

# Resolution 21-271 Testimony

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 13, 2022 8:09 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Michael P. Matsumoto  
Phone  
Email mmatsumoto@ssfm.com  
Meeting Date 01-26-2022  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-271  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Organization  
Organization SSFM International, Inc.

I am a resident of Nuuanu and am the President/CEo of SSFM International, a project management, planning, and engineering company established in 1959 in the State of Hawaii.

I have known Melissa May for approximately 9 years through her employment as a professional planner in our company.

Melissa has been active in the Honolulu community for more than 20 years, including 15 years as a professional planner as well as extensive involvement in fashion, art, and renewable energy. Several projects and initiatives that Melissa has led have garnered both local and national awards and recognition.

### Written Testimony

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i. I believe that Melissa will bring progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her experience and dedication to sustainability and resiliency for the State of Hawaii.

She has always demonstrated a highly professional attitude and conduct in all of her business and community activities.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

### Testimony Attachment

ROBERTA OAKS  
[info@robertaoaks.com](mailto:info@robertaoaks.com)

MEETING DATE: **01-26-2022**  
COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: **Council/Public Hearing**  
AGENDA ITEM: **RESOLUTION 21-271**  
YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: **Support**  
REPRESENTING: **Roberta Oaks Hawaii**

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of St. Louis Heights on the island of Oahu and own an aloha shirt brand retail store in Chinatown.

I have known Melissa May for 17 years through the creative community and professional communities, as well as a friend.

Melissa has been active in the Honolulu community for more than 20 years, including fifteen years as a professional planner as well as extensive involvement in fashion, art, and renewable energy. Several projects and initiatives that Melissa has led have garnered awards and recognition.

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i. I believe that Melissa will bring progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her experience and dedication to sustainability.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Roberta Oaks

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the letter 'R' followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line that curves slightly upwards at the end.

President, Roberta Oaks Hawaii  
1152 Nuuanu Avenue  
Honolulu, HI 96817

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Friday, January 14, 2022 8:09 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Ranelle Ho
Phone	
Email	rho@ssfm.com
Meeting Date	01-26-2022
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Melissa May
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	Support of Melissa May for this position.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

NAME: Jesse Talbo  
E-MAIL: jtalbo@ssfm.com  
MEETING DATE: **01-26-2022**  
COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: **Council/Public Hearing**  
AGENDA ITEM: **RESOLUTION 21-271**  
YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: **Support**  
REPRESENTING: **SSFM International, Inc.**

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of Honolulu on the island of Oahu, and I am the IT manager for SSFM International, Inc.

I have known Melissa May for 8 years as a senior manager and colleague with SSFM International, Inc. Melissa has been active leader/planner in a diverse range of Community and Resilience planning, including the complete streets, and many public outreach for the government and private sectors.

Some of the projects include are:

- Honolulu Complete Streets in implementing pedestrian safety and bicycle network improvements in urban Honolulu with the City and County of Honolulu Complete Streets Program.
- Waimanalo Community Values and Priorities Project leading a community-driven planning effort with community leaders to define vision, values, and priorities for the future of the Waimanalo community with the State Department of Accounting and General Services. The project also was recognized with the American Planning Association Hawaii Chapter award.
- Kauai County General Planning and visions for the future of Kauai island with the County of Kauai Planning Department which was honored with both a national and Hawaii chapter APA awards.
- Department of Hawaiian Homelands General Plan establishing goals and policies to develop a land use plan to provide residential and subsistence agriculture homesteading opportunities to community beneficiaries.
- East Honolulu Watershed Management Plan to preserve and sustainably meet East Honolulu's water supply for current needs and future generations with the City and County of Honolulu Board of Water Supply.

Melissa provides forward-thinking ideas and wide-ranging advice to the Commission based on her invaluable experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, and renewable energy. Melissa will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her commitment to the local communities and the Hawai'i people.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,  
Jesse Talbo  
IT manager

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Friday, January 14, 2022 12:17 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Vera Tong  
Phone  
Email vtong@ssfm.com  
Meeting Date 01-26-2022  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-271  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Organization  
Organization SSFM International, Inc.  
Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of Honolulu on the island of Oahu, and I am the IT Specialist for SSFM International, Inc.

I have known Melissa May for 8 years as a senior manager and colleague with SSFM International, Inc. Melissa has been active leader/planner in a diverse range of Community and Resilience planning projects.

### Written Testimony

Some of the projects include are:

- Honolulu Complete Streets in implementing pedestrian safety and bicycle network improvements in urban Honolulu with the City and County of Honolulu Complete Streets Program.

- Waimanalo Community Values and Priorities Project leading a community-driven planning effort with community leaders to define vision, values, and priorities for the future of the Waimanalo community with the State Department of Accounting and General Services. The project also was recognized with the American Planning Association Hawaii Chapter award.

- Kauai County General Planning and visions for the future of Kauai island with the County of Kauai Planning Department which was

honored with both a national and Hawaii chapter APA awards.

- Department of Hawaiian Homelands General Plan establishing goals and policies to develop a land use plan to provide residential and subsistence agriculture homesteading opportunities to community beneficiaries.

- East Honolulu Watershed Management Plan to preserve and sustainably meet East Honolulu's water supply for current needs and future generations with the City and County of Honolulu Board of Water Supply.

Melissa provides forward-thinking ideas and wide-ranging advice to the Commission based on her invaluable experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, and renewable energy. Melissa will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her commitment to the local communities and the Hawai'i people.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely, Vera

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



NAME: Jared Chang  
E-MAIL: jchang@ssfm.com  
MEETING DATE: 01-26-2022  
COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: Council/Public Hearing  
AGENDA ITEM: RESOLUTION 21-271  
YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: Support  
REPRESENTING: Self

WRITTEN TESTIMONY EXAMPLE:

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission. I am a planner alongside Melissa at SSFM International, Inc., a local engineering and planning firm based in Hawaii. We have worked together as colleagues since 2013 on many public and private initiatives that have benefited communities across the State and City and County of Honolulu. One of her core values that drives her as a professional planner is her commitment to public engagement and empowering communities to make informed decisions on land use and policy issues.

Based on my personal and professional experiences with Melissa, I can attest that she is a proficient professional in community planning, land use and master planning, environmental issues, climate change resiliency, renewable energy, and other areas that will serve the Honolulu Planning Commission. In addition, I believe that Melissa will contribute comprehensive and progressive ideas to the Commission because of her policy planning experience and work throughout the State of Hawaii.

I am a resident of Ewa Beach, Oahu.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jared Chang". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being clearly legible.

Jared Chang  
91-1161 Kaihuopalai Street  
Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706

**NAME: HUGH Y ONO, P.E.**  
**E-MAIL: hono@hawaii.rr.com**  
**MEETING DATE: 01-26-2022**  
**COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: Council/Public**  
**Hearing**  
**AGENDA ITEM: RESOLUTION 21-271**  
**YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: Support**  
**REPRESENTING: [Choose self or**  
**organization]**

**Dear Chair Waters and members of the City Council:**

**I am providing this testimony in total support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.**

**I am a resident of the County of Hawaii but was born and raise within the City & County of Honolulu.**

**It is without any reservation at all that I support Ms. Melissa May to the appointment on the Honolulu Planning Commission. She absolutely has the background and experience to review, study and make these decisions that will have to be made.**

**Melissa has been active in the Honolulu community for more than 20 years, including fifteen years as a professional planner as well as extensive involvement in fashion, art, and renewable energy.**

**Melissa is at the front and currently undertaking planning and engineering considering the World's Climate Forecasts predicted. Several projects and initiatives that Melissa has led have garnered awards and recognition.**

**Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will**

**be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i. I believe that Melissa will bring progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her experience and dedication to sustainability.**

**My pertinent past includes serving as the Administrator and Head of the Hawaii State Highways Division, DOT on Oahu. During that tenure, I had much interface and dealings with the appointed heads at the City. My experience also includes being the Director of the Department of Public Works, County of Hawaii.... Again, as such lots of interface with your cabinet members.**

**Mahalo for your consideration of my comments and I ask that you appoint her to this Commission without any reservations at all...**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hugh Y Ono', with a stylized, flowing script.

