



**Questions & Answers
Community Meeting – October 21, 2020
Kaua'i – South and West
(*Questions are written exactly as submitted)**

Q: I just found out where I'm suppose to chat...get it! Please ask John if his delivery to the Native Hawaiian Convention a week or so ago was recorded somewhere. I would LOVE to revisit it. It was chicken skin. I grew up in Waikiki too and he GETS IT. Laola Lake Aea- I think he went to my high school too? (Laola Aea)

A: Here's the link to John De Fries' speech: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=011NDIowIck>

Q: Why can't we "reimagine" education and give our Keiki a job that doesn't rely on tourism and hospitality? Teleworking in computer apps, programming, cybersecurity, clean energy research, etc. Sustainable skills. (Anonymous Attendee)

A: The Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism is actively working to create jobs in different sectors. However, many of these jobs can be tied into the hospitality industry, working hand in hand and integrated as we work towards self-sustainability here in the islands.

Q: My question is based on the amount of tourists who relocate here... It is not intended to offend anyone! How do/ would you educate tourists that our aina and residents would not benefit from their relocation or increase in population? How do/could you express our high population considering we are a small island? (Tina Taniguchi)

A: It's understandable why many people would love to move to Kauai. Here in the United States, we have anti-discrimination laws such as the Fair Housing Act. Keep in mind that most of the people who currently live on Kauai either moved to Kauai or have ancestors who moved to Kauai, such as during the plantation days.

Q: Thank you, John, for your beautiful and visionary presentation. It seems that in starting the journey, we should at least reopen safely—if we want to malama our people and their health—both physical and economic—which are not in opposition to each other. How can we do that? Do we just resign ourselves to more sickness and deaths? Is there no other way to stay safe while we receive visitors? (JoAnn Yukimura)

A: Keep in mind that in addition to visitors, Kauai residents are also now able to travel more freely too with the new pre-travel testing program. Health and safety of the residents is the top priority. Everyone must do their part to wear a mask, keep at least six feet apart, and wash their hands frequently. No doubt traveling – by both residents and visitors – is what's bringing COVID to our state, but most of the transmission thus far has been community spread by residents, and especially during large gatherings. So, everyone must do their part and take personal responsibility.

Q: As you focus on recovery... How are you to address our beach parks where the mayor has declared safe zones for the homeless? any plan on where they'd relocate? have you visited these sites? I am afraid to visit lydgate, can't imagine tourists wanting to go beach parks.. That moves more tourists into other areas.. (Anonymous Attendee)

A: That is a legitimate concern. Parks are not directly involved with relocation efforts for the houseless community, but we know that the Housing Agency is working toward alternative housing options. One such option is the Pua Loke Ohana Zone project where we understand about 16 of our 200 beach park houseless folks will be accommodated. There is obviously more to do. There are some scattered lots that are being pursued for houseless as well as partnering with Mahelona Hospital on potential sites.

Q: To Sue and Nalani, For the long term, can we develop sustainable tourism without recognizing a carrying capacity or should the County just continue to permit more hotels and vacation rentals? (JoAnn Yukimura)

A: There has been a continued increase in vacation rentals each year, some of which are not following the same rules and regulations of TVR's, causing challenges for the Kauai community.

Q: We definitely need to have residents only spaces. The public spaces need to accommodate traffic and be organized for access and signage etc. Like world heritage sites. (Chris Faye)

A: We have to check with the Attorney General's office on the legality of making a public area off-limits to tourists. Frequently visited tourist areas do have a Hawaii Visitors and Convention Bureau sign noting that.

Q: How have you measured yourselves and the plan against the new revised shorter time frames for managing Climate change, higher temperatures, flooding, and seal level rise (Virginia Beck)

A: The plan has not been set yet. That is why we are asking for community input because we all need to work together.

Q: Is there an email we can send ideas? (Nohealani Frizzell)

A: You can provide feedback and input to the Kauai Destination Management Action Plan through the online input form: <https://bit.ly/KauaiDMAPInput> You can also send additional questions to: communityprograms@gohta.net

Q: Thank you for the presentation. How can we lengthen the stay of visitors and lower the number for our targeted number of visitor nights but with a lower (environmental) global and local impact? (Felicia Cowden)

A: We can continue to promote Hawaii as a place with many things to see and do including multi-island visitation, which will help to increase a visitor's length of stay. However, there are other factors involved, such as an individual's choice of how long he/she will want to stay to how much vacation time they have from work. Some hotels incentivize guests to stay for a longer period of time through special offers, but that's up to each hotel and their owners/management company.

Q: To Protect our Island, can we remove all Non-Reef Safe Products from being for sale on Kauai? (Tina Funk)

A: A new state law will go into effect at the beginning of 2021. Details: Beginning January 1, 2021, bans the sale, offer of sale, or distribution in the State of any sunscreen that contains oxybenzone or octinoxate, or both, without a prescription issued by a licensed healthcare provider to preserve marine ecosystems. Here's the link to the bill that was signed into law: https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/Archives/measure_indiv_Archives.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2571&year=2018

Q: Will the recording of this meeting be available for us to share with friends, social media etc. Personal and profession Zoom rooms (Virginia Beck)

A: A recording of the community meeting will not be posted online. The powerpoint presentation and materials are posted on the HTA's website: <https://hawaiiourismauthority.org/what-we-do/hta-programs/community-based-tourism/kauai/planning-process/>

Q: How do we educate the tourist on our cultural values and respecting our residential areas where there is a waterfall site or for example a place where is sacred? The honu in Poipu need to rest, but it draws in a crowd. Shouldn't we educate our tourist with some kind of booklet of where to visit? Or campaign for a tour in certain areas so we can control their visits? (Anonymous Attendee)

A: HTA and Hawaii Visitors & Convention Bureau (HVCB) launched a campaign last year to educate visitors about things like that: https://www.hawaiiourismauthority.org/media/3623/19-20-hta_hvcb-kuleana-campaign.pdf

Education is one component, but enforcement is the other key component. To report sea turtle disturbance or legal violation, please call the NOAA Office of Law Enforcement Hotline: 1-800-853-1964 and then call DLNR, Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) statewide hotline: 643-DLNR (3567).

