



KAUA'I CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND ACTION PLAN - PART II: DIVISION ACTION PLANS

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User Guide

The Division Action Plans, or Part II of the CAAP, serve as guides for implementing the CAAP across County administration. They support the integration of CAAP actions into division workplans and assist with completing Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Project Initiation forms for relevant projects. The workplans provide clear guidance despite the long and uncertain timelines associated with climate hazards, ensuring that each division remains aligned with the CAAP's goals and can adjust plans as conditions evolve. This guide aims to facilitate coordination and execution of the CAAP actions throughout the County, providing a flexible framework that adapts to changing climate conditions consistent with the adaptation pathways approach. Refer to Appendix C for a comprehensive list of funding sources and financing instruments.

Each Action Plan includes:

- Detailed Actions: Each action specifies:
 - The CAAP Strategy being implemented.
 - Whether the action supports climate adaptation, GHG mitigation, or both.
 - The target timeline for implementation.
 - The geographic areas of the island where the action applies, or extent in scope.
 - Key partners, including other County Divisions and external collaborators. The list of partners is not exhaustive and is meant to be a starting point for collaboration.
- Support for Other Divisions: Actions also identify strategies implemented by other divisions that they are responsible for supporting.

List of Acronyms and Abbreviations (External Partners):

CWRM	DLNR Commission on Water Resource Management
DHHL	Hawai'i State Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
DLNR	Hawai'i State Department of Land and Natural Resources
DOA	Hawai'i State Department of Agriculture
DOE	Hawai'i State Department of Education
DOH	Hawai'i State Department of Health
HDOT	Hawai'i State Department of Transportation
HHARP	Hawai'i Hazards Awareness and Resilience Program
HPHA	Hawai'i State Public Housing Authority
HSEO	Hawai'i State Energy Office
HTA	Hawai'i Tourism Authority
HWMO	Hawai'i Wildfire Management Organization
KCC	Kaua'i Community College
KIUC	Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative
KVB	Kaua'i Visitors Bureau
OCCL	DLNR Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands
OHA	Office of Hawaiian Affairs
OPHP	Hawai'i State Office of Public Health Preparedness
OPSD	Hawai'i State Office of Planning & Sustainable Development
Pacific Birds	Pacific Birds Habitat Joint Venture
Sea Grant	University of Hawai'i Sea Grant Program
SHPD	Hawai'i State Historic Preservation Division
SWDB	DOH Safe Drinking Water Branch
UH	University of Hawai'i
USPBARC	U.S. Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center
VOAD	Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters

Office of the Mayor Action Plan

The Office of the Mayor provides leadership and direction to all county agencies. The office also administers the County’s operational and capital budgets and plans for major capital projects. The Mayor’s Office also includes the CIP management team who are responsible for major or special projects. In partnership with Public Works and Parks and Recreation, the Office of the Mayor will conduct assessments and upgrades to the municipal facilities that are not within the control of a single department. The Mayor’s Office will also increase staffing to support CAAP implementation and climate adaptation.

Facility Improvements

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
1.	<p>Building on the findings of the CAAP Vulnerability and Equity Analysis, conduct site-specific vulnerability assessments of county facilities to assess hazards such as SLR, wildfire, and flooding. This list includes but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waimea Fire Station • Waimea Police sub-station • Kapa’a Neighborhood Center • Kapa’a Swimming Pool 	<p>CI-7 Harden critical facilities (Adapt.) CI-12 Relocate critical facilities (Adapt.)</p>	5–10 years	Countywide	PW - Engineering, Fire, Parks	Sea Grant
2.	<p>Based on the above, prioritize facilities for relocation or implement necessary building/site upgrades, which may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installing air filters to protect against indoor air quality impacts during wildfire smoke exposure events • Modifying building materials and/or design features • Modifying landscaping to establish defensible space around structures and follow fire-wise landscaping practices • Implementing green stormwater infrastructure measures on the site 	<p>CI-7 Harden critical facilities (Adapt.) CI-12 Relocate critical facilities (Adapt.)</p>	5–10 years	Countywide;	PW - Engineering, Fire, Parks	N/A



New County Projects

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
3.	<p>Target specific County projects (such as affordable housing developments, and large projects of a specific threshold) to showcase best practices in sustainability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply low-embodied carbon material requirements Include solar plus storage 	LU-6 Low-embodied carbon materials (Mit.)	3–5 years	Residential and nonresidential new construction	Housing	N/A
4.	<p>Conduct wetland restoration on County lands deemed as appropriate for such efforts, such as the Waimea 400 area, as a technique to store floodwater and improve wildlife habitat.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate with watershed partnerships, state agencies, private landowners, and nonprofit groups to support projects that improve recharge in mauka areas, restore riparian and wetland habitats, for the purpose of enhancing water resources and reducing storm impacts. 	CL-4 Collaborate with partners (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide	N/A	DLNR, Sea Grant, Pacific Birds Venture

Programs and Policies

Employee Transportation Demand Management Program

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
5.	<p>Establish a County employee TDM program. Encourage employee trip reduction with a menu of options such as telework, improved transit information, guaranteed ride home program, commuter choice program, transit pass program, carpool preferential parking, secure bike parking, parking charges, prize incentives, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct a County employee commute and parking survey to better understand the sources and extent of greenhouse gas emissions associated with their daily travel and encourage more sustainable commuting options by optimizing parking resources. 	PD-17 County TDM (Mit.)	1–3 years	County employees	OED-Energy	N/A

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct engagement and trainings for County staff about TDM policies; include in new employee orientation. 					
6.	Support & promote telework or 4/10 schedules by offering more training for employees, supervisors and managers on effective remote work set ups to reduce trips, decrease vehicle emissions, and alleviate traffic congestion.	PD-17 County TDM (Mit.)	1–3 years	County employees	N/A	N/A

County Leadership

County Organizational Capacity

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
7.	<p>Expand the existing County Resiliency Team to include representatives from all agencies responsible for CAAP implementation. Responsibilities can include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting at least once a quarter to share progress Re-evaluating and setting KCAAP implementation priorities once a year based on progress made/not made, staffing, etc. Report on KCAAP activities through regular progress reports and develop subcommittees as needed to focus efforts. 	CL-1 Adaptation working group (Adapt./Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	All	N/A
8.	<p>Create a new County office with existing sustainability/resiliency staff, and/or hire new staff such as an adaptation manager, equity specialist, and grants writer, to support the implementation of climate-related programs Countywide, with duties including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tracking departments' progress on strategies and actions Managing partnerships with outside agencies and community partners, including supporting/assisting community-based adaptation projects Running the interdepartmental climate adaptation working group KCAAP outreach and engagement 	<p>CL-2 County adaptation staff (Adapt./Mit.)</p> <p>CL-3 Climate funding (Adapt./Mit.)</p>	1–3 years	Countywide	OED-All	N/A
9.	Provide training for municipal facilities managers on how to operate and manage green buildings.	CL-2 County adaptation staff (Adapt./Mit.)	3–5 years	Countywide	OED-Energy	KIUC

Community Outreach

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
10.	Establish a Youth Advisory Council (YAC) dedicated to advising the Mayor, Council, and County Departments on climate change policies, programs, and initiatives to integrate youth perspectives and foster sustainable practices.	CC-10 Community liaisons (Adapt./Mit.)	1-3 years	Countywide	OED-Sustainability	Schools

Advocacy

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
11.	Explore legal mechanisms to protect homeowners from post-disaster land speculation by developing protocols for a temporary moratorium on property sales in affected areas, allowing residents time to recover. Assess options for granting the County or a community land trust the right of first refusal to purchase properties, ensuring local control and community benefit.	AP-6 Disaster Recovery Plan (Adapt.)	1- 3 years	Countywide	KEMA	Community groups

Strategies that the Division Supports

Strategy	Division Plan	Action
CI-13	KEMA	Develop and implement site activation procedures for new emergency response centers and resilience hubs, including service mobilization, partnerships, community notifications, and staff training. Establish new centers in alignment with the CIP to enhance emergency preparedness and resilience.
CC-13	KEMA	Educate homeowners about the risks of selling their properties in the immediate aftermath of a disaster and the potential for exploitation. Provide information on their rights and available assistance.
CI-13	KEMA	Identify potential sites for new emergency response centers and resilience hubs in areas that could be isolated during hazard events. In addition to new facilities, consider existing facilities that can be upgraded to function as emergency response centers.
CI-2	OED-Agriculture	Develop programs to incentivize the restoration of habitats and indigenous agrosystems.

PD-4	OED-Agriculture	Support and promote farm-to-school initiatives that connect local farmers with schools to provide fresh, locally grown produce for school cafeterias and educational programs
AP-9	OED-Energy	Develop a Decarbonization Plan for county government operations that will: 1) Assess the need for and availability of renewable natural gas and renewable propane; 2) Develop an electric and alternative-fueled vehicles and equipment purchasing policy that supports the goal that all vehicle fleet purchases are ZEV by 2035; and 3) Develop a sustainable purchasing policy to support the plan's goals.
AP-11	OED-Energy	Seek funding opportunities to: 1) transition the County's light, medium, and heavy-duty fleet vehicles, as well as Kauai Bus, to zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) and zero-emission buses (ZEBs) and make needed baseyard improvements, 2) Expand EV charging and hydrogen fueling station infrastructure.
PD-13	OED-Energy	Conduct an energy and water audit of County facilities to develop a phased Energy Savings Performance Contract RFP, including efficiency measures, renewable energy, fleet conversion, facility upgrades, and funding opportunities.
CI-9	OED-Energy	Identify County facilities with high energy consumption (e.g., base yards, solid waste facilities) for potential Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) installation. Prioritize sites with the greatest potential for renewable energy and storage. Assess feasibility based on the communitywide renewable energy analysis under the Hawai'i Environmental Review Program (HEPA).
PD-9	OED-Sustainability	Work with County Manager and Purchasing Division to: Develop a list of preferred purchasing options to increase the emphasis on source reduction and reuse; Expand the use of bulk purchasing, material reuse, and other waste prevention measures by allowing for a price preference or other incentive for County Departments; Change bid specifications to provide a clear preference for recycled content products.
PD-9	OED-Sustainability	Conduct outreach to all County staff about the new purchasing policies; include as part of new employee orientation.
CI-12	Parks	Identify triggers for relocating facilities and infrastructure (e.g. Salt Pond Beach Park pavilions and camping facilities, portions of Ka Ala Hele Makalae bike path) from SLR impacts and flooding. When triggers are reached, relocate facilities and incorporate modular or moveable components in facility/equipment design when possible to allow the park infrastructure to continue moving away from coastal flooding and erosion zones. Schedule funding and improvements in the Six-Year CIP.
CL-4	Long Range	Participate in the State Climate Change Commission meetings, and other local and statewide climate adaptation-related meetings/collectives/working groups for up-to-date science and collaboration.
CL-4	Long Range	Support DLNR and USFWS in restoration planning, including forest, wetland, and reef restoration.
PD-9	Long Range	Update the Six-Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and align it with the annual budget process to prioritize filling gaps in the County's planned multimodal transportation network and the development of alternative evacuation routes
AP-8	PW-Engineering	Enhance Public Works' capacity for floodplain and stormwater management by expanding engagement in floodplain master planning and establishing grant-funded positions with expertise in floodplain management and the Community Rating System (CRS) to strengthen resilience efforts. Create a dedicated stormwater management division or hire specialized staff to oversee the implementation, enforcement, and ongoing management of updated stormwater standards.

Refer to Appendix C for a comprehensive list of funding sources and financing instruments.



Elderly Affairs Agency Action Plan

The Agency on Elderly Affairs plans, implements programs, and advocates for the well-being of older adults. This includes the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) which serves as a one-stop source for long-term care and support services. Climate change poses heightened risks to older adults and this can be addressed in their programs and services.

Planning

Plan Development

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
1.	In the future update of Area Plan for Aging, identify and support programs and address heat-related risks for older adults such as identifying vulnerable populations, expanding access to cooling centers, and implementing targeted support services during extreme heat events.	CC-11 Community notifications climate hazards (Adapt.)	1-3 years	Countywide	KEMA	DOH

Strategies that the Division Supports

Strategy		Action
CC-13	KEMA	Work with identified communities (Action #1) to detail and plan evacuation procedures and establish evacuation routes.

Emergency Management Agency Action Plan

KEMA's actions align with their existing duties, but they are expanded to account for new hazards or worsening impacts due to climate change (such as more frequent and intense wildfire, extreme precipitation and flooding, SLR, and extreme heat). KEMA's main levers for climate adaptation are conducting disaster planning with communities, upgrading or building new emergency facilities for community members to take refuge in, and creating robust outreach and engagement that prepares community members to be self-sufficient during a hazard event.

Planning

Assessment and Research

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
1.	Identify communities without redundant access which are highly vulnerable to event-based climate change hazards (such as those with extreme and high wildfire risk) including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hanapēpē Heights Wailua Houselots Pakala Village 	CC-13 Evacuation preparedness (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Planning – Long Range, PW-Engineering	Community groups
2.	Develop and build out County GIS initiatives to incorporate emergency management functions and participatory GIS (PGIS). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish data sharing agreements with KIUC, Water, and Public Works (Wastewater Division) Launch civic engagement GIS program to include community groups and interested individuals through collaborative data collection and management programs 	AP-1 Climate data (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Wastewater, Water	KIUC
3.	Identify sites for new emergency response centers and resilience hubs in areas that could be isolated during hazard events. In addition to new facilities, consider existing facilities that can be upgraded to function as emergency response centers.	CI-13 Emergency response and shelters (Adapt)	5–10 years	North Shore, West Kaua'i	OED-Sustainability, Mayor, Parks	Community groups

4.	Partner with the State DLNR to assess and map increased reservoir flood risks from climate change.	AP-2 Site-specific vulnerability assessments (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	PW-Engineering	DLNR
5.	Work with the National Weather Service and the other counties to study and adopt localized heat advisory thresholds.	CC-11 Community notification climate hazards (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	N/A	DOH

Plan Development

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
6.	Regularly update the Multi-Hazard Mitigation and Resiliency Plan to address evolving climate risks, such as stronger storms and sea-level rise. Frequent updates ensure effective response strategies, coordination with agencies, access to funding, and community resilience, helping to protect lives, property, and natural resources.	AP-6 – Disaster recovery plan (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Planning – Long Range	Sea Grant
7.	Develop and adopt a comprehensive disaster recovery plan aligned with the Build Back Better pre-disaster recovery framework project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defining roles and capabilities (with County agencies, community partners, and other groups) and organizational frameworks Establishing a communication and messaging strategy that enables two-way communication that not only informs the public about how/when to repair and reconstruct but also acts as a mechanism for reporting back and providing information Develop disaster reconstruction scenarios in collaboration with the community. Exploring options for restoration of critical community functions, services, vital resources, facilities, programs, and infrastructure. Create procedures that prioritize socially vulnerable communities 	AP-6 – Disaster recovery plan (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Planning – Long Range	Community groups, Sea Grant
8.	Expand upon the Build Back Better project and conduct pre-disaster recovery planning for additional communities, with the goal to establish pre-disaster recovery plans for the entire county.	AP-6 – Disaster recovery plan (Adapt.)	3-5 years	Countywide	Planning – Long Range	Community groups, Sea Grant