**Hugh Y Ono, P.E.  
455 Ekela Street, Hilo, HI 96720**

NAME: Andrew H. Choy  
E-MAIL: andrew\_h\_choy@yahoo.com  
MEETING DATE: **01-26-2022**  
COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: **Council/Public Hearing**  
AGENDA ITEM: **RESOLUTION 21-271**  
YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: **Support**  
REPRESENTING: **Self**

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of Kaneohe and have worked as an urban planner for over a decade.

I have known Melissa May for several years through her work at SSFM as a senior planner providing services to DHHL. She has provided excellent service to DHHL and its native Hawaiian beneficiaries on various development plans and strategic policy plans.

Melissa has been active in the Honolulu community for more than 20 years, including fifteen years as a professional planner as well as extensive involvement in fashion, art, and renewable energy. Several projects and initiatives that Melissa has led have garnered awards and recognition.

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i. I believe that Melissa will bring progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her experience and dedication to sustainability.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,  
Andrew H. Choy  
46-082 Puulena Street  
Kaneohe HI, 96744

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, January 17, 2022 8:58 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Andy Reilly  
Phone  
Email drandyreilly@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 01-26-2022  
Council/PH  
Committee Council  
Agenda Item 21-271  
Your position  
on the matter Support  
Representing  
Organization Self

NAME: Andy Reilly  
E-MAIL: drandyreilly@gmail.com  
MEETING DATE: 01-26-2022  
COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: Council/Public Hearing  
AGENDA ITEM: RESOLUTION 21-271  
YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: Support  
REPRESENTING: self

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

Written  
Testimony

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of Makiki, Honolulu and am concerned about the future of our city.

I have known Melissa May for approximately 10 years through her work with the Hawai'i Fashion Incubator. She is a dedicated individual who is concerned about the people and environment of our wonder Islands. She is organized and visionary and can develop plans to address problems. She has the ability to collaborate with different organizations and different people in an ethical and compassionate manner. In her work with the Fashion Incubator she was very concerned with finding way to increase sustainable fashion businesses.

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i. I believe that Melissa will bring progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her experience and dedication to sustainability.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Andy Reilly  
1634 Makiki Street #702  
Honolulu, HI 96822

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

January 17, 2022

Honolulu City Council  
530 S. King Street  
Honolulu Hale, Room 202  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Attention: Council Chair Tommy Waters

Subject: Support of Resolution 21-271

Dear Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

As a resident of Honolulu who currently works for SSFM International, Inc. and serves on the City and County of Honolulu's Real Property Tax Board of Review I and State of Hawai'i Council on Revenues, I support the appointment of Melissa May to the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I have known and worked with Melissa for almost two years at SSFM and have seen her commitment to the sustainability and resilience efforts for the City and County of Honolulu. From the North Shore Sustainable Communities Plan to the Honolulu Complete Streets Initiative, Melissa has been active in the Honolulu community for more than 20 years, including fifteen years as a professional planner, and has been extensively involved in the community's fashion, art, and renewable energy efforts. Her contributions were instrumental to SSFM's successful partnership with City agencies to develop the urban garden foodscaping pilot project that currently provides nearly 1,100 vulnerable kama'aina with sustainable, fresh produce. In addition, several other projects and initiatives that Melissa has led have garnered awards and recognition across the State of Hawai'i.

Melissa's background and diverse experience with community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission. Her creative thinking, progressive ideas, collaborative spirit and commitment to the communities of Hawai'i will also provide a tremendous benefit to the Planning Commission.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott W. Hayashi". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "S".

Scott W. Hayashi, J.D.  
Vice President Technical Operations  
SSFM International, Inc.

[shayashi@ssfm.com](mailto:shayashi@ssfm.com)



# TOWNSCAPE, INC.

Environmental & Community Planning

900 Fort Street Mall Suite 1160 · Honolulu, HI 96813 · PH: (808) 536-6999 · FAX: (808) 524-4998 · [www.townscapeinc.com](http://www.townscapeinc.com)

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January 17, 2022

Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the City Council:

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Ms. Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am the President and Principal Planner of the Environmental & Community Planning company TOWNSCAPE, INC. Our company has been providing planning services to Hawai'i clients since 1991. Please see the attached brochure for some information on our projects and clientele. I am also a resident of Hawaii Kai.

I have known Melissa May for about four years. I met Melissa May through her work on the EAST HONOLULU WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN for the Honolulu Board of Water Supply. I attended a number of community meetings on this Plan that Melissa May organized and chaired, and I was impressed with her ability to present complex water resources information in a clear and well-structured manner.

I believe that Melissa May will bring a strong environmental and community planning perspective to the deliberations of the Honolulu Planning Commission.

Sincerely,

Bruce Tsuchida  
Principal Planner

[bruce@townscapeinc.com](mailto:bruce@townscapeinc.com)



NAME: Corey Matsuoka  
E-MAIL: [cmatsuoka@ssfm.com](mailto:cmatsuoka@ssfm.com)  
MEETING DATE: 01-26-2022  
COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: Council/Public Hearing  
AGENDA ITEM: RESOLUTION 21-271  
YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: Support  
REPRESENTING: self

WRITTEN TESTIMONY EXAMPLE:

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of Nuuanu and I have known Melissa May for a number of year through working with her at SSFM International, Inc.

Melissa has been active in the Honolulu community for more than 20 years, including fifteen years as a professional planner as well as extensive involvement in fashion, art, and renewable energy. Several projects and initiatives that Melissa has led have garnered awards and recognition.

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i. I believe that Melissa will bring progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her experience and dedication to sustainability.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Corey Matsuoka". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Corey Matsuoka  
2737 Dow Street  
Honolulu, HI 96817

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, January 17, 2022 6:01 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Allana Coffee, PHD  
Phone  
Email drallanacoffee@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 01-26-2022  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item 21-271  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written  
Testimony

I am a friend and colleague of Ms May. I know her to be passionate about sustainability and resilience. She has been a longtime advocate for Hawai'i's creative community. If appointed, she will provide recommendations that bring together my experience in Hawai'i with best practices and progressive ideas for sustainable, resilient, vibrant, equitable communities. Further, Melissa is extremely ethical and will abide by the Code of Ethics set forward by the American Institute of Certified Planners. She is collaborative and will work closely with the Honolulu Ethics Commission to ensure her integrity. I support Melissa May's application.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, January 17, 2022 8:24 PM  
**Subject:** Zoning and Planning Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Will Schoettle  
Phone  
Email wschoettle@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 02-06-2022  
Council/PH  
Committee Zoning and Planning  
Agenda Item Planning Commission Appointee *Res 21-271*  
Your position on  
the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

### Written Testimony

I wholeheartedly support Melissa May's appointment. I have known Melissa for over ten years and interacted with her professionally many times. She is brilliant, hard working, and honest. Most recently, I have seen Ms. White in her capacity as leading community input for the North Shore of Oahu. The North Shore is a cantankerous bunch. She selected an excellent cross section of the community and manages the process well. I know several people in that group agree. Ms. White would be a welcome addition and I hope you will give her every consideration.

### Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 18, 2022 3:50 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Stephanie Chen
Phone	
Email	steph.m.chen@gmail.com
Meeting Date	01-26-2022
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-271
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 9:51 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Toby Portner  
Phone  
Email tobyportner@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 01-26-2022  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-271  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council:  
I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of Palolo Valley, Oahu and currently oversee the Education of Homeless Children & Youth (EHCY) program for Hawaii Department of Education (HIDOE). This testimony is provided as a private citizen, and not as a representative of the HIDOE.

Written Testimony I have known Melissa May for nearly 20 years, having been introduced because of a shared interest in building community around the local creative/fashion industry. We ultimately co-founded the Hawaii Fashion Incubator and worked together in that capacity for 11 years.

Melissa is a solutions-driven thinker, and approaches common problems with a practical and innovative mindset. Her ability to organize people and ideas presents opportunities for collaborative and sustainable work that moves projects forward.

Melissa's ability to look at a project comprehensively, coupled with a calm demeanor, enables her to incorporate a variety of perspectives into actionable steps. Her unique skill set will be an asset to the Planning Commission as we face current and upcoming challenges across the county and state.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak up on behalf of Melissa May. I

recommend her with confidence.

