

The Trust for Public Land

Save Ka Iwi Coast – Mauka to Makai

Frequently Asked Questions

Is my donation tax deductible?

Yes, The Trust for Public Land is a 501(c)3 donation and all donations to The Trust for Public Land are fully tax deductible.

How much of my donation actually goes toward the land purchase and stewardship?

100% of your donation goes toward the purchase and stewardship of the Ka Iwi Coast Mauka Lands.

Are credit card fees taken out of my donation if I donate through the kaiwicoast.com website?

No. The Trust for Public Land has agreed to cover all credit card fees from website donations so that 100% of your online donation will go toward protecting the Ka Iwi Coast Mauka Lands. Ex) If you donate \$250, the entire \$250 will be applied toward the purchase and care of the Ka Iwi Coast Mauka Lands.

What happens if the \$500,000 goal isn't raised by August 30, 2015?

The Trust for Public Land is pursuing backup strategies if the purchase funds are not raised in time, such as taking out a loan to allow The Trust for Public Land to buy the property and hold it until the State & City release their funds and all private funds are raised. The downside of taking out a loan is that even more money, (approximately \$87,000), would have to be raised to pay the interest on that loan. We are hopeful that we can close this purchase quickly so that we will not have to take out a loan requiring an additional fundraising effort to pay for the loan interest.

If we are not able to purchase and protect the properties despite our best efforts at backup strategies, then 50% of the funds raised would go to protect another threatened and important area on O'ahu that The Trust for Public Land is working on, and the other 50% of the funds would go to other land stewardship projects that

Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui is working on in their focus area stretching from Kahala to Makapu'u. These projects include Hawea heiau complex & Keawawa wetland, Pahua heiau, and Aloha 'Aina o Kamilonui Nursery.

What if I don't want to donate until I am sure that enough has been raised for the purchase to go through?

As time is short, we are no longer able to accept pledges and need people who care for Ka Iwi Coast to make a credit card donation at kaiwicoast.com or send a check to The Trust for Public Land, Save Ka Iwi Coast, 1003 Bishop Street #740, Honolulu, HI 96813. Together, we can protect Ka Iwi Coast mauka to makai!

If I donate, and the purchase doesn't go through, can I be refunded?

No, donations will not be refunded if the purchase doesn't go through. Please see the answer to the question, "What happens if the \$500,000 goal isn't raised by August 30, 2015?" above.

What if more than \$500,000 is raised? Where will the excess funds go?

If more than \$500,000 is raised, 100% of the funds over \$500,000 will go to Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui for the limited purpose of stewarding the Ka Iwi Coast Mauka Lands. These funds could be put toward general land management expenses such as property taxes (until a nonprofit property tax exemption is approved) and liability insurance, and could help to fund important stewardship needs such as an archaeological inventory survey.

I read that a conservation easement will be placed on the lands. Will this be an conservation easement or an outright purchase? What is a conservation easement?

The Trust for Public Land will purchase the land in fee, and transfer the land to the 501(c)3 community nonprofit Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui. The deed to Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui will include a deed restriction from the State Legacy Land Conservation Program which will restrict development. Immediately after title transfers to Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui, Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui will transfer a conservation easement to the City & County of Honolulu to add an additional layer of protection for the land.

A conservation easement is a legal agreement between a landowner and a government agency or land trust that permanently limits uses of the land in order to protect its conservation values. The term 'conservation easement' can be confusing

because people often think of a road in relation to the word easement. A conservation easement is not a road or path, but rather a permanent legal agreement that restricts how the property can be used in order to protect its conservation values.

When a landowner transfers a conservation easement to a government agency or land trust, the landowner voluntarily gives up some of the rights associated with the land. For example, a landowner might give up the right to build additional structures, while retaining the right to grow crops. Future owners also will be bound by the easement's terms. The government agency or land trust is responsible for making sure the easement's terms are followed on a long-term basis.

For the Ka Iwi Coast Mauka Lands, the conservation easement will likely be held by the City & County of Honolulu. The conservation easement will restrict development and likely require that public benefits in addition to the undeveloped viewplane be provided, such as educational and cultural visits by school and community groups, and the requirement of a cultural survey.

Can the conservation easement ever be removed?

The conservation easement runs with the land, so even if the land is transferred in the future, the conservation easement will always restrict development.

Who is Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui and Ka Iwi Coalition and what are their roles?

The Ka Iwi Coast Mauka Lands will be owned by the 501(c)3 nonprofit Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui. Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui stewards special natural places in Maunaloa including Kamilonui Valley, Pahua Heiau, and Hawea heiau complex & Keawawa wetland where it is also the owner. Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui's motto is sensible growth & respect for the land. One of Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui's committees is Ka Iwi Coalition whose volunteers have been advocating and working to protect Ka Iwi Coast for 40 years. More information on Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui can be found at www.hawaiikaihui.org.

Who is The Trust for Public Land and what is its role?

The Trust for Public Land conserves land for people. We believe that everyone should have the opportunity to connect with Hawai'i's special natural places, and that the land-and-people connection is central to health, culture, heritage, economic wellbeing, & quality of life.

In Hawai'i we seek to engage local residents in protecting significant community resources, including coastal lands, working lands that contribute to Hawai'i's self-sufficiency, and lands that perpetuate Hawaiian culture. Since 1979, we have helped to conserve more than 42,000 acres on the islands of Hawai'i, O'ahu, Kaua'i, Maui, and Moloka'i.

One of our recent past projects was to successfully assist Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui to protect Hawea heiau complex & Keawawa wetland in 2014. For all of our projects, including the Ka Iwi Coast Mauka Lands project, we negotiate the purchase with the private landowner, help to build the capacity of the future public owner, raise the purchase funds, oversee all due diligence needed, assist the future public owner and monitor of the conservation easement to work out mutually agreeable terms, outreach to the public and stakeholders, and coordinate all of the project partners to see the purchase through to completion. In a nutshell, we facilitate the purchase, and also try to set our project partners up for stewardship success. More information available at www.tpl.org.

If I donate, and we reach our community goal of \$500,000, can I be sure that the Ka Iwi Coast Mauka Lands will never be developed?

Yes. The deed restriction and conservation easement will provide dual layers of legal restrictions on the land that run with the land in perpetuity. Additionally, and most importantly, the land will be owned and stewarded by the community nonprofit made up of community members – your neighbors and friends – who have advocated and devoted much of their lives to seeing the entire Ka Iwi Coast protected for all current and future generations. The Ka Iwi Coast Mauka Lands will be a community owned and stewarded Hawaiian cultural landscape.

Still have questions?

Feel free to contact Laura Kaakua, the Native Lands Project Manager at The Trust for Public Land, (808)524-8562, laura.kaakua@tpl.org. Mahalo for your interest and care for Ka Iwi Coast!