Lahaina Harbor Front
Interpretive Plan

June 30, 2013
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Interpretive Plan

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Project Background

The Harbor Front is the heart of Lahaina and was once the vibrant focal point of life in the community. It was a place where residents came to surf, boat, fish, swim, talk story and enjoy the ambience. Over the years it has slowly transformed into a focal point for generic tourism, a hangout for homeless people, and an area not appealing to either residents or visitors. Currently, conflicting and overlapping uses are eroding the historical, cultural and social ambience, in addition to the public enjoyment of the area.

In August, 2012, in an effort to reclaim the Harbor Front as a vital part of the lifestyle and quality of life of residents, the Lahaina Restoration Foundation, with sponsorship from Maui County Planning Department, launched IMAGINE, a 9-month process to develop a community Vision and Interpretive Plan for the heart of the town's Historic District, an area bounded by Market Street to the north, Front Street mauka and Canal Street to the south.

The planning associated with IMAGINE was separated into several phases. Phase I focused on developing a Community Vision that would guide Phase II, a Traffic Study to identify changes to the infrastructure and vehicular use patterns that would help achieve the Vision, and Phase III, development of an Interpretive Plan to guide design of the interpretive and information network needed to achieve the Project Goals and support the Vision.

The basic question posed throughout the Traffic Study was "What can be done to make the Lahaina Harbor Front better?" Over the course of several public meetings key desired changes emerged, notably, alleviate transportation impacts and congestion by creating a pedestrian first experience, providing traffic management, and making the area safe for all users. The Traffic Study concluded its work at the end of March, 2013, with a presentation of recommended changes (see page 5) to the physical infrastructure and traffic patterns in the Project Area.

The task of the Interpretive Planning component of the project was to create a blueprint for a network of orientation, wayfinding and interpretive opportunities that would help attract residents to the Harbor Front and enrich their experience while they were there, while at the same time fostering respect for the area among residents and visitors alike to help protect the cultural heritage.

Interpretive Plan Background and Process

Background

In November of 2000 a Master Interpretive Plan was developed for the Lahaina Historic Districts #1 and #2. It identified key strategies and themes (messages) for a network of interpretive, orientation and wayfinding opportunities for the area. Background information collected during that planning process that was relevant to this plan, such as user groups, parameters and features, has been incorporated. In addition, most of the goals and themes (messages) developed in the previous plan are consistent with the current effort. However, key differences exist between the setting when that plan was created and present, notably, the degradation of the Makai Library Park and the changes proposed by the Traffic Study. In addition, the technology available to communicate information has changed drastically. Finally, this planning
effort has a different focus. Whereas the previous plan focused heavily on serving visitors and on telling the broad story of Lahaina's history, this plan is focused on serving residents and in telling the Native Hawaiian story, with a primary goal to re-claim the Harbor Front for the residents and make it a place where they can share their story with visitors to the town.

From an interpretive perspective, the visual scene is dominated by a cultural landscape that is post-contact and decidedly EuroAmerican. The existing interpretive opportunities cover most eras of recent history, such as the Missionary Era, Whaling Era, Monarchy Era, Plantation Era and the on-going Tourism Era, but the Native Hawaiian story, although touched on in some of those opportunities, is not told effectively. Consequently, bringing that story to life is the primary focus of this plan. The Harbor Front in general and the Makai Library Park specifically are considered key locations for telling the Native Hawaiian story for several reasons:

- They contain sites and features important to the Native Hawaiian culture.
- They contain some of the only features remaining in the area that are directly connected to the pre- and immediate post-contact Native Hawaiian story.
- They are highly visible to pedestrians who venture along the waterfront and to those arriving by water.
- They are easily accessible from Front Street, which is a primary pedestrian traffic corridor in the Historic District.

The challenge was to increase respect for the area by making people "see" the story of the Native Hawaiian culture that existed for centuries and how they valued and continue to value this area and resources. At the same time, any additional interpretive opportunities had to mesh with and support the ones already available and avoid duplication. From assessment of the current offerings and input from residents both informally and at several public meetings, several key tasks emerged that could be addressed by additional interpretation and other information. Specifically, in addition to bringing the Native Hawaiian story to life, the interpretive network could address the need for a more effective orientation and wayfinding system and provide a 'big picture' overview of the history of Lahaina to help improve the existing interpretive opportunities by providing historical context.

**Overview of Interpretive Planning Process**

The planning process occurred in two major phases. The first phase focused on gathering and assessing information relevant to the project, including goals, user groups, parameters, interpretable features and the experiences to be supported. The purpose was to establish the context in which the interpretive opportunities must function. The second phase focused on determining additional visual elements that could be added that were consistent with the interpretive focus, such as native plants used by Native Hawaiians, and the array of interpretive strategies to communicate the stories.

**Phase 1**

To kick off the interpretive planning process, the Lahaina Restoration Foundation set up two meetings with stakeholders and Dave and Mary Bucy of Bucy Associates, the interpretive planners hired to facilitate the process. The meetings in the Makai Library Park on Monday, September 10th were set up so stakeholders could come by and talk informally about their
concerns and ideas regarding the area. The conversation continued in a more formal fashion on Tuesday in a meeting room at the Pioneer Inn. The second session included presentations on the planning process and gathering information that was needed in order to proceed with that process.

Over the course of the two days several topics emerged as focal points, most of which revolved around the current situation regarding tourism and its impact on Lahaina and her residents. In general, the sentiment was the same - tourism in its present form is degrading the livability of the area, driving locals away, and submerging the essence of Lahaina as a special place beneath an overlay of generic tourism. Participants felt a need to bring back the picture of the old days within the context of the new.

The participants expressed a need for and a willingness to be a part of a partnership effort to address the problem. They were aware that the need for a combined effort, ideally involving all stakeholders, was important because tourism involves so many players. With the continued degradation of the area around the harbor, especially the Makai Library Park, they felt that it was time to act, both for the present and the future of Lahaina and her residents. A complete summary of input from those two meetings is included in Appendix B.

The Lahaina Restoration Foundation then established a Vision to guide the overall project. That vision was then used to develop goals of the interpretive network and associated messages to communicate. The next step focused on identifying the context in which the interpretive opportunities had to function. Context includes the audiences to be reached, the parameters under which the interpretive network had to be developed and had to function, and features that could be used to help tell the stories. That information is included in Appendix A. Key factors that emerged from the analysis of context included:

- The changes to the infrastructure and vehicular traffic patterns proposed by the Traffic Study.
- The use of the Harbor Front as a transfer zone for passengers getting off and returning to cruise ships. This includes a significant presence of buses during specific times of the day.
- The opportunities to change the landscape to create visual features more relevant to the Native Hawaiian story, such as creating a taro patch, planting 'ulu trees, removing the kiawe trees in the Makai Library Park, mooring the double-hulled canoe – Mo’okia - adjacent to the Makai Library Park, creating a native plant garden in the Banyan Tree Park, and covering the site of Kamehameha’s brick palace with a thatched roof hale.

All sections of the context report are included in Appendix A.

**Phase 2**

This phase began with a public meeting focusing on identifying potential changes to the visual landscape, and stories associated with visual features, both those that exist now and those that could be added. Based on input at that meeting, an array of interpretive / educational opportunities was identified and organized into a Preliminary Interpretive Plan and submitted for review. The plan was modified based on feedback and finalized.
Vision and Associated Goals and Themes

Vision
The following Vision Statement was developed by the Lahaina Restoration Foundation in part to help guide the Traffic Study and Interpretive Plan:

The waterfront is the heart of historic Lahaina; a place of history, culture and commerce. Today, it’s also the place where children go to school, where residents enjoy the ocean or visit the library, and where visitors often begin their exploration of the town. Lahaina is also a sacred place, with cultural roots that grow deep below the buildings and streets. For those who have grown up in Lahaina and for other residents, the waterfront is a part of their history and soul.

As in other parts of Hawaii, the residents of Lahaina have opened their hearts to others and want them to learn about their town. Quite often, the area around the harbor is where this sharing begins. The extensive exhibits at the Old Lahaina Courthouse are a starting point with additional historic sites and numerous interpretive opportunities in the close vicinity.

Historically, the waterfront has always been a hub of activity. It continues to be a vibrant place but it is easier and safer for pedestrians to get around now. The harbor’s many uses and activities are better managed and much of the congestion, both in the water and on land, has been reduced. There also are more benches and trees to provide shade and a more pleasant place to sit. Importantly, surfers, boaters, fishermen and other ocean users have safe and easy access to the water.

The Lahaina waterfront has two beautiful parks that provide open, well cared for lawns, shade trees and places to relax. The parks provide interpretive opportunities that respect the historical and cultural sites located within their boundaries and they are often the site of community events celebrating Lahaina’s culture and history.

Achieving that vision requires changes to traffic patterns and infrastructure, and fostering the way in which most user groups need to view the Harbor Front - as a place deserving of respect and care. It is hoped that when users become aware of the deep cultural heritage of this area and the reverence and value that many people have for the Harbor Front that they will in turn become more respectful.

Progress can be made by implementing the changes recommended by the Traffic Study as noted on the Proposed Concept sketch on page 6. This plan is based on those changes being made.
Figure 1: Proposed Concept for the Harbor Front (Traffic Study)
Interpretive Goals

Major goals of the overall project are to return the Harbor Area to its previous status as an important gathering spot for the people of Lahaina and to preserve the historic character of the Harbor Front, both physically and in the minds of those who use the area. The changes to the infrastructure and traffic patterns recommended in the Traffic Study will help alleviate congestion, improve the pedestrian experience, safety, and the ambience in the Harbor Front. Additional work is needed in the area of managing use so all users can have experiences that are consistent with the vision and not in conflict with other user groups.

The role of the interpretive network is to support the overall goals by facilitating and enriching user experiences in the Harbor Front. The specific focus is to expand the existing interpretive network to make users aware of the rich Native Hawaiian cultural heritage and importance of the place, with the specific intent of increasing the level of respect in which it is treated. The following goals help define the information to be communicated.

Interpretive Goal 1: Increase the awareness of the rich Native Hawaiian cultural heritage that thrived here for centuries prior to contact, and the importance of the Mauka and Makai Library Parks, specifically with the goal of increasing the level of stewardship practiced by those who use the area.

Comment: Although awareness of the heritage will not deter everyone from misuse, it should help reduce misuse due to ignorance.

Interpretive Goal 2: Make users aware that the Native Hawaiian culture is alive and thriving.