In addition, it takes ALL of us (properties, activities, etc.) reinforcing the same message. If Kauai Visitors Bureau (KVB) says "Don't go to Queen's Bath," and 5 tour guides, waiters, concierge, etc. tell them to go to Queen's Bath – that is does not help the situation.

Q: Aloha. I'm grateful to the transition towards an authentic and sustainable experience for visitors. Have you reached out to the organizations that have sustained the culture on the island? Prince Kuhio park is an excellent example of this practice and should be an option to visitors. (Ana Mo Des)

A: Yes, perpetuating the Hawaiian culture is one of the pillars of HTA's Strategic Plan 2020-2025: <https://www.hawaiiourismauthority.org/media/4286/hta-strategic-plan-2020-2025.pdf>

Q: Since we can't limit the number of flights that come into Kauai how do we manage visitor numbers so that we can have a sustainable future. (Chipper Wichman)

A: Cracking down on illegal vacation rentals is key to managing visitor numbers. There hasn't been a significant number of hotel rooms or legal vacation rentals added in the past few years,

so the spike in visitor numbers was in large part due to the rise in illegal short-term rentals. The state and county could also look into limiting the number of camping permits for visitors as well.

Q: If you ENTIRE game plan, isn't focused purely on "LEVELING THE PLAYING FIELD", though "shared economy" options...Options which give local citizens DIRECT access to the lions share of "tourism revenue" (being that of "overnight lodging" revenue); ...Then how do you EVER expect our local (owner-occupied homesteads and farms) to overcome the pillaging of our island, primary (economic) renewable resource by large off-island international hotels?!? The outlying island choices are obviously FAR MORE LIMITED than Oahu! If we can get DIRECT entrepreneurial access to overnight lodging revenue; then our citizens will NEVER have the resources, to create new, diversified job bases, work forces and industry. Much less afford to send out children to college! (Michael Hulme)

A: According to Kauai's Tourism Strategic Plan, tourism supports 1/3 of Kauai's economy and supports 38% of jobs on Kauai. In a 2017 survey of Kauai tourism businesses, with not all participating, it was reported that these businesses donated over \$1 million in services, room nights, items and sponsorships to nonprofits and groups to support their activities and 3,000 hours to community projects. Many of the large hotels are owned by mainland or international owners, however, each employs hundreds of residents and much of the profit is reinvested back into the property and employees. In 2019, Kauai's annual Visitor Industry Charity Walk raised \$451,050 for local nonprofits.

Q: in matters of transparency,, where can we view notes of all meetings (held prior and future)? also, results of surveys? (Aisley-Marie Sakamoto)

A: The powerpoint presentation and materials from the Kauai community meetings are posted on the HTA's website: <https://hawaii-tourism-authority.org/what-we-do/hta-programs/community-based-tourism/kauai/planning-process/>. The results of the online input form will also be posted on this webpage as well.

Q: How can the public support HTA in addressing our carrying capacity to the planning department? can we support you, support us? (Tina Taniguchi)

A: Kauai County is a role model by reaching agreements over the summer with Airbnb and Vrbo that only legal vacation rentals will get listed on their platforms. That is the start of the solution. There also needs to be consistent, strict enforcement against those who still rent out illegal vacation rentals, and the community can help by voicing their concerns about this.

Q: What's good for us is good for tourism is good guide. Malama our land, water, people, local business, small agriculture, local expressive culture, truly affordable housing, and opportunities for youth to stay and contribute (or come back after going away for education) — this is good for Kaua'i and we want conscious visitors who want to come to experience us (and then go home and malama where they come from using what they learn from us). (Anonymous Attendee)

A: Yes, for sure – that's the goal.

Q: how can we assure your change of perspective from " better management of areas" vs better management of visitors? we need a cap! (Aisley-Marie Sakamoto)

A: Here in the United States, we cannot legally put a cap on the number of people who enter a state. We can limit it through lodging supply. We can also work on managing specific site areas with other public and private sector agencies and organizations that are identified to become overcrowded or overused.

Q: Why not cap the amount of visitors that's allowed to our aina to protect our local communities. A lot of our locals have been enjoying our island more now than the past 10 years because of lack of tourist crowding our roads and our beaches. If there's a waiting list for people that's planning on coming here there can be a stable way to make sure we have a balance of visitors and also our local community can feel like our home isn't over crowded. (Lucky Kanahele)

A: Refer to the previous answer.

Q: What about educating people on every flight flying over here? Making it mandatory with a questionnaire. (Tiani Kajiwara)

A: Travelers are being educated through a video that HTA and HVCB created and distributed to the airlines: <https://www.hawaiitourismauthority.org/media/5484/campaign-to-educate-visitors.pdf> Education is one part, but enforcement is crucial as well when someone breaks the law, order or mandate.