Toby Portner  
1465 Mokuna Place  
Honolulu, HI 96816

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 20, 2022 6:51 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Keith Mattson  
Phone  
Email kmattsonllc@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 01-26-2022  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-271  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council:

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of Oahu and a planning consultant with my own firm.

I have known Melissa May professionally for seven years. We've worked together on several projects for County governments in Hawai'i (including Oahu), and I've also had the pleasure of working with her through a nonprofit professional organization of planners and facilitators.

Written  
Testimony

I can say without any reservations that Melissa is an exceptionally talented and dedicated professional urban planner. As a senior professional, I have worked with hundreds of different colleagues over the course of my 35-year career and Melissa stands out as one of the very best. She has truly unique qualities of insight and compassion for different communities, while still being extremely pragmatic and decisive. She is a terrific listener, thinker, and doer.

In many respects, she is on the forefront of current planning issues and how to address them in Hawai'i. Her work on climate change and sustainability issues is incredibly important to Hawai'i's future.

In addition to her substantial planning experience, she has also been a business and social entrepreneur. People who spend their entire

careers as government or professional planners sometimes lack sufficient understanding of how rules and regulations impact business people and others in the community who are trying to create or sustain an enterprise. I believe Melissa's experiences in the solar power installation industry and nonprofit fashion incubator add important dimensions to her appreciation of how rules and regulations impact people.

I'm also very impressed with Melissa's consistent way of respectfully interacting with different people and groups. She has a genuine appreciation for different communities' history and culture, and how they are manifested in planning issues.

In closing, I think Melissa May would be an excellent appointment to the Planning Commission.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Keith Mattson  
President, Keith Mattson LLC  
900 Hahaione Street  
Honolulu, HI 96825

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67





**MEETING DATE: 01-26-2022**

**COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: Council/Public Hearing**

**AGENDA ITEM: RESOLUTION 21-271**

**YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: Support**

**REPRESENTING: Roth Ecological Design Int. LLC**

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony on behalf of Roth Ecological Design Int. in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

Roth Ecological Design Int. has been provided sustainable water management planning and green infrastructure design to both the public and private since 2006. Over the years we have had the privilege to work with Melissa May on various resiliency planning efforts including the development of Climate Adaptation Guidelines she helped lead with the City and County of Honolulu Department of Permitting and Planning Transit Oriented Development. She is dedicated and passionate about helping to build sustainable communities that are centered in culture, environment and community would be a great asset to the Planning Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Lauren' followed by a stylized flourish.

Lauren Roth Venu  
President  
1164 Bishop St. Ste 614  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
[lauren@rothecological.com](mailto:lauren@rothecological.com)

NAME: Alison Beste  
E-MAIL: alisonbeste@gmail.com  
MEETING DATE: 01-26-2022  
COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: Council/Public Hearing  
AGENDA ITEM: RESOLUTION 21-271  
YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: Support  
REPRESENTING: Self

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of Honolulu, Hawaii and high school visual arts teacher at Mid Pacific Institute.

I have known Melissa May for over eight years through friendship and have had many opportunities to observe this engaged, dedicated, and trail-blazing member of our community.

Melissa has been active in the Honolulu community for more than 20 years, including fifteen years as a professional planner as well as extensive involvement in fashion, art, and renewable energy. She has helped facilitate numerous events at ARTS at Marks Garage, launched Hawai'i Fashion Incubator, and has been an active member of the local arts scene throughout all of the years I have known her. Several projects and initiatives that Melissa has led have garnered awards and recognition.

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i. I believe that Melissa will bring progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her experience and dedication to sustainability. She is an excellent candidate and dedicated community member. It is my sincere pleasure to recommend her to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alison Beste". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alison Beste  
740A 19<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Honolulu, HI 96816

NAME: **Chip Fletcher**  
E-MAIL: **fletcher@soest.hawaii.edu**  
MEETING DATE: **01-26-2022**  
COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: **Council/Public Hearing**  
AGENDA ITEM: **RESOLUTION 21-271**  
YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: **Support**  
REPRESENTING: **Self**

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of **Kailua** and **serve as the Chair of the Honolulu Climate Change Commission.**

I have known Melissa May for **10 years** through **professional planning projects we have collaborated on.**

Melissa has been active in the Honolulu community for more than 20 years, including fifteen years as a professional planner as well as extensive involvement in fashion, art, and renewable energy. Several projects and initiatives that Melissa has led have garnered awards and recognition.

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i. I believe that Melissa will bring progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her experience and dedication to sustainability.

**I especially support this appointment as Melissa will bring expertise to the planning commission in the area of climate change and related hazards and adaptation efforts.**

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

**Chip Fletcher**  
University of Hawai'i at Manoa  
Interim Dean, School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology

NAME: **Laura Ayers**  
E-MAIL: **laura.ayers8@gmail.com**  
MEETING DATE: **01-26-2022**  
COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: **Council/Public Hearing**  
AGENDA ITEM: **RESOLUTION 21-271**  
YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: **Support**  
REPRESENTING: **Self**

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of Oahu. I am an architect and have been working in the community for 20+ years. In 2016, I became part owner of my design firm as well.

I have known Melissa May for 15+ years. We met through mutual friends and have been connected socially ever since with our close group of friends. Since we work in the same industry, we have a lot in common and often discuss local projects – large scale and small.

Melissa has been active in the Honolulu community for more than 20 years, including fifteen years as a professional planner as well as extensive involvement in fashion, art, and renewable energy. I have attended/been a part of events that she conceived/planned as leader of the Hawaii Fashion Incubator and have consulted with Melissa on several renewable energy projects. She is a dynamic leader and a pleasure to work with!

Several projects and initiatives that Melissa has led have garnered awards and recognition.

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i. I believe that Melissa will bring progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her experience and dedication to sustainability.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

**Laura Ayers**  
**533 Halela Street**  
**Kailua, HI 96734**

Lori McCarney  
[lorimccarney@gmail.com](mailto:lorimccarney@gmail.com)  
January 26, 2022 Council/Public Hearing  
Representing Self

**Resolution 21-271**  
**SUPPORT**

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

Please accept my testimony in support of the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission, Resolution 21-271.

I live downtown and am a member of NB#13 and the Executive Director of the Hawaii Bicycling League.

I have known Melissa May for eight years, beginning in my role as CEO of the non-profit Bikeshare Hawaii. Melissa was a knowledgeable resource and advocate as we embarked in 2014 to create and launch the Biki bikeshare program. She continues to be a proactive and solid source of insight and information to those who strive to improve our community.

Melissa is recognized for her work in community planning, sustainability, and land use planning. She also is known for her work on behalf of the arts and fashion. She is truly an asset to our community in many ways.

Thank you very much for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Lori McCarney  
66 Queen Street PH 4102  
Honolulu, HI 96813

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 7:21 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** April J Surprenant  
**Phone**  
**Email** april@manalane.com  
**Meeting Date** 01-26-2022  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-271  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

Aloha Chair Waters and City Council Members,

**Written Testimony**

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission. I am a resident of Hilo on Hawaii Island, I work for the Hawaii County Planning Department, and I am a Lecturer with University of Hawaii in Hilo (UHH) with the Geography Department teaching land use planning and community planning courses.

I have known Ms. May for nearly 10 years through both professional and personal connections. Professionally, she has been the project manager or team member for contracts with the County such as the Downtown Hilo Multimodal Master Plan, the Transit and Multi-Modal Transportation Master Plan, and County Vision Zero Action Plan. Ms. May presents creative ideas for engaging the community and public agencies, she gets involved with local civic groups and volunteer workdays, and she incorporates what she learns into the plans that she works on. As a result of her and her team's dedication, all three of the above plans have won American Planning Association awards on behalf of the County and SSFM.

I have also worked with Ms. May through the American Planning Association, and she has been a guest lecturer several times for the planning courses I teach at UHH. Each time, she brings a fresh perspective to planning as a career and passionately shares examples of the projects she has led. She has a friendly and professional countenance and communicates well in many different situations and to a variety of audiences.