Comment: The current landscape is dominated by visual features from post-contact Hawaiian history, making the Native Hawaiian culture hard to see. In revealing the story of the pre- and immediate post-contact Native Hawaiian culture it is important to show that the culture is still vibrant and thriving today.

Interpretive Goal 3: Increase the percentage of community members who visit and spend time in the Harbor Front and Library Park.

Comment: Increasing the percentage of residents who spend time in the Harbor Front will add to the vibrancy of the area and, if they are spending time with interpretive opportunities, will help achieve Goals 1 and 2.

Interpretive Goal 4: Increase the use of existing interpretive opportunities, such as the exhibits in the Old Courthouse, the interpretive signage in the Harbor Front and the Walking Tour.

Comment: Although the focus of this planning effort is on expanding the network to create more awareness and understanding of the Native Hawaiian culture that existed and continues to exist in this area, the existing interpretive opportunities help to convey the rich cultural heritage of the area and should be utilized more by visitors and residents alike. Meshing the new opportunities with the existing ones can help achieve this goal.
Themes (Messages)

What are Themes?
Themes are messages or concepts that help people understand what they are seeing or learning about. They are critical to the interpretive effort because they are instrumental in focusing the effort in a way that matches the way people absorb information. Consequently, they are determined before selecting and developing the stories and storylines and the interpretive strategies to convey those messages. To be of the most use, themes must fit the following criteria:

- The evidence, particularly visual evidence, must support the theme. For example, the presence of the King’s Taro Patch can be used to support the concept that Lahaina was a key center of Native Hawaiian culture.
- The communication of the message must, in some way, help the Lahaina Restoration Foundation to achieve its mission. As an example, effectively communicating the idea that the Harbor Front is an important cultural site may make people more willing to be careful when using the area, and to support policies aimed at protecting cultural and historical sites.
- The concept must provide a basis for understanding and appreciating the area. People are more likely to protect what they understand and appreciate.

Note: Because of the variability in the meaning of the word "theme," the term "message" will be substituted in the rest of the document.

Messages and Sub-messages
The messages to communicate fall into two categories. The first category are overall messages focused on how visitors to Lahaina treat the area and the rest of the town. In essence, the following messages need to be communicated to help change the way visitors view and therefore treat the Harbor Front:

- You are a guest in someone’s home.
- We highly value the Library Park and the surrounding Harbor Front.

These messages will be communicated by the care taken in maintaining the area, and in the number of residents using the area and the manner in which they treat it. In other words, these are not messages that can be as effectively communicated in interpretive opportunities.

The other category of messages are those relating to stories to share. The following messages, sub-messages and supporting stories are based on the 'Theme Hierarchy' established in the Master Interpretive Plan for the Historic District (2000). Wording and order has been modified to reflect the goals of this project. In general, they focus on painting a picture of the past when this was an important site in Native Hawaiian history, and painting a picture of the present showing that the culture is alive and thriving and respected /valued in Lahaina.
Theme 1: Lahaina was a key location in Native Hawaiian history. It was the political and economic center of the Hawaiian Islands until the capital was moved to Honolulu.

Sub-theme 1-1: Lahaina is one of the most important sites in pre-contact and immediate post-contact Native Hawaiian history.

Examples of supporting information
- Moku‘ula, one of the most sacred sites in Hawaiian culture and former home of Maui’s high chiefs and Hawaii’s royalty, is located in Lahaina.
- The oldest evidence of human settlement in Hawaii may be in Lahaina.
- Kahekili, one of the greatest figures in Hawaiian history, maintained a residence in Lahaina. (He was the last Maui chief of the Pi’ilani line and a warrior who traveled around the islands fighting for territory and defending Maui against invasion.)
- Kamehameha I, after destroying the area during his conquest of Maui, returned to rebuild Lahaina and establish a residence there in 1802.
- Lahaina was the center of the sandalwood trade during the reign of Kamehameha I, and the center of trade with whalers in the islands during the 19th century.
- Lahaina was a key location in the transformation from the kapu system to Christianity.
- Lahaina was where Kamehameha III maintained his home and royal court and where Princess Nahi’ena’ena maintained her home.
- During the reign of Kamehameha III, Lahaina was the seat of government for all of Hawaii, the first such royal capital of the islands.
- Lahaina was the geopolitical center of Hawaii until the mid-19th century.
- Kamehameha III established the first constitution (Lua’ehu Constitution) at Kalua’ehu/Lele in the moku of Lahaina.
- Lahaina had a greater population in 1850 than in 1950, and may have had a greater population during the reign of Kahekili in the 18th century.

Sub-theme 1-2: Native Hawaiians valued the Lahaina area particularly because it provided an abundance of many resources vital to their survival and lifestyle.

Examples of supporting information
- As with other village sites, the ocean was a key source of food and an important travel corridor connecting Native Hawaiians living here to other islands and population centers.
- Waine’e ahupua’a, in the heart of Lele, was particularly valuable because of its abundance of freshwater springs, providing water for extensive taro fields, 'ulu groves and other crops.
- Native Hawaiians valued this area as the center of spirituality because it contained the sacred island of Moku‘ula.
- Native Hawaiians valued Lahaina’s sheltered anchorage, because it facilitated travel and food gathering.
Theme 2: The Harbor Front in general and the Library Park specifically are locations important to Native Hawaiian culture and continue to be valued by that culture.

Sub-theme 2-1: The waterfront was a key center of activity in Native Hawaiian culture.

Examples of supporting information
- The waterfront was the arrival/departure point when traveling to and from the area.
- The waterfront was the nexus of the two key travel routes - the ocean and the land-based Pi’ilani trail.
- The calm harbor area provided easy access to their key travel route and easy access to the nearshore ocean, a major source of food.
- The King's Taro Patch is where the library now stands.
- The location of Kamehameha's brick palace is in the Makai Library Park.
- The waterfront was a prime location for growing taro and 'ulu because of the abundance of freshwater from springs.

Sub-theme 2-2: Native Hawaiian culture is alive, thriving and valued in Lahaina.

Examples of supporting information
- Lahaina contains 2 of the 3 historical districts on Maui.
- The restoration sites of Moku'ula island and Mokuhinia ponds, one of the most sacred places in Hawaii, are located in Lahaina.
- Lahaina offers several opportunities to engage in activities relating to Hawaiian culture.
- Lahaina is home to Na 'Aikane o Maui Cultural Center.

Note: Visible features related to Native Hawaiian culture, such as taro patches, 'ulu trees, the double-hulled canoe, a thatched roof over the footprint of the brick palace and any visible celebration of aspects of Hawaiian culture, would support this sub-theme.

Theme 3: The Lahaina you see today has many successive layers of human history that you can see if you look closely.

Examples of supporting information
- The Baldwin home is from the Missionary Era.
- The Pioneer Inn is from the Plantation Era.
- The outline of the Brick Palace is from early post-contact times.
- The remains of the rock wall around the King's Taro Patch could be from the Pre-Contact Era.
- The courthouse is from the Monarchy Era.
- The partial reconstruction of the fort reflects the Whaling Era.
Interpretive (Educational) Network

Note: Interpretation is essentially informal education, with a focus on telling the stories of people, places and events.

Introduction

The key goals of having visitors and residents respect the Harbor Front, especially the Makai Library Park, and to make the Harbor Front a gathering place for the residents of Lahaina are going to be accomplished primarily by actions other than developing an interpretive network, such as by improving the appearance of the Makai Library Park and having community gatherings in the Harbor Front. Interpretive strategies can support these goals primarily by educating people about the heritage of and value for the area to encourage more respect, and helping to increase use of the area by residents by offering educational opportunities that would appeal to those who live here and that mesh with their lifestyle. With that in mind, the plan is focused on filling in a key gap in the existing network by including the story of Native Hawaiian culture, helping to make existing opportunities function better by providing the 'big picture' context into which those different stories fit, and creating opportunities for residents to learn more about Lahaina and its history.

Key changes recommended in the Traffic Study Concept Plan affecting the interpretive network

The interpretive (educational) network is based in part on implementation of the following key changes recommended in the Concept Plan for the Lahaina Harbor Front developed as part of this overall study (see Figure 1 on page 5).

1. Construct a wide promenade around the perimeter of the Makai Library Park
2. Eliminate parking on Market Street and on Papelekane Street to create a pedestrian first environment.
3. Create an Arrival Plaza with hotel drop-off between the Pioneer Inn and the boat dock.
4. Plant an arbor for shade and put tables and benches in the area between Wharf Street and the dock (where people currently wait for the ferry and other boats).
5. Station a 'Harbor Ambassador' in the Arrival Plaza area to regulate vehicular traffic flow on Wharf Street.

Key changes to the visual landscape recommended in the Interpretive Plan

The plan is also based in part on recommended changes to the visual landscape that will increase the sense that the Library Park is a place of importance and should be respected, increase the likelihood that residents will come to and use the Harbor Area on a regular basis, and increase opportunities to highlight and interpret (educate people about) the Native Hawaiian culture by providing visuals associated with that culture. Those changes include:

1. Plant a taro patch on the Market Street side of the mauka library lawn (see figure 2 on page 12 for location), and build a rock wall around the patch. This could include rebuilding part of the rock wall that may have surrounded the King's Taro Patch. Figure 3 on page 13 depicts how this area might look after the changes are implemented.
2. Fill in the pit associated with the Brick Palace site, leaving the brick outline visible, and cover the site with a thatched-roof hale (see figure 2 on page 12 for location). Figure 4 on page 13 depicts how this area might look after the changes are implemented.
3. Remove the kiawe trees in the Library Park and plant native trees for shade.
4. Moor the double-hulled sailing canoe close to and visible from the Makai Library Park.
5. Place a statue of Kamehameha III reading the first constitution for Hawaii in the southwest corner of the Banyan Tree Park near the Lahaina Courthouse (see figure 2 on page 13 for location). It should not be placed under the tree as it will command less attention and will require that it be cleaned frequently due to bird excrement. The location was selected in part because it will be on the Lahaina Harbor Loop Interpretive Walk.
6. Plant 'ulu trees and other native plants in the Project Area.
7. Add the original Hawaiian street names to all street signs.

At this point no decisions have been made regarding the order in which these changes will be implemented. However, the plan is based on an assumption that all recommendations will be implemented at some point in time. Elements of the interpretive network that are tied closely to these changes should be developed at the time the changes are implemented.

