

Resolution

No. 25-225

REFERRING TO THE LĀNA‘I, MAUI, AND
MOLOKAI PLANNING COMMISSIONS A
PROPOSED BILL AMENDING CHAPTER 2.80B,
MAUI COUNTY CODE, TO ADDRESS FOOD
SYSTEMS AND FOOD SECURITY IN THE
COUNTYWIDE POLICY PLAN

WHEREAS, the Council is considering a proposed bill amending Chapter 2.80B, Maui County Code, to address food systems and food security in the Countywide Policy Plan; and

WHEREAS, Sections 8-8.4 and 8-8.6 of the Revised Charter of the County of Maui (1983), as amended, require that the appropriate planning commissions review proposed revisions to the General Plan and provide findings and recommendations to the Council; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Maui:

1. That it refers the proposed bill, entitled “A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2.80B, MAUI COUNTY CODE, TO ADDRESS FOOD SYSTEMS AND FOOD SECURITY IN THE COUNTYWIDE POLICY PLAN,” attached as Exhibit “A,” to the Lāna‘i, Maui, and Molokai Planning Commissions for appropriate action under Sections 8-8.4 and 8-8.6 of the Revised Charter of the County of Maui (1983), as amended; and
2. That certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, Planning Director, Lāna‘i Planning Commission, Maui Planning Commission, and Molokai Planning Commission.

INTRODUCED BY:

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GABE JOHNSON

Exhibit "A"

ORDINANCE NO. _____

BILL NO. _____ (2025)

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2.80B, MAUI COUNTY
CODE, TO ADDRESS FOOD SYSTEMS AND FOOD SECURITY IN THE
COUNTYWIDE POLICY PLAN

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI:

SECTION 1. Exhibit A-1 of Chapter 2.80B, Maui County Code—adopted as the Countywide Policy Plan of the County of Maui by Ordinance 3732 (2010), as amended by Ordinance 5264 (2021)—is further amended to incorporate the amended Core Theme F and add Core Theme M in Section IV, as shown in this Ordinance's Exhibit "I."

SECTION 2. Section 2.80B.030, Maui County Code, is amended by amending Subsection A to read as follows:

"A. Exhibit A-1 of this chapter, as amended, entitled "The Countywide Policy Plan," which is on file with the office of the county clerk, is further amended and adopted as the countywide policy plan and by reference made a part of this chapter. Exhibit B of this chapter, entitled "The Maui Island Plan," which is on file with the office of the county clerk, is adopted as the Maui island plan and by reference made a part of this chapter. Exhibit C of this chapter, entitled "Long-Range Implementation Program," which is on file with the office of the county clerk, is adopted as chapter 10: long-range implementation program and by reference made a part of this chapter. The table of contents of the Maui Island Plan must include Chapter 10: Long-Range Implementation Program."

SECTION 3. The Council requests the Planning Director to produce a comprehensive version of the Countywide Policy Plan consistent with this Ordinance's amendments, including an updated Table of Contents.

SECTION 4. Material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored. In printing this bill, the County Clerk need not include the brackets, the bracketed material, or the underscoring.

SECTION 5. This Ordinance takes effect on approval.

paf:ebm:25-238b

INTRODUCED BY:

GABE JOHNSON

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

SECTION IV: GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES

As part of the effort to develop this Countywide Policy Plan, the County of Maui supported and conducted a number of public-participatory workshops and meetings and other community-involvement activities. The intent of these outreach efforts was to establish a broadly held consensus about the preferred future of the community. A series of broad themes and goals, each supported by more specific objectives, policies, and implementing action statements, were formulated. The core themes are indicated below (in no order of priority):

- A. Protect the Natural Environment
- B. Preserve Local Cultures and Traditions
- C. Improve Education
- D. Strengthen Social and Healthcare Services
- E. Expand Housing Opportunities for Residents
- F. Strengthen the Local Economy
- G. Improve Parks and Public Facilities
- H. Diversify Transportation Options
- I. Improve Physical Infrastructure
- J. Promote Sustainable Land Use and Growth Management
- K. Strive for Good Governance
- L. Mitigate Climate Change and Work Toward Resilience
- M. Strengthen Food Systems and Ensure Food Security

Goals are intended to describe a desirable condition of the County by the year 2030. They are intentionally general, but are attainable through concerted effort. Objectives tend to be more specific and may be regarded as milestones in the journey to achieve the larger goals. Policy statements are not intended as regulations, but instead provide a general guideline for County decision makers, departments, and collaborating organizations toward the attainment of goals and objectives. Implementation action statements are specific tasks, procedures, programs, or techniques that carry out policy. Because this Policy Plan is largely general and aspirational in nature, it is not intended to be used in the review of applications for ministerial permits.

As the policies of this Plan are applied, it is likely some policies will overlap or appear inconsistent, and policies will compete for scarce resources. In such cases, the participants of Focus Maui Nui recommended planning and decision making with a balanced approach that takes as many policies as possible into consideration without forsaking other needs. However, they recognized that some prioritization will be necessary. For example, most participants said that if they must choose between areas of need or make tradeoffs, the preservation of natural resources, the islands' identity, and cultural assets must be considered before improvements to infrastructure or even steps to strengthen the economy. Participants articulated a hope that more balance could exist in decision making, and they supported the notion that many issues could be addressed simultaneously by developing strategies that take into consideration ostensibly competing policies.

This Section sets forth the fundamental goals, objectives, and policies of the County in regard to realizing our key strategies countywide. This section also establishes the following elements mandated by Section 2.80B, Maui County Code: the County's vision and core principles. The subsequent goals, objectives, and policies are based on and intended to effectuate these elements. Cumulatively, Section IV contains all of the mandatory elements of the Countywide Policy Plan under Chapter 2.80B.

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

VISION

Maui County will be an innovative model of sustainable island living and a place where every individual can grow to reach his or her potential.

The needs of each individual, the needs of the whole community, and the needs of our natural and cultural assets will be brought into balance to reflect the high value we place on both our natural environment and our people.

The education and health of our people will be fostered to ensure that the residents of these islands can, if they choose, spend their whole lives here – raising children, owning homes, enjoying rewarding jobs, taking advantage of opportunities to contribute to this community, and to be good stewards of our local treasures and resources.

Maui County will be a leader in the creation of responsible, self-sufficient communities and environmentally sound economic development and land stewardship.

That which makes Maui County unique in the world will be preserved, celebrated, and protected for generations to come.

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

CORE PRINCIPLES

To accomplish our vision, the people of our islands must foster and respect the Aloha Spirit. We must consider the future generations of Maui County and be true to these core principles:

- 1. Excellence in the stewardship of the natural environment and cultural resources;*
- 2. Compassion for and understanding of others;*
- 3. Respect for diversity;*
- 4. Engagement and empowerment of Maui County residents;*
- 5. Honor for all cultural traditions and histories;*
- 6. Consideration of the contributions of past generations as well as the needs of future generations;*
- 7. Commitment to self-sufficiency;*
- 8. Wisdom and balance in decision making;*
- 9. Thoughtful, island-appropriate innovation; and*
- 10. Nurturance of the health and well-being of our families and our communities.*

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

Countywide objectives and policies for population, land use, the environment, the economy, and housing -

A. Protect the Natural Environment

Goal: Maui County's natural environment and distinctive open spaces will be preserved, managed, and cared for in perpetuity.

Objective:

1. Improve the opportunity to experience the natural beauty and native biodiversity of the islands for present and future generations.

