

County of Kaua`i General Plan Update 2000 Required Implementing Actions, by County Departments

INTRODUCTION

The *Kaua`i General Plan 2000* sets forth “policies to govern the future physical development of the county. ...The general plan shall serve as a guide to all future council action regarding land use and development regulations, urban renewal programs and expenditures for capital improvements.” (*Kaua`i General Plan 2000, p.1-2 and 1-3, quoting from the County Charter*)

“The General Plan states the County’s 20-year vision for Kauai and sets policies for achieving that vision. The General Plan is a direction-setting, **policy** document. It is not intended to be regulatory in the sense of a zoning code or other land use regulation.” (*Kaua`i General Plan, p. 1-3*)

“The policies are intended to guide County decision-making by mapping the direction of future development; by describing what kind of future development is desirable; and by setting priorities for public improvements.” (*Kaua`i General Plan, p. 1-3*)

The following summary of required implementing actions was excerpted from the Kaua`i General Plan 2000 by Kaua`i Planning & Action Alliance.

REQUIRED IMPLEMENTING ACTIONS

Department(s)	Topic	Required Actions
County/General	Archaeological Resources	- Develop procedures to screen capital improvement projects and repairs for potential archaeological resources and take appropriate action to survey the site prior to construction and/or to monitor excavation. [3.3.4.2 (b)]
	Coastal Lands	- Working with community organizations, the County shall develop a long-term program for acquisition of shoreline lands and access-ways to shoreline areas for public use. The County shall seek funding from the Federal and State governments and private sources. [3.5.3 (a)]
	Energy	- Participate in preparing the long-range Integrated Resource Plan with the franchised electric power public utility company; advocate in favor of transition to technologies, facilities, and practices that use renewable fuels, conserve nonrenewable resources, and reduce payments for and reliance on imported fuels. [7.7.4 (a)] - Maintain an energy advocacy/coordination function in County government. [7.7.4 (b)]

Department(s)	Topic	Required Actions
County/General (cont'd)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advocate on behalf of Kauai residents and businesses before the State Public Utilities Commission with regard to the regulation of utility companies and the setting of electrical rates. Attend especially to the needs of lower-income residents and small businesses. [7.7.4 (c)] - Review and revise the Building Code to mandate energy efficiency in buildings. [7.7.4 (d)] - Invest capital funds to make County facilities energy-efficient and to reduce operating costs. [7.7.4 (e)] - Work with the electric power public utility company(nies) to: (a) Site and design power generation plants and transmission facilities to blend with the natural landscape and to avoid impacts to important historic sites and viewplanes, (b) Develop a proactive process for siting and designing power generation plants and transmission lines. [7.7.4]
County Service Agencies	Planning System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare public facility plans to guide Capital Improvement Programs and the appropriation of funds. [1.4.3 (d)]
Planning	Planning System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare amendments to the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance and the zoning maps [1.4.3 (a)] - Prepare an ordinance transferring to Chapter 8, the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance, those provisions of Chapter 10, the Special Development Plans that modify or affect the CZO [1.4.3 (b)] - Collaborate with community organizations in developing indicators and benchmarks to measure progress [1.4.3 (c)]
	Scenic Views	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare amendments to the CZO, Special Management Area Rules, and the Subdivision Ordinance to provide specific criteria and guidelines for evaluating and protecting scenic views in the siting of new development. [3.2.3]
	Scenic Roadway Corridors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare a study assessing visual quality along various segments of the Scenic Roadway Corridors. The study should describe the existing visual character and prominent features within the limits of the motorist's general visual perception. Based on the study, the Department shall develop a management plan and shall propose programs and/or land use regulations. [5.5.3.(c)]
	Historic Properties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare and submit an amendment to the CZO to broaden the type of uses that may be allowed under a use permit in an historic structure. [3.3.4.1(a)] - Study (with OED) the market, costs, sources of funding, and operational feasibility of developing an islandwide low-cost rehabilitation loan program for historic structures. [3.3.4.1(d)]

