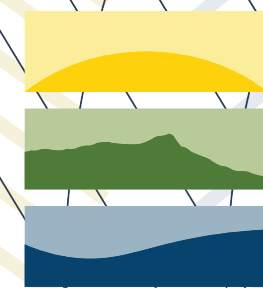


# ENERGIZE KĀROU

SHAREBACK | JUNE 29, 2022



**HAWAI'I  
STATE  
ENERGY  
OFFICE**



The background is a solid olive green. It features a complex pattern of thin white lines. On the left, there are several overlapping circles of different radii. Overlaid on these circles and the rest of the background is a series of parallel white lines that form a chevron or zigzag pattern, pointing towards the right.

***Welina***

# Honoring and sustaining the energy of ‘āina (land) has always been in our nature

---

- Hawai‘i State Energy Office (HSEO) plays an important role in redefining a new relationship between communities and the energy ecosystem.
- HSEO stands ready to serve as that bridge to educate, inform, and provide communities with the tools and resources needed to meaningfully engage and contribute to Hawai‘i’s clean energy transformation that is underway.
- The mana‘o shared tonight summarizes what was gathered from community over a months-long community engagement program designed and implemented for HSEO.
- These findings only begin to scratch the surface of what’s possible as HSEO stands ready to operationalize the tools, tactics, and takeaways outlined in this report to help guide and inform the state’s energy policy.



# Community Engagement Process

How can community engagement honor and enhance relationships (the places, people, and past) to support more abundant communities now, and into the future?

**1**

**Community leaders**

.....

**March / April**

One-on-one conversations to understand the community and map the network

.....

"What do community residents want to know about energy?"

"What do we need to know about this community?"

**2**

**Energy sector**

.....

**April**

Roundtable discussions to identify what the energy sector needs from community

.....

"What information does the energy sector need from community residents to better shape the energy system?"

**3**

**Community residents**

.....

**May**

Public workshops to share key findings from previous phases and understand the communities energy priorities

.....

"How can community and the energy sector collaborate to create more abundant and sustainable communities now and into the future?"

**4**

**Reporting & Documentation**

.....

**June**

Playbook outlining best practices

Hawai'i Siting Report to capture community Engagement Report

Community Engagement Report to capture information learned

.....

"How can the relationships activated continue? How can we honor participants by putting their feedback to use?"

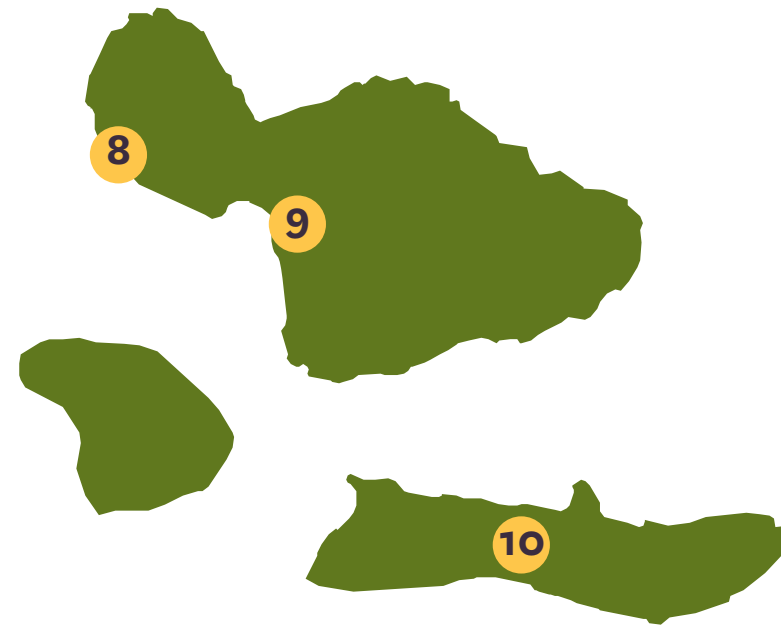


# Engaging Communities



## O'ahu County

- 1) Wai'anae
- 2) Kapolei & Kalaeloa
- 3) 'Ewa Beach
- 4) Pearl City
- 5) Waip'io Village & Kunia
- 6) Mililani
- 7) Kahuku



## Maui County

- 8) Lāhainā
- 9) Kīhei
- 10) Moloka'i



## Hawai'i County

- 11) Pāhoa



***Phase 1***

***Thought Leader Interviews***



# PHASE 1 | Thought Leader Interviews

- Thirteen (13) one-on-one conversations were held with community thought leaders representing eleven (11) communities
- A thought leader is a community member who is grounded in their community, knows their community well, and has a network through which they communicate with their community.
- These talk-story conversations sought out the following information:
  - ① **Community Pulse**  
*What's going on in your community, and what are the biggest priorities? How top of mind is energy in your community?*
  - ② **Energy Awareness and Solutions**  
*What do you think your community wants or needs to understand about energy?*
  - ③ **Information Sharing and Gathering**  
*Where do you get your information, and how is information shared within your community?*



13

Thought Leaders



11

Communities



# ***Phase 2***

## ***Small Group Discussions***



# PHASE 2 | Small Group Discussions

- A total of forty-three (43) individuals participated in six (6) small group discussions – three (3) virtually and three (3) in-person meetings.
- Meetings were geared towards stakeholders who are invested in Hawai‘i’s clean energy future, conduct community engagement in matters related to energy, and are knowledgeable in the energy sector.
- Kahuku and Moloka‘i are recognized as being actively engaged in the state’s energy conversations and were included in these conversations.



43

Individuals  
Participated



Small Group  
Discussions

6



3

Virtual  
Meetings



3

In-person  
Meetings

# PHASE 2 | Small Group Discussions

**The driving question for this discussion was: How can the energy industry and community work best together to move the state to 100% clean energy?**

Through a series of five (5) activities, the small group discussion format was centered around the themes of:

**① Community Conversations:**

*What do people say about energy?*

**② Understanding Energy Roadblocks:**

*What are the major energy system roadblocks or problems you know to be true?*

**③ Prioritizing Energy Roadblocks:**

*In order for our state to reach our 100% renewable energy goals, what does the energy sector most need community input and feedback on?*

**④ Offering Energy Solutions:**

*What are some ideas on how to improve the identified energy systems and problems?*

**⑤ Brainstorming Community Collaboration:**

*How can communities work more effectively in the energy industry? What is the best way for the community to engage and when?*





# ***Phase 3***

## ***Community Workshops***

# PHASE 3 | Community Workshops

- Seven (7) community workshops were held – six (6) in-person and one (1) virtually – in Wai‘anae, ‘Ewa, Central O‘ahu, Kahuku, Kīhei, Lāhainā, Moloka‘i, and Pāhoa.
- To educate and establish a shared baseline of understanding about the energy ecosystem and Hawai‘i’s energy goals, a presentation started the meeting to showcase:
  - Traditional forms of energy
  - An overview of the energy grid
  - A typical energy timeline from its request-for-proposal stage to its permitting stage
  - Opportunities for community to engage in the decision-making process
  - Energy conservation and energy efficiency tips.





# PHASE 3 | Community Workshops

To gather feedback from community members to understand their views on various aspects of renewable energy project development, attendees sat in small groups to participate a series of facilitated discussions and activities that sought to capture their views on the following:

---

- ① What's one word that comes to mind when you think of clean energy?
- ② What is your top priority for participating in this clean energy economy?
- ③ Identify the top 4 features you desire most in a future renewable energy project.
- ④ How would you like the energy industry to support your community?
- ⑤ What do you want to be preserved in your community?

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# ***Engagement Summaries***



# Wai‘anae, O‘ahu



Waiʻanae, Oʻahu

# Thought Leader Conversation



**Eric Enos**, a lifelong resident of Waiʻanae and the co-founder and executive director of Kaʻala Farm, Inc.

//

The biggest priorities in Waiʻanae are securing basic essentials like food, clothing, water, and waste. The threat of long-time residents being pushed out of the community – and the cultural and economic impacts this would have – due to rising real estate costs and competition from non-local buyers is a real concern."