Policies:

- a. Perpetuate native Hawaiian biodiversity by preventing the introduction of invasive species, containing or eliminating existing noxious pests, and protecting critical habitat areas.
- b. Preserve and reestablish indigenous and endemic species' habitats and their connectivity.
- c. Restore and protect forests, wetlands, watersheds, and stream flows, and guard against wildfires, flooding, and erosion.
- d. Protect baseline stream flows for perennial streams, and support policies that ensure adequate stream flow to support Native Hawaiian aquatic species, traditional kalo cultivation, and self-sustaining ahupua'a.
- e. Protect the natural state and integrity of unique terrain, valued natural environments, and geological features.
- f. Protect the natural state and integrity of unique terrain, valued natural environments, and geological features.
- g. Preserve and provide ongoing care for important scenic vistas, view planes, landscapes, and open-space resources.
- h. Expand coordination with the State and nonprofit agencies and their volunteers to reduce invasive species, replant indigenous species, and identify critical habitat.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Develop island-wide networks of greenways, watercourses, and habitat corridors.*

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

Objective:

2. Improve the quality of environmentally sensitive, locally valued natural resources and native ecology of each island.

Policies:

- a. Protect and restore nearshore reef environments and water quality.
- b. Protect marine resources and valued wildlife.
- c. Improve the connection between urban environments and the natural landscape, and incorporate natural features of the land into urban design.
- d. Utilize land-conservation tools to ensure the permanence of valued open spaces.
- e. Mitigate the negative effects of upland uses on coastal wetlands, marine life, and coral reefs.
- f. Regulate the use and maintenance of stormwater-treatment systems that incorporate the use of native vegetation and mimic natural systems.
- g. Advocate for stronger regulation of fishing, boating, cruise ship, and ecotourism activities.
- h. Restore watersheds and aquifer-recharge areas to healthy and productive status, and increase public knowledge about the importance of watershed stewardship, water conservation, and groundwater protection.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Develop regulations to minimize runoff of pollutants into nearshore waters and reduce nonpoint and point source pollution.*

Objective:

3. Improve the stewardship of the natural environment.

Policies:

- a. Preserve and protect natural resources with significant scenic, economic, cultural, environmental, or recreational value.
- b. Improve communication, coordination, and collaboration among government agencies, nonprofit organizations, communities, individuals, and land owners that work for the protection of the natural environment.
- c. Evaluate development to assess potential short-term and long-term impacts on land, air, aquatic, and marine environments.
- d. Regulate access to sensitive ecological sites and landscapes.
- e. Provide public access to beaches and shorelines for recreational and cultural purposes where appropriate.

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

- f. Support the acquisition of resources with scenic, environmental, and recreational value, and encumber their use.
- g. Improve enforcement activities relating to the natural environment.
- h. For each shoreline community, identify and prioritize beach-conservation objectives, and develop action plans for their implementation.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Document, record, and monitor existing conditions, populations, and locations of flora and fauna communities.*
- b. *Establish a baseline inventory of available natural resources and their respective carrying capacities.*

Objective:

- 4. Educate residents and visitors about responsible stewardship practices and the interconnectedness of the natural environment and people.

Policies:

- a. Expand education about native flora, fauna, and ecosystems.
- b. Align priorities to recognize that the health of the natural environment and the health of people are inextricably linked.

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

B. Preserve Local Cultures and Traditions

Goal: Maui County will foster a spirit of pono and protect, perpetuate, and reinvigorate its residents' multi-cultural values and traditions to ensure that current and future generations will enjoy the benefits of their rich island heritage.

Objective:

1. Perpetuate the Hawaiian culture as a vital force in the lives of residents.

Policies:

- a. Protect and preserve access to mountain, ocean, and island resources for traditional Hawaiian cultural practices.
- b. Prohibit inappropriate development of cultural lands and sites that are important for traditional Hawaiian cultural practices, and establish mandates for the special protection of these lands in perpetuity.
- c. Promote the use of ahupua`a and moku management practices.
- d. Encourage the use of traditional Hawaiian architecture and craftsmanship.
- e. Promote the use of the Hawaiian language.
- f. Recognize and preserve the unique natural and cultural characteristics of each ahupua`a or district.
- g. Encourage schools to promote broader incorporation of Hawaiian and other local cultures' history and values lessons into curriculum.
- h. Ensure the protection of Native Hawaiian rights.
- i. Promote, encourage, and require the correct use of traditional place names, particularly in government documents, signage, and the tourism industry.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Establish alternative land use and overlay zoning designations that recognize and preserve the unique natural and cultural characteristics of each ahupua`a or district.*
- b. *Develop requirements for all County applicants to perpetuate and use proper traditional place names in all applications submitted.*

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

Objective:

2. Emphasize respect for our island lifestyle and our unique local cultures, family, and natural environment.

Policies:

- a. Acknowledge the Hawaiian culture as the host culture, and foster respect and humility among residents and visitors toward the Hawaiian people and their practices.
- b. Perpetuate a respect for diversity, and recognize the historic blending of cultures and ethnicities.
- c. Encourage the perpetuation of each culture's unique cuisine, attire, dance, music, and folklore, and other unique island traditions and recreational activities.
- d. Recognize the interconnectedness between the natural environment and the cultural heritage of the islands.
- e. Protect and prioritize funding for recreational activities that support local cultural practices, such as surfing, fishing, and outrigger-canoe paddling

Objective:

3. Preserve for present and future generations the opportunity to know and experience the arts, culture, and history of Maui County.

Policies:

- a. Foster teaching opportunities for cultural practitioners to share their knowledge and skills.
- b. Support the development of cultural centers.
- c. Broaden opportunities for public art and the display of local artwork.
- d. Foster the Aloha Spirit by celebrating the Hawaiian host culture and other Maui County cultures through support of cultural-education programs, festivals, celebrations, and ceremonies.
- e. Support the perpetuation of Hawaiian arts and culture.
- f. Support programs and activities that record the oral and pictorial history of residents.
- g. Support the development of repositories for culture, history, genealogy, oral history, film, and interactive learning.

Implementing Actions:

- a. Establish incentives for the display of public art.
- b. Establish centers and programs of excellence for the perpetuation of Hawaiian arts and culture.

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

Objective:

4. Preserve and restore significant historic architecture, structures, cultural sites, cultural districts, and cultural landscapes.

Policies:

- a. Support the development of an island-wide historic, archaeological, and cultural resources inventory.
- b. Promote the rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of historic sites, buildings, and structures to perpetuate a traditional sense of place.
- c. Identify a sustainable rate of use and set forth specific policies to protect cultural resources.
- d. Protect and preserve lands that are culturally or historically significant.
- e. Support programs that protect, record, restore, maintain, provide education about, and interpret cultural districts, landscapes, sites, and artifacts in both natural and museum settings.
- f. Perpetuate the authentic character and historic integrity of rural communities and small towns.
- g. Seek solutions that honor the traditions and practices of the host culture while recognizing the needs of the community.
- h. Support the development of an Archaeological District Ordinance.
- i. Protect summits, slopes, and ridgelines from inappropriate development.
- j. Support the registering of important historic sites on the State and Federal historic registers.
- k. Provide opportunities for public involvement with restoration and enhancement of all types of cultural resources.
- l. Foster partnerships to identify and preserve or revitalize historic and cultural sites.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Identify, develop, map, and maintain an inventory of locally significant natural, cultural, and historical resources for protection.*
- b. *Prepare, continually update, and implement a cultural-management plan for cultural sites, districts, and landscapes, where appropriate.*
- c. *Enact an Archaeological District Ordinance.*
- d. *Nominate important historic sites to the State and Federal historic registers.*

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

C. Improve Education

Goal: Residents will have access to lifelong formal and informal educational options enabling them to realize their ambitions.

Objective:

1. Encourage the State to attract and retain school administrators and educators of the highest quality.

Policies:

- a. Encourage the State to provide teachers with nationally competitive pay and benefit packages.
- b. Encourage the State to ensure teachers will have the teaching tools and support staff needed to provide students with an excellent education.
- c. Explore Maui County district- and school-based decision making in public education.

