

Resolution 21-22 Testimony

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Imanaka Asato

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Imanaka Asato
A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW COMPANY

January 15, 2021

Representative Tommy Waters, Chair
Members of the Honolulu City Council
City & County of Honolulu
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-3077

**RE: RESOLUTION 21-22 – SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND
CONFIRMATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. DEAN Y. UCHIDA TO
SERVE AS THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING OF THE
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

Dear Chair Waters, and Members of the Committee:

I have known Dean Uchida for many years. He is a solid individual who says what he means and does what he says he will do.

Dean's work history is demonstrative of his deep and abiding commitment to public service and to moving our community forward. He has served in roles that have provided him with a wide range of experience in land use and development issues for almost 40 years. There are not many people who have that length and depth of experience and engagement who are willing to tackle the issues that he will face as director of the Department of Planning and Permitting. He has worked as Land Administrator at the State level, as a Senior Planner at DLNR, as the Executive Director of the Land Use Research Foundation, a non-profit organization that serves as a resource for information on planning and best practices. He has also worked at a high level in the private sector for a well-respected and large *local* engineering firm that has roots here, but that has grown through the years and also does work overseas.

Because of his experience and practical (as opposed to theoretical) engagement through the years, he will be able to hit the ground running on a whole host of issues, including the City's permitting processes, which is critical for everyone in our community, especially today where our community will be in economic recovery mode.

I have every confidence that Dean will serve well, and be of immense benefit to the City and to the community.

Accordingly, I respectfully urge your favorable consideration and an early confirmation of his appointment.

Very truly yours,
IMANAKA ASATO

Mitchell A. Imanaka



1288 Ala Moana Blvd. Suite 201
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
tel (808) 524-1508
fax (808) 524-0766
web kobayashi-group.com
email info@kobayashi-group.com

January 20, 2021

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

RE: RES21-22
Relating to the nomination of Dean Uchida
To serve as the Director of Planning and Permitting

Dear Chair Waters and Members of the City Council,

My name is Patrick Kobayashi and I serve as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Kobayashi Group. I am writing to express my strong support of the appointment of Dean Y. Uchida as Director of the City's Department of Planning and Permitting.

I have known and worked closely Mr. Uchida for many years and believe he possess the credentials to be an excellent Director for the Department of Planning and Permitting. His years of leadership experience in private corporations and public agencies demonstrate his commitment to public service and skills in working with various stakeholders to accomplish objectives. I have full confidence in his ability to provide a realistic, balanced and qualified approach to leading the department.

I thank you in advance for your favorable consideration of this appointment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick K. Kobayashi". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "P" and a long, horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Patrick K. Kobayashi
President & CEO
Kobayashi Group LLC

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2021 10:11 AM
Subject: Council Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Matthew Pennaz
Phone 8082166811
Email mpennaz@kobayashi-group.com
Meeting Date 01-27-2021
Council/PH Committee Council
Agenda Item Dean Uchida Nomination
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Dear Chair Watters and Councilmembers,

Written
Testimony

I am pleased to submit this testimony in Support of Dean Uchida for Director of DPP. Dean has extensive qualifications in Planning, Engineering, Infrastructure, and Development. Honolulu would be well served to have Dean working in this position.

Aloha,
Matthew Pennaz

Testimony
Attachment

Accept Terms
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



January 22, 2021

Honolulu City Council
Attn: Chair Waters
Honolulu Hale
530 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of Dean Uchida as Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting

Dear Chair Waters and Members of the City Council:

On behalf of EAH Housing, it gives me great pleasure to provide our strong support for the nomination of Dean Uchida as the Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting for the City and County of Honolulu.

As you may know, EAH is a 52-year-old non-profit low-income rental housing developer and manager primarily serving those at 60% AMI and below - where the demand for housing is the greatest. Developing these projects is not an easy task requiring extensive interactions at all levels of government including planning and permitting, as Dean is well aware.

I have known Dean for over 15 years. We have served together over the years on various Affordable Housing Committees and Task Forces in attempts to provide a pathway to mitigate our ongoing housing crisis. Dean's leadership skills were instrumental in helping to create Partners in Housing, a strategic partnership between the Building Industry Association (BIA) and low-income housing advocates, two groups which do not always see eye to eye on housing issues. Each group agreed to put their differences aside and focus on what we both could agree on regarding housing policies at the State and County levels.

