

ROYAL FOOTSTEPS ALONG THE KONA COAST CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLAN



HO‘OKULEANA LLC KAILUA VILLAGE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

The Royal Footsteps Along The Kona Coast Corridor Management Plan (CMP) was developed through an inclusive, broad-based collaboration between the Community, the Sponsor and Governmental Agencies to protect, preserve, restore, promote and share the extensive and extraordinary intrinsic qualities along the length of Ali‘i Drive. Its mission is to “Honor the Ali‘i.”

Royal Footsteps Along The Kona Coast was recently designated as Hawai‘i’s second State Scenic Byway and, through the CMP, it is pursuing designation as a National Scenic Byway. The CMP is a guide to call attention to and define the strategies that will be implemented to protect the area’s significant archaeological, historic, cultural, natural, scenic and recreational resources.

A Scenic Byway is a road that tells a special story. Royal Footsteps Along The Kona Coast covers the entire length of Ali‘i Drive, seven miles of roadway and over seven centuries of Hawaiian archaeological, historic and cultural traditions that have shaped Hawai‘i into what it is today. A total of thirty different sites and features were selected along the corridor. These sites and features help tell the stories of the land (‘āina) and its people (Ali‘i) from the earliest beginnings of Hawai‘i to today. Its archaeological and historic features merit statewide and national significance, as evidenced by many sites already placed on State and National Registers of Historic Places or National Historic Landmarks.

By whatever means (vehicle, transit, bicycle or on foot), following the footsteps of ancient royalty and embracing the scenic beauty, natural and archaeological features, historic sites, associated cultural traditions and recreational opportunities will give the traveler a greater appreciation and understanding of Hawai‘i’s past and sense of place in the world.

The 2011 APA Hawai‘i awards jury noted that this Corridor Management Plan presents a highly appropriate and effective way to address the many sensitive stakeholder issues relating to preserving and managing the scenic, historic and cultural resources along the seven mile stretch of Ali‘i Drive. Also noteworthy was the extensive collaboration between stakeholders (residents, businesses and government) that led to consensus building and overall buy-in on the project. The report is very well written and illustrated with maps and photos (both ground and aerial) that provide a strong sense of the historic/cultural value of the location and emphasize the scenic values of the byway. The report provided a very comprehensive cultural and visual context. It included several components of supporting processes such as meetings and technical analysis such as traffic and safety hazard analysis as appendices.

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