

**RES23-192  
Testimony**

**MISC. COMM. 503**

PLANNING AND THE ECONOMY (P&E)

## **PLANNING AND THE ECONOMY (P&E) Meeting**

Meeting Date: Sep 14, 2023 @ 09:00 AM

Support: 20

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name: William Giles	Email: HIADMIN@HI-ADMIN.COM	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 11, 2023 @ 12:59 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I am in support Resolution 23-192 in the appointment of Ms. Joy Kimura to serve on the Planning Commission for the City and County of Honolulu. I have had the pleasure to work with Ms. Kimura over many years, and feel that she will bring her dedication, values, integrity, and work experience to the Planning Commission.</p>		
Name: Nelisa Asato	Email: asatonelisa@gmail.com	Zip: 96821
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 11, 2023 @ 01:11 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Dear Members of the Committee on Planning and the Economy:</p> <p>I offer written testimony in my personal capacity in support of Resolution 23-192, which appoints Joy Kimura to the Planning Commission of the City and County of Honolulu.</p> <p>I have worked with Ms. Kimura and find her to be thoughtful, honest, and hardworking. She has a wide range of valuable expertise that will benefit the Planning Commission. I admire her strong desire to serve our City.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Ms. Kimura's nomination to the Planning Commission.</p> <p>Sincerely, Nelisa Asato</p>		
Name: Mericia Palma Elmore	Email: mpalmaelmore@gmail.com	Zip: 96744
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 11, 2023 @ 01:19 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I support MS. JOY KIMURA in her bid to serve on the Planning Commission of the City and County of Honolulu.</p>		
Name: Jason Chang	Email: jaschang@queens.org	Zip: 96813
Representing: The Queen's Health Systems	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 11, 2023 @ 01:55 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>On behalf of The Queen's Health Systems and the Oahu Workforce Development Board, I offer my support for the appointment of Joy Kimura on the Honolulu Planning Commission.</p> <p>As an executive at Queen's, I've had the privilege of knowing Joy for almost 5 years. She has been an inspiration as someone who cares about her peers and maintains the highest level of integrity. She's an open, yet humble person that has a amazing story which drives her passion to serve.</p> <p>As the chair of the Oahu Workforce Development Board, Joy has been an outstanding boardmember. She consistently offered her expertise and volunteered for many of the subcommittees that progress the work of OWDB. We truly value members like Joy who again, show kindness and compassion for the people the board supports and the pursuit of high quality education for everyone in Hawaii.</p> <p>Joy will be a wonderful addition to the Planning Commission for the City &amp; County of Honolulu.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p>		

Jason Chang		
Name: Jeannine Souki	Email: jeannine808@gmail.com	Zip: 96825
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 11, 2023 @ 02:12 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I am writing in my personal capacity to offer written testimony in support of Resolution 23-192, which is considers the appointment of Joy Kimura to serve on the City and County of Honolulu Planning Commission.</p> <p>Joy is well qualified for this role. I have known her for more than 10 years and have found her to be thoughtful, inclusive, and diligent in her varied professional roles. Joy possesses a wealth of experience and brings diversity and a new perspective to the Planning Commission.</p> <p>On a person level, Joy is a positive leader who is dedicated to her family and community, generous with her time and talent, and is an asset to any organization.</p>		
Name: Julie Ann Takushi	Email: jtakushi@tghawaii.com	Zip: 96813
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 11, 2023 @ 03:00 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Dear Chair Waters and Members of the Honolulu City Council:</p> <p>Please accept my testimony in support of Joy Kimura, I currently serve on the board with Joy Kimura in Soroptimist International of Honolulu. Joy is our current President and so honored to work with her in 2023-2024.</p> <p>She is a well organized individual and goes over and beyond in helping and servicing others in need and assistance. Joy Kimura will be a great addition and valuable asset to the City &amp; County of Honolulu Planning Commission.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention in considering my testimony. Aloha and have a wonderful day!</p>		
Name: Stephen Gomes	Email: segomes808@gmail.com	Zip: 96797
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 11, 2023 @ 03:34 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha Chairperson Kia'aina</p> <p>It is with great pleasure and extreme confidence I submit my testimony in support of Joy Kimura's nomination for a seat on the City &amp; County of Honolulu's Planning Commission.</p> <p>Joy's long commitment to serving her community is clearly reflected in her resume through the many organizations, both locally and internationally she has been a part of over her lifetime.</p> <p>Her devotion to doing her best is also apparent in the various awards she has garnered over the years. I would be remiss if I didn't specifically point out her 2023 American Mothers Organization award as Hawaii State Mother of the Year.</p> <p>While being a single mom caring for two young minds presents many daily challenges, Joy still manages to fulfill all her work, civic and volunteer duties and responsibilities without failure.</p> <p>I am certain your decision to approve her nomination will yield great results as the City and County Planning Commission faces a myriad of complex situations in our ever changing island community.</p> <p>With much Aloha Steve Gomes, Waipahu, Oahu</p>		
Name: Tammie Oka	Email: tammieoka@me.com	Zip: 96826
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:

Self	Support	Sep 11, 2023 @ 08:13 PM
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**Testimony:**

I have known Joy Kimura for more than five years and had the opportunity to work with her on construction-related initiatives. I strongly support Ms. Kimura for the Planning Commission.

