

# SURFRIDER NORTH SHORE COASTAL RESILIENCE WORKING GROUP



## Surfrider Foundation, Hawai'i Sea Grant & SSFM International, Inc.

In 2021, Surfrider Foundation and Hawai'i Sea Grant partnered with SSFM International to convene the North Shore Community Resilience Working Group (NSCRWG). The NSCRWG was developed to discuss and identify possible solutions and address increased impacts from coastal erosion and flooding within the North Shore planning district, which includes the shoreline from Ka'ena Point to Velzyland. The NSCRWG is a community-driven, collaborative effort among diverse stakeholders and includes nearly 30 community members, beachfront landowners, elected officials, State and City agencies, planners, engineers, and non-profits.

The NSCRWG met six times in 2021 and 2022. During these meetings, the group identified three coastal erosion hotspots along the North Shore (Rocky Point - Sunset Beach, Laniākea - Chuns, and Mokuē'ia) and discussed coastal adaptation challenges. At the end of the community-driven process, the NSCRWG produced a white paper which summarized the group's process and findings and identified seven critical concerns related to community vulnerability and coastal resource management on the North Shore and six recommendations for immediate action.

The work of the NSCRWG was timely as it coincided with the update of the North Shore Sustainable Communities Plan (NSSCP), the city's 25-year plan for the district, which offered an opportunity for the outcomes of the Working Group process to directly inform policy direction on climate change adaptation, coastal preservation and management, and land use addressed in the NSSCP.

The NSCRWG represents the first community-driven coastal resilience focused working group in Hawai'i. It brought together diverse public and private stakeholders to facilitate meaningful, community driven discussions about climate resilience and the future of coastal management on the North Shore through the blending of technical, regulatory and community perspectives. This effort laid important groundwork for the community to advocate for plans, policies, and solutions to increase coastal resilience and educate others in the community. It strengthened relationships within the community and between stakeholders, resulting in more organized, informed, and engaged citizens connected to technical expertise and government agencies.