It is with great pleasure that I support and recommend Ms. May for the City Planning Commission. Her diverse professional experience, commitment to the community, and her collaborative and creative nature will serve the Commission and the public well.

---

Mahalo for your consideration and the opportunity to provide comments.

Sincerely,  
April J. Surprenant

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

NAME: Perry J. White  
E-MAIL: perry@psi-hi.com  
MEETING DATE: 01-26-2022  
COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: Council/Public Hearing  
AGENDA ITEM: RESOLUTION 21-271  
YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: Support  
REPRESENTING: Self

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I have lived in urban Honolulu for the past 70 years and have had the good fortune to have resided in many of its neighborhoods. These include Waikiki in the 1950s, Waialae Kahala and Diamond Head in the 1960s, St. Louis Heights from 1968 to 1985, the top of Tantalus from 1985 until 2003, and then Waikiki, Pacific Heights, and now Punchbowl. I have served on community associations in most of the neighborhoods that I have lived in. After several years as a teacher, I earned a graduate degree in Regional Planning in 1972 and have worked here as an environmental planner since that time.

I have known Melissa May for almost 20 years, first as an employer, when she worked for Planning Solutions, Inc., the firm that I founded and still work at, and after that as a friend. The length of time that I have known her and the varying vantage points that I have had provide what I believe are a good understanding of the strengths that she could bring to the Planning Commission.

A lot of people, I suspect, will speak to you about Melissa's specific skills as a planner, her passion for and involvement in fashion and art. I could go on about those as well, but I suspect that it would not add a lot to what you are hearing from many others. So, instead, I want to say just a bit about her people-skills. In that I am referring to her ability to make people feel comfortable in voicing their concerns, listening carefully to what they have to say, and then in exploring not-so-evident solutions to the problems that they face. I believe those qualities, combined with her deep knowledge of the regulatory environment and her drive to promote a sustainable Hawai'i that benefits all of its citizens, make her an ideal candidate for the Planning Commission, and I hope that you will provide her the opportunity to serve.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,



Perry J. White  
Planning Solutions, Inc.  
711 Kapiolani Boulevard, Suite 950  
Honolulu, HI 96813



NAME: Rebecca S. Ward  
E-MAIL: bward@wardresearch.com  
MEETING DATE: 01-26-2022  
COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: Council/Public Hearing  
AGENDA ITEM: RESOLUTION 21-271  
YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: Support  
REPRESENTING: Ward Research, Inc.

January 26, 2021

RE: RESOLUTION 21-271 — Relating to the appointment of Ms. Melissa May to serve on the Planning Commission of the city and county of Honolulu.

Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of Honolulu and President of Ward Research, a local market research company.

I support the appointment of Ms. Melissa May to serve on the Planning Commission of the City and County of Honolulu. I have had the opportunity to work with her on several SSFM community planning projects that required strategic thinking and a high level of teamwork; and have observed her facilitating community meetings. She has a wealth of community experience and she relates to many sides of many issues. She is fair in her approach to significant cultural issues.

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i. I believe that Melissa will bring progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her experience and dedication to building resilience and sustainability on O'ahu.

I'm confident she will serve the Planning Commission well and ask for your favorable consideration of her appointment. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide comments in support.

Sincerely,



Rebecca S. Ward  
President, Ward Research  
828 Fort Street Mall, Suite 210  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 9:56 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Lauren Blickley  
Phone  
Email lblickley@surfrider.org  
Meeting Date 01-26-2022  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item RES21-271  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

Dear Councilmembers,

Written  
Testimony

I strongly support the appointment of Melissa May to the Honolulu Planning Commission. I have been fortunate to work with Melissa on Surfrider Foundation's North Shore Working Group project designed to bring community and government stakeholders together to identify opportunities to address sea level rise and coastal erosion along the Sunset Beach area. Melissa has not only been an incredible colleague, but also brings significant expertise in community and environmental planning and climate change. She is professional, collaborative, and committed to the resilience and sustainability of our island.

Overall her appointment to the Planning Commission would be extremely beneficial to Hawai'i. Her experience, expertise, and holistic approach to complex problems makes her an absolute asset to the Planning Commission.

Mahalo for your support of her appointment.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 10:40 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Rocky Mould  
**Phone**  
**Email** rockymould@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 01-26-2022  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-271  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of Kaimuki and have lived and worked in Hawaii for the last 11 years in a number of private sector and public policy jobs..

I have known Melissa May for 11 years and worked with her for three years as partners in a startup solar energy business.

**Written Testimony** Melissa has been active in the Honolulu community for more than 20 years, including fifteen years as a professional planner as well as extensive involvement in fashion, art, and renewable energy. Several projects and initiatives that Melissa has led have garnered awards and recognition, and as a business partner of hers, I can tell you that Melissa works hard and intelligently, and always comports herself to the utmost of integrity and spirit of goodwill.

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i. I believe that Melissa will bring progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her experience and dedication to sustainability.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,  
Rocky Mould  
Kaimuki

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 10:46 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Makena Coffman  
**Phone**  
**Email** makena.coffman@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 01-26-2022  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** RESOLUTION 21-271  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

**Written Testimony**

I support Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission. I am a Professor of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa as well as Director of the Institute for Sustainability and Resilience, and have known Ms. May in a professional capacity for approximately seven years. I first met Ms. May when she was facilitating a meeting regarding Kaua'i's update to the general plan. I was impressed with her skills as a facilitator and have since gotten familiar with her work at SSFM more broadly. Most recently I have interfaced with Ms. May in her work on the North Shore sustainable community plan, where she demonstrates ability to think both short- and long-term about community priorities and challenges, as well as a commitment to collaborative response.

Overall, Ms. May has an impressive depth of knowledge and ability to synthesize a wide range of technical (environmental/infrastructure) information and community input. She will bring her experiences in community and land use planning, as well as her work on environmental issues, particularly related to climate change response, to her role on the Commission.

Sincerely,

Makena Coffman  
2335A Oahu Avenue  
Honolulu, HI 96822

Testimony from: Puanani Burgess

Puanani.burgess@gmail.com

Mobile: 808-630-7260

Home: 808-696-5157

‘Aina: Lualualei Valley, Wai’anae, O’ahu, Hawai’i

Date: 1/23/22

Re: Gladly in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of  
Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission

Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Honolulu City Council:

*I Won't be able to appear before you He 'alo a he 'alo, face to face, to offer my wholehearted support of Melissa May's appointment to the Honolulu Planning Commission. I have been a resident and community planner, developer, mediator and facilitator in the Wai'anae fCoast Community for over thirty years.*

*I worked closely with Melissa in 2019 and 2020 as part of a Team of planning and engineering professionals from the State DOT and SSFM and Wai'anae community leaders to design and implement a community-based and led strategy for encouraging and supporting the recruitment and training of Wai'anae and Nanakuli youth in the actual planning and development processes that go into the planning and building of streets and roadways within their community and neighborhoods. The project and its team members understood how important it is to have the next generation become stewards of this important community resource; its pathways, streets, roads, sidewalks, crosswalks and highways.*

*Melissa is a really great listener and can ask insightful questions based on her wide experience in planning and support of innovation and community-empowerment.*

Mahalo to you all in considering my recommendation of Melissa May to be a part of this very important kuleana for our Island and each of our communities. She is a thoughtful and skilled planner and steward of Hawai'i Nei

*If there is any more information or insights I can offer, please contact me.*

Ua mau Ke ea o ka 'Aina I ka Pono

Puanani Burgess  
86-641 Pu'uhulu Road  
Wai'anae, O 'ahu, 96792

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 1:00 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Paula Rath  
Phone  
Email paularath@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 01-26-2022  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-271  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

NAME: Paula Rath  
E-MAIL: paularath@gmail.com  
MEETING DATE: 01-26-2022  
COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: Council/Public Hearing  
AGENDA ITEM: RESOLUTION 21-271  
YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: Support  
REPRESENTING: Self

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

Written  
Testimony

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of Nuuanu Valley, a retired feature writer with The Honolulu Advertiser and am currently an Emeritus Trustee of Palama Settlement. My grandparents were the founders of Palama Settlement and my father, the late Bobby Rath, was born and raised at Palama Settlement.