Waiʻanae, Oʻahu

# Community Workshop



Thursday, May 26th

Kamehameha Schools Learning Center at Māʻili



21 community members attended

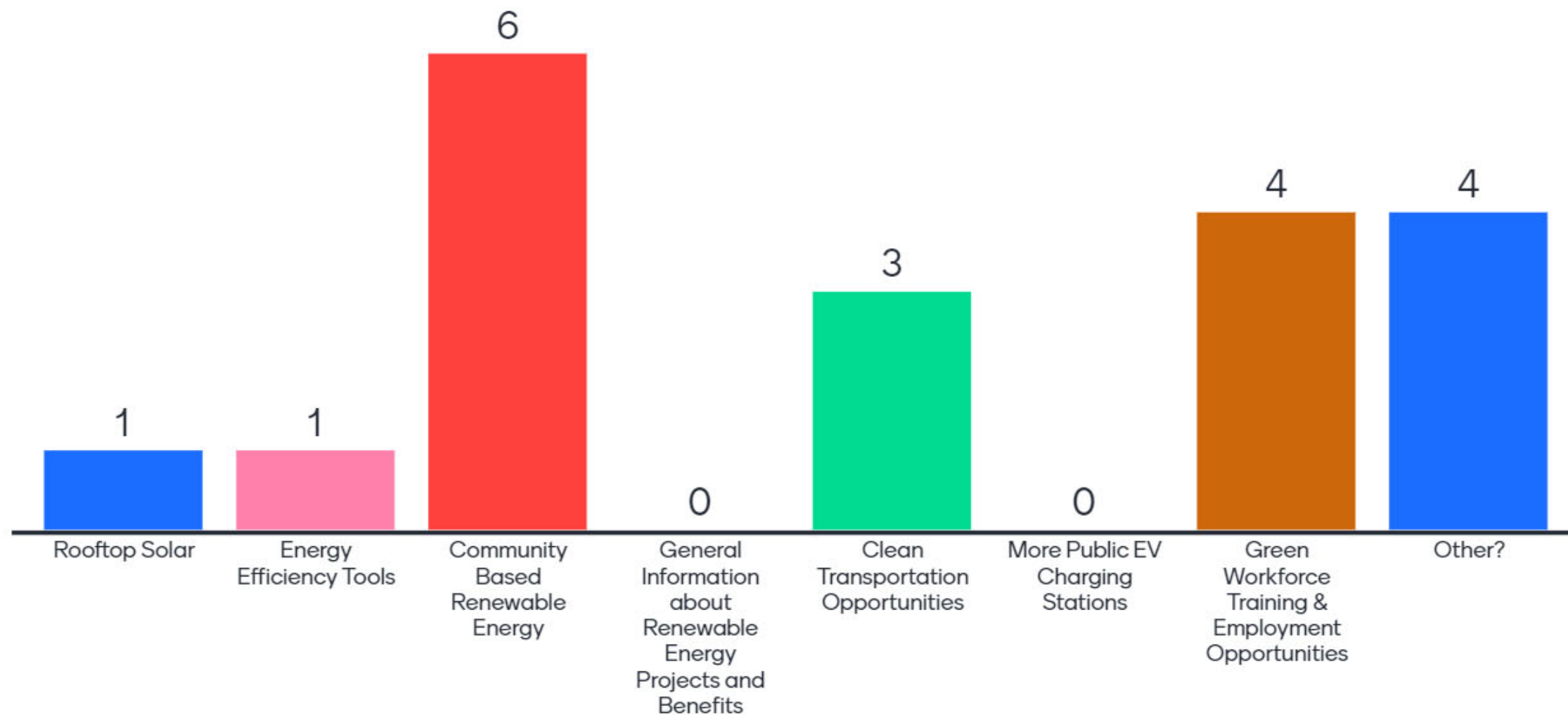


ENERGIZE KĀROU

Waiʻanae, Oʻahu

# Community Workshop Feedback

Priorities for Participating in the Renewable Energy Economy

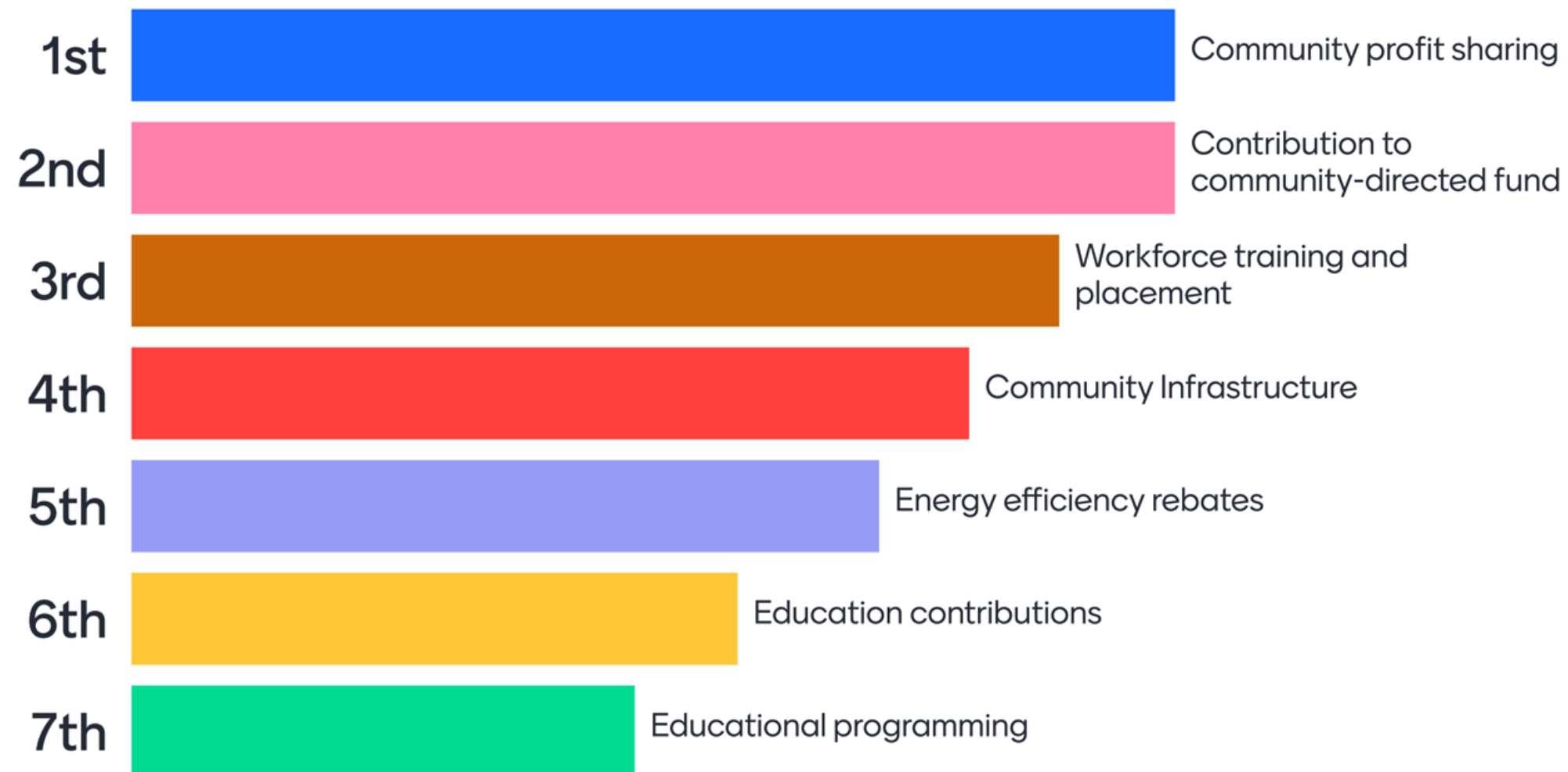




Waiʻanae, Oʻahu

# Community Workshop Feedback

Community Support: “How would you like the energy industry to support your community?”



**Waiʻanae, Oʻahu**

# **Community Workshop Feedback**

## **Prioritization of Elements in a Grid-Scale Project**

**1**

**Built with design standards that protect the environment**

**2**

**Locally owned and operated**

**3**

**Trains and hires with/in the community to operate**

**4**

**Carries out community engagement early and often**



Waiʻanae, Oʻahu

# Community Vision Statements

We stand for affordable, renewable energy but not at the cost of the environment or people.

Community-driven, self-owned, environmentally ʻāina-based energy that is collaborative and intentional.

The thriving Waiʻanae moku supports energy projects that positively engage with and support the community, support the health and wealth of the ʻāina, and ensures a legacy is built for the future generations of Waiʻanae.

Thriving growing people who take leadership together, facing the future.

Wai‘anae, O‘ahu

# The Future of Wai‘anae

“What would you like to see  
preserved in your community?”

land  
dual purpose land  
environment  
beaches  
listen to our voices  
hope  
water  
people  
ocean  
shoreline  
continue to live where  
keep resources natural  
community at the forefront  
preserve transparency  
our next generation  
you were born resilient  
protect the trust  
sustainability  
generosity



# ‘Ewa, O‘ahu

‘Ewa Beach, Kapolei, and Kalaeloa are located within in the ahupua‘a of Honouliuli, the largest ahupua‘a on O‘ahu



‘Ewa, O‘ahu

# Thought Leader Conversation



**Christiane Bolosan-Yee,**  
a lifelong resident of ‘Ewa  
Beach and director of ‘Ewa  
Beach Community Based  
Development Organization



**Scott Abrigo,**  
President of the  
Kapolei Community  
Development  
Corporation (KCDC)

- The topic of energy is on people’s mind to the extent that they are interested in and can afford to install rooftop solar.
- On a scale of one to ten, the topic of energy ranks as a four. People are simply trying to make it through the day-to-day.
- When they think about energy, it’s in terms of cost, their household budgets, and whether they’ll be able to make ends meet and cover their bills every month.



