

# CHINATOWN ACTION PLAN



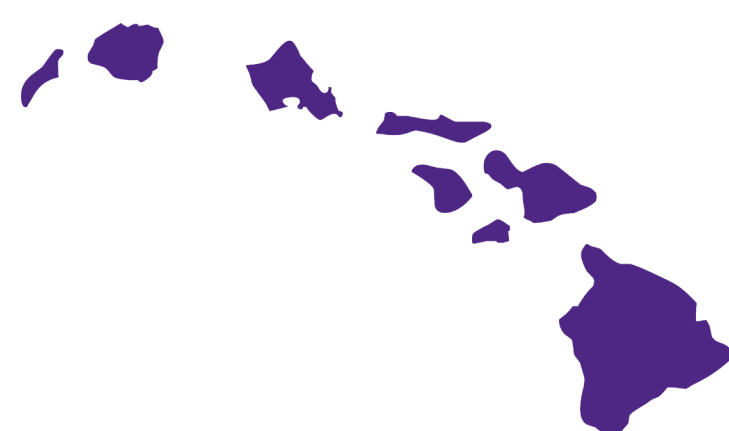
## CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

The City and County of Honolulu (City) has been working with rail corridor communities to plan for transit-oriented development (TOD) for nearly a decade. As these TOD plans near completion, the City is shifting its focus towards implementation of these community visions. Implementation efforts are being coordinated by the City's TOD Subcabinet—led by the Mayor's Chief of Staff and the Managing Director, and attended by directors and key staff of the departments relevant to TOD. This group meets weekly to discuss infrastructure, public and private projects, and policy changes needed to improve walkability around the future rail transit stations. The most ambitious effort undertaken by the TOD Subcabinet has been creation of the Chinatown Action Plan and its ongoing implementation. The planning process and early results have become new standards for TOD plan implementation.

The Chinatown Action Plan (Action Plan) is a realistic set of actionable goals that reflects the specific needs of the historic neighborhood. The Action Plan was spearheaded and compiled by the TOD Subcabinet, but it is a direct result of collaboration with elected officials, the State of Hawai'i, and cultural, civic, arts, business and community groups. The Action Plan focuses on near-term implementation projects and programs, while refining longer-term strategies. The Action Plan covers a broad range of topics important to the district. Recommended actions are related to:

- Reclaiming street space for pedestrians and bicycles
- Connecting people to the future Chinatown rail station
- Improving cleanliness and safety
- Fostering the local economy
- Preserving the area's rich history, culture, and character
- Revitalizing existing parks and gathering places

The Action Plan scored very well for all evaluative criteria: originality, innovation, implementation, transferability, participation, effectiveness and results. The Action Plan required representatives of diverse disciplines in government to cooperate and set a new precedent for interagency collaboration within the City. The planning process used a variety of methods to engage stakeholders including property owners, real estate professionals, visitors to Chinatown, and local planners. These methods included a neighborhood walkabout, an Action Summit attended by 250 people, an interactive project website, and an Action Plan video. The Chinatown Action Plan has become a model for other communities engaged in TOD planning along the rail transit line in Honolulu.



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