

2 COMMUNITY VISION

South Kaua'i is comprised of **distinct rural communities**, each embracing its own **rich cultural, natural, and historic heritage**, but **well-connected** through safe and efficient **transportation networks**. Balanced, responsible development enhances existing communities, preserving the **local rural lifestyle** that embodies South Kaua'i and is cherished by residents and visitors alike.

The South Kaua'i Community Plan planning process was designed to facilitate community agreement around a shared, newly created vision for the South Kaua'i region. The process was initiated by sending wish cards to over 6,000 residents asking them "What's your wish for South Kaua'i?" The wish card exercise was supported and followed by online input and surveys, stakeholder meetings, interview sessions, community workshops, and outreach events. Input regarding priorities was also garnered from various groups and points of view. Nine core guiding principles were developed as a result.

2.1 VISION STATEMENTS

The overall vision for the South Kaua'i Community Plan region is provided below. Vision statements were also developed for each individual town in South Kaua'i to showcase the qualities unique to each. The community's vision statements are followed by the Kaua'i General Plan's vision, as shown in italics, which further describes the long-term vision for each town. A "word cloud" was generated using all of the community comments to help inform the development of the vision.

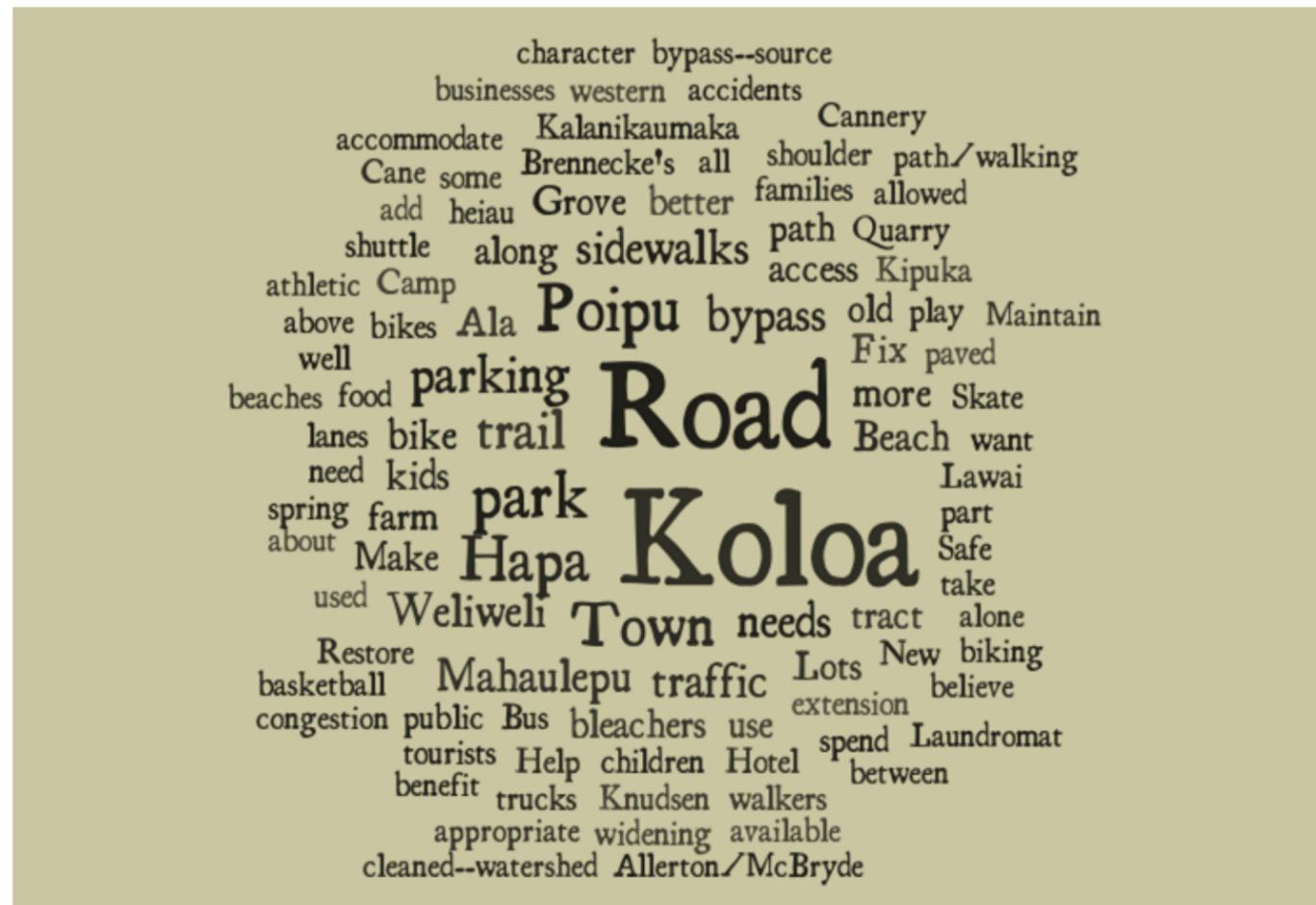
SOUTH KAUA'I is comprised of distinct rural communities, each embracing its own rich cultural, natural, and historic heritage, but well-connected through safe and efficient transportation networks. Balanced, responsible development enhances existing communities, preserving the local rural lifestyle that embodies South Kaua'i and is cherished by residents and visitors alike.