Objective:

2. Provide nurturing learning environments that build skills for the 21st century.

Policies:

- a. Expand professional-development opportunities in disciplines that support the economic-development goals of Maui County.
- b. Plan for demographic, social, and technological changes in a timely manner.
- c. Encourage collaborative partnerships to improve conditions of learning environments.
- d. Promote development of neighborhood schools and educational centers.
- e. Integrate schools, community parks, and playgrounds, and expand each community's use of these facilities.
- f. Support coordination between land use and school-facility planning agencies.
- g. Encourage the upgrade and ongoing maintenance of public-school facilities.
- h. Encourage the State Department of Education to seek reliable, innovative, and alternative methods to support a level of per-pupil funding that places Hawai'i among the top tier of states nationally for its financial support of public schools.
- i. Encourage the State to promote healthier, more productive learning environments, including by providing healthy meals, more physical activity, natural lighting, and passive cooling.
- j. Encourage the State to support the development of benchmarks to measure the success of Hawai'i's public-education system and clarify lines of accountability.
- k. Design school and park facilities in proximity to residential areas.
- l. Support technology- and natural-environment-based learning.

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

- m. Encourage the State to support lower student-teacher ratios in public schools.
- n. Encourage alternative learning and educational opportunities.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Develop safe walking and bicycling programs for school children.*

Objective:

- 3. Provide all residents with educational opportunities that can help them better understand themselves and their surroundings and allow them to realize their ambitions.

Policies:

- a. Encourage the State to improve Maui Community College as a comprehensive community college that will serve each community.
- b. Broaden the use of technology and telecommunications to improve educational opportunities throughout the County.
- c. Attract graduate-level research programs and institutions.
- d. Promote the teaching of traditional practices, including aquaculture; subsistence agriculture; Pacific Island, Asian, and other forms of alternative health practices; and indigenous Hawaiian architecture.
- e. Integrate cultural and environmental values in education, including self-sufficiency and sustainability.
- f. Foster a partnership and ongoing dialogue between business organizations, formal educational institutions, and vocational training centers to tailor learning and mentoring programs to County needs.
- g. Ensure teaching of the arts to all ages.
- h. Expand and develop vocational learning opportunities by establishing trade schools.
- i. Encourage the State to integrate financial and economic literacy in elementary, secondary, and higher-education levels.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Encourage the State to establish a four-year university, and support the development of other higher-education institutions to enable residents to obtain bachelor degrees and postgraduate degrees in Maui County.*

Objective:

- 4. Maximize community-based educational opportunities.

Policies:

- a. Encourage the State and others to expand pre-school, after-school, and home-based (parent-child) learning.
- b. Support public-private partnerships to develop youth-internship, -apprenticeship, and -mentoring programs.

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

- c. Support the development of a wide range of informal educational and cultural programs for all residents.
- d. Improve partnerships that utilize the skills and talents at Hawai'i's colleges and universities to benefit the County.
- e. Support career-development and job-recruitment programs and centers.
- f. Attract learning institutions and specialty schools to diversify and enhance educational opportunities.
- g. Expand education of important life skills for the general public.
- h. Support community facilities such as museums, libraries, nature centers, and open spaces that provide interactive-learning opportunities for all ages.

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

D. Strengthen Social and Healthcare Services

Goal: Health and social services in Maui County will fully and comprehensively serve all segments of the population.

Objective:

1. In cooperation with the Federal and State governments and nonprofit agencies, broaden access to social and healthcare services and expand options to improve the overall wellness of the people of Maui County.

Policies:

- a. Work with other levels of government and the nonprofit sector to expand services to address hunger, homelessness, and poverty.
- b. Support the improvement of opportunities for disadvantaged youth, encourage the tradition of hanai relatives, and support expanded opportunities for foster care.
- c. Support expanded long-term-care options, both in institutions and at home, for patients requiring ongoing assistance and medical attention.
- d. Encourage the expansion and improvement of local hospitals, facilitate the establishment of new healthcare facilities, and facilitate prompt and high- quality emergency- and urgent-care services for all.
- e. Support broadened access to affordable health insurance and health care, and recognize the unique economic challenges posed to families when healthcare services are provided off-island.
- f. Encourage equal access to social and healthcare services through both technological and traditional means.

Objective:

2. Encourage the Federal and State governments and the private sector to improve the quality and delivery of social and healthcare services.

Policies:

- a. Strengthen partnerships with government, nonprofit, and private organizations to provide funding and to improve counseling and other assistance to address substance abuse, domestic violence, and other pressing social challenges.
- b. Encourage the State to improve the quality of medical personnel, facilities, services, and equipment.
- c. Encourage investment to improve the recruitment of medical professionals and the quality of medical facilities and equipment throughout Maui County.

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

- d. Promote the development of continuum-of-care facilities that provide assisted- living, hospice, home-care, and skilled-nursing options allowing the individual to be cared for in a manner congruent with his or her needs and desires.
- e. Support improved social, healthcare, and governmental services for special needs populations.
- f. Plan for the needs of an aging population and the resulting impacts on social services, housing, and healthcare delivery.
- g. Improve coordination among the police, the courts, and the public in the administration of social and healthcare services.
- h. Support programs that address needs of veterans.
- i. Support programs that address the needs of immigrants.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Invest in programs designed to improve the general welfare and quality of life of Native Hawaiians.*
- b. *Assist and facilitate the State Department of Public Safety and others in efforts to strengthen programs and facilities that will improve the mental and social health of incarcerated people and assist in prison inmates' successful transition back into Maui County communities.*
- c. *Develop and maintain a comprehensive index that will measure the health and wellness needs of families.*
- d. *Provide heliports countywide for emergency health and safety purposes.*

Objective:

- 3. **Strengthen public-awareness programs related to healthy lifestyles and social and medical services.**

Policies:

- a. Expand public awareness about personal safety and crime prevention.
- b. Encourage residents to pursue education and training for careers in the healthcare, social services, and community-development fields.
- c. Expand public awareness and promote programs to achieve healthy eating habits and drug-free lifestyles.

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

E. Expand Housing Opportunities for Residents

Goal: Quality, island-appropriate housing will be available to all residents.

Objective:

1. Reduce the affordable housing deficit for residents.

Policies:

- a. Ensure that an adequate and permanent supply of affordable housing, both new and existing units, be made available for purchase or rental to our resident and/or workforce population, with special emphasis on providing housing for low- to moderate-income families, and ensure that all affordable housing remains affordable in perpetuity.
- b. Seek innovative ways to lower housing costs without compromising the quality of our island lifestyle.
- c. Seek innovative methods to secure land for the development of low- and moderate-income housing.
- d. Provide the homeless population with emergency and transitional shelter and other supportive programs.
- e. Provide for a range of senior-citizen and special needs housing choices on each island that affordably facilitates a continuum of care and services.
- f. Support the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' development of homestead lands.
- g. Manage property-tax burdens to protect affordable resident homeownership.
- h. Explore taxation mechanisms to increase and maintain access to affordable housing.
- i. Improve awareness regarding available affordable homeowner's insurance.
- j. Redevelop commercial areas with a mixture of affordable residential and business uses, where appropriate.
- k. Ensure residents be given priority to obtain affordable housing units developed in their communities, consistent with all applicable regulations.
- l. Establish pricing for affordable housing that is more reflective of Maui County's workforce than the United States Housing and Urban Development's median-income estimates for Maui County.
- m. Develop neighborhoods with a mixture of accessible and integrated community facilities and services.
- n. Provide alternative regulatory frameworks to facilitate the use of Kuleana lands by the descendants of Native Hawaiians who received those lands pursuant to the Kuleana Act of 1850.
- o. Work with lending institutions to expand housing options and safeguard the financial security of homeowners.

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

- p. Promote the use of the community land trust model and other land-lease and land-financing options.
- q. Support the opportunity to age in place by providing accessible and appropriately designed residential units.

Objective:

- 2. Increase the mix of housing types in towns and neighborhoods to promote sustainable land use planning, expand consumer choice, and protect the County's rural and small-town character.