Dean has extensive experience and knowledge of the housing development process at all income levels. We, at EAH, are confident that Dean is the best person to lead the Department of Planning and Permitting. Please give his nomination your unanimous support. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Kevin R. Carney, RB-16444 (PB), NAHP-E
Vice President, Hawaii

Randolph G. Moore
2445-A Makiki Heights Drive
Honolulu Hawaii 96822

Telephone (808) 778-8832

email makikimoore@gmail.com

January 22, 2021

The Honorable Tommy Waters, chair and presiding officer
and members of the City Council
City Council
City Hall
Honolulu, Hawaii

Dear Chair Waters and members of the City Council:

Subject: Resolution no. 21-22

Confirming the nomination of Dean Y. Uchida to serve as the Director of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my strong support for the nomination of Dean Y. Uchida to serve as the director of planning and permitting of the City and County of Honolulu.

I regret that I will not be able to testify in person because this meeting conflicts with another meeting that has been previously scheduled.

I have known Mr. Uchida for many years and most recently when I served as chair and he as a member of the board of directors of Hawaii Housing Development Corporation during his seven-year tenure as a director of that nonprofit developer of rental apartment projects for low-income individuals and families.

Mr. Uchida is knowledgeable about how government works, how real estate development and construction work, and the rationale for rules and regulations that guide real estate development and construction. Additionally, he is respectful of divergent perspectives, honest, and honorable.

The people of Oahu are fortunate that he is willing to offer his services as director of the DPP.

I support his appointment without reservation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Randolph G. Moore



January 22, 2021

Chair Tommy Waters
Vice-chair Esther Kia'aina
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Confirming the Nominations of Dean Y. Uchida to Serve as the Director of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu

Hearing date: January 27, 2021 at 10:00 am

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the Council,

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in SUPPORT of the selection and confirmation of Dean Y. Uchida for the Director position of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu. NAIOP Hawaii is the local chapter of the nation's leading organization for office, industrial, retail, residential and mixed-use real estate. NAIOP Hawaii has over 200 members in the State including local developers, owners, investors, asset managers, lenders and other professionals.

NAIOP Hawaii members have had the pleasure of working with Dean during his 11 years as the Senior Project Manager of SSFM International, Inc. NAIOP members have also collaborated with Dean in his capacity as Chair of the Hawaii Chamber of Commerce Land Use and Transportation Committee and as a board member of the Hawaii Housing Development Corporation. In these roles, Dean has brought significant knowledge of planning principles and project management allowing him to overcome any difficulties he has encountered. Dean has exemplified a unique attention to detail by consistently striving to improve financial oversight and focusing on the socioeconomic issues associated with executing complex projects.

Dean's experience includes wide variety of projects including the first multi-agency project on State owned lands leading to the construction of affordable housing and juvenile counseling facilities. He has exemplified the ability to engage with governmental agencies to secure land use entitlements and negotiate agreements for projects such as the first master planned community to integrate the City's High Capacity Transit Project. It will be essential to have a Director with Dean's skills, knowledge and experience to guide development in the City for many years to come.

We strongly support your selection of Dean Y. Uchida for the Director position of the Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu.

Chair Tommy Waters
Vice-chair Esther Kia'āina
January 22, 2021

Mahalo for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Catherine Camp', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Catherine Camp, President
NAIOP Hawaii

January 24, 2021

Chair Tommy Waters and Members of the Council
City and County Council of Honolulu Meeting of January 28, 2021
By Council Link for Testimony

Re: Council Resolution 21-22, Nomination of Dean Y. Uchida to serve as Director of Planning & Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu

Dear Chair Waters and Council Members:

This testimony is in **STRONG SUPPORT** for Dean Y. Uchida to serve as the Director of Planning & Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu. I have known Dean for over twenty-five years and have worked with him on a large variety of projects both as a Board member and hiring Dean to work on development projects for the companies in which I was employed.

The most relevant to me was his leadership of the Land Division of the Hawaii Department of Land & Natural Resources, during the time I was serving as the Kauai representative on the Land Board. The Land Division under Dean's leadership progressed to having a computerized inventory of the State lands. He also held a stronger adherence to HRS and HAR, and brought his staff to holding violators more accountable. We have limited land resources as the state, and he worked to be sure that there was a balance in the public, private, and government interests.

His subsequent employment in development entities where he was responsible for obtaining permits and entitlements brings him first hand knowledge of the Department of Planning & Permitting. Knowing Dean, he has ready a number of changes that will make this department work more efficiently and timely for everyone.

I humbly ask that you **SUPPORT** the resolution for Dean Y. Uchida to serve as the Director of Planning & Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu. Your consideration is greatly appreciated. Mahalo!

