
KULA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

<http://www.kulamaui.com/>
Bobbie Patnode, President

*The **VISION** of the **Kula Community Association** is to preserve open space, support agriculture, maintain a rural residential atmosphere, and to work together as a community.*

*The **SPECIFIC PURPOSE** of this association is to improve the quality of life for the residents of Kula, to promote civic welfare, and generally to benefit the community of Kula.*

Kula Community Association BUDGET PRIORITIES for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

- 1. Kula Community Center**
- 2. Invasive Species Control**
- 3. Water Supply**
- 4. County Support for Agriculture**
- 5. Children's Safety**
- 6. Firebreak Barrier**
- 7. Kula Recycling**
- 8. Road Improvements and Maintenance**
- 9. Upcountry Greenways Master Plan**
- 10. Pickleball Courts**

Detailed List

- 1. Kula Community Center** – This is a facility on leased land for which the County has already spent million\$. Please finalize the actual allocation of funds to acquire the land under the Kula Community Center, parking lot, gate-ball court, and tennis courts this year. The cost will only rise as the land's lease-term comes to an end.
- 2. Invasive Species Control**–The KCA strongly supports efforts to control, reduce and eradicate invasive species, especially Axis deer, the Little Fire Ant, coqui frogs, glycine, and chickens.
Axis deer are by far the biggest concern in the Kula community. The deer are eating pasture land that should be available for the ranches' cattle operations. They are destroying many small farmers' crops. They impact the gardens of many residents. And they are a significant danger to automobile traffic.
We support increased funding for Maui Invasive Species Control (MISC) and other programs. Glycine weed is a particular problem Upcountry, as the weed attaches itself to Jacaranda and other trees and eventually kills them. Coqui frogs are a major concern as neighboring Haiku and Maliko Gulch are facing severe problems that could lead to the spread of the frog to Kula and the rest of the island.
- 3. Water Supply** – The KCA continues to prioritize the creation of a system that provides dependable, quality water for all our residents and that provides water meters for the Upcountry Water Meter List. We would like to ensure that we have adequate water supply for all the meters being requested. We encourage the Council to ensure that funding is available for water storage alternatives and to request cost estimates for various sized reservoirs and water tanks in the upcountry area. We also request that new water sources be looked at as well as increased treatment facilities. As such, we support funding for the Upcountry water system reliability project.

Kula Community Association BUDGET PRIORITIES for FY2023-2024 Page 2

4. **County Support for Agriculture** – The Kula Community Association is thankful that the County Council placed on the ballot the creation of a County Department of Agriculture and that the voters of Maui endorsed this new department. Now we ask that the budget provide adequate funds for this department to support Upcountry agricultural operations.

We support grant funding specifically for all types of agriculture including both conventional and organic. The KCA Board would also like to see the expanded Kula Ag Park receive budgetary support to place this new organic facility in operation within the next year including deer fencing, an irrigation system, surveyed farm lots, etc.

We request that the county budget include provisions for additional agricultural support capabilities, such as a commercial kitchen, food processing hub and marketing support. Let's all work towards a goal of achieving agricultural/food self-sufficiency for Maui County!
5. **Children's Safety** – We request the County construct the connector sidewalk to the existing Lower Kula sidewalk in the vicinity of Haleakala Waldorf School. There is no safe way for the children and their parents to walk between the school on Lower Kula Road and the County's Kula Gym.
6. **Firebreak Barrier** – With the closing of the HC&S plantation there is a greatly increased risk of a wildfire moving mauka into lower Kula from the large unused plantation with its very high fuel load. KCA has as its priority the construction of a firebreak just makai of the residences in lower Kula. We request funds be budgeted to both construct and maintain an adequate firebreak. To ensure safety, we would like additional firefighting equipment be available to fight a fire and maintain water conserving reservoirs on Mahi Pono land.
7. **Kula Recycling** – We request:
 - a) a recycling site be established in the Kula area;
 - b) a location for the disposal of appliances, TVs, etc. to be located at the central landfill or similar central location to keep this kind of trash off our road-sides; and
 - c) expand the support of organic composting capacity for purely non-toxic materials, e.g., green-waste, restaurant waste, etc.
8. **Road Improvements and Maintenance** – On the County's web-site we would like to see the Public Works Department establish a priority list of roads that need to be repaved and those planned for the slurry treatment within each district of the County, and then budget to build the highest priority road improvements.
9. **Upcountry Greenways Master Plan** – The County has already developed an excellent recreational master plan that would connect all the upcountry communities: Kula, Pukalani, Makawao, Olinda and Haiku with a series of trails for hiking, cycling and equestrian activities. We ask that the plan be included in the budget for implementation over a multi-year period.
10. **Pickleball Courts** – The Kula Community has a need for pickleball courts, just as the rest of the County. Please include Kula in your plans to make space available for everyone to enjoy this very popular sport without taking away from other uses of public courts.