Policies:

- a. Seek innovative ways to develop 'ohana cottages and accessory-dwelling units as affordable housing.
- b. Design neighborhoods to foster interaction among neighbors.
- c. Encourage a mix of social, economic, and age groups within neighborhoods.
- d. Promote infill housing in urban areas at scales that capitalize on existing infrastructure, lower development costs, and are consistent with existing or desired patterns of development.
- e. Encourage the building industry to use environmentally sustainable materials, technologies, and site planning.
- f. Develop workforce housing in proximity to job centers and transit facilities.
- g. Provide incentives to developers and owners who incorporate green building practices and energy-efficient technologies into their housing developments.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Revise laws to support neighborhood designs that incorporate a mix of housing types that are appropriate for island living.*

Objective:

- 3. Increase and maintain the affordable housing inventory.

Policies:

- a. Recognize housing as a basic human need, and work to fulfill that need.
- b. Prioritize available infrastructure capacity for affordable housing.
- c. Improve communication, collaboration, and coordination among housing providers and social-service organizations.
- d. Study future projected housing needs, monitor economic cycles, and prepare for future conditions on each island.

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

- e. Develop public-private and nonprofit partnerships that facilitate the construction of quality affordable housing.
- f. Streamline the review process for high-quality, affordable housing developments that implement the goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan.
- g. Minimize the intrusion of housing on prime, productive, and potentially productive agricultural lands and regionally valuable agricultural lands.
- h. Encourage long-term residential use of existing and future housing to meet residential needs.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Develop policies to even out the peaks and valleys in Maui County's construction-demand cycles.*

Objective:

- 4. Expand access to education related to housing options, homeownership, financing, and residential construction.

Policies:

- a. Broaden access to information about County, State, and Federal programs that provide financial assistance to renters and home buyers.
- b. Expand access to information about opportunities for homeownership and self-help housing.
- c. Educate residents about making housing choices that support their individual needs, the needs of their communities, and the health of the islands' natural systems.
- d. Improve home buyers' education on all aspects of homeownership.

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

F. Strengthen the Local Economy

Goal: Maui County's economy will be diverse, sustainable, and supportive of community values.

Objective:

1. Promote an economic climate that will encourage diversification of the County's economic base and a sustainable rate of economic growth

Policies:

- a. Support economic decisions that create long-term benefits.
- b. Promote lifelong education, career development, and technical training for existing and emerging industries.
- c. Invest in infrastructure, facilities, and programs that foster economic diversification.
- d. Support and promote locally produced products and their locally owned operations and businesses that benefit local communities and meet local demand.
- e. Support programs that assist industries to retain and attract more local labor and facilitate the creation of jobs that offer a living wage.
- f. Encourage work environments that are safe, rewarding, and fulfilling to employees.
- g. Support home-based businesses that are appropriate for and in character with the community.
- h. Encourage businesses that promote the health and well-being of the residents, produce value-added products, and support community values.
- i. Foster an understanding of the role of all industries in our economy.
- j. Support efforts to improve conditions that foster economic vitality in our historic small towns.
- k. Support and encourage traditional host-culture businesses and indigenous agricultural practices.
- l. Support public and private entities that assist entrepreneurs in establishing locally operated businesses.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Develop regulations and programs that support opportunities for local merchants, farmers, and small businesses to sell their goods and services directly to the public.*
- b. *Monitor the carrying capacity of the islands' social, ecological, and infrastructure systems with respect to the economy.*

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

Objective:

2. Diversify and expand sustainable forms of agriculture and aquaculture.

Policies:

- a. Support programs that position Maui County's agricultural products as premium export products.
- b. Prioritize the use of agricultural land to feed the local population, enforce zoning regulations to keep agricultural lands in production, and promote the use of agricultural lands for sustainable and diversified agricultural activities.
- c. Capitalize on Hawai'i's economic opportunities in the ecologically sensitive aquaculture industries.
- d. Assist farmers and support producers and food system workers to help make Maui County more self-sufficient in food production and to increase farm viability and the viability of agriculture as a sustainable and fulfilling career.
- e. Support ordinances, programs, and policies that keep agricultural land and water available and affordable to farmers and protect kanaka 'ōiwi water rights and usage for mahi'ai.
- f. Support a tax structure that is conducive to the growth of the agricultural economy.
- g. Enhance County efforts to monitor and regulate important agricultural issues.
- h. Support education, research, resources and facilities that strengthen the agricultural industry, promote profitable career pathways for food producers and food system workers, and develop future generations of producers and food-systems professionals.
- i. Maintain the genetic integrity of existing food crops.
- j. Encourage healthy and organic farm practices that contribute to land health and regeneration.
- k. Support cooperatives and other types of nontraditional and communal farming efforts.
- l. Encourage methods of monitoring and controlling genetically modified crops to prevent adverse effects.
- [m. Work with the State to ease the permitting process for the revitalization of traditional fish ponds.]

Implementing Actions:

- a. *[Redirect efforts in the Office of Economic Development to further] Empower the Maui County Department of Agriculture to facilitate the development of the agricultural section and to monitor agricultural legislation and issues.*

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- b. Publicly identify, with signage and other means, the field locations of all genetically modified crops.*
- c. Create agricultural parks in areas distant from genetically modified crops before they are subdivided or otherwise developed.*
- d. Amend the Maui County Code to prioritize Upcountry food producers for water-meter installation.*
- e. Increase producers' access to capital, including through County-supported agriculture grants and microgrants for small producers.*
- f. Support producers' access to agricultural inputs and scale-appropriate equipment to enhance productivity.*
- g. Provide downpayment assistance and deferred-payment assistance loans to producers to purchase agricultural land.*
- h. Adopt local-first food-purchasing guidelines for County agencies and events, including by setting targets for the percentage of locally sourced food or establishing separate bidding processes for local producers.*
- i. Promote the Eat Local Maui campaign to encourage residents, grocery stores, hotels, and other large purchasers to prioritize local, sustainable foods procurement.*
- j. Develop farmer business-management resources and services accessible in multiple languages.*

Objective:

- 3. Support a visitor industry that respects the resident culture and the environment.

Policies:

- a. Promote traditional Hawaiian practices in visitor-related facilities and activities.
- b. Encourage and educate the visitor industry to be sensitive to island lifestyles and cultural values.
- c. Encourage a spirit of welcome for residents at visitor facilities, such as by offering kama`aina incentives and discount programs.
- d. Support the renovation and enhancement of existing visitor facilities.
- e. Support policies, programs, and a tax structure that redirect the benefits of the visitor industry back into the local community.
- f. Encourage resident ownership of visitor-related businesses and facilities.
- g. Develop partnerships to provide educational and training facilities to residents employed in the visitor industry.
- h. Foster an understanding of local cultures, customs, and etiquette, and emphasize the

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importance of the Aloha Spirit as a common good for all.

- i. Support the diversification, development, evolution, and integration of the visitor industry in a way that is compatible with the traditional, social, economic, spiritual, and environmental values of island residents.
- j. Improve collaboration between the visitor industry and the other sectors of Maui County's economy.
- k. Perpetuate an authentic image of the Hawaiian culture and history and an appropriate recognition of the host culture.
- l. Support the programs and initiatives outlined in the Maui County Tourism Strategic Plan 2006-2015.
- m. Promote water conservation, beach conservation, and open-space conservation in areas providing services for visitors.
- n. Recognize the important contributions that the visitor industry makes to the County's economy.

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Objective:

4. Expand economic sectors that increase living-wage job choices and are compatible with community values.

Policies:

- a. Support emerging industries, including the following:
 - Health and wellness industry;
 - Sports and recreation industry;
 - Film and entertainment industry;
 - Arts and culture industry;
 - Renewable-energy industry;
 - Research and development industry;
 - High-technology and knowledge-based industries;
 - Education and training industry;
 - Ecotourism industry; and
 - Agritourism industry.

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G. Improve Parks and Public Facilities

Goal: A full range of island-appropriate public facilities and recreational opportunities will be provided to improve the quality of life for residents and visitors.