Capital Improvement

Emergency Response and Shelter Facilities

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
9.	Update the Emergency Shelter Plan and identify potential sites for new emergency shelters. Evaluate existing facilities that can be hardened to serve as shelters, and assess, map, and designate wildfire refuge areas. Incorporate a phased schedule for hardening County facilities and developing new shelters and refuges into the Capital Improvement Program (CIP).	CI-13 Emergency response and shelters (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide	N/A	Community organizations (e.g. HHARP)
10.	Develop and implement site activation procedures for new emergency response centers and resilience hubs, including service mobilization, partnerships, community notifications, and staff training. Establish new centers in alignment with the CIP to enhance emergency preparedness and resilience.	CI-13 Emergency response and shelters (Adapt.)	5–10 years	North Shore, West Kaua'i	Mayor	Community groups

Land Use

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
11.	Develop a Disaster Reconstruction Ordinance that establishes basic standard operating procedures for how permitting and regulation of reconstruction of private property will move forward after a disaster event.	AP-6 Disaster recovery plan (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Planning – Regulatory	Community groups, Sea Grant

Community Capacity

Outreach and Education

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
12.	<p>Increase community participation in the Wireless Emergency Notification System. Carry out in-person (e.g. pop-ups at community events) and online outreach (website and social media) to encourage residents to sign up for the system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner with trusted community organizations to disseminate climate-hazard notices to their service population, especially those organizations that serve socially vulnerable communities. 	CC-11 Hazard notifications (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	N/A	Community groups
13.	Create a mobile-accessible public awareness campaign and emergency guide to inform visitors about hazards such as floods, extreme precipitation, and wildfires. Partner with hotel operators, TVR operators, airlines, and tourism outreach programs to ensure regular updates and widespread dissemination, including specific information for hikers on flash flood risks.	CC-1 Visitor awareness (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	N/A	HTA, KVB
14.	Update the County website with a climate disaster preparation hub. Participate in annual community events to share disaster preparedness and climate hazard information, tips, and make it engaging for the family.	CC-12 Disaster self-reliance (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Fire	Community groups (i.e. VOAD), OPHP
15.	Educate homeowners about the risks of selling their properties in the immediate aftermath of a disaster and the potential for exploitation. Provide information on their rights and available assistance.	CC-12 Disaster self-reliance (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Mayor	N/A

Community Self-Reliance

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
16.	Work with identified communities (Action #1) to detail and plan evacuation procedures and establish evacuation routes.	CC-13 Evacuation preparedness (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Fire, Police, Elderly	N/A

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan for the evacuation of vulnerable populations (i.e. older adults, children, persons with disabilities). 					
17.	<p>Fund, relaunch, and recruit for the CERT and youth CERT program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify funding to relaunch the programs Publicize the programs on County social media to recruit new members Hold pop-up information and sign-up booths at County-hosted events and community volunteering events Integrate climate change hazard education into the program 	CC-10 Community liaisons (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Fire	N/A
18.	<p>Expand the Hawai'i Hazards Awareness and Resilience Program HHARP program to be established in other communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrate climate change hazard education into the educational program. 	CC-10 Community liaisons (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Fire	Sea Grant
19.	<p>Develop educational information on sheltering in place, tips on developing a personal go-kit, and instructions on developing a personal emergency plan for multiple climate shocks. Develop the materials to be shared on different platforms (print, social media, website, etc.).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner with and train community organizations to disseminate the information before, during, and after a climate hazard event. 	CI-13 Emergency response and shelters (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Fire	Community groups (i.e. VOAD), OPHP
20.	<p>Provide rebates for residents to purchase portable air filters to protect against indoor air quality impacts during wildfire smoke exposure events. Design a program to prioritize vulnerable populations.</p>	CI-13 Emergency response and shelters (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide; all buildings	N/A	DOH

Strategies that the Division Supports

Strategy	Division Plan	Action
AP-6	Mayor	Explore legal mechanisms to protect homeowners from post-disaster land speculation by developing protocols for a temporary moratorium on property sales in affected areas, allowing residents time to recover. Assess options for granting the County or a community land trust the right of first refusal to purchase properties, ensuring local control and community benefit.
AP-5	Fire	Update the Community Wildfire Protection Plan and develop an implementation program
LU-2	Fire	Update the Fire Code to identify combustible vegetation, such as Guinea Grass and Haole Koa, as a fire hazard and strengthen the provisions for brush clearance to establish fuel breaks near structures.
CI-8	Parks	Harden and upgrade prioritized Neighborhood Centers or other county facilities into resilience hubs by identifying necessary features like air conditioning, solar power, and communications, securing funding, and implementing improvements for climate hazard readiness.



LU-2	Planning-Regulatory	Develop and implement a Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) code along with a corresponding WUI overlay zone that mandates wildfire risk mitigation measures in vulnerable areas.
AP-6	Long Range	Integrate pre-disaster recovery planning and managed retreat considerations in all Community Plan updates, such as the East Kauai Community and Circulation and updates to the North Shore Development Plan and Kilauea Town Plan.
LU-3	Building	Update Building Codes for Hazard Resilience. Adopt the latest International Building Code to meet wind-borne region requirements and strengthen construction standards using the best available science and planning.
AP-1	PW-Engineering	Identify areas frequently impacted by or at risk of landslides, and prioritize stabilization efforts, especially in locations where landslides could threaten County roads and bridges, to ensure public safety and protect infrastructure.
AP-4	Solid Waste	Update the Landfill Emergency Management Plan to incorporate and build on the findings of the Kauai CAAP Vulnerability and Equity Analysis, in which conduct site-specific hazard vulnerability assessments of the landfill and transfer stations are considered.
AP-1	Wastewater	Expand the wastewater early warning system to detect and control the release of contaminants.
CI-6	Water	Identify funding to supply communities with an emergency water filtration system.

Finance Action Plan

The Department of Finance oversees real property, treasury functions, and fiscal management while conducting high-level tracking of funding and financing for CAAP actions. It will support other departments in securing funding for new programs and capital improvements.

County Leadership

Funding and Financing

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
2.	Assist departments in securing grants and funding for KCAAP implementation. Monitor funding opportunities for climate adaptation projects, especially for those capital improvements and programs that support socially vulnerable populations.	CL-3 Climate funding (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A
3.	Establish a funding source at the County level that taps visitor-focused uses (i.e. TVRs) to support flood risk reduction activities on County property, such as beach parks.	CL-3 Climate funding (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A

Strategies that the Division Supports

Strategy	Division Plan	Action
AP-6	Housing	Help establish community land trusts (CLTs) to support the acquisition of properties to maintain affordable housing or to respond to disasters
CI-1	OED	Provide grant opportunities to support coastal nature-based preservation efforts (i.e. dune restoration) and beach nourishment on a localized scale.
CI-1	OED	Create a program that pays residents for ecosystem services associated with beach and habitat restoration.
PD-2	Planning	Develop a managed retreat program after evaluating a range of options, such as:
LU-10	OED Energy	Draft and adopt an energy and water benchmarking ordinance for commercial buildings (businesses, industrial, resort, hotels, golf courses) over a specified square footage.
CI-1	Planning	Develop programs to help fund shoreline nature-based preservation efforts and beach nourishment at a localized scale through grants or by granting property tax relief to



Fire Action Plan

One of the Fire Department’s main levers to increase the community’s adaptive capacity is by increasing community preparation for wildfire. This includes supporting community wildfire planning, providing education about ways to reduce wildfire risk on properties, and continuing robust engagement and outreach to increase community members’ emergency preparedness. The Fire Department is also responsible for review and enforcing the Fire Code.

Planning

Plan Development

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
1.	Update the Community Wildfire Protection Plan and develop an implementation program	AP-5 Wildfire protection plan (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Planning-Long Range, KEMA, PW-All, Parks	HWMO
2.	Update the Fire Code to identify combustible vegetation, such as Guinea Grass and Haole Koa, as a fire hazard and strengthen the provisions for brush clearance to establish fuel breaks near structures.	LU-2 Resilient site design (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Planning-Regulatory, KEMA	HWMO

Capital Improvement

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
3.	Conduct regular fire inspections of County facilities and assess existing standards and ensure there is adequate fire hydrant coverage within high-risk WUI zones.	AP-5 Wildfire protection plan (Adapt.)	5–10 years	Countywide	PW - Engineering, Parks	N/A
4.	Maintain public open spaces in a way that buffers communities from wildfire.	LU-2 Resilient site design (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide	Parks	HWMO, DLNR

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider establishing fuel breaks around high risk communities Consider establishing a countywide brush/fuels reduction program Implement landscape improvement projects in alignment with CIP 	AP-5 Wildfire protection plan (Adapt.)				Community groups
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Community

Outreach and Education

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
5.	Conduct targeted outreach with hotel operators to discuss fire prevention/safety best practices such as maintaining defensible space and ignition-resistant building upgrades.	LU-2 Resilient site design (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide; hotels	N/A	HWMO
6.	Support communities to organize and become a Firewise USA community and support campaigns (like the 'Ready-Set-Go' campaign) to promote emergency preparedness and educate residents about vegetation management and how to maintain defensible space around homes and businesses in high wildfire risk areas.	AP-5 Wildfire protection plan (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide	N/A	HWMO
7.	<p>Develop and promote wildfire homes assessment programs to help property owners identify ignition-resistant improvements for their homes and properties.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train staff to conduct standardized wildfire home assessments. Develop a local Firewise program to train community volunteer assessors. Work with HWMO to offer educational material and recommendations for defensible space, building retrofits, and maintenance strategies to reduce wildfire risk 	LU-2 Resilient site design (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Planning - Regulatory	HWMO
8.	Prepare and distribute a landscape guide with plant lists that reduce fire risk factors.	CC-4 Climate ready guides (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide	N/A	HWMO

Strategies that the Division Supports

Strategy	Division Plan	Action
CC-12	KEMA	Update the County website with a climate disaster preparation hub. Participate in annual community events to share disaster preparedness and climate hazard information, tips, and make it engaging for the family
CC-10	KEMA	Work with identified communities (Action #1) to detail and plan evacuation procedures and establish evacuation routes.
CC-10	KEMA	Fund, relaunch, and recruit for the CERT and youth CERT program.
CC-10	KEMA	Expand the Hawai'i Hazards Awareness and Resilience Program HHARP program to be established in other communities.
CI-13	KEMA	Develop educational information on sheltering in place, tips on developing a personal go-kit, and instructions on developing a personal emergency plan for multiple
AP-2	Parks	Conduct a fuel load and fire risk assessment survey and mapping effort of County Parks. Identify priority areas for building and/or landscape modifications that reduce fire risk.
CI-4	Parks	Update design and maintenance policies and protocols to: Incorporate green and grey stormwater infrastructure; Incorporate fire-resistant landscaping and vegetation management
LU-2	Planning-Regulatory	Require adequate connectivity and redundant access in all new development. Modify subdivision regulations to require new developments implement measures for wildfire safety such as:
LU-2	Planning-Regulatory	Develop and implement a Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) code along with a corresponding WUI overlay zone that mandates wildfire risk mitigation measures in vulnerable areas.
LU-3	Building	Create a comprehensive island map to identify fire-prone areas and explore adopting the International WUI Code in collaboration with the Fire Department. Secure a consultant to develop a program offering financial and technical support, prioritizing vulnerable homeowners for wildfire-resistant retrofits.

Housing Action Plan

The Housing Agency supports climate adaptation by overseeing the development of energy-efficient public housing that enhances resilience to climate impacts. It also manages the Cesspool Conversion Incentive Program, offering financial incentives for property owners to replace outdated cesspool systems with septic systems.

County Leadership

Program Development

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
1.	<p>Collaborate with the State DOH to support cesspool conversion by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducting outreach to inform homeowners about State cesspool conversion requirements and available State and County resources. Actively promote the County's incentive program, emphasizing support for lower-income households in priority areas identified by the 2021 Hawai'i Cesspool Hazard Assessment and Prioritization Tool Report. Creating a user-friendly public dashboard to monitor and report progress on cesspool conversions. Include data on participation in the County's grant program to ensure transparency and encourage community engagement. 	CI-14 Cesspool conversion (Adapt.)	1-3 years	Countywide	Wastewater	DOH
2.	<p>Help establish community land trusts (CLTs) to support the acquisition of properties to maintain affordable housing or to respond to disasters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide direct grants or partner with CLTs and other entities to purchase properties, particularly in the aftermath of a disaster Explore offering property tax abatements or exemptions for properties held by CLTs to reduce their operating costs, making it easier to maintain affordability Develop a program to assist in the transfer of county-owned land to CLTs to expand their capacity to create affordable housing. 	AP-6 Disaster recovery plan (Adapt.)	3-5 years	Countywide	Finance	Community groups



Strategies that the Division Supports

Strategy	Division Plan	Action
LU-6	Mayor	Target specific County projects (such as affordable housing developments, and large projects of a specific threshold) to showcase best practices in sustainability
PD-4	Planning-Regulatory	Require affordable housing development to set aside percentage of land for community gardening opportunities to help manage stormwater runoff and contribute to temperature regulation.
PD-2	Long Range	Identify potential sites for a County-led managed retreat program and County land, engage with interested communities, and implement a pilot project. (i.e. Incorporate space within the Waimea 400 master planned development to accommodate a future managed retreat program.)

Office of Economic Development – Agricultural Program Action Plan

One of the Agricultural Program’s main levers to further climate mitigation and adaptation is supporting farmers through research, education, and disaster pre-planning. The program will encourage implementation of resilient water practices and the restoration of indigenous agrosystems. The Program will also act as a liaison between the state and Kaua’i’s agricultural communities; staff will advocate for legislation and funding to support agriculture, as well as work to connect farmers to state resources.