Figure 2: Walking Tour Routes and suggested changes to visual landscape
Figure 3: How the area between the library and Market Street could look with a taro patch, pedestrian walkway (Market Street), rock wall and interpretive sign.

Figure 4: How the Makai Library Park could look with a promenade, thatched roof hale over the footprint of the Brick Palace and additional interpretive signs.
Network Approach

Overview
In today's world people have a very limited amount of time and virtually unlimited options for spending that time, which makes it a highly valued currency. Interpretive opportunities are market products, with the cost measured in time. To compete successfully for a person's attention requires offering information that is of value to that person at as low a 'cost' as possible, with cost measured in time and effort. That is why the number of people reading interpretive panels increases with the use of visuals (higher promise of benefit at lower cost), limited text (reduces perception of and actual 'cost' in terms of time and effort), and a myriad of other factors that contribute to the perception of a good benefit to cost ratio.

In general, people prefer to make choices on engaging and staying engaged in communication in small increments - if I like this sign I will read the next one; if I like this exhibit I will look at the next one and so on. A commitment at the beginning of an interpretive experience to stay engaged, such as to read all the signs or view all the exhibits, is very rare. We have all experienced this when choosing books to read. We choose them based on an expectation that we will find the benefit we seek (entertainment, mental stimulation, etc.) at a particular 'cost' related to difficulty. If the book does not provide the desired benefit, we often quit reading.

Successfully communicating a multi-faceted extensive story or set of stories, which is the case in this project, usually requires a series of opportunities arranged in a network, beginning with ones that are highly visible, attract attention and do not require a significant amount of time and effort, and then moving to opportunities that provide more detail on different aspects of the story. A book is a good example of an information network approach. The story that the author wants people to engage in is contained in the chapters, but to motivate people to start reading the book the designers use a cover to attract attention so people see and pick up the book, a back cover to entice them to open the book, excerpts and other information on flyleaves to motivate them to start reading chapter one, and so on. Books are designed this way because it matches the process people use to choose and use information.

An interpretive network should be designed the same way, especially when competing with a vast array of other opportunities. Highly visible, low effort and interesting strategies, such as interpretive panels, in locations already or adjacent to areas frequented by the target audiences (so additional cost in time to access the panel is minimized) should be used to draw people into the story and motivate the reader to want more. Successive levels of information, providing more detail and requiring more time and effort, such as a set of exhibits, should build off the first level. This is the approach used in developing the concept for the interpretive network in the Harbor Front.

Network Concept applied to the Harbor Front
The following is an overview of the concept for the interpretive network in the Harbor Front, beginning with opportunities that have high attraction power designed to draw people into the story and provide brief overview (Level 1), to those that provide more detail (Levels 2 and 3).
**Level 1:** Because the Makai Library Park is adjacent to and highly accessible from areas currently frequented by potential users, and because of the attraction power of the site itself, it is an ideal location for a 'book cover' and an 'executive summary' designed to provide a brief but complete overview of the Native Hawaiian story while motivating people to want more and then sending them to locations where additional information is offered.

For that reason the first element in the network is a series of interpretive panels arranged along a Library Park Loop Interpretive Walk. Signs can have great attraction power, but typically do not have nearly as much holding power, which is one reason why information on panels should be limited. Because these signs have to attract and draw people into the story, as well as provide a brief overview, they should rely primarily on visuals and use text sparingly. Interpretive opportunities at the next level do not have to have as much attraction power and can provide additional detail, but without overwhelming the audience. Anodized aluminum panels identical to the design already implemented around Lahaina through the Master Interpretive Plan should be used.

**Level 2:** Panels with more information, such as many of the ones currently available in the Harbor Front, Walking Tours that use a map/brochure to supply more detail (such as the ones that currently exist) and exhibits, such as the ones in the museum in the Old Lahaina Courthouse, are all Level 2 opportunities. They capitalize on the attraction power of the core opportunity, the Library Park Loop Interpretive Walk, to draw attention and pique interest so people are motivated to spend more time with these more detailed opportunities.

**Level 3:** Guided Tours, a Map Tour Application and presentations are all Level 3 opportunities in that they rely on having attention drawn to them and interest piqued so they can offer additional detail (as an option).

**Note:** At the time this plan was developed, QR codes accessing web pages were widely used in Interpretive Networks. However due to the rapid changes in technology these codes may become obsolete. Consequently, if they are used within this network, use should be restricted to easily changeable strategies, such as brochures. They should not be used on semi-permanent strategies such as signs.

**Interpretive (Educational) Opportunities**

The following is a summary of the recommended interpretive opportunities. It is followed by a more detailed description and associated design concepts for the different media to be used to present the information.

**Summary**

The key recommended interpretive (educational) and orientation opportunities include:

1. **Library Park Loop Interpretive Walk.** The stories told along this walk will be about the Native Hawaiian culture. Presentation methods will include interpretive signs, a Walking Tour brochure, guides, and a Walking Tour Application for use on mobile devices, such as cell phones and ipads.
2. **Presentations in the Library Park.** These would focus on a variety of topics associated with Native Hawaiian culture and lifestyle. They could include demonstrations of crafts, food preparation and other skills of the culture.

3. **Hawaiian cultural practitioner.** This practitioner, potentially an employee of Lahaina Restoration Foundation, would be stationed in the mauka and makai parks on a regular basis (10-4, 7 days a week), and would engage in activities of everyday life in old Hawaii, such as tending the taro patch, working on carving a canoe, and making fish nets. Conversations with park users would focus on Native Hawaiian culture and lifestyle.

   **Note:** This would not happen until the some of the features were established such as the roof over the Brick Palace site and the taro patch.

4. **Lahaina Harbor Loop Interpretive Walk.** The stories presented along the route will continue to provide a glimpse of the Native Hawaiian culture, but also, as a whole, will provide a detailed 'big picture' overview of the human history of the area. Information will be delivered using the same methods as are used on the Library Park Loop Interpretive Walk.

5. **Guided Tours.** Both Walking Tour loops could be used as routes for Guided Tours or as part of more extensive guided tours of the Harbor Front and beyond.

6. **Arbor Interpretive Panel Cluster.** This cluster of panels will provide a brief 'big picture' overview of the human history of the area with the intent of piquing interest so readers are motivated to engage in other opportunities.

7. **Interpretive opportunities associated with native plants.** The stories will focus on use of native plants by Native Hawaiians. The actual media used to present those stories will depend on whether a Native Plant Garden is established and/or native species are planted throughout the Harbor Front.

8. **Educational opportunities at community gatherings.** Stories presented at these gatherings will focus on those consistent with the reason for the gathering, such as stories about surfing presented at surfing events and stories about use of taro when the taro patch is harvested. Methods for telling the stories will depend on the event, but could include presentations, demonstrations, guided tours, portable exhibits or other methods.

9. **Table Teasers.** Table teasers are typically laminated cards, place mats or other types of publications that sit on tables at restaurants so patrons can read them while waiting for food. They contain interesting facts selected to pique a reader's interest and motivate them to go elsewhere for more information, such as the Library Park or the museum.

10. **Harbor Front Orientation Panel.** This panel, located in the middle of the Arrival Plaza, provides orientation to the Harbor Front, highlighting the restrooms, Visitor Center, loop walking tours and other interpretive opportunities.

11. **Educational Talks and Presentations:** These opportunities, geared toward residents, would take place in the library or somewhere near the Harbor Front.
12. **Docent, Guide and Concessionaire Notebook**: This would include accurate overviews of all the stories, information on interpretive / educational opportunities, and other information that would help create consistency in the stories told.

**Descriptions and Design Concepts**
The following section contains descriptions and design concepts for all the interpretive / educational opportunities proposed for the network. Concepts are not designs. Rather they are starting places for developing the design for that particular opportunity.

### Library Park Loop Interpretive Walk

**Location**: The route begins and ends on Front Street, looping around the perimeter of the block with the library (see figure 5 on page 18).

**Description**: This is essentially an addition to the two nested loops currently depicted on the Walking Tour of Historic and Cultural sites in Lahaina. This loop walk would be the centermost and shortest of those loops. Interpretation along the route focuses only on the Native Hawaiian culture. Information will be offered at three levels using different media.

- **Information Level 1**: The first level consists of interpretive signage. The panels will be designed to offer brief glimpses into different aspects of Native Hawaiian culture and lifestyle while also piquing a reader’s interest to motivate them to move to the next level.

- **Information Level 2**: The second level, providing additional detail, will be offered in a Walking Tour Map/Brochure similar to the one that already exists.

- **Information Level 3**: The third level, offering additional detail (as an option), will be provided using several methods, including Guided Tours, Presentations / Demonstrations, and a Map Tour Application for mobile electronic devices. The key advantage to electronic media, other than it is a preferred method for gathering information by many people, is that it can present stories verbally and visually by using a narrator, oral histories, chants, maps, historic photos, film footage and illustrations.

The following are design concept for each of those interpretive opportunities.

**Interpretive signs on the Library Park Interpretive Loop Walk**
The possible location of the signs is depicted on Figure 5 on page 17. The location can shift to minimize visual intrusion as long as the signs are oriented toward and adjacent to the features being interpreted. Although it would be ideal to install all of the interpretive panels at the same time, each one should be designed to stand alone as well as mesh with the other panels. Consequently, the set of new panels can be implemented in phases if necessary.
Many of the signs appear to be the same focus as and to duplicate information already offered on signs located elsewhere within and outside the Harbor Front. Although the focus may be the same, this set of signs has a somewhat different set of objectives. Specifically, they have to be designed to draw people into the story while also providing a brief but complete overview of the Native Hawaiian story. Leaving out any part of the overall story, such as harvesting resources from the reef and channel, because that story is told in more detail on another panel would result in an incomplete overview. Ideally, this set of panels would provide a brief introduction, while the existing panels, having the same focus, would provide more detail.

![Figure 5. Sign Locations on Library Park Interpretive Loop Interpretive Walk.](image)

**Panel Descriptions**

*Note: The names of the panels are working titles only and are not intended to be the final heading for the panel.*

**Panel 1: Story Overview**

This panel(s) focuses on providing a brief overview of the Native Hawaiian story to provide context for the detail provided on the other signs along the walk. One possible approach is to develop an illustration from an oblique aerial perspective of what this area might have looked like.
like pre-contact as a central visual for organizing text blocks and additional illustrations. Enlarged illustrations depicting Native Hawaiians engaged in activities associated with those resources, such as fishing, tending taro patches, harvesting 'ulu, collecting from the reef, etc, could be organized around the outside of the central visual, with a graphic element (such as a line) connecting the activity to a specific location on the central image. For example, the enlarged illustration of Native Hawaiians fishing would be connected to canoes off the shore and the one of harvesting taro would be connected to a patch of taro. What readers should notice quickly by looking at the visuals on the sign, without reading the text, is the abundance of freshwater, the dominance of cultivated land, and the impression of a large population of Native Hawaiians living in the area.

