RES26-097
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 202

*ZONING & PLANNING (ZON)

***ZONING & PLANNING (ZON) Meeting**

Meeting Date: May 21, 2026 @ 09:00 AM

Support: 9

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Daniel Dinell	ddinell@treesforhonolulu.org	96822
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Trees for Honolulu's Future	Support	May 18, 2026 @ 05:26 PM

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Susan Todani	onehulamommy@gmail.com	96821
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	May 18, 2026 @ 10:30 PM

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Cathy Camp	Cathy.Camp@cpb.bank	96813
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	May 19, 2026 @ 08:30 AM

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Sharon Gi	ignorahs@gmail.com	96712
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	May 19, 2026 @ 08:57 AM

Testimony:

Honorable Esther Kiaʻāina, Chair

Honorable Tommy Waters, Vice Chair

Members of the Committee on Zoning and Planning

City Council City and County of Honolulu

Strong Support of Resolution 26-097 CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF HILARIE ALOMAR TO SERVE ON THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

My name is Sharon Gi and I am a real estate developer and consultant. I write in strong support of Resolution 26—097, confirming the appointment of Ms. Hilarie Alomar to serve on the Planning Commission of the City and County of Honolulu.

Previously Ms. Alomar and I worked together as colleagues for seven years at Kamehameha Schools' Commercial Real Estate Division. I can attest to not only the depth of her technical expertise relating to land use and master planning, but also her collaborative style and commitment to doing what is pono for Hawaii's future.

I can think of no better candidate for the Planning Commission and I wholeheartedly support Ms. Alomar's nomination.

Mahalo piha,

Sharon Gi		
Name: Ulalia Lee	Email: ulalia.woodside@gmail.com	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: May 19, 2026 @ 09:33 AM
Name: Kawika McKeague	Email: kawikam@g70.design	Zip: 96744
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: May 19, 2026 @ 10:35 AM
Name: Sherri Hiraoka	Email: sherri@townscapeinc.com	Zip: 96813
Representing: Townscape, Inc.	Position: Support	Submitted: May 20, 2026 @ 09:55 AM
Name: Antoinette "Konia" Freitas	Email: konia808@gmail.com	Zip: 96701
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: May 20, 2026 @ 11:19 AM

Testimony:

Honorable Ester Kiaʻaina, Chair

Honorable Tommy Waters, Vice Chair

Members of the Committee on Zoning and Planning, City Council City and County of Honolulu

May 20, 2026

Strong Support of Resolution 26-097 CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF HILARIE ALOMAR TO SERVE ON THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

My name is Antoinette “Konia” Freitas, and I write in strong support of Resolution 26-097, confirming the appointment of Ms. Hilarie Alomar to serve on the Planning Commission of the City and County of Honolulu.

As background, I was born and raised on Oʻahu Island and currently reside in Hālawa, Oʻahu. I teach at the Center for Hawaiian Studies at the UH Mānoa campus. I hold a Ph.D. in Urban and Regional Planning, and I have work experience in both the public and private sectors.

Over the past 20 years, Ms. Alomar has built a record of real-world experience in planning and related fields that qualify

her to serve as a planning commissioner. She has thorough knowledge of land use planning, policies, and principles as illustrated by her work with master planning, entitlements, and permitting that span commercial, agricultural, and conservation lands. She can apply planning expertise in multiple related fields that include real estate, financing, asset management, capital project budgeting, investment, and performance measures. Her membership in the Urban Land Institute and the American Planning Association keeps her up to date on future planning trends as well as their challenges, including the critical issues surrounding climate change.

In closing, I believe Ms. Alomar will continue to serve your planning commission well. I respectfully request your favorable consideration of her appointment. You are welcome to contact me about this letter of support at konia808@gmail.com.

Me ke aloha,

Konia Freitas, PhD

Name: Ian Custino	Email: ian@togetherhi.com	Zip: 96813-1812
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: May 20, 2026 @ 06:03 PM

Written Testimony before the
Zoning & Planning Committee, Honolulu City Council
Thursday, May 21, 2026 at 9:00 am

RE: Resolution 26-097 CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF HILARIE ALOMAR TO SERVE ON THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU.

Committee Chair Kia'āina and Committee Members:

Trees for Honolulu's Future is a nonprofit organization with a vision of a tree-filled island that preserves and enhances our quality of life, especially in the face of climate change.

We were pleased to support Hilarie Alomar when she was first appointed to the Planning Commission of the City and County of Honolulu in 2021, and today we are equally pleased to strongly support her reappointment.