2.1.1 Kōloa

KŌLOA will be a thriving commercial and residential community that maintains its rural feel and historic “old town” charm by preserving, enhancing and protecting its vast cultural treasures.

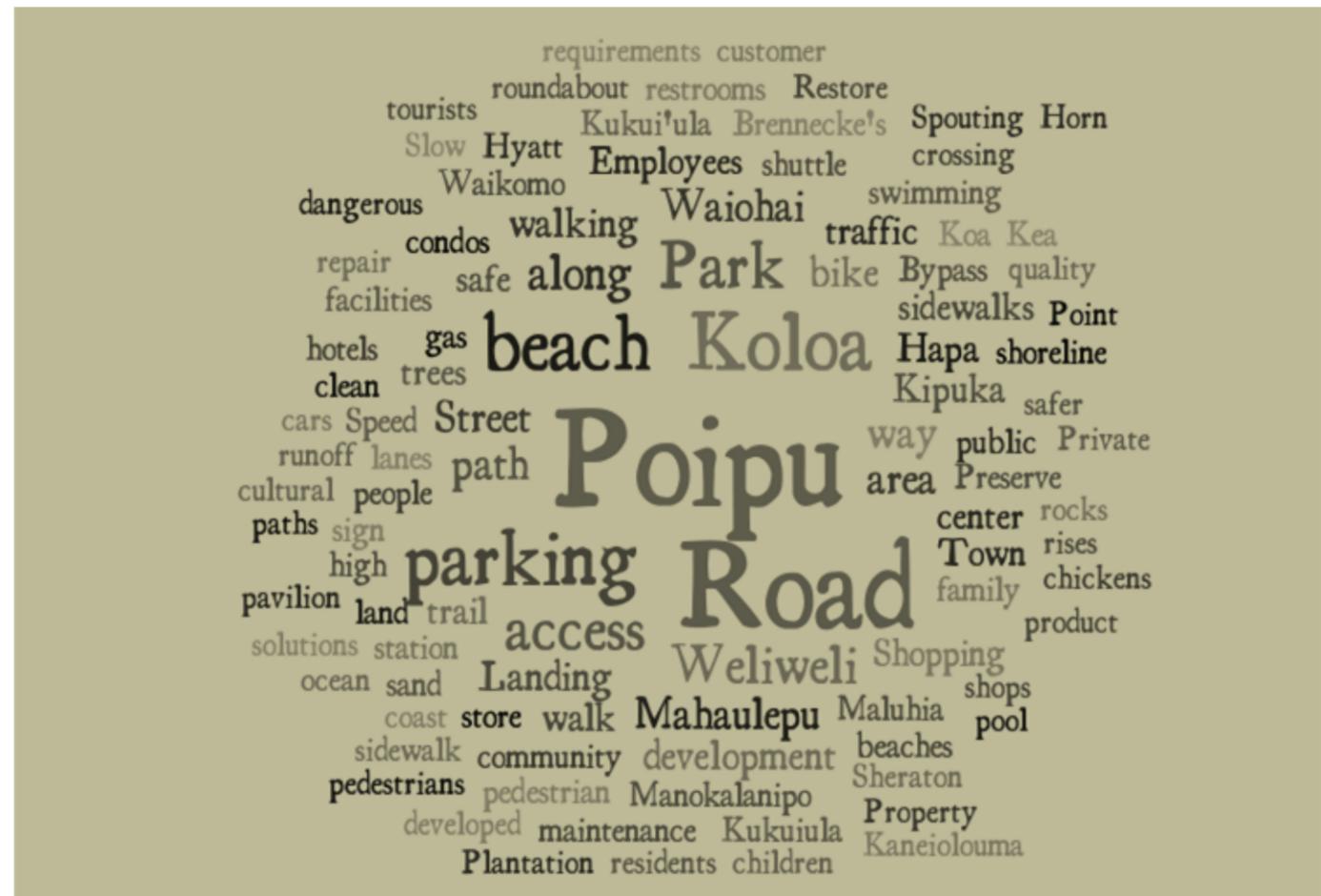
Kōloa’s history is preserved through the plantation/western architecture in the town core, its historic churches, and other historic buildings. In the town core, renovations and new buildings follow the style of “Old Kōloa Town.” Shaded by building canopies and large trees, pedestrian walkways connect “pockets” of public parking at each end of town. The town provides Kōloa and Po’ipū residents with vital services such as grocery stores, the Post Office, and the Neighborhood Center. Both visitors and residents are also attracted to Kōloa because of its unique shops, restaurants and taverns. Outside of town, the former Kōloa Sugar Mill is in active use as a light industrial center and a food processing and packing facility. Coffee, papaya and other export crops are being grown on former sugar lands.