Objective:

1. Expand access to recreational opportunities and community facilities to meet the present and future needs of residents of all ages and physical

Policies:

- a. Protect, enhance, and expand access to public shoreline and mountain resources.
- b. Expand and enhance the network of parks, multi-use paths, and bikeways.
- c. Assist communities in developing recreational facilities that promote physical fitness.
- d. Expand venue options for recreation and performances that enrich the lifestyles of Maui County's people.
- e. Expand affordable recreational and after-school programs for youth.
- f. Encourage and invest in recreational, social, and leisure activities that bring people together and build community pride.
- g. Promote the development and enhancement of community centers, civic spaces, and gathering places throughout our communities.
- h. Expand affordable access to recreational opportunities that support the local lifestyle.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Identify and reserve lands for cemeteries, and preserve existing cemeteries on all islands, appropriately accommodating varying cultural and faith-based traditions.*

Objective:

2. Improve the quality and adequacy of community facilities.

Policies:

- a. Provide an adequate supply of dedicated shelters and facilities for disaster relief.
- b. Provide and maintain community facilities that are appropriately designed to reflect the traditions and customs of local cultures.
- c. Ensure that parks and public facilities are safe and adequately equipped for the needs of all ages and physical abilities to the extent reasonable.
- d. Maintain, enhance, expand, and provide new active and passive recreational facilities in ways that preserve the natural beauty of their locations.

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- e. Redesign or retrofit public facilities to adapt to major shifts in environmental or urban conditions to the extent reasonable.

Objective:

- 3. Enhance the funding, management, and planning of public facilities and park lands.

Policies:

- a. Identify and encourage the establishment of regulated and environmentally sound campgrounds.
- b. Manage park use and control access to natural resources in order to rest sensitive places and utilize the resources in a sustainable manner.
- c. Provide public-recreational facilities that are clean and well-maintained.
- d. Develop partnerships to ensure proper stewardship of the islands' trails, public lands, and access systems.
- e. Ensure that there is an adequate supply of public restrooms in convenient locations.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Encourage the State to allow for overnight fishing along the shoreline in accordance with management plans and regulations.*
- b. *Develop and regularly update functional plans, including those relating to public facilities, parks, and campgrounds.*
- c. *Develop and adopt local level-of-service standards for public facilities and parks.*
- d. *Identify, acquire, and develop lands for parks, civic spaces, and public uses.*

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H. Diversify Transportation Options

Goal: Maui County will have an efficient, economical, and environmentally sensitive means of moving people and goods.

Objective:

1. Provide an effective, affordable, and convenient ground-transportation system that is environmentally sustainable.

Policies:

- a. Execute planning strategies to reduce traffic congestion.
- b. Plan for the efficient relocation of roadways for the public benefit.
- c. Support the use of alternative roadway designs, such as traffic-calming techniques and modern roundabouts.
- d. Increase route and mode options in the ground-transportation network.
- e. Ensure that roadway systems are safe, efficient, and maintained in good condition.
- f. Preserve roadway corridors that have historic, scenic, or unique physical attributes that enhance the character and scenic resources of communities.
- g. Design new roads and roadway improvements to retain and enhance the existing character and scenic resources of the communities through which they pass.
- h. Promote a variety of affordable and convenient transportation services that meet countywide and community needs and expand ridership of transit systems.
- i. Collaborate with transit agencies, government agencies, employers, and operators to provide planning strategies that reduce peak-hour traffic.
- j. Develop and expand an attractive, island-appropriate, and efficient public-transportation system.
- k. Provide and encourage the development of specialized transportation options for the young, the elderly, and persons with disabilities.
- l. Evaluate all alternatives to preserve quality of life before widening roads.
- m. Encourage businesses in the promotion of alternative transportation options for resident and visitor use.

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Implementing Actions:

- a. *Create incentives and implement strategies to reduce visitor dependence on rental cars.*
- b. *Establish efficient public-transit routes between employment centers and primary workforce residential areas.*
- c. *Create attractive, island-appropriate, conveniently located park-and-ride and ride-share facilities.*

Objective:

2. **Reduce the reliance on the automobile and fossil fuels by encouraging walking, bicycling, and other energy-efficient and safe alternative modes of transportation.**

Policies:

- a. **Make walking and bicycling transportation safe and easy between and within communities.**
- b. **Require development to be designed with the pedestrian in mind.**
- c. **Design new and retrofit existing rights-of-way with adequate sidewalks, bicycle lanes, or separated multi-use transit corridors.**
- d. **Support the development of a countywide network of bikeways, equestrian trails, and pedestrian paths.**
- e. **Support the reestablishment of traditional trails between communities, to the ocean, and through the mountains for public use.**
- f. **Encourage educational programs to increase safety for pedestrians and bicyclists.**

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Design, build, and modify existing bikeways to improve safety and separation from automobiles.*
- b. *Increase enforcement to reduce abuse of bicycle and pedestrian lanes by motorized vehicles.*
- c. *Identify non-motorized transportation options as a priority for new sources of funding.*

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Objective:

3. Improve opportunities for affordable, efficient, safe, and reliable air transportation.

Policies:

- a. Discourage private helicopter and fixed-wing landing sites to mitigate environmental and social impacts.
- b. Encourage the use of quieter aircraft and noise-abatement procedures for arrivals and departures.
- c. Encourage the modernization and maintenance of air-transportation facilities for general-aviation activities.
- d. Encourage a viable and competitive atmosphere for air carriers to expand service and ensure sufficient intra-County flights and affordable fares for consumers.
- e. Continue to support secondary airports, and encourage the State to provide them with adequate funding.
- f. During Community Plan updates, explore the use of the smaller airports.
- g. Encourage the State to provide efficient, adequate, and affordable parking and transit connections within and around airports.

Objective:

4. Improve opportunities for affordable, efficient, safe, and reliable ocean transportation.

Policies:

- a. Support programs and regulations that reduce the disposal of maritime waste and prevent spills into the ocean.
- b. Encourage the upgrading of harbors to resist damage from natural hazards and disasters.
- c. Encourage the State to study the use of existing harbors and set priorities for future use.
- d. Explore all options to protect the traditional recreational uses of harbors, and mitigate harbor-upgrade impacts to recreational uses where feasible.
- e. Encourage the upgrading of harbors and the separation of cargo and bulk materials from passenger and recreational uses.
- f. Encourage the State to provide for improved capacity at shipping, docking, and storage facilities.
- g. Encourage the State to provide adequate parking facilities and transit connections within and around harbor areas.
- h. Encourage the redevelopment and revitalization of harbors while preserving

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historic and cultural assets in harbor districts.

- i. Encourage the State to provide adequate facilities for small-boat operations, including small-boat launch ramps, according to community needs.
- j. Support the maintenance and cleanliness of harbor facilities.
- k. Support the redevelopment of harbors as pedestrian-oriented gathering places, with employee facilities and passengers.

Objective:

- 5. Improve and expand the planning and management of transportation systems.

Policies:

- a. Encourage progressive community design and development that will reduce transportation trips.
- b. Require new developments to contribute their *pro rata* share of local and regional infrastructure costs.
- c. Establish appropriate user fees for private enterprises that utilize public-transportation facilities for recreational purposes.
- d. Support the revision of roadway-design criteria and standards so that roads are compatible with surrounding neighborhoods and the character of rural areas.
- e. Plan for multi-modal transportation and utility corridors on each island.
- f. Support designing all transportation facilities, including airport, harbor, and mass-transit stations, to reflect Hawaiian architecture.
- g. Utilize transportation-demand management as an integral part of transportation planning.
- h. Accommodate the planting of street trees and other appropriate landscaping in all public rights-of-way.

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I. Improve Physical Infrastructure

Goal: Maui County's physical infrastructure will be maintained in optimum condition and will provide for and effectively serve the needs of the County through clean and sustainable technologies.