Q: And County fails to enrich other communities with things like sewer lines, instead imposing high cost septic systems for locals. We could all benefit from sewer systems and would gladly pay fees to support bonds for that, rather than go bankrupt trying to plan our kids future (Virginia Beck)

A: Due to recent legislation, cesspools need to be abandoned by 2050 and cesspool owners need to transition to other types of systems. The concern from a lot of residents is that the cost to convert a cesspool to a septic system costs approximately \$15-25k. That is a very expensive bill for a homeowner. County does not oversee individual wastewater systems (IWSs). These are permitted and regulated by the State of Hawaii, Department of Health. County currently services approximately 30% of the island with sewer. There are other private treatment plants and combined approximately half of the island is covered. County's current goal is to spend the next several years addressing deferred maintenance with the existing system before looking to expand the service area. County will continue to look for support mechanisms to help homeowners convert by 2050.

Q: "Simple" means, you have to make your investment in that of the full-time residents, & subsequent (diversified) investments into the local economy; versus that of the off-island shareholder of large international hotel & time share conglomerates! (Anonymous Attendee)

A: Many of the large hotels are owned by mainland or international owners, however, each employs hundreds of residents and much of the profit is reinvested back into the property and employees. According to the Kauai Tourism Strategic Plan, Kauai's visitor industry supports one-third of the island's economy and 38% of jobs.

Q: There is zoning for 3000 more resort units that are not yet built on Kaua'i. And the Planning Department is recommending more resort development on the Westside which will increase hotel rooms potential on westside by 800%. How does that create sustainable tourism? (Anonymous Attendee)

A: According to the General Plan (2018), Kauai's visitor inventory could expand by up to 3,000 units considering the amount of "pipeline" projects that have received their final discretionary permit. This figure is comprised of projects that received their last discretionary permit over the past 40 years and includes several long dormant projects such as Coco Palms and the former "Club Med" property in Hanalei. There are currently no vacant resort properties that are not currently entitled.

The current draft of the West Kauai Community Plan recommends allowing the Waimea Plantation Cottages to expand into the parcel located west of the existing resort. The recommendation includes a provision that any new development would match the scale and size of the existing resort. If the recommendation remains in the West Kauai Community Plan, the landowner would still need to obtain a boundary amendment from the State Land Use Commission and a zoning amendment from the County Planning Commission in order to develop their property. Additionally, the proposal would not allow an increase in hotel room on the West Side by 800 %. The current proposal is to expand at a density of Resort RR-1, which would allow up to 60 more Waimea Plantation Cottage style units.

Q: Kaua'i is different from Oahu, is there a custom made plan for our aina? (Anonymous Attendee)

A: This is what HTA is currently working on with the County, Kauai Visitors Bureau, the steering committees made up of residents, and the public at large. There will be a plan specifically created for Kauai only.

Q: Would it be an option to have a fun educational welcome video on the airlines? speaking about culture, reef safety, etc. (Anonymous Attendee)

A: HTA and HVCB created and distributed videos to the airlines, but it's up to each company to decide on whether to play them: <https://www.hawaii tourism authority.org/media/5484/campaign-to-educate-visitors.pdf>

Q: ...More large resort rooms, sure doesn't create a "sustainable economy"! Much less one capable of diversifying through locally interested investments by local people with left over savings and monies! ...It only serves to give the Marriotts, Hyattes, Sharetons, Wyndoms, St Regis/Princeville hotels, and countless others more profits; while making the locals squander for low wage work; and multi shifts via multiple employers, in order to survive! (Anonymous Attendee)

A: Many of the jobs in the visitor industry are well-paying, especially the management jobs and those that depend on tip. In many of the hotels there are countless opportunities to move up and advance your career.

Q: This is a great presentation, but needs to be fully available on You tube. etc... Will we get recording? I do not have enough time budgeted for this. (Virignia Beck)

A: A recording of the community meeting will not be posted online. The powerpoint presentation and materials from the Kauai community meetings are posted on the HTA's website:

<https://hawaii tourism authority.org/what-we-do/hta-programs/community-based-tourism/kauai/planning-process/>.

Q: Can I get some information about justice of our pass injustice industry? (Alberto Genova)

A: Sorry, we don't understand the question.

Q: The slides are at times too small to read - are they available for us to see in more detail? (Vicki Sterne)

A: The powerpoint presentation and materials from the Kauai community meetings are posted on the HTA's website: <https://hawaii tourism authority.org/what-we-do/hta-programs/community-based-tourism/kauai/planning-process/>.

Q: Aloha. I'm grateful for the transition towards an authentic and sustainable experience for visitors. Have you reached out to the organizations that have sustained the culture on the island? Prince Kuhio park is an excellent example of this practice and should be an option for visitors. -Ana Mo Des (Kalaheo/Koloa)

A: Yes, perpetuating the Hawaiian culture is one of the pillars of HTA's Strategic Plan 2020-2025: <https://www.hawaii tourism authority.org/media/4286/hta-strategic-plan-2020-2025.pdf>

Q: WE ARE DYING ON THE VINE, BECAUSE WE ARE ACTING OBLIVIOUS TO THE REAL PROBLEM! YOU CAN'T SERVE AS ANOTHER INDIA= BEING PILLAGED BY GREAT BRITAIN! WE PARTICIPATE (8 YEARS LATE) WITH THE WORLDS "SHARED ECONOMY" OR DIE...WE LEVEL THE PLAYING FIELD WITH THE LARGE RESORTS WHO ARE ABSCONDING WITH ALL MAJOR PROFITS, OR DIE! THE "INFORMATION AGE" HAS GIVEN OUTLYING ISLANDS THE CHANCE TO THRIVE. ...OUR IGNORANT PANELS, BOARDS, BURROUGHS AND COUNTY & STATE LEADERSHIP WILL BE THE DEATH OF US! (Anonymous Attendee)

A: Thank you for sharing your thoughts.