Lynn McCrory
Retired
lmccrory654@gmail.com
60 N. Beretania Street #3203
Honolulu, HI 96817
808-639-8442



111 S. King Street 23 January 2021

Suite 170

Honolulu, HI 96813

808.523.5866

www.g70.design

Council Chairman Tommy Waters

Honolulu City Council

530 South King Street, Suite 202

Honolulu, HI 96813

Attn: Committee Chair Brandon Elefante
Zoning, Planning & Housing Committee

Subject: Resolution 21-22
Letter of Support for Dean Y. Uchida to Serve as Director of Planning and Permitting for the City and County of Honolulu

Aloha Chair Waters:

On behalf of Group 70 International, Inc. (dba G70) we present this letter in support for the nomination of Dean Uchida to serve as Director of Planning and Permitting for the City and County of Honolulu.

Dean Uchida is an accomplished professional in the fields of land use planning, government land agency administration and community development. G70 has witnessed Dean serve for nearly four decades in diverse roles in the land use profession. Though the years, Dean has gained tremendous experience with planning and permitting at both the State and County levels. His broad experience has included many challenging projects and major land utilization activities which required decisions to balance the important factors of our community, the environment, and our economy.

Dean Uchida has proven capabilities to the help lead Honolulu forward in addressing the many complex issues we face in planning and permitting. We recommend that the City Council approve the appointment of Dean Uchida to become our Director of Planning and Permitting.

Sincerely,

GROUP 70 INTERNATIONAL, INC. (dba G70)

Jeffrey H. Overton, AICP, LEED-AP
Principal

U.S. REALTY PARTNERS, INC.

**5743 Corsa Avenue, Suite 215
Westlake Village, California 91362
818.575.6006**

January 25, 2021

Council Chairman Tommy Waters
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Suite 202
Honolulu, HI 96813

Attn: Committee Chair Brandon Elefante
Zoning, Planning & Housing Committee

**Subject: Resolution 21-22
Letter of Support for Dean Y. Uchida to Serve as Director of Planning and
Permitting for the City and County of Honolulu**

Aloha Chair Waters:

On behalf of U.S. Realty Partners, Inc. we are pleased to present this letter in support for the nomination of Dean Uchida to serve as Director of Planning and Permitting for the City and County of Honolulu.

We believe that Dean Uchida is an accomplished professional in the fields of land use planning, government land agency administration and community development. His broad experience includes many challenging projects and major land utilization activities which required careful consideration to balance the important factors of community, the environment, and the economy.

We recommend that the City Council approve the appointment of Dean Uchida to become Director of Planning and Permitting.

Very truly yours,
U.S. Realty Partners, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Jay Kerner", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jay Kerner
President and CEO



January 23, 2021

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

Subject: Resolution 21-22 for Appointment of Dean Uchida as Director, Department of
Plans and Permits

Dear Chair Waters and Councilmembers:

I would like to give my strong recommendation for the appointment of Dean Uchida as Director, Department of Plans and Permits for the City and County of Honolulu. I had the pleasure of knowing Dean as we served on the Greenbelt Committee for Newtown Estates Community Association. Dean demonstrated a refreshing view and thoughtful recommendations for the issues faced by the Association.

Dean will bring a wealth of innovative management and leadership experience to the Department of Plans and Permits based on his private and public sector experience serving in senior management positions. Dean was responsible for managing complex projects with difficult external pressures and was able to complete them on time and within budget. For these reasons, Dean Uchida is the best person to lead this department and has my strongest recommendation.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at bobleehnl@msn.com or (808) 226-7999 (mobile). My address is: 98-1775 Halakea Street, Aiea, HI 96701

Sincerely,

Robert G.F. Lee
Major General
US Army (Retired)
Former Adjutant General (2003-2011)

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, January 25, 2021 9:05 PM
Subject: Council Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	Ryan Sakuda
Phone	(808)286-9338
Email	ryan@gcahawaii.org
Meeting Date	01-27-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	RES 21-22
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Organization
Organization	General Contractors Association of Hawaii
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67



HAWAII LABORERS-EMPLOYERS COOPERATION AND EDUCATION TRUST

650 Iwilei Road, Suite 285 · Honolulu, HI 96817 · Phone: 808-845-3238 · Fax: 808-845-8300

January 26, 2021

**HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
City Council Chamber
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
DATE: Wednesday, January 27, 2021
TIME: 10:00 a.m.**

TESTIMONY ON RESOLUTION 21-22 – CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF DEAN Y. UCHIDA TO SERVE AS THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

