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## Resolution 22-4 Testimony

**MISC. COM. 17**

January 21, 2022

The Honorable Tommy Waters  
Chair and Presiding Officer  
and Members  
Honolulu City Council  
530 South King Street, Room 202  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Waters and Councilmembers:

I am happy to submit testimony in strong support of the nomination of Dr. Roger Babcock to serve as Director of the City's Department of Environmental Services (ENV).

Dr. Babcock brings a wealth of experience and knowledge of both wastewater and solid waste issues to the Director position. Having worked alongside Dr. Babcock when he was Director of the Department of Facility Maintenance in 2021, and from my short time working under him as Deputy Director in ENV in 2022, I can see that Dr. Babcock is committed to improving City operations and developing our workforce.

Dr. Babcock is a well-liked and highly respected professional who takes very seriously ENV's commitment to environmental protection, and he is well suited to lead ENV into the future as it undertakes several challenging projects and initiatives.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael O'Keefe', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael O'Keefe

[mokeefe@honolulu.gov](mailto:mokeefe@honolulu.gov)

January 26, 2022

The Honorable Tommy Waters  
Chair and Presiding Officer  
and Members  
Honolulu City Council  
530 South King Street, Room 202  
Honolulu, HI 96813

The Honorable Radiant Cordero and Committee Members

Subject: Nomination of Roger W. Babcock, Jr., P.E., Ph.D. to Serve as the Director of the Department of Environmental Services of the City and County of Honolulu (RES22-004)

Dear Chair Waters and Councilmembers:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter in support of Dr. Roger Babcock's nomination to the position of Director for the Department of Environmental Services, City and County of Honolulu. I have been a practicing civil engineer for over 30 years and have had the good fortune to work with Dr. Babcock over the past 15 years. I have been and remain impressed by his personal integrity, loyalty, and dedication.

I have always found Dr. Babcock to be fair, reasonable, and approachable, and I believe these work approaches will serve him well in his role as Director. He has already proven as much during his year-long tenure as the Director of the Department of Facility Maintenance. Beyond that, Dr. Babcock's professional experience and accomplishments afford him the background and credibility from which to positively lead this vitally important City function. While sometimes unnoticed by the public, as engineers we are keenly aware of the critical role our infrastructure systems play. As such, I applaud Dr. Babcock's dedication to ensuring our infrastructure systems reliably serve the people of the City and County of Honolulu.

I firmly believe Dr. Babcock's demonstrated achievements and character are excellent qualifications for the role of Director of the Department of Environmental Services, and I hope you will give favorable consideration to his nomination for such.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ross A. Kaneko', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ross A. Kaneko, P.E.