



NĀ ALA HELE
Hawai'i Trail & Access System

Hawai'i Island Nā Ala Hele Advisory Council

July 10, 2025

To: Dr. Holeka Goro Inaba, Council Chair
and Members of the County Council
County of Hawai'i
25 Aupuni Street
Hilo HI 96720

From: Terrance Noda, Chair ^{TN}
Hawai'i Island Nā Ala Hele Advisory Council
c/o Division of Forestry and Wildlife
19 East Kawili Street
Hilo HI 96720

SUBJECT: Emphasizing Leeward Planning Commission's Recommendation to Amend the County of Hawai'i General Plan 2045, Final Recommended Draft dated July 2024 (PL-PDI-2024-000011) as Suggested by the Hawai'i Island Nā Ala Hele Advisory Council

Dear Chair Inaba and Council Members,

The Hawai'i Island Nā Ala Hele Advisory Council (Advisory Council) requests this letter be submitted as a communication to the Policy Committee on Planning, Land Use, and Economic Development for its next meeting in which discussion and decision-making regarding the Final Draft General Plan 2045 (July 2025 draft) is on the agenda.

At its February 18, 2025 meeting, the Hawai'i Island Nā Ala Hele Advisory Council drafted and approved a letter to the Leeward and Windward Planning Commissions (LPC and WPC).
[Attachment A]

The letter contains the result of discussions and consideration of the current General Plan, the draft General Plan 2040 (2019 draft) and the Final Draft General Plan 2045 (July GP2045 draft) as they related to public access, trails, recreation, and scenic resources. It urged the LPC and WPC to consider the Advisory Council recommendations for amending the July GP2045 draft contained within the letter during its decision-making process.

At its February 26, 2025 meeting, the LPC voted to forward a favorable recommendation to the County Council to amend the July GP2045 draft, inclusive of subsidiary motions. Among the subsidiary motions contained within the LPC's favorable recommendation letter was the following Item 2. on page 2:

"Add the language related to public access, trails, recreation and scenic resources that were present in the Draft General Plan released by the Planning Department in 2019 as suggested by the Hawai'i Island Na Ala Hele Advisory Council in their enclosed letter to the Commission dated February 18, 2025."

The Advisory Council would like to express its appreciation to the LPC and would like to emphasize that amending the July GP2045 draft with the recommended language taken from the 2019 draft would greatly improve consideration, support, and implementation of public access, trails, recreation and scenic resources within the July GP2045 draft.