Objective:

1. Improve water systems to assure access to sustainable, clean, reliable, and affordable sources of water.

Policies:

- a. Ensure that adequate supplies of water are available prior to approval of subdivision or construction documents.
- b. Develop and fund improved water-delivery systems.
- c. Ensure a reliable and affordable supply of water for productive agricultural uses.
- d. Promote the reclamation of gray water, and enable the use of reclaimed, gray, and brackish water for activities that do not require potable water.
- e. Retain and expand public control and ownership of water resources and delivery systems.
- f. Improve the management of water systems so that surface-water and groundwater resources are not degraded by overuse or pollution.
- g. Explore and promote alternative water-source-development methods.
- h. Seek reliable long-term sources of water to serve developments that achieve consistency with the appropriate Community Plans.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Develop a process to review all applications for desalination.*

Objective:

2. Improve waste-disposal practices and systems to be efficient, safe, and as environmentally sound as possible.

Policies:

- a. Provide sustainable waste-disposal systems and comprehensive, convenient recycling programs to reduce the flow of waste into landfills.
- b. Support innovative and alternative practices in recycling solid waste and wastewater and disposing of hazardous waste.

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- c. Encourage vendors and owners of automobile, appliance, and white goods to participate in the safe disposal and recycling of such goods, and ensure greater accountability for large waste producers.
- d. Develop strategies to promote public awareness to reduce pollution and litter, and encourage residents to reduce, reuse, recycle, and compost waste materials.
- e. Pursue improvements and upgrades to existing wastewater and solid-waste systems consistent with current and future plans and the County's Capital Improvement Program.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Establish recycling, trash-separation, and materials recovery programs and facilities to reduce the flow of waste into landfills.*
- b. *Study the feasibility of developing environmentally safe waste-to-energy facilities.*
- c. *Utilize taxes and fees as means to encourage conservation and recycling.*
- d. *Implement and regularly update the Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan.*
- e. *Phase out the use of injection wells.*

Objective:

- 3. Direct growth in a way that makes efficient use of existing infrastructure and to areas where there is available infrastructure capacity.

Policies:

- a. Capitalize on existing infrastructure capacity as a priority over infrastructure expansion.
- b. Planning for new towns should only be considered if a region's growth is too large to be directed into infill and adjacent growth areas.
- c. Utilize appropriate infrastructure technologies in the appropriate locations.
- d. Promote land use patterns that can be provided with infrastructure and public facilities in a cost-effective manner.
- e. Support catchment systems and on-site wastewater treatment in rural areas and aggregated water and wastewater systems in urban areas if they are appropriately located.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Develop a streamlining system for urban infill projects.*
- b. *Identify appropriate areas for urban expansion of existing towns where infrastructure and public facilities can be provided in a cost-effective manner.*

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Objective:

4. Improve the planning and management of infrastructure systems.

Policies:

- a. Provide a reliable and sufficient level of funding to enhance and maintain infrastructure systems.
- b. Require new developments to contribute their *pro rata* share of local and regional infrastructure costs.
- c. Improve coordination among infrastructure providers and planning agencies to minimize construction impacts.
- d. Maintain inventories of infrastructure capacity, and project future infrastructure needs.
- e. Require social-justice and -equity issues to be considered during the infrastructure-planning process.
- f. Discourage the development of critical infrastructure systems within hazard zones and the tsunami-inundation zone to the extent practical.
- g. Ensure that infrastructure is built concurrent with or prior to development.
- h. Ensure that basic infrastructure needs can be met during a disaster.
- i. Locate public facilities and emergency services in appropriate locations that support the health, safety, and welfare of each community and that minimize delivery inefficiencies.
- j. Promote the undergrounding of utility and other distribution lines for health, safety, and aesthetic reasons.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Develop and regularly update functional plans for infrastructure systems.*
- b. *Develop, adopt, and regularly update local or community-sensitive level-of-service standards for infrastructure systems.*

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J. Promote Sustainable Land Use and Growth Management

Goal: Community character, lifestyles, economies, and natural assets will be preserved by managing growth and using land in a sustainable manner.

Objective:

1. Improve land use management and implement a directed-growth strategy.

Policies:

- a. Establish, map, and enforce urban- and rural-growth limits.
- b. Direct urban and rural growth to designated areas.
- c. Limit the number of visitor-accommodation units and facilities in Community Plan Areas.
- d. Maintain a sustainable balance between the resident, part-time resident, and visitor populations.
- e. Encourage redevelopment and infill in existing communities on lands intended for urban use to protect productive farm land and open-space resources.
- f. Direct new development in and around communities with existing infrastructure and service capacity, and protect natural, scenic, shoreline, and cultural resources.
- g. Establish and maintain permanent open space between communities to protect each community's identity.
- h. Support the dedication of land for public uses.
- i. Preserve the public's rights of access to and continuous lateral access along all shorelines.
- j. Enable existing and future communities to be self-sufficient through sustainable land use planning and management practices.
- k. Protect summits, slopes, and ridgelines from inappropriate development.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Regularly update urban- and rural-growth boundaries and their maps.*
- b. *Establish transfer and purchase of development rights programs.*
- c. *Develop and adopt a green infrastructure plan.*
- d. *Develop studies to help determine a sustainable social, environmental, and economic carrying capacity for each island.*
- e. *Identify and define resort-destination areas.*

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Objective:

2. Improve planning for and management of agricultural

Policies:

- a. Protect prime, productive, and potentially productive agricultural lands to maintain the islands' agricultural and rural identities and economies.
- b. Provide opportunities and incentives for self-sufficient and subsistence homesteads and farms.
- c. Discourage developing or subdividing agriculturally designated lands when non-agricultural activities would be primary uses.
- d. Conduct agricultural development planning to facilitate robust and sustainable agricultural activities.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Inventory and protect prime, productive, and potentially productive agricultural lands from competing non-agricultural land uses.*

Objective:

3. Design all developments to be in harmony with the environment and to protect each community's sense of place.

Policies:

- a. Support and provide incentives for green building practices.
- b. Encourage the incorporation of green building practices and technologies into all government facilities to the extent practicable.
- c. Protect and enhance the unique architectural and landscape characteristics of each Community Plan Area, small town, and neighborhood.
- d. Ensure that adequate recreational areas, open spaces, and public-gathering places are provided and maintained in all urban centers and neighborhoods.
- e. Ensure business districts are distinctive, attractive, and pedestrian-friendly destinations.
- f. Use trees and other forms of landscaping along rights-of-way and within parking lots to provide shade, beauty, urban-heat reduction, and separation of pedestrians from automobile traffic in accordance with community desires.
- g. Where appropriate, integrate public-transit, equestrian, pedestrian, and bicycle facilities, and public rights-of-way as design elements in new and existing communities.
- h. Ensure better connectivity and linkages between land uses.

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- i. Adequately buffer and mitigate noise and air pollution in mixed-use areas to maintain residential quality of life.
- j. Protect rural communities and traditional small towns by regulating the footprint, locations, site planning, and design of structures.
- k. Support small-town revitalization and preservation.
- l. Facilitate safe pedestrian access, and create linkages between destinations and within parking areas.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Establish design guidelines and standards to enhance urban and rural environments.*
- b. *Provide funding for civic-center and civic-space developments.*
- c. *Establish and enhance urban forests in neighborhoods and business districts.*

Objective:

4. Improve and increase efficiency in land use planning and management.

Policies:

- a. Assess the cumulative impact of developments on natural ecosystems, natural resources, wildlife habitat, and surrounding uses.
- b. Ensure that new development projects requiring discretionary permits demonstrate a community need, show consistency with the General Plan, and provide an analysis of impacts.
- c. Encourage public and private partnerships to preserve lands of importance, develop housing, and meet the needs of residents.
- d. Promote creative subdivision designs that implement: best practices in land development, sustainable management of natural and physical resources, increased pedestrian and bicycle functionality and safety, and the principles of livable communities.
- e. Coordinate with Federal, State, and County officials in order to ensure that land use decisions are consistent with County plans and the vision local populations have for their communities.
- f. Enable greater public participation in the review of subdivisions.
- g. Improve land use decision making through the use of land- and geographic-information systems.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Institute a time limit and sunseting stipulations on development entitlements and their implementation.*

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K. Strive for Good Governance

Goal: Government services will be transparent, effective, efficient, and responsive to the needs of residents.

