

Kaua'i Water Use & Development Plan Update
Second Series of Public Meetings
August 10, 2023
Kalāheo Neighborhood Center
5PM to 6:15 PM

ATTENDANCE:

KDOW: Joe Tait (Manager and Chief Engineer), Michael Hinazumi (Deputy Manager), Jason Kagimoto (Engineering Division Head), Regina Flores (Engineering Division, Water Resources & Planning, WRP, Section Head), Erin Doi, Margie Mills (Engineering Division, WRP Section), Dalenna Lara-Vargas, Kai Mottley (WRP), Claus Bollmann (Project Management), Jonell Kaohelaulii (Public Relations, PR)
Fukunaga & Associates, Inc. (Consultant): Amanda Waki, Amanda Miyahara
Planning: Marie Williams

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this series of five (5) public meetings is to present the draft Kaua'i Water Use and Development Plan (KWUDP) Update and its findings.

The intent of this series of meetings is to create an understanding of the purpose and intent of the KWUDP Update and the context in which it is being developed. The public meetings give the community an opportunity to provide feedback and express any concerns that they may have on the KWUDP Update.

The meeting started with an introduction by Jason Kagimoto and was followed by a presentation by Fukunaga & Associates. The draft KWUDP Update is posted on KauaiWater.org/KWUDP.asp.

DISCUSSION:

These notes reflect the questions and concerns voiced by attendees at the Kalāheo meeting. (Q = question; A = answer; C = comment.)

- 1) Q: What is the status of the Agricultural Water Use and Development Plan (AWUDP) Update?
A: The Department of Agriculture (DOA) published the public review draft of the AWUDP Update in 2019. However, this update primarily focused on inventorying irrigation systems and has not been adopted by CWRM.

- 2) Q: Who is responsible for fire hydrant maintenance?
A: The Kaua'i Department of Water (KDOW) Operations Division. KDOW is coordinating with the Fire Department and is also updating their GIS system.

- 3) Q: Should DOW consider retaining reservoirs?
A: This is something that is currently being discussed between KDOW and DOA, who are trying to establish an initiative to identify which reservoirs are to remain and which reservoirs can be removed.
- 4) Q: Has there been specialized meetings (farmers, developers, etc.) whose needs are different than the general public?
A: Yes, a Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) has been established that represent a broad spectrum of Kaua'i's community, including farmers, developers, and water operators. Three separate meetings have been held with the SAG.
- 5) Q: Will recycled water be utilized in the Kōloa area?
A: There are plans to have a regional system to provide more municipal wastewater collection and treatment that would provide recycled water. Two wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs) in the Kōloa area currently provide recycled water to irrigate golf courses. If demand is warranted, the utilities will need to invest money into infrastructure to distribute the recycled water to farther locations.
- 6) Q: Is there enough water for future development?
A: According to the sustainable yield (SY), yes. However, it is noted that the SY does not consider the feasibility of developing the groundwater and should not be equated to available developable groundwater. In addition, money may need to be invested in infrastructure.
- 7) Q: Is Polihale State Park supplied by KDOW water?
A: No, Polihale State Park is served from a State water system (Polihale State Park Water System), which is owned by the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

NEXT STEPS:

Fukunaga will brief the Commission on Water Resource Management (CWRM) and revise the KWUDP Update based on comments received from these public meetings and the CWRM briefing. The Pre-Final KWUDP Update will then be presented to the Kaua'i Board of Water Supply, then to CWRM for adoption. It is noted that the CWRM adoption process also includes public hearings.