

## *Neighbor Island News*

**Marie Williams – Planner  
County of Kaua'i Planning Department**

### ***Planning Department Explores Form-Based Code***

The Kaua'i Planning Department is examining how form-based code (FBC) could benefit Kaua'i as a land use tool to protect its rural character. FBC utilizes a graphic-intensive regulating plan that focuses on building form and public space standards based on the desired physical character of a neighborhood. Dan Parolek, the founding principal of Opticos Design and author of "*Form-Based Codes: A Guide for Planners, Urban Designers, Municipalities, and Developers*", came to Kaua'i in April 2012 and briefed the Planning Commission on FBC. He explained how it represents a paradigm shift from use-based, Euclidian zoning to a community character-based approach.

"Really, the primary objective of [form-based code] is creating a compact, walkable series of communities rooted in the culture and history of a place," he said. Parolek described how Kaua'i's general plan update could be a good starting point for implementing FBC. He said the general plan plays a critical role in form-based code because it determines the desired pattern and location of future growth, as well as how much growth should be accommodated. FBC can then be used to protect and enhance the character of places where growth is directed. Mike Dahilig, Kaua'i County Planning Director, told the Commission, "[FBC] is potentially the new framework of regulation that we're looking at to propose in the general plan."

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American Planning Association  
Hawaii Chapter  
*Making Great Communities Happen*

A Publication of the Hawaii Chapter of the American Planning Association

## *Meet Kaua'i's Newest Planners*



### Jody Galinato

Jody Galinato is a new regulatory planner in the County of Kaua'i Planning Department. She previously worked in the Clark County Planning Department in Las Vegas and was the Project Manager for Lewis Homes. She initially moved to Kaua'i after Hurricane Iniki to assist in processing permits with the Office of Emergency Permitting. Jody's duties include coastal zone management, use permits, variances, special permits, special management area approvals, and zoning permits.



### Kenny Estes

Kenny Estes is a new regulatory planner in the County of Kaua'i Planning Department. He recently graduated from UH-Mānoa with a bachelor's degree in environmental studies. While at UH, Kenny was a starting member of the Warriors football team. Right now, he is working on the County's Transient Vacation Rental Certificate program.