Island-Strong Finances

How Kauai County Built Resilience from the Inside Out

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Hosted in partnership with NACo EDGE

What We Will Cover Today

01 **Meet Nancee and Kauai County**

The Presenter and the Garden Island: who they are, their budget, and their priorities

02 **The Challenge**

Managing public funds in a high-cost, island community

03 **The Partnership**

How three+one and Kauai County began working together

04 **The Results**

Over $20 million returned to the community

05 **What It Means**

Financial resilience as a community investment strategy

06 **Q&A + Next Steps**

How cashVest can work for your county

Meet Our Guest

Nancee Robles, Treasurer

CURRENT ROLE

Treasurer, County of Kauai

PUBLIC SERVICE

14 years with the State of California

PRIVATE SECTOR

30+ years in banking

CREDENTIALS

Certified Economic Developer

EDUCATION

Executive MBA, CSU Monterey Bay

Nancee oversees the County's cash and investments and leads collection of the Transient Accommodations Tax.

County of Kauai
Department of Finance

Career Highlights

- Executive Director, CA Treasurer's Office
- Led the nation's largest tax credit allocator
- Helped IBank become the top Green Bond issuer
- Directed infrastructure lending statewide

Meet Kauai County

The Garden Island

POPULATION

~75,000 residents

ECONOMY

Tourism-driven (formerly sugarcane)

CHARACTER

Entirely rural, oldest Hawaiian island

HOUSING MEDIAN

$1.3 million

“Kauai is not only the Garden Island, but the eldest. A beautiful place people come to relax and rejuvenate.”

Kipukai Kuali´i
Kauai County Council Member

County Priorities

- Public safety: police and fire services
- Core infrastructure: solid waste, wastewater
- Affordable housing initiatives
- Resilience and community recovery

The Challenge

Managing public funds in an island community is not straightforward.

Every Dollar Has to Work Harder

With housing costs at a median of $1.3M and core services consuming 80%+ of the budget, there is limited room for waste. Returns on public funds directly finance programs.

Geographic Isolation Creates Risk

Island communities cannot depend on neighboring counties for shared services. Financial reserves and liquidity are essential buffers.

Resilience Is Not Optional

Post-disaster recovery, infrastructure demands, and affordable housing pressures mean counties need to maximize every available dollar.

Every Resource Deserves to Work

Island communities have always understood something that others are still learning. Nothing goes to waste. That same instinct applies to public funds. Every dollar underutilized is a dollar not working for Kauai's residents.

The Partnership

How three+one and Kauai County began working together

1

Assessment

three+one conducted a full review of Kauai County's cash, banking, investment holdings, and liquidity needs across all funds.

2

Strategy

cashVest provided a tailored set of recommendations to optimize how idle funds were positioned, improving both yield and access.

3

Ongoing Partnership

three+one serves as an extension of Kauai County's finance team, providing continuous analysis and adapting the strategy as conditions change.

cashVest is not a product you install and forget. It is a relationship.

The Results

$48,000,000+

*Generated for Kauai County through the cashVest partnership over **3 years***

More housing programs

Additional returns fund affordable housing initiatives that the county would otherwise lack resources for.

Stronger reserves

Better liquidity positioning means Kauai County is better prepared for unexpected events and recovery costs.

More for core services

Every dollar earned through cashVest is a dollar available for public safety, infrastructure, and community needs.

Financial Resilience as Community Investment

Resilience is not just environmental or infrastructural. It starts with the budget.

> *"The more money we have, the more we can do. Through our finance department and the mayor's administration working with three+one, being able to save monies and get better returns — to the tune of millions of dollars — that means we have more money for housing programs and other critical programs."*

Kipukai Kuali'i | Kauai County Council Member

- Returns finance programs, not just reserves
- Liquidity visibility reduces financial risk
- Proactive cash management = community impact
- three+one works as an extension of your team

What Your County Can Do

Steps any county can take to start building financial resilience today

STEP 1

Know What You Have

Get full visibility into all your cash positions across every fund. You cannot optimize what you cannot see.

STEP 2

Understand Your Liquidity Needs

Not all cash is equal. Understanding when you need funds, and for how long they can be invested, is the foundation of any strategy.

STEP 3

Put Idle Funds to Work

Work with a partner like three+one to identify where returns can be improved within your existing investment policy parameters.

STEP 4

Make It a Habit

Financial resilience is not a one-time project. It is an ongoing practice of monitoring, adjusting, and optimizing as conditions change.

Thank You

Mahalo from Kauai County • Aloha from three+one • In partnership with NACo

Ready to see what cashVest can do for your county?

Visit **threeplusone.us**

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