I have known Melissa May for nearly 20 years. Our relationship is both personal and professional. I often refer to Melissa as "the daughter I never had – but wish I had." Melissa and I met through a shared love of fashion. She was a member of my Fashion Forum at The Honolulu Advertiser, a group of young people with a passion for fashion who helped me stay abreast of local fashion trends.



As an advisor to HiFI, the Hawaii Fashion Incubator, which Melissa co-founded, I was impressed with how Melissa collaborated with people from many arenas to make HiFI work effectively in serving the entire design community. She relates well to diverse groups of people, and finds creative ways to unite them in a common purpose. She is a progressive thinker and a true visionary.

Melissa has been active in the Honolulu community for more than 20 years, including fifteen years as a professional planner as well as extensive involvement in fashion, art, and renewable energy.

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, and renewable energy will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i.

Sincerely,

Paula Rath  
3690-2 Waokanaka Street  
Honolulu, HI 96817

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 1:15 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Stacey Levine  
**Phone**  
**Email** stacey.levine@tn.gov  
**Meeting Date** 01-26-2022  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-271  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

Dear Chair Waters and Councilmembers,

I am providing this testimony in support of the appointment of Ms. Melissa May to the Honolulu Planning Commission, Resolution 21-271. I am a City Councilwoman in Dickson, Tennessee and am a Program Director for Tennessee State Parks.

Written  
Testimony

I have known Ms. May since 2003 when I moved to Hawaii to work for Philip White Architects. In my capacity as an architect, I had the opportunity to work with Ms. May and Planning Solutions Inc. regarding Environmental Impact Studies for several residential projects. I also collaborated with Ms. May on an interior design project when she led the Hawaii Fashion Incubator. We have been friends for all those years, and I can attest to her integrity and character.

Ms. May has been active in the Honolulu community for more than twenty years, including fifteen years as a professional planner. She is also extensively involved in art, sustainability, renewable energy, smart growth, and community engagement. Ms. May is a lifelong learner and passionate about creating livable communities. I believe that Ms. May will bring informed ideas and advice to the Commission.

Mahalo for taking the time to consider my testimony in support of Ms. May.

Sincerely,  
Stacey Levine

412 S Main Street  
Dickson, TN 37055

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 1:47 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** David Tarnas  
**Phone**  
**Email** davidtarnas@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 01-26-2022  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-271  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

As an environmental planner based in Kamuela, Hawaii Island, I have worked on numerous professional consulting projects with Melissa May throughout Hawaii over many years, including several Complete Streets projects in Honolulu. I support the appointment of Ms. May to the Planning Commission of the City and County of Honolulu because of her expertise in environmental planning, her collaborative working style, and her demonstrated talents for engaging community stakeholders in planning processes. Melissa understands the reality of climate change and requirements of sustainability so she will bring a very useful perspective to the Commission as they make decisions about projects. Melissa's membership on the Commission will strengthen the organization's ability to be effective in meeting the sustainability goals adopted by the City and State. I urge you to approve Ms. Melissa May's appointment to the Planning Commission of the City and County of Honolulu. Mahalo!

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

NAME: Susannah Johnson  
E-MAIL: susannahsunshine@yahoo.com  
MEETING DATE: **01-26-2022**  
COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: **Council/Public Hearing**  
AGENDA ITEM: **RESOLUTION 21-271**  
YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: **Support**  
REPRESENTING: **Susannah Johnson and Individualized Realized**

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of Kaimuki, Honolulu, Oahu, a former classroom teacher from 2007-2019, and now an education consultant with my own company, Individualized Realized. I work closely with many local education institutions and educators, and I work on the global education stage with What School Could Be and other projects.

I have known Melissa May for 17 years, and though it has primarily been a friendship, we have also had the occasion to work on community projects together. One key area lands at the intersection of sustainable thinking for all of Hawaii and its relationship to education. I care a lot about the future of our community, and I know that to be true for Melissa as well.

Melissa has been active in the Honolulu community for more than 20 years, including fifteen years as a professional planner as well as extensive involvement in fashion, art, and renewable energy. Several projects and initiatives that Melissa has led have garnered awards and recognition. What stands out to me is her commitment to our community not only with deep passion, but strong critical thinking and compassion.

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i. I believe that Melissa will bring progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her experience and dedication to sustainability.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Susannah Johnson  
921 Ocean View Dr.  
Honolulu, HI 96816

Jason Cutinella, CEO  
NMG Network  
E-MAIL: [jason@nmgnetwork.com](mailto:jason@nmgnetwork.com)  
MEETING DATE: **01-26-2022**  
COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: **Council/Public Hearing**  
AGENDA ITEM: **RESOLUTION 21-271**  
YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: **Support**  
REPRESENTING: **Self**

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of Chinatown and the founder and CEO of NMG Network, a multimedia platform for storytelling through print, film, and other platforms.

I have known Melissa May for over fifteen years through multiple collaborations. In her capacity as Co-Founder of the Hawai'i Fashion Incubator (HIFI), we regularly partnered on events and programming to showcase the Hawai'i fashion industry. We also served together on the Board of the ARTS at Marks Garage for three years.

Through the years I have worked with Melissa, her commitment to Hawai'i's creative community and collaborative nature have served our relationship and community well. At the ARTS at Marks, we as a Board worked to overcome significant financial difficulties and allow the organization to remain open under Melissa's leadership as Board president. Several projects and initiatives that Melissa has led have garnered awards and recognition, including Hawai'i Fashion Month, which NMG was a media partner for and which was awarded Best Marketing of an Event in 2013 by the American Marketing Association Hawai'i Chapter.

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission. I believe that Melissa will bring progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission and fully support her nomination.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

**Jason Cutinella**

NAME: Dolan Eversole  
E-MAIL: dolaneversole@gmail.com  
MEETING DATE: 01-26-2022  
COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: Council/Public Hearing  
AGENDA ITEM: RESOLUTION 21-271  
YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: Support  
REPRESENTING: Self

January 24, 2022

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of the Waialae Niu area of Honolulu, Oahu and work as a coastal management specialist at the University of Hawai'i. My testimony today is my personal testimony and is in no way a representation of the University of Hawai'i.

I have known Melissa May for about five years through our professional connections working on coastal resource management issues. Most recently we have worked closely together on a effort to bring together various stakeholders on the North Shore of O'ahu to develop solutions for sea-level rise risk and beach erosion on the North Shore. During this time I have had a chance to interact and professionally engage with Melissa and have been consistent impressed with her ability to problem-solve, work through difficult decisions and weigh various options against community impacts and values.

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i. I believe that Melissa will bring progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her experience and dedication to sustainability.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dolan Eversole", written in a cursive style.

**Dolan Eversole**  
**2198 Aha Niu Pl**  
**Honolulu Hi 96821**

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 5:22 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Jeannine Rossa  
**Phone**  
**Email** jmrossa@hawaii.edu  
**Meeting Date** 01-26-2022  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-271  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing** Self  
**Organization**

**Written Testimony**

I support Melissa May for a seat on the Honolulu Planning Commission. I know Melissa to be thoughtful, intelligent, clear-headed, and organized. She listens carefully and does her homework. She works hard. She is honest, and has integrity. I first met Ms. May when she was completing an undergraduate research project, tromping around in the woods collecting data on endangered plants. Over the years, we stayed in touch, and I followed her work to support Honolulu's fashion and wearable art scene. A few years ago, I worked closely with Ms. May to develop a grant proposal for a climate action plan for Molokai. She met with many people and developed a well-written, clear, and concise proposal that would include as many community voices as possible. (Maui County pulled the funding before any project was selected.) I am aware of the responsibility held by Honolulu's planning commission. Ms. May has a strong background in environmental science, planning, and business. Her experience in these often disparate worlds only strengthens her qualifications for this seat. I highly recommend Ms. May for Honolulu's planning commission. Jeannine Rossa, B.S., M.S. Kualapuu, HI.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



NAME: Elmira Tsang, Esq.  
MEETING DATE: **01-26-2022**  
COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: **Council/Public Hearing**  
AGENDA ITEM: **RESOLUTION 21-271**  
YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: **Support**  
REPRESENTING: **Self**

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council:

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of the island of Oahu, district of Kaimuki, and am a practicing attorney in the community.