Planning

Assessment and Research

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
1.	Conduct studies that assess best practices to support soil health, GHG sequestration, and regenerative practices based on Hawaii's climate conditions. Determine best practices for small farm operations.	AP-1 Climate data (Adapt./Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A
2.	Monitor climate change impacts on Kauai’s agriculture, including water salinity, availability, temperature, and soil health. Provide information and support for farmers to access salt-tolerant crops.	AP-1 Climate data (Adapt./Mit.)	3–5 years	Countywide	N/A	DLNR, UH, USPBARC, HARC

Plan Development

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
3.	Develop a local ag land strategy using updated soil classifications to protect farmland, support regenerative practices, and mitigate water impacts. Include sustainable surface water management, farmland preservation, and support for small to medium-scale diversified agriculture. Engage farmers and conduct community outreach.	PD-4 Working lands (Adapt./Mit.)	3–5 years	Countywide	Planning – Long Range	SDWB, DLNR, DOA, NRCS, KCC, OPSD

Programs and Policies

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
4.	<p>Develop a program to monitor, evaluate and address the impacts of SLR and climate hazards on indigenous crop systems, partnering with organizations like the Waipa Foundation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support small kalo farmers in creating pre-disaster plans through outreach and a co-creation process with stakeholders and relevant agricultural organizations. 	<p>AP-3 – Pre-planning for cultural resources (Adapt.)</p> <p>CI-2 – Indigenous agrosystems (Adapt.)</p>	5–10 years	Countywide	N/A	DHHL, OHA, community groups (Hanalei Watershed Hui, Malama Kaua'i, Waipā Foundation)
5.	<p>Develop a managed retreat pilot program for farmers that may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A lot buyout program for specific agricultural properties A property swap/land swap program which allows opportunities to steward and caretake family lands. A leaseback program Encouraging farmers to incorporate modular or moveable components in facility design to allow them to continue moving away from coastal flooding and erosion zones. 	PD-2 – Managed retreat (Adapt.)	5–10 years	Countywide; Potential focus areas in North Shore and West Side	Planning – Long Range	DLNR, DOA, DHHL
6.	<p>Expand and promote incentive or mini-grant programs to help farmers develop water storage and onsite efficiency measures, focusing on small farmers and socially vulnerable communities through OED's Ag Farm Expansion and Innovation Grants.</p>	PD-4 Working lands (Adapt.)	Ongoing	Countywide	N/A	CWRM, DOA, DLNR
7.	<p>Develop programs to incentivize the restoration of habitats and indigenous agrosystems. Program components to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish program to pay farmers per acre of wetland agrosystem restored (ecosystem service payments) Purchase land in fee title or purchase easements Establish grant program to fund restoration projects 	CI-2 Indigenous agrosystems (Adapt.)	5–10 years	Countywide	Mayor	DLNR

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner with DLNR and/or other qualified entities to develop and carry out restoration plans 					
8.	Identify and support pilot agrivoltaic projects that maintain active farming while generating renewable energy	PD-4 Working lands (Adapt.)	Ongoing	Countywide	N/A	DOA, KIUC

Community Capacity

Outreach and Education

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
9.	Partner with agriculture organizations to facilitate workshops and education on key topics, including climate impact messaging, best management practices for flood and runoff mitigation, composting and cover cropping for carbon sequestration, salt-tolerant and drought-tolerant crop research, and integrating Native Hawaiian practices for climate adaptation. Provide additional workshops and assistance on funding and cost-share opportunities to implement BMPs.	CC-2 – Climate change literacy (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	N/A	DOA, DHHL Agriculture Homestead Assoc., UH KCC and CTAHR, community organizations, Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners
10.	Act as a liaison to assist farmers in navigating the state regulatory process related to the installation of private water storage and irrigation systems on agricultural lands.	CC-7 State water programs (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide	N/A	CWRM, DOA, DOW, DLNR

County Leadership

Advocacy

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
11.	Support and scale farm-to-institution initiatives that connect local farmers with schools, hospitals, military bases (PMRF), KCCC, and other large buyers. This program will increase access to fresh, locally grown produce, strengthen local food systems, reduce food transportation emissions, and promote nutrition education.	PD-4 Working lands (Adapt./Mit.)	3–5 years	Countywide	N/A	Private and Charter Schools, DOE
12.	Advocate for legislation that supports cost-sharing mechanisms to incentivize adoption of regenerative and climate smart agriculture practices.	CL-9 Regenerative practices (Adapt./Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Mayor	N/A

Office of Economic Development – Energy Program Action Plan

The Energy Program’s main levers in the CAAP are building decarbonization; increasing the adoption of ZEVs and e-mobility; implementation of energy efficiency measures (at the community and County facility levels); and coordination with KIUC. The program will also advocate for stronger state legislation on those topics.

Planning

Assessment and Research

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
1.	Assess financial impact of EVSE-installed requirements for existing lots and evaluate the possible retroactive enforcement of the State’s EV Charging System requirements in HRS 291-71 (for parking lots of 100 spaces or more).	LU-7 Support EV ready/EVSE (Mit.)	1–3 years	Multifamily residential and commercial development	Planning-Regulatory	KIUC, DOE,
2.	Conduct a cost-effectiveness study of a phased-in carbon-free energy reach code to understand its impacts on housing costs, utility savings, and other relevant factors, while simultaneously researching new technologies and low-embodied carbon materials for public use. Additionally, engage with suppliers to ensure sufficient availability of low-embodied carbon materials on the island in preparation for the low-embodied carbon materials ordinance referenced in the code update.	LU-5 Energy source code (Mit.)	3–5 years	All new construction	Building	N/A

Plan Development

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
3.	Develop a Decarbonization Plan for county government operations that will: 1) Assess the need for and availability of renewable natural gas and renewable propane; 2) Develop an electric and alternative-fueled vehicles and equipment purchasing policy that supports the goal that all	AP-9 Decarbonization plan for county (Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Mayor, Parks, PW-AII	KIUC



	vehicle fleet purchases are ZEV by 2035; and 3) Develop a sustainable purchasing policy to support the plan's goals.					
4.	Align County decarbonization efforts with the State Decarbonization Plan which provides recommendations for achieving the State's economy-wide decarbonization goals.	AP-9 Decarbonization plan for county (Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide; All existing buildings	N/A	N/A
5.	Develop a county-wide Decarbonization Plan for all new buildings that will: 1) Include a burnout campaign to encourage electric alternatives to gas appliances; 2) Recommendations for energy audits and electric panel updates at time of sale, and 3) a timeline for phasing in of requirements.	AP-10 Decarbonization plan (Mit.)	3-5 years	Countywide; Residential and nonresidential existing buildings	Building	KIUC
6.	Draft and adopt a Clean Fuel Transportation Plan to prioritize clean fuel infrastructure and transition the County fleet to ZEVs and equipment to electric. Gather data from similar initiatives, engage alternative fuel suppliers, assess ZEV options for fleet needs, consult with County departments on feasibility, provide staff training, and collaborate with HR and unions if new job classifications are needed.	AP-11 Clean fuel transportation (Mit.) PD-18 County equipment (Mit.)	3–5 years	Countywide	Parks, PW-All, Transportation	HDOT, KIUC

Capital Improvement

Capital Improvements

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
7.	Expand publicly available EV infrastructure, including curbside charging installations and EVCS at County facilities (affordable housing sites, parks, neighborhood centers, baseyards). Coordinate with HDOT, KIUC, and other agencies and organizations when identifying locations to build out Kauai's public EV charging network. Work with State agencies, KIUC, and non-profits to routinely survey public EV charging needs, especially in multifamily rental housing developments.	AP-11 Clean fuel transportation (Mit.)	3–5 years	Countywide	PW-All, Parks, Housing	HDOT, KIUC, DOE, DHHL, HPHA

8.	Conduct an energy and water audit of County facilities to develop a phased Energy Savings Performance Contract RFP, including efficiency measures, renewable energy, fleet conversion, facility upgrades, and funding opportunities.	PD-13 Energy savings performance contract (Mit.)	1-3 years	Countywide; municipal buildings	Mayor	N/A
9.	Identify County facilities with high energy consumption (e.g., base yards, solid waste facilities) for potential Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) installation. Prioritize sites with the greatest potential for renewable energy and storage. Assess feasibility based on the communitywide renewable energy analysis under the Hawai'i Environmental Review Program (HEPA).	CI-9 County renewable energy (Mit.)	1-3 years	Countywide	Mayor	KIUC

Programs and Policies

Program Development

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
10.	<p>Draft and adopt an energy and water benchmarking ordinance for commercial buildings (businesses, industrial, resort, hotels, golf courses) over a specified square footage. Ordinance shall initially be voluntary and phased-in, then become mandatory after 2035.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct a study to determine the appropriate square footage threshold for a county energy and water benchmarking ordinance. Perform an energy and water audit on County facilities and develop protocol for managing water and energy waste. Report County facility energy and water usage one year prior to voluntary reporting for communitywide commercial buildings with the new benchmarking ordinance. 	LU-10 Energy and water benchmarking (Mit.)	1-3 years	Nonresidential existing development (businesses, industrial, resort, hotels, golf courses)	OED-All, Finance, Building	HSEO, C&C Honolulu
11.	<p>Create a rebate or incentive program to assist local businesses to purchase, lease, or rent cargo e-bikes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider piloting an e-mobility lending library through the county 	PD-15 E-mobility (Mit.)	3-5 years	Countywide; businesses	OED-Tourism, Housing	KIUC, Hawai'i Energy
12.	Partner with a shared mobility company to pilot a ZEV carshare program. Select an operator, identify pick-up and drop-off locations on private (e.g., shopping centers, multifamily buildings,	PD-16 ZEV carshare (Mit.)	3-5 years	Countywide	OED-Tourism, Housing	KIUC

hotels) and public properties (e.g., civic facilities, street parking), and prioritize equity by considering communities and areas with low car ownership.					
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Community Capacity

Outreach and Education

#	5	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
13.	Promote ZEV adoption by centralizing information on benefits, incentives, charging infrastructure, and station locations on a webpage. Use the platform for education, success stories, and awareness campaigns. Partner with KauaiEV and similar organizations to highlight new County ZEV and EVCS policies and programs at events like classes, talk stories, and ride-and-drive experiences.	CC-8 ZEV education (Mit.)	1-3 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A
14.	Promote the cost and environmental benefits of building decarbonization and carbon-free energy sources to builders, property owners, and contractors on the County website and at the County permit counters.	AP-10 Decarbonization plan (Mit.)	3-5 years	Residential and nonresidential existing buildings	PW-Building	KIUC

Promote Incentives and Programs

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
15.	Partner with KIUC to promote and implement energy efficiency programs and energy audits. Track and report on participation.	CL-5 KIUC partnerships (Mit.) CC-6 KIUC efficiency (Mit.)	Ongoing	Residential and nonresidential existing buildings	N/A	KIUC, Hawai'i Energy

16.	Collaborate with Hawai'i Energy and KIUC to identify funding sources and expand outreach for EV-ready rebates and grants. Support KIUC in promoting its Commercial EV Charger Rebate program and the Hawai'i Electric EVCS Incentive Program.	CL-5 KIUC partnerships (Mit.) LU-7 Support EV ready/EVSE (Mit.)	Ongoing	Multifamily residential and nonresidential new construction	N/A	KIUC, Hawai'i Energy
17.	Promote subsidies and incentives for purchasing e-mobility, including the Hawai'i e-bike and e-moped rebate.	PD-15 E-mobility options (Mit.)	3-5 years	Countywide	N/A	Community groups

County Leadership

Funding and Financing

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
18.	Seek funding opportunities to: 1) transition the County's light, medium, and heavy-duty fleet vehicles, as well as Kauai Bus, to zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) and zero-emission buses (ZEBs) and make needed baseyard improvements, 2) Expand EV charging and hydrogen fueling station infrastructure.	AP-11 Clean fuel transportation plan (Mit.)	3-5 years	Countywide	Transportation, Mayor, Parks	HDOT
19.	Establish a funding source to help existing homes and businesses to phase out gas use, prioritizing vulnerable populations and low-income communities.	AP-10 Decarbonization plan (Mit.)	3-5 years	Residential and nonresidential existing buildings	N/A	N/A

Advocacy

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
20.	Support KIUC and Hawai'i Energy in securing funding to establish a ZEV rebate program and expand the EVCS rebate program. Advocate for state-level incentives, including rebates for ZEV purchases and vehicle replacement programs.	CL-7 State ZEV support (Mit.)	Ongoing	Countywide	N/A	KIUC, Hawai'i Energy
21.	Advocate to KIUC to establish time-of-use (TOU) rates for EV charging to single family residential, multifamily residential, and workplace customers	CL-5 KIUC partnerships (Mit.)	1-3 years	Countywide	N/A	KIUC

Strategies that the Division Supports

Strategy	Division Plan	Action
PD-17	Mayor	Establish a County employee TDM program. Encourage employee trip reduction with a menu of options such as telework, improved transit information, guaranteed ride home program, commuter choice program, transit pass program, carpool preferential parking, secure bike parking, parking charges, prize incentives, etc.
CL-2	Mayor	Provide training for municipal facilities managers on how to operate greener buildings and manage them.
PD-14	OED Tourism	Expand the TDM requirements of new and expanded hotels and resorts to include clean transportation (ZEVs, EVCS, e-micromobility).
CC-8	OED Tourism	Develop and distribute visitor-focused educational materials on zero-emission travel options, cost savings, and EV charging locations. Leverage visitor industry channels to encourage sustainable transportation choices
PD-14	OED Tourism	Support Hawai'i Tourism Authority's implementation of Kauai Destination Management Plan <i>Action E-3: Meet with and discuss with rental car agencies and car sharing companies to provide electric vehicles, and increase incentives to install EV chargers at the airport and at potential high-use car share locations.</i>
CL-6	OED Workforce	Support UH and KCC in expanding trades programs to train students in jobs related to climate mitigation and adaptation, such retrofitting buildings for climate resilience.
CL-6	OED Workforce	Conduct outreach with stakeholders including electrician industry groups, KCC, and private sector employers on workforce development needs to support the growth of ZEVs
CC-8	OED Workforce	Work with partners to launch an expo highlighting business, career, and training opportunities in ZEV technologies and other green industries. Explore how the County can provide hands-on learning experiences for local students and industry apprentices on County ZEV pilot and infrastructure projects.
LU-5	PW Building	Develop a phased reach code requiring new construction and significant alterations (50% or more of the original building size) to be at least 50% powered by carbon-free energy, with increasing requirements over time. Hire a consultant to draft the ordinance, facilitate public hearings, and prepare it for County Council adoption.

CC-4	PW Building	Promote Green Building Incentives. Once a program has been established, develop educational resources and materials to distribute online and through outreach to stakeholders.
CI-10	PW Solid Waste	Conduct a study of waste-to-energy at the landfill.



Office of Economic Development – Sustainability Action Plan

One of the Office of Economic Development – Sustainability Program’s main levers for climate mitigation is reducing landfilled waste. The Program’s actions to achieve this include reducing single-use water bottles and implementing a sustainable County purchasing policy. The Program is also supportive of actions in other departments, including those to increase mode shift and many of the other solid waste-related measures. On the adaptation side, the Program is responsible for creating a program to incentivize community efforts to implement nature-based improvements on beaches to reduce the impacts of SLR.