To Council Chair Waters, Vice Chair Kia'aina and members of the Honolulu City Council:

Hawaii LECET is a labor-management partnership between the Hawaii Laborers' International Union of North America, Local 368, its' 5000+ members and its' 250+ unionized contractors. The Laborers' International Union of North America is the largest construction union in the United States.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of Resolution 21-22, which seeks to confirm Dean Y. Uchida as the Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting for the City and County of Honolulu. Dean has extensive experience in planning and construction, having worked in the construction industry for close to 20 years. In addition, he has held leadership positions in government and the private sector, as the past Executive Director for the Hawaii Housing and Development Corporation, former Vice President for D.R. Horton and past Executive Director for the Land Use Research Foundation.

The Department of Planning and Permitting will benefit greatly from Dean's institutional knowledge of Hawaii's policies regarding land use and development. His experience in the construction industry will enable him to effectively implement new ideas to assist with streamlining processes and effect positive change. For these reasons, Hawaii LECET supports Dean's nomination as the Director for the Department of Planning and Permitting for the City and County of Honolulu. Thank you for your consideration.

With respect,

Hawaii Laborers-Employers Cooperation & Education Trust

Joy Kimura
8083887128
jkimura@hawaiiilecet.org

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, January 25, 2021 3:21 PM
Subject: Council Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	Kathleen M Pahinui
Phone	808-637-8545
Email	pahinuik001@hawaii.rr.com
Meeting Date	01-27-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Reso 21-22
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67



January 25, 2021

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

Re: Resolution 21-22

Dear Chair and Councilmembers:

This is to express my enthusiastic support for the appointment of Dean Y. Uchida as Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting ("DPP").

I have known Dean since 25 years from when he served as the Land Division Administrator at the State Department of Land and Natural Resources ("DLNR") and I was a member of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. He was probably the youngest manager in the DLNR at that time but quickly demonstrated himself to be one of the most capable leaders in the department. He worked well with others and was able to command the respect of others more senior than him based on his personality and competence. Under his guidance, the Land Division of DLNR saw tangible improvements in its operations and systems.

After Dean left the State to work in the private sector, I maintained a relationship with him through his professional activities. To no surprise, he quickly rose to prominence as a leader with the organizations he was employed but also by volunteering with industry and trade organizations.

Our City is fortunate to have someone with Dean's background and qualifications willing to again enter public service. His background in government will undoubtedly be helpful in enabling him to address the challenges facing DPP. It is important that public confidence in the proper administration of DPP be restored especially in difficult economic times. Dean has my every confidence that he will be able to contribute to restoring public trust in this important government agency.

Please take favorable action in approving Dean Uchida's appointment as Director of DPP.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colbert Matsumoto'.

Colbert Matsumoto
Chairman

Participation in sports has clear physical and emotional health benefits. The current climate of the pandemic has put increasing stress on families with fewer and fewer outlets available for releasing that stress. Organized sports allow participants to be in a different environment out of the house, engage with peers and coaches, and do physical activity which can improve cardiovascular health, bone and muscle strength, immune system health and emotional well-being.

Young athletes learn teamwork, comradery, negotiation and conflict resolution in a team environment. They also benefit from mentoring from coaches who often provide support on and off the playing field. Athletes gain self confidence and leadership from participation in organized sports.

Our families are increasingly sedentary due to the changes and restrictions that occurred during the pandemic. Organized sports provide an avenue to increase physical activity which is vital to healthy growth and development in children.

The American Academy of Pediatrics has offered guidance on a safe return to sports:
<https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-interim-guidance-return-to-sports/>

Thank you
Erin Nakano, MD



Hawaii

January 26, 2021

Habitat
for Humanity[®]
Association

The Honorable Tommy Waters, Chair
Honolulu City Council
530 S. King Street, 2nd Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Waters and Council Members:

RE: Resolution 21-22 Confirming the nomination of Dean Y. Uchida to serve as
the Director of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu.

As the Executive Director of Hawaii Habitat for Humanity, a nonprofit housing
developer, I would like to express my **strong support Resolution 21-22**, of the
nomination of Dean Uchida to the Director of Planning and Permitting.

I have worked with Mr. Uchida, as a leader of BIA Hawaii, over the past four years
advocating for affordable housing and identifying barriers to developing and
constructing housing on Oahu. He has a good understanding of the challenges of
building in our Oahu communities, as well as knowledge about the planning and
permitting process. My experience with Mr. Uchida, is that he is well equipped and
prepared to take on the challenges of a department that has experienced significant
controversy over the course of time. His research on efficient systems in this area of
development will give him the baseline he needs to work toward improving
systems and processes that provide a pathway that will result in more housing that
our local residents can afford.

