

## About the Open Space Program

Kauai's Open Space Program was established in an effort to protect and preserve the places Kauai's people hold dear. A small portion of the island's property taxes were set aside in a special fund, an advisory commission was established, and the program was staffed. Now after a few years of appropriations, the "Open Space Fund" is over 1.2 million dollars and growing.

Program staff and members of the Public Access, Open Space, and Natural Resources Preservation Fund Commission seek public input each year in order to establish priorities for use of the Open Space Fund. These recommendations are then transmitted to the County Council and Mayor for their consideration.

This year, we will hold six public meetings around Kauai to present background information about the program and seek public input. We will also launch an online survey to gather public input, but equivalent paper survey forms will be available to people who prefer them.

Please join us this year as we seek your input. Only you can make this a truly countywide, community input process.



Mahalo for your time and participation!



County of Kauai  
Open Space Program

Please take our public survey  
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at [www.Kauai.gov/OpenSpace](http://www.Kauai.gov/OpenSpace).

Open Space Program  
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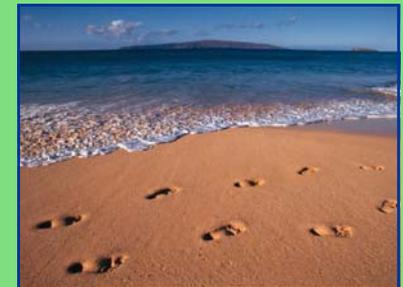
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[www.Kauai.gov/OpenSpace](http://www.Kauai.gov/OpenSpace)



County of Kauai  
Open Space Program

2007  
2007  
Public  
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[www.Kauai.gov/OpenSpace](http://www.Kauai.gov/OpenSpace)

# Kaua'i Open Space Program – 2007 Public Input Process

## Public Meetings

Each year, the County of Kauai Planning Department and the Open Space Commission ask Kauai residents for their input in setting priorities for public access, open space, and natural resource preservation on Kauai. Several public meetings are held around the island to provide a forum for this process.

In July, 2007, six public meetings will be held around Kauai—in Koloa, Lihue, Hanalei, Waimea, Kapaa, and Kilauea. The meetings will present background information on the County's Open Space Program, give meeting participants an opportunity to interact with members of the Open Space Commission, and introduce this year's public input survey.

## Public Input Survey

On July 16, 2007, the Open Space Program will launch the County of Kauai 2007 Public Access / Open Space Survey. It will be conducted primarily as an online, internet-based survey at:

[www.Kauai.gov/OpenSpace](http://www.Kauai.gov/OpenSpace)

For people who prefer them, an equivalent paper version of the survey will be available at the public meetings, by download from the web site, or from the Planning Department.



## Open Space Program Background

On November 5, 2002, Kauai voters approved an amendment to the County Charter that established the "Public Access, Open Space, Natural Resources Preservation Fund" and stipulated that each year a minimum of one half of one percent of the County's certified real property taxes would be deposited into the fund.

The charter amendment further specified that the fund would be used to acquire lands or property entitlements for the following purposes:

1. Public outdoor recreation and education, including access to beaches and mountains;
2. Preservation of historic or culturally important land areas and sites;
3. Protection of significant habitats or ecosystems, including buffer zones;
4. Preserving forests, beaches, coastal areas, and agricultural lands;
5. Protecting watershed lands to preserve water quality and water supply;
6. Conserving land in order to reduce erosion, floods, landslides, and runoff;
7. Improving disabled and public access to, and enjoyment of, public land and open space; and
8. Acquiring disabled and public access to public land and open space.

On December 15, 2003, as the charter amendment directed, the County Council enacted Ordinance 812 to establish procedures for the administration and priorities for the expenditure of the fund. The ordinance also established a nine-member advisory commission, the "Public Access, Open Space, and Natural Resources Preservation Fund Commission," and attached it administratively to the Planning Department.



The Commission and Planning Department are charged with the task of developing an annual list of recommended priorities of lands or property entitlements to be acquired or for the funding of projects directly related to the act, and to incorporate a countywide community input process into development of this annual list.

The amendment to the County Charter, along with passage of Ordinance 812, expresses Kauai residents' desire that the island's special heritage sites and experiences will be preserved, the environment protected, and recreation and access opportunities for all of the people will be enhanced and protected for all time.

## 2007 Public Input Meeting Schedule

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>
Tuesday	July 17	7:30pm to 9:00pm	Koloa Elementary School Cafeteria
Thursday	July 19	7:30pm to 9:00pm	Lihue Civic Center, Piikoi Building, Rooms A & B
Monday	July 23	7:30pm to 9:00pm	Hanalei Community Center
Wednesday	July 25	7:30pm to 9:00pm	Waimea Neighborhood Center
Monday	July 30	7:30pm to 9:00pm	Kapaa Middle School Cafeteria
Tuesday	July 31	7:30pm to 9:00pm	Kilauea Neighborhood Center