Planning

Assessment and Research

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
1.	Explore the potential for transitioning schools away from single-use plastics by providing reusable alternatives, such as the installation of energy-efficient dishwashers and installing refillable stations at private schools. Share process and results with DOE to explore potential in public schools.	PD-11 Plastic packaging reduction (Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide; Schools	N/A	DOE
2.	Identify and assess brownfield sites, focusing on pollution sources and sites that may become more problematic with climate change impacts. Assess sites based on criteria including their size, location, environmental conditions, and potential for adaptation to climate change.	PD-1 Transit oriented development (Adapt.)	1–3 years	North Shore, Līhu‘e, East Kaua‘i, West Kaua‘i	Planning – Long Range	Community groups, Landowners
3.	Research potential amendments to the plumbing code that would encourage or require greywater use and laundry-to-landscape systems, such as development of a Greywater Code.	CC-7 Water efficiency (Adapt./Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide; Residential construction	Building	N/A
4.	Conduct a materials flow analysis to study the island's material consumption, waste generation, and associated emissions to determine steps to reach a circular economy.	CL-8 Source Reduction (Mit.)	5-10 years	Countywide	Solid Waste	N/A

Programs and Policies

Program Development

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
5.	Coordinate with Parks and other partners to plan and develop resilience hubs to enhance community resilience before, during, and after climate hazard events, like flooding, hurricanes, extreme heat events while strengthening community capacity year-round.	CI-8 Resilience hubs (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Parks	Community groups
6.	Provide grant opportunities to support coastal nature-based preservation efforts (i.e. dune restoration) and beach nourishment on a localized scale.	CI-1 Nature-based strategies (Adapt.)	3-5 years	Countywide	Finance	DLNR, Community groups
7.	<p>Create a program that pays residents for ecosystem services associated with beach and habitat restoration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider establishing a program to pay landowners and/or organizations per unit of beach restored. Identify the unit of measure through program development. Consider establishing a grant program to fund restoration projects. Track the State's Payments for Ecosystem Services Pilot Programs to understand best practices and ensure benefits also apply to Kauai. 	CI-1 Nature-based strategies (Adapt.)	3-5 years	Countywide	Finance	DLNR, Community groups
8.	Incentivize redevelopment of brownfield sites in alignment with the County's climate adaptation goals, through zoning and land-use regulations, tax incentives, grants, or low-interest loans	PD-1 Transit oriented development (Mit.)	5-10 years	Countywide	Planning – Long Range	Community groups

Community Capacity

Outreach and Education

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
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9.	Develop an online map of refillable water station locations in the county for community awareness of public water stations. This effort will strengthen public awareness of where to access drinking water and provide opportunities for people vulnerable to the negative health impacts of heat to cool off and avoid dehydration.	PD-10 Refillable stations (Adapt./Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A
10.	Create a community hub or network that brings together the County, businesses, researchers, and community organizations to collaborate on circular economy projects and share best practices.	CL-9 Advance regenerative practices (Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A
11.	Continue the Youth Climate Class program and focus on partnerships with schools and hold an annual Youth Climate Summit that incorporates both western sciences and Hawaiian knowledge and methodologies.	CC-2 Climate change literacy (Adapt./Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	OED-Energy	Sea Grant, Community groups
12.	Develop and share educational materials and campaigns on climate hazards—such as extreme heat and hurricanes—their impacts, and actions individuals can take to prepare. Collaborate with relevant County departments and continue to collaborate with the State Department of Health and all Counties on the Climate Change and Health educational campaigns.	CC-2 Climate change literacy (Adapt./Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide		DOH

County Leadership

County Organizational Capacity

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
13.	Work with County Manager and Purchasing Division to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a list of preferred purchasing options to increase the emphasis on source reduction and reuse. Expand the use of bulk purchasing, material reuse, and other waste prevention measures by allowing for a price preference or other incentive for County Departments. 	PD-9 – Recycled product purchasing (Mit.)	3-5 years	Countywide; Municipal purchases	Solid Waste, Finance, Mayor	N/A

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change bid specifications to provide a clear preference for recycled content products 					
14.	Conduct outreach to all County staff about the new purchasing policies; include as part of new employee orientation.	PD-9 – Recycled product purchasing (Mit.)	3-5 years	Countywide; Municipal purchases	Solid Waste, Finance, Mayor	N/A
15.	Promote the use of the County's Virtual Reuse Room or a similar program to incentivize reuse of office supplies and equipment among County departments	PD-9 – Recycled product purchasing (Mit.)	3-5 years	Countywide; Municipal purchases	Solid Waste	N/A

Funding and Financing

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
16.	Seek funding opportunities from federal and state government, private sector, and public-private partnerships to support brownfield revitalization projects.	PD-1 Transit-oriented development (Adapt.)	5-10 years	Countywide	Planning – Long Range	Community groups
17.	Explore funding mechanisms that invest in circular economy on island.	CL-8 Source reduction (Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A

Strategies that the Division Supports

Strategy	Division Plan	Action
CC-10	Mayor	Establish a Youth Advisory Council (YAC) dedicated to advising the Mayor, Council, and County Departments on climate change policies, programs, and initiatives to integrate youth perspectives and foster sustainable practices.
CI-13	KEMA	Identify potential sites for new emergency response centers and resilience hubs in areas that could be isolated during hazard events. In addition to new facilities, consider existing facilities that can be upgraded to function as emergency response centers.
CI-8	Parks	Harden and upgrade prioritized Neighborhood Centers or other county facilities into resilience hubs by identifying necessary features like air conditioning, solar power, and
PD-10	Parks	Add refillable water stations at County parks and neighborhood centers and install reef-safe sunscreen dispensers at popular County beach parks.
CI-1	Long Range	Develop programs to help fund shoreline nature-based preservation efforts and beach nourishment at a localized scale through grants or by granting property tax relief to private property owners who pool resources.



CC-2	Long Range	Maintain the CAAP website as a central hub for climate change information and planning in Kauai County, featuring: Mode shift benefits, incentives, and safe transportation practices; Local climate-related stories to enhance community understanding (story bank); Youth-focused climate education resources; Resources from partner agencies; and Climate change literacy materials, including information on local climate hazards and risks
PD-8	PW Solid Waste	Initiate a feasibility study of photovoltaic (PV) and zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) battery recycling options, including research on what other commercial PV operators are doing when PV panels reach their end of life.
PD-11	PW Solid Waste	Assess the success of Maui's new ban on all plastic disposable food ware and evaluate the findings of the State Plastics Source Reduction Working Group (with respect to reusable containers at restaurants).
PD-11	PW Solid Waste	Draft and adopt an ordinance expanding policies for plastic and polystyrene reduction and compostable use to include single-use plastic packaging materials and foodware. Establish monitoring and enforcement processes.
CC-9	PW Solid Waste	Enhance the school Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle (3R) program.
CC-9	PW Solid Waste	Promote the State Green Recognition Program.
CC-9	PW Solid Waste	Conduct a business survey to understand educational needs around the new solid waste programs and policies. Identify focus areas, then target businesses that may require technical assistance.
PD-11	PW Solid Waste	Engage stakeholders on policies to expand reduce single use packaging materials and foodware. Engage on topics including the ordinance's potential impact, alternative products, supply of product on island, and benefits of the ordinance. Stakeholders should include: restaurants, businesses, local shipping/delivery companies, packaging and foodware suppliers, and the Chamber of Commerce.
CL-8	PW Solid Waste	Advocate the State Legislature to create laws that reduce the use of single use plastics statewide.
CL-8	PW Solid Waste	Work with other municipalities and the State Legislature to modify current government disposal options to increase use of material beyond their normal lifecycle by donation or other means. Rules should include restrictions on resale of material for a set amount of time after receipt.

Office of Economic Development – Tourism Action Plan

The Office of Economic Development – Tourism and Workforce Program’s main lever for climate change mitigation is transitioning visitor transportation to ZEVs, transit, and other alternative modes. The Program’s main lever to increase climate adaptation is through education about hazards and emergency preparedness to visitors and the operators of TVRs, resorts, and hotels. Many of the Program’s actions require close coordination with Hawai’i Tourism Authority.

Programs and Policies

Program Development

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
1.	Create an outreach and/or incentive program to encourage existing hotels and resorts to install EVCS and transition to ZEV shuttles and fleets.	PD-14 Clean Visitor Transportation (Mit.)	3-5 years	Hotels and resorts	N/A	N/A
2.	Expand the TDM requirements of new and expanded hotels and resorts to include clean transportation (ZEVs, EVCS, e-micromobility).	PD-14 Clean Visitor Transportation (Mit.)	3-5 years	Hotels and resorts	OED – Energy, Planning-Regulatory	N/A

Community Capacity

Outreach and Education

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
3.	Develop and distribute visitor-focused educational materials on zero-emission travel options, cost savings, and EV charging locations. Leverage visitor industry channels to encourage sustainable transportation choices.	CC-8 ZEV education (Mit.)	3-5 years	Countywide; Hotels and resorts, TVRs	OED – Energy	KVB

County Leadership

Collaboration with State Agencies

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
4.	Support Hawai'i Tourism Authority's implementation of Kauai Destination Management Plan <i>Action E-3: Meet with and discuss with rental car agencies and car sharing companies to provide electric vehicles, and increase incentives to install EV chargers at the airport and at potential high-use car share locations.</i>	PD-14 Clean Visitor Transportation (Mit.)	3-5 years	Countywide	OED – Energy	HTA

Strategies that the Division Supports

Strategy	Division Plan	Action
PD-15	OED-Energy	Create a rebate or incentive program to assist local businesses to purchase, lease, or rent cargo e-bikes. Consider piloting an e-mobility lending library through the county
PD-16	OED-Energy	Partner with a shared mobility company to pilot a ZEV carshare program. Select an operator, identify pick-up and drop-off locations on private (e.g., shopping centers, multifamily buildings, hotels) and public properties (e.g., civic facilities, street parking), and prioritize equity by considering communities and areas with low car ownership.
PD-2	Long Range	Encourage hotels highly vulnerable to SLR to develop regularly updated climate adaptation strategies, in which retreat (e.g. the relocation/removal of structures, infrastructure, and/or amenities exposed to SLR hazards) is considered.

Office of Economic Development – Workforce Program

Action Plan

The Office of Economic Development (OED) Workforce Program can support climate change action by developing a skilled workforce for green jobs, fostering local resilience, and driving sustainable economic growth.

Community Capacity

Outreach and Education

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
1.	Support UH and KCC in expanding trades programs to train students in jobs related to climate mitigation and adaptation, such retrofitting buildings for climate resilience.	CL-6 ZEV Training (Mkit.)	3–5 years	Countywide	Building	N/A
2.	Conduct outreach with stakeholders including electrician industry groups, KCC, and private sector employers on workforce development needs to support the growth of ZEVs.	CL-6 ZEV Training, CC-4 Climate ready guides (Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	OED – Energy	N/A
3.	<p>Work with partners to launch an expo highlighting business, career, and training opportunities in ZEV technologies and other green industries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore how the County can provide hands-on learning experiences for local students and industry apprentices on County ZEV pilot and infrastructure projects. 	CC-8 ZEV education (Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	OED – Energy	KCC, industry groups

Parks and Recreation

The Department of Parks and Recreation manages County beach parks, other open spaces, and many county facilities. These assets can be leveraged to increase habitat restoration activities, provide places for community members to shelter during hazard events, and are an important component of a managed retreat strategy. The Department will need to incorporate changes in the types of infrastructure, plantings, and management practices used on County parklands to further climate adaptation and mitigation. The Department may even need to relocate or harden infrastructure that is vulnerable to hazards.

Planning

Assessment and Research

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
1.	<p>Identify beaches where dune restoration is a viable option for increased resiliency and beach health. Current candidates are Salt Pond, Waikoko, Po'ipu, and Kapa'a Beach Park. Dune restoration can take place with or without nourishment of the beach and may increase the ability of the beach to maintain a healthy profile and protect backshore infrastructure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate with state agencies to identify and assess potential sources of sand material, such as dredging projects or other sustainable methods, to support ongoing and future dune restoration efforts Conduct technical studies to evaluate and validate dune restoration techniques. Collaborate with regulatory agencies to develop a streamlined permitting process for beaches requiring repetitive restoration after storm events, while maintaining environmental compliance. 	CI-1 Nature-based strategies (Adapt.)	1-3 years	Countywide;	Planning – Long Range	OCCL; Sea Grant
2.	<p>Conduct SLR and flood vulnerability assessments of all coastal County Parks, especially Salt Pond Beach Park, Poipu Beach Park, Ha'ena Beach Park, and the coastline along the Ke Ala Hele Makalae.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess the potential to establish new parks along eroding and flooding coastlines as part of the County's managed retreat strategy. Identify priority areas for building and/or landscape modifications 	AP-2 Vulnerability assessments (Adapt.) AP-4 Facility Adaptation (Adapt.)	1-3 years	Countywide; See action for priority beaches	Planning – Long Range	Sea Grant

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify key opportunity areas that are hydrologically and culturally appropriate to act as flood buffer zones or drainage retention areas. 					
3.	Conduct a fuel load and fire risk assessment survey and mapping effort of County Parks. Identify priority areas for building and/or landscape modifications—including xeriscaping and the use of drought-tolerant, fire-resistant plants—that reduce fire risk.	AP-2 Vulnerability assessments (Adapt.)	1–3 years	High wildfire risk areas: Lihue, East Kaua'i, West Kaua'i	Fire	HWMO

Plan or Framework Development

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
4.	Adopt and implement policy recommendations in an Urban Forestry Management Plan to improve the health, resilience, and services of the County's trees. In the Plan, consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing opportunities for integrating cultural kipuka Increasing opportunities to do community gardening projects at County parks Conducting an urban forestry pilot project Setting targets to increase shade tree and canopy coverage in County parks and other facilities such as along pedestrian and bike paths 	AP-7 Urban forestry (Adapt./Mit.)	3–5 years	Countywide	PW-Engineering	Community orgs (e.g., Smart Trees), DOFAW
5.	Update the County Parks Master Plan to include a vulnerability assessment, identify opportunities for land acquisition related to retreat, and explore ways to enhance carbon sequestration, biodiversity, and public access across various park types. Create a framework for each typology of County park within the coastal zone that includes facility design standards that account for SLR and procedures for retreat and land acquisition.	AP-4 Facility Adaptation (Adapt./Mit.)	3–5 years	Countywide	N/A	DLNR



Capital Improvement

Facility and Park Upgrades

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
6.	At beach parks, protect existing dune systems with measures such as dune fencing and managing traffic on coastal sand/dune systems.	CI-1 Nature-based solutions (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide;	N/A	N/A
7.	Harden and upgrade prioritized Neighborhood Centers or other county facilities into resilience hubs by identifying necessary features like air conditioning and cooling capacity, solar power including battery storage, and communications, securing funding, and implementing improvements for climate hazard readiness.	CI-8 Resilience hubs (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide	OED- Sustainability, KEMA	Community organizations (e.g. HHARP)
8.	Implement nature-based projects in County parks vulnerable to flooding and/or SLR including test plots for salt-tolerant plants, dune restoration, and wetland migration space. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore funding options, such as paid parking programs, to support these improvements. Expand projects to include bioswales, bioretention basins, rain gardens, and replacing impermeable pavement with permeable materials. 	CI-4 Parks improvements (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide; East Kaua'i potential priority area	N/A	N/A
9.	Implement upgrades to parks that reduce the risk of building ignition during wildfire, such as upgrading building materials and/or design features, improved plant selection and spacing, removing invasive grasses, etc.	CI-4 Parks improvements (Adapt.) CI-7 Harden critical facilities (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide; Lihue, East Kaua'i, West Kaua'i	N/A	N/A
10.	Identify and secure areas where development has migrated and preserve and maintain them as parkland through purchase, easement, or other means. Leverage the Public Access, Open Space, and Natural Resources Fund for this purpose.	PD-3 Coastal open space (Adapt.)	5–10 years	Countywide	Planning – Long Range	N/A
11.	Add refillable water stations at County parks and neighborhood centers and install reef-safe sunscreen dispensers at popular County beach parks. This will help the County ensure public spaces remain safe and usable for recreation as temperatures rise.	PD-10 Refillable stations (Adapt./Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide; Municipal facilities	OED- Sustainability	N/A

Relocate Facilities and Infrastructure

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
12.	Identify triggers for relocating facilities and infrastructure (e.g. Salt Pond Beach Park pavilions and camping facilities, portions of Ka Ala Hele Makalae bike path) from SLR impacts and flooding. When triggers are reached, relocate facilities and incorporate modular or moveable components in facility/equipment design when possible to allow the park infrastructure to continue moving away from coastal flooding and erosion zones. Schedule funding and improvements in the Six-Year CIP.	CI-12 Relocate critical facilities (Adapt.)	5–10 years	Countywide; Potential priority sites identified in Action in East Kaua'i and West Kaua'i	Mayor	N/A

Programs and Policies

Program Development

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
13.	Establish a beach erosion monitoring program for County Parks.	AP-1 Climate data (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	N/A	Sea Grant
14.	Develop and implement an urban forestry program that is responsible for trees at County parks and along County roads and pathways. Hire an urban forester to develop and manage an urban forestry program, including the creation of an Urban Forestry Management Plan. This role will enhance tree canopy, improve climate resilience, and support sustainable green spaces. Prioritize tree planting and cooling strategies in neighborhoods with groups vulnerable to extreme heat impacts such as kupuna, keiki, outdoor workers, and people with existing medical conditions.	AP-7 Urban forestry (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide	PW-Engineering	Community orgs (e.g., Smart Trees Pacific), DOFAW
15.	Update design and maintenance policies and protocols to incorporate green and grey stormwater infrastructure; and fire-resistant landscaping and vegetation management.	CI-4 Parks improvements (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Fire	HWMO

Community Capacity

Community-Led Efforts

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
16.	Expand the adopt-a-park program to include a wider range of community-led projects, including those addressing climate change impacts, such as dune restoration, mala la'au (forest gardens), and kipuka.	CC-10 Community liaisons (Adapt.)	1-3 years	Countywide	N/A	Community groups

Strategies that the Division Supports

Strategy	Division Plan	Action
AP-5	Fire	Maintain public open spaces in a way that buffers communities from wildfire.
AP-11	OED Energy	Draft and adopt a Clean Fuel Transportation Plan to prioritize clean fuel infrastructure and transition the County fleet to ZEVs and equipment to electric. Gather data from similar initiatives, engage alternative fuel suppliers, assess ZEV options for fleet needs, consult with County departments on feasibility, provide staff training, and collaborate with HR and unions if new job classifications are needed.
AP-11	OED Energy	Expand publicly available EV infrastructure, including curbside charging installations and EVCS at County facilities (affordable housing sites, civic facilities, parks/rec facilities, fleet base yards).
AP-3	Planning Regulatory	Initiate the SHPD and Burial Council process proactively to ensure action plans are in place before any cultural resource exposure.