Hilarie has served on our board of directors since 2020. We were initially drawn to her complete package: a master's degree in urban and regional planning; her deep knowledge of Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, including land use and law; and her professional experience firstly with a leading local planning firm and now with the state's largest private landowner. Since joining our board, she has contributed in myriad ways. She is thoughtful, dependable, and consistently engaged, asking probing questions, readily sharing her expertise, and approaching challenges with a collaborative, "can do" attitude. These qualities and background are helpful to the Planning Commission.

Hilarie is a principled individual who is deeply committed to improving our island home and advancing solutions that are both pragmatic and fair. Honolulu will be well served by her continued presence on this important commission.

We respectfully ask that this resolution be acted upon favorably by the Committee and returned to the full Council for final action and adoption.

Mahalo,

Daniel Dinell
President

Visit us: www.TreesForHonolulu.org *Contact us:* info@TreesForHonolulu.org *Voice/Fax/Text:* 808-707-6353
P.O. Box 12051, Honolulu, Hawaii 96828

Susan W. F. Todani
onehulamommy@gmail.com
(808) 542-1966

May 18, 2026

City Council
City & County of Honolulu
Councilmember Esther Kia'āina, Chair
Councilmember Tommy Waters, Vice Chair
Via City Testimony Web Portal

Subject: Resolution 26-097—Recommendation for the Reappointment of Ms. Hilarie Alomar to the Planning Commission
May 21, 2026 - 9:00 am, Zoning and Planning Committee

Aloha Chair Kia'āina, Co-Chair Waters, Members of the Zoning and Planning Committee and City Council,

My name is Susan Todani. I am the Chair of the Waikiki Community Center, a former Chairman of the Hawaii Community Development Authority, and Executive Committee Member for Lambda Alpha International (an honorary land economics society). **I am in strong support of Hilarie Alomar to be reappointed to the *Planning Commission* of the City and County of Honolulu.** I have retired from Kamehameha Schools where I was Hilarie's former supervisor, colleague, and friend, and am writing in my individual capacity.

I believe that Hilarie will be an immense asset to the Planning Commission for the following reasons:

- **Extremely strong background and practical knowledge of Hawaii land planning policies and issues from multiple perspectives** including as a consultant, landowner, petitioner, and community member.

- **Grounded in Native Hawaiian cultural values and practices** from her heritage, her work at Kamehameha Schools and participation in a Native Hawaiian Planning Hui, a group of land use planning professionals and practitioners with a focus on cultural knowledge and practices.

- **Experienced in land development** at Kamehameha Schools including work on engaging the community to facilitate the Kapalama Master Plan,North Shore Master Plan, obtaining zoning entitlements, preparing financial feasibility and construction at *Hale'iwa* Store Lots, developing and securing HCDA entitlements through the Kaka'ako o Kaiaulu Master Plan, zoning, permitting and design of Kapaeloa Learning Project, and other capital infrastructure projects to enable and guide development.

- **Ability to bring a woman's perspective** to the Planning Commission, including being an excellent listener, team builder, multi-tasker (extraordinaire!) and problem solver.

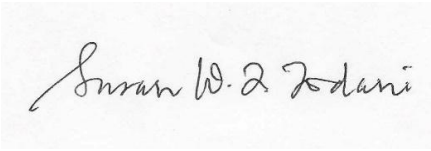
I hired Hilarie into Kamehameha Schools as one of the very first staff members of the newly formed *Planning and Development Division* in the Commercial Real Estate Department because she brought the best of external best practices in land planning from UH Manoa's *Masters of Urban and Regional Planning* and through her many years of land planning at Townscape Inc. She was also an exceptional fit because of her great cultural sensitivity and a "no-nonsense" Hilo attitude which were both critically important at KS.

At Kamehameha Schools, Hilarie is currently a Development director where she leads many project teams in various land regions. She is excellent in this capacity due to her background in land planning and entitlement; ability to be a good listener and community facilitator, often in difficult situations; sensitivity to cultural concerns; and ability to foster relationships with the Hawaiian community and cultural descendants. She has helped to gain community consensus and turn around support for projects and plans in areas with complicated issues and community concerns.

On a personal note, I can attest that Hilarie is very conscientious, enjoyable to work with, is not afraid to speak her mind and is someone who brings solutions and balance to complicated situations or issues. Hilarie was invited to membership of Lambda Alpha International in 2020, an organization which I serve on the Executive Committee, due to her outstanding contributions to community land planning in Hawaii.

