

HAWAII PLANNING



American Planning Association
Hawaii Chapter
Making Great Communities Happen

A Publication of the Hawaii Chapter of the American Planning Association

“Remembering to Move Forward | The Aloha+ Challenge”

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From County of Maui Mayor Alan Arakawa investigating the creation of their own utility or nonprofit cooperative, to the State Legislature setting a 100% renewable energy goal by the end of 2045, to County of Kaua'i Mayor Bernard Carvalho Jr. simply stating on a multitude of fronts, “Done,” the level of “coopetition” (cooperation + competition) is ramping up across the state as policy and decision makers, and community members demand progress on our sustainability goals. In 2005 the Legislature, *per* Act 8, charged the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Task Force to develop a statewide sustainability plan. After a two-year process and input from over 10,000 individuals, the Task Force submitted the *Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan* (H2050 Plan - <http://www.hawaii2050.org/>).

The main themes of the H2050 Plan are broadly defined as:

1. A Way of Life
2. The Economy
3. Environment and Natural Resources
4. Community and Social Well-Being
5. Kanaka Maoli Culture and Island Values

In 2008 the Public Policy Center of the College of Social Sciences (SSPPC) at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa was commissioned (Act 225) to review the H2050 Plan and (1) develop defined data, data sources, and benchmarks for each of the major goals; (2) consult with leaders and organizations relevant to each of the main goals of the H2050 Plan; and (3) report findings and recommendations to the 2010 Legislature. Five recommendations were provided at that time¹:

1. Incorporate the H2050 Plan definition and goals of sustainability as a new section in the Hawai'i State Planning Act (HSPA) Chapter 226, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS) – Status: *Accomplished – HRS §226-108 (2011)*
2. Develop and implement policies based on common themes voiced by citizens across the counties in the cross sector dialogs
3. Support the continuing public-private collaboration, community discussions, and efforts on sustainability initiatives – Status: *In progress – hired a State Sustainability Coordinator, 2013 (position now vacant); Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG), Aloha+ Challenge and Dashboard Development*

¹ http://www.publicpolicycenter.hawaii.edu/documents/finalreport_H2050updates_021910.pdf

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4. Adopt measures of accountability, including data and data sources, indicators and benchmarks – Status: *In progress – HGG Sustainability Measures Start-Up Project; Hawai'i Data Council; and Office of Information Management & Technology Open Data Platform*
5. Develop a sustainability coordinating entity to carry forward the H2050 Plan – Status: *In progress – hired a State Sustainability Coordinator, 2013 (position now vacant); HGG, Aloha+ Challenge and Dashboard*

The SSPPC submitted a progress report to the 2012 Legislature in response to Act 181 (2011), relating to the implementation of sustainability guidelines and principles. Based on survey results from nearly 100 organizations and individuals throughout the state, including consultation with Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG)² and the county "Sustainability Coordinators," the report made two major recommendations to support Hawai'i's sustainability efforts:

- Convene a **statewide sustainability network** to advance collaboration, action, and accountability
- Develop **sustainability indicators** to measure progress

Although funding proposals to support these recommendations through the Legislature were unsuccessful, HGG, in partnership with Hawai'i's new, though now vacant, State Sustainability Coordinator, SSPPC and the counties, identified this as a priority and has continued to move forward. This work continues through the HGG Sustainability Measures Start-up Project, where state agencies, the four Counties and partner organizations across the state are working to achieve two major outcomes: 1) launch an accessible online dashboard to serve decision-makers and the public, and 2) build and strengthen statewide and county-based sustainability networks committed to collaborative action and progress on shared sustainability targets.

Lastly, in 2012, through Act 286, the HSPA was amended (HRS §226-109) to include ten climate change adaptation priority guidelines (CCA Priority Guidelines). The CCA Priority Guidelines are intended to prepare the state for climate change impacts to various areas and sectors, including physical environment, natural environment, and social environments, as both near-term implementation options and as a strategy for the State over the long-term.

² HGG is a voluntary partnership of more than 50 state, county, federal, business, and non-governmental leaders from energy, food production, natural resources, waste reduction, planning, green jobs, and other sectors who have come together to support a shared statewide commitment and tangible actions toward sustainability and a model green economy.

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The *Aloha+ Challenge* is a direct outcome of this lineage of work and defines six sustainability targets for Hawai'i to reach by 2030 outlined in the six categories in the chart graphic below.



Source: Hawai'i Green Growth Homepage <www.hawaiigreengrowth.org>

These targets were developed collaboratively by lead State agencies with key private partners, and endorsed by Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG) members, and build upon the work done by dedicated people across the state, as described above. In the summer of 2014 then Governor Neil Abercrombie and the county Mayors and elected Chair of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs signed their support of this challenge. Furthermore, the 2014 Hawai'i State Legislature, which included now Governor David Ige, unanimously passed Senate Concurrent Resolution 69 SCR 69), "Endorsing and Supporting the Aloha+ Challenge."³ The Aloha+ Challenge Dashboard was officially launched in April 2015.

See: (<https://dashboard.hawaii.gov/aloha-challenge>)

³ SCR 69, 2014, also directed the State Sustainability Coordinator to submit a report to the 2015 Legislature on the launch of the Aloha+ Challenge, and to include recommendations for promoting action and tracking progress on the statewide sustainability targets. That report is available on-line at < <http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/CO15-Aloha-Challenge-Rpt14.pdf>>.

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This work was being led by the State Sustainability Coordinator and Hawai'i Data Council (HDC), which, in accordance with the Open Data Act 263 (2013), is tasked with developing and implementing an open data policy. HDC is inventorying the state's data sets and transitioning data to an open data platform.

Lastly, the State of Hawai'i's Office of Information Management & Technology (OIMT) is working with Socrata, a company that provides governments with data platforms, to develop a modernized data hub to better share state data sets and create five initial dashboards.

Welcome to Open Performance Hawaii
Access to public information to facilitate transparency and knowledge

- State of Hawaii Dashboard
- Office of Hawaiian Affairs Dashboard
- Aloha+ Challenge Dashboard
- About this Site
- Goal: Increase Energy Efficiency
Goals published by the State of Hawaii
- Goal: Affordable Housing
Goals published by the State of Hawaii
- Hawaii Open Data
Datasets published by the State of Hawaii
- View Data Catalog
Our goals and dashboards are powered by Open Data. View all available datasets here.

Source: Open Performance Hawai'i <<https://dashboard.hawaii.gov/>>

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Last month an APA-HI contingent presented "A Culture of Sustainability in Hawai'i" at the American Planning Association Annual Conference in Seattle, WA, demonstrating Hawai'i's need for and leadership on actions toward sustainability. You are encourage you to explore the dashboards, investigate the data, and contribute your knowledge on these fronts.

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