oriented design (sightlines, corrosion removal, ADA-compliant gates and paths).
        - Recognition that union rules shape **who can clean** and **how often**, so improvements may need to come partly from:
            - Infrastructure/facility design
            - Programming/community involvement (Friends of the Pier, etc., discussed later in the room recap).

C. Showers: Drainage, Sand, Location, Use

- Showers frequently back up; drains are often clogged, likely due to sand accumulation and aging lines
- Heavy use by:
    - Daily beach users
    - Houseless individuals (especially mornings and evenings)
    - Keiki and families
- Concerns:
    - Possible leakage or failures along the line, with unknown environmental impacts (where water is actually going)
- Ideas & questions
    - It's believed the shower drainage ties into sewer, not directly to the ocean (as required), but the group wants clarification

- **Suggestions**:
  - "Cosmetic improvements** (remove mold/rust, upgrade heads, better appearance) as "low-hanging fruit"
  - Consider a **pre-wash / sand removal station** to reduce sand entering shower drains (mentioned later in breakout notes and recap).
  - Explore **relocating or adding showers** for better function and distribution, subject to **jurisdictional and engineering feasibility**.
- ****Key Takeaways****
  - Need an **engineering look** at:
    - Drainage design
    - Sand trap / filtration options
    - Whether location change is possible and beneficial
  - Parallel track:
    - Do **quick cosmetic and fixture upgrades** while pursuing **longer-term structural fixes**

D. Houselessness, Safety, and Enforcement

- Personal storage item shelves at pier entrance:
  - Noted by HPD attendees that lockers are subject to theft. Conversation ensued between attendees, such as Teri Leicher, community at-large member appointed by House Rep, owner of Jack's Diving Locker, who noted that the storage shelves are convenient and useful for recreational users. Based on their experience with handling calls related to theft and vandalism at the shelves, HPD recommended removing them.
  - **Suggestions also included replacing the shelves with lockers, in which locks could be provided by nearby businesses.**
- HPD's community policing and DLNR/DOCARE:
  - Regularly check the pier, move people along, and coordinate with the County and services
  - Have been working to reduce camping and long-term encampments at the pier and along the fence line
- Specific updates:
  - Several individuals on the pier have been helped with "tickets home" when they want to return to families, coordinated with service providers
  - Some individuals are **ill and receiving medical care**
- Goal:
  - Protect families' ability to use this place as a safe beach and gathering place, as it has been for generations
- ****Safety & design recommendations**** (From HPD and others)
  - Make the area a **"hard target"** so people intent on crime feel they will be seen
  - **Good, high-quality lighting** (ideally motion-activated and well-placed).
  - **High-quality security cameras**:
    - Clear enough for usable evidence (not "Nintendo-quality" footage).
    - Focus on entrances, approaches, shared areas (not inside facilities)
    - Address **trip hazards** near exposed lines and cut pavement (especially where water line repairs left areas open)
- Policy tools discussed

- Past emergency rules allowed DLNR to close parts of the pier at night (e.g., 10:30 pm–4:30 am) following safety incidents (Those emergency rules expired after 120 days)
- Permanent rules:
  - Draft statewide rules are with Deputy AG; once finalized, DLNR will go to BLNR for approval and public hearing.
  - Goal is to have authority to close certain areas at night statewide (parking, piers, etc.) to manage houselessness and safety issues
- Discussion of:
  - Geo-restrictions / trespass orders for repeat problem individuals

- ****Key Takeaways****
  - Houselessness is being addressed through:Enforcement presence service-oriented approaches (tickets home, coordination with nonprofits and County).
  - Physical design (lighting, cameras, trip hazard removal) plus clear rules and closing hours are seen as critical safety levers.

E. Secure Cruise Ship Area & Access Constraints

- Structure adjacent to the fence area included an ad-hoc, impermanent shade structure (pop-up tents) furnished by Body Glove.
- The fenced and gated area by the pier is a federally regulated cruise ship terminal
  - Tenders bring passengers from anchorage to this low dock.
  - It functions like a TSA-style controlled zone with private security (AGS) and Coast Guard oversight.
  - The Destination Kona Coast shed is for tourism information and visitor support
- Access limitations
  - After 9/11, security requirements increased:
    - Area used to be more open and multi-use (mornings, weighing fish, etc.) but now it is **locked** when not in cruise operation.
- To allow public use during non-cruise times:
  - Area would require a **formal sweep and re-inspection** by Coast Guard prior to **each** ship arrival
  - Keys cannot be widely distributed; existing keys have led to **lock changes** and tighter control

