Inspired by an interest to improve the Līhuʻe Town core area and ‘Eiwa Street and a wish to update the Līhuʻe Development Plan, the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Honolulu held a design charrette with a wide range of participants and sponsors including County staff from the Department of Public Works and Planning Department, Kauaʻi Historical Society, Kauaʻi Visitors Bureau, Līhuʻe Business Association, Kauaʻi Chamber of Commerce, American Planning Association, community members, architects, planners, landscape architects, and other design professionals to look at the larger Līhuʻe area stretching from Kukui Grove Shopping Center to Wilcox Hospital, and from Kaumualiʻi/Kūhiō Highway to Nāwiliwili Bay.

The design charrette focused on renewal and sustainability of Līhuʻe Town. The charrette put forth the following priorities and goals:

- create a sense of place;
- reinforce landmarks;
- enhance historic structures;
- strengthen Civic Center identity;
- create community activities within town center, such as farmer’s market and parades;
- alleviate traffic and parking problems;
- encourage pedestrian and bicycle circulation;
- emphasize a “green” experience;
- incorporate sustainability through mixed use housing, transportation, and energy;
- develop better connections to neighboring towns, bay, harbor, and stream; and
- recapture the essence of “Old Līhuʻe”

Recommendations made for accomplishing these goals and priorities included:

- enhancing existing landscape with more village green and native plants;
- creating community green space between the County buildings and connecting with Līhuʻe Park;
- designing gateways, art sculptures, and water features;
- making pedestrian and bicycle paths;
- improving signage and wayfinding;
- converting ‘Eiwa Street to a pedestrian mall (full or partial) or realigning it;
- establishing Rice Street as a main street with traffic calming solutions; and
- developing more parking options, such as an underground parking structure or parking lots around civic center periphery with “Park & Walk” and/or shuttle system.