Department(s)	Topic	Required Actions
Planning (cont'd)	Watersheds, Streams & Water Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revise the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance and the Subdivision Ordinance as needed to implement the policy and shall utilize the policy to guide the granting of land use permits. In particular, the Department shall review and revise the Drainageway Constraint District to provide overlay regulation protecting stream and wetland riparian areas and floodplains. [3.4.3 (a)]
	Coastal Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review the Shore Districts article of the CZO in relation to the Special Management Area regulations and shall prepare amendments as necessary to implement the policies of the General Plan. [3.5.3 (b)]
	Parks & Natural Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare an amendment to the CZO setting standards for outdoor recreation uses in the Agricultural and Open zones and streamlining permit requirements. Standards should include the following: a large acreage (e.g., minimum of 100 acres) located away from residences; vehicular access from a highway, arterial or collector road, not from a neighborhood road; and limited improvements. [4.2.9.1 (b)]
	Alternative Visitor Accommodations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare amendments to the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance setting development standards and permit processes for regulating alternative visitor accommodation structures and operations in Residential, Agriculture, Open, and Resort districts. [4.2.9.2 (a)] - Prepare CZO amendments to facilitate the permitting of existing, nonconforming alternative visitor accommodations. [4.2.9.2 (b)] - Consult with the Kauai B&B and vacation rental trade organizations, community associations, and the Finance Department. [4.2.9.2 (c)] - Consult with the State Office of Planning to interpret existing State statutes with regard to permitting alternative visitor accommodations within the State Agricultural District under a Special Use Permit. If necessary, the County shall propose an amendment to HRS Ch. 205. [4.2.9.2 (d)] - These Implementing Actions relating to Alternative Visitor Accommodations shall be a top priority and shall be initiated forthwith [4.2.9.2 (e)]
	Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare and submit to the Planning Commission an amendment to the CZO that would eliminate the requirement to subdivide in order to grant a long-term lease for agricultural use only (no dwelling use). [4.3.8 (b)] - Prepare and submit to the Planning Commission an amendment to the Subdivision Ordinance that would require preservation of viable irrigation systems. [4.3.8 (g)]
	Agricultural Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare amendments to the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance (CZO) to implement the policies for Agriculture Lands. The amendments shall include site planning standards and criteria for approving an Agricultural Community. [5.2.3 (a)] - Take measures to assure long-term effective administration of the limitations on

Department(s)	Topic	Required Actions
Planning (cont'd)	Open Lands	<p>resubdivision of Agriculture-zoned land. [5.2.3 (b)]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare amendments to the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance (CZO) to eliminate the use of Open lands to increase residential density in the development of subdivisions. [5.3.3 (a)] - Conduct a general review of the zoning maps and the CZO provisions relating to the Open District and the Constraint Districts. The Planning Department shall prepare amendments to the CZO and the zoning maps as deemed necessary to implement General Plan policies, clarify the intent of each district, eliminate unnecessary regulations, and ensure consistent administration. [5.3.3 (b)]
	Commercial & Industrial Land Uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Place high priority on deterring strip development and urban sprawl when making strategic decisions on new commercial zoning or recommendations to the State Highways Division on highway development. [4.6.4 (c)]
	Urban Land Uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Apply to amend the State Land Use District boundaries to remove Wailua Golf Course and Kukuilono Park from the Conservation District and place them in either the Urban or the Agriculture District. [5.4.6.3]
	Supporting Business & Jobs for Kauai Residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In granting zoning and permits for new resorts and other businesses, the County shall seek commitments that businesses will actively recruit and train Kauai residents to fill new jobs. [4.5.2 (c)]
	Enhancing Towns & Commercial Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare amendments to the CZO providing design standards for commercial development in existing towns and new commercial projects, based on General Plan policy. The design standards shall be general in nature and shall address the size, scale and character of buildings. They shall take into account the operational needs of businesses, while giving precedence to regional character over chain branding. [6.6.3 (a)] - Review zone change applications involving the development of a major store or a shopping center for consistency with adopted General Plan, development plan, and CZO policies concerning commercial development. [6.6.3 (c)]
	Drainage & Flood Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review and revise the Subdivision Ordinance and the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance, including the regulations for the Open District and the Constraint Districts, in order to: (1) assure effective regulation of steeply-sloped lands and drainageways; and (2) eliminate ineffective regulations and reduce unnecessary application requirements. [7.6.3 (a)]
	Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support the State DOE's requests for fair share contributions from developers to ensure that adequate school facilities are in place. [8.3.2 (a)]