Q: ON the topic of "ag tours" or tourists visiting farms.. It should not be the farmers kuleana to stop their hana and educate tourists! nor is it ok for tour buses to come by and allow picture taking without asking those farming! ... my comments come from working in lo'i pa'akai and lo'i kalo.. tourists step into the lo'i kalo to take a photos, they reach their hands into the lo'i pa'akai and scoop it up for their photo, and of course photograph our ohana.. farmers should not be put in that situation. This should be included in your educating of tourists! (Anonymous Attendee)

A: The farmers would choose whether or not they wish to engage with the visitor industry. Some see value added sales and tours as a way to support their farming activity but it is not for everyone. We will continue to try to educate visitors on showing proper respect for all farmers.

Q: It is annoying to have anonymous comments. (Chris Faye)

A: For future meetings we will not allow anonymous comments.

Q: Hi level actions should include limiting visitor numbers—and the only way is to limit visitor accommodations. IF you don't address the elephant in the room, this will be an inauthentic process. (Anonymous Attendee)

A: We agree that is one way and a very important part of the management process.

Q: Yea - we need enforcement or no sense any rules. (Chris Faye)

A: You're spot on.

Q: "Come with respect. What if visitors don't know how to do this? Just telling them to do so is not going make it happen. How do you educate if they don't want to be educated or don't know that they don't know. (Anonymous Attendee)

A: HTA and HVCB launched a campaign last year to educate visitors about things like that: https://www.hawaiitourismauthority.org/media/3623/19-20-hta_hvcb-kuleana-campaign.pdf Education is one component, but enforcement is the other key component.

Q: AGREE with enforcement! maybe an HTA funded effort! (Tina Taniguchi)

A: Enforcement is a key component. However, HTA is not an enforcement agency. We can work with other agencies to encourage or help fund efforts for enforcement.

Q: How do you teach visitors to respect our driving conditions and not bring their freeway driving habits to Kauai? (Darlene Daida Martin)

A: Thank you for your suggestion about educating visitors on this subject. Enforcement will be key to this as well.

Q: When did we stop being Hawaiian? (Alberto Genovia)

A: Perpetuating the Hawaiian culture is one of the pillars of HTA's Strategic Plan 2020-2025: <https://www.hawaiitourismauthority.org/media/4286/hta-strategic-plan-2020-2025.pdf>

Q: community comanagment is a key to effective conservation. What policies can we implement that encourage State and County to engage with community to enter into comanagment relationships? (Chipper Wichman)

A: Collaboration with DLNR to develop and implement policies, as well as creating state/county partnerships with organizations to steward sites is a part of the draft actions in this plan.

Currently the County has several stewardship agreements at different wahi pana as does the DLNR. County hopes to continue these well into the future with some limited support funding as needed. We hope the State will do the same.

Q: Why must we depend on tourism heavily? (Anonymous Attendee)

A: According to the Kauai Tourism Strategic Plan, Kauai's visitor industry supports one-third of the island's economy and 38% of jobs. In 2019, 1.3 million visitors spent a total of \$1.9 billion on Kauai. However, with tourism currently at a halt, HTA believes now is the time to collaborate with Kauai's stakeholders to reset and rebuild tourism together. We also support economic diversification where we can.

Q: How can we use the DLNR budgets to better manage the Homeless at our County Parks. I believe that the houseless impact our parks more than the visitors (Tina Funk)

A: DLNR manages state parks, not county parks.

County Parks is not directly involved with relocation efforts for the houseless community but we know that the Housing Agency is working toward alternative housing options. One such option is the Pua Loke Ohana Zone project where we understand about 16 of our 200 beach park houseless folks will be accommodated. There is obviously more to do. There are some scattered lots that is being pursued for houseless as well as partnering with Mahelona Hospital on potential sites.

Q: can we offer more cultural experiences for visitors? (Anonymous Attendee)

A: Perpetuating the Hawaiian culture is one of the pillars of HTA's Strategic Plan 2020-2025. Through its Kukulu Ola program, HTA continues to support organizations, cultural practitioners, craftsmen, musicians, and other artists that enhance, strengthen and perpetuate the Hawaiian culture. [For a listing of projects funded in 2020 visit: HTA's Community Enrichment program also highlight's the state's multi-ethnic cultures as well:](#)

Q: Our main concentration on "the children"; needs to be that of finding a way for their families to afford paying their higher educations! Otherwise, all other bets are off!

A: Thank you for your feedback. One way we support local public high school students is through the Hooilina Scholarship, a partnership between HTA, the Hawaii Lodging & Tourism Association and the University of Hawaii at Manoa Shidler College of Business, School of Travel Industry Management.

Q: Hand out 40 claims of "valedictorian" to our Kapaa HS grads each year (versus one to the actual Valedictorian; is only teaching our students how to fraudulently make claims in order to get anywhere or succeed in this world. (Anonymous Attendee)

A: Thank you for your comment.

Q: Many homeless were once a tourist! How do we address that? (Anonymous Attendee)

A: There is no answer easy for this. The state and county are trying to address the homeless issue.

The Housing Agency is working toward alternative housing options. One such option is the Pua Loke Ohana Zone project where we understand about 16 of our 200 beach park houseless folks will be accommodated. There is obviously more to do. There are some scattered lots that is being pursued for houseless as well as partnering with Mahelona Hospital on potential sites.

Q: Brilliant Sabra - we want tourists who want to come to learn about culture — market that way. nMake Kaua’i unique destination. People who want to learn about farming, traditional land use, who will take shuttles and not rent cars. electric rental cars only? walking paths across major areas such as princeville to hanalei. And what about a shuttle to north and south shore vda. (Anonymous Attendee)

A: Thank you for your suggestions. Encouraging low impact “green rides,” petitioning rental car agencies to provide more electric vehicles and setting up a model shuttle system were some of the draft actions discussed.