Supporting text would focus on the wealth of resources, especially fresh water, that made this a key village site in pre-contact times, a place favored by the ali'i and a place that could support a large population. The panel could also include that this was the capital of the Hawaiian kingdom until it was moved to Honolulu.

Another approach is to use a stylized illustration of the entire ahupua'a from an oblique aerial perspective as a central visual in order to include resource gathering activities in the uplands. However, none of the panels recommended along the walk focus on the uplands. That story is also currently offered on a panel at the entry to Kamehameha Iki park.

**Panel 2. King's Taro Patch**
This panel already exists. It needs to be moved to the location depicted on figure 5.

**Panel 3. Wealth from the Sea**
The focus of the story moves from resources from the land to those of the sea, with this panel focusing on harvesting fish and other aquatic resources from the reef and in the channel. As is the case with several panels in this set, this story is told in some detail on a panel at the entry to Kamehameha Iki park, but this one is necessary in this location to introduce that aspect of the story to provide a complete overview.

One possible approach is to develop an illustration of what the view north might have looked like in pre-contact times to use as a central image for organizing text and additional illustrations. Ideally the illustration would include the shoreline, with canoe hales and other structures that might have been visible. Illustrations of Native Hawaiians engaged in activities associated with gathering resources from the sea would be included on the panel. Supporting text would focus on the wealth of resources from the sea and the skill and ingenuity of the Native Hawaiians in gathering these resources.

**Panel 4. Hauola Stone**
This panel already exists. It may need to be moved slightly when the promenade is built.

**Panel 5. The Beginning of Change**
This panel, oriented toward the site of the Brick Palace, uses that feature to focus on the early post-contact period and the beginning of impacts of the western world on the lifestyle of the Native Hawaiians. One possible approach is to show the structure from a distance and include enough other features to emphasize that it was the only EuroAmerican feature in the area, and
thus the only evidence of contact. Supporting text would note the origins of the structure, but would focus on the impact of contact.

Panel 6. Masters of Ocean Travel
This panel focuses on the skill of Native Hawaiians in canoe building and navigation, and the importance of travel by water. One possible approach is to use an illustration and associated text and visuals to focus on the story of the voyage from Polynesia to highlight the design of the canoes and navigation by stars. The issues of traveling in open ocean should be included to emphasize the solid construction of the canoes. The panel could also include an image of the existing scene as it might have looked at the time when the war fleet of King Kamehameha I was anchored offshore, with supporting text focusing on how Native Hawaiians viewed water as a connector and depended on it to link with other places within the islands, in contrast to the way many westerners view water as an obstacle.

Note: The double-hulled canoe would be moored within a reader’s field of vision when reading the sign.

Note: Reference to Keawaiki Lighthouse could be used because it is a navigational device and it marks the spot where an oracle tower for reading the stars stood in pre- and early-contact Hawaii.

Note: A panel located at the north end of the area where the arbor will be developed focuses on the visit of Kamehameha I and retinue in 1802-03 with an illustration and text referencing use of the harbor for his war fleet. Another panel in the same location includes information on the safety of the channel and consequent importance as a place to anchor. If those panels remain the approach to this panel should be modified, but the panel should not be eliminated because the goal of this specific loop walk is to provide a relatively complete, although brief, glimpse of Native Hawaiian culture and lifestyle.

Panel 7. Story Overview
This is identical to the first panel, but will serve those approaching the Library Park from the southwest.

Panel 8. Signing of the Constitution
This panel focuses on the signing of the first Constitution by Kamehameha III. It should be linked to the sign adjacent to the Brick Palace because that one focuses on the beginning of change due to contact with EuroAmericans and this panel continues that story by focusing on an event marking a significant change in Hawaiian culture and lifestyle. It should also be linked to the Courthouse because it was built during the Monarchy Era. Finally, it should mesh with and elaborate on the existing interpretive panel "Gilman's Store & Meeting House" located on the corner of Front and Papelekane Streets. One possible design concept is to use an image of ali‘i on the left, an image of the first king and queen on the right and a larger image of Kamehameha III signing the constitution in the center. The images reflect the transformation of the system of government during the 19th century. Supporting text would focus on the changes to Hawaiian culture and lifestyle using life in Lahaina to illustrate those changes.
**Walking Tours Map/Brochure**
A version of this brochure already exists, highlighting a set of two nested walking loops. A new brochure would eventually be developed that would include this tour as a third loop, nested within the other two. The information presented in the brochure for this tour would use the same visual features as focal points for presenting the same basic stories, but with more detail.

*Note: Additional walking tours could be included in the brochure, but the more loops and interpretive stops included, the less detail that can be included for each stop. If the brochure is to function as the second level in the network, it should be designed to provide more detail than the signs.*

**Walking Tour Application**
The Walking Tour Application is a download for mobile electronic devices, such as cell phones and ipads. The basic approach to such tours is to use a map showing the tour route as a starting place. A person viewing the map can click on a stop (typically denoted by a numbered symbol such as a pin) to access information, which can be presented in a variety of formats including narration, oral histories, chants, videos, historic photos, illustrations and anything else that can be put on a web site. An audio tour could be included on this Application for those who want to use an ipod. A person could also choose to take the tour in sequence, which typically starts with a narrated overview at the beginning followed by the stops in order.

**Guided Tours**
Guided tours, using just this loop by itself or including it on a longer tour, should be an option for presenting information for a number of reasons. First, it fits a preferred learning style for some people. Second, it has significant advantages, specifically, the ability to adjust quickly for different audiences groups, respond to questions, and provide the warm welcome that cannot be duplicated in a non-personal medium. The focus in the Library Park would still be on Native Hawaiian culture and history, although specific stories to illustrate the topics could vary depending on age group, interests, questions from participants and other factors.

*Note: Guided tours led by Native Hawaiians are already an option and should be supported.*

**Presentations / Demonstrations (Library Park)**
Presentations could be on a wide variety of topics and, if possible, include artifacts, demonstrations and other methods to attract interest and help communicate the stories. As with the Guided Tours, the focus should be on Native Hawaiian culture and history.

*Note: The hale covering the site of the Brick Palace might be an effective place for presentations.*
Hawaiian cultural practitioner
The practitioner would be stationed in the mauka and makai parks on a regular basis (10-4, 7 days a week), engaging in activities of everyday life in old Hawaii, such as tending the taro patch, working on carving a canoe, and making fish nets. The thatched roof hale covering the site of the Brick Palace might be a good place for conducting such activities because it is shaded and highly visible to park users and people waiting for ferries and boat trips. Conversations with park users would focus on aspects of Native Hawaiian culture, with emphasis on those that are reflected in visual elements, such as the taro patch, 'ulu trees, other native plants, and whatever activity the practitioner is engaged in.

Note: This would not happen until the some of the features were established such as the roof over the brick palace site and the taro patch.

Harbor Front Loop Interpretive Walk

Location: This route, depicted on figure 6 on page 23, includes all parts of the Library Park Loop Interpretive Walk along which panels are located, the Courthouse, Wharf Street. Part of the Banyan Tree Park and part of Front Street.

Description: As noted previously, the stories presented along the parts of the route not included in the Library Park Loop Interpretive Walk will continue to provide a glimpse of the Native Hawaiian culture, but also, as a whole, provide a detailed ‘big picture’ overview of the human history of the area. Information will be delivered using the same methods as are used on the Library Park Loop (interpretive panels, Walking Tour Map/Brochure, Map Tour Application, and Guided Tours). Interpretive opportunities along the route should include the following:

- The new Interpretive Panel Cluster in the Arbor Area
- A new interpretive panel associated with the statue of King Kamehameha III
- The existing museum in the Old Lahaina Courthouse
- The Pioneer Inn Interpretive Panel (this panel should be moved to a location nearer the arbor area or at the edge of Banyan Tree park oriented toward the Inn. It is not particularly noticeable in its current location.)
- The King’s Road Interpretive Panel
- The Banyan Tree Interpretive Panel

It could also include the existing set of panels at the north end of the Arbor. Although interpretive panels using similar designs could be added to focus on the story associated with the fort, and one on Canal Street oriented toward to the south with a focus on the history associated with the canal, those stories are already covered elsewhere, and too many signs should be avoided to minimize visual intrusion.
Figure 6: Harbor Front Loop Interpretive Walk

Additional Interpretive Signs

Panel: King Kamehameha III and the Constitution

Location: Adjacent to and oriented toward the statue

Description: If the statue is of the king reading the first constitution, the focus should be on a brief history of the events leading to the writing of a constitution, the role of King Kamehameha III in that process and the impact of establishing a constitutional government. This panel should mesh with the one in the Library Park Loop Interpretive Walk focusing on the signing of the constitution.

Interpretive Panel Cluster: Arbor Area

Location: Specific location of the new Interpretive Panel Cluster in the Arbor Area will be determined during the arbor design process, but the signs should be in the shade.

Description: This cluster of signs, as a whole, provides a brief overview of the human history of Lahaina, focusing on the sequencing and layering of cultures. One possible approach is to have individual signs, arranged chronologically from left to right, focus on specific eras. Ideally, each sign would illustrate the scene in the reader's field of vision as it might have looked in the specific era that is being covered. Potential eras would be the Pre-Contact Era, Missionary Era,
the Whaling Era, Monarchy Era, and the Plantation Era. Features associated with each era that still exist today would be highlighted.

The cluster could also contain the Harbor Front Orientation Panel described later in this section. The panel highlights the restrooms, Visitor Center, the Interpretive Loop Walks and other interpretive opportunities in the Harbor Front. However, if only one Harbor Front Orientation Panel is installed, the Arrival Plaza might be a better location.

**Note on Existing Interpretive Panel Cluster**
Three interpretive panels, oriented toward the harbor, are currently located at the north end of this area. All focus on the value and use of the harbor at different points in time for different purposes. They include:

**Lele - Window to the World**
This panel focuses primarily on the protected harbor and the fact that Lahaina was considered a 'Window to the World' because people from all around the world passed through.

**East-West Trade**
This panel focuses on use of the harbor by traders and whalers in the first part of the 19th century.