I have known Melissa May for approximately 15 years in a personal capacity.

Melissa has been active in the Honolulu community for more than 20 years, including fifteen years as a professional planner, as well as extensive involvement in fashion, art, and renewable energy. In addition to having the pleasure of knowing Melissa on a personal level, I have had the privilege of enjoying the fruits of her community involvement in the arts, including her work with the Hawai'i Fashion Incubator and ARTS at Marks Garage. Several projects and initiatives that Melissa has led have garnered awards and recognition.

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i. I believe that Melissa will bring progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her experience and dedication to sustainability.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Elmira Tsang, Esq.  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

[mirakalai@yahoo.com](mailto:mirakalai@yahoo.com)

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 9:13 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Marie Williams  
**Phone**  
**Email** williamsmottley@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 01-26-2022  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** RESOLUTION 21-271  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I support Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a Kauai resident (born and raised on Oahu) and have known Melissa for 10 years. I have worked on planning project teams with her, including the Kauai County General Plan, Lihue Community Plan, and other projects. Several of her projects and initiatives have garnered awards and recognition.

**Written Testimony**

Melissa has a well-rounded planning background and is skilled in crafting policy and plans that address economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, and renewable energy. Above all she is professional, hard-working, and level-headed. She will be a great asset to the Planning Commission. I believe that Melissa will bring both progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her impressive experience.

Mahalo,

Marie Williams, AICP  
PO Box 3048  
Lihue, HI

Testimony  
Attachment

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 10:02 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Veronica Rocha  
Phone  
Email veronica.rocha@essentialleap.com  
Meeting Date 01-26-2022  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item RESOLUTION 21-271  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Organization  
Organization Essential Leap, LLC  
NAME: Veronica Rocha  
E-MAIL: veronica.rocha@essentialleap.com  
MEETING DATE: 01-26-2022  
COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: Council/Public Hearing  
AGENDA ITEM: RESOLUTION 21-271  
YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: Support  
REPRESENTING: Essential Leap, LLC

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony in strong support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

### Written Testimony

I am a resident of Hawaii Kai in Oahu and Founder of Essential Leap, LLC, a local management consulting company working with clean energy and climate adaptation firms committed to creating solutions that address the climate crisis.

I have known Melissa May for over 3 years through various work projects related to increasing Hawaii's sustainability.

Melissa has been active in the Honolulu community for more than 20 years, including fifteen years as a professional planner as well as extensive involvement in fashion, art, and renewable energy. Several projects and initiatives that Melissa has led have garnered awards and recognition. I have been impressed by Melissa's work at SSFM leading a project with City and County of Honolulu to develop climate

adaptation design guidelines for urban areas vulnerable to sea level rise. Melissa's work was featured in a PICHTR (a local NGO) webinar last year. Reference: <https://www.pichtr.org/climate/capacity-building/>

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i. I believe that Melissa will bring progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her experience and dedication to sustainability.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Veronica Rocha  
P.O. Box 26451, Honolulu, HI 96825

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms  
and Agreement <sup>1</sup>

IP: 192.168.200.67

Honolulu City Council  
Wednesday, January 26, 2022

RE: Testimony in **SUPPORT** of Resolution 21-271  
Relating to the Appointment of Ms. Melissa May to the Planning Commission of  
the City & County of Honolulu

Aloha nui e Chair Waters, Vice Chair Kia'āina, and Honorable Members of the Council of the  
City & County of Honolulu:

I rate today in strong **support** of Melissa May in her appointment to the Honolulu Planning  
Commission. I have known Ms. May for over a decade as a talented planner and passionate  
community member, who cares deeply about Hawai'i and her residents.

Ms. May has led and contributed to a wide range of projects and developed a considerable  
expertise around planning for the impacts of climate change, bringing innovation around  
planning for 21st century cities, and considering the many layers of what it means to have a well-  
planned community that meets the needs of its residents. Throughout her work, Ms. May brings  
a lens of community engagement, relationship building, and planning for the future of seven  
generations.

Her experience as a professional Planner and especially as someone who keeps community  
perspectives at the center of her work, will undoubtedly make Ms. May a wonderful asset to the  
Planning Commission and Honolulu. I was thrilled to see her willingness to serve and strongly  
encourage the Council to confirm her nomination.

Mahalo for the opportunity to share my mana'o.

Me ka ha'aha'a,



Rebecca Justine 'Iolani Soon

[rebecca.ji.soon@gmail.com](mailto:rebecca.ji.soon@gmail.com)

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 25, 2022 12:24 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Maile Meyer  
Phone  
Email maile@nameahawaii.com  
Meeting Date 01-26-2022  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item RES 21-271  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

Welina mai nei e Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am kama'aina to O'ahu, and the founder of several entities including Native Books and Na Mea Hawai'i. I have also through my work intersected with a variety of communities, boards, initiatives and task forces over the years.

Written Testimony I have had the pleasure of knowing Melissa May for many years starting with her involvement in supporting our local fashion community and area arts organizations. I also had the opportunity to witness her leadership skills as chair of the Mark's Garage Board. Her reasoned outlook and planning orientation has always been present in her community work

Melissa has worked for many years as a planner, while maintaining an active life contributing to a variety of efforts that have enhanced the presence of creative, thoughtful and engaged communities.

I so appreciated working with Melissa when we both occupied space at the old Ward Warehouse. Melissa and her partner Toby Portner organized extraordinary efforts around Hawai'i Fashion month, the Fashion Incubator and a slew of other projects that had a huge impact on growing our local fashion industry. Several of her projects have garnered awards and widespread recognition.

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i.

I know that Melissa will bring progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her experience and dedication. The Planning Commission is an important community sounding board, and Melissa's addition to it means we can be assured community concerns and priorities will be present.

mahalo for this opportunity to fully endorse Melissa May's selection.

with gratitude,  
Maile Meyer

Founder  
Native Books / Na Mea Hawai'i

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

NAME: Shawn Steiman  
E-MAIL: steiman@coffeaconsulting.com  
MEETING DATE: 01-26-2022  
COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: Council/Public Hearing  
AGENDA ITEM: RESOLUTION 21-271  
YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: Support  
REPRESENTING: Shawn Steiman

WRITTEN TESTIMONY EXAMPLE:

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of Palolo and I am the owner of two locally based coffee companies, Coffea Consulting and Grok Coffee.

I have known Melissa May for about 20 years. We met as graduate students and have been friends since. While we work in different fields, we've also engaged managed to engage each other professionally once in awhile.

Melissa has been active in the Honolulu community for more than 20 years, including fifteen years as a professional planner as well as extensive involvement in fashion, art, and renewable energy. Several projects and initiatives that Melissa has led have garnered awards and recognition. I've witnessed her passion for the city and the critical thinking she's put into her work, much of which involves our islands' functionality.

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i. Melissa will bring creativity and thoughtfulness to the Commission based on her experience and dedication to sustainability.

Melissa is a passionate worker who devotes her intellect and energy to her work. She will provide myriad ideas, progressive and innovative, to the planning commission. Passing up an opportunity to have Melissa on the planning commission would be a mistake.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Shawn Steiman  
2444 Jasmine St, Honolulu, HI, 96816



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 25, 2022 8:36 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Dr. Michael B. Thomas  
Phone  
Email michaelbthomas@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 01-26-2022  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-271  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission. I am a resident of Round Top on O'ahu and have worked as an educator in Hawai'i for more than 20 years. I have been friends with Melissa May since 2001 and have worked with her professionally as well.

Written  
Testimony

Melissa has been active in the Honolulu community for more than 20 years, including fifteen years as a professional planner as well as extensive involvement in fashion, art, and renewable energy. I have had the opportunity to collaboratively work with her in association with the Hawai'i Fashion Incubator projects. One of the most successful collaborations was for the "Fifty Years of Fashion in Hawai'i" exhibit at the Ala Moana Center. This exhibit required months of planning and skilled organization which resulted in the largest public showcase of the unique University of Hawaii Historic Costume Clothing collection shown outside of the university.

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i.