Q: The impact of too many people on some trails which is terrible on unmaintained trails. There is camping where it isn’t allowed. (Chris Faye)

A: Proper management, education and enforcement are key components for these areas.

Q: Could we put a cap on the amount of rental cars on the island, just like you guys were discussing a cap on resorts on the island (Aaron Char)

A: We are unable to limit the number of rental cars on Kauai. However, there may be other ways to reduce the number of cars on the road, such as having a shuttle service, daily rental car system at resorts or encouraging alternative modes of transportation. Keep in mind that the rental car companies also employ local residents.

Q: Ben, regarding green rides, what about implementing e-trams going from Hyatt to Spouting Horn on the south shore? (Chipper Wichman)

A: Thank you for your feedback. This was tried twice and did not work long term.

Q: Is the county involved in any way in acquiring the old cane road and railways to create a bike path that goes island wide? (Anonymous Attendee)

A: Yes. The Kapaa-Kealia section was both an old cane road and railway. We are currently acquiring land from Ahukini Landing to Lydgate Park and this route also includes both old cane roads and railway.

Q: Can we propose a pledge similar to guam when tourist are on their way to kauai they need to respect our reef our ocean our culture our people our values. They need to be educated that this is our home & not their playground or vacation getaway. (Lucky Kanahele)

A: Kauai’s north shore community created The Aloha Pledge at <https://alohapledge.com/> and other companies have created similar pledges as well.

Q: how are we planning to get our locals educated and committed to being pono shen they are alone in the communities and so that when they are with/ around visitors to be a good influence and teacher? (Tom Laidlaw)

A: More than not, the residents are doing the right thing. We ask our industry partners to ensure that their employees are being mindful when speaking with guests about where they should go as well as the do’s and don’t’s when on Kauai.

Q: Japan does a good job on marketing pono behavior. (Chris Faye)

A: Thank you for your feedback.

Q: Visitors are like houseguests....one or two or even one family that comes to stay with you is okay...but once there are 2 or 3 families staying and then more.....your house gets crowded and you start getting very agitated. That is kind of what's happened here. We got a little too crowded with a few too many visitors that behaved badly. (Laola Aea)

A: Thank you for your feedback. With tourism currently at a halt, HTA believes now is the time to collaborate with Kauai's stakeholders to reset and rebuild tourism together.

Q: Like the way Zuni or Dene (Nvajo) educate visitors — market Kaua'i as an educational destination. (Anonymous Attendee)

A: Thank you for your recommendation.

Q: I absolutely believe that Property Managers have the responsibility to educate visitor on Respecting our Island and our residents. And the kindness and care of our island and our people (Tina Funk)

A: You're spot on.

Q: how can we implement fines for tour guides/companies that do not respect your plan and educate tourists or practice the respect themselves? (Tina Taniguchi)

A: We believe most companies will do the right thing. While HTA is not an enforcement agency, you can report non-compliance to the Better Business Bureau.

Q: This is very visitor biased. How about Kupuna beach access? Eco-cultural tourism should have been implemented decades ago. (Sabra Basler)

A: State and county beach parks allow all public access. Sustainable tourism and the perpetuation of Hawaiian culture continues to be main focuses for the visitor industry.

Q: What history teacher you grew up with? (Alberto Genovia)

A: N/A

Q: I've heard a lot about a budget that doesn't support these efforts. Would the county seriously consider a \$50 fee that every passenger pays when they step off the plane that WILL GO DIRECTLY TO these action items and NOT go to government agencies that seem to eat up all the money in administration? (Justine Bennett)

A: By law we are not allowed to charge people an "entrance" fee into our state. Freedom of movement within and between the U.S. states is constitutionally protected, so charging someone an entrance fee may prohibit him/her from entering if he/she cannot afford to pay the fee.

Q: I really like the idea of shuttles instead of rental cars. It really would control behavior regarding overcrowding spaces. (Chris Faye)

A: Thank you for your feedback.

Q: The transportation problem is easily solve by selling bonds to local / owner occupied (more than 6 months out of the year) resident, for fleets of self- driving Electric cars; which serve as a trackless, already built infrastructure system of mass (& clean) transit for our visitors and our local residents. Oahu (via Ige's signature) has already signed an agreement with Tesla to fully activate and test their completely autonomous system of driverless vehicles; so the most complicated aspect of this legislation has been SOLVED! Kaua'i already served as the large Tesla battery installation in the world, within our newest east side solar farm (until The continent of Australia recently beat us.)So we are not unfamiliar with record setting & innovative partnerships! And how about placing folks within a planning department who don't create mergers onto major roads with NO "ingress & egress" infrastructure, present at the point of merger!! (Anonymous Attendee)

A: Thank you for your feedback.

Q: Iv been with pila from 1986 asking questions about how this injustice industry took over? (Alberto Genovia)

A: Thank you for your comment.

Q: This regenerative tourism goal is the very best part of this Zoom tonight. Small efforts that will bring Huge island benefit (Tina Funk)

A: Mahalo for your feedback.

Q: YES...the visitor pays a few extra dollars for the special fund that Will mentioned.....like Jeff mentioned they do in Galapagos. (Laola Aea)

A: Ecuador has different rules from the U.S. By law we are not allowed to charge people an "entrance" fee into our state. Freedom of movement within and between the U.S. states is constitutionally protected, so charging someone an entrance fee may prohibit him/her from entering if he/she cannot afford to pay the fee.

