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STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

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Meeting Notes

'Ualapu'e Kuleana Homestead Project Beneficiary Meeting #2 (virtual) March 2, 2022 – 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

For more information, please contact:

Email: dhhl.planning@hawaii.gov

Website: https://dhhl.hawaii.gov/po/molokai/ualapue-kuleana-homestead-project/



CONFERENCE REPORT

	TO:	Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL)			
111 S. King Street Suite 170	FROM:	G70			
Honolulu, HI 96813	DATE:	March 2, 2022		LOCATION:	Virtual (Zoom)
808.523.5866 www.g70.design	PROJECT:	'Ualapu'e Kuleana Homestead Project	b	PROJECT NO:	221047-01
SUBJECT:	Beneficiary Consultation #2			NO. OF PAGES:	4
THOSE PRESENT:	DSE PRESENT: G70: Kawika McKeague, Barbara Natale, Pi'ilani Smith, Ryan Char, DHHL: Gigi Cairel, Cedric Duarte, Andrew Choy, Sara Okuda (LDD), Solana Tutop		Part	ticipants: 32	

SUMMARY:

The second Beneficiary Consultation for the DHHL 'Ualapu'e Kuleana Homestead Project took place on March 2, 2022. The meeting was hosted virtually on Zoom and began at approximately 6:00pm. Credic Duarte opened the presentation and Andrew Choy provided the pule.

Cedric discussed the agenda for the meeting as well as zoom housekeeping etiquette. He turned it over to Andrew, who discussed the DHHL planning process. Gigi Cairel discussed the history of the 'Ualapu'e Kuleana Homestead Project in the Molokai Island Plan (2005) and the Molokai Regional Plan (2019). The 'Ualapu'e Kuleana Homestead project (Subsistence Agriculture) is a beneficiary-driven project.

Kawika provided the background of the DHHL Kuleana Homestead Program. It's a designation for available, unimproved homelands that is suitable for lessees who wish for immediate access to the land for subsistence uses. The lessee must participate in the Kuleana Homestead Association and help maintain rights-of-way and lots. The HHC determines which waitlist to use, and DHHL is to provide metes and bounds of lots and an unpaved rights-of-way to the awarded lots.

Gigi described the differences between the Kuleana Homestead and Conventional Homestead leases. Kuleana leases offer a "fast-track" to get on the land, offers an unimproved lot, and more responsibility is placed on the lessee. Gigi covered the settlement sequence: the project is currently in the planning stages, which includes community outreach, Kuleana Homestead Settlement Plan (KHSP), Environmental Assessment (EA), and Land Use Amendments (if any). Barbara Natale broke down the project timeline in detail; this is the second of four beneficiary consultations.

Barbara began the first round of mentimeter questions:

- 1. Do you have a pilina (connection) to this 'āina?
 - a. 'Ae (Yes)
 - b. 'A'ole (No)
- 2. What do you hope to see/learn tonight that would help create that pilina?
- 3. What is your favorite hali'a aloha (memory) of 'Ualapu'e?
- 4. Did you participate in any of the following plans of the 'Ualapu'e Community?
 - a. 2005 Moloka'i Island Plan
 - b. 2019 Moloka'i Regional Plan

Barbara then discussed the planning process, including relationship to prior research/studies and connections to the moku of Mana'e. She discussed Land Commission Award history in 'Ualapu'e. The project is on State land and will not affect private LCAs. Barbara discussed existing conditions of the project area, including: rainfall, tsunami and sea level rise, soils, topography, accessibility, and natural and cultural resources.

Barbara turned it over to Kawika who discussed technical work completed to date, including: aerial surveys, biological assessment, and the Honuaiākea Process. Aerial Surveys provide high-resolution imagery to assess terrain, erosion, and vegetative cover conditions. The biological assessment provides that the project area is mainly comprised of invasive flora and fauna, with pockets of native species. Deer and ungulate fencing in targeted areas is one of the recommended actions for biological management, reflected in both the Regional Plan and the biological assessment.

The Honuaiākea Process comes from the Edith Kanaka'ole Foundation. It analyzes mele, oli, mo'olelo, and ka'ao unique to a wahi (place) to formalize kapu and kānāwai. In this process, kapu are the resources crucial for ecosystem stability and community survival whereas kānāwai are the actions needed to maintain said resources. This process yielded three kapu, each with two associated kānāwai:

- <u>Kapu 1:</u> Ua ka ua, Kahe ka wai. Water needs to flow to all inhabitants of the ahupua'a. Mauka forests hold the water then flows down to inhabitants.
 - Kanawai: Kūʻula uka, kūʻula kai. Growth must happen up uka as it does in the kai.
 - <u>Kanawai:</u> Hina-ulu-Ohi'a. The moon controls the growth of our forests as it controls the movement of water in the ohi'a.
- <u>Kapu 2:</u> Koʻa (ākoʻakoʻa, pūkoʻa). Succession. Teaching the community and next generations the traditions gathering of fish, gathering of community, providing nutrients to people and fish.
 - <u>Kanawai:</u> Ki'au'au. Coming together and being prepared. Reach a place of healing and reconciliation to move forward as a lāhui.
 - o <u>Kanawai:</u> Hina-puku-i'a. Feeding community members with 'ike, food security, kuleana, skills, and traditions that allow them to give back to the 'āina.
- <u>Kapu 3:</u> Kui ka 'ina. Growth and birth cycle of the marine life of the shore break and kai koholā are free to proceed without hindrance.
 - Kanawai: 'Ai-'ai. Managing abundance for this era and future generations.
 Sustainability through practice, practice based on community tradition and knowledge of place.
 - <u>Kanawai:</u> Pupuhi ke kukui malino ke kai. The process to see below the surface, observation is key to understanding your coastline. Also a reference to managing externalities and external powers.