I believe that Melissa will bring progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her experience and dedication to sustainability. I recommend and support Melissa to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

**January 26, 2022**  
**Council/Public Hearing**  
**AGENDA ITEM: RESOLUTION 21-271**

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Kia`āina and members,

I write in support of Resolution 21-271 on the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I was born and raised on O`ahu and am a resident of Mānoa. I have a number of professional and personal affiliations that lead to my being concerned with the composition and performance of the Planning Commission. Perhaps the most significant of these, beyond being an island resident, is that I am concluding eight years of service on the state Land Use Commission (LUC), the last four as Chairperson. While I offer these words solely in my personal capacity, they are informed by my experience with the LUC.

Indeed, some of the most challenging matters that have come before me in my years with the LUC are dockets that originated with proceedings before a County Planning commission. While every proposed project or use has its own admirable qualities and challenges, what I have seen make or break many efforts is the quality of the administrative record as it comes to the LUC.

The quality of the record that comes to the LUC from the County Planning Commissions should not be understated for its importance. It is critical for Planning Commissioners to be independent, to ask difficult and critical questions of petitioners. To be effective members must be grounded not only in county ordinances but a knowledge of critical state Constitutional duties, including our obligations under the Public Trust Doctrine and towards the perpetuation of native Hawaiian rights and traditional and customary practices.

I have known Melissa May for over a decade, both professionally in planning circles and personally. Besides her clear commitment to Hawai`i, she possesses a level of intellectual rigor and knowledge of existing and emerging planning issues that would serve Honolulu well. Despite the significant presence of her employer in matters before the City, I have confidence she will serve ethically and in the best interests of O`ahu and its people.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Ola i ka wai,

Jonathan Likeke Scheuer, Ph.D.  
Kahālāwai Consulting LLC  
[jllscheuer@gmail.com](mailto:jllscheuer@gmail.com)

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 25, 2022 9:05 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Hunter Heavilin  
Phone  
Email hunter@supersistence.org  
Meeting Date 01-26-2022  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-271  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Organization  
Organization Supersistence  
Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of Manoa and a planner focused on food and agriculture across the islands.

I have known Melissa May for many years through, initially through community focused endeavors, then as a planning professional peer, and more recently as a project team member.

Written Testimony Melissa has been active in the Honolulu community for more than 20 years, including fifteen years as a professional planner as well as extensive involvement in fashion, art, and renewable energy. After years of friendship, we worked together closely to establish gardens at affordable housing sites during fall 2020. Despite the tight project timeline, Melissa deftly negotiated the needs of various parties, was courageous in the scope of vision for the effort, and in the end played a key role in seeing new productive spaces established for hundreds of residents.

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i. I believe that Melissa will bring progressive

ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her experience and dedication to sustainability.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,  
Hunter Heavilin

Food Systems Planner  
Supersistence

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 25, 2022 9:10 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Patrick Switzer  
Phone  
Email pastronaut@hotmail.com  
Meeting Date 01-26-2022  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-271  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

I support the appointment of Melissa May to the Honolulu Planning Commission. I have known Melissa since 2005 and been impressed by her dedication to community service and work towards bringing Hawaii closer to a sustainable future.

Written  
Testimony

Melissa is a careful thinker and does the hard work required to understand an issue, and get a feeling for the perspectives of all parties involved before making decisions and moving forward. When her work required her to learn about environmental sustainability issues on the North Shore, she spent much of her free time up there getting to know the community and developing her understanding of the problems and possible paths forward.

Thank you for considering Melissa for this position, she'll be great. Although she is a passionate person who knows a lot, she never bulldozes people in a conversation, is always genuinely interested in other folks' viewpoints and arguments, and she creates the space for discussion and problem solving. Thanks very much-

Patrick Switzer  
921 Ocean View Dr.  
Honolulu 96816

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

Julie K. Kirk  
juliekkirk@gmail.com  
MEETING DATE: **01-26-2022**  
COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: **Council/Public Hearing**  
AGENDA ITEM: **RESOLUTION 21-271**  
YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: **Support**  
REPRESENTING: **Self**

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of Honolulu (Round Top Drive) and an employee of a local insurance company, insurance professional organization, and concerned citizen. I write this as a concerned citizen.

I have known Melissa May since 2005, when I moved to Hawaii. She was one of the first friends I made on the island. As a longtime friend, I have witnessed her organizational skills and her ability to get things done. She is someone who can make a vision come to life, while being a good leader and a collaborative teammate. Her work as a co-founder of the Hawai'i Fashion Incubator is a perfect example of this.

Her passion as a Planner is evident when you speak with her. She has the unique ability to bring people together for a common purpose and bring results. She is a caring and trustworthy friend, and I have no doubt she would bring these traits to the Honolulu Planning Commission.

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i. I know that Melissa will bring progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her experience and dedication to sustainability.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

**Julie K. Kirk**  
**2295 Round Top Drive**  
**Honolulu, HI 96822**  
**808-341-7241**

Testimony in Support of Melissa May to the Honolulu Planning Commission

Resolution 21-271

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I believe I can provide a unique perspective on this nomination, which I strongly SUPPORT.

I am a professional planner and a Fellow in the American Institute of Certified Planners. I have practiced planning in Hawaii and elsewhere for over forty years. From 1994-5 I was director of the Honolulu Planning Department (before it became Department of Planning and Permitting). After that I was eight years as Transportation Director. Since 2008 I have been a private planning consultant with SSFM International, where I led the planning practice, and worked side by side with Melissa.

I am familiar with the important role that the Planning Commission plays in gathering a public perspective on important projects and programs, which are vetted and debated, and then written reports are sent to the City Council for your deliberations. Melissa is fully grounded in the principles of planning and she is devoted to meaningful public engagement and input from all perspectives. She is brilliant in the way she can absorb multiple perspectives and find common ground; she is also one of the best writers I know.

The planning practice has evolved to embrace the enormous responsibilities of climate change, sustainability, and Melissa has been at the forefront of these issues, as you can see from the testimonies of other thought leaders in the community such as Chip Fletcher, Dolan Eversole and David Tarnas.

The unique perspective which I wish to offer is that Melissa is a person of integrity and honesty. I know this from watching her behavior and actions over the last ten years. Ethics is critical in serving the public and Melissa is a person with strong ethics and values. She and I have talked specifically about the potential for conflict (due to her employment at SSFM) if she takes this volunteer position. I believe she knows how to identify any real or appearance of conflict. You should feel assured that should such a condition arise, that she will declare that conflict and act according to the rules of the Commission.

The City of Honolulu is fortunate to have such a high caliber person willing to serve in this role. The community will benefit from her expertise and her open style. I wish I could appear in person, but I must attend a funeral at your meeting time. I urge your approval.

Mahalo and Aloha,

Cheryl D. Soon  
39 Makaweli Street  
Honolulu, HI 96825

[csoon8@yahoo.com](mailto:csoon8@yahoo.com)

NAME: Meli James  
E-MAIL: meli@manauphawaii.com  
MEETING DATE: **01-26-2022**  
COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: **Council/Public Hearing**  
AGENDA ITEM: **RESOLUTION 21-271**  
YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: **Support**  
REPRESENTING: **Mana Up Hawaii**

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of Oahu and I am the cofounder of Mana Up, a Hawaii-based product accelerator and venture fund building the state's next generation of consumer brands.

I have known Melissa May for nearly a decade and met her through her work when she led the Hawai'i Fashion Incubator. I was part of a fashion panel during a conference she organized, which are great examples of how she's served as a key leader in growing and sustaining our fashion community. We believe it's one of the consumer product industries we can lean into to grow our local economy. To this day, I have had the pleasure of utilizing Melissa's expertise in the manufacturing industry and collaborating with her on programming for our Mana Up accelerator, and developing ways to grow our product industry together. She is also always connecting us with our islands' executives and leaders in the product, apparel and manufacturing industries, who have been able to serve as business mentors or workshop speakers during our accelerator program.