‘Ewa, O‘ahu

# Community Workshop



**Tuesday, May 17th**  
**Makakilo Community Park**



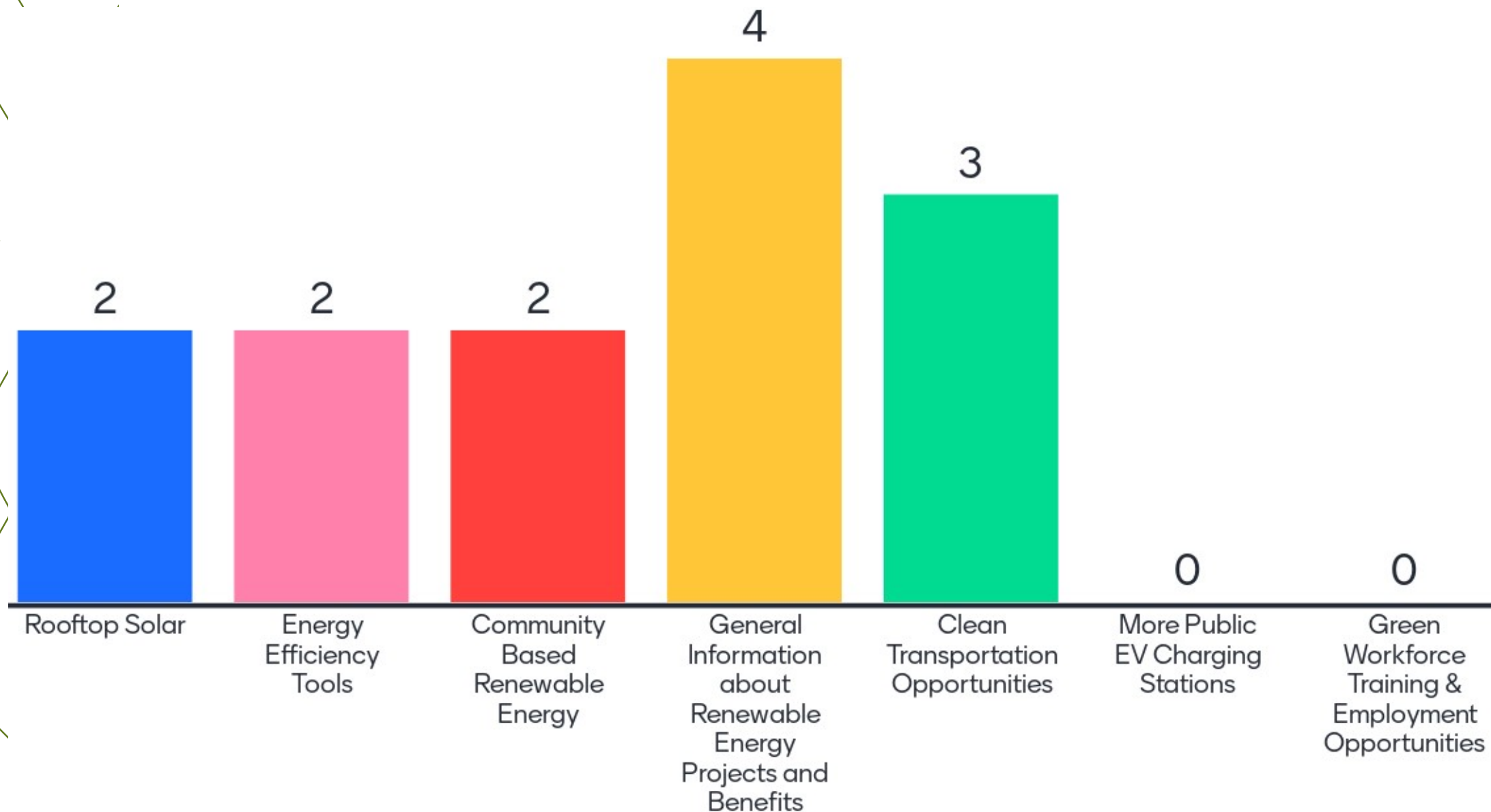
**15 community members attended**



‘Ewa, O‘ahu

# Community Workshop Feedback

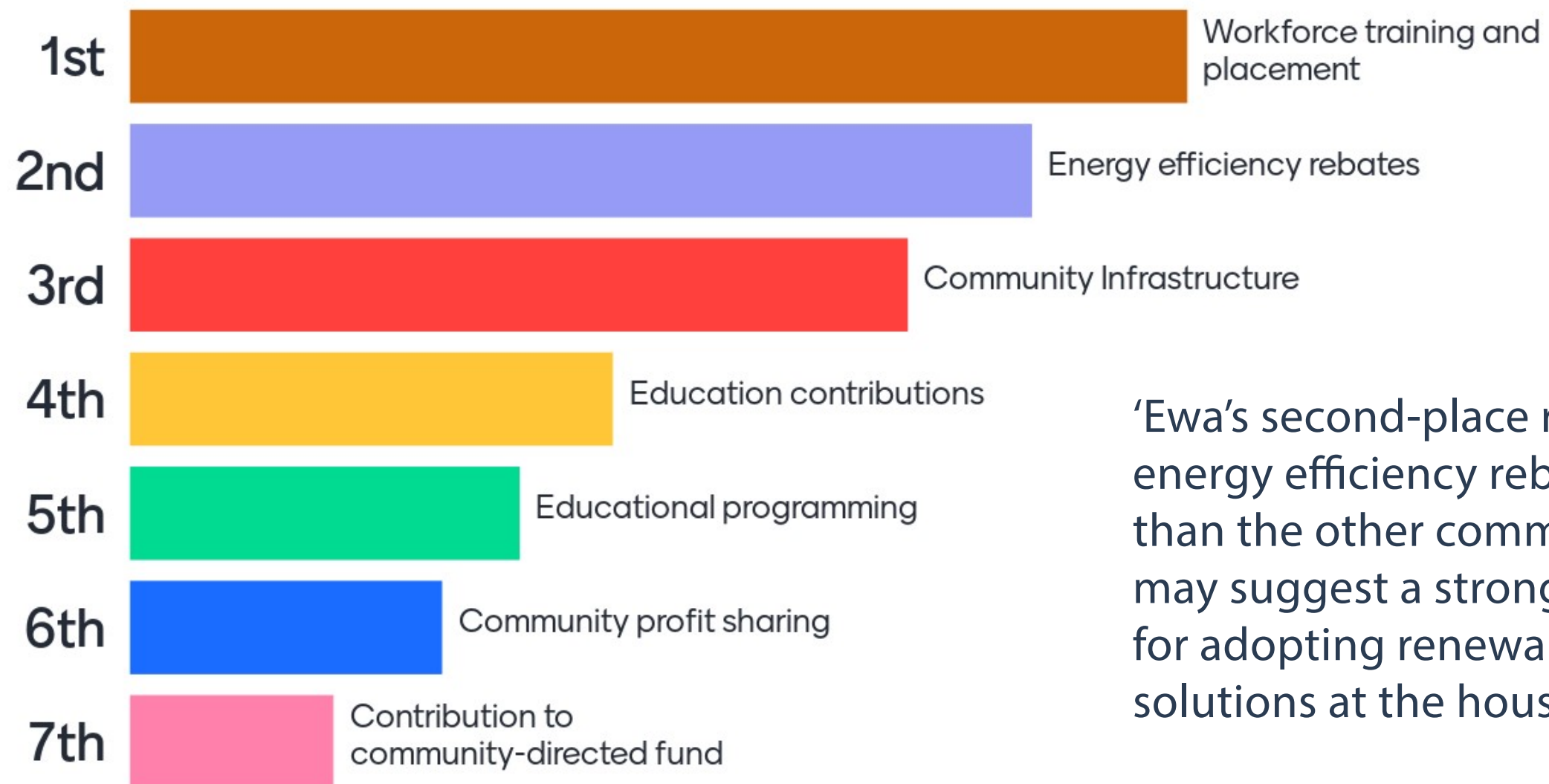
Priorities for Participating in the Renewable Energy Economy



‘Ewa, O‘ahu

# Community Workshop Feedback

**Community Support: “How would you like the energy industry to support your community?”**



‘Ewa’s second-place ranking for energy efficiency rebates is higher than the other communities, and it may suggest a stronger preference for adopting renewable energy solutions at the household level.



**‘Ewa, O‘ahu**

# **Community Workshop Feedback**

## **Prioritization of Elements in a Grid-Scale Project**

**1**

**Lowers monthly electric bills**

**2**

**Carries out community engagement early and often**

**3**

**Built with design standards that protect the environment**

**4**

**Pays workers a living wage**

‘Ewa, O‘ahu

# Community Vision Statements

Promote lowering monthly bills through education and outreach while protecting the environment and being resilient in the design.

Develop sustainable energy on unusable land that brings down energy costs and raises up our community by providing jobs and opportunities.

Seek first to understand communities' needs, values, and lifestyle, and enhance economic well-being for current and future generations.

‘Ewa, O‘ahu

# The Future of ‘Ewa

“What would you like to see preserved in your community?”

‘auamo kuleana  
beauty of ‘āina without  
keep people here in hawai‘i  
specialness of place and history  
for children to stay home and thrive  
parks greenspace  
do your part to fight climate change  
place and ‘āina in natural state  
preserve togetherness of community by working together towards a shared goal  
preserve the present so kids have a clean future  
ocean and stream preservation  
prioritize ‘āina in natural space  
openness  
wahi pana  
trees  
destruction  
streams  
a way



# Central O‘ahu



Central O‘ahu

# Thought Leader Conversation



**David Robichaux,**  
president of the Kunia  
Village Title Holding  
Corporation and board  
member of the Kunia  
Village Development  
Corporation



**Kamuela Enos,**  
Director of UH’s  
Center for Indigenous  
Innovation and Health  
Equity. Resident of  
‘Ewa



**Aureana Tseu,**  
born and raised in  
Mililani. Hawaiian  
Culture Advisor at  
Hanalani School

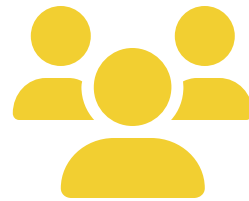
- For farmworkers, energy awareness and solutions are a matter of cost. Saving money on electricity bills or getting a rebate on energy is what residents of Kunia Village are likely to care most about.
- Residents today are very aware of the issues, and they are sensitive to a lack of transparency. They want to participate in the process.
- Education is needed to explain what “clean energy” or “renewable energy” means, and given the suburban nature of Mililani, organized family-friendly events or school visits might be an effective way to reach people.

Central O'ahu

# Community Workshop



**Tuesday, June 7th**  
**Zoom meeting**



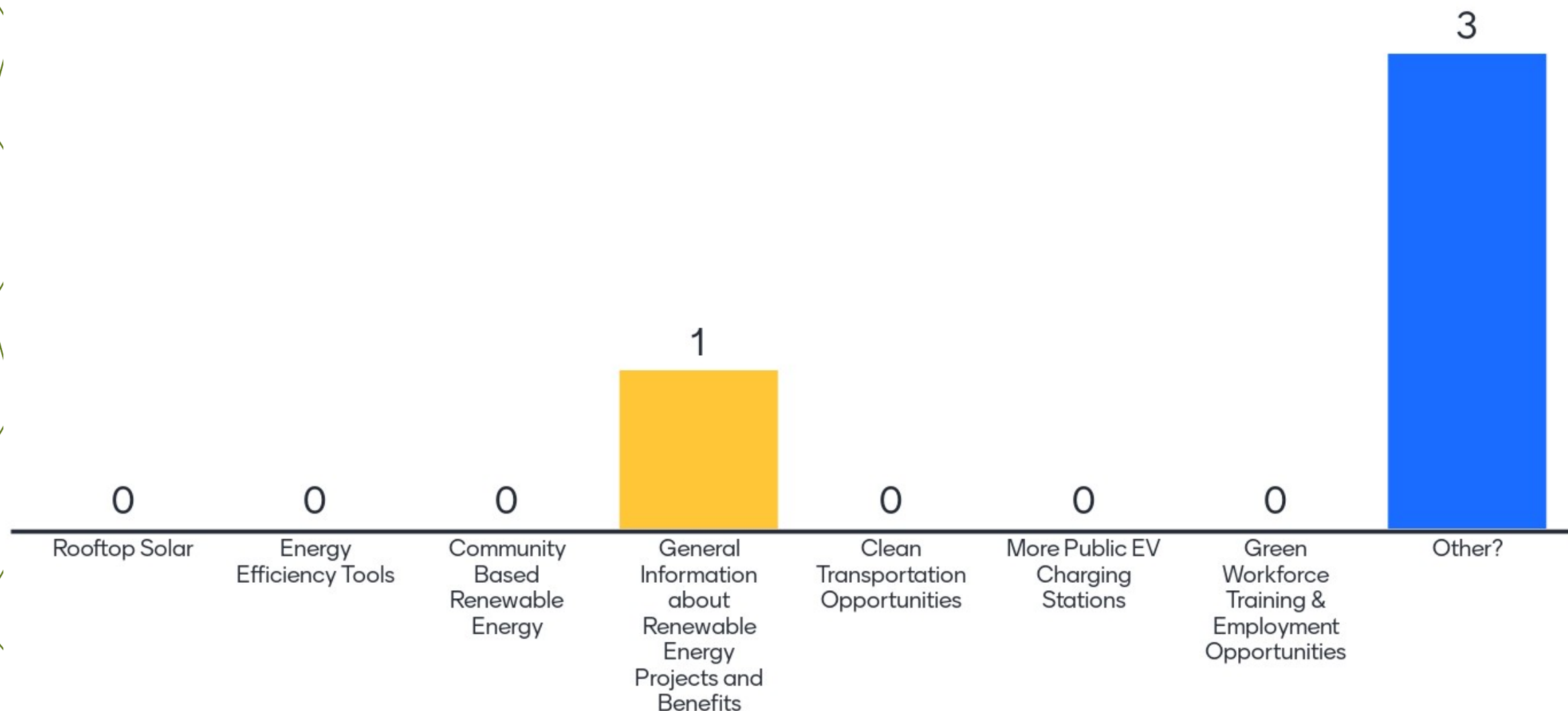
**2 community members attended**  
(1 from the North Shore of O'ahu and 1 from Hawai'i Island)



Central O'ahu

# Community Workshop Feedback

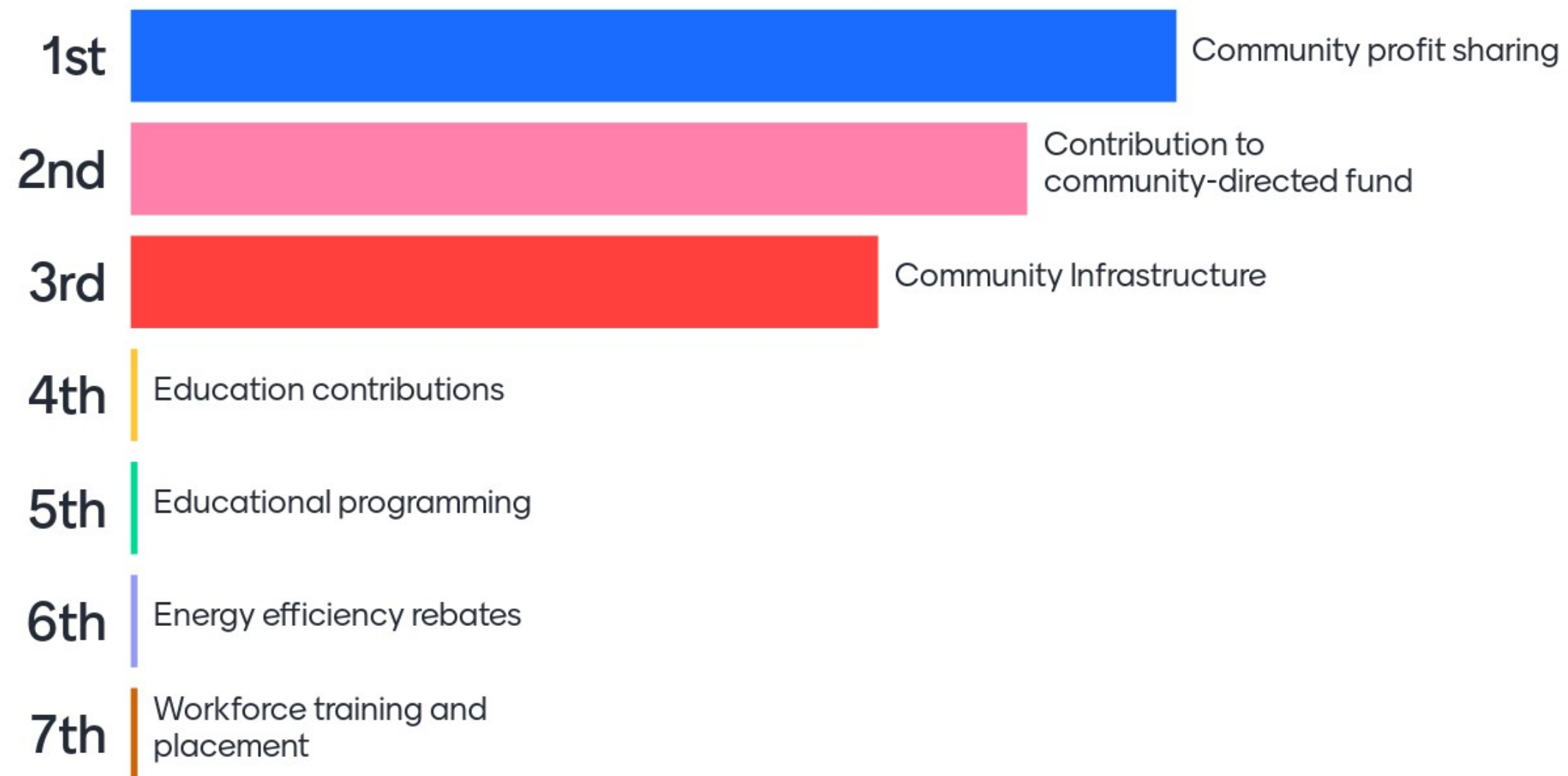
Priorities for Participating in the Renewable Energy Economy