4. Follow-on discussion on opportunities for possible CIP funds (Infrastructure & Education)

Attendees returned back to the meeting room after the walking site visit. They were then split into two breakout groups to focus on 1) Infrastructure and 2) Cultural and Educational Signage - each group had an opportunity to discuss both topics. See the appendix for the transcribed chart paper notes and specific prompts for the discussion. The key takeaways and reported out recommendations are as follows:

INFRASTRUCTURE:

Priority CIP (Capital Improvement Project) Items

A. Restroom & Sewer / Black Water System

1. Repair / replace black water (sewer) line from comfort station
    - Scope:
        - Camera, assess, and replace or rehabilitate aging sewer line serving the restrooms.
        - Address chronic clogging and narrowing of the line.
    - Rationale:
        - Repeated restroom closures due to clogs (including improper items being flushed).
        - Any restroom/shower upgrade will fail without reliable downstream infrastructure.
2. Restroom facility upgrades (structural & fixtures)
    - Scope:
        - Replace all corroded gates, doors, and metal with safe, ADA-compliant, corrosion-resistant materials.
        - Install industrial-grade toilets, sinks, partitions, and hardware designed for high-use, marine environments (stainless steel)
        - Refinish interior surfaces (walls, floors, ceilings) to be cleanable, mold-resistant, and durable.
    - Rationale:
        - Current facilities are dilapidated, unsafe in places, and do not reflect the importance of Kailua Bay as a gateway for both residents and visitors.
3. Water line repair / replacement
    - Scope:
        - Assess full run of the 4" copper water line from County connection, past comfort station and toward the pier.
        - Replace vulnerable segments; properly bed in sand and protect from vehicle damage.
        - Permanently restore and resurface areas where the line trench is currently open or patched.
    - Rationale:
        - Multiple breaks in under a year, incorrect installation, and exposed cuts represent risk of failure and trip hazards.

B. Showers & Drainage

1. Shower system renewal and drainage improvements
    - Scope:
        - Replace existing shower heads and fixtures with industrial-grade units.
        - Redesign or retrofit drainage and sand-trap systems to reduce clogging (e.g., improved sand interception and clean-outs).
        - Conduct engineering/feasibility study on:
            - Relocating some showers or
            - Adding an additional shower location
            - Ensuring proper tie-in to sewer and environmental compliance.
    - Rationale:
        - Chronic drain backups from sand and aging lines; high use by families, paddlers, and houseless individuals.
        - Opportunity to pair functional fixes with visual upgrades.

C. Lighting & Safety (CIP-Scale Components)

1. Area lighting for comfort station, shower zone, and key approaches
    - Scope:
        - Install high-quality, vandal-resistant lighting around:
            - Restroom entrances
            - Shower areas
            - Main pier approach / high-use gathering zones
        - Use dark-sky-friendly, targeted fixtures; consider hardwired power where solar is insufficient.
    - Rationale:
        - Officers and community cited lighting as a primary safety tool for crime prevention and family comfort at dawn/dusk.

D. Shade Structures

1. Permanent / semi-permanent shade at pier frontage
    - Install a minimum of three shade structures (equivalent to existing green tent footprint), sited to avoid loss of key parking.
    - Use sail-inspired, corrosion-resistant canopies(e.g., "Sydney Opera House" / sailing-motif forms).
    - Design for removal or securing during major storms.
    - Partner with Destination Kona Coast, Business Improvement District, and operators who have offered funding/support.

Additional Infrastructure Related Items

Beyond CIP, these can be pursued via public–private partnerships, grants (e.g., GIA, HTA, Destination Management), operating budget, and community hui efforts.

A. Cameras & Supplemental Lighting

- Security camera system
    - Deploy high-resolution, evidence-grade cameras at:
        - Restroom and shower approaches
        - Shade/gathering areas
        - Key chokepoints at the pier
    - Prefer solar + cellular / app-connected units where feasible.
    - Coordinate with HPD and DLNR for data access, retention, and privacy.
- Supplemental solar / motion-activated lighting
    - For specific hot spots (e.g., edges where people congregate at night), install solar motion-activated lights.
    - Intent: Make the area a "hard target" without over-lighting the bay.

B. Lockers & Theft Prevention

- Secure locker installation
    - Remove existing open cubbies/shelves and replace with:
        - Coin- or app-operated lockers; or
        - "Bring-your-own-lock" lockers within a managed frame.
    - Consider directing a portion of revenue to pier maintenance and improvements.