Planning – Regulatory Division Action Plan

The Planning Department’s Regulatory Division is responsible for processing discretionary permits and evaluating projects to ensure they comply with the County’s land development codes, including the Kauai Historic Preservation Review Commission (KHPRC) and the Coastal Zone Management (CZM) guidelines. This division plays a critical role in facilitating land use and development approvals. Included in this action plan are enforcement actions.

Land Use and Building Regulations

Development Code and Rule Updates

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
1.	Update the Sea Level Rise Constraint District design standards based on the latest available science and tools.	LU-1 Reduce development intensity (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	N/A	UH
2.	Update the slope constraint district based on a new Geospatial Landslide Hazard Layer (layer to be developed by Public Works).	LU-1 Reduce development intensity (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide	PW – Engineering	UH
3.	Enforce coastal setback regulations, SMA rules and regulations, sea level constraint district regulations, and SLR disclosure requirements and update regulations and requirements based on the latest available science and tools.	LU-1 Reduce development intensity (Adapt.)	5–10 years	Countywide; Coastal areas	Planning – Long Range	UH
4.	Require adequate connectivity and redundant access in all new development. Modify subdivision regulations to require new developments implement measures for wildfire safety such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buffers between buildable lots and wildland areas • Fuel reduction zones • Redundant access routes for alternative evacuation purposes. 	LU-2 Resilient development (Adapt./Mit.) CC-13 Evacuation preparedness (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide; Residential and nonresidential development	Fire	HWMO



5.	Update the residential subdivision standards to establish a facilitated lot consolidation or exchange program in coastal areas to reduce the number or improve the location of lots that are likely to be developed at the time of potential lot sale.	LU-1 Reduce development intensity (Adapt.)	5–10 years	Countywide; Coastal areas	Planning – Long Range	UH
6.	Amend zoning code car and bike parking standards for new developments in Town Centers and Commercial Areas to encourage efficient use of parking through shared facilities that serve multiple uses across separate properties, and to accommodate future adoption of autonomous vehicles (AVs). Explore opportunities to apply updated parking regulations to existing developments when triggered by major renovations or permit applications, including provisions for bike and e-bike parking.	LU-9 Parking standards reform (Mit.)	5–10 years	Countywide; Town Centers and commercial areas	N/A	
7.	Require vulnerable development within the Visitor Destination Area to consider managed retreat options in any new development or substantial improvements.	PD-2 Managed retreat (Adapt.)	5–10 years	Countywide; Hotels and TVRs	Planning – Long Range	<i>DLNR, KVB</i>
8.	Explore reducing residential development density, such as removing ADUs, Guesthouses, and ARUs, in either the SMA, shoreline setback area, or areas exposed to coastal erosion impacts associated with 3.2 feet of sea level rise.	LU-1 Reduce development intensity (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide; Coastal areas	Planning – Long Range	<i>UH</i>
9.	Require verification at the time of TVR permit issuance and/or renewal that the emergency guide is provided to all guests.	CC-1 Visitor awareness (Adapt.)	1-3 years	Countywide; TVRs	N/A	N/A
10.	Expedite and/or waive NC-TVR certificate fees for TVRs that install EVCS.	PD-14 Clean transportation (Mit.)	3-5 years	Countywide; TVRs	OED – Energy	N/A
11.	Adopt Low Impact Development (LID) requirements for residential and nonresidential development to increase rainwater capture.	LU-2 Resilient development (Adapt./Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide; Residential and nonresidential development	Building	N/A

12.	Explore establishing a riparian setback in the zoning code to require development be a certain distance from streams and wetlands.	LU-1 Reduce development intensity (Adapt.)	3-5 years	Countywide	Building	N/A
13.	Require affordable housing development to set aside percentage of land for community gardening opportunities to help manage stormwater runoff and contribute to temperature regulation. Percentage of set-aside to be determined through development of the code update.	PD-4 Working lands strategy (Adapt.)	3-5 years	Countywide; Affordable housing development	OED – Agriculture; Housing	N/A
14.	Once curbside recycling is provided, update the Zoning Code to require commercial and multifamily properties to provide space and clearly marked containers for green waste, recycling, and trash (required for all new development, and phased-in for existing commercial properties).	PD-5 Curbside recycling (Mit.)	5 - 10 years	Countywide	Solid Waste	N/A
15.	Encourage telecommunication providers to harden their infrastructure against high winds, wildfires, and other climate-related hazards and ensure redundancy and backups.	LU-2 Resilient development (Adapt./Mit.)	1-3 years	Countywide	Building	N/A

Special District and Zoning Map Amendments

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
16.	<p>Develop and implement a Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) code along with a corresponding WUI overlay zone that mandates wildfire risk mitigation measures in vulnerable areas. This code should include standards for fire-resistant building materials, the creation of defensible spaces around properties, and ensuring adequate emergency access. Additionally, the overlay will clearly delineate WUI zones to guide land-use planning and enforcement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require property owners and developers in the WUI to develop and implement a Vegetation Management Plan designed to mitigate wildfire risks. Ensure regular inspections of properties to ensure compliance. Consider limiting upzoning in parcels situated within wildfire-prone areas to better manage risk and enhance safety 	LU-2 Resilient development (Adapt.)	3-5 years	Countywide; Residential and nonresidential development	Fire, KEMA	<i>HWMO</i>



17.	Explore the expansion of the Special Treatment District - Coastal Edge.	LU-2 Resilient development (Adapt.)	5–10 years	Countywide; Coastal areas	Planning – Long Range	
18.	Do not support the upzoning of parcels within SLR-XA (e.g. upzoning to commercial, residential, resort, or industrial, etc.) and do not support upzoning of SLUD boundary amendments (to urban) for parcels within SLR-XA	LU-1 Reduce development intensity (Adapt.)	5–10 years	Countywide; Coastal areas	Planning – Long Range	

Pre-Planning for Cultural Resources Protection

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
18.	Update and maintain cultural resource GIS data, including historic fishpond locations. Assess the capacity of existing reinterment crypts for cultural resources (e.g., iwi). Identify and establish new reinterment sites, ideally within each ahupua'a or as directed by 'ohana and cultural practitioners, to ensure preparedness in the event of potential exposure.	AP-3 Pre-planning for cultural resources (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide; Coastal	Parks	SHPD/Burial Council, DHHL, OHA, Native Hawaiian orgs
19.	Initiate the SHPD and Burial Council process proactively to ensure action plans are in place before any cultural resource exposure (e.g., iwi). Consult with families in advance of potential exposure and prior to any actions being taken. Address concerns from families connected to cultural resources, ensuring their ability to access and monitor exposed resources in landlocked coastal areas.	AP-3 Pre-planning for cultural resources (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide; Coastal		SHPD/Burial Council, DHHL, OHA, Native Hawaiian orgs
20.	In collaboration with the organizations that steward cultural coastal resources, identify County and State infrastructure (roads, pipes, etc.) that could inhibit future beach and dune migration mauka.	CI-1 Nature-based strategies (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide; Coastal	PW- Engineering, Parks, Planning-Long Range	Community orgs, SHPD/Burial Council, OCCL

Strategies that the Division Supports

Strategy	Division Plan	Action
AP-6	KEMA	Develop a Disaster Reconstruction Ordinance that establishes basic standard operating procedures for how permitting and regulation of reconstruction of private property will move forward after a disaster event.
LU-2	Fire	Update the Fire Code to identify combustible vegetation, such as Guinea Grass and Haole Koa, as a fire hazard and strengthen the provisions for brush clearance to establish fuel breaks near structures.
LU-7	OED Energy	Assess financial impact of EVSE-installed requirements for existing lots and evaluate the possible retroactive enforcement
LU-3	PW Building	Establish Incentives for Green Building Design. Develop a program to offer permit expediting and/or fee reductions for new projects incorporating green walls, passive cooling, and other energy-efficient upgrades. Create a clear, easy-to-follow qualification system, potentially using existing certifications such as Built Green or LEED for Homes, Gold, or Platinum."
LU-3	PW Building	Encourage telecommunication providers to harden their infrastructure against high winds, wildfires, and other climate-related hazards and ensure redundancy and backups
CI-11	PW Engineering	Require all residential, commercial, and resort development to implement complete streets design and traffic calming measures and ensure connectivity to the planned pedestrian and bicycle network.
CI-14	PW Wastewater	Encourage private developers to construct regional wastewater treatment facilities or additional package plants to serve growing population centers (i.e. South Kaua'i) and other areas unlikely to be reached by County sewer infrastructure.



Planning – Long Range Action Plan

The Long-Range Planning Division is responsible for growth management and land use policy. Their duties include updating the General Plan and community plans to address climate planning initiatives. As the lead for interdepartmental coordination on the Climate Action Adaptation Plan (CAAP), this division collaborates with various state agencies and manages special projects. Open Space Commission projects are included in this action plan.

Planning

Assessment and Research

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
1.	Support research and studies to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update and refine shoreline erosion hazard modelling. Conduct groundwater studies and mapping for various SLR scenarios in low-lying areas. 	AP-1 Climate data (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide, Coastal	N/A	UH, Sea Grant
2.	Support modeling that maps and identifies flooding of river channels and tributary flow paths. This modeling will integrate the most recent climate change data, including the effects of extreme rainfall and sea level rise on compound flooding, to provide a more accurate assessment of both current and future flood risks.	AP-1 Climate data (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	PW-Engineering	UH, Sea Grant

Plan Development

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
3.	Incorporate e-bikes, e-mobility options, and autonomous vehicle adoption into the update of the County’s Multimodal Transportation Plan and strengthen the County’s mode shift goals to promote greenhouse gas (GHG) mitigation.	CI-15 Multimodal transportation (Mit.)	3-5 years	Countywide	PW-Engineering	DOT

4.	Update community and town plans, the County Path and Bikeways Master Plan, and the Safety Action Plan, to accelerate mode shift and achieve a "network effect" in areas with a high concentration of trips under 3 miles. Focus on enhancing transportation options and improving the comfort of walking, biking, and pedestrian pathways to promote sustainable, low-emission travel alternatives.	PD-1 Transit-Oriented Development (Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	PW-Engineering	DOT
5.	Integrate pre-disaster recovery planning and managed retreat considerations in all Community Plan updates, such as the East Kauai Community and Circulation and updates to the North Shore Development Plan and Kilauea Town Plan.	AP-6 Disaster Recovery Plan (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	KEMA	Sea Grant

Capital Improvements

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
6.	Update the Six-Year Capital Improvement Program and align it with the annual budget process to prioritize filling gaps in the County's planned multimodal transportation network and the development of alternative evacuation routes, ensuring consistency with adopted plans and long-term transportation goals. Assess potential CIP projects for consistency with the KCAAP.	CI-15 Multimodal transportation (Adapt./Mit.)	3 -5 years	Countywide	PW – Engineering, Mayor	N/A
7.	Seek grant funding for major County multimodal transportation projects pursuant to the County's adopted plans and the Six-Year CIP.	CI-15 Multimodal transportation (Mit.)	3 -5 years	Countywide	PW – Engineering,	DOT

Programs and Policies

Programs for Nature-Based Solutions

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
8.	Develop programs to encourage nature-based shoreline preservation efforts and beach nourishment at a localized scale through grants or by granting property tax relief to private property owners who pool resources. i.e. Establish a grant program to fund community-based adaptation projects at Salt Pond or other parks to address flooding, beach erosion, and other impacts.	CI-1 Nature-based strategies (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide; Coastal	OED – Sustainability, Finance	DLNR, Sea Grant

Managed Retreat Programs

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
9.	Collaborate with stakeholders to establish triggers for managed retreat programs addressing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residential and nonresidential private buildings, including hotels Agricultural lands Critical infrastructure Support the assessment and integration of ecosystem values to facilitate comparison and informed discussions on adaptation pathways.	PD-2 Managed retreat (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	N/A	Sea Grant
10.	Identify potential sites for a County-led managed retreat program on public land, engage with interested communities, and implement a pilot project. (i.e. Incorporate space within the Waimea 400 master planned development to accommodate a future managed retreat program.)	PD-2 Managed retreat (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Housing	N/A
11.	Develop a managed retreat program after evaluating a range of options, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A federally funded buyout program to acquire and remove high-risk properties. A targeted lot buyout program for properties of high community value. 	PD-2 Managed retreat (Adapt.)	5–10 years	Residential and nonresidential coastal	Finance	N/A

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A property swap or conservation easement program to allow relocation while preserving long-held family-owned lands. • A leaseback program to provide transitional relocation options. • A transfer or purchase of development rights program to permanently retire development rights in hazard-prone areas. <p>The program should prevent displacement and encourage opportunities to steward and caretake family and ancestral land.</p>			buildings in North Shore, West Kaua'i, East Kaua'i, South Kaua'i		
12.	Encourage hotels highly vulnerable to SLR to develop regularly updated climate adaptation strategies, in which retreat (e.g. the relocation/removal of structures, infrastructure, and/or amenities exposed to SLR hazards) is considered.	PD-2 Managed retreat (Adapt.)	5-10 years	North Shore, East Kaua'i, South Kaua'i	OED-Tourism	Sea Grant, DLNR, OCCL, KVB