2.1.2 Po’ipū

PO’IPŪ will be a world-class, sustainable resort destination serving residents and visitors alike, developed responsibly, with clean, healthy beaches and ocean environments, welcoming parks and preserved heritage resources, all well-connected and accessible to everyone.

Po’ipū is a beach resort that accommodates both a residential community and the island’s largest Visitor Destination Area. Supported by the growing community of Kukui’ula to the west and by historic Kōloa Town to the north, Po’ipū is home to about 40 percent of Kaua’i’s resort accommodations and is a major center of employment. Po’ipū is known for its many outdoor recreation opportunities, afforded by its beaches, surf breaks, diving spots, golf courses, and tennis facilities. Bicycle tours use old agricultural roads belonging to Grove Farm and McBryde. Walkers, joggers and bicyclists enjoy the continuous pedestrian/bicycle pathway that runs along the shoreline from the Spouting Horn to Māhā’ulepū.



2.2 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The vision for South Kaua'i will be implemented through the following guiding principles.

- 1. Watershed Management** - Manage the watershed mauka to makai in recognition of the ecosystem services and interrelatedness of nature.
- 2. Cultural Stewardship & Interpretation** - Protect and care for the natural, historic, and cultural features as living sites. Weave these rich resources into a story of the region, creating a sense of place that connects people to the past and allows them to be integrated into modern life.
- 3. Hazard & Climate Risk Management** - Prepare for potential impacts due to natural hazards and climate change.
- 4. Compact Walkable Neighborhoods** - Focus growth on compact, defined settlement areas to reduce sprawl, enhance the sense of community, maintain the rural character of the place, and preserve open space. Develop Kōloa, Kalāheo, and Po'ipū Gateway town cores as vibrant mixed-use places in concert with their historic character and their community context.
- 5. Multimodal Transportation System** - Develop a multimodal pedestrian-friendly transportation system to reduce dependence on the automobile, improve safety, and promote a healthy lifestyle.
- 6. Sustainable Resorts & Tourism** - Develop the Po'ipū Resort area as a sustainable visitor destination—one that provides eco-friendly products and services, leverages local businesses, relies less on cars, and is centered on a vast historic area and culturally rich coastline.
- 7. Economic Development Opportunities** - Emphasize the competitive advantage assets of the Planning Area—sandy beaches, ocean conditions and resources, sunny climate, photovoltaics (PV) potential, natural and cultural points of interest, irrigated important agriculture land, and existing network of trails and roads. Encourage local food production, small business development, and workforce development.
- 8. Diversity of Housing Types** - Support workforce housing development within and around town cores.
- 9. Public Infrastructure and Facilities** - Prioritize to meet basic needs and support economic development.