WINTER 2025

## LIPOA NEWS

## **CONSTRUCTION AT LĪPOA**



#### LĪPOA'S NEW NEIGHBORHOODS TAKING SHAPE

There's a lot happening behind the dust fences at LĪPOA! From essential infrastructure work to the first signs of new homes, exciting progress is underway on our very first residential neighborhoods – extending makai from Ho'okena Street and north of N. Ninau Street.

Although completion is still a couple of years away, here's a look at what's coming to our growing community:

- 120+ single-family homes at KŪLANI AT LĪPOA
- 175 affordable rental apartments at LĪPOA APARTMENTS
- A Hilton Home2 Suites extended stay hotel
- Shared open space and parks, including tot lots for keiki
- Walkable streets with sidewalks and bike lanes
- An improved perimeter trail for walking, exercise, and enjoying fresh air
  The extension of Ho'okena Street will

also lay the foundation for LĪPOA TOWN CENTER, bringing new shops, restaurants, and gathering spaces to connect our community.

#### **CURRENT INFRASTRUCTURE WORK**

Thanks to the work of Goodfellow Bros., critical infrastructure is being laid now to support future homes and amenities. Current efforts include:

• **Drainage basins** being built to help manage stormwater from mauka to makai

- A laydown area for equipment & onsite office trailer near Ho'okena and N. Holopono Streets
- Grading and utility installation, including R-1 Recycled water for irrigation and underground electrical systems
- New roads providing access to our neighborhoods, plus a new right-turn-in/ right-turn-out connection at Pi'ilani Highway

#### WHAT'S NEXT?

Home construction is planned to begin in summer 2026, with the first homes anticipated to be completed by the end of 2026.

#### OTHER COMMUNITY UPDATES:

- Extra Space Storage has officially opened their storage facility along N.
  Ninau Street offering convenient storage for businesses located in LĪPOA
- Aloha Pickleball plans to break ground on their new 18-court facility at the corner of N. Ninau and N. Holopono Streets in early 2026
- Trail Access Reminder: For your safety, the Līpoa Loop Trail remains temporarily closed during construction. In the meantime, please enjoy the open sidewalks around the area for walking and exercise.

#### **STAY INFORMED:**

For now, the best way to **stay up to date** on progress in home construction and availability is to **join our email** list at www.lipoamaui.com/contact/

## INNOVATORS CORNER

MAUI-GROWN ENGINEER HARNESSES SPACE DATA TO PROTECT EARTH



"When there are more objects in space, you essentially need air traffic control ... to coordinate and make sure these things don't hit each other," Matt Lugo explains from behind a wooden conference table, the surface of which is dotted with gold paint mapping the constellations. This is where Matt works as an aerospace engineer for space data startup Privateer, a company founded in 2021 and headquartered within LĪPOA.

Matt grew up on Maui, and as a child, he never imagined that he'd one day build a career helping humans and satellites navigate Earth's progressively crowded orbit. Even in high school, he loved math and physics but had no idea that aerospace engineering was a possibility. Then Matt's world opened up in 2022, when he joined Privateer - and began to learn about Maui's rapidly expanding aerospace industry. He's now passionate about ensuring that Maui's keiki today know that they can also one day work to meld artificial intelligence and satellite imagery to shed light on the safety of Earth's lands and oceans - from spotting illegal fishing, to mapping the scope of deforestation that threatens the air we breathe, to tracking damage from the 2023 Maui fires.

"It is the right thing to do for anybody to be a part of their community," Matt says, "and give back to the place that they're from, just like the place that you're from gives back to you."

### LĪPOA SPOTLIGHT:

# STATE-OF-THE-ART SCHOOLS BUILD COMMUNITY WITHIN LĪPOA





There was always the vision that LĪPOA would someday become a thriving live-work community. But a generation ago when it was all being dreamed up, no one imagined that LĪPOA would one day become the home of multiple groundbreaking educational institutions dedicated to nurturing the future of Maui's keiki.

Now, when parents arrive to work at the dozens of businesses within LĪPOA, they have two of Maui's most in-demand educational offerings to send their children: Kihei Charter School and Hawai'i Technology Academy, both of which serve students from kindergarten through 12th grade with enterprising and innovative curriculum.

"You're trying to look past the horizon ... not just to the horizon," explains Gene Zarro, a founder of Kihei Charter School and CEO of South Maui Learning Ohana, the nonprofit dedicated to fundraising and supporting the school.

Gene was one of the visionaries behind the school's creation almost 30 years ago, at a time when parents were just beginning to advocate for a high school in Kihei and charter schools weren't even legal in Hawai'i. He was among a group of parents who successfully lobbied legislators to change the law, paving the way for Kihei Charter School.

The school began in 2001 with just 50 students in Kihei Youth Center. Almost 25 years later, the school now calls LĪPOA home — in a 70,000-square-foot campus with sweeping views from Haleakala to Mauna Kahalawai, where its 685 or so students can participate in cutting-edge programs including media production, robotics and a trade school that teaches carpentry, engineering, drafting and plumbing.

But Kihei Charter isn't the only state-of-the-art school in LĪPOA. Just a couple blocks away, Hawai'i Technology Academy moved into its newly designed space in 2024, a bright and colorful campus that boasts a student lounge, Makerspace equipped with everything ranging from 3-D printers to sewing machines, and a Mindful Nest, filled with bean bag chairs, weighted blankets, plush toys, and even a mini trampoline for students needing to decompress.

Allison Trapp, the campus director, explains that with only 200 students and class sizes that never top more than 24, teachers are able to offer highly specialized education, carefully nurturing the students running into difficulty or advancing those who can handle classwork that's grade levels ahead — or even a concurrent associates degree at University of Hawai'i Maui College. "I currently have two seventh graders," Allison says, "that are taking high school math because they're able to handle the work"

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