Central O‘ahu

# Community Workshop Feedback

**Community Support: “How would you like the energy industry to support your community?”**



Central O'ahu

# Community Workshop Feedback

## Prioritization of Elements in a Grid-Scale Project

1

Built with design standards that protect the environment

2

Trains and hires with/in the community to operate

3

Locally owned and operated



# Kahuku, O'ahu



Kahuku, O'ahu

# Thought Leader Conversation



**Sunny Unga**, born and raised in Kahuku and moved back six years ago. She has a background in social work and took an active role as community advocate in the Nā Pua Makani wind farm development.

//

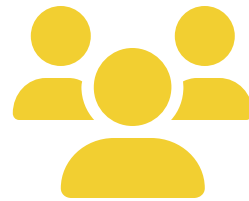
There's a lack of investment in community infrastructure and community feels that Kahuku is too often overlooked. The way in which community voices were ignored in the development of the Nā Pua Makani wind project compounded these feelings. Climate change is another major concern due to sea level rise, which already causes flooding up and down the coast during periods of high surf and tidal activity."

Kahuku, O'ahu

# Virtual Roundtable Discussion



**Friday, May 10th**  
**Zoom meeting**



**4 attendees via Zoom**



Kahuku, O'ahu

# Virtual Roundtable Discussion

## Activity #2: Energy Roadblocks

What are the major energy system problems and failures?

### Inequity

How does everyone participate from the benefits of renewable energy?

**Embedded institutional discrimination and systemic racism in the distribution of clean energy projects in underserved and marginalized communities**

Inequities in both social and economic participation in the energy system

Cannot get solar due to flood zone areas

Complicated industry

How do we interpret regulation, policy and processes so everyone understands?

### Costs & Socio-Economic Impacts

Rising Cost of Energy/Electricity

Increased rates adding pressure on customers

Lack of transparency

Competing interests - Day to day living

### Land Use

Competing priorities: land use

### Lack of Community Engagement & Education

Current process has divided communities

Understanding the State's Energy System?

Lack of transparency

Lack of community engagement/planning

### Utility & PUC

Energy is a human right and should not be monopolized by one company

A need for deregulation of state utilities open it up to competition

**HECO business model**

Not having the right to live off the HECO grid

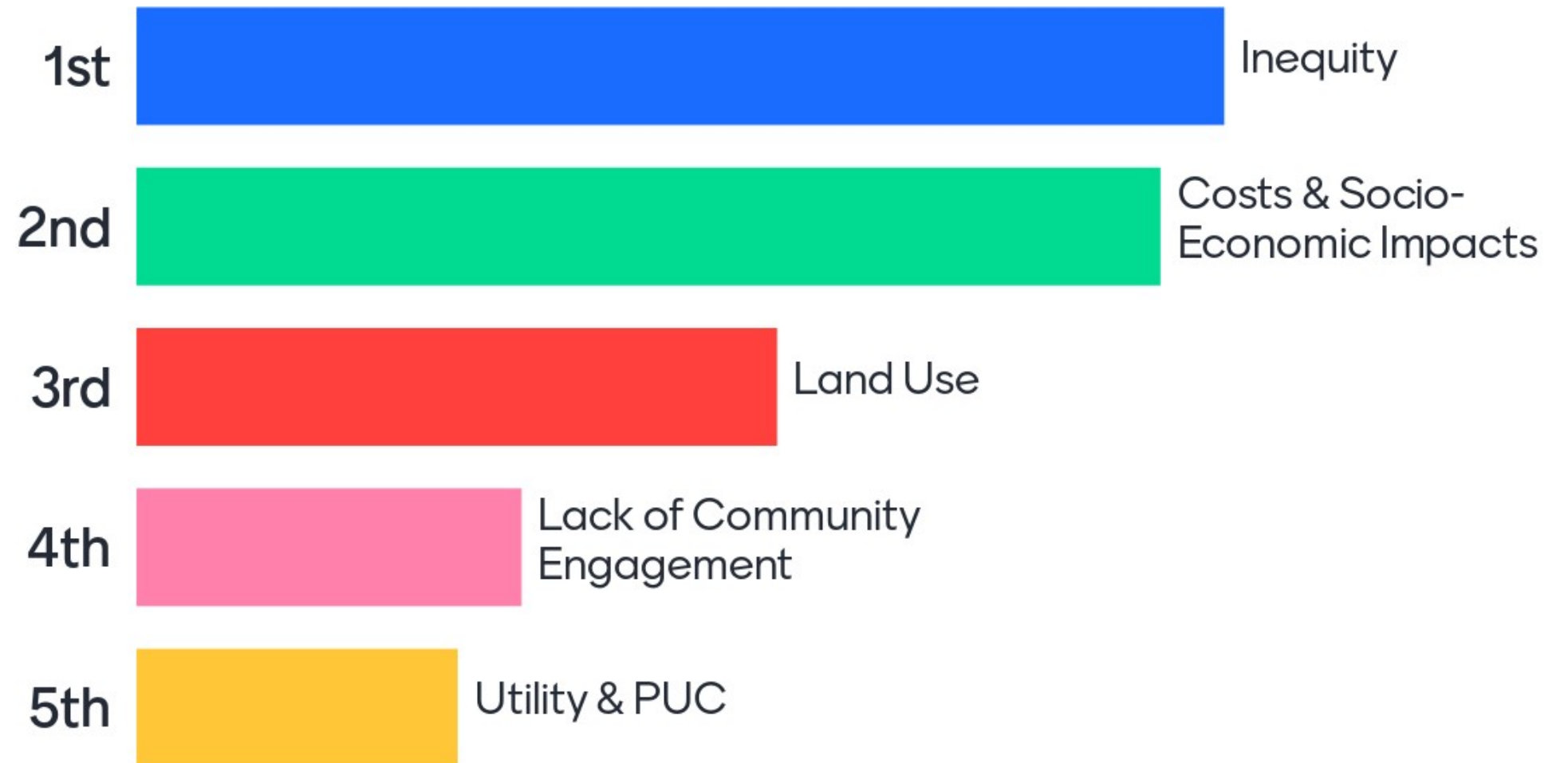
Kahuku, O'ahu

# Understanding & Prioritizing Energy Roadblocks



On May 10, four community members attended a Zoom meeting.

Identify and  
prioritize the major  
roadblocks they  
know to be true.



Kahuku, O'ahu

# Virtual Roundtable Discussion

## Solutions for a Clean Energy Future

- Off the grid
- Microgrids
- Gas still plays a role in emergencies
- Funding for grid infrastructure
- More rooftop solar on homes
- CBRE
- Underground power lines
- Access funding to make these programs sustainable
- Funding for solar



Kahuku, O'ahu

# Virtual Roundtable Discussion

**Community Collaboration:** How can the energy industry and community can best work together to move the state to 100% clean energy?

- Meeting the community where they are. The best time to do outreach is after work or on the weekends.
- Introduce yourself, make your intentions know and express how you can help them for future generations
- Don't wait for the community to provide input, it could be too late!
- Create equity by offering compensation for the community to participate. Gas cards, money, gift cards, food, etc.
- Ensure you follow-up with community after the engagement so they know how their input will be used and when future opportunities will be to engage

