

# GM57

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Community Development Authority Kakaako District, Gubernatorial Nominee, JASON OKUHAMA, for a term to expire 06-30-2021.

Report Title: Hawai'i Community Development Authority Kakaako District

Description:

Companion:

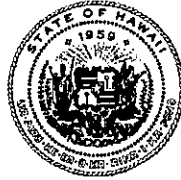
Package:

Current Referral: HOU

Introducer(s):

**LATE TESTIMONY**

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



# LATE TESTIMONY

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

August 29, 2017  
1:15 p.m.  
State Capitol, Room 414

## G.M. 57

**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Community Development Authority Kakaako District, Gubernatorial Nominee, JASON OKUHAMA, for a term to expire 06-30-2021.**

### Senate Committee on Housing

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) strongly **supports** Jason Okuhama as a Kakaako member to the Hawaii Community Development Authority.

Mr. Okuhama is the Managing Partner of Hawaii Lending Specialists, LLC and has served on the Hawaii Community Development Authority with commitment and integrity.

The DOT has been very pleased to serve with Mr. Okuhama and believes his financial and management experience are well suited to address the issues of Kakaako which encompasses approximately 600 acres with a vision that results in economic and social opportunities that aim to meet the highest needs and aspirations of Hawaii's people.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**Testimony by:**  
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
JADE T. BUTAY  
ROSS M. HIGASHI  
EDWN H. SNIFFEN  
DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:

**Ryan Toyomura**

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**From:** Wayne.S.Takamine@hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 11:29 AM  
**To:** HOU Testimony  
**Cc:** waynetakamine@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** GM 57 Senate Housing - Hawai'i Community Development Authority Kakaako District, Nominee, JASON OKUHAMA

**LATE TESTIMONY**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

AUGUST 29, 2017

1:15 PM

GM 57

GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION TO CONFIRM JASON OKUHAMA  
AS A CONTINUING MEMBER OF THE  
HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT

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Aloha Senators:

The Kaka'ako Makai Community Planning Advisory Council (CPAC) in accordance with Legislative reforms to the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) under Act 61, 2012, in the public's interest, and in recognition of Governor Ige's excellent choices for the present HCDA Board members under HRS 206E-3 (b) as confirmed by the State Senate, this testimony strongly supports the Governor's recommendation that Jason Okuhama continue to serve on the HCDA Board.

CPAC has worked with Mr. Okuhama prior to his tenure on the HCDA Board and applaud his continued strong support of the Kaka'ako community and small businesses.

As the Chairman of the Kaka'ako Makai Community Planning Advisory Council I am greatly encouraged with the progress made by the HCDA Board in addressing the homeless crises in Kaka'ako Makai and the development of the area with the focus on preserving open green spaces for public and future generations. Mr. Okuhama clearly understands and respects the Visions and Guiding Principles included in the Kaka'ako Makai Master Plan approved by the HCDA Board in 2012.

CPAC strongly support Jason Okuhama's continued contributions to the HCDA board's work.

Wayne Takamine  
Chairman  
Kaka'ako Makai Community Planning Advisory Council (CPAC)

Kanekoa Crabbe  
Vice-Chair  
Kaka'ako Makai Community Planning Advisory Council (CPAC)

Michelle Matson  
Secretary  
Kaka'ako Makai Community Planning Advisory Council (CPAC)

# LATE TESTIMONY

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**From:** Clara Morikawa <clamor808@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2017 8:16 PM  
**To:** HOU Testimony  
**Subject:** SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING MEETING 29AUG2017 - Rm #414 @ 1:15pm

Senator Will Espero, Chair  
Senator Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair

It is my pleasure to provide testimony before the Senate Committee on Housing, in support of GM57, the confirmation of Jason T. Okuhama to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Community Development Authority.

Jason Okuhama is currently the president of the owner's association at One Waterfront Tower and represents the residents of Kakaako. He was initially appointed to HCDA in 2015 and has been a very active participant and has worked effectively on issues affecting our community. He has represented us well in the 2 years and we want him to continue his good work by reappointing him to HCDA. Your kind consideration will be very much appreciated.

Clara K Morikawa  
725 Kapiolani Blvd #1012  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
phone: 808-593-0643  
email:: clamor808@yahoo.com

# LATE TESTIMONY

August 28, 2017

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

THE HONORABLE WILL ESPERO, CHAIR

THE HONORABLE BREENE HARIMOTO, VICE CHAIR

GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE JASON T. OKUHAMA  
SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS, HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Testimony of Robert Agres Jr.