Transportation Demand Management

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
13.	<p>Develop a TDM ordinance that requires employers and housing developments of a certain size (based on findings of research and focus groups) to submit an emissions reduction plan that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual vehicle ridership survey results • Employee trip reduction program with a menu of options such as transit information, guaranteed ride home program, commuter choice program, transit pass program, carpool preferential parking, secure bike parking, vanpool program, parking charge, work from home, prize incentives, transportation allowance, etc. 	LU-8 Transportation Demand Management (Mit.)	1-3 years	Countywide; Employers, housing developments, and hotels/resorts	Transportation, OED-All	Community groups



Community Capacity

County Website Climate Hub

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
14.	<p>Maintain the CAAP website as a central hub for climate change information and planning in Kauai County, featuring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mode shift benefits, incentives, and safe transportation practices • Local climate-related stories to enhance community understanding (story bank) • Youth-focused climate education resources • Resources from partner agencies • Climate change literacy materials, including information on local climate hazards and risks 	CC-2 Climate change literacy (Adapt./Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	OED-Sustainability, OED-Energy	N/A
15.	Regularly communicate adopted climate change policies, implementation efforts, and updates on projects and initiatives to keep stakeholders and the community informed and engaged.	CC-3 CAAP progress reporting (Adapt./Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A

County Leadership

Collaboration with State and Local Agencies & Non-Governmental Organizations

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
16.	<p>Participate in the State Climate Change Commission meetings, and other local and statewide climate adaptation-related meetings/collectives/working groups for up-to-date science and collaboration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with State agencies and community partners to clarify the jurisdictional mosaic of responsibilities vis-à-vis climate adaptation and climate hazard response. 	CL-4 Collaborate with partners (Adapt./Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Mayor	DLNR

17.	Support DLNR and USFWS in restoration planning, including forest, wetland, and reef restoration. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly check in with State/Federal entities to collaborate on forest and watershed ecosystem conservation planning and project implementation. 	CL-4 Collaborate with partners (Adapt.)	3-5 years	Countywide	Mayor	DLNR
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Funding and Financing

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
18.	Prioritize multimodal transportation projects on the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program pursuant to adopted plans.	CI-15 – Multimodal transportation (Mit.)	3-5 years	Countywide	PW – Engineering,	DOT

Strategies that the Division Supports

Strategy	Division Plan	Action
CC-13	KEMA	Identify communities without redundant access and highly vulnerable to event-based climate change hazards such as those with extreme and high wildfire risk
AP-6	KEMA	Regularly update the Multi-Hazard Mitigation and Resiliency Plan to address evolving climate risks, such as stronger storms and sea-level rise.
AP-6	KEMA	Develop and adopt a comprehensive disaster recovery plan aligned with the Build Back Better pre-disaster recovery framework project
AP-6	KEM	Expand upon the Build Back Better project and conduct pre-disaster recovery planning for additional communities, with the goal to establish pre-disaster recovery plans for the entire county.
AP-5	Fire	Update the Community Wildfire Protection Plan and develop an implementation program
PD-4	OED Agricultural	Develop a local ag land strategy using updated soil classifications to protect farmland, support regenerative practices, and mitigate water impacts. Include sustainable surface water management, farmland preservation, and support for small to medium-scale diversified agriculture. Engage farmers and conduct community outreach.
PD-2	OED Agricultural	Develop a managed retreat pilot program for farmers
PD-1	OED Sustainability	Incentivize redevelopment of brownfield sites in alignment with the County's climate adaptation goals, through zoning and land-use regulations, tax incentives, grants,
PD-1	OED Sustainability	Seek funding opportunities from federal and state government, private sector, and public-private partnerships to support brownfield revitalization projects.
CI-1	Parks	Identify beaches where dune restoration is a viable option for increased resiliency and beach health.



AP-2	Parks	Conduct SLR and flood vulnerability assessments of all coastal County Parks, especially Salt Pond Beach Park, Poipu Beach Park, Ha'ena Beach Park, and the coastline along the Ke Ala Hele Makalae.
PD-3	Parks	Identify and secure areas where development has migrated and preserve and maintain them as parkland through purchase, easement, or other means. Leverage the Public Access, Open Space, and Natural Resources Fund for this purpose
LU-1	Planning Regulatory	Enforce coastal setback regulations, SMA rules and regulations, sea level constraint district regulations, and SLR disclosure requirements and update regulations and requirements based on the latest available science and tools.
LU-1	Planning Regulatory	Update the residential subdivision standards to establish a facilitated lot consolidation or exchange program in coastal areas
PD-2	Planning Regulatory	Require vulnerable development within the Visitor Destination Area to consider managed retreat options in any new development or substantial improvements.
LU-1	Planning Regulatory	Explore reducing residential development density, such as removing ADUs, Guesthouses, and ARUs, in either the SMA, shoreline setback area, or areas exposed to coastal erosion impacts associated with 3.2 feet of sea level rise.
LU-2	Planning Regulatory	Explore the expansion of the Special Treatment District - Coastal Edge
LU-1	Planning Regulatory	Do not support the upzoning of parcels within SLR-XA (e.g. upzoning to commercial, residential, resort, or industrial, etc.) and do not support upzoning of SLUD boundary amendments (to urban) for parcels within SLR-XA
AP-2	PW Engineering	Conduct a study of coastal County roads and bridges threatened by coastal hazards to prioritize segments in need of intervention using the Coastal Road Erosion Susceptibility Index (CRESI) or other methodology. Highly vulnerable coastal roads include, but is not limited to, the following roads: Ho'one Rd, Lawa'i Rd, Aliomanu
AP-1	PW Engineering	Conduct hydrologic modeling to map flooding of river channels and tributary flow paths. This modeling should integrate the most recent climate change data, including the effects of extreme rainfall and sea level rise on compound flooding, to provide a more accurate assessment of both current and future flood risks.
CI-11	PW Engineering	In the County STIP, prioritize the planning, design, and construction of comprehensive, safe, and low-stress pedestrian and bicycle networks.
CI-11	PW Engineering	Ramp up the traffic calming program by streamlining the process for installing low-stress, quick-build solutions. Reduce barriers to prioritize easier access for residents to walk and bike safely in their neighborhoods. Address current capacity limitations in implementing effective traffic calming measures by either hiring a dedicated contractor or establishing a new program focused exclusively on this work.
CI-15	PW Engineering	Expand Public Works capacity to accelerate the construction of bike lanes, paths, and traffic calming measures. Identify pipeline projects, secure grant funding, and dedicate resources to fast-track Complete Streets implementation and increase active tran
CI-12	PW WW	Relocate vulnerable wastewater assets in tandem with managed retreat efforts of other infrastructure and development.
CI-15	Transportation	Plan for mobility hubs in key areas like Kapa'a, Lihu'e Town Core, Princeville, and Po'ipū, to reduce single-occupant vehicle trips: Establish mobility hubs that integrate various transportation modes and facilitate multimodal travel. Develop shuttle services and enhancing transit routes to connect hubs with key destinations.

Public Works - Building Action Plan

The Building Division’s main levers to implement the CAAP are updating the County’s building, electrical, and plumbing codes. Streamlining and removing barriers for projects such as solar installations, water conservation measures, and EV charging infrastructure will help community members adopt CAAP measures in their homes and other developments. Updating the Building Code will ensure that applicable buildings will mitigate climate change through decarbonization, energy and water conservation, and low-embodied carbon construction. Lastly, the Division has the important role to educate homeowners, developers, and other stakeholders on the new codes and processes.

Land Use

Permitting Processes

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
1.	Continue and expand the priority permitting program for renewable energy projects. Consider actions such as adopting an online permit application to streamline projects and/or permit fee reductions and waivers for low-income households.	LU-4 Streamline permitting (Mit.)	1–3 years	All new construction	N/A	N/A

Code/Ordinance Updates

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
2.	Draft and adopt an amendment to the Plumbing Code which modifies the trigger for requiring a backwater valve accounting for increased risks of backflow from extreme precipitation and flooding.	CI-6 Water supply issues (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A
3.	Develop a phased reach code requiring new construction and significant alterations (50% or more of the original building size) to be at least 50% powered by carbon-free energy, with increasing requirements over time. Hire a consultant to draft the ordinance, facilitate public hearings, and prepare it for County Council adoption.	LU-5 Reach code (Mit.)	3–5 years	All new construction	OED-Energy	HSEO
4.	Develop a low-embodied carbon materials ordinance by hiring a consultant to develop and draft a policy or ordinance update that phases in requirements for usage of low-embodied carbon	LU-6 Low-embodied carbon (Mit.)	3–5 years	All new construction	Solid Waste	N/A



	materials in the structural and exterior elements of a building. This may include cement/concrete, products that are locally sourced, and/or products with recycled content. The policy should encourage use of low-embodied carbon materials throughout the rest of the build.					
5.	Develop a Sustainable Roof Systems Ordinance. Secure funding for an independent consultant to assist in drafting the ordinance, incorporating input from architects, structural engineers, and roofing contractors. The ordinance will apply to all new commercial, government, and multi-dwelling unit buildings and promote sustainable rooftop systems, including blue roofs, green roofs, cool roofs, and on-site renewable energy solutions.	LU-3 Resilient building standards (Mit.)	3–5 years	Countywide; all buildings	N/A	N/A
6.	Update Building Codes for Hazard Resilience. Adopt the latest International Building Code to meet wind-borne region requirements and strengthen construction standards using the best available science and planning.	LU-3 Resilient building standards (Adapt.)	1–3 years	All new buildings	KEMA	N/A
7.	Develop internal capacity to implement a Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELo) to require all new landscape projects and additions of 50% the size of the original landscape area to obtain a landscape permit and establish prescriptive irrigation, plant lists, or water budget requirements.	LU-12 Water efficient landscape (Adapt./Mit.)	3–5 years	All new construction/landscape additions	N/A	N/A
8	Encourage telecommunication providers to harden their infrastructure against high winds, wildfires, and other climate-related hazards and ensure redundancy and backups.	LU-3 Resilient building standards (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Planning-Regulatory	N/A

Programs and Policies

Program Development

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
8.	Create a comprehensive island map to identify fire-prone areas and explore adopting the International WUI Code in collaboration with the Fire Department. Secure a consultant to develop a program offering financial and technical support, prioritizing vulnerable homeowners for wildfire-resistant retrofits.	LU-3 Resilient building standards (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide	Fire, Planning-Regulatory	HWMO

9.	Establish Incentives for Green Building Design. Develop a program to offer permit expediting and/or fee reductions for new projects incorporating green walls, passive cooling, and other energy-efficient upgrades. Create a clear, easy-to-follow qualification system, potentially using existing certifications such as Built Green or LEED for Homes, Gold, or Platinum."	LU-3 Resilient building standards (Mit.)	3–5 years	Countywide; all buildings	Planning – Regulatory, OED-Energy	N/A
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Community Capacity

Outreach and Education

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
10.	Promote Green Building Incentives. Once a program has been established, develop educational resources and materials to distribute online and through outreach to stakeholders.	CC-4 Green building guide (Mit.)	1–3 years	Residential, nonresidential construction	OED-Energy	N/A
11.	Hire an independent consultant to offer education for climate-ready home retrofitting, including cooling techniques and gray water systems (dual plumbing, laundry-to-landscape). Develop materials for stakeholders such as property owners, contractors, and designers, and engage with developers and architects to raise awareness of these requirements.	CC-4 Green building guide (Adapt.) CC-5 Greywater (Adapt./Mit.)	3–5 years	Countywide; all buildings	N/A	N/A
12.	Provide outreach and education to homeowners, plumbers, contractors, and others about best practices to prevent backflows and leakages.	CI-6 Water supply issues (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide	Water	N/A

Strategies that the Division Supports

Strategy	Division Plan	Action
AP-10	OED Energy	Promote the cost and environmental benefits of building decarbonization and carbon-free energy sources to builders, property owners, and contractors on the County website and at the County permit counters.

Public Works - Engineering and Roads Action Plan

The Engineering and Roads divisions will assess the impacts of SLR and other hazards to the County road system, then implement capital improvement projects based on site-specific vulnerability assessments. These projects could range from the implementation of nature-based solutions, hardening the road infrastructure, and even relocation/retreat. The Division will also develop data and update procedures concerning landslides, floodplains, and stormwater infrastructure. Lastly, the Division will need to coordinate with the State Department of Transportation to address climate hazard impacts to the highway system, which is not part of the County's jurisdiction but are critical to the overall transportation system. This division plan also includes floodplain management.

Planning

Assessment and Research

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
1.	Identify areas frequently impacted by or at risk of landslides, and prioritize stabilization efforts, especially in locations where landslides could threaten County roads and bridges, to ensure public safety and protect infrastructure.	AP-1 Climate Data (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	KEMA	DOT
2.	Identify and prioritize consistently problematic stormwater areas to develop and implement targeted solutions, such as bioswales, permeable pavements, and berms.	AP-8 Floodplain management (Adapt.) CI-5 Green infrastructure (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	N/A	DLNR
3.	<p>Conduct a study of coastal County roads and bridges threatened by coastal hazards to prioritize segments in need of intervention using the Coastal Road Erosion Susceptibility Index (CRESI) or other methodology. Highly vulnerable coastal roads include but are not limited to: Ho'one Road, Lawa'i Road, and Aliomanu Road.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify whether hardening is an appropriate strategy, the assessment should consider: 1) whether the road infrastructure is exposed to high wave action and erosion; 2) whether the road infrastructure is of close proximity to the ocean; 3) if road relocation is impossible; and 4) if other alternatives are too costly (i.e., tunneling). 	AP-2 Vulnerability assessments (Adapt.)	3–5 years	North Shore, South Kaua'i, East Kaua'i, West Kaua'i	Planning – Long Range	HDOT, Sea Grant

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify whether building or maintaining seawalls/revetments is an appropriate strategy, the assessment should consider: 1) failure of existing armoring; and/or 2) road vulnerability due to sinkholes and/or wave action, erosion, and storm surge. Consult with community stakeholders to identify and discuss adaptation options for highly vulnerable roads. 					
4.	Conduct hydrologic modeling to map flooding of river channels and tributary flow paths. This modeling should integrate the most recent climate change data, including the effects of extreme rainfall and sea level rise on compound flooding, to provide a more accurate assessment of both current and future flood risks.	AP-1 Climate Data (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Planning – Long Range	Sea Grant, UH

Program Development

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
5.	<p>Develop drainage master plans for flood-prone areas such as Hanalei, Nāwiliwili, Kapa‘a, Wailua, Po‘ipū, Hanapēpē, Waimea, and Kekaha. The plans should:</p> <p>Assess the ability of drainage systems in low-lying areas to handle various projections of SLR in the short term and long term (i.e. the Kekaha/Waimea drainage system, including pumps, ditches, canals, pipes and outfalls)</p> <p>Explore stormwater capture and reuse opportunities.</p> <p>Collaborate with FEMA to identify and prioritize areas for flood risk mitigation and drainage improvements, facilitating the restudy and remapping of high-risk areas to ensure updated and accurate data informs future drainage and flood management strategies.</p>	AP-8 Floodplain management (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide	N/A	DLNR
6.	Identify key partners and opportunities for collaboration on stream restoration efforts in high-flow areas, while assessing access availability and addressing challenges for clearance.	CI-3 Riparian restoration (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide	N/A	Community groups, DLNR



