

Kaua'i General Plan Update
Community Advisory Committee

MEETING 10 POLICY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

February 29, 2016
2:30 PM to 5:00 PM
4444 Rice Street, Lihu'e
Moikeha Building 2A/2B, Planning Commission Room

Meeting Focus: Tourism

The following questions will be raised as part of the CAC discussion period during the meeting. Please feel free to prepare by bringing notes to guide the discussion. Written comments may also be provided for addition to the meeting record.

- 1. Even though we are projecting slow growth in AVDC over the next 20 years, there are up to 3,000 entitled future resort units that may come online. Is Kaua'i ready for a large increase in the supply of visitor units? What are the impacts we must prepare for?**
- 2. For this island, what is the best mix of resort, hotel, time share, TVRs, and home stays to support the visitor industry? How does this conflict with what's in the pipeline?**
- 3. The majority of entitled projects are located in Po'ipū, although Līhu'e (Kaua'i Lagoons), Wailua and Princeville have substantial entitlements or zoning already. Are these still the right places to focus resort development and facilities?**
- 4. Since 2008, Council has passed a series of zoning amendments that restrict transient vacation and homestay uses outside the VDA. Do you support this policy? Are there places outside the VDA that resort uses should be allowed?**
- 5. Examples of innovations and investments that could increase the resilience of the tourism industry and set Kaua'i apart are listed below. Of these, which do you think are "must haves" versus the "nice to haves"? Anything to add?**
 - Set islandwide priorities for infrastructure improvements that support both tourist areas and residents' needs. Create a process and consider adopting general criteria that Community Plans can follow.
 - Embrace the shared economy: providing solutions for visitors from transportation to accommodations that foster choice, and direct visitors to a more hyper-local experience.
 - Transportation alternatives for visitors that minimize impacts on popular destinations and ameliorate congestion (i.e, shuttles, ride share, improved bus service).

Please call 241-4050 if you would like to request an ASL interpreter, materials in an alternate format, or other auxiliary aide.

- Strengthen bridges between residents and visitors through providing visitor content that facilitates authentic, multi-cultural experiences and exchanges.
 - Support convergences between tourism and other promising economic growth sectors, such as agriculture and the maker economy, to bolster economic resilience. Explore “Ag Tourism” as a new opportunity.
- 6. What should be the policy direction for tourism on Kaua‘i over the next 20 years? Consider two possible scenarios below and discuss what best reflects the vision and needs of Kaua‘i’s people.**

Scenario 1: No Additional “Resort Designation” on Land Use Map/ Slow Buildout of Entitled Projects

This scenario means resort and VDA designations in the existing General Plan Land Use Map would remain unchanged, and new designations would not be encouraged, even in future community plan updates. This growth limiting approach could be adopted as a way of stemming growth-related impacts to infrastructure over the next 20 years. It could allow the County time to implement improvements to accommodate existing visitor volumes along with anticipated population growth. This would likely mean slow growth in the tourism sector as existing entitled projects are built out according to market forces. This will result in more non-hotel accommodations, as the majority of entitled resort projects are comprised of single family homes or condominiums. General Plan policy for the VDA would be updated to reflect recent legislation to limit resort and transient accommodation uses outside of the VDA. It is likely that existing non-conforming TVRs (outside the VDA) will decrease due to attrition and continued enforcement efforts.

Scenario 2: Additional Resort Designation based on State goals/Targeted increase in visitor unit inventory

The County’s land use planning would support the State’s goals for visitor industry growth and targeting of first-time visitors. This policy scenario has the GP and Community Plans taking a more strategic role in advancing the tourism sector on Kaua‘i, with the goal of upholding tourism’s role in the economy and strengthening it through innovations that differentiate Kaua‘i as a destination and help bolster other economic sectors. The Community Plans would be the vehicle for identifying possible VDA expansion or new Resort Designation areas based on community sentiment/tolerance for resort growth.