**Command Post of Kamehameha I**
This panel focuses on the visit by Kamehameha I from 1802-03 and the use of the harbor for his vast fleet of war canoes.

Although some of the panels suggested for the Library Park Loop Interpretive Walk provide some of the same information, such as the panel on use of the harbor by Native Hawaiians, these panels could remain since they provide additional detail and include information on post-contact history. If these panels do remain, the panels along the Library Park Loop should focus on the same topics, but perhaps use different illustrations and supporting stories.

### Interpretive Opportunities: Native Plants

**Location and media:** A wide variety of native plants should be planted in the Harbor Front, with an emphasis on those important to the lifestyle of Native Hawaiians that grew in the near shore environment, such as taro, 'ulu, kou and hau. In some cases they should replace non-native species, such as the kiawe trees in the Library Park. The location of interpretive opportunities, as well as the media for providing the information, will depend on the location and arrangement of the native plants. If a Native Plant Garden is created, an interpretive panel in the garden providing an overview combined with a Native Plant brochure would be appropriate. If the plants are scattered through the Harbor Front, some could be included in the detailed versions of the Loop Interpretive Walks and/or a Native Plant Brochure, with a map showing locations. The disadvantage of print materials, aside from using resources, is that if plants die, the information will no longer be current.

**Description:** Specific information will depend on the plant being interpreted, but all will focus on how Native Hawaiians used the plant.
Educational Opportunities at Community Gatherings

**Description:** These opportunities will focus on educating residents about the Native Hawaiian culture and history of the area. Stories presented could include any aspect of the history and/or culture, but should focus on stories consistent with the reason for the gathering, such as stories about surfing presented at surfing events and stories about use of taro presented when the taro patch is being harvested. Methods for telling the stories will depend on the event, but could include presentations, demonstrations, guided tours, portable exhibits or other methods.

Having a Cultural Practitioner engaged in an activity reflecting Native Hawaiian culture would attract attention and provide a focal point for sharing stories of the culture. The practitioner could be the one hired to be present in the parks or another craftsman from the community. Examples of activities include:

- Having a canoe builder working on a Hawaiian canoe. The interpretation would focus on canoe building, the importance of water routes as connectors and other aspects of Native Hawaiian culture and lifestyle associated with canoes.

- Having a craftsman shaping a wooden surfboard similar to those used by Native Hawaiians. This would be appropriate at a community gathering for a surfing event. Interpretation would focus on the use of the area for surfing, which could be used as a lead-in to focus on Lahaina as the first royal capital of the Hawaiian Kingdom.

- Having a craftsman working on making implements associated with hula. This would be appropriate when hula is being performed at community gatherings or events.

- Harvesting taro at the taro patch. Interpretation would focus on the importance of taro as a food source to the Native Hawaiians, which could be used as a lead-in to other aspects of plant cultivation and diet.

Table Teasers

**Location:** On tables in eating establishments in the area

**Description:** Table teasers are typically laminated cards, place mats or other types of publications that sit on tables at restaurants so patrons can read them while waiting for food. They contain interesting facts selected to pique a reader’s interest with the intent of drawing them into the story and motivating them to go elsewhere for more information, such as the Library Park or the museum. Consequently, they have to include directions to other opportunities, perhaps even a simple map.
**Harbor Front Orientation Panel**

**Location:** In the middle of the Arrival Plaza. Alternatively, it could be located in the Arbor Area Interpretive Panel cluster, but it is more likely to be seen by people arriving by boat if it is in this location.

**Description:** This panel provides orientation to the Harbor Front, highlighting the restrooms, Visitor Center, loop interpretive walks and other interpretive opportunities. It could include a dispenser for the Walking Tours Map/Brochure. One possible approach is to develop an illustration from an oblique aerial perspective to simulate a 3-dimensional view of the area with structures and features included. Studies find that it is much easier for users to interpret a site map of this type of design rather than a bird’s-eye perspective (a flat map that presents the information using a standard 2-dimensional look).
Implementation Plan

Introduction
Ideally, the first projects should be ones that provide opportunities for community involvement, are highly visible for several days or more during the implementation phase so they attract attention and interest, and are relatively easy and inexpensive to implement. Since many interpretive opportunities depend on adding visual elements to the landscape, a project that adds such a feature would be ideal.

High Priorities
The following projects fit all or most of those criteria.

1. Plant the Taro Patch
A project that fits all those criteria is the development of the taro patch on the Market Street side of the mauka library lawn, including building a rock wall. Since the project is highly visible and happening at a location frequented by community members (the library), it will attract attention when work is going on, which will create "opportunities of the moment." These opportunities occur when people passing by ask questions about what is happening, which provides the chance not only to tell the historical story, but to get residents interested in the overall project. In addition to providing a good visual for telling a story associated with Native Hawaiian lifestyle, the taro patch also provides an opportunity for a community gathering associated with harvesting the taro.

2. Educational Opportunities at Community Gatherings
Reaching residents where they already are rather than expecting them to come to you is an effective method for gaining visibility and attracting interest, usually at low cost. The initial focus should be on gatherings that are currently happening. Effort should be made to have someone engaged in a culturally relevant activity such as the ones listed in the description because demonstrations attract people and the activity creates a focal point for telling associated stories.

Note: Planting native plants could and should start immediately, but the actual activity of planting is brief so it does not provide the attraction power that a longer lasting activity would and so might not be as effective as a starting point for developing the interpretive network unless it was organized as a community event focusing on re-planting the Harbor Front.

Secondary Priorities
The priority of other projects will depend on a variety of factors, such as implementation of the Concept Plan and funding. In general, in terms of interpretation, it is best to start by providing the 'big picture' overview, which will improve the effectiveness of the existing interpretive opportunities by providing context. Those opportunities would include the Arbor Area Interpretive Panel Cluster and the Story Overview panels in the two locations noted for the Library Park Loop Interpretive Walk.
Appendix A: Context
The context is simply the conditions under which and within which the interpretive experiences must be created. That context is divided into the following three categories:

- User groups to be served and the associated user experiences to be facilitated
- Parameters
- Interpretable features

User Groups and User Experiences

Introduction
The Harbor is envisioned as a place where people gather to engage in a wide variety of activities and a place where the people of Lahaina share their story with visitors. Many users will be activity-oriented, coming to surf, fish or boat. Others will be seeking a respite from daily life and want to simply relax by the water’s edge or come to meet friends and talk story. Interpretive opportunities need to be developed that do not interfere with these other uses. In other words, they need to be subordinate to the beauty and ambience of the area. Since people have to "buy" interpretive opportunities with their time - the most valued currency to many people - it is important to know with what type and level of interpretive opportunities different user groups are willing to spend time.

User groups can be roughly divided into three groups - residents, independent travelers, and group tour travelers (cruise ship and bus tour). Each of those groups can be further divided into segments based on a variety of characteristics such as physical capability, interests, level of knowledge and understanding, and learning styles. However, for the purposes of this plan most of what will be relevant is associated with general characteristics of each group.

Residents
Most residents will not be visiting the Harbor Front to engage in interpretive opportunities. With changes to infrastructure, better access to the water, improved ambience, less congestion, and more places to sit in the shade, more residents will once again make the Harbor an integral and valued part of their lifestyle.

From an interpretive perspective, fixed opportunities will be of limited value to this group because such opportunities are typically only experienced once. In other words, once a person has read a sign he or she is not likely to read it again. Since residents are potential repeat users, interpretive opportunities that change frequently or are inherently unique are more likely to attract regular use from this user group. Opportunities that could be effective include demonstrations, presentations, guided tours, community events and traveling exhibits.

Vodcasts, podcasts, virtual tours and other newer technologies that are easy to modify could also be effective for people who like to use technology to access information.
From a story perspective, it cannot be assumed that all residents are familiar with the past and ongoing Native Hawaiian story associated with the area, so the interpretive network should provide multiple 'entry' points into the story. However, residents are likely to be far more familiar with many aspects of Hawaiian history and culture and of present-day Hawaii related to that history. With that in mind, and the fact that the time slots residents might have available vary from those of travelers, serving residents may require opportunities specifically designed for this user group or segments of this group, and scheduled at times they can attend.

**Independent travelers**
Reaching independent travelers will depend in part on their interests. Cultural heritage travelers will seek out information on the history of Lahaina while others will not seek out any information at all, preferring to just escape and soak up the ambience. However, most independent travelers will at least have some interest in historic features such as the Old Lahaina Courthouse, and are therefore likely to engage in simple interpretive opportunities associated with such features. As a general rule, independent travelers are likely to engage in basic, easily accessible interpretive opportunities, such as interpretive panels. Consequently, such opportunities are key strategies for piquing interest to motivate those visitors to spend time on other interpretive opportunities that take more time, such as the museum in the Old Lahaina Courthouse.

One key difference between this user group and residents is the general lack of awareness and understanding of Hawaiian history and culture. This group is likely to have misperceptions, such as that Lahaina is a historic whaling village, with little or no understanding of the importance of the site to Native Hawaiians. As a consequence, the interpretive network has to include opportunities that provide a basic understanding of that part of Lahaina's cultural heritage. Ideally such an opportunity would be available at the beginning of their experience so it can help shape the way they view and experience the rest of Lahaina during their stay. Another key difference is lack of knowledge regarding orientation and wayfinding. Orientation within Lahaina and wayfinding to points of interest is a need and must be supplied at the beginning of and throughout their experience. Finally, due to ignorance, this group is likely to lack cultural sensitivity. Ideally, information to heighten that sensitivity should be offered prior to arrival to impact how such visitors behave.

A number of sources indicate that heritage and cultural tourism was one of the fastest growing segments of the tourism industry worldwide during the last decade. Although cultural heritage travelers are a subset of independent travelers, they are a desirable market because of their interests, their sense of stewardship and awareness of and respect for different cultures. Consequently, it is worth noting unique characteristics of that group that are relevant in developing an interpretive network.

Almost half of all U.S. adults planning a pleasure trip say they intend to visit an historical site, with a high preference for ones that are authentic. For cultural heritage travelers historic sites are a focal point of their travels. Aside from already having an interest in the history and culture of Lahaina, the key differences between this group and other independent travelers are their level of understanding prior to visiting and their willingness to go out of their way to engage in a variety of interpretive opportunities. Serious cultural heritage enthusiasts are likely to have
researched Hawaiian history and Lahaina before arriving. Consequently, basic interpretation is not likely to completely satisfy this group – they will want more. Additional opportunities in the form of guided tours, demonstrations and presentations where they can ask questions and talk story with specialists and locals are likely to be attractive to this group.

