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February 23, 2023

TO: PEARLENE SOTELO, COMMITTEE AIDE
Committee on Public Safety

FROM: COUNCILMEMBER VAL A. OKIMOTO, CHAIR
Committee on Public Safety

RE: DRAFT COMMITTEE REPORT RELATING TO THE REVIEW AND
EVALUATION OF THE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON CIVIL
DEFENSE

Val A. Okimoto

Transmitted herewith for placement on an upcoming Committee on Public Safety agenda is a draft committee report relating to the Committee's review and evaluation of the Citizens Advisory Commission on Civil Defense pursuant to ROH Chapter 3, Article 15 (Ordinance 17-44).

Please number this communication and upload it to HNLDOC. Mahalo for your assistance.

Attachment

COUNCIL COM. 46
PS

Date

Honorable Tommy Waters
Chair, City Council
City and County of Honolulu

Mr. Chair:

Your Committee on Public Safety, to which was referred the review and evaluation of the Citizens Advisory Commission on Civil Defense ("Commission") pursuant to Ordinance 17-44 (codified as Chapter 3, Article 15, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("ROH")), reports as follows:

The purpose of the review and evaluation is to determine whether the provision of the Revised Charter of the City and County of Honolulu 1973 (Amended 2017 Edition), as amended ("Charter"), establishing the Commission should be retained, amended, or repealed. Ordinance 17-44 implements Charter Section 13-103.2, which mandates the periodic review and evaluation of certain City boards and commissions as provided by ordinance.

The Commission was established by Charter Section 6-104 and has the following powers, duties, and functions:

Advise the mayor, the council, and the civil defense administrator on matters pertaining to civil defense, and to the promotion of community understanding and interest in such matters.

The Commission consists of five members appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council ("Council") to staggered five-year terms pursuant to Charter Section 13-103.

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COMMITTEE REPORT NO. _____

By Departmental Communication 80 (2023), dated January 31, 2023, the Commission submitted to the Council a report on its accomplishments and activities, as required by Ordinance 17-44 (ROH § 3-15.4).

Your Committee, after due consideration, makes the following findings:

- That the report included a summary of accomplishments for the preceding five-year period, including:
 - April 2018 East O'ahu flood response and recovery
 - City's mutual aid assistance to Kaua'i and Hawai'i counties in 2018
 - City's response to Hurricanes Lane and Olivia
 - City's resilience strategy
 - Advised the new director of the Department of Emergency Management ("DEM") on his transition into the role in February 2019
 - New City Emergency Operations Center project
 - City's response to the COVID-19 pandemic
 - City's response to the March 2021 floods
 - The Tsunami Signage Project
- That the COVID-19 pandemic initially inhibited the Commission's ability to meet, but the Commission was able to use remote meeting technology to allow the Commission to meet and members of the public to attend and was able to maintain representation from multiple sectors to ensure diversity from the perspective of a whole-community emergency management system.

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- That the Commission did not incur any costs to operate from January 2018 to December 2022.
- That the Commission concluded that Charter Section 6-104 establishes the Citizens Advisory Commission on Civil Defense, but to be consistent with the 2007 reorganization that renamed the O'ahu Civil Defense Agency to the Department of Emergency Management, the Commission recommends the Charter be amended to change the name of the Commission to the "Citizens Advisory Commission on Emergency Management."

Based on the foregoing, your Committee makes the following recommendations:

- That the Committee agrees with the recommendation to change the name of the Commission and will be working with the Mayor's office to draft a resolution that will utilize the Mayor's reorganization power under Charter Section 4-202 to effectuate the name change.

Your Committee on Public Safety recommends that this Committee Report be scheduled for a public hearing and be adopted by the Council as the Council's determination on the review and evaluation of the Citizens Advisory Commission on Civil Defense. (Ayes: ; Ayes with reservations: ; Noes: ; Excused: .)

Respectfully submitted,

Committee Chair

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