C. Docks & Edge Structures

- Small dock and edge structure improvements

- Scope:
  - Replace aging, ad-hoc dock sections with standardized, safe dock modules similar to recent DOBOR installations.
  - Address trip hazards and storm damage risk along operator docks and loading edges.
- Rationale:
  - Operators have self-funded dock repairs for years; infrastructure is essential for safe marine access, canoe course use, and commercial operations.

D. Restroom Operations & Community Stewardship

- Friends of Kailua Pier hui
  - Form a "Friends of the Pier" hui to:
    - Organize clean-up days, small repairs, painting (where permissible under union/contract rules).
    - Support education and signage projects.
    - Serve as a community liaison with DLNR, HPD, County, and legislators.
- Programming & activation
  - Use improved infrastructure as a platform for regular programming:
    - Cultural events (mele, hula, storytelling, fishing traditions).
    - Marine education (DLNR, local NGOs, schools).
    - Canoe club, youth, and community events.
  - Aim to increase resident presence and make the pier feel clearly "owned" and cared for by the community.
- Support for houseless outreach
  - Seek GIA or other funding to:
    - Reinstate or strengthen contracts with local outreach providers (e.g., community health center, housing/homeless services).
    - Coordinate with HPD and DLNR so enforcement is paired with services, diversion, and "tickets home" where appropriate.

CULTURE AND EDUCATION:

Recommended Initiatives

Overall Approach: An "Education Ecosystem," Not Just Signs

- The group framed education as an ecosystem, where signage is one tool, but not the only or even primary one.
- Goal: create a reciprocal relationship between visitors, residents, and the place:
  - People don't just "see" information; they feel the significance of Kailua Bay and are motivated to mālama it.
  - Education should reach:
    - Visitors (e.g., cruise passengers, tourists)
    - Residents and local families
    - Operators and regular users (paddlers, fishers, businesses, cultural practitioners)
- Desired outcomes for visitors and residents:
  - Understand their role in caring for Kailua Bay.

    - Recognize cultural protocols and sensitive areas.
    - Feel that the bay is a living cultural and ecological place, not just a backdrop.
- Tone of education framed around:
    - Kuleana and reciprocity, not only rules and penalties.
    - Pride in shared stewardship, aligned with the working group's 2050 vision statement that was re-read at the start.

1. Existing Signage: Clean Up, Maintain, and Unify

Recommendations:

1. Inventory and clean up existing signs:
    - Remove or repair dilapidated, faded, or damaged signs.
    - Repaint/replace sign frames and mounts where necessary.
2. Move toward a more uniform, coherent look:
    - Consistent visual style, fonts, and layout where possible.
    - Clear categorization (e.g., safety/regulatory, cultural/historic, marine life).

2. New Signage Content Types

The group identified three main content families for new or upgraded signage:

A. Marine Life & Resource Signs

- Place-based marine signage:
    - Identify what is commonly seen in specific areas
    - Pair this with clear rules and guidance:
        - Approach distances, no-touch/no-chase, no feeding.
        - Simple explanations of why (stress to animals, reef damage, law).

B. Cultural & Historical Signage

- Emphasis on high-quality cultural and historical panels:
    - Stories of Kailua Bay's history, traditional practices, and key events.
    - Mo'olelo, place names, and the significance of specific spots.
- Design priorities:
    - Visually beautiful and compelling, so people feel drawn to them:
        - Photos, artwork, maps, traditional motifs.
        - Potential as photo backdrops—so the message travels with people digitally.
    - Collaborate with community cultural practitioners and SHPD where appropriate.
- Purpose:
    - Move beyond "no/no/no" signs to deeper connection and pride.
    - Help both visitors and residents understand the significance of this ahupua'a and why this place matters.

C. Regulatory & Safety Signage

- Keep necessary regulatory signs (e.g., DLNR rules, safety warnings), but:
    - Integrate them into the overall visual system so they're less jarring.
    - Ensure clear, simple language with supporting visuals where possible.
- Coordinate:

- Boating rules, swim zones, fishing rules, marine mammal protections, etc.
- Align signage with new rules (e.g., future nighttime closures, if adopted).

3. Beyond Signs: Active Cultural Education & Programming

The group stressed that signs alone aren't enough; active, in-person education and cultural-based experiences are needed.

A. Partnerships with Local Entities

- Partner and invite cultural practitioners / organizations and kūpuna to co-create cultural programming in the bay.
- Types of activities:
  - Guided bay walks and tours, cultural workshops, storytelling sessions
  - Fishing competition
  - Clean up and education days
  - Activities that connect both residents and visitors with place-based knowledge

B. Regular Community & Cultural Events

- Develop a calendar of events at or near the pier:
  - Cultural practices, mele and hula, historic commemorations.
  - Educational talks (e.g., "Kailua Bay then and now", traditional fishing and navigation).
- Link to the emerging idea of a "Friends of the Pier" hui:
  - This hui can help host and coordinate such events.
  - Events support both education and activation (more positive presence, less negative activity).