Mahalo for your time and consideration. Please contact me directly at 808.847.7676
or email me at jean@hawaiihabitat.org should you have any questions or need
additional information.

Sincerely,

Jean Lilley
Executive Director

2051 Young St. #82
Honolulu, HI 96826
808-847-7676
www.hawaiihabitat.org

M-47

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 8:51 AM
Subject: Council Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Jeremy Shorenstein
Phone 808-489-5431
Email jeremy.shorenstein@gmail.com
Meeting Date 01-27-2021
Council/PH Committee Council
Agenda Item Resolution 21-22
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Organization Self

Aloha Honolulu City Council Members,

I'm writing this letter to lend my support for the appointment of Dean Uchida as the Director of the Honolulu Department of Planning and Permitting.

As an active volunteer and resident of Honolulu, I've seen the need for more creative solutions to address the affordable housing crisis on our island. Mr. Uchida's decades of experience in both the public and private sector is unique and essential in motivating the private sector to add more affordable housing stock at all income levels.

Written Testimony Mr. Uchida has shown his ability to execute on important issues, such as his experience as the President of the BIA (Building Industry Association) where he worked to develop policies to increase efficiency of the permitting process while remaining consistent with code requirements, or his experience successfully advocating for Important Agricultural Lands designations in Hawaii. Mr. Uchida has also shown his ability to be creative in the public sector via his tenure at DLNR where he implemented the first successful open ocean aquaculture operation to install open ocean fish nets to raise moi, contributing to a more sustainable food supply for the people of Hawaii. Lastly, Mr. Uchida actively advocated for the establishment of government construction and building design standards addressing sea level rise resulting from climate change as a member of the National Association of Homebuilders.

The possibility of a DPP director that can implement new and inventive

ways to streamline DPP functions, stand up for important issues in the face of minority opposition publicly and bridge the gap between public and private interests is exciting, and I hope that you will share in my enthusiasm by voting in support of Resolution 21-22.

Mahalo for your time.

Testimony
Attachment

Accept Terms
and Agreement ¹

IP: 192.168.200.67



1288 Ala Moana Blvd. Suite 201
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
tel (808) 524-1508
fax (808) 524-0766
web kobayashi-group.com
email info@kobayashi-group.com

January 25, 2021

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

RE: RES21-22
Relating to the nomination of Dean Uchida
To serve as the Director of Planning and Permitting

Dear Chair Waters and Members of the City Council,

My name is Alana Kobayashi Pakkala and I serve as Chief Operations Officer and Partner of the Kobayashi Group. I am writing without hesitation to express my strong support of the appointment of Dean Y. Uchida as Director of the City's Department of Planning and Permitting.

I have had the pleasure of knowing and working with Mr. Uchida for many years. He has the knowledge and understanding of two decades working with private corporations, public agencies and state legislators. I believe that Dean will be dedicated to protecting and improving the City of Honolulu and will have a balanced approach to the challenges that lay ahead for our community. The City's Department of Planning and Permitting will benefit tremendously from his intelligent guidance and direction.

The City and County of Honolulu needs the experience and leadership only Mr. Dean Uchida can provide. I respectfully request your favorable consideration of his appointment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Alana Pakkala", written in a cursive style.

Alana Pakkala
Chief Operations Officer & Partner
Kobayashi Group LLC



**TESTIMONY TO THE HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
HONOLULU HALE
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
January 27, 2021
9:00 AM**

Honorable Chair Waters, Vice Chair Kiaaina, and members of the Council:

RE: Res. 21-22, Nomination of Dean Y. Uchida for Director of Dept. of Planning and Permitting.

My name is Beau Nobmann, 2021 President of the Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii). Chartered in 1955, the Building Industry Association of Hawaii is a professional trade organization affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders, representing the building industry and its associates. BIA-Hawaii takes a leadership role in unifying and promoting the interests of the industry to enhance the quality of life for the people of Hawaii. Our members build the communities we all call home.

BIA-Hawaii is in strong support of the nomination of Dean Y. Uchida to the directorship position of the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP). As a past President and Government Relations Chairman for BIA-Hawaii, Dean showcased his wealth of knowledge and experience in the land and building industries. Dean possesses priceless institutional knowledge in both the government and private sectors, which would serve him extremely well in DPP.