Kahuku, O'ahu

# Community Workshop



Wednesday, May 18th  
Hau'ula Community Center



15 community members attended

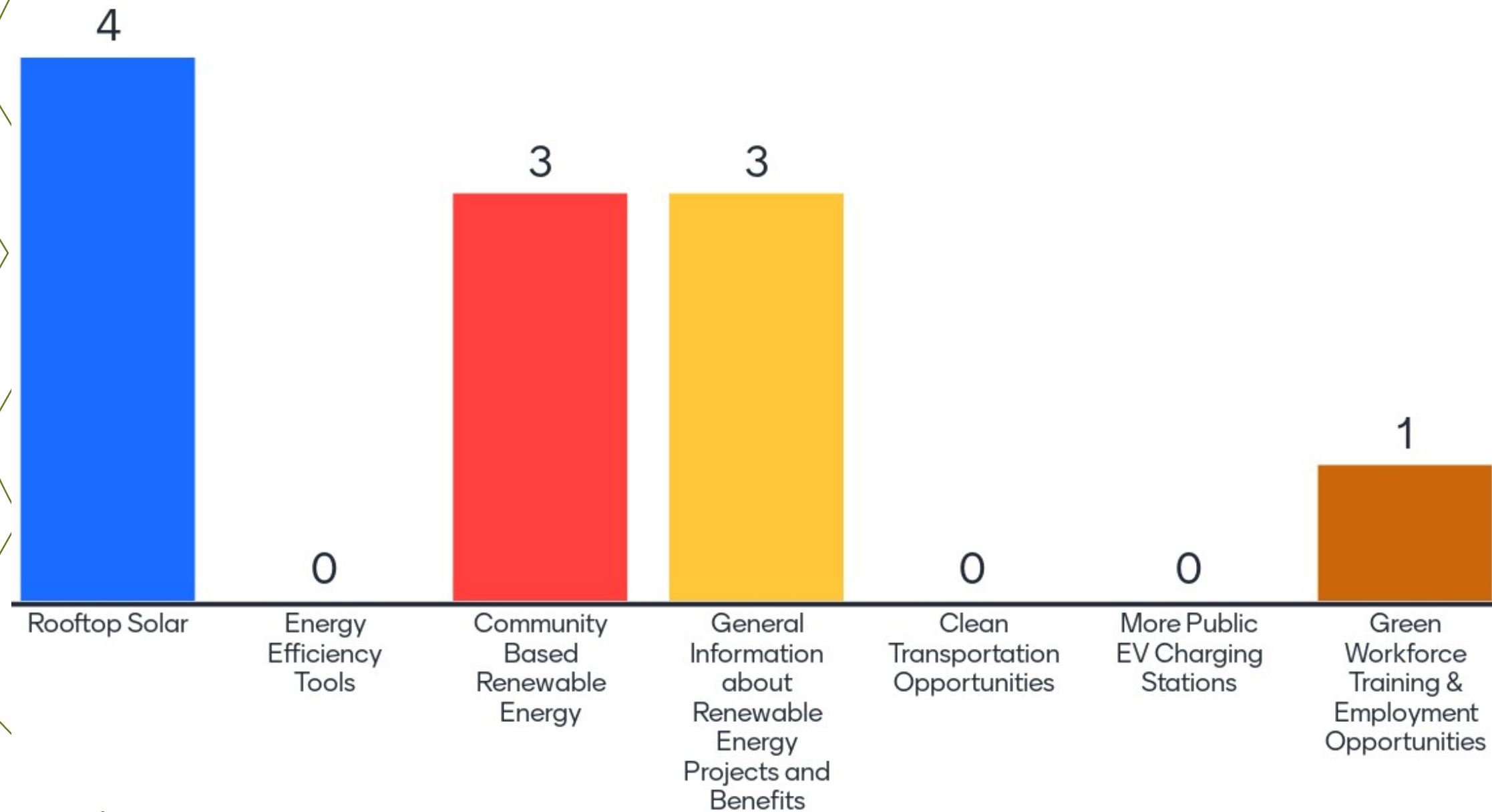


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Kahuku, O‘ahu

# Community Workshop Feedback

## Priorities for Participating in the Renewable Energy Economy

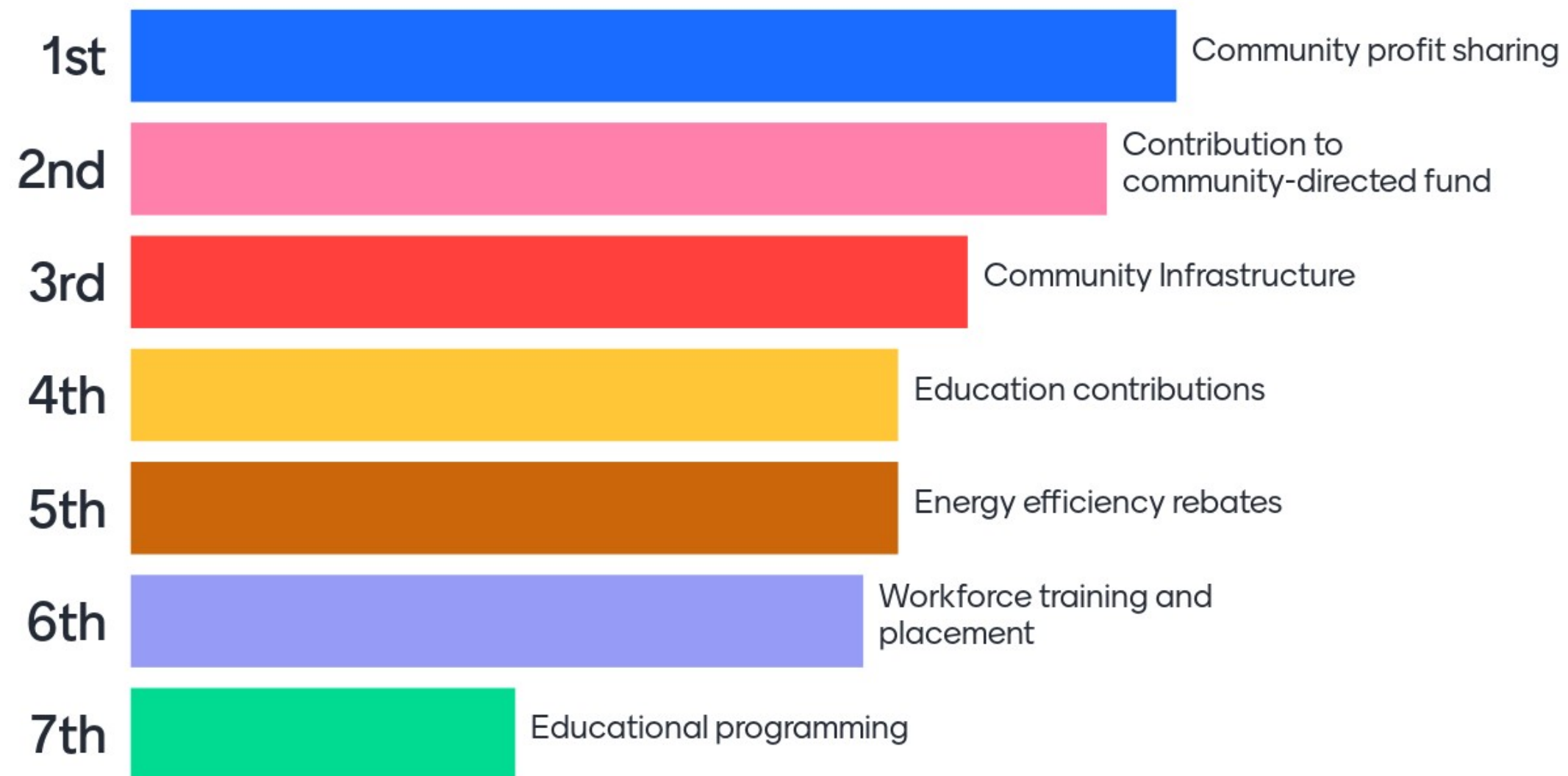




Kahuku, O‘ahu

# Community Workshop Feedback

**Community Support: “How would you like the energy industry to support your community?”**



Kahuku, O‘ahu

# Community Workshop Feedback

## Prioritization of Elements in a Grid-Scale Project

1

Carries out community engagement early and often

2

Enables multi land use opportunities

3

Built with design standards that protect the environment

4

Locally owned and operated

Kahuku, O‘ahu

# Community Vision Statements

Establishing a resilient and sustainable Kahuku involves locally-owned and operated renewable energy projects that honors the culture, and concepts of equity and environmental justice. We believe in community-led projects through a process founded on community consent, meaningful participation, engagement, and input.

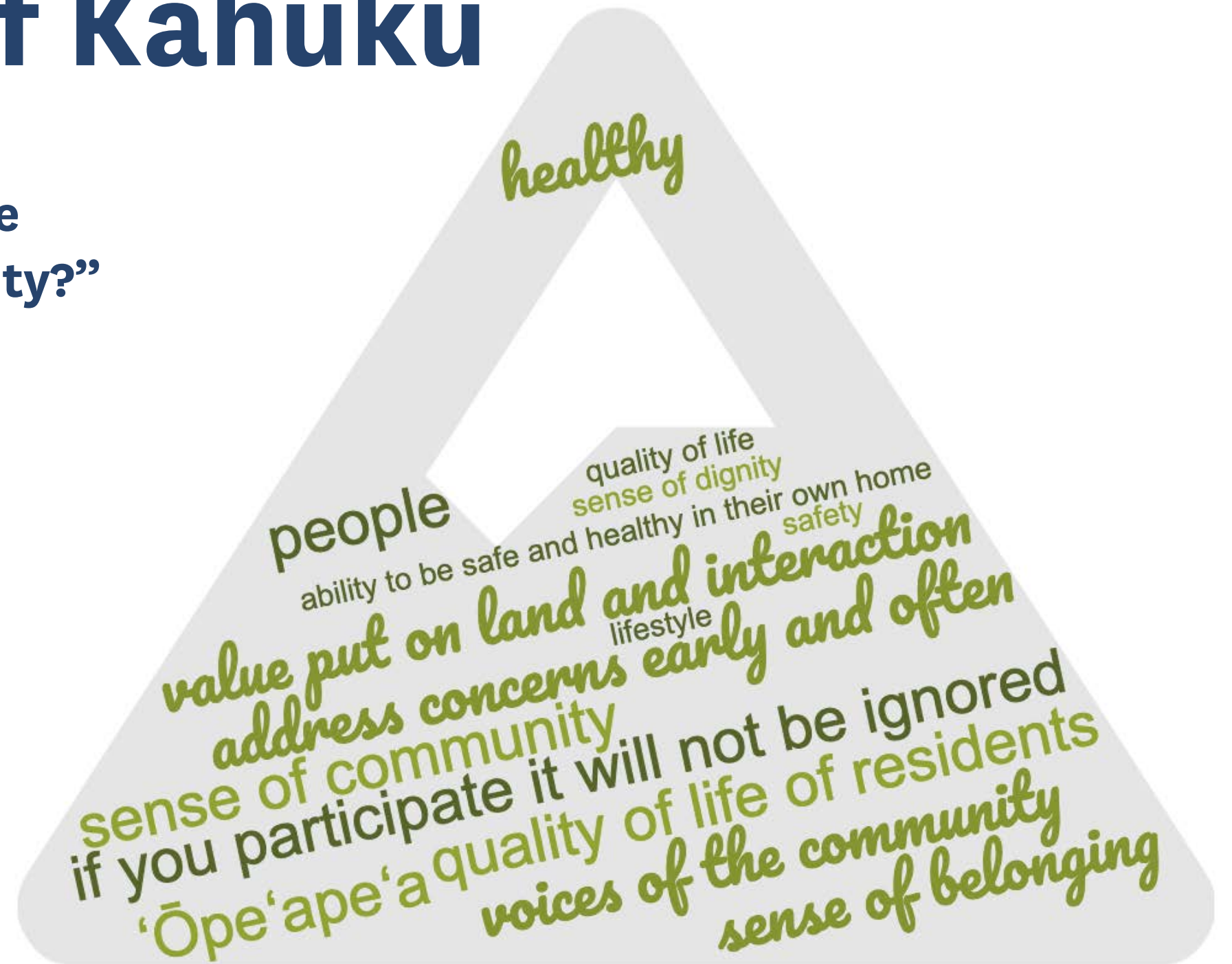
Kahuku will be a leader for equitable geographical distribution of energy-generating sites that engage the community and enable multi-land use opportunities that empower individuals' own energy use.



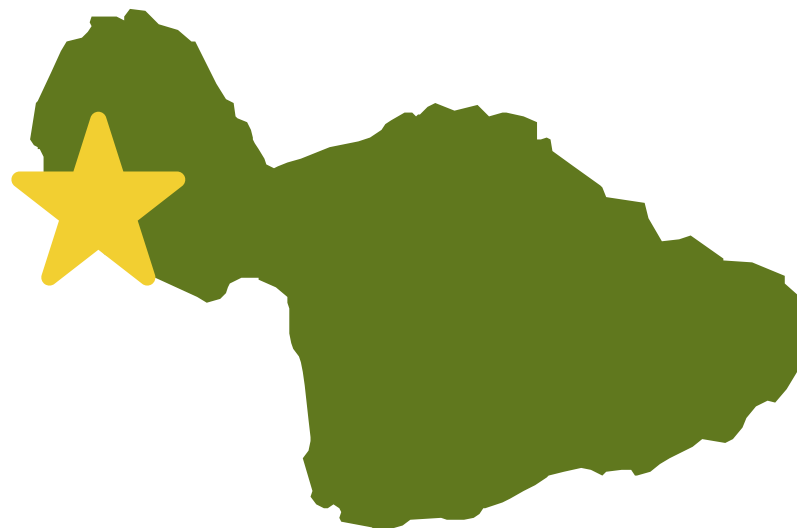
Kahuku, O‘ahu

# The Future of Kahuku

“What would you like to see  
preserved in your community?”



# Lāhainā, Maui



Lāhainā, Maui

# Thought Leader Conversation



**Joe Pluta**, founder and president of the West Maui Taxpayers Association

- Lack of affordable housing is at the top of people's minds in Lāhainā, and it has been this way for the last decade, but very little has been done to improve the situation.
- The solar projects that have been completed in West Maui so far have been a success, and there needs to be more incentives for renewable energy developers.