Objective:

1. Strengthen governmental planning, coordination, consensus building, and decision making.

Policies:

- a. Plan and prepare for the effects of social, demographic, economic, and environmental shifts.
- b. Plan for and address the possible implications of Hawaiian sovereignty.
- c. Encourage collaboration among government agencies to reduce duplication of efforts and promote information availability and exchange.
- d. Expand opportunities for the County to be involved in and affect State and Federal decision making.
- e. Plan and prepare for large-scale emergencies and contingencies.
- f. Improve public awareness about preparing for natural hazards, disasters, and evacuation plans.
- g. Improve coordination among Federal, State, and County agencies.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Develop policies, regulations, and programs to protect and enhance the unique character and needs of the County's various communities.*
- b. *Evaluate and, if necessary, recommend modifications to the County Charter that could result in a possible change to the form of governance for Maui County.*
- c. *Study and evaluate the feasibility and implications of district voting in Maui County Council elections.*
- d. *Study and evaluate the feasibility of authorizing town governments in Maui County.*

Objective:

2. Promote civic engagement.

Policies:

- a. Foster consensus building through in-depth, innovative, and accessible public-participatory processes.
- b. Promote and ensure public participation and equal access to government among all citizens.
- c. Encourage a broad cross-section of residents to volunteer on boards and commissions.

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- d. Encourage the State to improve its community-involvement processes.
- e. Support community-based decision making.
- f. Expand advisory functions at the community level.
- g. Expand opportunities for all members of the public to participate in public meetings and forums.
- h. Facilitate the community's ability to obtain relevant documentation.
- i. Increase voter registration and turnout.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Implement two-way communication using audio-visual technology that allows residents to participate in the County's planning processes.*
- b. *Ensure and expand the use of online notification of County business and public meetings, and ensure the posting of all County board and commission meeting minutes.*
- c. *Explore funding mechanisms to improve participation by volunteers on boards and commissions.*
- d. *Develop a project-review process that mandates early and ongoing consultation in and with communities affected by planning and land use activities.*

Objective:

- 3. Improve the efficiency, reliability, and transparency of County government's internal processes and decision making.

Policies:

- a. Use advanced technology to improve efficiency.
- b. Simplify and clarify the permitting process to provide uniformity, reliability, efficiency, and transparency.
- c. Improve communication with Lanai and Moloka'i through the expanded use of information technologies, expanded staffing, and the creation and expansion of government-service centers.
- d. Ensure that laws, policies, and regulations are internally consistent and effectuate the intent of the General Plan.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Update the County Code to be consistent with the General Plan.*
- b. *Identify and update County regulations and procedures to increase the productivity and efficiency of County government.*
- c. *Develop local level-of-service standards for infrastructure, public facilities, and services.*

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- d. *Implement plans through programs, regulations, and capital improvements in a timely manner.*
- e. *Expand government online services.*

Objective:

- 4. Adequately fund in order to effectively administer, implement, and enforce the General Plan.

Policies:

- a. Adequately fund, staff, and support the timely update and implementation of planning policy, programs, functional plans, and enforcement activities.
- b. Ensure that the County's General Plan process provides for efficient planning at the County, island, town, and neighborhood level.
- c. Encourage ongoing professional development, education, and training of County employees.
- d. Encourage competitive compensation packages for County employees to attract and retain County personnel.
- e. Enable the County government to be more responsive in implementing our General Plan and Community Plans.
- f. Review discretionary permits for compliance with the Countywide Policy Plan.
- g. Strengthen the enforcement of County, State, and Federal land use laws.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Establish penalties to ensure compliance with County, State, and Federal land use laws.*

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Objective:

5. Strive for County government to be a role model for implementing cultural and environmental policies and practices.

Policies:

- a. Educate residents on the benefits of sustainable practices.
- b. Encourage the retention and hiring of qualified professionals who can improve cultural and environmental practices.
- c. Incorporate environmentally sound and culturally appropriate practices in government operations and services.
- d. Encourage all vendors with County contracts to incorporate environmentally sound and culturally appropriate practices.

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L. Mitigate Climate Change and Work Toward Resilience

Goal: Minimize the causes and negative effects of climate change.

Objective:

1. Lower carbon emissions levels to mitigate climate change impacts and limit the rate of global warming.

Policies:

- a. Increase reforestation efforts by encouraging residents and visitors to plant non-invasive gardens and trees.
- b. Improve communication, coordination, and collaboration among those that work to mitigate climate change impacts.
- c. Promote the teaching and use of regenerative agriculture.
- d. Invest in infrastructure that is not dependent on fossil fuels and utilizes renewable energy.
- e. Improve efforts to mitigate and plan for the impact of natural disasters and global warming.
- f. Encourage the building industry to use environmentally sustainable materials, technology, and site planning.
- g. Reduce air, noise, light, land, and water pollution, and reduce Maui County's contribution to global climate change.
- h. Plan and prepare for and educate visitors and residents about the possible effects of global warming.
- i. Promote programs and incentives that decrease greenhouse-gas emissions and improve environmental stewardship.
- j. Support the development of carbon-emission standards and an incentive program aimed at achieving County carbon-emission goals.

Implementing Actions:

- a. *Implement Federal and State policies that require a reduction of greenhouse-gas emissions.*
- b. *Establish a Countywide Climate Action Plan*
- c. *Develop programs that assist residents and businesses with obtaining access to renewable energy sources.*
- d. *Revise laws to support neighborhood designs that incorporate the use of renewable energy sources that are appropriate for island living.*
- e. *Incorporate planting of native indigenous trees as a major component of Urban Design to both cool neighborhoods and reduce carbon dioxide.*

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- f. Coordinate with State, County, and private landowners in the development of forestry and prioritizing of native and indigenous trees to reduce carbon dioxide.*
- g. Strongly support efforts to restore and improve Maui County's watersheds for the purpose of improving the water supply, controlling carbon dioxide levels, decreasing soil runoff, and reducing coastal flooding.*

Objective:

- 2. Reduce the impacts of sea-level rise by acknowledging climate change, adapting, mitigating, and planning accordingly.

Policies:

- a. Evaluate development to assess potential short-term and long-term sea-level rise impacts on nearshore environments.
- b. Improve efforts to mitigate and plan for the impact of sea-level rise.
- c. Protect undeveloped beaches, dunes, and ecosystems, and restore natural shoreline processes.
- d. Develop an inventory of private wastewater systems (septic systems, cesspools) that may be affected by sea-level rise.
- e. Strengthen coastal-zone management, re-naturalization of shorelines, where possible, and filtration or treatment of urban and agricultural runoff.
- f. Educate the construction and landscape industries and property owners about the use of best management practices to prevent erosion and nonpoint source pollution.
- g. Discourage beach hardening processes such as building sea walls and revetments that block movement of the shoreline and can accelerate erosion.
- h. Discourage new entitlements for residential, resort, or commercial development along the shoreline.
- i. Restrict development in areas that are prone to sea-level rise.
- j. Move or rebuild public facilities away from nearshore environments to account for sea-level rise to the extent reasonable.
- k. Move or rebuild roads that are in sea-level rise inundation zones to the extent reasonable.
- l. Ensure that public or affordable housing projects include siting and design standards that promote equity and resilience for vulnerable populations.
- m. Identify, research, and evaluate innovative and sustainable financing to support mitigation and adaptation to sea level rise.