Aloha Chair Espero, Vice Chair Harimoto, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with my testimony to the Senate Committee on Housing, in support of GM57, the confirmation of Jason T. Okuhama to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Community Development Authority (HCDA).

The development of Kaka'ako is at a critical juncture and requires strong guidance from the HCDA. As such, I believe that Mr. Okuhama is especially qualified to serve a second term on the HCDA Board of Directors because of his extensive expertise in financing and funding, business development, and community economic development. Over the more than 20 years that I have known Mr. Okuhama, I have seen him consistently and effectively act on his commitment to and passion for implementing innovative community and economic development approaches that have already realized true benefits for Hawai'i's people and communities.

He has done this through his professional work and in his voluntary role as the Board President of the Hawai'i Alliance for Community-Based Economic Development (HACBED). He has been extremely generous in giving of his expertise and experience to assist many community-based organizations and small businesses to establish viable economic ventures that have generated meaningful economic opportunities for residents in low and moderate income communities across the islands.

I believe Mr. Okuhama will continue to bring the depth of his relevant experience to HCDA along with his:

- high sense of professionalism and integrity;
- values base of active listening and compassion;
- attitude and mindset of collaboration and team work;
- keenly intelligent and analytical mind; and

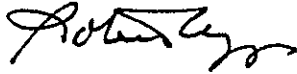
# LATE TESTIMONY

Senate Committee on Housing  
August 28, 2017  
Page 2

- deep sense of commitment and dedication to economic development strategies that truly benefit Hawai'i's people and sustain those aspects of Hawai'i that make it a special and unique place to live, work, and thrive.

I, therefore, hope that you allow Mr. Okuhama the chance to contribute to the vision of a revitalized Kaka'ako and Honolulu by favorably acting on his nomination to be considered and confirmed as an HCDA Board Member.

Sincerely,



Robert Agres, Jr.

# LATE TESTIMONY

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

AUGUST 29, 2017

1:15 PM

GM 57

GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION TO CONFIRM JASON OKUHAMA  
AS A CONTINUING MEMBER OF THE  
HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT

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Aloha Senators:

In accordance with Legislative reforms to the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) under Act 323, 2012, in the public's interest, and in recognition of Governor Ige's excellent choices for the present HCDA Board members under HRS 206E-3 (b) as confirmed by the State Senate, this testimony strongly supports the Governor's recommendation that Jason Okuhama continue to serve on the HCDA Board.

During their present tenure, the HCDA Board's commitment to open communication, and their collaborative, comprehensive and productive methodology in addressing the many complex Kaka'ako issues before the HCDA, have been witnessed, experienced and supported by the Kaka'ako community, as well as the larger community.

As a member of the larger community that has worked with the HCDA since 2005, and as a founding member of the Kaka'ako Makai Community Planning Advisory Council directly engaged in collaborative community sessions to develop the Guiding Principles and Master Plan for Kaka'ako Makai, I strongly support Jason Okuhama's continued contributions to the HCDA board's work.

Clearly, Jason Okuhama's proven commitment to invest his time, attention and long-standing knowledge of Kaka'ako's issues and challenges ensures continuity on the HCDA Board to ably address Kaka'ako's planning and development on behalf of the Kaka'ako community, and its successful emergence.

Please join the interested and affected community by recognizing and supporting Jason Okuhama's commendable efforts on the HCDA Board for the forthcoming term.

Sincerely,

Michelle S. Matson

**Ryan Toyomura**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 10:54 AM  
**To:** HOU Testimony  
**Cc:** louise.leilehua@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM57 on Aug 29, 2017 13:15PM (Written Only)

**LATE TESTIMONY**

**GM57**

Submitted on: 8/29/2017  
Testimony for on Aug 29, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Louise Black	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Mr. Okuhama has been very effective on the board as a representative of Kaka'ako residents. He is really great at communicating with residents and is sensitive to our concerns.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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**Ryan Toyomura**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 11:00 AM  
**To:** HOU Testimony  
**Cc:** daniel05@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM57 on Aug 29, 2017 13:15PM (Written Only)

**LATE TESTIMONY**

**GM57**

Submitted on: 8/29/2017

Testimony for on Aug 29, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Daniel Stevens	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Jason Okuhama has been an excellent, effective and responsive resident representative on the HCDA Board. He has my full support!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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