I appreciate the opportunity to offer my comments and recommendations and whole-heartedly believe that Hilarie will continue to serve the City extremely well on the Planning Commission. Please feel free to call on me if I can answer any questions or assist you in any way.

Mahalo nui loa,



Susan W. F. Todani

City Council
City & County of Honolulu
Councilmember Tommy Waters, Chair
Councilmember Esther Kia'aina, Vice-Chair

Testimony in Support of Resolution 26-097
Appointment of Hilarie Alomar to the City and County of Honolulu Planning Commission

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Kia'aina, and Members of the Council,

My name is Cathy Camp. I serve as the Executive Vice President of Customer and Community Impact at Central Pacific Bank, am a member of the Ka Ohao Charter School Board of Directors, and a resident of Kailua.

I respectfully submit this testimony in strong support of Resolution 26-097 regarding the appointment of Hilarie Alomar to the City and County of Honolulu Planning Commission.

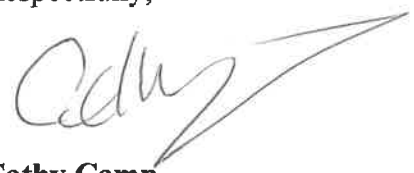
I have had the privilege of knowing and working with Hilarie for more than 20 years and have consistently been impressed by her dedication to our community, strong work ethic, and ability to bring people together across diverse perspectives. She approaches challenges thoughtfully, listens carefully, and works collaboratively to develop balanced and practical solutions.

Hilarie's expertise in public policy, experience navigating and coordinating across multiple government agencies, deep commitment to community planning, and longstanding record of public service make her exceptionally qualified for this role. She understands the importance of thoughtful planning decisions and the lasting impact they have on our neighborhoods, economic vitality, and quality of life.

Equally important, Hilarie leads with integrity, fairness, and a genuine commitment to serving the broader community. I am confident she will bring both expertise and sound judgment to the Planning Commission.

Mahalo for your time and favorable consideration of Hilarie Alomar's appointment.

Respectfully,



Cathy Camp
Executive Vice President, Customer and Community Impact
Central Pacific Bank
Board Member, Ka Ohao Charter School
Kailua Resident

Zoning & Planning Committee
City & County of Honolulu

Resolution 26-097 - Confirming the Reappointment of Hilarie Alomar
to Serve on the Planning Commission

Thursday. May 21, 2026

Aloha Chair Kiaāina, Vice Chair Waters, and Members of the Zoning and Planning Committee,

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Resolution 26-097 — Reappointment of Hilarie Alomar to serve on the Planning Commission of the City and County of Honolulu.

I am Ulalia Woodside Lee and I am pleased to provide testimony in strong support of Resolution 26-097 and Ms. Hilarie Alomar's reappointment to serve on the City and County of Honolulu Planning Commission. I have known Ms. Alomar for nearly 30 years starting with her graduate education in Urban and Regional Planning and through her career as a professional planner. My testimony from her initial appointment remains relatively unchanged. In the recent years, my understanding of Ms. Alomar's experience and expertise in land use and planning, and her commitment to Honolulu, Hawaii and its communities has been affirmed. Ms. Alomar's career and professional resume has continually demonstrated her expertise and competency with land use and planning, she is hard-working, an advocate of community voice, and dedicated to improving our community.

Ms. Alomar possesses the credentials to be an excellent Planning Commissioner. She has attained educational experience in the planning field, maintained professional continuing education through the American Planning Association, Hawaii Congress of Planning Officials, and Urban Land Institute. Additionally, she consistently demonstrates planning, land-use and development expertise by contributing to recognized and award winning, complex, and impactful planning projects. Through her more than two-decade career, she has gained extensive knowledge of the development and construction industry on Oahu and has earned respect and credibility with diverse communities and stakeholders. Ms. Alomar's particular area of expertise as exhibited through her experience and through her work on various successful community, commercial, transit-oriented, and mixed-use projects from Hawaii Kai, to Kāneohe, to Kakaako, to Haleiwa, is land use planning policies and principles with a strong understanding and commitment to Native Hawaiian principles, traditional and customary use, and community inclusivity.

Her land use planning policy, regulatory compliance, community engagement skills and especially her experience with Native Hawaiian community, resources, co-management and planning principles will serve the Planning Commission well. She cares deeply for Hawaii's people and is committed to helping improve the place we all call home.

Mahalo for your time and favorable consideration of Hilarie Alomar to serve on the Planning Commission of the City and County of Honolulu. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at ulalia.woodside@gmail.com.

