

2.2 Goal | Safe, healthy, livable communities for all

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Why is it important?

~~Home is where people feel most comfortable; they have what they need, are surrounded by friends and family, and feel a sense of security.~~ **A home is the foundation of stability and security for an individual or family. A home should be a safe haven - a place to live in peace, offering a**

sense of dignity and an opportunity to feel like you belong to the community you live in.

South Maui's small-town, family-oriented atmosphere, and wahi kūpuna interweave to create a distinct sense of place. Making safe, healthy and livable places leads to stronger communities where people are free to work and play in an enjoyable environment. It might be tutu and keiki playing in the neighborhood park while Mom takes the bus to work or Dad buying fresh vegetables at the corner store on his walk home from work. In these communities, families have more time to spend together and engage in healthy activities because the community they live in is designed to be safe, healthy and livable.

While South Maui's tourism industry has developed through much of the region, amenities made available to locals have remained stagnant **and the cultural connection is not as significant as it should be.**

Resorts, hotels, and private residences occupy portions of the southern shoreline, limiting access to public areas and beaches. A significant portion of the housing supply consists of short-term rentals and vacation homes, leaving a shortage of residential housing options for South Maui residents. This goal focuses on creating a community for residents by making existing neighborhoods more complete and cohesive with jobs, housing, parks, emergency response, and other services nearby, while also holding future development to a higher standard. Communities will be built in areas that limit hazard risk and be designed to maximize resilience.

How will setting this goal affect our future?

With this goal, South Maui is committed to creating and supporting places that are resilient to hazards, meet the daily needs of residents, provide opportunities to live a healthy lifestyle with easy access to fresh food and fresh air, include a variety of affordable housing options near jobs, and provide safe routes to and from home.

Not needing to be inserted on this page, but this is my reason for the "Cultural connection" inclusion: "By being culturally aware, we all can recognize and appreciate the beliefs, customs, and values of where we live such as South Maui. This allows all of us to live with one another without prejudice or judgement. This leads to more cultural connections and fewer interpersonal conflicts arising from cultural differences. Hawaiian culture must play a significant role in development outcomes. Therefore, we must recognize our challenges that we have been faced with in South Maui in this specific area due to the influx of tourism and high transient numbers now residing in South Maui and how can we ensure a more inclusive cultural presence, rather than it being a remnant of the past.