

The County of Maui Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) recently completed the Beach Park Vulnerability and Adaptation Study which included vulnerability assessments and sea level rise adaptation strategies for all County beach parks. The recommended adaptation strategy for Hoaloha Park is to retreat/acquire land and relocate structures. The intent of this project is to examine in detail the application of this strategy and to provide site-specific adaptation pathways (timelines, thresholds, strategies, etc.) for future planning and implementation efforts by DPR.

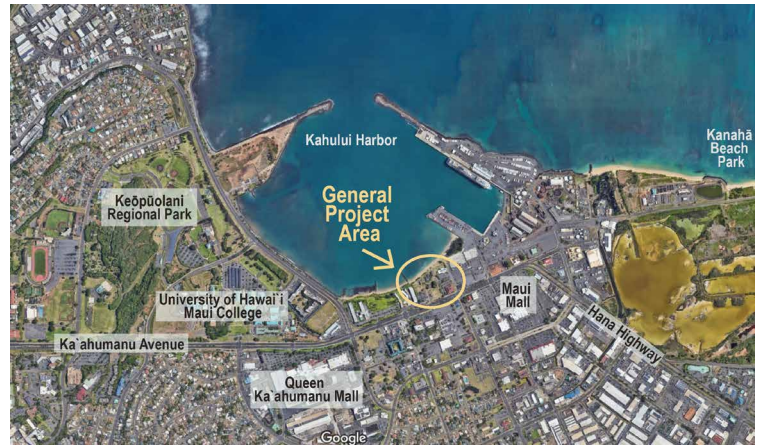
HOALOHA PARK ADAPTATION PLAN

Hoaloha Park is a small urban shoreline park located in Kahului. The park is predominantly used by canoe clubs for Hawaiian canoe paddling activities and is home to two canoe hale. Other ocean users also use Hoaloha Park as a launch site, including surfers, swimmers, stand up paddleboarders and wingfoilers. Fishermen use the beach to cast their lines.

The vicinity of the park is actively redeveloping, with a recently completed affordable senior housing complex, a forthcoming mixed use Kahului Civic Center Complex, and resort developments and renovations nearby. Ka'ahumanu Avenue, which provides access to the park, is one of the busiest corridors on Maui and is being reimagined as a transit-oriented development (TOD) community corridor with housing, landscaping, and multi-modal transportation options.

In 2022, the County of Maui acquired two parcels to the west and south of the existing Hoaloha Park site via dedication from A&B Properties. With the addition of these parcels the size of Hoaloha Park has doubled to a total of 5 acres.

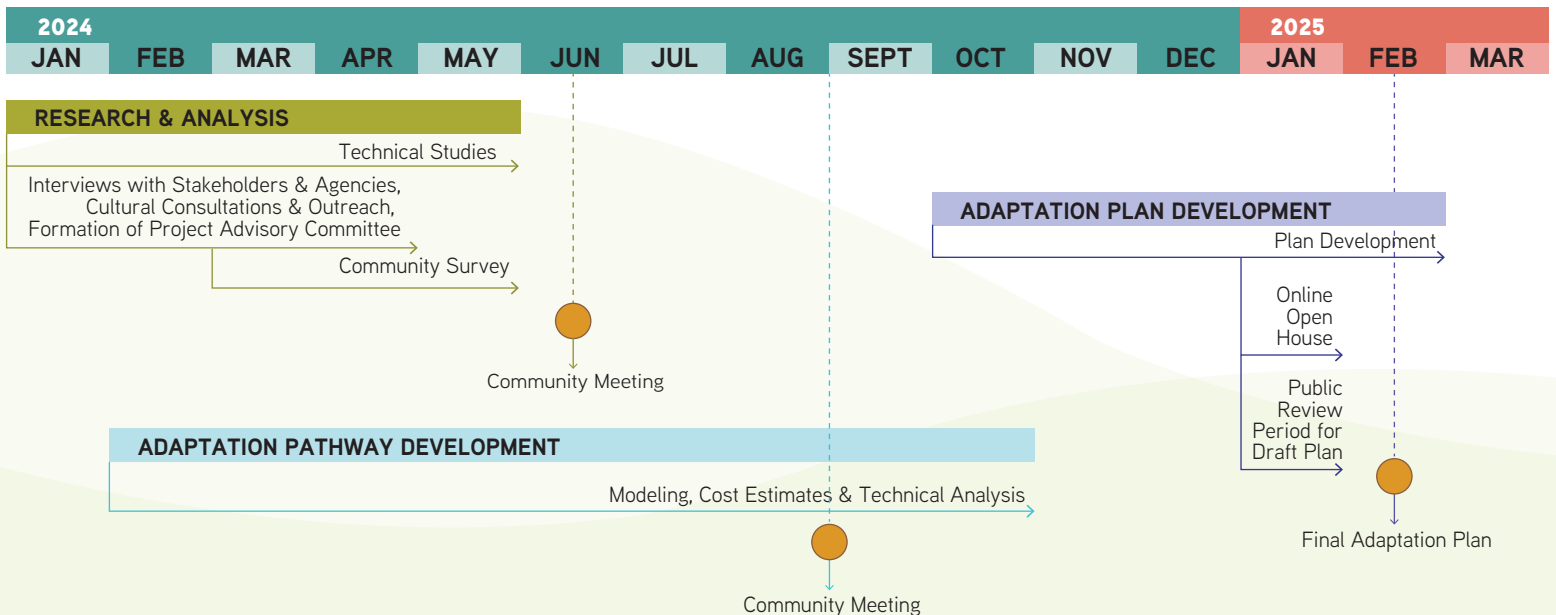
The 2021 Beach Park Vulnerability Assessment along with the newly acquired parcels provide an opportunity to reimagine Hoaloha as a vibrant urban waterfront park serving the needs of the local community while adapting to sea level rise impacts and coastal hazards.



