

Hawai'i Next 50

Over the course of the past 50 years, Hawai'i has changed a lot from statehood, however, we are destined to change even more in the next 50 years as well. Our generation is responsible for taking care of and making sure that this island state can continue to grow and achieve new heights. We are also responsible for retaining and preserving the beauty and the nature that surrounds us. There are a number of ways to do this, and I have my own idea of how we can achieve multiple goals all at once.

My idea is a multiscale, vertical apartment complex with an indoor garden running through each floor, and a water filter at the top and bottoms. Having the buildings go up instead of out will preserve land, and could even create a scene similar to Oahu's beautiful Honolulu. The idea is a small garden in every residents apartment, near the kitchen of each room, that takes water from the very top floor of the building, and runs it through each of the rooms in a sprinkler system. The sprinklers and the electronics involved could be powered by solar panels on the top of the building, or even possibly by futuristic solar netting. Hypothetical future technology, but this micro solar netting could be used as the windows near the garden, in order for the plants to get sunlight, and for the solar energy to be converted into electricity all at once. The electricity could then power the entire building while growing your own food, a win-win self sustaining development.

This building would achieve many goals at once. One of the goals would be promoting gardening, which in turn would help towards food sustainability in this apartment. Another goal would be affordable housing, which could be achieved by subsidy. Although an expensive investment at first, with government subsidization and the sustainability of the apartment

complex through food and electricity, the residents won't have to pay a large rent to stay. In addition to having self sustainability, this would save taxpayers money as well, providing the needy with these kinds of possibilities. It is also possible that the complex will promote an active community, and social interactions in the form of food trade. This is important because according to "Hawai'i The Past Fifty Years The Next Fifty Years" in the year 2035 we will have a projected population of 1.6 million people. This clearly shows that our population is growing and we need to accommodate for it.

Overall, this entire concept is simply theory crafting, but I believe that if executed correctly, this could be a very advanced and forward thinking project. This project allows us to prevent obstruction of the natural world around our beautiful islands, as the buildings would be vertical, and therefore would not use large amounts of land to construct. This may be a long ways away, but I think in 50 years we can surely achieve it.