



HAWAII ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY NAVIGATOR OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Hawai`i Economic and Community Recovery & Resiliency Plan A Pathway for a New and Stronger Hawaii

April 2020

Establishment of the Hawai`i Economic & Community Navigator

COVID-19 has had severe and unprecedented impact on the economy of the state, causing hotels, shopping malls, airlines, restaurants, retailers, service professionals, nonprofits, and a wide variety of Hawai`i businesses to significantly reduce or shut down operations. As of April 3, 2020, the Hawai`i Department of Labor and Industrial Relations received over 180,000 initial unemployment applications statewide due to the economic damages, losses and impact of COVID-19. To address the economic and community impact and coordinate the recovery efforts of COVID-19, on April 8, 2020, Governor David Ige issued a Proclamation to establish a Hawai`i Economic & Community Navigator to coordinate, direct and implement a statewide economic and community recovery and resiliency plan.

Purpose of the Recovery & Resiliency Plan

The purpose of the Hawaii Economic and Community Recovery & Resiliency Plan is to develop and implement a strategy to address the economic and community impacts of COVID-19. The Plan shall consist of three components which shall run concurrently:

- **Phase I: Stabilization.** Identify and address critical economic and community impacts, including the allocation of CARES, State and local funding to mitigate the collapse of key economic sectors. Also, provide direct economic relief to individuals to avoid homelessness, hunger and sickness.
- **Phase II: Recovery.** Identify and support economic and community development activities which provide recovery, job growth and capital investment in the economy. Chart of course of careful re-entry into the workforce, balancing the needs of public health and economic recovery.
- **Phase III: Resiliency.** Re-evaluate and restructure Hawai`i's economy to meet the new normal and desired future for Hawai`i. Identify and invest in systemic changes in the economy and society which furthers economic diversification, environmental preservation, sustainability and Hawai`i's values and way of life.

As part of the recovery plan, economic and community sectors identified in the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan will be used as follows:

Section A: Economic Sectors

- Healthcare systems and financing, including public health systems
- Infrastructure
 - Energy
 - Telecommunications, broadband capacity
 - Transportation (air, ground, marine)
- Financial Services: Banking, Insurance
- Education: Lower and Higher
- Hospitality
- Retail & Restaurants
- Real estate and construction
- Government: Federal, state, local, military
- Emerging and Targeted Industries
- Agriculture and food production
- Military

Section B: Environment and Natural Resources

Section C: Community and Social Well-being

- NGOs and social service agencies
- Culture and arts
- Faith-based activities

Each sector shall address issues, concerns and solutions to address stabilization, recovery and resiliency.

Collaborative & Research-based Planning Process

While speed and expedited decision-making is required, input from key stakeholder and sectors are essential. The following collaborative and community-based activities will include:

- Business and community sector leads will identify issues, needs, solutions, data and information dissemination;
- Engage in cross-sector planning with business, labor, non-profit and governmental entities
- Collect and rely on fact, data, information and analysis as a basis for decision-making

Leveraging Sector Funding Sources

As part of the planning process, each sector will be asked to identify and leverage tools, resources, and assets available to achieve desired outcomes, including the roles and responsibilities of the following:

- Government – federal, state, local programs, resources, policies and laws
- Business – private sector investments, activities and initiatives
- Nonprofit and philanthropic contributions and programs
- Labor organizations
- Individual and citizen initiatives and activities

For example, as part of the Federal CARES and other relief programs, it is anticipated the Hawai`i will receive \$4.0 billion for the following:

- \$1.25 billion for state and county government response efforts
- \$1.14 billion in estimated unemployment assistance
- \$1.24 billion in estimated direct cash payments to Hawai`i residents
- \$130 million in estimated funding for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- \$53 million for local schools and colleges
- \$11 million for the state's community health centers
- \$8 million in community development block grants

The use of federal funds, leveraged with State and local government (e.g., infrastructure spending, bond financing, tax incentives), private (e.g., targeted industries and investments), philanthropic (e.g., direct contributions) and consumer initiatives should be prioritized and combined to maximize the recovery efforts.

Global Re-set, Hawaii Re-Connect

As a result of the in-shelter restrictions, national and local economies will be severely impacted as financial markets, trade and commerce, and tourism come to a halt. COVID-19 will require all of us to revisit our core values, strengths and resources to meet the challenges now and in the future. In many respects, COVID-19 is a global re-set and re-evaluation of life as we know it. As communities rebuild their economies and systems, it is also an opportunity to re-evaluate our values and vision and how that manifests itself in our economic and community future. As part of this planning process, Hawaii will have unique opportunities to reshape our future and our destiny.

For More Information

Alan M. Oshima
Economic & Community Navigator

Denise Iseri-Matsubara
Deputy Economic & Community Navigator
Denise.Iseri-Matsubara@hawaii.gov

Phone: 808-586-0034