In addition to Dean's experience, he is very collaborative and results-driven. DPP has struggled with issuing permits in a timely manner, something which has severely hampered the building industry in Hawaii. Dean's problem-solving nature and dedication will surely be integral towards identifying the areas of DPP which are in need of change.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this nomination. We would appreciate the Committee's favorable consideration of Dean Y. Uchida.

Stefanie Y Sakamoto
8083875501
stef@sakamotoconsulting.com



January 26, 2021

To: Tommy Waters, Chair & Presiding Officer
Regular Council Meeting
Ester Kia'aina, Vice Chair & Members of the City Council

From: Kali Watson
President/CEO
Hawaiian Community Development Board
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Hearing on Resolution 21-22
Wednesday, January 27, 2021 at 10:00 am
Honolulu Hale

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT

Dear Chair Waters, Vice Chair Kia'aina, and Council Members:

My name is **Kali Watson**, President/CEO of Hawaiian Community Development Board, a nonprofit affordable housing developer. We have done several affordable housing projects and are familiar with the workings and challenges of developing affordable housing, which is so desperately needed here in Hawaii. The reality is that the people of Hawaii are being priced out of the market and our kids and families are moving to the mainland. Something has to be done now, especially at the City administrative level.

We **support** Resolution 21-22, proposing the appointment of **Dean Y. Uchida**, as Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting. I've known Dean for many years, from the time he was working at DLNR back in 1982 to his most recent employment at SSFM International, Inc. He is very knowledgeable and understands the development process and what it takes to design, fund, construct and manage housing projects.

Myself and several nonprofit affordable housing developers had a chance to recently talk to Dean and hear his ideas of how to best improve DPP – from updating the online permitting process to the simple task of equipping staff and field workers with the proper tools to bring efficiency to their jobs. He understands the importance of timely processing 201H applications and building permits. When it comes to developers like us, this is usually where it becomes critical as to the success and actual moving forward on projects. Delays invariably kill projects. Changes are needed and we believe Dean can do the job.

Therefore, I respectfully urge the Council to support and pass Resolution 21-22.

Pupuka I Holomua,

Kali Watson
President/CEO
Hawaiian Community
Development Board (HCDB)

Chairman
Richard Soo

Secretary
Jackie Burke

Treasurer
Helen O'Connor

Board Members
Linda Ahue
Puni Kekaouha
Alfred "Bobby" Willing
Duane Hew Len

President/CEO
Kali Watson

Senior VP
Patti Barbee



**Testimony to the City & County of Honolulu City Council
Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, January 27, 2021 at 10:00 A.M.
City Council Chamber, Honolulu Hale**

RE: HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 21-22

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

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** City Council Resolution 21-22 to confirm the nomination of Dean Y. Uchida to serve as the Director of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 2,000+ businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

Mr. Uchida has served a distinguished career in both the private and public sectors in the State of Hawaii and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in the land and building development industries. His experience working in both the public and private sector bring institutional knowledge that will serve well for the Department of Planning and Permitting.

Mr. Uchida has also formed effective coalitions and led a broad group of stakeholders in order to move issues forward. As a former co-chair of the Chamber's Infrastructure, Transportation, and Quality of Life Policy Committee, Mr. Uchida was engaged with helping to collaborate with members of the committee and helped to determine and recommend the Chamber's legislative priorities for these issue areas.

The Chamber is pleased to provide its support of Mr. Uchida's nomination to serve as the Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting. We believe that Mr. Uchida is the right person for this position at a critical time, and has the skillset necessary to guide our state and county's economic recovery from the ongoing COVID pandemic through this department. We respectfully ask for your favorable consideration of this nomination.

Sherry Menor-McNamara
808-380-2617
dkouchi@cochawaii.org

Hawai'i Construction Alliance

P.O. Box 179441
Honolulu, HI 96817
(808) 220-8892

January 27, 2021

The Honorable Tommy Waters, Chair
The Honorable Esther Kia'āina, Vice Chair
and Members
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street,
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: Support for Resolution 21-22, Confirming the nomination of Dean Y. Uchida to serve as the Director of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu

Dear Chair Waters, Vice Chair Kia'āina, and members:

The Hawai'i Construction Alliance is comprised of the Hawai'i Regional Council of Carpenters; the Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Union, Local 630; International Union of Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers, Local 1; the Laborers' International Union of North America, Local 368; and the Operating Engineers, Local Union No. 3. Together, the member unions of the Hawai'i Construction Alliance represent 15,000 working men and women in the basic crafts of Hawai'i's construction industry.