**Cruise Ship and bus tour passengers**

These travelers are similar to independent travelers in terms of lack of existing knowledge of the local history and cultural heritage and need for orientation and wayfinding information. However, immersion in a cruise ship setting followed by a sudden arrival into the Harbor Front of Lahaina, without the benefit of driving through other parts of the island and residential parts of Lahaina to reach the harbor, seems to result in a lack of awareness that Lahaina is a town with residents and with a rich cultural heritage and not just a port of call set up to service tourists. The dominant presence of shops focused on selling goods and services to tourists plus the general lack of use of the area by residents reinforces this misperception.

Another characteristic of this market segment is in the mode of travel, which typically involves large groups of people in a specific location (on a cruise ship, in a bus, at a staging area, etc.). This has both advantages and disadvantages. In terms of advantages, the location of these users prior to arrival is known and a potential liaison exists in the form of the staff of the company managing the tours. This creates an opportunity to reach this group prior to arrival to provide story overview and orientation, and to attempt to convey the point that they are guests in someone else's home. In other words, to make them aware of a 'Code of Conduct.' The predictable arrival point also makes it easy to locate thematic overview and orientation information at the beginning of their experience in Lahaina.

On the negative side, large group size reduces the effectiveness of fixed opportunities such as information kiosks because they cannot accommodate a large number of people at one time. People from cruise ships and similar organized tours are also on a set schedule that is typically relatively short and does not include the evening. For example, a typical visit from a cruise ship passenger lasts from around 9 AM until 6 PM. Consequently interpretive opportunities designed to reach this group are limited primarily to ones available during the day.
Parameters

Introduction
Parameters are those conditions under which an interpretive program must be developed, such as monetary constraints, and under which it must function, such as climate. Identifying parameters ensures selection and development of interpretive and wayfinding strategies and infrastructure that are effective and realistic, not idealistic. The following section contains key parameters that could affect the interpretive network in the Harbor Front. In reviewing the parameters, it is important to remember that they represent what is, not what should be or what is desired.

Key Parameters

Physical Infrastructure and Layout
The following parameters relate to the changes in infrastructure and traffic patterns proposed by the Traffic Study. The result will be a Harbor Front that is significantly more pedestrian-friendly, with much easier and inviting access from Front Street along Market and Papelekane Streets and a much more inviting arrival experience from the water. The one issue that does not appear to have been addressed is improving access to the water from the Library Park.

PI-1: Parking will be removed from Market and Papelekane streets and on three sides of the Banyan Tree Park (parking will remain on Front Street).
This will reduce congestion, increase safety and improve the ambience, thus making it more attractive to pedestrians. That means interpretive opportunities in this area, whether fixed or non-fixed, are more likely to be used.

PI-2: An Arrival Plaza will be created makai of the Pioneer Inn.
This will also reduce congestion, increase safety and improve the ambience, thus making it more attractive to pedestrians. In addition, the plaza is located in a place that is ideal to provide information to users arriving by boat. Finally, the plaza is contiguous with the promenade around the Makai Library Park, which will facilitate use of that walkway. This means interpretive opportunities along this route, whether fixed or non-fixed, are more likely to be used.

PI-3: A promenade will be developed around the entire perimeter of the Makai Library Park.
Combined with the elimination of parking and reduction of traffic on Market and Papelekane streets, this will make the park a more attractive place for pedestrians, which in turn increases the likelihood that interpretive opportunities along this route will be used. It is also likely to eliminate the dirt paths that currently cut across the park, which will help eliminate the ‘uncared for’ appearance.

PI-4: Arbors will be planted in the area between the tour bus pick up and drop off and the walkway along the dock. Additional seating will also be constructed to accommodate those waiting for their ferry or boat excursion.
The shaded seating increases the attractiveness for pedestrians and could increase the amount of time residents and visitors spend in the Harbor Front. In addition, benches provide a good opportunity to interpret the scene visually accessible from that vantage point.
PI-5: The site of Kamehameha's Brick Palace is identified by a paved sunken area matching the footprint and an associated interpretive panel. Since it is sunken, the site is not clearly visible from a distance. It's appearance is also not typical of historic sites. Other methods for marking the footprint could be more effective in sending the message that it is an important historical site.

**Budget**

B-1: Funds for implementation and ongoing operation and maintenance of interpretive opportunities are likely to be limited. This has several implications:
- A phased approach to developing the interpretive network will be important.
- Low maintenance opportunities should be prime components of the basic program.

**Staffing**

S-1: Plans call for a "Harbor Ambassador" to regulate traffic flow. Although the duties of this person will be to regulate traffic flow, he or she will become a magnet for people who have questions, especially if easily accessible orientation information is not made available for visitors arriving off boats.

S-2: The Old Lahaina Courthouse has a staffed Visitor Center. This provides an opportunity for people to get questions answered, but it's presence and location are not always clear to visitors. It is also not open all the time. The interpretive network should be designed to attract people to the Visitor Center, but also must include ways to easily get orientation information when the center is closed.

S-3: Electronic technology can reduce the need for staff. Such technology can make interpretative information accessible to all who use mobile devices, thus reducing the need for staff. Note that this is not a recommendation for replacing staff with technology. A personal presence is an important part of the interpretive network and vital to the 'aloha' spirit of Hawaii. Rather it is simply noting that technology creates an opportunity to reach more people with more information without increasing the number of staff.

**Vandalism and Theft**

V-1: Vandalism and theft are potential issues. Outdoor signage, kiosks, brochure racks and other structures should be constructed of vandal-resistant materials.
Environmental Conditions

EC-1: The environment will have a lot of solar radiation. Interpretive opportunities should be developed that people can engage in while in the shade.

Policy and Legal Issues

PL–1: Lahaina is situated within a National Historic Landmark. Additionally, the project area is within the County of Maui Historic District #1. This creates some restrictions on changes to and use of the area.

PL–2: DAGS (State of Hawaii Department of Accounting and General Services) has jurisdiction over the Makai Library Park. The County of Maui owns the Mauka Library Park.

Safety

S-1: The rock wall along the water's edge in the Makai Library Park has no rail. Although the wall is thick, if this is to become a major pedestrian route this might be a safety issue that needs to be addressed.

Pedestrian Traffic Patterns

TP-1: Front Street is a heavily used pedestrian route. The interpretive network needs to link interpretive opportunities along Front Street with opportunities designed and located to move pedestrians from Front Street to the Makai Library Park and waterfront.

TP-2: The pathways in the Banyan Tree Park are heavily used. This is also an important point to provide links to opportunities in the Library Park and elsewhere.

TP-3: The area just mauka of the walkway with the kiosks selling marine excursions is heavily used by people waiting for the arrival and departure of ocean excursions, ferries and cruise ships. It is also an excellent place to watch all the action in the harbor. Interpretive opportunities within or adjacent to and visually accessible from this area could be heavily used.

TP-4: Most visitors are not staying in Lahaina. To the extent possible, these people need to be reached prior to arrival.

TP-5: Independent travelers typically begin their experience in the core of Lahaina at a nearby parking area. These are good places to provide both interpretation and thematic overview.
**Existing interpretive opportunities**

**EO-1:** The Project Area and area immediately adjacent currently contain a number of interpretive panels, including the following:

- The Brick Palace of Kamehameha I
- *Hauola Stone*
- *American Missionaries to the Sandwich Islands*
- *The Baldwin Home*
- *The Richards House*
- *Missionary Influence in Hawaii*
- *Masters Reading Room*
- *Spring House & Water Pump*
- *King’s Taro Patch*
- *Gilman Store & Meeting House*
- *Front Street - The King’s Road*
- *Canal & Marketplace*
- *Old Fort*
- *Lahaina Court & Custom House*
- *Banyan Tree*
- *Lele - Window to the World*
- *East West Trade*
- *Command Post of Kamehameha*
- *Pioneer Hotel & Pioneer Theatre*
- Oldest Pacific lighthouse (bronze plaque on lighthouse)

*Part of the Lahaina Historic Trail*

**EO-2:** The museum in the Old Lahaina Courthouse provides a variety of interpretive opportunities, including many that focus on history and cultural heritage. This is a key opportunity within the interpretive network, in part because of the focus and detail of the stories told in this facility, in part because it is a place where visitors can get out of the sun and sit, and in part because it is adjacent to the location where cruise ship passengers disembark. However, it cannot always function as the introduction to Lahaina for all visitors because it is not open all the time.

**EO-3:** The upstairs balcony in the Old Lahaina Courthouse, which overlooks the harbor, contains interpretive panels covering a variety of topics. The panels include ones focusing on use of the harbor during the whaling era, Canal Street, Princess Nahi’ena’ena’s royal compound, the Hauola Stone, writing of the first constitution and the humpback whale.

**EO-3:** Lahaina has a Historic Trail that includes the Harbor Front, but it is extensive and spread out so it is not perceived by some as an actual ‘trail,’ and many of the stops are some distance from the Harbor Front. Interpretive opportunities within the Harbor Front should complement this opportunity and motivate visitors to visit other sites along the trail.
Other

O-1: Due to past marketing, many visitors believe that Lahaina is an old Whaling Town. This belief tends to cause people to overlook or marginalize other aspects of Lahaina's rich cultural heritage, including the Native Hawaiian story. Consequently, the interpretive network should extend beyond the Harbor Front to correct this misconception before visitors arrive, and should also emphasize correcting it in the initial interpretive opportunities that visitors encounter, such as on websites and visitor publications. Ideally, visitors would be primed to see that layer of Lahaina's history within the fabric of the cultural landscape.

O-2: The Makai Library Park is currently used for range lights, which are important for navigation, but take away from the ambience of the area.

O-3: A double-hulled canoe, replicating those used by Native Hawaiians, will be moored in a location visible from the Makai Library Park, but it could be moved at any time. Interpretation addressing this feature will likely have to be non-fixed.

O-4: The Banyan Tree Park currently hosts craft fairs on most weekends. These events attract a lot of residents and tourists and are therefore opportunities to draw people into the interpretive network.

