



Kihei Community Association

"e malama pono"...dedicated to protecting,
sustaining and enhancing our 'āina, kai and 'ohana

**KIHEI COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION POSITION STATEMENT
ADDRESSING SOUTHWEST MAUI COASTAL PRESERVATION
SEPTEMBER, 2014**

KCA is concerned about the future of southwest Maui's coastline. 37 miles of coastline border the Kihei-Makena Community Plan area. Much of the coast has beautiful sand beaches. Our citizens desire that we protect our coastlines for future generations. We believe that our area needs a comprehensive approach to preserving this irreplaceable resource. Stable coastlines and sand beaches increase property values, provide recreation, fill resorts and promote our vital visitor industry. Major storm events, sea level rise, tsunamis, runoff, property protection, coral reef destruction, wind and wave erosion and other factors are eroding our sand beaches. KCA's position is that comprehensive action needs to be undertaken as soon as practical:

1. Complete a comprehensive beach plan for Kihei-Makena. The plan should address at a minimum:
 - Evaluate each beach including its history, issues and any impending actions that could impact its condition.
 - Estimate annual rate of sand loss or gain for each beach.
 - For beaches currently undergoing sand loss, suggest maintenance strategies including sand replenishment, dune fences, modified vegetation and modified human activities, such as relocation of setbacks to accommodate unavoidable erosion.
 - Evaluate whether offshore activities such as reef restoration are practical approaches to protecting and maintaining coastlines from storm and wind activity.
 - Consider whether hardening activities are appropriate for an entire beach area as opposed to considering individual properties in isolation.
1. Require all new development to "bank" excess sand from excavation for use in beach replenishment.
2. Require adjacent new development to include a plan to maintain beaches to their current extent.

Facts and assumptions

- Maui Island beaches are currently retreating at an average 2-3 feet per year.
- Maui Island currently hardens as much as one mile of shoreline each year.
- Hardening the shoreline results in the loss of sand adjacent to the hardening.
- Sand is being exported to Oahu without restriction rather than for use in replenishment of Maui beaches.
- Natural beach replenishment occurs too slowly to maintain beaches disrupted by human activity.