The Hawaii Construction Alliance submits this testimony in support for Resolution 21-22 to confirm Dean Y. Uchida to serve as the Director of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu.

As we all know, the Department faces an extraordinary task of revamping their current practices in order to issue permits and approve plans in a timely fashion, while coping with the economic fallout from a global pandemic.

Mr. Uchida has a wealth of experience in development and planning and can utilize his network of contacts within the construction and development community to help bring about the large scale change that is needed for DPP.

The Alliance has had the chance to work closely with Dean and in addition to Dean's experience, we find him to be collaborative and results-driven,

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nathaniel Kinney'.

Nathaniel Kinney
Executive Director
Hawai'i Construction Alliance
execdir@hawaiiconstructionalliance.org



Honolulu
Habitat
for Humanity®

January 26, 2021

2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

To Honolulu City Council,

OFFICERS

Re: Support of Resolution 21-22

SHANTI GOMES, *PRESIDENT*
Locations Hawaii

I am writing today to express my support of resolution 21-22, the nomination of Dean Uchida to serve as Director of the Department of Planning and Permit.

KAIPO KUKAHIKO, *VP*
HMSA Foundation

In order to fulfill our mission of building affordable homes for low income families on Oahu, we need an efficient permit process. While our relationship with DPP over the years has been good, I believe under Mr. Uchida's leadership we can address some chronic delays and costs associated with obtaining permits.

TEAL TAKAYAMA, *SECRETARY*
State of Hawaii

ROBERT KROEGER, *TREASURER*
US Army Corps of Engineers

DPP needs refreshed vision, creativity, and compassion for the work of the construction industry of all sizes and understanding of the impact that today's decisions will have on not only the housing market, but the economic stability of the entire island.

DIRECTORS

KU'UWEHI HIRAISHI
Hawaii Public Radio

With Dean Uchida's leadership, I am confident our ability to serve more families which further strengthens all of our communities.

CHRIS HONG
English Hong Architecture

Mahalo,

KU'UIPO KUMUKAHI
Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort
& Spa

JUDY MOHR PETERSON
Hawaii State Office of Medicaid

Jim Murphy
Executive Director
808-538-7373

TIM VON HERRMANN
Pan Pacific Partners



January 25, 2021

IN SUPPORT

**Resolution 21-22 Dean Y. Uchida to Serve as Director of the Department of
Planning and Permitting**

Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Honolulu City Council,

My name is Shane H. Peters, President of Peters Communications.

I respectfully submit this letter in strong support of Mr. Dean Y. Uchida's nomination to serve as the Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP).

I have known Dean for many years and am highly confident that he has the skills, experience and acumen to lead this important agency.

From his background leading efforts to uphold regulations for conservation lands while at the Hawaii State Department of Land and Natural Resources to his role as policy advocate at the Land Use Research Foundation, he is uniquely qualified to understand and navigate the complex duties and responsibilities of DPP.

As Honolulu grapples with the many challenges ahead, I believe Dean will be a strong ally of both the Council as well as the Administration in seeking solutions, not barriers to progress. Furthermore, I know Dean to be a man of high character and integrity.

For these reasons, I urge the council to confirm Mr. Uchida to lead this vital agency.

808.421.9879 | shane@peters-comm.com



Marshall W. Hung – Former Developer for Honolulu
215 N. King Street, Suite 1000, Honolulu, HI 96817
W: 808.526.2027 ext. 6 F: 808.526-2066

January 25, 2021

To: Honolulu City Council Chair Tommy Waters

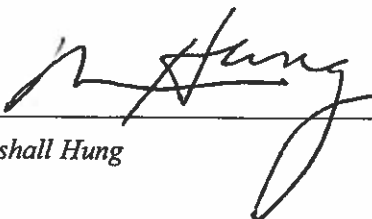
Re: Confirmation of Dean Uchida to Director of the Dept. of Planning and Permitting (DPP)

Dean Uchida is an experienced land use professional and has been chosen by Mayor Blangiardi to improve the administration and functions of DPP, especially as highlighted by the City Auditor's Report 20-01. His reputation in the community is of a doer and leader. It is an encouraging sign for many in the community that such an accomplished person would volunteer for this task. Leadership makes a difference and Dean will empower the many talented civil servants, while weeding out those that are not motivated.

This new pandemic economy will be forcing government to solve the problems quickly with the private sector. Said in another way, the lack of government funds will require practical solutions with the private sector. The warp speed of the COVID-19 vaccines is the new action tone for America. Climate Change threats to life and property will be occurring over the next ten years. DPP needs to be helping with the protections that are needed.