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May 19, 2026

Esther Kiaʻāina, Chair
Tommy Waters, Vice Chair
City and County of Honolulu
Honolulu City Council
Committee on Zoning & Planning
530 South King Street, Room 100
Honolulu, Hawaiʻi 96813

Subject: RES26-097 Confirming the Reappointment of Hilarie Alomar to Serve on the Planning Commission of the City and County of Honolulu

Aloha mai e Chair Kiaʻāina, Vice Chair Waters, and members of the Zoning and Planning Committee:

I am writing in strong support of Resolution 26-097, confirming the reappointment of Hilarie Alomar to serve on the Planning Commission of the City and County of Honolulu.

I offer this testimony as President of G70 and as a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners, and also as someone who has known and respected Ms. Alomar for many years as a colleague and trusted leader in Hawaiʻi's planning and land use community.

There is an ʻōlelo noʻeau, "'Ike ʻia ka loea i ke kuahu," through which we are reminded that expertise is known by the altar one builds. I have always understood this teaching as more than a measure of skill or accomplishment. It is a deeper recognition that the quality of a person's work is revealed over time by what they tend with care, what they give form to through discipline, what they protect when it would be easier not to, and what remains as evidence of their values, judgment, and kuleana. In considering Ms. Alomar's reappointment to the Planning Commission, I believe this is the right lens. Her qualification is not merely stated in a résumé, and it is not merely satisfied by the existence of a Charter category. It is seen in the way she has carried herself in service to ʻāina, community, culture, and the public responsibilities entrusted to her.

When I testified in support of Ms. Alomar's appointment in 2021, I spoke to qualities that were already evident to many of us who had worked with her. I spoke to her intellect, compassion, cultural grounding, and the way her leadership is guided by naʻau, aloha, and a deep sense of responsibility to people and place. I believed then that she was highly qualified to serve. I believe that even more strongly today because her continued service has allowed those qualities to be tested through the actual work of public decision-making, where good intention alone is never enough and where judgment must be demonstrated in the discipline of listening, weighing, discerning, and carrying responsibility on behalf of the broader public.

The question before the Council is not simply whether Ms. Alomar meets the technical requirements for reappointment. The Charter’s recognition of Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, Native Hawaiian law, or traditional Hawaiian land usage should be read with the seriousness it deserves, especially in a time when O‘ahu is being asked to make decisions that will define the relationship between growth, protection, infrastructure, cultural continuity, and community stability for generations to come. In Hawai‘i, this requirement should never be understood as an ornamental qualification added to a conventional land use body. It reflects the truth that planning here is incomplete when it is severed from ‘āina, history, culture, customary practice, and the lived responsibilities that continue to shape how our communities understand and evolve to place over time.

I say this as a planner whose own professional practice has been shaped by the understanding that planning is never neutral, because the same tools that can divide communities, deepen mistrust, and leave people feeling like late-stage respondents to decisions already formed can also, when approached with humility, listening, and accountability, become a way to restore relationship, clarify responsibility, and make public decisions with a fuller awareness of the people and places that must live with their consequences. Planning can reduce land to entitlement, zoning, infrastructure, and development capacity, or it can help us ask the harder and more necessary questions about what should be protected, what must be repaired, what can responsibly change, and who carries the consequence when those decisions are made. In Hawai‘i, the better expression of this work is found when technical discipline is held together with cultural responsibility, community trust, and a clear understanding that decisions about land are also decisions about belonging, continuity, and the obligations we pass forward.

That is why Ms. Alomar’s continued service matters. She brings to the Planning Commission a professional understanding of land use, policy, process, and development, but she also brings the sensibility of a Kanaka Maoli planner who understands that decisions about ‘āina are also decisions about community trust, ancestral memory, and civic responsibility across generations. She understands that cultural grounding and professional rigor are not competing values. In Hawai‘i, they must inform one another if the work is to have credibility, depth, and staying power.

O‘ahu is at a point where the decisions before the City are no longer only about managing growth, but about whether growth can be guided with enough discipline, cultural grounding, and public trust to remain accountable to the places and people who will live with the consequences of those decisions. The pressure to meet continued housing needs is real, but it now arrives within a much more complicated civic landscape where infrastructure, climate adaptation, redevelopment, cultural resources, and community stability are increasingly tied together, and where the harder responsibility is having the judgment to understand how one urgency can unintentionally override another, and how planning decisions made in the name of progress can either strengthen or weaken the continuity of place.

