

Charlier Associates, Inc.

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

KŌLOA - PO'IPŪ AREA CIRCULATION PLAN

Kaua'i, Hawai'i (completed 2007)

In June of 2006, Charlier Associates initiated the Kōloa-Po'ipū Area Circulation Plan on the island of Kaua'i, Hawai'i. The project, funded by the local development and resort community, was a collaborative effort between local residents, developers, and Kaua'i County to develop a multimodal transportation plan for the communities of Kōloa Town, the Village of Po'ipū Beach, and surrounding areas.

This beautiful portion of Kaua'i has a history rooted in the sugar cane industry, with a more recent transition to tourism and agricultural conversion. Historic Kōloa Town, the site of Hawai'i's first sugar mill, in 1841, is today a close-knit residential community with colorful shops for residents and tourists. Po'ipū Beach, often considered one of the best beaches in the world, continues to develop as an area with large resorts, time share and vacation homes, and other vacation/tourist-oriented amenities mixed among local homes and shops.

These adjacent communities, located on Kaua'i's south shore, are anticipating significant growth over the next 15 years. With the challenges and opportunities represented by continuing growth, the Plan builds on prior planning efforts by Kaua'i County to address community traffic and mobility issues on a comprehensive, systemwide basis. The Plan addresses all major transportation modes and the unique perspectives of residents, visitors, and employees. Specific issues of focus in the plan include:

- Increasing mauka-makai (north-south) connections between the two communities.
- Separating and addressing regional tourist and resort-employee traffic from local travel, particularly in the already-congested core of Kōloa Town.
- Creating multimodal travel opportunities for local, employee, and recreational trips.
- Emphasizing local and collector street connectivity for new development as an alternative to wide thoroughfares – the latter strategy being strongly opposed by the community for neighborhood, safety, environmental and cultural reasons.

A particular emphasis of the Plan is the implementation of its recommended projects – timing, phasing, cost, and funding mechanism. This area-wide circulation plan, the first effort of its kind on Kaua'i, was completed in April of 2007 and is currently being implemented by Kaua'i County.

CLIENT: Starwood Hotels and
Resorts Worldwide, Inc.

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