Department(s)	Topic	Required Actions
Public Works	Historic Properties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare and submit an amendment to the Building Code to provide relief from code compliance in the renovation of historic structures, as recommended in the <i>County of Kauai Historic Resources Inventory and Management Plan</i>. [3.3.4.1(b)]
	Watersheds, Streams & Water Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implement the policy in revising the County's Drainage Standards and preparing a Drainage Ordinance. [3.4.3 (b)] - Review and revise the Grading, Grubbing and Stockpiling Ordinance as needed to implement the policy; and utilize the policy to guide the granting of site development and construction permits. [3.4.3 (b)] - Maintain effective coordination with the Soil and Water Conservation Districts, in order to ensure enforcement of the Grading Ordinance. [3.4.3 (c)]
	Parks & Natural Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a comprehensive park permit system for regulating organized group activities in County parks [4.2.9.1 (c)]
	Enhancing Towns & Commercial Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revitalize and improve central Lihu'e and Kaua'i's small town commercial areas by upgrading sewer and water facilities, increasing the amount of public parking, and improving streets and sidewalks. [4.6.4 (a)] - Design highway and road improvements in a manner that supports commercial activity in Kaua'i's business areas. [4.6.4 (b)]
	Scenic Roadway Corridors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adopt flexible standards for design of County road improvements with the objective of preserving historic features and enhancing scenic values. [5.5.3 (b)]
	Wastewater Treatment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare a long-range wastewater policy plan, to be adopted by the County Council and to be updated every five years. [7.5.5 (a)] - Prepare and update facility master plans as needed. [7.5.5 (b)] - Work with the State Department of Health to develop new methods for reusing wastewater, such as a graywater program. [7.5.5 (c)]
	Drainage & Flood Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify critical urban watersheds and develop strategic Flood Prevention and Drainage Plans to guide future County actions. [7.6.3 (b)] - Review and revise the Grading Ordinance and the Drainage Standards to incorporate the policies above and other management measures for reducing nonpoint pollution. [7.6.3 (c)] - Submit a bill for a Drainage Ordinance to the County Council. [7.6.3 (c)(1)]
	Solid Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare a long-range Solid Waste Integrated Management Plan. [7.8.5 (a)] - Implement the County Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan. [7.8.5 (b)] - Increase the effectiveness of the County's solid waste system by maximizing the convenience of reuse and recycling centers for users. [7.8.5 (c)] - Establish a set of measurable goals to evaluate County efforts to divert solid waste from the island's landfill. [7.8.5 (d)]

Department(s)	Topic	Required Actions
		- Develop a proactive process for siting and designing sanitary landfills and other facilities. [7.8.5 (e)]
Planning and Public Works	Archaeological Resources	- Once "Archaeological Resource Potential Maps" become available, the Planning Department or the Department of Public Works shall screen land use, grading, and building permit applications for potential resources; notify applicants when there is potential for discovering resources; and provide relevant instructions for assessment, construction monitoring and resource discovery. [3.3.4.2 (c)]
	Commercial Harbors	- Coordinate closely with the State Harbors Division in planning for Nawiliwili Harbor, particularly with regard to ground transportation for cruise ship passengers and vehicular and pedestrian circulation. [4.8.4]
Planning, Public Works and Water	Commercial & Industrial Land Uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revitalize and improve central Lihue and Kauai's small town commercial areas by upgrading sewer and water facilities, increasing the amount of public parking, and improving streets and sidewalks. [4.6.4 (a)] - Develop a collaborative planning partnership among County agencies, community and business organizations, private entities, the State Highways Division to design highway and road improvements in a manner that supports commercial activity in Kauai's business areas. [4.6.4 (b)] - Place high priority on deterring strip development and urban sprawl when making strategic decisions on new commercial zoning or recommendations to the State Highways Division on highway development. [4.6.4 (c)]
Finance	Historic Properties	- Prepare and submit an amendment to the real property tax ordinance that provides a tax exemption for commercial historic properties. [3.3.4.1(c)]
	Agriculture	- Examine the feasibility of revising the agricultural property tax to increase incentives to lease land to small farmers and shall prepare an ordinance or rule amendments, as appropriate. [4.3.8 (a)]
Office of Economic Development	Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Operate an agriculture development and support program. [4.3.8 (c)] - Support the Sunshine Markets and other means of marketing Kauai agricultural and food products to Kauai residents, businesses and visitors. [4.3.8 (d)] - Pursue opportunities to link visitor industry marketing with marketing of Kauai agricultural products. [4.3.8 (e)]