Q: Why not charge visitor fee for use of state parks, beaches, etc. (Anonymous Attendee)

A: Visitors are being charged entrance fees at some locations, such as Haena State Park. And at Kokee State Park, non-Hawaii residents are charged \$10 per vehicle. Commercial vehicles are charged \$25-\$90 for parking depending on the number of passengers. The County of Kauai is also looking into charging fees to visitors for parking at county parks.

Q: Does HTA have any influence to promote Shop Local at spots like the new Spouting Horn souvenir shop? (Lee Gately)

A: We would encourage all of Kauai to support "Shop Local" initiatives.

Q: My sense is that one option to minimize the number of visitors is to levy a tax - Bhutan, for example, levies a daily fee for visitors. These financial resources can be redeployed to diversify the island economy. On another note, I was intrigued to observe the level of trash (previously attributed to visitors) thrown by the highway. In the absence of tourism in the past few months, but the continued prevalence of rubbish, my inference is that local residents are the source. (Anonymous Attendee)

A: Mahalo for your feedback.

Q: Thank you, all. Good work. I don't see actual actions to address many of the challenges that residents were worried about before Covid: out of control traffic, over development, loss of neighborhoods to vacation rentals, over populated hiking trails and beaches. I'd like to hear more about carrying capacity and sustainability. (Julie Hagensen)

A: All of these challenges were discussed at length among the Steering Committee meetings, and the draft actions seek to start to address these areas.

Q: Is there a map of official trails that visitors are allowed to use? Who designates these trails? Can we limit our trail use to further protect our aina? Also when designating a trail can the community be involve in this decision? (Tina Taniguchi)

A: DLNR has a map of Kauai trails here at <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/dsp/hiking/kauai/> and further collaboration with DLNR is a part of the proposed draft actions. **Also, when designating a trail can the community be involved in this decision? This would be a State Dept. of Land & Natural Resources (DLNR) effort – please reach out to them directly.**

Q: The traffic has neve been more dangerous and "MANIC" than since the tourist have left our island!! (Anonymous Attendee)

A: If you see dangerous drivers on the road, contact the police.

Q: I don't like the idea of controlling lodging. some locals have made a living on tourism and working in vdas. this would hurt them. (Anonymous Attendee)

A: Mahalo for your feedback. Visitor Destination Area's (VDA) operate very differently than the rest of the island. These are areas where TVRs are allowed versus a typical residential area.

Q: Koke'e fees are not enforced! tourists park all over and laugh at the fee! (Anonymous Attendee)

A: HTA is not an enforcement agency. To report violations to DLNR enforcement, contact 808-643-DLNR.

Q: perhaps charging littering fees instead of visitor fees. (Anonymous Attendee)

A: Mahalo for your feedback. Littering is against the law – not only for visitors but also residents. Enforcement is an important aspect.

Q: Have the committees evaluated the Galapagos. They have limited tourists, charge a fee and once they reach their limit(I believe 100,000) that is it. (Anonymous Attendee)

A: Ecuador has different rules from the U.S. By law we are not allowed to charge people an “entrance” fee into our state. Freedom of movement within and between the U.S. states is constitutionally protected, so charging someone an entrance fee may prohibit him/her from entering if he/she cannot afford to pay the fee.

Q: Can we enforce vehicles not being on the beaches? (Chris Faye)

A: To report violations to DLNR enforcement, contact 808-643-DLNR. Or to reach Kauai police call 911.

Q: This pledge is insufficient as it stands and should be signed on before stepping off the plane! (Justine Bennett)

A: A pledge is just that – a pledge, but if it isn’t a law or doesn’t have any penalties associated with violating the pledge, then there’s no way to enforce it.

Q: can we put the aloha pledge on a welcome video entering the island? (Anonymous Attendee)

A: Thank you for your suggestion.

Q: Charging sites are not adequate and placed in wrong positions. We need fee gates like before you enter kokee like volcano park and other state parks on the mainland. I’ve seen tourist walk right past fee booths up kokee or they park elsewhere along the road (Tara Pascua)

A: This suggestion was made previously by State Parks but at the time, it was not well received by residents. Perhaps now is the time residents may want to reconsider this suggestion. We will send your feedback to DLNR, which manages Kokee State Park.

Q: KCC has almost 30 acres of undeveloped Ag land. How about supporting an Ag educational “park” with lei gardens, traditional hale, native plants, and food forrests. With this economy KCC does not plan to do anything with the land (except for GoFarm!). Why doesn’t the County join with KCC to develop an oasis of Ag and plants, with walking paths, etc.? (Lyn McNutt)

A: Thank you for your ideas.

Q: Since this is a South and West meeting. Are there any ideas under consideration for Waimea Town and Hanapepe Town. Kalaheo Town and Koloa Town? vis-a-vis supporting appropriate redevelopment/restoration to accommodate appropriate visitor interactions? (Tobias Koehler)

A: Please submit further **specific** ideas: <https://www.hawaii tourism authority.org/what-we-do/hta-programs/community-based-tourism/kauai/community-input/>

Q: Enforcement is needed island wide! HTA should continue to seek enforcement from planning department, DLNR, county parks etc.. the enforcement will create better environment for tourists as well as residents! (Anonymous Attendee)

A: You are spot on!

Q: The Planning Department does not manage the number of visitors to the island. (Anonymous Attendee)

A: Correct. That is not the planning department's job.

Q: There should be a limit of amount of tourist camping permits up kokee and camping sites . Often times no available permits for locals (Tara Pascua)

A: We will send your feedback to DLNR, which manages Kokee State Park.

Q: No matter what education is in place if no enforcement people do as they please! (Anonymous Attendee)

A: You are spot on!

