

Mapping Hawaii's Zoning Laws

Once every 10–25 years, policymakers, city planners, and community stakeholders work together to create a “comprehensive plan” for the city to grow or change.



All land within city limits are placed into different “zones” each with different rules, designations (like residential, industrial, or commercial use) and intensity (apartments vs. single-family homes, large malls vs. small standalone stores, etc.).



Zoning rules are full of jargon, so ordinary citizens don't get to fully participate in shaping their communities. And over time comprehensive plans may become an obstacle to necessary change instead of a guide.



Our team is committed to developing an interactive online map and guide showing what can and can't be built by right in every zoning district in the state. Our goal is to help residents and policymakers identify where and how the rules should change to meet community needs.

Working Together

We are proud to partner with civic, nonprofit, and advocacy organizations who are interested in bringing forth a vision of an affordable Hawaii for its residents. We would love to have you join us.

Together we aim to partner on:

- Defining what information to display in our map, so that it may be most useful to you
- Coordinating a multi-faceted housing coalition that supports housing policy reform
- Advocacy, education, and engagement

Creating Change

HZA is the state affiliate of the [National Zoning Atlas](#) and is supported by [HousingNow!](#), [Code for Hawaii](#), and the [Mercatus Center](#).

Educate the public on land use and zoning issues.

Empower communities with **zoning and land use data**.

Support a legislative strategy that **prioritizes housing affordability**.