O-5: A Master Interpretive Plan identifying themes and storylines and recommending a network of interpretive opportunities, was completed for the Historic District in 2000.
Interpretable Features

Introduction
In general, people become more interested in a subject when they can see something related to it, and they are more likely to believe what they can see than what they only hear or read. Therefore, the more an interpretive opportunity connects with and uses actual artifacts or features in conveying information, the more effective it will be. The inventory of interpretable features within the context of interpretive planning focuses on inventorying artifacts and features available for use as supporting visuals for interpretive opportunities in order to develop themes and storylines based on what visitors can see or experience. This is a key issue in interpreting the Native Hawaiian story because the landscape is dominated by structures and features reflecting other eras of Lahaina history, with few features relating specifically to the Native Hawaiian story. Consequently, a key part of the planning process was identifying what additional changes could be made to the visual landscape that reflect the Native Hawaiian story and therefore can be used as focal points for interpreting that story.

Information on Interpretable Features includes both those features that currently exist, and those that can be added to the scene without compromising the integrity of the story.

Existing visuals for interpreting the Native Hawaiian story
The following is a listing of features within or visible from the Project Area that can be used as examples in telling the Native Hawaiian story. It does not include all the features in the rest of Lahaina associated with that story.

Harbor and Au'au Channel
This is a key visual because it is one of the features that determined and continues to determine dominant human use of the site through history. For example, it was where Kamehameha’s fleet of up to 700 canoes anchored and where fish and other resources were gathered by the Native Hawaiians to support their lifestyle.

The Au'au Channel and the island of Lanai
These visuals support the history of the Native Hawaiians and the importance of water routes as connectors.

Keawaiki Lighthouse
Kamehameha III built the first lighthouse on this location as a navigation aid for whalers. The actual structure has since been replaced several times. The lighthouse reflects the importance of marine travel to connect the islands with each other and to other parts of the Pacific. Since it is a navigation aid, it can be used to tell the story of travel and trade between islands and other parts of the Pacific and the story of Native Hawaiians navigating using the stars.
Possible remnants of pre-contact rock wall around King’s Taro Patch
If this is part of the pre-contact rock wall, it is one of the few remaining features that relates to the era prior to EuroAmerican contact. It can be used as it is on the existing interpretive panel to tell the story of taro as a key part of diet, of the lifestyle of and of the social structure of the Native Hawaiians.

Hauola Stone
This feature can be used as it is on the existing interpretive panel to focus on aspects of social structure and lifestyle of the pre-contact Native Hawaiian culture.

Mo’okiha (a double hulled Hawaiian sailing canoe)
This can be used to help tell the story of the importance of water as a connector and the skill of the Native Hawaiians as canoe builders and navigators.

Location of Kamehameha’s Brick Palace
Nothing remains of the actual structure, although an associated interpretive panel does provide a rendering to give people an idea of what it looked like. The site is designated with a sunken paved concrete footprint and brick perimeter. The significance lies in part in the structure, as it is one of the first examples of the mixing of cultures. It is also significant in terms of its location on the waterfront, emphasizing the water’s edge as a focal point of Hawaiian lifestyle. It can be used to tell the story of the impacts on Native Hawaiian culture from EuroAmerican contact, and - because of the location - the importance of water as a connector.

Front Street
This is also known as Alanui Moi and has been a major transportation route since pre-contact times.

Surfing
Surfing was a recreational sport of old Hawaii so present day surfing can be used as a starting point to connect the present with the past and tell that aspect of Hawaiian lifestyle.

Fishing
Fishing has always been an important part of the lifestyle of the people who lived here so the present day activity can be used as a starting point to take people into the past.

Summary
The following is a listing of the key features within or visible from the Project Area associated with the Native Hawaiian story.

- Remnants of the rock wall surrounding the King’s Taro Patch (possibly pre-contact)
- The harbor, Au’au Channel, the island of Lana’i
- Hauola Stone
- Mo’okiha (a double hulled Hawaiian sailing canoe)
- Old Lahaina Courthouse (built under the reign of King Kamehameha IV)
- Keawaiki Lighthouse
- Footprint of the Brick Palace
- Native plants such as coconut and kou trees
The following features associated with present-day Lahaina can be used as a starting point to telling the story of the Native Hawaiian culture because they reflect aspects of that culture:

- Boats anchored in the Roadstead (use of the Roadstead as a calm place for canoes, such as Kamehameha's war fleet)
- Fishing (fish was a staple of Native Hawaiian diet, and therefore, fishing was a major activity)
- Surfers (recreational sport of old Hawaii)
- The range lights (navigation)
- Front Street (travel by land)
- Native trees such as hala, kou, coconut

Finally, the story of the signing of the first constitution can be told because it occurred in this area.

Possible Features to Add
The following are possible changes that have already come up as suggestions:

- Plant an actual taro patch, cared for by Native Hawaiians, harvest the taro and have a community gathering to eat the taro.
- Plant ‘ulu trees and other native plants used by Native Hawaiians in a variety of locations in the Harbor Front.
- Eliminate the kiawe trees in the library park and replace them with native trees that provide shade.
- Construct a thatched roof hale over the footprint of Kamehameha’s Brick Palace.
- Reconstruct the rock wall that surrounded the King’s Taro Patch.
- Create a native plant garden in the Banyan Tree Park.
Appendix B: Input from Work Session 1

Summary of Comments
The following is a summary of the thoughts and ideas expressed by participants over the two days. No attempt was made to edit or evaluate the comments or suggestions. The information is grouped under primary headings representing key aspects of the situation. Under each heading the thoughts of the participants has been summarized, followed by their suggestions for addressing the situation.

*The official Project Area is between the waterfront and Front Street and between Market and Canal Streets.*

Use
Both the problems and desired future condition focus on how the area is used and by whom. Currently use is dominated by tourists; locals do not feel as if it is theirs anymore. The Library Park - a place of great significance to native Hawaiians and historically important to local residents - is frequented by vagrants and appears to be neglected due to the dirt pathway cutting across the lawn, people riding mopeds in the park, the vagrants and other factors. The combination creates an undesirable ambience, which drives away locals and visitors alike.

The emphasis on use of this area for tourism is not only marginalizing the local population, but also having impact on the appearance of the area, resulting in concerns regarding its listing on the Historical Register. Participants felt that the authenticity and character of Lahaina is being lost. New buildings and businesses are generic, typical of many destinations in sub-tropic and tropic areas, with a resulting loss of identity and sense of place that is "Lahaina" specifically, and "Hawaii" in general. In essence, Lahaina as a destination is becoming generic, both in terms of the visitor experience and the visual landscape.

The desired future for this area expressed by participants is as a community place that locals feel is theirs, are proud of and take care of as stewards. It is a place to meet and gather - a hub of community activities. Improved access to the water brings locals to fish, boat, surf and swim. Others come to talk story or just relax. Evenings brings those who want to view the sunset. Community events are common. A sense of peace, safety and reverence emanate from the setting. The vibrancy and look of authentic Hawaii attracts visitors, who come to read the panels, linger and feel welcome as guests, intermingling with locals and experiencing life as the people here live. They leave with a sense of place and the spirit of the park and town. The ambience of the park is supported by reduced or no flow of vehicular traffic on the side streets and street in front of the hotel. All follow a Code of Conduct in practicing proper respect and cultural sensitivity in their use of the area. The code eases tensions and makes the policeman's job easier.

In essence, the desire is for the dominant use to shift back to the community, who use it, care for it and share it with visitors. The visitors behave as guests in someone’s home. Essentially all of the following topics and suggestions by participants relate to shifting the use in this way.
Tourism
In general participants agreed that it is not practical or desirable to make tourism go away because the economy depends on it. However, the emphasis on tourism is causing significant problems. The locals feel as if they are being pushed out in favor of commerce and forced to take a back seat to visitors; the visitor experience is degraded because of the large numbers of tourists using the area at any one time, especially when cruise ships are in port; and the culture and unique identity of Lahaina is being destroyed, being replaced with a generic sub-tropical place offering the generic sub-tropical experiences.

In general participants felt that the ambience and sense of place that is uniquely Lahaina could be re-established and the Harbor Area could once again become a community place. They also felt that those changes would help tourism thrive, although with a different market. Tourists come after the product; if the product changes the type of tourist would shift towards cultural heritage travelers who are interested in experiences where they can immerse themselves physically, intellectually and emotionally in an authentic place and culture.

Participants felt that the key issue in tourism involves cruise ships that let passengers off at Lahaina Harbor. The large number of visitors let off at essentially the same time exceeds the carrying capacity of the area. The mass of people combined with the buses and other modes of transportation waiting at the harbor and the concessionaires running businesses from kiosks along the waterfront create congestion, overcrowding and an unappealing ambience. In many cases the businesses do not benefit because visitors are being bussed elsewhere.

Buses bringing cruise ship passengers from elsewhere and dropping them off at one end of Front Street works better because the people gradually string out and do not descend on the Harbor Area as a mass. Cruise ship tenders dominate the marine traffic and the landing, which results in locals on ferries having to wait long periods of time to land and disembark.

In addition, participants felt that the cruise ship passengers are not arriving with the right "mind set." This is a port of call and they are not necessarily arriving with the intention of taking care of the land and resources.

Suggestions by participants
Participants in general felt that the mass of cruise ship passengers arriving in the area at one time is a major issue and probably needs to be solved if the desired ambience of the area is to be restored. Since this is an open port, cruise ships cannot be turned away, and because Lahaina Harbor is the only feasible place to let people off in Lahaina, suggestions focused on dealing with cruise ship passengers as they arrived by boat. The following strategies were suggested and discussed:

- Drop cruise ship passengers off in smaller groups.
- Work with the cruise ships to offer smaller tours.
- Close the street adjacent to the waterfront to vehicular traffic except for service vehicles and the limited access needed by the hotel, or at least eliminate bus access. Eliminating bus access to the harbor would require cruise ship passengers to walk to get to a bus or other transportation.
- Change the marketing to something where people want to come to Lahaina, rather than just another port of call.
The Library Park
This area was a focal point of discussion for a variety of reasons, including:

1. It holds great significance for the native Hawaiian culture. King Kamehameha I built a dwelling on the site, the birthing stone for royalty is at the water’s edge and the site of the King’s taro fields is adjacent. They felt that looking out over the water (where the birthing rock is) is the most spiritual place, but there is not easy access/entry to the ocean at that place.

2. The location on the waterfront, adjacent to the harbor, in the heart of Lahaina, and highly visible from people arriving by boat, creates great potential for the park to be a place of welcome, to establish a sense of place and to establish an expectation for conduct. Currently, the look of neglect and lack of care sends the message that the park specifically and Lahaina in general are not important places valued by residents. If it looks well taken care of, reflecting a sense of reverence and pride, visitors will get a very different message about Lahaina, which will influence their behavior.