Q: 1) Does the money generated from State Parks remain on Kaua'i or go into the State's General Fund. 2) How can we apply pressure on the Legislature to give Kaua'i its fair share of the TAT that was meant to split between the four Counties and the State specifically for infrastructure improvement. 23 years ago when the TAT generated \$119 M and the five entities received \$23M each. last year the TAT generated \$600M and Kaua'i's share was \$14M. Our roads do need repair and we finally have reconstruction and resurfacing on Maluhia and Koloa Rds. This is tragic as we have to use our real property tax base to make bandaid repairs. (Ted Blake)

A: In regards to your first question, per DLNR, the money generated in all of the State Parks in the system is deposited into the State Park special fund to cover statewide operations. 20 percent is allocated to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs special trust fund as ceded land revenue. Regarding your second question, the way the Transient Accommodations Tax (TAT) is dispersed is written into the law. More than half of the TAT usually goes into the state's general fund to help pay for education, infrastructure, and the overall running of the state government. The pandemic and the Governor's Emergency Proclamation suspended HRS 237D-6.5, so currently the counties, HTA and others are no longer receiving that TAT funding. The TAT is the hotel room tax that people pay when they stay in legal accommodations across the state. If we went by number of population and rooms – we would get LESS TAT than we get now. Also, the State DLNR shares the wealth from places like Diamond Head, with Kauai. The GET Tax was targeted for road improvements for Kauai.

Q: Kokee & Waimea Canyon Park has a masterplan. It is already outdated regarding parking and traffic. Trails need to be maintained. They should be rethought out so they can be easily maintained. Alakai Swamp should not have the traffic it has. It is too fragile. (Chris Faye)

A: We will send your feedback to DLNR, which manages Kokee State Park.

Q: There are countries all over the world that implement such seasonal ocean and coast line restrictions for wildlife and reef replenishments. (Anonymous Attendee)

A: We will send your feedback to DLNR.

Q: Can we develop a plan by asking, per John's example, for every element in the action plan, is it sustainable? (JoAnn Yukimura)

A: That is the ultimate goal.

Q: To those who oppose tourism: your livelihood is probably not dependent on tourists. Good for you. Please enjoy your ivory towers, and let the rest of us make a decent living so we can pay our rent and give our children a chance at higher education. (Anonymous Attendee)

A: This comment reminds us all to be sensitive because many people and families are hurting financially. According to the Kauai Tourism Strategic Plan, Kauai's visitor industry supports one-third of the island's economy and 38% of jobs. That means about one out of three working people on Kauai have a job that's tied to the visitor industry, so chances are that you know someone who works in the visitor industry.

Q: There needs to be a limitation of amount of tourist entering our island. This pandemic was a perfect example of how our Aina healed itself with decrease in tourist. Our oceans and mountains showed healthy signs of regeneration with growth of limu and other natural resources. Our oceans have been clear with less pollution (Tara Pascua)

A: Freedom of movement within and between the U.S. states is constitutionally protected so we cannot put a cap on the number of tourists entering Kauai. Also, keep in mind that if you have family for friends who live on the mainland or elsewhere, they too are tourists when they come to visit you. However, John Defries did say that we can suggest for this plan checking the legality for a "Kapu" to give time for natural resources to rest. If you believe this to be important, please note this in the response document

Q: What about tour companies? Can we colloberate with them to educate our visitors and enhance the sustainability goal? (Anonymous Attendee)

A: HTA has a partnership with the Sustainable Tourism Association of Hawaii which provides a sustainable tourism certification for tour operators. For more information, visit: <https://www.sustainabletourismhawaii.org/>.

Q: John DeFries I love the idea of designated areas only being open to residents from say Friday afternoon through Monday morning so that local families can plan camping trips to the parks that will once again allow gathering. (Pamela Tipton)

A: We still have to check on the legality of this and if it's legal to only allow residents into a public park during certain days.

Q: We need to implement a Green Fee on each rental car to make visitors consider other ways to get around and to ensure that every car that is rented is mitigated by a green fee that goes back to supporting community resilience. (Chipper Wichman)

A: First of all, remember that kamaaina also travel between the islands too, and they rent cars. Also, some Kauai residents who have their car in the auto repair shop also rent a car. There are a number of fees that people who rent cars already pay, including an airport surcharge, a vehicle license fee, and the General Excise Tax. Thank you for your suggestion.

Q: limiting the demographic of people that come to kauai. First off it is illegal and discriminatory. A lot of issues being talked about are not visitors only. (Anonymous Attendee)

A: Thank you for your comment.

Q: What does it cost for a speed bump? I have a small business on Koloa road and getting in and out has become spooky ! (Darlene Daida Martin)

A: Speed bumps aren't allowed on major roads (i.e. collector roads) like Koloa Road. This year, the County has been testing other traffic calming measures (speed tables and speed cushions) for possible use on Collector Roads. Koloa Road is such a busy road that even the alternative traffic calming measures may not be allowed. But this remains to be seen as we go through the process of modifying the ordinance.

Q: Chipper, this is happening. Alan just told me State Parks is following the Haena model at more State Parks. You folks have helped open their eyes to this community-based model! (Kimi Yuen)

A: HTA helped the community with the parking reservations and shuttle system. The community and its leaders told HTA officials that they wanted help with that situation, and HTA stepped in to help fund parts of that. This is one example of how HTA is working with the community to make a difference, but it has to be an idea that comes from the community.

Q: Many of the question not starting with "can we"; are in fact the more "solutions orientated inputs! (eye roll) Tackle the basic problems with basic solutions first, would be the most prudent M/O... Elaborate or hypothetical partnership with multiple state and county agencies, are not the most likely "efficient solutions". (Anonymous Attendee)

A: Thank you for your comment.