Mr. Uchida is a good choice to get DPP running on all cylinders.

Respectfully yours,



Marshall Hung

1065 Ahua Street
Honolulu, HI 96819
Phone: 808-833-1681 FAX: 839-4167
Email: info@gcahawaii.org
Website: www.gcahawaii.org



GCA of Hawaii

GENERAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

Quality People. Quality Projects.

January 25, 2021

Councilman Tommy Waters, Chair
Members of the City Council
City & County of the Honolulu City
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Resolution 21-22 Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation of the Appointment of Mr. Dean Y. Uchida to Serve as the Director of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu

Dear Chair Waters and Members of the City Council,

The Legislative Committee of the General Contractors Association of Hawaii is in **STRONG SUPPORT** of the appointment of Dean Y. Uchida as Director of the City's Department of Planning and Permitting.

Mr. Uchida possesses the background and skills necessary to lead the department effectively. He has many years of public and private sector experience relating to land use and development issues, including Land Administrator for the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Executive Director of the Land Use Research Foundation. He has a deep understanding of the permitting process and his leadership experience will facilitate a smooth transition. We are confident that Mr. Uchida will bring a fair and balanced approach to the Department.

Accordingly, we ask for your favorable consideration of Mr. Uchida's appointment to serve as the Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting.

Sincerely,

Rick Heltzel
Chair, Legislative Committee

Sakamoto Consulting LLC

Honorable Tommy Waters, Chair
Honorable Esther Kiaaina, Vice-Chair
Members of the Honolulu City Council

Re: Reso. 21-22: Nomination of Dean Y. Uchida to Director of Dept. of Planning & Permitting

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice-Chair Kiaaina, and members of the Council:

My name is Stefanie Sakamoto, and I am writing in the strongest support of Resolution 21-22, the nomination of Dean Y. Uchida for the position of Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting..

I have known Dean personally and professionally for several years. I had the opportunity of working with and learning from him during his tenure as Government Relations Committee Chairman for BIA Hawaii. I was always impressed by Dean's breadth of knowledge on all things pertaining to planning, land use, and other building industry issues. Beyond that, however, I was most impressed by Dean's ability to work with a broad range of people collaboratively. I felt extremely fortunate to have been able to learn from someone with so much institutional knowledge and experience. I know Dean is more than capable of tackling the difficult and delicate issues facing the Dept. of Planning and Permitting.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Dean Uchida.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stefanie Sakamoto', written in a cursive style.

Stefanie Sakamoto



We build strength, stability, self-reliance, and shelter.

Letter of Support
Resolution 21-22

TO: Tommy Waters, Chair
Honolulu City Council

FROM: Jo Bautista
Executive Director

DATE: January 26, 2021

SUBJECT: Resolution 21-22
Confirming Nomination of Dean Y. Uchida
Director of Planning & Permitting, City & County of Honolulu

Dear Chair Waters and Council Members:

The mission of Habitat for Humanity Leeward O'ahu is to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness from the Leeward Coast. In keeping with this global mission, we need the support from the City and County of Honolulu, Department of Planning and Permitting.

I strongly support Resolution 21-22, and the appointment of Dean Uchida as Director of Planning and Permitting who comes with many years of experience in project management with the reputable SSFM International, Inc., Vice President at D.R. Horton, and Executive Director of Land Use Research Foundation in addition to other notable positions. Dean's development knowledge and experience will lend to his success in improving the building process for affordable home ownership.

I humbly urge the Council to pass resolution 21-22.

Respectfully,

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

Jo Bautista
Executive Director
Habitat for Humanity Leeward O'ahu

TESTIMONY OF THE HAWAII LABORERS' UNION LOCAL 368

1617 Palama Street

Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

January 26, 2021

RE: Resolution 21-22 Confirming the nomination of Dean Y. Uchida to serve as the Director of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu

Council Chair Waters, Vice-chair Kia'aina, and Councilmembers,

The Hawaii Laborers' Union Local 368 and its 5,000 thousand working and retired men and women across the state of Hawaii supports nomination of Dean Y. Uchida to serve as the Director of Planning and Permitting.

We feel that Mr. Uchida's long history in the on the private end of construction industry will not only benefit the City and County of Honolulu, but the residents of this county as well.

Therefore, the Hawaii Laborers' Union Local 368 **supports the nomination of Dean Y. Uchida as Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting for the City and County of Honolulu**, and respectfully requests that this council do the same.

Respectfully,

Ryan Kobayashi

Hawaii Laborers' Union Local 368