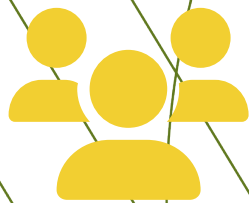
Lāhainā, Maui

# Community Workshop



**May 9, 2022**

**Lāhainā Civic Center**



**4 people attended, only one was a Lāhainā resident**

- **First in-person public meeting and the presentation and activities for this meeting differed from the final presentation**



Lāhainā, Maui

# Community Workshop Feedback

**Top Priority for Participating in the Renewable Energy Economy**

**1**

**Solar projects, especially large scale solar projects.**

Lāhainā, Maui

# Community Workshop Feedback

## Community Support

***“How would you like the energy industry to support your community?”***

**Community members were interested in having the energy industry support their communities with local jobs, education and training, and project-specific community outreach.**



Lāhainā, Maui

# Community Workshop Feedback

## Prioritization of Elements in a Grid-Scale Project

1

Carry out community engagement early and often

2

Multi use land opportunities

3

Existing commercial properties

Lāhainā, Maui

# The Future of Lāhainā

“What would you like to see  
preserved in your community?”

resilience  
sense of community

natural resources  
self sufficiency  
fish ocean

# Kīheī, Maui





Kīheī, Maui

# Thought Leader Conversation



**Rob Weltman**, chair for the Sierra Club Maui between 2016 and 2020; serves on the Maui County Council's Climate Advisory Committee; board member for the Kīheī Community Association.



**Kimokeo Kapahulehua**, cultural practitioner and educator; established Nā I'a O Ke Kai, a cultural education program for youth at Kīheī's Kalepolepo fishpond.

- o Until recently, energy was not top of mind. It wasn't until Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) announced that replacement generator parts for its Ma'alaea power plant may soon be unavailable and that its Kahului power plant will be decommissioned that people started to pay attention.
- o In South Maui, residents think about power outages and the price of electricity. There are more and more electric vehicles on the road, but there are too few public charging stations.
- o Affordable housing is a top concern, and related to that is the cost of energy. Traffic is also a concern.

Kīheī, Maui

# Community Workshop



Tuesday, May 10th  
Kīheī Community Center



15 community members attended



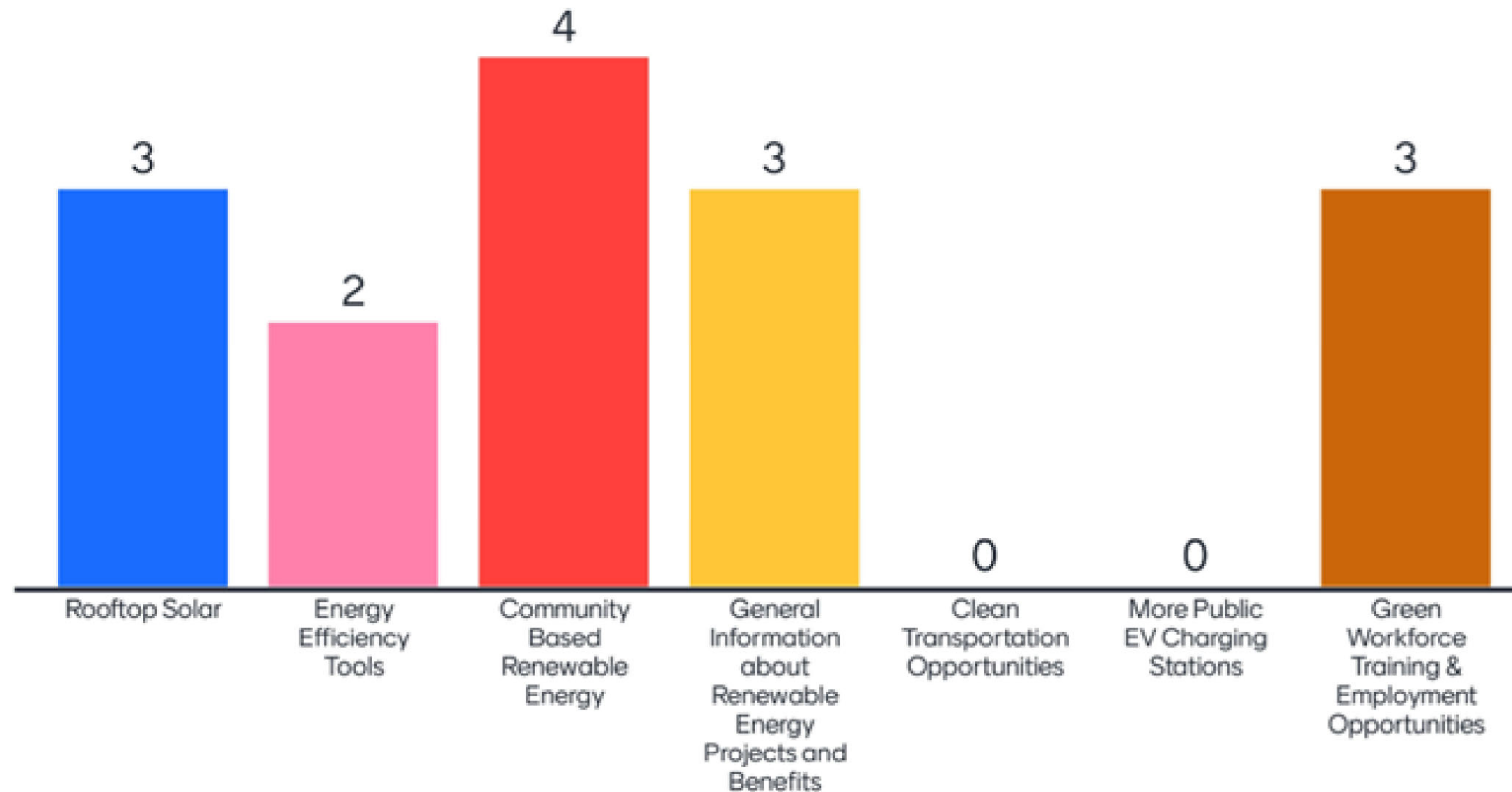
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Kīheī, Maui

# Community Workshop Feedback

Priorities for Participating in the Renewable Energy Economy

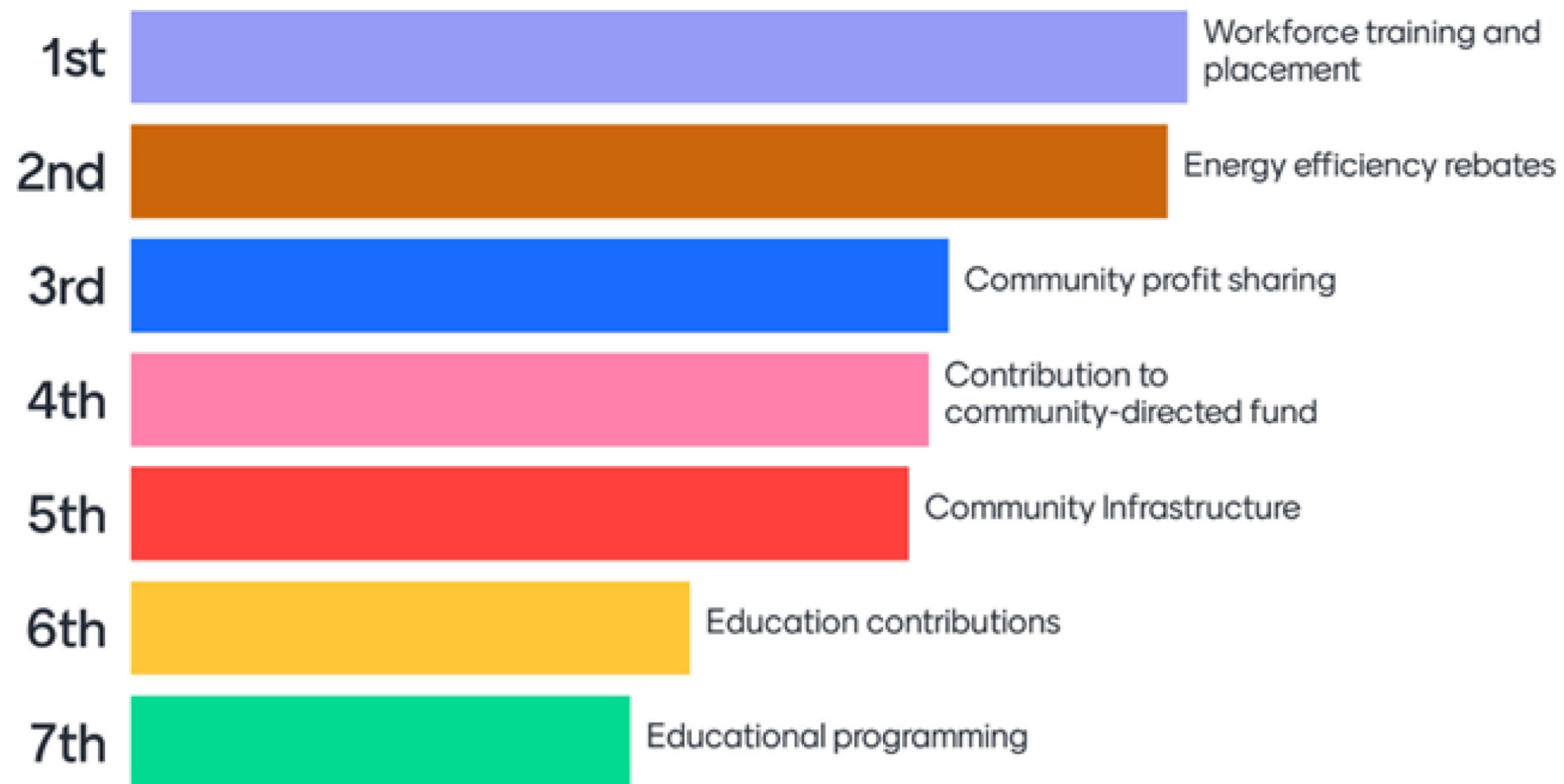




Kīheī, Maui

# Community Workshop Feedback

**Community Support: “How would you like the energy industry to support your community?”**



**Kīheī, Maui**

# **Community Workshop Feedback**

## **Prioritization of Elements in a Grid-Scale Project**

**1**

**Trains and hires with/in the community to operate**

**2**

**Built with design standards that protect the environment**

**3**

**On existing commercial or industrial land**

**4**

**On land with already contaminated soil that limits other allowable use**

Kīheī, Maui

# Community Vision Statements

We want economically equitable and grid-scale projects that protect the environment, support the local economy, and lower cost for the individual and community.

Community will accept and carry the kuleana to ensure our health for generations to come.

Investment in our people is an investment in our future.  
Use existing developed spaces and places by the people, for the people.  
Empower to get power.



Kīheī, Maui

# The Future of Kīheī

“What would you like to see  
preserved in your community?”

space  
our history  
connection to place  
empowerment of keiki  
community  
resources  
environment  
culture  
past open

ENERGIZE KĀROU

# Moloka'i



Molokaʻi

# Thought Leader Conversation



**Kalehua Sproat-Augustiro**, born and raised on Molokaʻi, entrepreneur and small business owner, joined the Hawaiʻi State Energy Office's Clean Energy Wayfinders program in 2022



**Tehani Kaalekahi**, born and raised on Molokaʻi. Fourth-generation Hoʻolehua homesteader and returned in 2021 to serve as the executive director for Sustʻāinable Molokai

- o Protecting and preserving Molokaʻi unique way of life is a priority – change is difficult.
- o The community wants to do better for the ʻāina, so questions around land use impacts in solar or wind farm development are a concern.
- o Successful projects are ones that are mindful of Molokaʻi's people and have their best interests at heart. They employ people who are either from the community or respected by the community.
- o The high cost of energy on Molokaʻi is a major concern, and education is needed to help people understand why it's so costly and what can be done to address it.
- o One of the challenges with community outreach on Molokaʻi is reaching the whole island and not just parts of it.

