



# GM 526

Measure Title:	Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaii Community Development Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, TOM MCLAUGHLIN, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.
Report Title:	Hawaii Community Development Authority
Description:	
Companion:	
Package:	
Current Referral:	HSH
Introducer(s):	



February 13, 2015

Health & Humans Services Committee

Attn: Suzanne Chun Oakland (Chairperson)

Re: Appointment of Thomas McLaughlin to the HCDA

Aloha All,

Please accept this testimony as my support of Thomas McLaughlin for his appointment as an at-large member to the HCDA. In my capacity as the second vice-chair of the Ala Moana/Kaka'ako Neighborhood Board 11, I have worked with Tom, the board's secretary, for two years. Tom is insightful and committed to the current developments of the Ala Moana/Kaka'ako area. He will be a great asset to the HCDA.

Regards,

Duane A. Komine, ARM®  
General Manager of Hokua  
Second Vice-Chair of the Kaka'ako/Ala Moana Neighborhood Board 11

**GM526**

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for HSH on Feb 17, 2015 16:00PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aaron Landry	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I serve on the Ala Moana-Kaka'ako Neighborhood Board with Tom McLaughlin. I regard his insight and information he brings to our board about the HCDA to be unparalleled. He has a very balanced and clear take on the issues that I otherwise do not get from the media and other community members. I'm impressed with the amount of time and research he expends to develop his understandings. He is the most level-headed person I know regarding the future of Kaka'ako and I don't know anyone else who would be more qualified for the HCDA. Thank you for considering him for this position and mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

My name is Daisy C. Yamada.

I write in support of Tom McLaughlin as a valuable addition to the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA).

I am a real estate investor and property manager, whose earlier career in retail was at the same company that Mr. Tom McLaughlin (and Mrs. McLaughlin) worked. Coincidentally many years ago we all bought into the same condominium where we all still live and socialize with our pets. Tom has served on the Hale Kaheka Board of Directors for many years and if that hasn't been enough torture, he also enjoys serving on the Neighborhood Board.

Tom is a scholar whose depth of knowledge in many areas covers a surprising breadth of subjects. Ask Tom any question and he'll give you the long version, the short version and the McLaughlin version which is usually the most sensible. Tom is a true intellectual whose wit and humor enable people of differing opinions to see commonalities while respecting other viewpoints. Tom brings to the HCDA his global experience beyond Hawaii, his business acumen and his people skills.

I support Tom McLaughlin's nomination to the HCDA.

Respectfully,

Daisy C. Yamada R, CPM, CCIM, MBA

**GM526**

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for HSH on Feb 17, 2015 16:00PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Howard Kam, Jr.	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I've served on an homeowner association board with the candidate and request your favorable consideration.

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senator Josh Green, Vice-Chair  
Human Services and Housing Committee

February 14, 2015

Re: Strong Support for Tom McLaughlin, Nominee for HCDA Commission

Aloha Sen. Chun Oakland, Senator Green and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in strong support for the confirmation of HCDA Nominee Tom McLaughlin.

I have known Tom as a neighbor for several years. We've had many discussions on the future of Kakaako and the State. When he was elected to the Ala Moana Kakaako Neighborhood Board I was pleased that he would be able to bring his forty years of experience in the private sector to this community forum, where he now serves as Chair of the HCDA Committee.

This nomination as an at-large member of the HCDA comes at a critical time for our community. The challenges are newsworthy and highly charged as Honolulu transitions to a vibrant dynamic city that sustains itself in a manner that respects the environment, cultural priorities, a growing population and a sound economy.

Tom's experience and understanding of business development and housing needs will provide the kind of moral leadership needed for the work ahead. In addition, he has a great sense of humor, which is evidence of an intelligent creative individual.

I believe he has the courage to think in fresh ways and speak out on behalf of those of us in our community who believe in a vision of Hawaii that includes us all.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

*Jackie*

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**GM526**

Submitted on: 2/15/2015

Testimony for HSH on Feb 17, 2015 16:00PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laurie Foster	Individual	Support	No

Regarding the Appointment of Tom McLaughlin to the Hawaii Community Development Authority.

Professional Reference

I have worked with Tom for the past 15 years in business consulting for a variety of private sector organizations. His business acumen is superb and his ability to analyze financial data and come up with solutions is excellent.

Ethical Character

Tom has been a personal friend for 15 years and has always been one to hold the high ground in any ethical or moral situation. He has the highest of standards and I trust Tom to always make decisions and give advice on the straight and narrow.

Grounded Character

Tom is very grounded and has never shown any tendency to give sway to pressure. He stands his ground based on his analysis, his acumen and his ethics. He tells it like it is.

You could not get a more stand-up guy to be in this position.

**GM526**

Submitted on: 2/16/2015

Testimony for HSH on Feb 17, 2015 16:00PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pamela Wood	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support the confirmation of Tom McLaughlin to the HCDA Board. I first met Tom at an Ala Moana/Kaka`ako Neighborhood Board meeting in early 2013. Kaka`ako residents were concerned HCDA was considering "modifications" to the Mauka Area Rules. As we learned more about the permit application approval process, the issues became more complex. Time was of the essence, as public hearings were scheduled, however the Neighborhood Board process could not be mobilized in time. Tom's response was to study the issue and recommend a HCDA committee with Tom as chair and HCDA Executive Director Tony Ching serving as a member. HCDA was placed on the Neighborhood Board's monthly agenda; and since then, Tom has attended almost every HCDA meeting, public hearing and event. I have heard his testimony before the HCDA Board. It is clear he does his homework and understands the subject. He does not take sides. I don't always agree, but his comments are thoughtful and concise. Add to this his business experience and I think Tom McLaughlin will successfully serve the varying interests of the community at large.



February 16, 2015

Dear Chair Chun Oakland and Committee Members-

I am writing in support of the nomination of Mr. Thomas McLaughlin to the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) Board (G.M. 526).

Over the last year and a half, I have served with Mr. McLaughlin on the Ala Moana/Kakaako Neighborhood Board Number 11. During this time, he has closely followed HCDA actions, and represented the community at HCDA board meetings, public workshops, and other listening sessions. He has developed a good working knowledge of HCDA processes, and has used this knowledge to educate the community and neighborhood board on issues such as reserved housing and changes to the development permit application process. In doing so, he has been able to get the HCDA to more actively engage the neighborhood board and the community, including participation by the executive director. At the same time, he has also listened to the community and has represented their concerns on issues such as development permits or transit-oriented development issues.

Mr. McLaughlin has consistently produced extremely thorough committee reports. He is extremely articulate and will bring a very well-reasoned voice to the HCDA Board. His working knowledge of HCDA processes and recent development issues will also make him a very strong asset to the Board. I strongly support his nomination.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ryan Tam', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ryan Tam, Ph.D