Capital Improvement

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
7.	<p>In the County STIP, prioritize the planning, design, and construction of comprehensive, safe, and low-stress pedestrian and bicycle networks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus these efforts on areas where mode shift is most achievable, particularly near schools, within Lihue—Kauai's primary growth area—and other key employment centers. These improvements should aim to encourage active transportation by providing accessible and connected infrastructure that supports walking and cycling as viable alternatives to driving 	CI-11 Complete streets design (Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Planning-Long Range	N/A
8.	Ramp up the traffic calming program by streamlining the process for installing low-stress, quick-build solutions. Reduce barriers to prioritize easier access for residents to walk and bike safely in their neighborhoods. Address current capacity limitations in implementing effective traffic calming measures by either hiring a dedicated contractor or establishing a new program focused exclusively on this work.	CI-11 Complete streets design (Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Planning-Long Range	N/A
9.	Stabilize priority slopes as identified in previous studies and enhance preparedness for post-landslide emergencies, such as by improving response capabilities, implementing better signage in landslide-prone areas, and better addressing tree-related issues to minimize road blockages and hazards.	CI-7 Harden critical facilities (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	KEMA	DOT
10.	Incorporate bioswales, permeable pavements, berms, and other green stormwater management techniques into county road projects. Install green/grey infrastructure to protect roads as an alternative to hardening to preserve beaches in the short-term where assessed as an appropriate adaptation strategy. This could include beach or dune restoration or hybrid approaches.	CI-5 Green infrastructure (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A

11.	If assessed as an appropriate adaptation strategy, harden road and bridge infrastructure and protect areas exposed to storm surge by raising roads with gravel pads, installing hardened protection on both sides, and constructing or maintaining seawalls or revetments. Explore best practices/designs for effective road hardening infrastructure that minimizes environmental impacts.	CI-7 Harden critical facilities (Adapt.)	3–5 years	North Shore, East Kaua'i, West Kaua'i	Planning	DOT
12.	Expand and improve evacuation routes by constructing new roads that provide safe evacuation access, especially across the Wailua River and in and out major population centers lacking redundant access.	CC-13 Evacuation preparedness (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide	Planning - Long Range	DOT

Land Use

Permitting

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
13.	Require all residential, commercial, and resort development to implement complete streets design and traffic calming measures and ensure connectivity to the planned pedestrian and bicycle network.	CI-11 Complete streets design (Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Planning-Regulatory	N/A
14.	Update the Stormwater Runoff Design Manual to incorporate modern stormwater management techniques, such as bioswales and filtration, to improve water quality while maintaining quantity control. Adopt policies to ensure regulations reflect current best practices.	AP-8 Floodplain management (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A



County Leadership

Collaboration with State and Local Agencies

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
15.	Support HDOT in adaptation planning and projects at highly vulnerable state highway segments along the Kuhio Hwy (e.g. Wailua Bridge, Waikoko) and Kaunualii Hwy (e.g. Kekaha), harbors, and airports.	CL-4 Collaborate with partners (Adapt.)	1-3 years	Countywide	N/A	HDOT
16.	Improve public information by developing a public-facing map of drainage easements to enhance transparency and communication. Explore implementing public interface software, such as Forerunner, to provide property owners with key details, including FEMA flood elevation data and the sea level rise (SLR) constraint district. This initiative aims to streamline access to regulations and constraints, reduce the need for individual explanations, and improve public awareness of important property-related information.	CL-4 Collaborate with partners (Adapt.)	1-3 years	Countywide	N/A	DLNR

County Organizational Capacity

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
17.	Expand Public Works capacity to accelerate the construction of bike lanes, paths, and traffic calming measures. Identify pipeline projects, secure grant funding, and dedicate resources to fast-track Complete Streets implementation and increase active transportation adoption. Address capacity limitations by hiring a dedicated contractor or establishing a team focused exclusively on traffic calming and quick build initiatives.	CI-15 Multimodal networks (Mit.)	1-3 years	Countywide	Planning-Long Range	HDOT
18.	Enhance Public Works' capacity for floodplain and stormwater management by expanding engagement in floodplain master planning and establishing grant-funded positions with expertise in floodplain management and the Community Rating System (CRS) to strengthen resilience efforts.	AP-8 Floodplain management (Adapt.)	1-3 years	Countywide	Mayor	N/A

	Create a dedicated stormwater management division or hire specialized staff to oversee the implementation, enforcement, and ongoing management of updated stormwater standards.					
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Strategies that the Division Supports

Strategy	Division Plan	Action
CI-7	Mayor	Building on the findings of the Kauai CAAP Vulnerability and Equity Analysis, conduct site-specific vulnerability assessments of county facilities to assess hazards such as SLR, wildfire, and flooding.
CI-7	Mayor	Based on the findings of the detailed facility vulnerability assessments, prioritize facilities for relocation or implement necessary building/site upgrades to reduce the impacts of SLR, wildfire, and flooding
CC-13	KEMA	Identify communities without redundant access and highly vulnerable to event-based climate change hazards such as those with extreme and high wildfire risk
AP-2	KEMA	Partner with the State DLNR to assess and map increased reservoir flood risks from climate change.
AP-5	Fire	Conduct regular fire inspections of County facilities.
AP-7	Parks	Adopt and implement policy recommendations in an Urban Forestry Management Plan to improve the health, resilience, and services of the County's trees.
AP-7	Parks	Develop and implement an Urban Forestry program that is responsible for trees at county parks and along County roads and pathways
LU-1	Planning Regulatory	Update the slope constraint district based on a new Geospatial Landslide Hazard Layer (layer to be developed by DPW – Engineering).
CI-1	Planning Regulatory	In collaboration with the organizations that steward cultural coastal resources, identify County and State infrastructure
AP-1	Long Range	Support modeling maps and identifies flooding of river channels and tributary flow paths.
CI-15	Long Range	Incorporate e-bikes, e-mobility options, and autonomous vehicle adoption into the update of the County's Multimodal Transportation Plan and strengthen the County's mode shift goals to promote greenhouse gas (GHG) mitigation.
CI-15	Long Range	Update community and town plans, the County Path and Bikeways Master Plan, and the Safety Action Plan, to accelerate mode shift and achieve a "network effect"
CI-15	Long Range	Update the Six-Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and align it with the annual budget process to prioritize filling gaps in the County's planned multimodal transportation network and the development of alternative evacuation routes
CI-15	Long Range	Seek grant funding for major County multimodal transportation projects pursuant to the County's adopted plans and the Six-Year CIP.
CI-15	Long Range	Prioritize multimodal transportation projects on the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program pursuant to adopted plans.
AP-4	Transportation	Ensure the viability of bus transit routes during roadway climate adaptation planning and implementation of projects in vulnerable areas.
AP-12	Transportation	Achieve a 2035 transit mode share target of nearly 4% of daily trips, equating to approximately 18,000 weekday riders—an increase from 1,600 riders in 2010. Make the operational changes to increase ridership identified in the 2018 Kaua'i Short-Range Transit Plan,



Public Works – Solid Waste Action Plan

The Public Works – Solid Waste Division strategies are critical to meeting the CAAP’s GHG mitigation target. The Division’s actions include a robust solid waste community engagement program, curbside recycling collection, food waste collection and composting, and exploring waste-to-energy projects. These strategies and actions also contribute to climate change adaptation, as they will reduce the amount of waste going to the Kekaha Landfill, which is already at capacity and is vulnerable to SLR.

Planning

Assessment and Research

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
1.	Initiate a feasibility study of photovoltaic (PV) and zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) battery recycling options, including research on what other commercial PV operators are doing when PV panels reach their end of life.	PD-8 PV/EV battery recycling (Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	OED - Sustainability	KIUC
2.	Assess the success of Maui's new ban on all plastic disposable food ware and evaluate the findings of the State Plastics Source Reduction Working Group (with respect to reusable containers at restaurants).	PD-11 Packaging reduction (Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	OED - Sustainability	N/A
3.	Assess sites to build a new landfill by conducting the Facility Siting Process from the Kauai Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan (2021) and building on the findings of the Kaua'i CAAP Vulnerability and Equity Analysis. Avoid siting the landfill in areas exposed to sea level rise flooding.	CI-12 Relocate critical facilities (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A
4.	Conduct a study to develop a curbside collection program for recycling, green waste, and potentially food waste or to enhance drop-off recycling. Engage stakeholders in the study such as Zero Waste Kaua'i, green waste recycling and composting facility operators, residents and businesses to understand opportunities and barriers to implementation.	PD-5 Curbside collection (Mit)	3–5 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A

5.	Assess the feasibility of developing a Material Recycling Facility (for recyclables) and/or composting facility (for green and food waste), as well as associated equipment and manpower.	PD-5 Curbside collection (Mit.)	3–5 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A
6.	Assess the feasibility of, then identify specific construction and demolition (C&D) materials to include in an expanded disposal ban. Develop a proposed timeline for phasing in other C&D materials.	PD-7 C&D disposal (Mit.)	3–5 years	Countywide; New construction	N/A	N/A
7.	Conduct a study of waste-to-energy at the landfill. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner with Hawai'i Gas or another gas entity to explore the potential for a pilot program utilizing renewable natural gas (RNG) produced by waste-to-energy processes. 	CI-10 Methane capture (Mit)	5–10 years	Countywide	OED - Energy	KIUC

Plan Development

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
8.	Update the Landfill Emergency Management Plan to incorporate and build on the findings of the Kauai CAAP Vulnerability and Equity Analysis, in which conduct site-specific hazard vulnerability assessments of the landfill and transfer stations are considered.	AP-4 Facility adaptation plans (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide; Transfer Stations West Kaua'i; Kekaha Landfill	KEMA	N/A

Capital Improvement

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
9.	Implement site improvements to reduce the impacts of climate hazard events on solid waste facilities (i.e. improving on-site retention ponds, relocating hazardous materials away from structures)	CI-7 Harden critical facilities (Adapt.)	3–5 years	West Kaua'i; Kekaha Landfill	N/A	N/A
10.	Build a new landfill on the site identified by previous studies.	CI-12 Relocate critical facilities (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A
11.	Design and implement a compost demonstration project, followed by the construction of a large-scale composting facility.	PD-6 Ban food waste (Mit.)	5–10 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A

Programs and Policies

Program Development

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
12.	Draft and adopt changes to the curbside collection program and/or drop-off recycling program based on the findings of previous studies.	PD-5 Curbside collection (Mit.)	3–5 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A
13.	Draft and adopt new commercial C&D disposal restrictions.	PD-7 C&D disposal ban (Mit.)	3–5 years	Countywide; New construction	Building	N/A
14.	Draft and adopt an ordinance expanding policies for plastic and polystyrene reduction and compostable use to include single-use plastic packaging materials and foodware. Establish monitoring and enforcement processes.	PD-11 Plastic packaging (Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	OED - Sustainability	N/A
15.	Adopt a commercial recycling ordinance for food waste.	PD-6 Ban food waste (Mit.)	5–10 yrs	Countywide	N/A	N/A

16.	Adopt a commercial ban on food waste.	PD-6 Ban food waste (Mit.)	5–10 yrs	Countywide	N/A	N/A
17.	Support permit modifications for food waste composting at private facilities.	PD-6 Ban food waste (Mit.)	5–10 yrs	Countywide	N/A	N/A
18.	Adopt a residential ban on food waste with curbside recycling.	PD-6 Ban food waste (Mit.)	5–10 yrs	Countywide	N/A	N/A

Community Capacity

Outreach and Education

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
19.	Enhance the school Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle (3R) program.	CC-9 Solid waste engagement (Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide; Schools	OED - Sustainability	N/A
20.	Promote the State Green Recognition Program.	CC-9 Solid waste engagement (Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	OED - Sustainability	N/A
21.	Conduct a business survey to understand educational needs around the new solid waste programs and policies. Identify focus areas, then target businesses that may require technical assistance.	CC-9 Solid waste engagement (Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide; Businesses	OED - Sustainability	N/A
22.	Engage stakeholders on policies to expand reduce single use packaging materials and foodware. Engage on topics including the ordinance’s potential impact, alternative products, supply of product on island, and benefits of the ordinance. Stakeholders should include: restaurants, businesses, local shipping/delivery companies, packaging and foodware suppliers, and the Chamber of Commerce.	PD-11 Plastic packaging (Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	OED - Sustainability	N/A
23.	Engage with construction and demolition (C&D) stakeholders to collect feedback that can be used to develop an ordinance banning the disposal of select C&D materials and garner the needed support for success. Once the ordinance is adopted, provide public education on the expanded C&D disposal ban.	PD-7 C&D disposal ban (Mit.)	3–5 years	Countywide; New construction	OED - Sustainability	N/A

County Leadership

Advocacy

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
24.	Advocate the State Legislature to create laws that: Reduce the use of single use plastics statewide. Provide extended producer responsibility for potential candidate materials. Affect the sourcing and recycled content of construction projects and state and county projects including plastic or other alternative material in roads and other infrastructure.	CL-8 Source reduction laws (Mit.)	1-3 years	Countywide	OED - Sustainability	N/A
25.	Work with other municipalities and the State Legislature to modify current government disposal options to increase use of material beyond their normal lifecycle by donation or other means. Rules should include restrictions on resale of material for a set amount of time after receipt.	CL-8 Source reduction laws (Mit.)	1-3 years	Countywide	OED - Sustainability	N/A
26.	Support small-scale composting facilities by advocating for the expansion of DOH's tiered composting regulations to encourage smaller composting operations.	CL-8 Source reduction laws (Mit.)	5-10 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A

Strategies that the Division Supports

Strategy	Division Plan	Action
PD-9	OED Sustainability	Work with County Manager and Purchasing Division to:
PD-9	OED Sustainability	Conduct outreach to all County staff about the new purchasing policies; include as part of new employee orientation.
PD-9	OED Sustainability	Promote the use of the County's Virtual Reuse Room or a similar program to incentivize reuse of office supplies and equipment among County departments
PD-5	Planning Regulatory	Once curbside recycling is provided, update the County Zoning Code to require commercial and multifamily properties to provide space and clearly marked containers for green waste, recycling, and trash

LU-6	PW Building	Develop a low-embodied carbon materials ordinance by hiring a consultant to develop and draft a policy or ordinance update that phases in requirements for usage of low-embodied carbon materials in the structural and exterior elements of a building. This may include cement/concrete, products that are locally sourced, and/or products with recycled content. The policy should encourage use of low-embodied carbon materials throughout the rest of the build
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Public Works - Wastewater Management Action Plan

The Wastewater Management Division’s lever to adapt to climate change is through detailed vulnerability assessments of climate hazards on wastewater infrastructure, then implementing necessary upgrades. The Division also plays an important role in expanding wastewater service to areas currently connected to cesspools.