Department(s)	Topic	Required Actions
Office of Economic Development	Supporting Businesses & Jobs for Kauai Residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fund and operate an economic development program, which shall work collaboratively with other organizations. [4.5.2 (a)] - Develop public-private partnerships to provide business and technical assistance programs. [4.5.2 (b)]
Water	Water Supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop and update a long-range water systems plan to guide decisions on the Capital Improvement Program, improvement financing, and water rates. [7.4.5 (a)] - Establish water service area boundaries and criteria to limit expansion of service outside of areas zoned for urban use or agricultural community use. [7.4.5 (b)] - Establish criteria for funding CIP projects that give priority to system expansion and improvement in areas designated as Urban Center, Residential Community and Resort, while also supporting development in already-established Agricultural Communities. [7.4.5 (c)]
Police, Fire and Water	Police & Fire Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare a long-range plan for fire protection, to include the following elements: (a) Evaluation of existing level of service and response time for all communities, work with the Water Department to determine fire flow levels. (b) Development of standards for urban and rural levels of service, including response time and fire flow requirements. (c) Development of a long-range, phased facilities plan to attain a level of service islandwide. [7.9.4 (a)]
Office of Community Assistance (now called the Housing Agency)	Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Build capacity to monitor real estate and socio-economic trends and to formulate responsive strategies. [8.1.11 (a)] - Adopt an Affordable Housing Program that provides standards and procedures for establishing and administering affordable housing requirements applied to private developments. [8.1.11 (b)] - Review and revise the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance as necessary to facilitate the development of assisted living units and continuing care communities serving the elderly. [8.1.11 (c)]
Parks and Recreation	County Park System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review, evaluate, and update, where needed, the <i>Kauai Parks & Recreation Master Plan</i> (April 1978). [8.2.4.1 (a)] - Identify and prioritize park acquisition needs. [8.2.4.1 (a)] - Manage County parks according to the following policies, in order of priority: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Conserve resources. (2) Provide for use by the general public – i.e., individuals, families, ohanas.

Department(s)	Topic	Required Actions
		<p>(3) Allow for group use (including commercial tours and equipment rentals) within conservation limits. [8.2.4.1 (b)]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review and, as needed, revise the park dedication regulations so that it is a more effective tool for developing needed parks. [8.2.4.1 (c)]
Parks and Recreation	Park Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop physical objectives and standards for maintenance for the various types of County parks. [8.2.4.2 (a)] - Commit the necessary staffing and funding for maintenance of existing facilities, capital improvements, expansion of recreational offerings, and enforcement. - Evaluate, on a regular and as-need basis, State and County park facilities and operations in order to streamline and achieve a better division of responsibility. [8.2.4.2 (b)] - Develop a comprehensive park permit system for regulating organized group activities in County parks. [8.2.4.2 (c)] - Permit commercial activities, such as windsurfing and kayaking at certain parks and under specified conditions. [8.2.4.2 (d)]
	New Sites & Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop new sites, facilities, and recreational opportunities in areas that are deficient in outdoor recreational opportunities or overburdened by the number of park users. [8.2.4.3 (a)] - Utilize land area in existing County parks that has not been fully developed for recreation uses. [8.2.4.3 (b)] - Construct park facilities in a manner which avoids adverse impacts on natural resources or processes in the coastal zone or any other environmentally sensitive area. [8.2.4.3 (c)] - Incorporate natural features of the site and use landscape materials that are indigenous to the area where feasible in order to retain a sense of place. [8.2.4.3 (d)] - Link recreational attractions that may be designed to have distinct identities and entries, with surrounding areas through the use of connecting roadways, bikeways, walkways, landscape features and/or architectural design. (Emphasize developing large regional recreation parks rather than many small parks. [8.2.4.3 (e)] - Supplement recreational and ecotourism activities in State and County parks with bikeways, particularly along scenic coastlines, as planned for in the State's master plan, <i>Bike Plan Hawaii</i> (1994). This includes a bikeway along the windward coast from Ninini to Anahola. [8.2.4.3 (f)] - The State and County shall explore lease agreements to open up the old cane haul road to the approximately six beaches that extend beyond Donkey Beach to Anahola. [8.2.4.3 (g)]

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Parks and Recreation	Active Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carefully site active playfields and supporting facilities intended for intensive use, and use generous landscape screening. [8.2.4.4 (a)] - Develop criteria for park land donations to ensure that parcels received are usable for active recreational purposes. [8.2.4.4 (b)] - Review and evaluate the utilization of fields and scheduled sporting events at County parks that offer such activities. [8.2.4.4 (c)]

Disclaimer: While this document attempts to summarize all implementing actions stated in the *Kaua`i General Plan 2000*, it may not have captured all items. This document is intended to assist County departments in setting priorities and determining their progress toward implementation of the General Plan and as guide for the community as to the implementing actions contained in the plan.