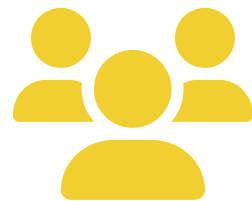


Molokaʻi

# Community Workshop



**Friday, April 22th**  
**Zoom meeting**



**5 community members attended**

# Community Workshop Feedback

## Activity #2: Energy Roadblocks

What are the major energy system problems and failures?

### Utility as Gatekeeper

Utility > PUC > Rate Payer is a contentious construct not designed for our modern needs

HECO is the only offtaker besides on-site solar

Project are only meant for the big dogs. Not entry for non-status quo development model

interconnection costs are high and timelines are long

HEI has shown no incentive to modernize or create resilience within 2045 timeframe

HECO as a gate keeper - interconnection falls under physical infrastructure, but also want we can and cannot do

Community-level solutions can cost more when they have to compete with utility scale solutions

### infrastructure

Few creative options being explored (such as agri-voltaics).

development and installation companies require/expect high profit margins because of our high energy prices

outdated grid system & high interconnection costs

lack of holistic and comprehensive planning on energy projects and infrastructure

### community planning

### relationships

lack of trust & transparency with utility

Lack of trust. Frustration around conflicting interests and misaligned incentive mechanisms.

Even within the professional community in energy sector, knowledge sharing and collaboration is limited.

Benefits and impacts are not ahupuaa based

The utility participated in the overthrow and they are still busy at work taking everything they can from Hawaii and its people

Energy in Hawaii is about extraction. It always has been, and it still is

### community engagment

not community engagement if nobody shows up

people aren't understanding of why engagement is important

Lack of community engagement

Lack of transparency on how public input is used in planning and development

lack of community input/design in the energy decision making process.

lack of inclusion

### system

No cohesive/strategic Island wide energy plans (needs to include real community input)

Molokaʻi

# Community Workshop Feedback

To help our state reach 100% renewable energy, the group ranked their top priorities as such:

1

Community Planning

2

Utility as a Gatekeeper

3

Relationships

## Activity #4: PRIORITIZING ENERGY ROADBLOCKS

1st



Community Planning

2nd



Utility as Gatekeeper

3rd



Community Engagement

4th



Relationships

5th



Infrastructure



Moloka'i

# Community Workshop Feedback

## Solutions for a Clean Energy Future

- We need an advocate and a navigator (to help chart the course, but not dictating where it goes). Otherwise, it feels like we're doing heavy lifting for someone else. It feels extractive. For our community, our outcome needs to be action.
- Create equity by having conversations to make the community feel like they have a choice, it will give communities more confidence.
- To approach the community, education is key. It takes years to build the knowledge.
- If you want people to be engaged, it cannot feel like they're being extracted from, rather the community must do some of the work/planning with advocates and have a real stake in the project.
- HSEO can provide resources for the communities to hire their own planners and experts.
- A lot of busy work around community organizing, so if HSEO can help with those logistical details, then it will be hard to find community volunteers for that work.
- Figure out how to arrange compensation so community members don't feel bad for accepting compensation and feeling like a "sell out."

Molokaʻi

# Community Workshop Feedback

## Community Collaboration:

### How can the energy industry and community can best work together

- One idea for successful engagement is to take time for proper introductions. Ask attendees to share what their intentions are when coming to this meeting. Ask participants to share about their schooling, work, and volunteer experience.
- For the Molokaʻi community, because it's a small island so pilina-based, meetings can go quickly wrong because they didn't establish the relationships, pilina, and trust from the start.
- Another idea for effective online engagement is to create a baseline education platform to make Zoom time more effective so people can review content previously covered in prior sessions before coming to the table.
- There are so many different ways to reach different parts of the community, and Molokaʻi has been open to trying everything that the community has suggested. "We have nothing to lose."

# Pāhoā, Hawai‘i





Pāhoa, Hawai‘i

# Thought Leader Conversation



**Janice Ikeda**, a resident of Pi‘ihonua and the executive director of Vibrant Hawai‘i

- People are just trying to get by, which leaves little time to focus on systemic change.
- On a scale of 1 to 10, energy is right under housing as being top of mind.
- In Pāhoa, geothermal energy is a chief concern, and the community does not trust Puna Geothermal Venture. Many object to geothermal because of the connection to Pele. There are also health concerns around sulfur dioxide emissions.
- With regard to the state’s 100% renewable energy goal, the more localized the support for achieving this goal, the more resilient the community will become. We can ask what more we can do, but perhaps we should also be thinking about how we can demand less. If we say that ‘āina is our ancestor and foundation, then we need to include ‘āina as a stakeholder at the table.