Melissa has been active in the Honolulu community for more than 20 years, including fifteen years as a professional planner as well as extensive involvement in fashion, art, and renewable energy. For a long time, she has played a large role in building not just Hawaii's fashion community, but she's also a huge proponent for local makers and manufacturing. A large gap in our industry that we could fill is in on-island manufacturing, and Melissa would be a great advocate of this to support our local product companies and the entrepreneurs behind them in an effort to diversify our economy. Several projects and initiatives that Melissa has led have garnered awards and recognition.

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i. I believe that Melissa will bring progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her experience and dedication to sustainability. She is a thought leader within Hawaii's manufacturing and product space and continues to play a role in sustaining this industry. I know she will excel in this position as she makes



important decisions about the future of the island, and advocates for local makers and manufacturing as part of it.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Meli James', with a stylized, wavy line extending from the end.

**Meli James**  
**Cofounder, Mana Up**  
**680 Iwilei Road, Suite 420**  
**Honolulu, HI 96817**

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 25, 2022 11:49 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Michael Packard  
Phone  
Email mypackard@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 01-26-2022  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item RESOLUTION 21-271  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of Kailua, where I am a homeowner, residing with my wife and three school-aged children. I am a traffic engineer by profession where my primary concentration is in the planning/design of pedestrian and bicycle facilities in addition to complete streets. I am also involved with the Kailua Urban Design Group and Hawaii Bicycling League.

**Written Testimony** I have known Melissa May for about a decade through our work together at SSFM International and our common support of smart growth, placemaking, and pedestrian/bicycle facilities. We have collaborated on a number of projects across Oahu, through which I have seen Melissa's talents in community building, conflict mitigation, and facilitation. She excels in her ability to bring together people with differing backgrounds and opinions while ensuring they feel valued and heard. These connections come from her giving of herself and her time to participate in individual's primary areas of concern. This has resulted in successful projects and efforts that have garnered numerous local and national awards and recognition.

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to

the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawaii. I believe that Melissa will bring progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her experience and dedication to sustainability.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Michael Packard  
188 Aumoe Road  
Kailua, Hawaii 96734

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



46 Merchant Street • Honolulu, HI 96813 • Phone (808) 536-4222 • Fax (808) 536-4226 • KumuKahua.com

NAME: Donna Blanchard  
E-MAIL: Managingdirector@kumukahua.org  
MEETING DATE: 01-26-2022  
COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: Council/Public Hearing  
AGENDA ITEM: RESOLUTION 21-271  
YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: Support  
REPRESENTING: Kumu Kahua Theatre

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of Kahalu'u 'Oahu, the Managing Director of Kumu Kahua Theatre, President of the Hawai'i State Theatre Council, an Executive Team-member of 'Ohina Films and Labs, and a Community Action Board Member of Hawai'i Public Radio. I'm deeply involved in our community and it is my honor to support Melissa May for this appointment.

I have known Melissa May for five years; we initially became acquainted through The ARTS at Marks Garage (legal name: The Hawaii Academy of Performing Arts), where she served as President of Board of Directors and successfully guided that organization through necessary change during turbulent times, which created the growth that made it possible for that organization to survive.

As the Managing Director of Kumu Kahua Theatre, located at 46 Merchant Street, I applaud Mayor Blangiardi's appointment of Ms May to the Planning Commission – our city, island, and state need people like her guiding our growth, sustainability, and resiliency.

Melissa has been active in the Honolulu community for more than 20 years, including fifteen years as a professional planner as well as extensive involvement in fashion, art, and renewable energy, carried out in collaboration with organizations such as SSFM, Hawai'i Fashion Incubator, and ARTS at Marks Garage. Several projects and initiatives that Melissa has led have garnered awards and recognition.

I have seen firsthand that Melissa's approach to a problem or need is through level-headed analysis, education, collaboration, skill, and heart. It's been my pleasure to work with and learn from someone who's first instinct when faced with a seemingly insurmountable obstacle is to build the structure, tools, and collaborations necessary to create the best possible outcome for our community. Her knowledge and skill in leveraging the assets available to her is extraordinary.

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i. I believe that Melissa will bring progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her experience and dedication to sustainability.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donna Blanchard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Donna" and last name "Blanchard" clearly distinguishable.

Donna Blanchard  
47-447 Waihee Pl  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

[managingdirector@kumukahua.org](mailto:managingdirector@kumukahua.org)

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 8:07 PM  
**Subject:** Zoning and Planning Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Deborah Miller  
Phone  
Email deblmiller@yahoo.com  
Meeting Date 01-26-2022  
Council/PH Committee Zoning and Planning  
Agenda Item RES21-271  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

Dear Chair Waters and Councilmembers,

I am providing this testimony in support of Ms. Melissa May to the Honolulu Planning Commission, Resolution 21-271.

I have been part of the advertising community in Honolulu for the past twenty years and have known Melissa the majority of that time. She has become a close personal friend of mine and I can attest to her passion for community planning, community engagement, sustainability, and progress. One of Melissa's many strengths is her creativity and intellect. Coupled with her strong sense of organization, this allows her to find creative solutions for Hawaii's diverse needs. These characteristics were apparent when she started and lead the Hawai'i Fashion Incubator and her fifteen years as a professional planner

Written  
Testimony

In addition, I've always admired Melissa for her unwavering calm and strength in the face of adversity. She is always the voice of reason, is a great listener and compassionate person. For these reasons, I believe Melissa's appointment to the Commission would greatly benefit Hawai'i.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Sincerely

Deborah Miller  
45-180 Mahalani Place, Unit 18  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

NAME: Tamara Rigney  
E-MAIL: tamara.rigney@gmail.com  
MEETING DATE: **01-26-2022**  
COUNCIL/PC-COMMITTEE: **Council/Public Hearing**  
AGENDA ITEM: **RESOLUTION 21-271**  
YOUR POSITION ON THE MATTER: **Support**  
REPRESENTING: **Self and Hawaii Neighborhood Forests**

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the City Council,

I am providing this testimony in support of Resolution 21-271 for the appointment of Melissa May to serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission.

I am a resident of Palolo, Oahu, and the director of Hawaii Neighborhood Forests, a community project to grow Hawaii's urban forests.

I have known Melissa May for 9 years through the arts community and as a neighbor.

Melissa has been active in the Honolulu community for more than 20 years, including fifteen years as a professional planner as well as extensive involvement in fashion, art, and renewable energy. She was on the board that approved our public parklet in Kakaako. Several projects and initiatives that Melissa has led have garnered awards and recognition.

Melissa's diverse experience in community planning, economic development, land use planning, environmental issues, climate change, renewable energy, and other areas will be a great asset to the Planning Commission, along with her collaborative spirit and commitment to Hawai'i. I believe that Melissa will bring progressive ideas and sound advice to the Commission based on her experience and dedication to sustainability.

Mahalo for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

**Tamara Rigney**  
**2519 Lai Road**  
**Honolulu HI 96816**

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 25, 2022 7:55 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Denise E Antolini  
Phone  
Email antolinid@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 01-26-2022  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item 21-271  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

### Written Testimony

Dear Council,  
I strongly support the appointment of Melissa May for the Planning Commission.  
Melissa is an outstanding nominee.  
I have had the pleasure of getting to know her through her professional planning work on the North Shore Sustainable Communities Plan.  
She is very knowledgeable, fair, balanced, a great listener and facilitator, and will be a great asset to the Commission.  
She is highly regarded among the diverse group of community members who are involved in this important planning process.  
Thank you for approving her nomination.  
Mahalo nui,  
Denise Antolini

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement

1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 26, 2022 3:46 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Catherine Lake  
Phone  
Email cvaughan@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 01-26-2022  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item 21-271  
Your position on the matter Comment  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written  
Testimony

Alisha,  
I am writing in support of Melissa May (White). I have been a resident of Honolulu for 17 years and have know Melissa virtually the whole time. As a teacher at Punahou, we never worked together, but we frequently discussed her projects and dreams. I know she is committed and responsible, and she will do an outstanding job serving in the Honolulu Planning Commision.  
Melissa has a strong passion for environmental responsibility and sustainability, crucial issues for the Planning Commission. She recently returned to school for urban planning, which shows her dedication to this field.  
I look forward to seeing what she accomplishes in the world of community planning.

Sincerely,  
Catherine Lake  
3048 Lakimau st  
Honolulu HI 96814

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67