Name: Lynn Araki-Regan	Email: arakiregan@gmail.com	Zip: 96821
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Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 11, 2023 @ 08:56 PM
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**Testimony:**

Over the last three years, I have had the opportunity to get to know Ms. Joy Kimura through various community activities, events, and programs. Through my dealings with her, I observed Ms. Kimura to be extremely responsive. She is always willing to help on matters and to offer solutions to challenges that are presented to her.

Ms. Kimura is a dedicated, tireless, thoughtful, and collaborative leader who possesses the skills, tenacity, temperament, and aptitude needed to be a valuable member of the Planning Commission, or any other local board, state commission, or non-profit organization.

In addition to Ms. Kimura's strengths as discussed above, she has the following positive traits:

- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- An impressive range of professional and public contacts
- A strong passion and desire to advocate for the community
- A real sense and pulse of the community which is always evolving
- The ability to speak to the public and maintain her composure if faced with criticism
- Deep sincerity and concern for justice, fairness, public safety, good health for families in Hawai'i

For these reasons, I firmly believe that Ms. Kimura will be a highly productive and engaged member of the Planning Commission.

Should you need any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Lynn A.S. Araki-Regan

Name: Keith Regan	Email: Regan808@gmail.com	Zip: 96821
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Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 11, 2023 @ 09:05 PM
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**Testimony:**

Committee Chair Kia`aina, Vice Chair Cordero, and members of the Committee on Planning and the Economy,

I am writing to express my strong support for the confirmation of Joy Kimura as a member of the Honolulu Planning Commission. I believe that Joy's qualifications, dedication, and passion make her an outstanding candidate for this important role.

I have had the privilege of knowing Joy for several years, both personally and professionally. Her extensive and diverse experience, coupled with her deep commitment to the well-being and sustainable development of our city, makes her an ideal candidate for the Planning Commission. Her ability to analyze complex issues, think critically, and work collaboratively with diverse stakeholders is truly commendable.

Joy has a proven track record of contributing positively to our community. Her involvement in local organizations, such as Soroptimist International, Organization of Women Leaders (OWL), DBEDT for Business Toastmasters, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, and Hawaii Chamber of Commerce, demonstrates her commitment to making Honolulu a better place to live, work, and thrive. Her passion and forward-thinking approach is evident in her work, and I have no doubt that she will bring fresh perspectives and innovative ideas to the Planning Commission.

Furthermore, Joy's dedication to transparency, inclusivity, and community engagement aligns perfectly with the values we should expect from a Planning Commissioner. Her ability to listen to the concerns and aspirations of our residents and incorporate them into her decision-making process will undoubtedly enhance the commission's effectiveness.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly endorse Joy Kimura for the position of a member of the Honolulu Planning Commission. Her knowledge, experience, and unwavering commitment to our city's sustainable growth and development make her an exceptional candidate for this vital role. I humbly urge you to confirm her appointment and am confident that she will serve our community with the utmost integrity and dedication.

Thank you for considering my endorsement of Joy Kimura, and I look forward to witnessing the positive impact she will undoubtedly have on the City and County of Honolulu.

Sincerely,

Keith Regan

Name: Daniel Kalili	Email: dankalili@aol.com	Zip: 96782
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 12, 2023 @ 10:47 AM

Testimony:  
ALOHA,

I HAVE KNOWN MS. JOY KIMURA FOR THE PAST 12 YEARS WHILE WE WERE BOTH LEGISLATURE STAFFERS. SHE HAS EXCELLED TRMENDOUSLY, BOTH PROFESSIONALLY AND PERSONALLY AND WOULD BRING GREAT KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

I STRONGLY SUPPORT CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF MS. JOY KIMURA TO SERVE ON THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU.

MAHALO

Name: Julie Arigo	Email: j.arigo@lotushonolulu.com	Zip: 96814
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 12, 2023 @ 11:09 AM

Name: Malia Lau	Email: malia@witlau.com	Zip: 96817-1400
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 12, 2023 @ 02:08 PM

Testimony:

Joy Kimura is a hard working, fair, and kind leader. She listens to all sides of an issue and helps to move progress along on projects and gets things done. She would be a huge asset to the planning committee.

