

# Frequently Asked Questions

# County of Maui

HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN - PHASE I

## WHAT ARE HISTORIC RESOURCES?

Historic resources are buildings, sites, structures, objects, and landscapes of architectural, historical, and cultural importance. They are also places of economic activity, community identity, and collective memory – places that tell the story of Maui County.

## WHAT IS HISTORIC PRESERVATION?

Historic preservation is the process of conserving historic resources, managing appropriate change so that their character-defining features are maintained, finding methods and means for reusing them, and protecting them for the benefit of future generations.

## WHY IS HISTORIC PRESERVATION IMPORTANT?

Maui County's historic resources are key elements to the community's cultural identity, aesthetic and physical environment, economic diversity and sustainability, and overall quality of life. Historic preservation is also an effective tool for revitalizing commercial areas, stabilizing older neighborhoods, attracting new businesses, and for encouraging reinvestment in a community's underlying infrastructure systems.

It is for these reasons that many local governments around the country have created and maintained historic preservation programs, with adopted preservation ordinances, landmarking and design review procedures, and incentives that facilitate the stewardship of significant resources for adaptive use and long-term conservation.

## WHAT IS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLANNING?

According to the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions, preservation planning is a proactive way to provide for the protection of a community's historic and cultural resources and character.

Effective, forward thinking preservation plans typically contain the following common elements:

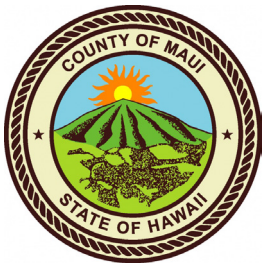
- Lots of consultation with the community;
- A thorough analysis of the local government's existing historic preservation program;
- A strategic plan that:
  - Functions like a work program to change and streamline historic preservation efforts; and,
  - Presents strategies for planning, zoning, economic development, historic resources, incentives, and education; and,
  - An implementation chapter that identifies actions and partners needed to carry out the plan's strategies.

## WHY ARE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLANS IMPORTANT?

They are opportunities for communities to evaluate the effectiveness of their current historic preservation program, understand current issues and constraints to preservation, and consider planning strategies and initiatives that address important preservation planning concerns.

## WHY DOES THE EXISTING PLAN NEED TO BE UPDATED?

1. It hasn't been updated since the County adopted it 34 years ago;
2. The fields of historic preservation and preservation planning have evolved;
3. County and State historic preservation laws have changed;
4. Several community plans recommend updating the plan;
5. Updating the plan is consistent with important goals identified in the Maui Island Plan; and
6. We need a clearer picture of what our preservation priorities are for the years ahead.



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## WHAT IS THE PROCESS FOR DEVELOPING THE NEW PLAN?

The Planning Department will develop the new plan in two phases.

### PHASE 1 - EXISTING CONDITIONS (AUGUST 2018-FEBRUARY 2019)

We're currently working on Phase I with the help of our consultant, the Lakota Group. During Phase I, we will analyze current preservation planning activities in Maui County. As part of this process, we will examine significant planning issues, including:

- Cultural Resources Commission and Planning Department operations;
- Historic preservation provisions within the County's zoning code;
- Historic Resources survey and designation activities;
- Design review processes;
- Current preservation incentives and disincentives; and
- Existing education and advocacy efforts undertaken by the Planning Department and other community partners.

During Phase I, we'll also interview different stakeholder groups, post an online questionnaire, and hold public workshops to get community feedback on important preservation issues.

We will incorporate the results of this work into an existing conditions report. This report will summarize the strengths, challenges, constraints of the County's existing historic preservation program. We will use this report to guide the development of the new historic preservation plan during Phase II.

### PHASE 2 - PLAN DEVELOPMENT (JULY 2019 - JULY 2020)

After we finish the existing conditions report and the new fiscal year begins, we will start Phase II. Phase II is the plan-making phase, where we'll work with the community to develop strategies and implementation steps and write the new historic preservation plan. Once the new plan is complete, it will be adopted by the Planning Commissions and County Council.