Planning

Assessment and Research

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
1.	Identify wastewater infrastructure vulnerable to climate change hazards, including facilities like the Wailua and Waimea WWTPs. Evaluate the system's susceptibility to sea level rise, assessing potential backflows and leakages to determine if rising levels require increased inspections or rehabilitation of mainlines and laterals to maintain integrity and functionality. Update the facility master plans to establish priorities for infrastructure hardening or potential facility relocation.	AP-2 Vulnerability assessments (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A
2.	Maintain reliable backup power supply at WWTPs while exploring opportunities to enhance resilience, energy efficiency, and onsite energy production, such as installing solar power infrastructure at the Eleele WWTP.	AP-4 Facility adaptation plans (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	N/A	KIUC

Plan Development

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
3.	Complete the update of all wastewater facility plans and identify feasible property and/or facility upgrades to reduce the impacts of SLR. Over a mid-range timeframe, reevaluate the relocation of wastewater assets as new methods of reclamation technology emerge. Conduct studies of alternative sites for vulnerable wastewater facilities with experts and community stakeholders.	AP-4 Facility adaptation plans (Adapt.) CI-6 Water supply issues (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify areas for county sewer expansion and focus on areas where there is a high density of cesspools in vulnerable areas. Stay informed about evolving PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) regulations, as they may impact wastewater disposal options. Proactively evaluate and adjust wastewater management strategies to ensure compliance and maintain disposal capabilities. 					
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Capital Improvement

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
4.	Investigate potential funding mechanisms to support the conversion of cesspools across the island. Extend the sewer system to serve more existing homes, prioritizing areas where cesspool conversion is most needed. This expansion will assist communities in transitioning to improved wastewater management systems and support compliance with the State's 2050 deadline for cesspool elimination.	CI-14 Cesspool conversion (Adapt.)	5–10 years	Countywide	N/A	DOH
5.	Expand the wastewater early warning system to detect and control the release of contaminants. This includes upgrading technologies such as the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system to improve monitoring, response capabilities, and overall system reliability.	AP-1 Climate data (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	KEMA	DOH
6.	Relocate vulnerable wastewater assets in tandem with managed retreat efforts of other infrastructure and development.	CI-12 Relocate critical facilities (Adapt.)	5–10 years	Countywide	Planning-Long Range	Cultural practitioners
7.	Encourage private developers to construct regional wastewater treatment facilities or additional package plants to serve growing population centers (i.e. South Kaua'i) and other areas unlikely to be reached by County sewer infrastructure.	CI-14 Cesspool conversion (Adapt.)	5–10 years	Countywide	Planning-Regulatory	DOH



County Leadership

Funding and Financing

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
8.	Work with EPA/State DOH to identify low-interest loans for homeowners and businesses to replace old sewer laterals to reduce GWI into laterals.	CI-14 Cesspool conversion (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide	N/A	DOH

Strategies that the Division Supports

Strategy	Division Plan	Action
AP-1	KEMA	Develop and build out County GIS initiatives to incorporate emergency management functions and participatory GIS (PGIS).
CI-14	Housing	Collaborate with the State DOH to support cesspool conversion

Transportation Agency Action Plan

The Kaua'i Bus is a key component in achieving the CAAP's mode shift reduction target, which contributes to meeting the CAAP GHG reduction target. The Department's main lever is improving ridership and service in accordance with the 2018 Short Range Transit Plan, but it also plays an important supportive role for CAAP actions related to multimodal transportation hubs, complete streets, and other transit-supportive development. From an adaptation perspective, the agency is responsible for providing reliable service to community members even if there are climate shocks (such as extreme storms) or stressors (such as SLR eroding coastal roads) impacting the system.

Planning

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
1.	Ensure the viability of bus transit routes during roadway climate adaptation planning and implementation of projects in vulnerable areas.	AP-4 Facility adaptation plans (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	PW-Engineering	N/A
2.	Plan for mobility hubs in key areas like Kapa'a, Līhu'e Town Core, Princeville, and Po'ipū, to reduce single-occupant vehicle trips: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish mobility hubs that integrate various transportation modes and facilitate multimodal travel. Develop shuttle services and enhancing transit routes to connect hubs with key destinations. 	CI-15 Multimodal transportation (Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	Planning-Long-Range, OED-Energy	

Capital Improvements/Programs and Policies

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
3.	Achieve a 2035 transit mode share target of nearly 4% of daily trips, equating to approximately 18,000 weekday riders—an increase from 1,600 riders in 2010. Make the operational changes to increase ridership identified in the 2018 Kaua'i Short-Range Transit Plan, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving the location and convenience of bus stops Improving first/last mile connections 	AP-12 Short-Range Transit Plan	3 - 5 years	Countywide	PW-Engineering	N/A



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing frequency of service Changes to fares 					
4.	Update the Bus Stop Design Guidelines to include amenities that increase user comfort and accessibility	AP-12 Short-Range Transit Plan	3 - 5 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A

Community Capacity

Outreach and Education

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
5.	Conduct community outreach and promote service and facility improvements associated with the implementation of the 2018 Kaua'i Short Range Transit Plan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement promotional campaigns to highlight the convenience and affordability of bus travel, aiming to reduce the stigma associated with public transit use. 	CI-15 Multimodal transportation (Mit.)	3 - 5 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A

Strategies that the Division Supports

Strategy	Division Plan	Action
AP-11	OED Energy	Seek funding opportunities to: 1) transition the County's light, medium, and heavy-duty fleet vehicles, as well as Kauai Bus, to zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) and zero-emission buses (ZEBs) and make needed baseyard improvements, 2) Expand EV charging and hydrogen fueling station infrastructure.
AP-11	OED Energy	Draft and adopt a Clean Fuel Transportation Plan to prioritize clean fuel infrastructure and transition the County fleet to ZEVs and equipment to electric. Gather data from similar initiatives, engage alternative fuel suppliers, assess ZEV options for fleet needs, consult with County departments on feasibility, provide staff training, and collaborate with HR and unions if new job classifications are needed.
LU-8	Planning Long Range	Develop a TDM ordinance that requires employers and housing developments of a certain size (based on findings of research and focus groups) to submit an emissions reduction plan that includes:

Water Department Action Plan

The Department of Water contributes to climate change adaptation and mitigation by promoting water conservation in development projects, advocating for reservoir preservation, and regulating graywater systems and landscape water regulations. Water conservation reduces greenhouse gas emissions by lowering energy use for transmission and enhances resilience to drought. Additionally, the Department plans, designs, and constructs wells, storage tanks, and transmission lines to ensure reliable water supply during normal, drought, and fire conditions, protecting both communities and surrounding ecosystems.

Planning

Assessment and Research

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
1.	Monitor wells and control pumping rates to address a decline in the groundwater table due to drier conditions and less available water for recharge. Monitor and minimize the impact of potential saltwater influence.	CI-6 Manage water supply (Adapt.)	1-3 years	Countywide	N/A	CWRM
2.	Identify priority wells for relocation based on up-to-date hydrological information and assessment of which wells will experience saltwater intrusion.	CI-12 Relocate critical facilities (Adapt.)	3-5 years	East Kaua'i, West Kaua'i	N/A	CWRM
3.	Assess power resilience at Department of Water facilities and increase power resilience measures in areas where needed.	CI-7 Harden critical facilities (Adapt.)	1-3 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A
4.	Coordinate with DOH to identify contaminating activities in well capture zones and update the Recycled Water Use Management Zone maps for Kauai.	CC-5 Promote greywater (Adapt.)	1-3 years	Countywide	N/A	DOH

Plan Development

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
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5.	Prioritize capital projects through the Water Systems Investment Plan that address the vulnerabilities identified in previous assessments. Follow up with detailed climate hazard vulnerability assessments as needed.	AP-2 Vulnerability assessments (Adapt.)	1-3 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A
6.	Regularly update the County Water Use and Development Plan to factor to assess how climate change impacts sustainable yield and to aid the State Commission of Water Resource Management (CWRM) in establishing limits on groundwater withdrawal.	AP-4 Facility adaptation plans (Adapt.)	3-5 years	Countywide	N/A	CWRM

Capital Improvement

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
7.	Based on the Water Systems Investment Plan and vulnerability assessments, implement needed upgrades such as: Optimize well placement to minimize vulnerability to saltwater intrusion, Continued hardening of generator shelters and equipment, Relocating transmission lines in collaboration with other utilities that exist in the right-of-way, Siting and constructing wells where source water is needed.	CI-7 Harden critical facilities (Adapt.)	3-5 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A

Land Use

Code Update

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
8.	Draft and adopt an ordinance modifying the building code with the more efficient UPC green plumbing code for new construction and alterations or additions of 50% the size of the original building. Submit the adopted ordinance to the State Building Code Council.	LU-11 Green plumbing code (Adapt./Mit.)	1-3 years	All new construction and remodels	N/A	N/A

9.	Draft and adopt a Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELO) to require all new landscape projects and additions of 50% the size of the original landscape area to obtain a landscape permit and establish prescriptive irrigation, plant lists, or water budget requirements.	LU-12 Water efficient landscapes (Adapt./Mit.)	1–3 years	All new construction and landscape additions	N/A	N/A
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Programs and Policies

Program Development

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
10.	Continue participating in CWRM's water audit program to further increase efficiency in water systems.	CC-7 Water efficiency incentives (Adapt./Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A

Community Capacity

Outreach and Education

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
11.	Continue and expand DOW's public education campaigns aligned with AWWA standards to promote wise water use, including water conservation practices, demonstrations of graywater and rainwater systems, and educational programs such as Project WET for teachers and students.	CC-7 Water efficiency incentives (Adapt./Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A
12.	Develop and distribute materials on water conservation audits and efficiency upgrade rebates.	CC-7 Water efficiency incentives (Adapt./Mit.)	1–3 years	Countywide	N/A	N/A
13.	Conduct community and commercial stakeholder engagement about building code updates for higher water efficiency requirements once green plumbing building code amendments are made.	LU-11 Green plumbing code (Adapt./Mit.)	1–3 years	All new construction	N/A	N/A

14.	Conduct community engagement with County staff and officials, and external stakeholders, such as local developers regarding the purpose and impact of MWELo requirements.	LU-12 Water efficient landscapes (Adapt./Mit.)	1-3 years	All new construction and landscape additions	N/A	N/A
15.	Engage stakeholders including developers, architects, and property owners regarding the purpose and impact of water neutral new development requirements.	PD-12 Water neutral development (Adapt./Mit.)	5-10 years	All new construction	N/A	

County Leadership

Funding and Financing

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
16.	Identify funding to supply communities with an emergency water filtration system.	CI-6 Manage water supply (Adapt.)	1-3 years	Countywide	KEMA	DOH
17.	Establish an incentive or grant program to support the relocation of private wells due to saltwater intrusion.	CI-12 Relocate critical facilities (Adapt.)	3-5 years	East Kaua'i, West Kaua'i	N/A	DOH

Strategies that the Division Supports

Strategy	Division Plan	Action
AP-1	KEMA	Develop and build out County GIS initiatives to incorporate emergency management functions and participatory GIS (PGIS).
CI-6	PW Building	Provide outreach and education to homeowners, plumbers, contractors, and others about best practices to prevent backflows and leakages.

UH Sea Grant Partnership Action Plan

UH Sea Grant’s expertise in data, research, and coastal resource engagement provides support for the County’s implementation of CAAP strategies. This includes managed retreat, nature-based solutions, cultural resource protection, and vulnerability assessments. Additionally, Sea Grant contributes to coastal land use planning, beach erosion monitoring, and community outreach. With UH Sea Grant’s leadership on the Kaua’i Pre-Disaster Recovery Framework, it also supports community pre-disaster planning and climate education initiatives.

Planning

Assessment and Research

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
1.	Develop and expand the coastal monitoring program using drones. Partner with scientists and community members.	AP-1 Climate data (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	N/A	Community groups

Support Community Practitioners

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
2.	Educate property owners on beach and dune restoration options to mitigate erosion.	CI-1 Nature-based strategies (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide; Coastal	OED – Sustainability, Finance	DLNR, Community groups
3.	Support cultural practitioners and community groups through research, studies, and education in restoring and protecting for vulnerable community assets (i.e. fishponds and salt pans).	CI-1 Nature-based strategies (Adapt.)	3–5 years	Countywide; Coastal	N/A	Hui, OCCL, DOT, Sea Grant

Community Outreach and Education

#	Action	Strategy Linkage	Timeline	Applicability	Supporting Departments	External Partners
4.	Encourage, facilitate, and clarify processes for resorts and other landowners to implement nature-based solutions in vulnerable coastal areas.	CI-1 Nature-based strategies (Adapt.)	3–5 years	North Shore, East Kauai, South Kauai	OED - Tourism	KVB
5.	Support and expand citizen science and hazard reporting opportunities, such as the Citizen Science King Tides project.	CC-10 Climate change literacy (Adapt.)	1–3 years	Countywide	KEMA	KCC

Strategies where Sea Grant can support the County through Partnership

Strategy	Division Plan	Action
CI-7	Mayor	Building on the findings of the Kauai CAAP Vulnerability and Equity Analysis, conduct site-specific vulnerability assessments of county facilities to assess hazards such as SLR, wildfire, and flooding.
CL-4	Mayor	Conduct wetland restoration on County lands deemed as appropriate for such efforts, such as the Waimea 400 area, as a technique to store floodwaters and improve wildlife habitat.
AP-6	KEMA	Regularly update the Multi-Hazard Mitigation and Resiliency Plan to address evolving climate risks, such as stronger storms and sea-level rise.
AP-6	KEMA	Develop and adopt a comprehensive disaster recovery plan aligned with the Build Back Better pre-disaster recovery framework project
AP-6	KEMA	Expand upon the Build Back Better project and conduct pre-disaster recovery planning for additional communities, with the goal to establish pre-disaster recovery plans for the entire county.
CC-10	KEMA	Expand the Hawai'i Hazards Awareness and Resilience Program HHARP program to be established in other communities.
CC-2	OED Sustainability	Continue the Youth Climate Class program and focus on partnerships with schools and hold an annual Youth Climate Summit that incorporates both western sciences and Hawaiian knowledge and methodologies.
AP-2	Parks	Conduct SLR and flood vulnerability assessments of all coastal County Parks, especially Salt Pond Beach Park, Poipu Beach Park, Ha'ena Beach Park, and the coastline along the Ke Ala Hele Makalae.
AP-1	Parks	Establish a beach erosion monitoring program for County Parks.
AP-1	Long Range	Support research and studies to update and refine shoreline erosion hazard modelling and Conduct groundwater studies and mapping for various SLR scenarios in low-lying areas.

AP-1	Long Range	Support modeling that maps and identifies flooding of river channels and tributary flow paths.
AP-6	Long Range	Integrate pre-disaster recovery planning and managed retreat considerations in all Community Plan updates, such as the East Kauai Community and Circulation and updates to the North Shore Development Plan and Kilauea Town Plan.
CI-1	Long Range	Develop programs to help fund shoreline nature-based preservation efforts and beach nourishment at a localized scale through grants or by granting property tax relief to private property owners who pool resources.
PD-2	Long Range	Identify potential sites for a County-led managed retreat program and County land, engage with interested communities, and implement a pilot project. (i.e. Incorporate space within the Waimea 400 master planned development to accommodate a future managed retreat program.)
PD-2	Long Range	Encourage hotels highly vulnerable to SLR to develop regularly updated climate adaptation strategies, in which retreat (e.g. the relocation/removal of structures, infrastructure, and/or amenities exposed to SLR hazards) is considered.
AP-2	PW Engineering	Conduct a study of coastal County roads and bridges threatened by coastal hazards to prioritize segments in need of intervention using the Coastal Road Erosion Susceptibility Index (CRESI) or other methodology. Highly vulnerable coastal roads include, but is not limited to, the following roads: Ho'one Rd, Lawa'i Rd, Aliomanu Rd.
AP-1	PW Engineering	Conduct hydrologic modeling to map flooding of river channels and tributary flow paths. This modeling should integrate the most recent climate change data, including the effects of extreme rainfall and sea level rise on compound flooding, to provide a more accurate assessment of both current and future flood risks.