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Implementing Actions:

- a. *Develop programs to help transition shoreline property owners out of their nearshore locations and develop a long-term plan to stay out of the way of natural beach migration.*
- b. *Identify buildings, roads, and other infrastructure that are in sea-level rise inundation zones and assist in moving them away from such zones.*
- c. *Identify disaster redevelopment alternatives that support resilience-focused adaptation to sea level rise in the event of a catastrophic coastal event.*

Objective:

3. Significantly increase the use of renewable and green technologies to promote energy efficiency and energy self-sufficiency.

Policies:

- a. Promote the use of locally renewable energy sources, and reward energy efficiency.
- b. Consider tax incentives and credits for the development of sustainable- and renewable-energy sources.
- c. Expand education about energy conservation and self-sufficiency.
- d. Encourage small-scale energy generation that utilizes wind, sun, water, biowaste, and other renewable sources of energy.
- e. Expand renewable-energy production.
- f. Develop public-private partnerships to ensure the use of renewable energy and increase energy efficiency.
- g. Require the incorporation of locally appropriate energy-saving and green building design concepts in all new developments by providing energy-efficient urban design guidelines and amendments to the Building Code.
- h. Encourage the use of sustainable energy to power vehicles.
- i. Promote the retrofitting of existing buildings and new development to incorporate energy-saving design concepts and devices.
- j. Encourage green footprint practices.
- k. Reduce Maui County's dependence on fossil fuels and energy imports.
- l. Support green building practices such as the construction of buildings that aim to minimize carbon dioxide production, produce renewable energy, and recycle water.
- m. Promote and support environmentally friendly practices in all energy sectors.

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Implementing Actions:

- a. Adopt an energy-efficiency policy for Maui County government as a model for other jurisdictions.*
- b. Adopt a Green Building Code, and support green building practices.*

Goals, Objectives, and Policies

M. Strengthen Food Systems and Ensure Food Security

Goal: Ensure that all Maui County residents have access to affordable, nutritious, culturally appropriate food.

Objective:

1. Increase food access and availability through management of diverse resources.

Policies:

- a. Increase community self-sufficiency by supporting home food production.
- b. Increase community access to wild foods.
- c. Increase individual and community capacity to remain food secure, including in times of emergency.
- d. Develop innovative programs designed to increase access to nourishing, culturally relevant foods and lower rates of chronic diseases, especially in rural areas and Pacific Islander communities.
- e. Leverage existing institutions, infrastructure, and programs, including programs funded by USDA, to increase access to nourishing foods, with a focus on keiki and kūpuna.
- f. Work with the State to ease the permitting process to access and revitalize traditional fish ponds, lo'i, and areas for subsistence gathering and hunting.

Implementing Actions:

- a. Implement the Maui County Food and Nutrition Security Plan's actions.
- b. Establish and support regional community gardens in urban areas.
- c. Encourage dedicated space for community gardens in all new housing developments.
- d. Encourage homeowner associations to amend private regulations to allow residents to grow food crops.
- e. Advocate for community-informed policies that support subsistence fishing and aquatic harvesting as part of the non-commercial food economy.
- f. Support limu restoration and limu management areas, including a Kula Kai Limu Management Area for limu manaua and limu lipoa and a Hāmākuapoko Limu Management Area for limu wāwae 'iole.
- g. Create a Maui County Emergency Feeding Plan, identifying specific actions and implementation leaders for each region.
- h. Establish emergency food stores in each region of Maui County and increase cold and dry storage capacity at food pantries.

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- i. Implement public awareness campaigns to highlight unmet community food needs.
- j. Facilitate coordination between the Emergency Feeding Taskforce for Maui and County emergency preparedness and response operations.
- k. Support the establishment of more fresh-food grocery stores, farmers markets, and farm stands, especially in rural areas.
- l. Create community refrigerator programs to increase neighborhood-level access to fresh, healthy food.
- m. Expand Farm to Food Bank purchasing to increase residents' access to locally grown and raised products.
- n. Align public transportation routes and schedules with key food access locations, including grocery stores, farmers markets, and retailers who accept Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, DA BUX Double Up Food Bucks, and Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children benefits.
- o. Expand kūpuna access to prepared foods by increasing hot-meal delivery-program capacity and reestablishing a food-truck meal-voucher program for kūpuna.
- p. Reduce taxes on food and agricultural inputs and allocate the County's 0.5 percent surcharge on the State General Excise Tax to fund healthy food access programs.
- q. Support farm-to-school programs to increase the amount of locally sourced and culturally relevant food in schools.
- r. Develop infrastructure and market incentives to support small-scale fishers.
- s. Support more school gardens and garden-coordinator positions.

Objective:

- 2. Create an abundant, self-sufficient County food system.

Policies:

- a. Improve water infrastructure and management to support food production.
- b. Diversify and increase food production for local consumption, with a focus on culturally relevant foods and sustainable protein sources.
- c. Expand and protect agricultural-land access for farming.
- d. Help food producers navigate regulatory requirements, streamline permitting, and remove unnecessary or unnecessarily burdensome regulations.
- e. Improve agricultural infrastructure and establish new facilities to increase capacity and resilience.

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- f. Support transportation and collaboration to get small and rural producers' products to market.
- g. Increase market access for local producers and support value chain coordination.

Implementing Actions:

- a. Develop subsidies for local produce and protein production, including animal-feed subsidies.
- b. Support nursery businesses in securing land and make State and County land more available to plant nurseries.
- c. Increase meat-processing capacity, focused primarily on axis deer, and provide career development and training opportunities for slaughterhouse workers.
- d. Subsidize the required USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service fees for wild-game inspections for meat sold for human consumption.
- e. Support community access to agricultural parks.
- f. Protect agricultural leases and ensure lease durations are sufficient to support farming and ranching.
- g. Establish a County program to manage and purchase large tracts of land for agricultural use to keep agricultural lands in production.
- h. Identify County and State land suitable for farming canoe crops, including 'ulu, niu, and kalo.
- i. Provide financial support to defray or subsidize food safety and organic certification costs.
- j. Expand commercial kitchen access, develop additional commercial kitchen facilities, and work with the State Department of Health to revise commercial kitchen wastewater and septic requirements.
- k. Expand cold- and dry-storage facilities and transportation options, including refrigerated trucks, in each region of the County.
- l. Establish food aggregation facilities to get more produce to market.
- m. Establish mobile slaughterhouse units in rural areas that are compliant with USDA requirements.
- n. Establish seed and cultivar banks to preserve and perpetuate culturally relevant food.
- o. Develop a tissue culture lab in partnership with cultivar banks to make disease-free, verified plant material, including kalo, 'uala, and 'ulu, for farmers.

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Objective:

3. Promote healthy, resilient ecosystems and responsible resource stewardship to support resilient agricultural systems.

Policies:

- a. Establish County-supported regional organics diversion facilities to divert food waste, animal carcasses, and feasible waste-stream materials, while using best management practices to prevent the interregional spread of invasive species.
- b. Support early detection, response actions, and community awareness and engagement for priority agricultural-pest species.

Implementing Actions:

- a. Expand organics diversion facilities to meet region-specific agricultural needs.
- b. Provide products such as wood chips, compost, and soil amendments to meet region-specific agricultural needs and improve soil health.
- c. Incentivize strategies to boost soil health and support organics diversion, water retention, erosion control, and fire prevention, including using low- or no-till farming, cover crops, diverse crop rotation, and resources produced by organics diversion facilities, including compost and mulch.
- d. Increase plant and animal pest and disease screening at County points of entry to stop the spread of invasive species, including coconut rhinoceros beetles and little fire ants.
- e. Develop an emergency coconut rhinoceros beetle response plan for Maui County.
- f. Support innovative community strategies to repurpose edible invasive plant and animal species into food, fuel, medicine, and fiber products.
- g. Expand incentives for hunting and fishing invasive species.
- h. Fund responsible fencing to keep ungulates out of farms while supporting reasonable access for hunters.
- i. Support community water authorities' efforts to create equitable water usage, restore stream flow, preserve legacy systems, increase efficiency of water infrastructure, and support healthy watersheds for future generations' food production.

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