Pāhoa, Hawai‘i

# Community Workshop



**Tuesday, May 24th**  
**Pāhoa Community Center**



**47 community members attended**

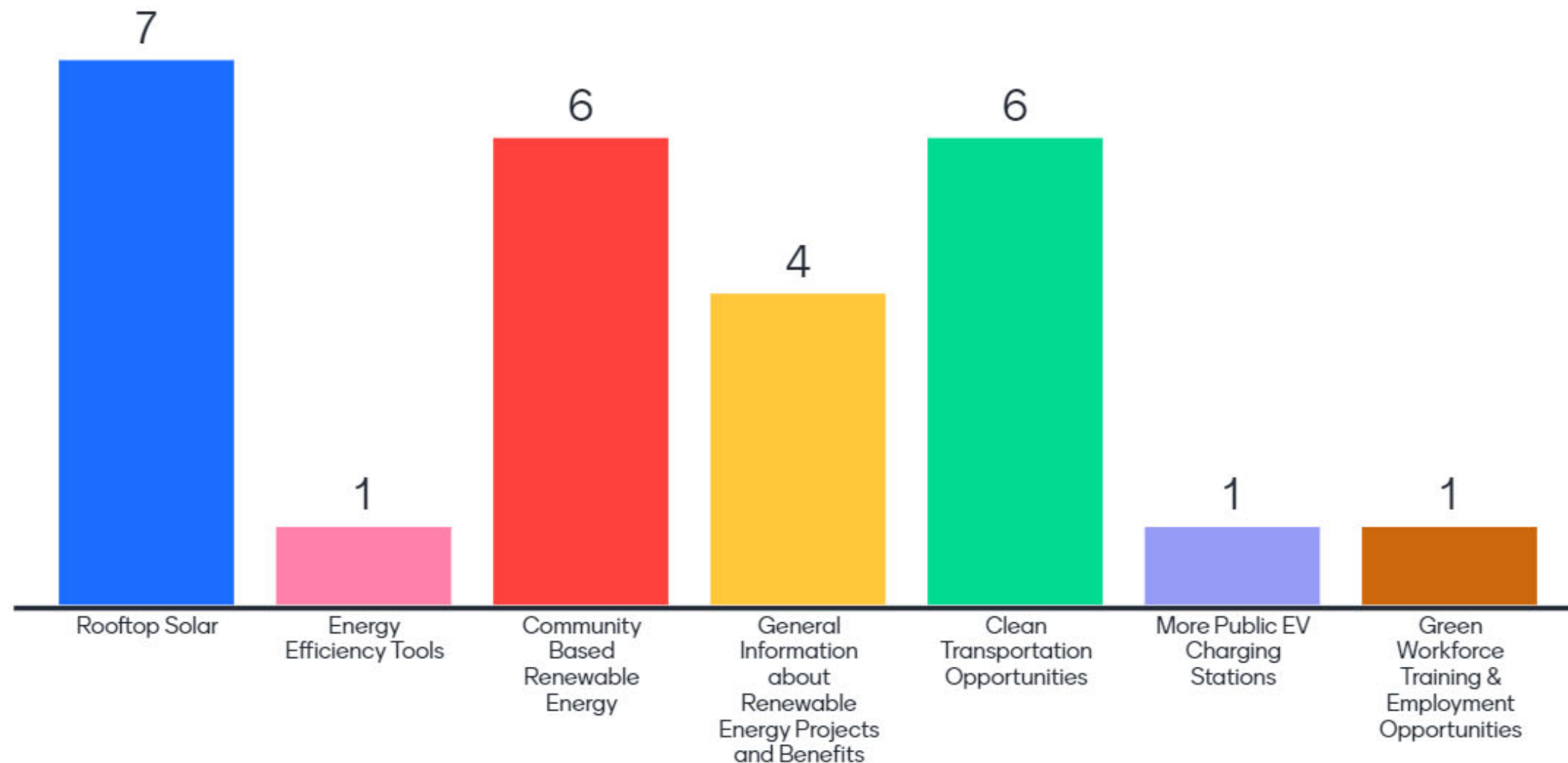




Pāhoa, Hawai‘i

# Community Workshop Feedback

Priorities for Participating in the Renewable Energy Economy

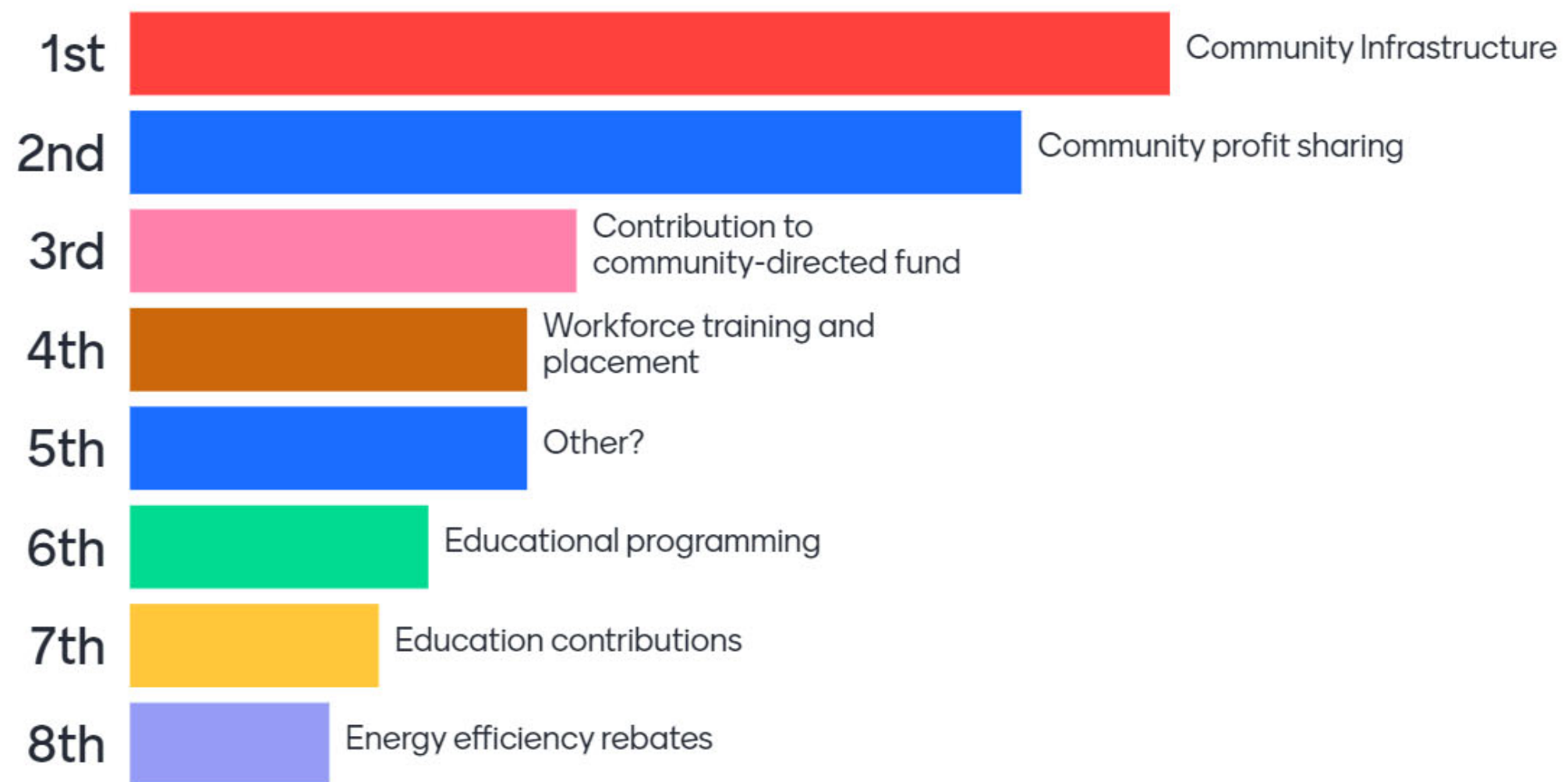




Pāhoa, Hawai‘i

# Community Workshop Feedback

**Community Support: “How would you like the energy industry to support your community?”**



**Pāhoa, Hawai‘i**

# **Community Workshop Feedback**

## **Prioritization of Elements in a Grid-Scale Project**

**1**

**Built with design standards that protect the environment**

**2**

**Carries out community engagement early and often**

**3**

**Lowers monthly electric bills**

**4**

**Tie between locally owned and operated projects and one that trains and hires within the community to operate**

Pāhoa, Hawai‘i

# Community Vision Statements

- Build a resilient community based on 100% renewable energy for both electricity and transportation.
- Protecting our ‘ohana and our ‘āina with our voices.
- Selectively choosing our future through resourcefulness.
- Aloha is building within nature and community parameters to create a better future for both.
- Starting with the cleanest, natural resources we have on this island, like OTEC, in a sustainable manner to create a better economy for the local community. We need to shutdown Puna Geothermal Venture—a danger to our community. Safety first for the people living in the area of the toxic plant.
- We are Puna, it’s time we breathe. I dream of a day I, and my baby and community can actually breathe clean air in Puna, Hawai‘i. Enough desecration. Ua mau ke ea o ka ‘āina i ka pono.
- Power microgrids, using solar power and storage. Community input, hire locally. Preserve the ‘āina.



Pāhoa, Hawai‘i

# The Future of Pāhoa

“What would you like to see  
preserved in your community?”



quiet  
future  
compassion  
don't want geothermal  
all of it  
resilience  
ocean  
team work  
environmental protection  
environment  
no loss of 'ohana  
clean air  
sustainability  
lifestyle  
air  
community  
clean  
hawaiian  
family  
integrity  
Aina  
keiki  
sacredness of kūpuna  
future generations  
transparency  
culture

ENERGIZE KĀROU



# ***Online Engagement***

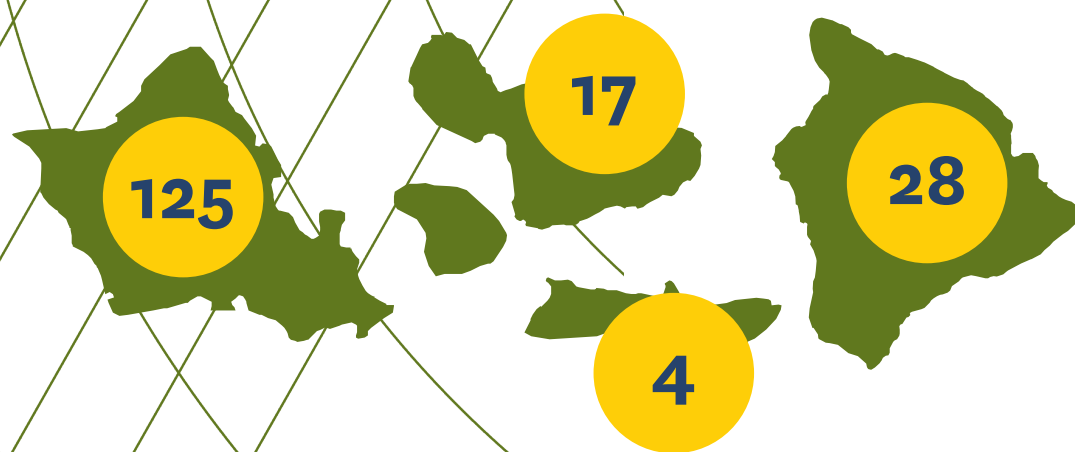
# Online Engagement



On May 20, a 27-question survey was distributed to mimic the information gathered in Phases 1, 2, and 3.



The survey was designed so that anyone, regardless of their participation in a previous outreach phase or not, could find value in providing additional feedback.

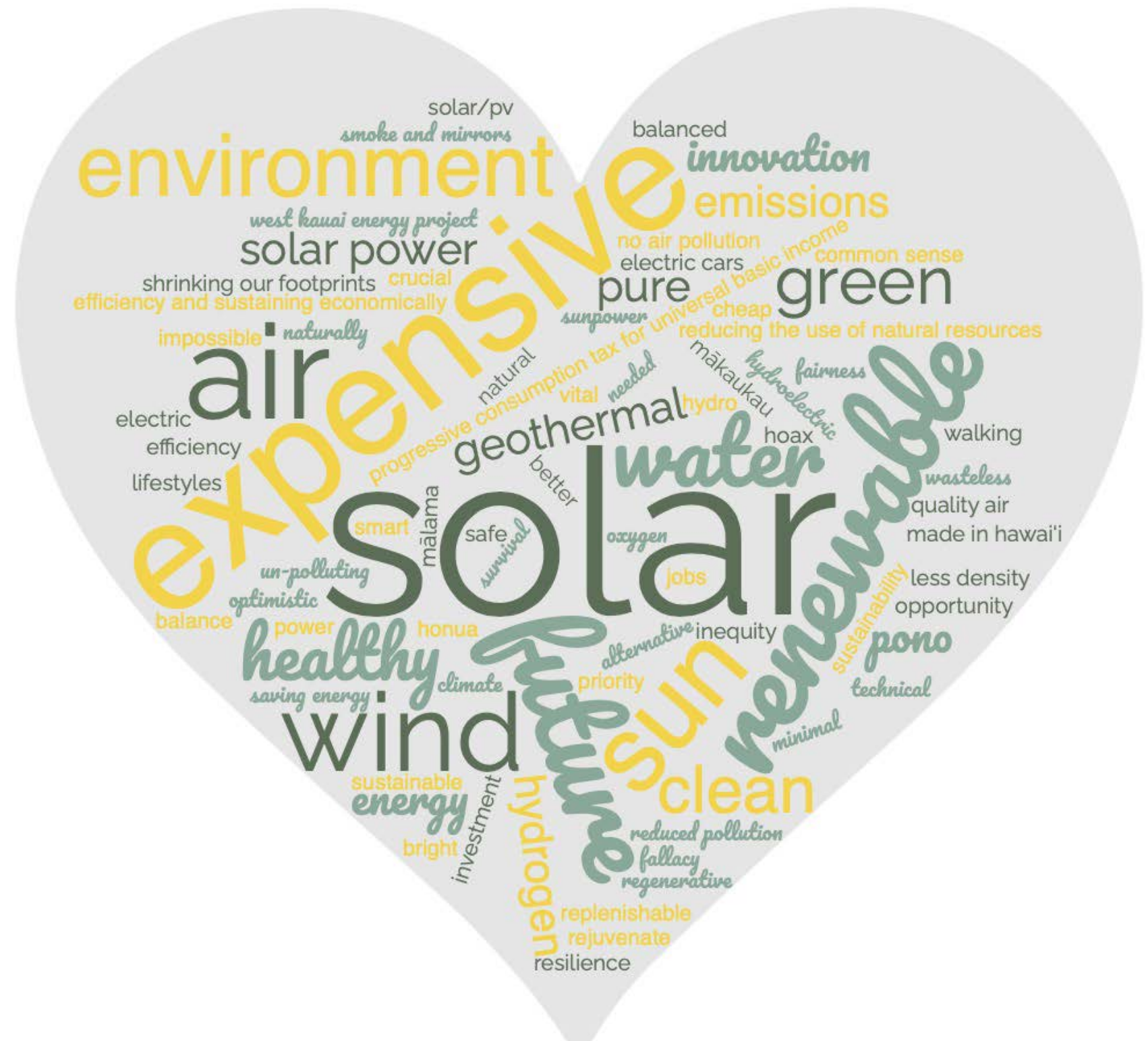


In seventeen (17) days, a total of 187 responses were collected including nine (9) respondents from Kaua'i, 125 from O'ahu, seventeen (17) from Maui, four (4) from Moloka'i, and twenty-eight (28) respondents from Hawai'i.



# Summary of Online Engagement

- While people were less familiar with the State's clean energy goals at 56%, respondents ranked their awareness of energy as 67 out of 100.
- People's opinions of energy were mostly positive as they shared these words to capture one word they think of when they hear "clean energy."



# How Community Likes to Engage

- Respondents said they currently get their information from newspaper, internet, television, and radio. These outlets were consistent across most zipcodes.
- In rural areas such as Wai‘anae, Pāhoa and Kahuku, face-to-face interactions such as word of mouth and community associations were more commonly present and used among respondents.
- In-person engagement efforts fell to 34% as the most preferred method.



**148**  
**79%**

prefer to stay  
engaged by  
email



**49%**

prefer to stay  
engaged via  
social media

# How Energy Projects & Features Rank in Community

- When asked about the top priorities for their community, respondents shared that housing, cost of living, and education were the most critical areas of interest. Energy ranked fourth among a list of 11 choices.
- Rooftop solar, community based renewable energy, and general information and understanding of projects and benefits are the top three ways that people are most interested in participating in this clean energy economy.



# How Energy Projects & Features Rank in Community

- They also ranked the ways in which they want the energy industry to support their community, and these were their preferences in order:

**1**

**Built with design standards that protect the environment**

**2**

**Lowers monthly electric bills**

**3**

**Locally owned and operated**

**4**

**Trains and hires with/in the community to operate**

# How Energy Projects & Features Rank in Community

They also ranked the ways in which they want the energy industry to support their community, and these were their preferences in order:

1

**Community infrastructure**

2

**Community profit sharing**

3

**Contribution to community-directed fund**

4

**Energy efficiency rebates**

5

**Education contributions**

6

**Workforce training and placement**

7

**Educational programming**

8

**One time contribution**

**When asked what's one thing that people want to preserve in their communities:** survey participants commonly valued similar things – land, water, beaches, open and green spaces, natural resources, cultural resources, the environment, and Hawaiian culture.







# HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE



**HawaiiStateEnergyOffice**



**@EnergyHawaiiGov**



**@energyhawaii.gov**



**(808) 587-3807**



**energy.hawaii.gov**

Please contact us about anything. Let us know how we can help!

**ENERGIZE KĀROU**

# ***Mahalo***

## **ENERGIZE KĀKOU**



**HAWAII  
STATE  
ENERGY  
OFFICE**