3. The park and associated waterfront is a significant location for many long time residents who knew it and used it for fishing, swimming, boating, talking story and other activities before the harbor was built.

4. The park is currently one of the most degraded and disrespected sites in Lahaina (a sentiment expressed frequently during the two days). The site experiences significant use by vagrants who drink, yell at each other, pass out, sleep, pee and trash the area. The dirt pathway and vagrants with their possessions gives the area a feeling of neglect. The resulting ambience is not attractive to either locals or visitors.

The general feeling by participants is that the park is an excellent place to begin a change because of its importance and visibility. If changes are made to the park toward the desired vision, other places will follow suit. They also felt that the changes need to focus on making it a people place for the local community. It needs to become a place that locals want to come and use in a respectful manner and that they take care of. It is a key place to send the message from the residents that "we care" and to help establish that this is someone’s home and that visitors are guests. It needs to become a vibrant place reflective of the spirit of the site, the true character of Lahaina and her people. Since vagrants do not like being in areas of high use, it is likely that if the park is heavily used by locals the vagrants would move elsewhere and residents and visitors would have a better experience.

One of the primary issues in dealing with the park is the question of ownership. The Lahaina Restoration Foundation cuts the lawn, but actual ownership and management responsibility for the site is not clear. The lack of clear ownership creates issues in making improvements, getting permission for events and addressing other issues.
Suggestions by participants
Discussion centered on two key concepts; 1) making the area more attractive for locals and restoring the sense of place - an important cultural place - will result in people treating it with more respect; and 2) connecting the park to Front Street through maintained pathways and by other strategies will encourage use by locals. Ideas included:

- Anchor the double-hulled canoe on the north side of the park.
- Dredge the area to the north so it could be used for canoe races and other activities.
- Create a more inviting access from Front Street to address the disconnect, specifically by closing Market Street to vehicles, and turning it into a wide brick walkway to funnel people from Front Street to the Makai Library Park.
- Facilitate pedestrian use of the park by connecting the pathways along the waterfront to make a continuous walkway.
- Move the library to create a large expanse of green space linking Front Street to the park and waterfront physically and visually.
- Attract people toward the park and waterfront by creating a more inviting look to the area between the library and Front Street. It currently does not blend with and transition well to the park. Ideas for doing this included putting in benches, shade, an elevated terrace for events, a rotating display and signage on the street.
- Provide better access to the water for surfers, anglers, swimmers, etc. The waterfront was a focal point of activity in the past; barriers now block easy use.
- Construct a hale over the site of the Brick Palace of Kamehameha I. Such a structure would automatically instill a sense of reverence for the site. Concern for this idea focused on use by vagrants.
- Create the feeling of a gateway and welcome so visitors are drawn to the park when they arrive.
- Eliminate the dirt paths and create more attractive pathways.
- Put in more picnic tables and plant more vegetation for shade.
- Hold more community events in the space.
- Rebuild at least part of the rock wall that delineated the King’s taro field and plant some taro.
- Set aside the park as a place to learn - for visitors, locals and student groups.
- Establish ownership as a first step in establishing policies and guidelines that would facilitate changes and use of the park for events.
- Put in benches (there’s no place to sit and watch the sunset).
- Use the whole breakwater as a walkway with benches.

Waterfront and Water-based activities
The waterfront has and continues to be the focal point of cultural activity in the area. The Native Hawaiian culture traveled extensively by canoe, viewing water as a connector (westerners view it as a barrier). They built fish ponds in the shallow waters, harvested food from the reefs, surfed the waves and lived along the water's edge. It is a critical component of the lifestyle and quality of life of residents, who also use it to gather food and recreate. It is also a critical location for water-based commercial enterprises catering to tourism. Businesses operate a variety of water-based recreational opportunities, such as sightseeing, scuba diving, fishing and sailing.
Although the waterfront continues to be a focal point of activity, the activities and users have changed since the harbor was built. Prior to the construction of the harbor the waterfront was a focal point for community activity - fishing, boating, surfing, swimming and gathering to talk story. The harbor eliminated a significant stretch of waterfront and cut off easy access to the water, creating barriers to use by locals and conflicts between commercial interests and local users, such as between surfers and concessionaires along the harbor walk (surfers using hoses to wash off).

The waterfront remains a key to the livability of the area and to commercial water-based ventures supported by tourism. But participants in the work sessions feel that the mix of uses and conduct of users is not appropriate. Due to barriers to access, locals do not use it as much as they would like; the water off Lahaina is one of the best places to learn to sail and could be used more for that purpose; fishing by itself is not an issue but boats anchoring in the reefs is; surfing goes back to pre-contact times, but surfers now have to access the water north of the pier by climbing down a ladder and scrambling across rocks; and the lack of visual access to the harbor by kiosks discourages viewing and walking through the harbor, a popular activity in other waterfront communities in Hawaii and elsewhere.

**Suggestions by participants**

In general, participants were in favor of facilitating easy access to and use of the waterfront. Suggestions included the following:

- Move the kiosks along the water's edge back or to another location to open up the view and reduce congestion.
- Construct an easier access to the water from the park. The existing ladder is ugly and sketchy. A better access and landing would help.
- Dredge the harbor area north of the park and put in a pier in the location of the old ice house to encourage more water-based activities.
- Embrace water sports, events and other uses by installing a restroom and shower.
- Involve political entities. They are an important player in making this a reality.

**Orientation and Wayfinding**

Functional orientation and wayfinding is a key component of a good visitor experience as well as a key tool in guiding visitors to places where the story is told.

**Suggestions by participants**

In general, participants felt that the information to orient and direct people to different locations needed to be upgraded. It is lacking in some places, and when it is available it is often incorrect or hard to understand, resulting in a lot of disoriented people. The following strategies were suggested by participants as ways to address the situation.

- Create a general entrance, or several, with orientation provided by a map and timeline.
- Make Historic Trail maps easier to find (wonderful maps but not easily found), such as by making them available in hotels. (Can't use outdoor racks for maps because places close at 5PM.)
- Make information accessible by QR codes.
- Provide orientation information on the opposite corner of the Banyan Tree Park.
- Put some sort of arrows on the museum sign to indicate what is where.
Story
One of the key issues brought up by participants is that the cultural history of Lahaina is essentially invisible - you can't see the layering. What history is visible in structures such as the Pioneer Inn, Old Lahaina Courthouse, Baldwin Home, replicated ruins of the fort and a few other structures reflect post-contact EuroAmerican history. Because no structures or areas relating to the Native Hawaiian history have been preserved, their story is especially hard to see.

Even with the presence of historic features associated with EuroAmerican history, it is hard to get a clear picture of that history or how successive eras caused cultural overlays. In general participants seemed to feel that good pieces of an interpretive network are already in place - small tours, good signage, museum exhibits - but that the current offerings are disjointed and hard to follow, in large part because there is no "big picture" offered at the beginning of the visitor experience that helps make sense of the individual stories by putting them in context. The native Hawaiians in particular felt that their story was not only marginalized but inaccurate.

A new orientation exhibit in the museum will address the big picture in part by providing an overview of each era of history and then sending visitors elsewhere to learn more. However, the museum is not always open and some people will not stop at the museum so an additional opportunity, easily accessible to visitors as they arrive whether by land or ocean, would be an asset.

Suggestions by participants
Participants suggested the following strategies for improving the interpretive network.

- Provide a big picture introduction somewhere to make the existing signage more understandable.
- Make extensive use of a time line on most interpretive opportunities to put the stories in historical context.
- Create 'story corridors' where a person can get different stories by going down different figurative corridors.
- Change the street names to the Hawaiian names.
- Develop a place to provide a big picture of the Hawaiian story specifically. The Native Hawaiians felt that the Library Park would be a good location to do this.
- Develop the Library Park into a starting place for the all stories - a place for visitors to go to first to get oriented and get the big picture.
- Use locals as docents to lead small groups and tell the stories. (Large groups would conflict with the vision.)
- Provide information prior to arrival so visitors have the big picture when they arrive, along with an awareness of the need for cultural sensitivity, respect and behaving like a guest. They would arrive with reverence and curiosity, wanting to experience the local lifestyle and to learn more.
- Provide a tourist package for distribution on cruise ships.
- Work with cruise ship operators to provide small group tours.
- Tie stories to visible features, which might mean bringing in features or artifacts related to different stories or by restoration of existing features.
- Provide education to make locals more aware of the stories so they say things that support those stories.
• Do not use the term "historic trail" unless there is an actual trail (term creates expectations of an actual trail).
• Interpret Canal Street. (Site of a canal lined with shops where whalers could buy anything – vegetables, sex, drugs.)
• Provide interpretation so people get the layers of history and what impact they had.
• Revise the native Hawaiian story so it is complete and accurate.
• Increase the effectiveness of the new interpretive signs by establishing a 'big picture' of the story prior to people viewing the signs.
• Do not "sell" Native Hawaiian history.

Features related to stories
The following comments regarding visible features and associated stories were generated during the work session on the second day following a presentation focusing on the effectiveness of using visible features and artifacts to tell the stories. The list reflects only what was generated during the work session.

• The large chains for anchoring the Carthaginian might need to be removed because they do not support any of the stories the group thought should be told and could be misinterpreted as belonging to the Whaling Era.
• The birthing stone, lighthouse, taro fields (site) and surfing site are the most important sites.
• The lighthouse in combination with the range lights could be used to tell the story of navigation from present back to when a lighthouse was built in that location by Kamehameha III and how the Polynesians navigated by the stars.
• A pile of stones recently put on the courthouse lawn. It reflects a living culture trying to maintain a presence.
• Waiola cemetery as a place where Hawaiian royalty are buried.
• Lahaina Luna High School is the site of the original printing press.
• The [possible] remains of the pre-contact rock wall surrounding the King's taro fields.
• The double-hulled canoe could be used to help tell the story of Native Hawaiian skill in boat building, navigation, and the discovery of Hawaii by Polynesians.
• The Pioneer Hotel and courthouse could be used to help tell the story of Lahaina around the turn of the 19th century.
• The prison could help tell the story of the Whaling Era.
• The cannon at the waterfront could be used to help tell the story of the Whaling Era and the clash between whalers and the people who lived here. That story also includes the missionaries and their impact on the area.
• Historic lampposts can be used to tell part of the story (using the ones in front of the Pioneer Hotel as a model).