

CLIMATE READY O'AHU OPEN HOUSE

📍 NEIL BLAISDELL CENTER
🕒 SATURDAY, AUGUST 27TH, 2022

A series of community engagements and workshops held over the past year led to the creation of CRO's three overarching visions:



Protected and Reliable Infrastructure



Safeguarded and Stewarded 'Āina



Prepared and Empowered People

We drafted 11 adaptation strategies under these visions and held an Open House to ask for community feedback.



For each vision, we proposed 3-5 climate adaptation strategies and asked Open House attendees to write their responses to **"What do you think of when you read this strategy?"**

We also asked participants to comment on the three visions, asking **"Does this vision make sense? Is it anything missing?"**



Key Takeaways

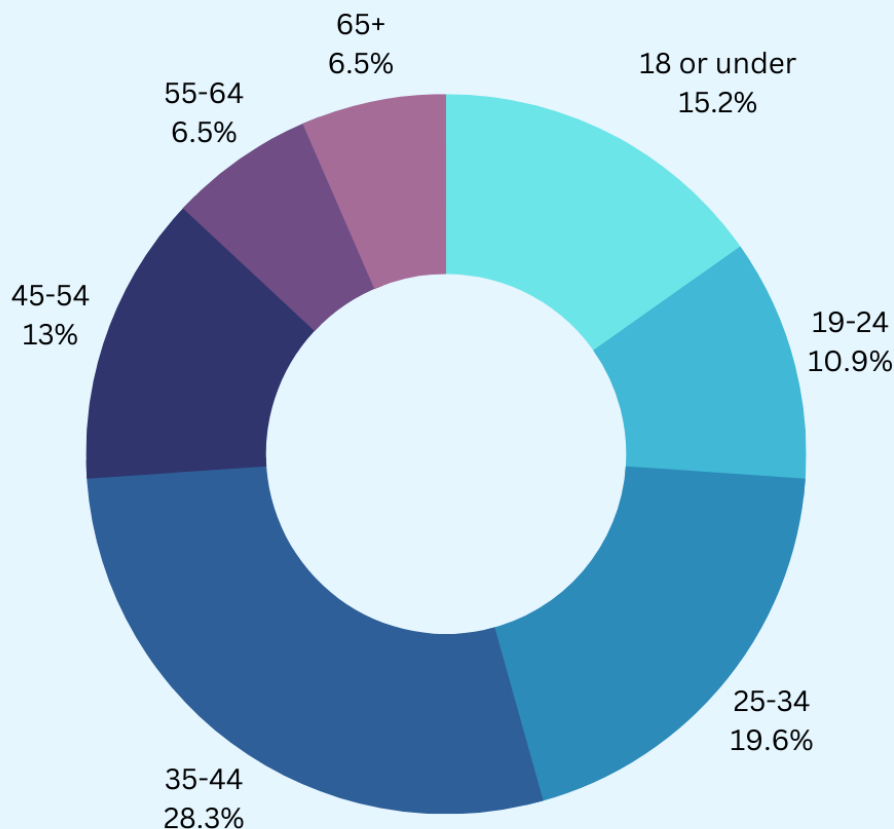
195 comments were left by attendees, with feedback centering on a few major themes:

- Focus on equity in decision making, as climate change affects residents unequally
- Support local efforts and community-based organizations who are already engaged in climate adaptation solutions
- Continue climate discussions and seek more input from communities, especially indigenous voices
- Enhance ecosystem adaptation
- Prioritize educational outreach to increase awareness of climate hazards and solutions

Attendees

There were 46 participants from 10 different zip codes.

Age of Attendees





Protected and Reliable Infrastructure



Invest in improvements to safeguard our buildings, homes, and infrastructure to withstand heat, floods, and hurricanes.

What do you think of when you read this strategy?

"Do we have a good understanding of WHERE we need to invest to safeguard against heat? Do we need a building audit?"

"Good - our infrastructure is old and breaks a lot. Heat shouldn't be ignored! It's becoming just as dire as floods and hurricanes."

How important is this strategy for adapting to climate change?

Scale: From 1 (Not important) to 5 (Very important)

Average rating: 4.75

Relocate existing and site new development to avoid exposure to flooding and sea-level rise.

What do you think of when you read this strategy?

"Increase high-density, multi-use, low-income development."

"Focus on NOT building NEW in the sea level plane."

How important is this strategy for adapting to climate change?

Scale: From 1 (Not important) to 5 (Very important)

Average rating: 4





Protected and Reliable Infrastructure



Beat the heat with shade and lighter surfaces.

What do you think of when you read this strategy?

"More livable solutions for houseless folks to stay cool, dry, and safe."

"Need to incentivize this in private and public spaces. Have public utility - usable parks and spaces users will value."

How important is this strategy for adapting to climate change?