C. Multi-Channel Educational Materials

- Use multiple formats, not just fixed signs:
  - Printed pamphlets/magazines (utilizing already existing trusted materials).
  - QR codes on signs that link to deeper content (videos, audio, longer text).
- Vision:
  - A coherent and culturally competent messaging system that starts the moment someone steps into the bay area.

The culture/education group's ideas tie directly to the ideated Friends of the Pier hui (as a potential steward and program host); Programming and activation under using improved infrastructure and spaces for education; and Houselessness & safety work wherein a more active, connected, and educated community presence helps deter negative use and increases shared care.

5. Identification of next meeting topics

After reporting out the recommendations and sentiments from the breakout session, Mahina noted items for the next meeting which include: finalizing the list of ideas and supporting the package of requests for CIP funds.

6. Community Announcements

- With the help of DLNR and Army Corps of Engineers the first permanent operator canoe course in the state of Hawai'i - a major milestone for the bay.
- Progress on the north and south lanes, including fixing buoys to align with canoe courses
- Matt Sueda shared upcoming HTA meetings (2/10 (Hilo); 2/11 (Kona); 2/12 (Virtual)

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7. Closing and Adjournment

Next meeting - Tuesday, February 24, 2026 - Virtual

Next steps include:

- Mahina Consulting to update Meeting #3 Notes
- Upon distribution of Meeting #4 Notes, working group members are to share with their own community groups and constituencies to identify 1) what is missing and 2) what needs clarification
- CIP package will be finalized at next meeting #5

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

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA

DAWN N.S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
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RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE
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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

KAILUA BAY ADVISORY WORKING GROUP

Meeting #5

February 24, 2026 - Virtual Meeting
10:30-12:00p

AGENDA

ZOOM LINK: https://zoom.us/j/94509460404

2050 Vision Statement for Kailua Bay

"Kailua Bay and Harbor is a vibrant, resilient, and safe place shaped by and for the community, where residents, local businesses, cultural practitioners, and visitors come together with a shared commitment to care for and protect the bay. The bay reflects continued restoration by a caring community, clean and healthy natural ecosystems, and thriving native marine life, alongside a welcoming built environment that supports daily community use through thriving local businesses, ocean safety for all users, shade, seating, and clear educational signage in English and 'Ōlelo Hawai'i about culture, ocean safety, marine life, and rules for use.

Diverse uses—commercial, cultural, recreational, and educational—are guided by community values and thoughtfully balanced to protect coastal and marine resources while sustaining livelihoods and ensuring safe access for both people and marine life. The bay honors and perpetuates cultural heritage, traditional practices, and historical significance through dedicated educational and cultural spaces, community-driven place-based knowledge, and sustained funding for site maintenance, repair, and preservation. Rooted in shared understanding, education, and mālama 'āina, Kailua Bay stands as a living expression of collective stewardship, cultural continuity, and sustainable prosperity for present and future generations."

1. Welcome & Opening
2. Review and finalize draft meeting #3 notes, review and finalize meeting #4 notes
3. Follow-on discussion on opportunities for Infrastructure upgrades
    a. Fixing infrastructure damage + vandalism >> restrooms and pier
    b. Permanent arrival shade structure >> retractable awnings
    c. Educational signage
4. Identification of next meeting topics
5. Community Announcements
6. Closing and Adjournment
    a. Next meeting - Tuesday, March 24, 2026

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February 24, 2026

Final Notes from
HRC 191 HD1 Working Group Meeting on

February 24, 2026, Meeting #5
10:30am - 12:00pm
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
- **Will Lobendahn on behalf of Representative Nicole Lowen**, House Representative for the Kailua Bay Area
- **Council Member Rebecca Villegas,** County Council Member, District 7
- **Brandon Mitsuda**, on behalf of the office of the governor SOHHS
- **Lt. Sheldon Nakamoto representing Chief Reed K. Mahuna,** Chief of the Hawaiʻi Police Department
    - Supporting HPD Staff: **Lieutenant Lewis** ; **Chief Delaries**
- **Jun Yang,** Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness
- **Kendrick Leong on behalf of Matt Sueda,** representative of the Hawaiʻi Tourism Authority, HTA Destination Manager for Hawaiʻi Island
- **Mike Atwood,** representative of the Kai ʻOpua Canoe Club
- **Brock Stratton**, Kailua Village Business Improvement District, Co-CEO of Kona Boys
- **Teri Leicher,** community at-large member appointed by House Rep, owner of Jackʻs Diving Locker
- **Michael Bell,** community at-large member appointed by Senator