Forthcoming work includes archaeology, cutural and historic resources, potential water sources, public access and safety, and economic and community-based uses.

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Barbara hosted the second set of mentimeter questions:

- 5. In three words (or a simple sentence), what are some of the major concerns you have regarding this area?
- 6. What physical characteristics of 'Ualapu'e are most important to you?
- 7. What cultural or spiritual characteristics of 'Ualapu'e are most important to you?
- 8. How do you want to contribute / give back to this place and its resources?
- 9. 20 years from now, what do your keiki's keiki see in 'Ualapu'e?

Barbara continued by discussing the Settlement Plan, selection/planning criteria for lot settlement, and evaluating lot schemes. She discussed the agricultural options of various lot sizes (e.g. 1/5 acre, 1 acre, 5 acres, etc.). She then hosted the last set of mentimeter questions:

10. Rank from highest to lowest what you feel the 'Ualapu'e Settlement should focus on?

- a. improve site safety and access
- b. maximize the number of subsistence ag lots
- c. preservation of significant historical and archaeological sites
- d. reforestation and erosion management
- e. community based economic development
- f. securing potable water
- g. securing non-potable ag water

11. Is 1 acre (the size of a football field), be suitable for your subsistence agriculture homestead needs?

- a. Good size
- b. Too small
- c. Too large

12. Which image best represents your vision for agricultural activity at 'Ualapu'e?

- a. Backyard Subsistence Agriculture
- b. Large Community Cooperative
- c. Small Community Cooperative
- d. Shared Traditional Agriculture

13. Which is your preferred settlement layout?

- a. Individual Lots
- b. Shared Agriculture
- c. Clustered Homes with Individual Agriculture
- d. Clustered Homes with Shared Agriculture

14. What do you envision as the best use for the area designated as Community Use?

15. Prior plans have identified several potential income generating opportunities that may be suitable for 'Ualapu'e. What is your preferred option?

- a. Commercial Kitchen and Farmers Market
- b. Agriculture and/or Aquaculture Food Hub / Co-op
- c. Green Energy
- d. Woodworking Mill
- e. Cottage Industries: garment or craft production
- f. Eco-tours
- g. Other not listed

16. What additional questions/comments do you have for DHHL?

Cedric provided the email (dhhl.planning@hawaii.gov) and website (https://dhhl.hawaii.gov/po/molokai/ualapue-kuleana-homestead-project/) and encouraged attendees to submit their concerns/questions/comments to DHHL.

Chat/Questions/Comments/Discussion:

• Ocean Kaowili: What is the timeline to award?

- Response: We are currently in the Planning stages of the Project, which includes the completion of the Settlement Plan and Environmental Assessment (EA). The Planning process is estimated to be complete in February 2023 with HHC approval of the Settlement Plan and EA. Following the Planning stages is development, then awarding of lots.
- Cora Schnackenberg: Will these lots be only for ag?
 - Yes, these lots will be for subsistence agriculture, which can include the development of a home on behalf of the lessee.
- Keomailani Hirata, MIBC East Molokai Rep: Before LCA/Mahele, Ualapu'e was a living
 and breathing ahupua'a. If you bring up LCA, then you need to do research of the
 Ahupua'a, to include before LCAs.
 - Response: Comment noted. Ahupua'a and historical land use tenure will help to inform the Settlement Plan and EA.
- mahina: All of these examples are on flat land... and you still have no water to support ag. These would require intensive grading.
 - Response: Comment noted. Topography and water availability are critical criteria in the determination of lot and settlement layout and will be explored during the Settlement Plan process.
- **UncoMango Stephens:** 3 acre lot is size for truly substantial lifestyle, and won't need a Farm plan, so immediate occupancy is more possible.
- mahina: I would appreciate options that allow to answer "none". It would be beneficial to capture the voices of those who do not support the project.
 - Response: Comment noted. Additional options will be explored in future surveys.
- Yolanda Tanielu: I would prefer Individual Lots. Learn a lot with the Covid...
- **Keomailani Hirata, MIBC East Molokai Rep:** What is meant by community use? everyone that lives in the Ahupua'a or just DHHL leasees?
 - Gigi Cairel: Aloha. For this project, "Community use" designation is an area that the Kuleana Homestead Association would manage. So, it is up to the Association to develop the policies, procedures, who the users are, rent/fees to use the space/facility, etc. on how best to manage the "community use" space. Hope this helps address the question. Mahalo.
- Keomailani Hirata, MIBC East Molokai Rep: Molokai Island Burial Council, who are
 consultants to State Historic Preservation Divison, has not been contacted yet. We
 should be consulted before the EA.
 - Response: MIBC will be contacted during the EA process.

The meeting ended at approximately 8:00pm.