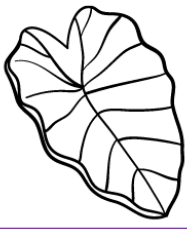
Scale: From 1 (Not important) to 5 (Very important)

Average rating: 4.5

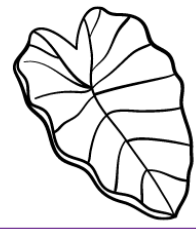
Does the Protected and Reliable Infrastructure vision make sense? Is anything missing?

"Tax credits for homeowners who make improvements for heat reduction/eco windows."

"Low-income communities should be a priority since they are the hottest."



Safeguarded and Stewarded 'Āina



Strengthen climate resilience of beach wetland ecosystems.

What do you think of when you read this strategy?

"Yes! Work with community-led organizations and local groups doing this work."

"Support climate resilience of beach and wetland ecosystems **EQUITABLY**."

How important is this strategy for adapting to climate change?

Scale: From 1 (Not important) to 5 (Very important)

Average rating: 4.75

Manage rain where it falls.

What do you think of when you read this strategy?

"Capture storm water with bioswales and rain gardens to increase percolation and reduce runoff to the ocean."

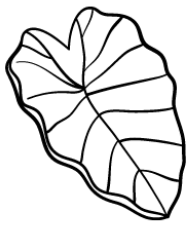
"How can we manage streams so that they can accept rain? Many homes are too close to streams and flooding."

How important is this strategy for adapting to climate change?

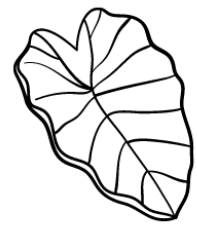
Scale: From 1 (Not important) to 5 (Very important)

Average rating: 5





Safeguarded and Stewarded 'Āina



Strengthen climate resilient local agriculture.

What do you think of when you read this strategy?

"Include ancestral + indigenous knowledge. Native Hawaiian 'āina-based stewardship kanoiki/ahupua'a systems."

"Promote local, island grown staples like breadfruit, etc. instead of imported staples (potatoes, rice, etc.)"

How important is this strategy for adapting to climate change?

Scale: From 1 (Not important) to 5 (Very important)

Average rating: 5

Does the Safeguarded and Stewarded 'Āina vision make sense? Is anything missing?

"Missing the connection for those who have no land and no access to affordable agriculture. How do city people, especially the poor, find value in this?"

"How about a more proactive statement that encourages investment in innovations and economic development around sustainable ag?"



Prepared and Empowered People



Promote public awareness of climate risks and adaptation solutions.

What do you think of when you read this strategy?

"VERY important - must bring it to the people in a way that works for them. Develop leaders from within the communities."

"Government needs to do a better job of getting community engaged. Using accessible info/language, events, etc. Reach people with multiple jobs."

How important is this strategy for adapting to climate change?

Scale: From 1 (Not important) to 5 (Very important)

Average rating: 5

Uplift and support community-led adaptation efforts.

What do you think of when you read this strategy?

"Fund existing, successful community-led adaptation. Provide support help to scale up."

"Need to provide technical assistance to connect community-led adaptation efforts to funding. Network building, convening of groups doing this work."

How important is this strategy for adapting to climate change?

Scale: From 1 (Not important) to 5 (Very important)

Average rating: 5





Prepared and Empowered People



Work with affected communities to plan for climate impacts to Native Hawaiian and other cultural resources.

What do you think of when you read this strategy?

"Kanaka and 'āina are intertwined - let communities take the lead with authentic city/state support."

"Listen to Native Leaders w/ Hawaiian Homelands; Kamehameha schools, Bishop Estates, and assess priorities and set plans with funds to execute strategy."

How important is this strategy for adapting to climate change?

Scale: From 1 (Not important) to 5 (Very important)

Average rating: 4.75

Institutionalize equity and climate resilience in governmental adaptation decisions.

What do you think of when you read this strategy?

"Traditionally marginalized communities tend to bear the brunt of climate or natural disaster impacts. Govt. should meaningfully engage and elevate these voices."

"Equity is key but involvement is likely to be unequal. Advocates are needed for those who will not speak for selves."

How important is this strategy for adapting to climate change?

Scale: From 1 (Not important) to 5 (Very important)

Average rating: 5





Prepared and Empowered People



Keep people safe during heat waves.

What do you think of when you read this strategy?

"Can we couple food security ag. hubs with places to stay safe during the heat?"

"Communal cooling centers, check in on kupuna, plant more trees."

How important is this strategy for adapting to climate change?

Scale: From 1 (Not important) to 5 (Very important)

Average rating: 4.75

Does the Prepared and Empowered People vision make sense? Is anything missing?

"More open houses for feedback. Radiospot. Online area for people to submit ideas for those not here today. More interagency collaborations."

"Create a climate office in every town to provide resources. Cooling centers. Monthly meetings. Fun events that attract people in communities to participate."



Mahalo to everyone who participated!

Want more? Click [HERE](#) to read all of the Open House feedback.