Name: Will Kane	Email: willk@strategies360.com	Zip: 96813
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 12, 2023 @ 10:49 PM

Name: Teri Lynn Sato	Email: terisato.realtor@gmail.com	Zip: 96744
Representing: Soroptimist	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 13, 2023 @ 12:59 AM

Testimony:

As a past President of Soroptimist International of Honolulu and currently the 2022-2024 Soroptimist International of the Americas, Founder Region- District V Director, I have come to know Joy Kimura over the past few years. She was the President Elect and now the current 2023-2024 President of Soroptimist International of Honolulu.

Joy Kimura is very dedicated whenever she joins or participate in an organization or project. She is very resourceful for the good and whole of the organization. I strongly support Joy Kimura. I feel she will be a valuable asset to the Commission. She has high moral values and works hard. Her experience speaks for itself. She is willing to take on challenges with much dedication. Whatever she puts her heart into, she puts more than 100%. She pursues her passions and, thrives. She will be tremendous asset to the Commission and I trust her.

Name: Shannon Alivado	Email: shannon.alivado@gmail.com	Zip: 96795
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Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 13, 2023 @ 08:26 AM
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Name: Lloyd Haraguchi	Email: lloydharaguchi@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
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Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 13, 2023 @ 01:49 PM
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Testimony:

Chairman Water and Members of the Council:

I am in full support of Res 23-192 confirming the appointment of Joy Kimura to serve on the Planning Commission of the City and County of Honolulu.

I've worked with Joy and know that she will be a great asset as a member of the Planning Commission.

Joy is hard working, smart, has an established network, honest, good business sense and a team player.

As a single mother Joy has juggled work and raised her two children Jennifer, currently attending college and Jonathan. No wonder she's is 2023 Mother of the Year.

Joy will be an excellent member of the Planning Commission and humbly ask for your approval.

Thank you,  
Lloyd Haraguchi

Name: Patti Takayama	Email: ptakayama@hawaii.rr.com	Zip: 96814
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Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 13, 2023 @ 04:46 PM
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Testimony:

I approve Joy Kimura!

Name: Noriko Namiki	Email: nnamiki@ywcaoahu.org	Zip: 96813
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Representing: YWCA Oahu	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 14, 2023 @ 06:37 AM
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Name: Dre Kalili	Email: dreanalee@gmail.com	Zip: 96782
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Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 14, 2023 @ 07:21 AM
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Testimony:

Dear Chair Kiaina and Members of the Committee:

I offer written testimony in support of Resolution 23-192 and the appointment of Joy Kimura to the Planning Commission of the City and County of Honolulu.

I have known Joy Kimura for nearly a decade and believe her to be a good addition to the Planning Commission. Her professional experience and community involvement will be valuable to the City and County of Honolulu.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony and I respectfully urge your committee's favorable consideration of this appointment.

Mahalo,  
Dre Kalili





September 11, 2023

RE: Letter of Recommendation for Joy Kimura

To whom it may concern,

It is my pleasure to provide this recommendation letter for Joy Kimura, whom I have had the opportunity to work with as a colleague in our local business community and as a fellow board member of several organizations, to include the Organization of Women Leaders (OWL) and Soroptimist International of Honolulu.

As a colleague in the business community, I admire Joy's ability to take on challenging initiatives, oftentimes assuming a leadership role and contributing to its success. My first personal introduction to Joy was as a new member of the Organization of Women Leaders while I was serving as a board member in 2020. My immediate impression of Joy was one of admiration as she always demonstrates her sincere passion to community service, an excellence in going above and beyond when taking on a role of high responsibility, and serving as a voice in advocating for things she believes in. As such, I was not surprised when OWL recognized Joy as our 2021 Woman of the Year. That same year, Joy served on the Hawaii State Board of Naturopathic Medicine and on the Workforce Development Board, addressing topics she feels very strongly about. In 2022, Joy was spotlighted by the National AFL-CIO and Pride at Work for Asian American and Pacific Island Heritage Month for her advocacy work on issues related to affordable housing, development, and renewable energy.

Joy joined Soroptimist International of Honolulu while I was President-Elect in the year 2021. Shortly after joining our group, I immediately recognized her energy and engagement as a new member. As a result, I approached Joy to step into the President-Elect position when I became President in 2022. I knew she would be an active board member, and I was not disappointed. Joy took on the role of Chairperson for our Programs Committee, which was spearheading various community service initiatives we had planned throughout the year. Joy impressed everyone with her ability to connect with people in the community and helped to raise a record amount of funds and donations for our annual school supply drive for the children of Kahuiki Village, a community serving homeless families making strides to improve their lives. Joy also introduced Soroptimist International to local companies who became new partner donors to our club for our annual L.O.V.E. (Living our Vision Everyday) Fundraising Gala. Joy also brought in the most number of new members during my term as President.