DLNR Representation Attendees:

- **Todd Tashima**, DOBOR
- **Randall Winston Albright,** DLNR DOBOR Security Officer
- **Tracey Carvalho**, DLNR Harbor Agent for Kailua Bay (DOBOR)
- **Rebecca Crall**, DLNR Outreach Coordinator - Chairs Office

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1. **Welcome & Opening**

The meeting started at 10:30am via ZOOM. Mahina Paishon-Duarte of Mahina Consulting, fulfilling the role of facilitator, started the meeting, welcoming attendees to the call. Mahina invites attendees to read out the Collective Values & Group Agreements for protocol:

Collective Values & Group Agreements

- **Mālama Pono — Care for What Is Right**
  We care for Kailua Bay and one another through respect, education, and collective action. We listen openly, avoid assumptions, and act with empathy.
- **Kuleana Pono — Shared Responsibility**
  We accept responsibility to leave the bay better for future generations. Kūpuna guide us, and kuleana is carried by both individuals and the community.
- **Hoʻokipa Pono — Respectful & Reciprocal Hospitality**
  We honor the unique character of Kailua Bay, Kona's historic seaside village, and the bay as a living, healing place. Our well-being is tied to the health of the ocean.
- **ʻOhana Pono — One Family**
  We are all connected and accountable to these values. People are guests; the land and ocean come first.

2. Review and finalize draft meeting #3 notes, review and finalize meeting #4 notes

Meeting #3 Notes: Mahina presented revised notes, and asked the group if there was agreement to accept changes made. All working group members voted in favor of finalizing revised meeting #3 notes.

Meeting #4 Notes: Mahina presented Meeting #4 Notes from the in-person (King Kamehameha Beach Hotel) meeting on Jan. 27, 2026, for the group to review together. All working group members voted in favor of finalizing meeting #4 notes. The review included notes on:

- Site visit on Pier:
  - Water Line & Sewer / Black Water Issues
  - Restrooms: Condition, Safety, Maintenance
  - Showers: Drainage, Sand, Location, Use
    - **Discussion during review** - Mahina posed a question to Meghan Statts, DOBOR Administrator serving as Chair of the Kailua Bay Advisory Working Group: whether relocating or adding additional showers for better function and distribution would trigger EA?
      - Meghan: It is possible, dependent on location (whether location is on land division property or on pier itself)
  - Houselessness, Safety, and Enforcement
  - Secure Cruise Ship Area & Access Constraints
- Follow-on discussion on opportunities for possible CIP funds (Infrastructure & Education):
  - INFRASTRUCTURE: Recommended CIP (Capital Improvement Project) Items
    - Restroom & Sewer / Black Water System
    - Showers & Drainage
    - Lighting & Safety (CIP-Scale Components)
    - Docks & Edge Structures (If Included in This Package)
  - Recommended Non-CIP / Partnership & Operational Items

        - Shade Structures
        - Cameras & Supplemental Lighting
        - Lockers & Theft Prevention
        - Restroom Operations
        - Community Stewardship
    - CULTURE AND EDUCATION: Recommended Initiatives
        - Overall Approach: An "Education Ecosystem," Not Just Signs
            - **Discussion during review**: In summarizing approach Mahina notes the groups intention and made a suggestion: "If there is going to be a concerted education initiative, it should reach visitors, residents, local families, operators, and regular users… one area too is **fishers**, to seek more of their input as well."
        - Existing Signage: Clean Up, Maintain, and Unify
        - New Signage Content Types
            - Marine Life & Resource Signs
            - Cultural & Historical Signage
            - Regulatory & Safety Signage
        - Beyond Signs: Active Education & Programming
            - Partnerships with Local Organizations
            - Regular Community & Cultural Events
            - Multi-Channel Educational Materials

3. Presentation on interpretive signage and discussion

Mahealani duPont (Mahina Consulting) presented examples and concepts for interpretive signage, building on Meeting #4's discussion.