These are not challenges that can be answered by technical analysis alone, and they are not challenges that can be answered by sentiment alone. They require decision-

makers who can hold urgency and restraint in the same conversation, who can respect process without hiding behind it, who can listen to community manaʻo without treating public testimony as a procedural requirement, and who can recognize that a recommendation made by the Planning Commission may become part of a much longer story for the people and places affected by it. In my view, Ms. Alomar is exceptionally well suited to that responsibility because she brings the steadiness, cultural grounding, professional discipline, and humility that this moment requires.

What I have always respected in Ms. Alomar is that she does not separate the formal work of planning from the responsibilities that give that work meaning in Hawaiʻi. She understands the planning framework, the institutional process, and the policy question, while also recognizing the cultural and community dimensions that are too often treated as secondary when they should be central to the discussion. She brings aloha for place without losing professional clarity, cultural grounding without making culture performative, and planning experience that remains grounded in the real communities, histories, and responsibilities affected by public decision-making. In that respect, her continued service brings real value to the Planning Commission and to the broader public it serves.

In the spirit of "ʻIke ʻia ka loea i ke kuahu," Ms. Alomar's service is already its own evidence. It reflects a way of carrying public responsibility that is grounded, disciplined, and attentive to the relationship between ʻāina, community, and decision-making. That is the kind of leadership Honolulu needs on its Planning Commission.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Council to confirm the reappointment of Hilarie Alomar to the Planning Commission with my fullest confidence and support. Mahalo piha.

Naʻu me ka pono,

GROUP 70 INTERNATIONAL, INC., dba G70

Mark Kawika McKeague, FAICP
Pelekikena

TOWNSCAPE, INC.
Environmental & Community Planning

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May 20, 2026

Honorable Esther Kiaʻāina, Chair
Honorable Tommy Waters, Vice Chair
Members of the Zoning and Planning Committee
City & County of Honolulu

STRONG SUPPORT OF RESOLUTION 26-097
CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF HILARIE ALOMAR TO SERVE ON THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

Zoning and Planning Committee Meeting, Thursday, May 21, 2026

Aloha Chair Kiaʻāina, Vice Chair Waters, and Members of the Zoning and Planning Committee,

I would like to offer my strong support of RESOLUTION 26-097 CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF HILARIE ALOMAR TO SERVE ON THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU.

I am a resident of East Honolulu and President of Townscape, Inc., a private planning firm located in Honolulu, Hawaiʻi, and have had the privilege of becoming Hilarie's colleague and friend 25 years ago. Her strong work ethic and drive to do what's right by communities were evident even at the start of our careers and she continuously strove to improve her planning practice. I have always admired how she is able to wade through the many details to find what is important and apply it toward finding a solution and I continue to be impressed with how she leads complex projects and personalities.

Her skills in community, land use, and environmental planning, as well as economic development, will continue to be an asset on the Planning Commission. With a diverse range of experiences and collaborative approach, Hilarie is able to consider multiple interests and perspectives and apply them toward balanced decision-making.

Over and above her professional skills, Hilarie is kind and generous and truly wishes to serve her community in order make our Hawaiʻi a great place to live today and into the future. At a time when public trust in government is declining, Hilarie's integrity will be an asset to a Commission that affects all of the citizens of Honolulu. She has my full support.

I respectfully urge your favorable consideration of Hilarie Alomar's reappointment.

Mahalo,

Sherri Hiraoka

Sherri Hiraoka

RE: RESOLUTION 26-097 - CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF HILARIE ALOMAR TO SERVE ON THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU.

May 20, 2026

Aloha mai e Chair Waters and Councilmembers,

I am writing in strong support of Mrs. Alomar's re-appointment to the Planning Commission. I have had the opportunity to work with Mrs. Alomar over the years. She has proven to be an experienced and knowledgeable subject area expert in planning, as well as a passionate advocate of Hawaiian and local cultures here in Hawai'i.

Mrs. Alomar has a long and impressive resume documenting her skill and advanced education in planning. Her professional accolades speak for themselves, and I have witnessed her talents on projects that have worked closely with her on. Mrs. Alomar cares deeply about what happens here in our home. There are many with planning credentials who qualify to sit on the commission, but we need people who care deeply about this 'āina. Rooted in place and with a moral compass centered firmly in things Hawaii, I believe Mrs. Alomar is the right candidate for the planning commission. Guided by her years of professional experience and supported by local roots and a cultural foundation, she will deliver balanced, informed, and thoughtful work for the people of Hawai'i in her role at the commission.

Thank you for your consideration of my strong support of Mrs. Alomar for appointment to the planning commission. Please contact me directly with any questions.

Mahalo,

Ian Keali'i Custino, ABD

Community Member

City Council District 5