Q: Will these actions that are put into place be part of a true democracy and take these items to a vote by "the people" of Kauai vs having the leaders decide for all of us? (Tina Funk)

A: Yes, that's the goal of this process is to have community input and feedback in developing the Destination Management Action Plan.

Q: I agree with Ted Blake, would HTA support having Kauai receive our fair economic share at the legislature? (Ana Mo Des)

A: Reach out to your state legislators regarding this.

Q: If we can't put a cap on rental cars, can we provide incentives for visitors not to rent cars or limit rental for just a couple days ? (Julie Hagensen)

A: Many people who stay at resorts choose to take a shuttle to avoid paying the parking fees. Many vacation rentals, however, do not charge parking fees. Again, the county should continue to crack down on illegal vacation rentals.

Q: will the The 6000 jobless residents of this island be given the opportunity to vote on these actions items that will change their lives and livelihoods? (Tina Funk)

A: There are many people who are out of a job right now and are hurting financially, not knowing where their next meal may come from or how they'll pay their rent. Please realize that when making suggestions. Please encourage everyone to submit their ideas: <https://www.hawaiitourismauthority.org/what-we-do/hta-programs/community-based-tourism/kauai/community-input/>. The Steering Committee, HTA, the County and the KVB will review all community input and feedback from the survey and the Kaua'i meetings to determine the final actions for the Kaua'i DMAP.

Q: "Questionnaires", "matrixes", "steering committees", "visitors boroughs", "boards & board members",on and on... Layers of the problem, rather than the action & solutions... (Anonymous Attendee)

A: We believe in the process we set out. We are asking the public for input on the Steering Committee's draft actions in order to for us to hear from the community and for the Steering Committee to further refine its draft actions. It's up to you if you want to participate in being part of the solution.

Q: How to we support our service workers having to deal with visitor "KAREN'S"? refusing to wear masks, being rude, etc? (Anonymous Attendee)

A: The HTA, HVCB, KVB and County are working to push out more education on the mask mandate and social distancing rules the island follows. To report violators: <https://www.kauai.gov/KPD-Online-Reporting>

Q: We can't give mixed messages on spots to visit both for residents and tourists (Chris Faye)

A: Correct. There can be different fees, however, depending on whether or not someone has a Hawaii ID.

Q: Agree Sue! we should have designated safe trails and fines for those who do tours on non designated trails! (Anonymous Attendee)

A: Safety is the key.

Q: thank you for all your doing. please remember that visitors are not the enemy. We are all in this together. I hear a lot of visitors being so much more responsible than locals. many "locals" were visitors. (Anonymous Attendee)

A: You are spot on!

Q: Alaska only has such funds because they required those company's piliging them; provide such set aside "tokens". Fun Fact: The State of Alaska actually owns Kauai's only major Mall! (Anonymous Attendee)

A: Thank you for your comment.

Q: How will visitors be distinguished from residents? Will we have to always carry identification? (Anonymous Attendee)

A: Why should visitors be distinguished from residents? We should not discriminate against visitors. COVID does not discriminate either, and some of the people traveling to Kauai are returning residents: <https://www.hawaiitourismauthority.org/covid-19-updates/trans-pacific-passenger-arrivals/>

Q: How did you get out this zoom call? We have so few residents on this EXTREMELY IMPORTANT FORUM! 1-Why aren't there more residents attending? 2- how can HTA be more successful in outreach for this? (Justine Bennett)

A: Yes, we wish everyone could have joined in, but we know that people have busy schedules and 5-7 p.m. is family dinnertime for some people. So, we thank those of you who took some time out of your busy schedule to participate in the community meeting. Please encourage everyone to submit feedback and input through the HTA website: <https://www.hawaiitourismauthority.org/what-we-do/hta-programs/community-based-tourism/kauai/community-input/>

As far as promotion of the community meetings, HTA issued a press release on October 6. The HTA also placed 2 advertisements in the Sunday edition of The Garden Island in addition to doing social media boosts. We asked our Steering Committee members to spread the word to their networks, and flyers were also placed around County buildings.

Q: I'm so glad the Alaska Permanent Fund concept is an option HTA is looking into, thank you! That is a fantastic, sustainable and ethical solution! MaHaLo- Ana Mo Des (Kalaheo/Koloa)

A: I believe this was a suggestion, however, HTA did not state it is "looking into" having a Permanent Fund.

Q: The only choice we have is the "Green Rides" option - since there is NO MENTION OF BETTER UTILIZATION AND LEGALIZATION OF SHARED ECONOMY TOOLS AND APPS!! (Anonymous Attendee)

A: Cracking down on illegal vacation rentals can help lessen the number of rental cars on the road.

Q: Did you forget that Kaua'i is the oldest island and we should stop this desecration to corruption!! (Alberto Genova)

A: Thank you for your comment.

Q: I thought this meeting was based on the west kauai plan development. Not tourism? (Lucky Kanahale)

A: The purpose of the community meeting was to gain insight from residents living in West and South Kauai in an effort to collaborate to rebuild tourism together. The end result will be a

Destination Management Action Plan for the island of Kauai. For more information, visit:
<https://www.hawaiitourismauthority.org/what-we-do/hta-programs/community-based-tourism/kauai/>

Q: Restoration project for sustainability opportunities need to be done. (Alberto Genova)

A: There have been a number of non-profits funded by HTA in recent years that have focused on restoration of areas like hiking trails and Hawaiian fishponds. Preserving our natural resources is one of HTA's pillars. For more information, visit:
<https://www.hawaiitourismauthority.org/what-we-do/hta-programs/natural-resources/>