Adaptation Pathways

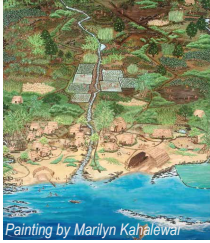
Adaptation pathways aim to create long-term, transparent, and flexible management strategies that allow for ongoing evaluation while responding to a community's changing needs. A number of easily observable physical, temporal, and economic triggers will be used to identify the most effective adaptation solutions and allow for future decisions to be made based on changing site conditions. Adaptation pathways will be shaped by community input and will form the backbone of the recommendations in the final adaptation plan.

Schedule



Hoaloha Park Timeline: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow

→ Pre-European Contact



Painting by Marilyn Kahaléwai

Modern-day Kahului boasted a network of rivers, streams, and wetlands that fed into Kahului Bay and irrigated lo'i (taro patches). The estuary provided a healthy nursery habitat for fish and limu, and supported a thriving community.

What are your memories of Hoaloha Park? What stories have you heard about this region?

→ Early 1900s

Dredging of Kahului Bay was completed and a 1,000-foot breakwater was constructed to create a safe harbor for boats, spurred by the commercialization of sugar.



Photo courtesy Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum

→ 1956

Construction of the Maui Seaside Hotel.

→ 1976

Protect Kaho'olawe 'ohana formed. Hoaloha Park is an important gathering and launching site for the Protect Kaho'olawe 'ohana.



Photo courtesy Hawaii State Archives

→ Today

Hoaloha Park is predominantly used by canoe clubs for Hawaiian canoe paddling activities. Surfing, paddleboarding, and wingfoiling are other popular ocean sports here, and many people fish in the area.



Photo credit: Nā Kai 'Ewalu Canoe Club

How has the use of Hoaloha Park changed over time? What role does the park play in your life?

→ Future

How do you envision Hoaloha Park adapting to future changes? How would you like to use the park going forward?

Hoaloha park is one of many parks in Kahului. With the newly expanded footprint of the park there is the potential to provide a vibrant urban waterfront park that serves the existing and future needs of the local community while responding to the impacts of projected sea level rise.

How to Get Involved

Community input will be critical to shape the vision and adaptation plan for Hoaloha Park. There will be a variety of ways to get involved and make your voice heard.



- Visit the project website
Visit www.mauicounty.gov/2787/Hoaloha-Park-Adaptation-Plan to learn more about the project and sign up for emails.



- Attend community events
Share your mana'o at an upcoming public event or online open house.



- Send us your comments
Submit your comments on the draft plan or email us directly.

For more information, please contact

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