- The goal is signage that connects people to place by telling stories, providing cultural/natural context, and being visually appealing and durable.
- **Key Ideas Introduced:**
    - Bilingual signage (English and ʻŌlelo Hawaiʻi), using a recreational path example for inspiration (educating on ecosystems and responsible recreation).
    - Building on existing popular styles (e.g., the sail-themed signs at Kailua).
    - Highlighting local models, especially community–state partnerships (like Hāʻena / State Parks), which share knowledge and acknowledge local hui caring for the place. This could inspire a "Friends of Kailua Pier / Kailua Bay" group template.
    - Sharing award-winning Hawaiian interpretive signs (Kauaʻi, Hawaiʻi Island) and examples from Aboriginal communities in Australia.
    - Using natural/weathering materials (rusted metals, treated wood) and artful/sculptural forms that invite interaction and photos.
- **Intended as Inspiration:** The presentation offered visual references and links, not final designs.
- **Vision Alignment:** Signage should support the working group's vision for an "education ecosystem" at Kailua Bay: bilingual, culturally grounded, beautiful, and interactive, moving beyond simple "no / don't" messaging toward connection, stewardship, and shared kuleana.

Additional discussion from Working Group Members:

- Teri Leicher, community at-large member appointed by House Rep, owner of Jack's Diving Locker, noted that she really liked the signage ideas and visuals. She was reminded of signage at **Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park**.
- Council Member Rebecca Villegas, County Council Member, District 7, concurred with Teri's comments, noting that the utilization of natural resources of a place make things much more authentic.
- Kendrick Leong, on behalf of Matt Sueda, representative of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority, HTA Destination Manager for Hawai'i Island, **said HTA would be open to supporting some of the interpretive signage work** discussed by the group and emphasized that HTA strongly supports the shift away from "no/no/no" signs toward positive, pride-based messaging that encourages civic responsibility and shared stewardship—feedback they are hearing statewide.
- Meghan Statts, DOBOR Administrator serving as Chair of the Kailua Bay Advisory Working Group, provided additional examples of signage (included in appendix):
    - Fisherman Code of Conduct created in collaboration with West Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council and the Ko'olaupōko Hawaiian Civic Club put up in He'eia Kea and Wai'anae
        - Noted that this work did not come from boating special funds but rather worked with other partners in order to create a location where there are a lot of fishermen. Providing an example of signage that goes beyond regulatory and is visually pleasing.
    - Malama Mano Shark signs were created in collaboration with Moana Ohana, who funded it, and DLNR DOBOR put the signage up.

4. Updates provided by DLNR DOBOR

Meghan provided detailed updates on how they are moving the group's ideas into actual projects and funding paths. She explained that after the site visit, she met with DOBOR's boating engineer and went through each concern (restrooms, black water, showers, drainage, lighting, docks, etc.) to decide what should be **addressed via a multi-discipline contract and what should be a CIP (capital improvement project) request versus using the Boating Special Fund.**

- For the restrooms, black-water (sewer) system, showers, drainage, and some lighting, DOBOR's strategy is to:
    - Create a bundled services contract (like they've successfully done on Maui at Mā'alaea and Kīhei) rather than wait solely on CIP.
    - This contract would cover:
        - Restroom upgrades (fixtures, signage on the bathrooms, painting, replacing severely rusted gates/metal, etc.)
        - Investigation and fixes for the black-water / sewer line (including understanding if sand from showers is contributing to blockages).
        - Shower and drainage redesign, including a better sand-management system and possibly relocation (with attention to land-division vs harbor jurisdiction).
        - Facility lighting upgrades.
    - She noted this contract approach is faster than relying only on new CIP appropriations, which, even if approved this session, likely wouldn't be released until about this time next year.
- Water and sewer lines:

        - They still need engineering investigation to confirm conditions and the relationship between the sewer line, water line, and shower drainage.
        - Some problems may be due to people shoving inappropriate items down toilets, so they need a clearer diagnosis before deciding how much to replace or re-engineer.
- Shade structures, cameras, and some other items:
    - Megan did not request CIP for shade structures.
    - Instead, she anticipates working with private donors/partners (e.g., business improvement district, other supporters) and using Boating Special Fund where appropriate.
    - For security cameras, they'll likely handle this with DOBOR funds and their IT specialists, not through CIP, to move more quickly and choose appropriate systems for the pier.
- Lockers/theft prevention, she said:
    - This needs more discussion and is not currently a CIP ask.
    - They need to better understand the operational model, management, and whether it fits DOBOR's scope.

For true CIP requests, she described two specific Kailua Pier asks she sent to Senator Kanuha and Representative Lowen:

1. Design and permitting to replace the existing wooden loading platforms on the north side of the wharf with standardized floating dock-type platforms — requested at $5.5 million.
2. Replacement of the existing fendering system on the south side of the wharf/pier — requested at $3.5 million.

She emphasized:

- The contract approach will be used for restrooms, black water, showers, drainage, and some lighting, so those can move ahead faster under the Boating Special Fund.
- The CIP requests are focused on the docks and fendering.
- Before finalizing the scope of the restroom/black-water/shower/lighting contract, she wants to:
    - Get clarity from the engineer on the level of detail needed, then
    - Meet with this working group (likely April or May) so the community's priorities and specifics (e.g., benches, fixtures, layouts) are reflected before the contract is issued.