Joy is not just a colleague in the business community but also someone I consider a very good friend. She is reliable, a good listener, empathetic, supportive, and uplifting.

I am honored to know Joy and appreciate your consideration of Joy's nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Arigo".

Julie Arigo

General Manager

The Honorable, Esther Kia'āiana, Chair  
The Honorable, Radiant Cordero, Vice Chair  
Members of the Committee on Planning and the Economy  
City and County of Honolulu  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**RE: RES 23-192 - CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF MS. JOY KIMURA TO SERVE ON THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

Aloha Chair Kia'āiana, Vice- Chair Cordero and members of the committee,

My name is Will Kane, and as an individual I submit testimony in **strong support** of the confirmation of Joy Kimura to the City & County of Honolulu Planning Commission.

I have known Ms. Kimura for several years and have worked with her on a variety of projects and policies. During this time, I have found her to be knowledgeable and conscientious in her work. She consistently goes above and beyond what is required and always looks to work collaboratively with all stakeholders involved.

Additionally, in my experience, Ms. Kimura's work style is one in which all sides are evaluated and weighed equally, and only after careful consideration of all factors, is the decision made. This approach is especially important to have on the Planning Commission, as it deals with complex and incredibly impactful issues that affect residents across the island.

In closing, I believe Joy Kimura is well suited for this position and would be a great addition to the Planning Commission. I humbly request you support this nomination.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.  
Will Kane

September 14, 2023

**Testimony in Support of Resolution 23-192  
Confirming the appointment of Ms. Joy Kimura to  
Serve on the Planning Commission of the City and County of Honolulu**

Honolulu City Council  
Wednesday, September 14, 2023  
9:00 a.m.  
Honolulu City Council Chamber

Dear Chair Kia`aina, Vice Chair Cordero and members of the committee,

My name is Shannon Alivado and I am writing in support of Resolution 23-192, confirming the appointment of Joy Kimura to the Planning Commission of the City and County of Honolulu. Ms. Kimura brings a wealth of knowledge from the private and public sector and her practical and real-world experience in construction will be an asset to the Planning Commission.

Ms. Kimura is dedicated to her family and profession and is always willing to volunteer her time with government and non-profit initiatives, including with Soroptimist International, the Chamber of Commerce and the Hawaii State Board of Naturopathic Medicine. I have had the pleasure of knowing Ms. Kimura for over ten years and her work ethic is tantamount to her success – she pays attention to detail, does thorough research, and completes projects efficiently and with the highest professionalism. I had the opportunity to work with Ms. Kimura on a joint initiative supporting a controversial project and despite the pushback from sectors of the community, we were able to gain favorable support from key stakeholders to represent the construction industry's interest.

Ms. Kimura's willingness to serve on such a demanding commission is a testament to her dedication and hard work to her community, She has a genuine interest in bringing compliance and accountability to the planning process and will be able to effectuate such principles and transparency. Please support Resolution 23-192 appointing Ms. Kimura to the Planning Commission. Thank you for this opportunity to share my support.

September 13, 2023

The Honorable Tommy Waters, Chair  
Members of the Honolulu City Council  
530 South King Street, Room 202  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of Resolution 23-192

Appointment of Ms. JOY KIMURA to serve on the Planning Commission of the City and County of Honolulu

Dear Chair and Councilmembers:

I would like to offer my support for Ms. Joy Kimura to serve on the Planning Commission of the City and County of Honolulu and ask for your favorable consideration of her nomination.

Ms. Kimura has been a long-time volunteer with our organization. She is the type of volunteer who does not hesitate to jump in to offer her help where it is most needed – from sorting out donations and folding second-hand clothes that are used in our programs to speaking to participants of the work readiness and work retention programs about the opportunities women could seek in non-traditional fields such as construction. Her discussions in this area have shown our program participants different career paths they otherwise might not have considered. Her passion to include more women in the construction industry is genuine.

Ms. Kimura is a compassionate and reliable volunteer. Every time I end a conversation with Ms. Kimura, whether on the phone or in person, her last words are, “Let me know how I can help.” And I know she means it every time she says it.

I rely on Ms. Kimura not only as an experienced volunteer but also as a subject matter expert in areas such as government relations, unions, affordable housing and construction. She has the ability to break down complicated matters and communicate them in a way to help people better understand them.

Ms. Kimura is a professional who possesses intelligence, patience and kindness. I have no doubt that she will be a great addition to the commission.

I strongly urge the members of the Honolulu City Council to support her selection by voting favorably on her nomination to the Honolulu Planning Commission.

Thank you very much.



Noriko Namiki  
CEO