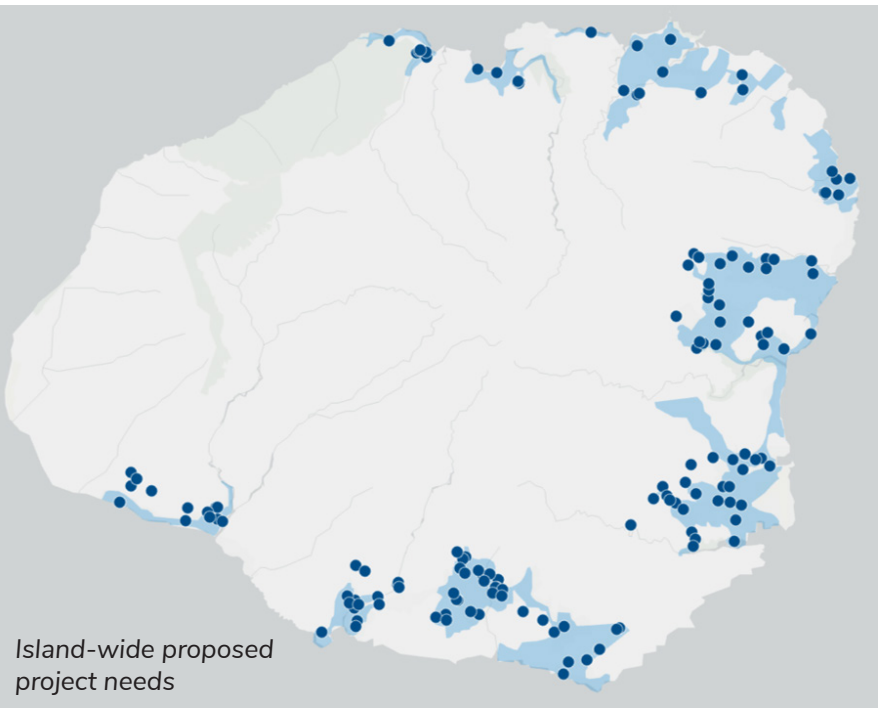




Planning Our Water Future



The mission of Kaua'i Department of Water (KDOW) is to provide safe, affordable, sufficient drinking water through wise management of resources and excellent customer service for the people of Kaua'i.

KDOW currently operates and maintains 425 miles of waterlines, 50 wells, 60 tanks, and over 3,000 hydrants across the island.

The Water System Investment Plan (WSIP)

The WSIP is a long-range strategic plan that prioritizes capital investments in our systems that will benefit the communities we serve. WSIP identified 150 project needs across the island.

Need For Improvement

Many parts of the island's water system date back more than 100 years, highlighting the need for strategic investments to ensure safe, reliable water for the future.

Ensure clean, safe, high-quality water and regulatory compliance	Upgrade old aging infrastructure	Develop resilient system to withstand disasters and climate change	Support our growing and thriving community

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How were projects identified?

The projects identified are based on an analysis of our existing water systems, considering age, condition of assets, amount of available water and pressure for firefighting purposes, redundancy and resiliency. The projects identified provide the most benefit to our communities.

2. How are projects paid for?

Capital projects are funded by customer water rates and development (FRC) charges. To reduce the impact on our communities, we compete for grants from the State and Federal Government. We also issue bonds and apply for low interest 20-year loans from the Department of Health, Safe Drinking Water Branch.

3. Will my rates go up because of these investments?

The rates are currently being evaluated as part of our new Water Systems Investment Plan. This evaluation of potential rate increases and at what level will determine how many of our necessary projects can be achieved and at what speed. It has been over 10 years since our last rate increase and by the time we can realize new funding from any rate increase, it will be nearly 12 years. It is highly likely there will be an increase in our rates as the cost of construction, labor, and electricity have continually increased and are anticipated to continue to do so. We will hold public meetings in early 2026 to discuss possible rate changes. Any changes to our existing rates will need to be communicated to the public and approved by the Board of Water Supply.



Hanalei Waterline project construction

4. How will project upgrades impact the community?

During a project's construction, there will be impacts to neighborhoods, which include traffic, noise, and dust. We will work to minimize these. After projects are completed, there will be minimal ongoing impacts and the community will have a more resilient system providing safe drinking water.

5. What are the next steps?

Next steps include additional analysis to identify cost-effective financing solutions to fund capital projects. Results of the Rate Study will be available in Spring 2026 at which time we will conduct additional customer outreach, including public hearing and small business association meetings.

6. Where can I go for more information?

For more information on the WSIP visit kauaiwater.org/wsip.com, email publicrelations@kauaiwater.org or call (808) 245-5455.



KDOW electrical plant staff work on improvements to a pump station