In conclusion, DOBOR is:

- Using a flexible contract + Boating Special Fund path for urgent facility and safety upgrades, and
- Pursuing CIP for major dock and fender replacements, with a commitment to circle back to the working group for detailed input on the contract scope.

Additional discussion from Working Group Members:

Concrete benches:

- Mike Atwood, representative of the Kai 'Opua Canoe Club, posed a question related to the concrete benches that were previously on the pier, and noted this as a discussion item on the site visit during Meeting #4: "Was there any thought about why those were taken out and why they're not, why there's not a possibility of them being back in there? I think comfort in just flexibility. For certain people, not being able to bend down and pick up things while they're probably standing, was one of the things we talked about. So was there any discussion of possibly bringing those concrete benches back in?"

- Meghan responded: Reasons might have included usage by individuals sleeping on them. Solution offered was benches with ridges in them to prevent comfortably laying down.
    - She noted that this can be included in a conversation with the engineer and included in the contract itself. She also urged everyone in the Working Group to provide detailed recommendations so that they can include specifics in the contract that reflect collective decisionmaking.

Council Member Rebecca Villegas, County Council Member, District 7:

- Shared that District 7 has contingency relief funds to help with contributions for parts of the project that are less than thousands of dollars, and her office would be "honored and grateful for the opportunity" to contribute.
- Access Trails Hawaii Bike Share PATH program: Project working to increase stations for bicycles and one location they're hoping to secure is near or on pier - while also recognizing potential challenges with co-responsibility.

HTA funds:

- Kendrick Leong, on behalf of Matt Sueda, representative of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority, HTA Destination Manager for Hawai'i Island, explained that HTA's next round of Destination Management Action Plans (DMAPs) is currently in public review, with Kealakekua Bay identified as the priority hotspot on the Kona side. While most of HTA's upcoming Destination Management funds will likely be directed there, Kailua Bay is still identified as a hotspot in both the previous and current D-MAPs, so it remains on their radar.
    - Mahina asked if community grants have been released/ timing managed by Kilohana. Kendrick notes the next tranche is still in contracting and he will follow up with group when the new grant funding cycle is available.

Contract:

- Projects will be specifically outlined in contract and a discussion will be had with the engineer to determine how much detail is required.

5. Follow-on discussion on opportunities for Infrastructure upgrades

Mahina shifted the meeting to discuss 9 priority focus areas for the group to determine who wants to serve as leads and supports in each area (functioning as focus groups). Responsibilities include doing research between meetings and forming ideas/ strategies to direct action.

1. Restroom & Sewer / Black Water System **(Brock Stratton, Mike Atwood)**
2. Showers & Drainage **(Michael Bell)**
3. Cameras & Lighting & Safety **(Michael Bell and Teri Leicher)**
4. Shade Structures - work with private donors **(Councilmember Rebecca Villegas, Teri Leicher, Brock Stratton)**

a. Brock offered additional comment: Can talk with the Board of the Business Improvement District. Shade structures were initially put up and designed for cruise ship passengers. At a minimum keep the current footprint and build a few more structures designed for community and other users.

b. Meghan clarified that if they get donations prior to accepting or building it needs to go in front of the BLNR to be approved.

c. Mahina noted that placement of lighting and additional or relocation of showers should be in conjunction with location of additional shade structures.

d. Teri noted that there will still need to be places on the pier for large equipment to go, such as cranes, and this can be incorporated into the overall design.

i.Structures can be removable or be resilient to all conditions including storms.

e. Destination Kona Coast and Business Improvement District offered funding and support, Ironman was also noted to be interested in donating.

i. Councilmember Villegas is working on this bid, and said it would be a perfect alignment.

5. Lockers & Theft Prevention & Benches **(Mike Atwood)**
6. Docks & Edge Structures **(Teri Leicher)**
7. Friends of the Pier Hui **(ALL)**
8. Support for houseless outreach **(Jun Yang; Mahina reaching out to Revell Newton, Puamaile Kimitete, Jerome Kanuha to support GIA requests)**

a. Identify organizations for partnership to begin ideating budget and walk around to legislators or find a champion on the State side. GIA process for State is later in legislative process.

9. Cultural & Educational Signage: **(Teri Leicher, Jerome Kanuha, Reggie Lee, Michael Bell; Meghan and staff to deal with regulatory signs)**

a. Conversations to be had with Aquatic Resources regarding marine life signs. Their partnerships with certain groups may help with signage at the pier

b. ALL working group members to assist with cultural and educational activation, such as community work days.

c. Mokuaikaua Church and Daughters of Hawai‘i at Hulihe‘e Palace identified as potential collaborators for cultural and historical connections to Ahu‘ena.

6. Identification of next meeting topics

Meghan noted that future meetings should include deeper discussions about:

- Signage
- Health of the bay (Teri Leicher emphasized this point)

Additional areas include:

- Addressing homelessness
- Ongoing safety and sanitation
- Address cruiseships, tourism
- Establish additional activities/ strategies to meet and address local community presence and relationship with the bay
- (Councilmember Villegas) Inclusion of lifeguards in conversations from constituency standpoint (re: water safety, lifeguards have reached out) (Brock Stratton emphasized this point)

Councilmember Villegas discussed the importance of incorporating and deciding on timeframes for sharing Working Group‘s plans with constituents and community (succinct and detailed list of concerns and opportunities at the pier, how they are being worked on). Teri noted that Destination Kona Coast and Kona Aquatics have expressed interest in being able to provide input on plan (such as formal comment period). Mahina suggested holding a **community open house** to address this.

Randall Winston Albright, DLNR DOBOR Security Officer, shared that Captain Alvarez (captain of west side ocean rescue lifeguards) are interested in deploying a third ski team in Kailua Kona this year and looking at the pier as a possible base.

- He and Captain Alvares note that there are no rescue rings or floats found on other county beaches and throughout the rest of the Bay (possibly put up by a nonprofit).

Because there are no lifeguards at the "safety swim area" and life saving buoys would be critical there.

7. Community Announcements

Kendrick Leong (HTA) 2/24/2026:

- Followed up with Stewardship colleagues to confirm that they **expect the Community Funding Application period for Destination Stewardship programs administered by Kilohana to open in April.** This funding would support cultural and community programs that align with the Kailua Bay Working Group's "more than signage" strategy to orient visitors to place.
- Matt Sueda may also be able to join in on the signage breakout group to discuss how to align interpretive signage for visitors and residents. There **may be opportunities with DMAP funding in the next fiscal year** to support visitor education signage at Kailua Bay.

8. Closing and Adjournment

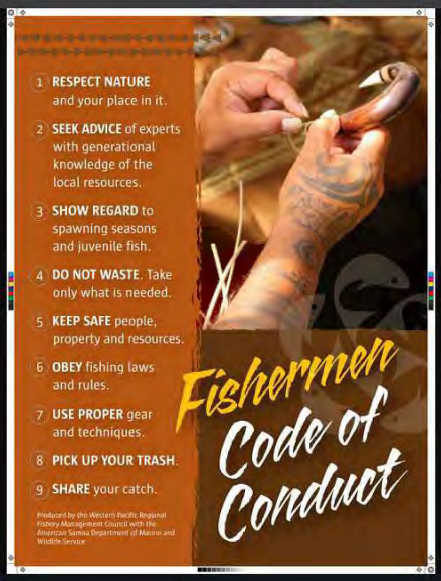
- **Next meeting - Tuesday, March 24, 2026 10:00-12:00p - In Person (TBD)**

Next Steps Include:

- Mahina Consulting to finalize Meeting Notes #3 and #4
- DLNR DOBOR Contract & CIP – DOBOR: will develop a bundled services contract (restrooms, black-water/sewer, showers/drainage, lighting) using Boating Special Funds and has submitted CIP requests for dock and fender replacements; they'll return to the group (Apr/May) for input before finalizing the contract scope.
- Working Subgroups Activated: Small volunteer groups will work between meetings on:
  - restrooms/sewer,
  - showers/drainage,
  - lighting & cameras,
  - shade structures,
  - lockers/benches,
  - docks/edge structures,
  - cultural/educational signage, and;
  - Friends of Kailua Bay hui
  - Mahina Consulting to generate a table of activities and research areas under each focus group to serve as a springboard
- Funding & Partnerships: Members will pursue support from HTA (Destination Management funds), state GIA and outreach partners (with Jun Yang's guidance), county contingency funds (Councilmember Villegas), and local partners (Kailua Village BID, Destination Kona Coast, Ironman, etc.).
- Friends of Kailua Pier / Bay & Broader Engagement: The whole group will help form a "Friends of Kailua Pier / Kailua Bay" hui and plan for wider community and safety partner engagement (including lifeguards, water safety equipment, and future community events

APPENDIX: (Additional signage examples provided by Meghan Statts)

Talking: DLNR DOBOR



Talking: DLNR DOBOR

