

Mike J. Molina

From: franco9114@twc.com
Sent: Friday, January 25, 2019 1:34 PM
To: Mike J. Molina
Cc: Tasha A. Kama; Kelly King; Alice L. Lee; Riki Hokama; Shane M. Sinenci; Tamara A. Paltin; keani.rawlins-fernandez@mauicounty.us; Yukilei Sugimura
Subject: The Appointment of William Spence as Director of Housing and Human Concerns

> Dear Council members,

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> I am writing to express my opposition to the appointment of William Spence as Director of Housing and Human Concerns. Over his seven and a half years as Planning Director, FACE Maui has had two meetings with Mr. Spence - one at our request and the other at his. At both meetings. Mr. Spence expressed his support of our work to create affordable housing. However, both meetings did not accomplish any assistance from Mr. Spence. Since his temporary appointment as Director of Housing and Human Concerns, I have had no calls from Mr. Spence to discuss our housing committee's ideas on building affordable housing.

> During the discussion of the \$250,000 for developing an affordable housing plan, Mr. Spence was present when Kehau Filimoeatu and I met with Stacy Crivello and Mike White. Ms. Crivello and Mr. White decided to divide our plan into two separate requests for proposals on policy analysis and implementation plan with a timeline of four months. FACE Maui had proposed one request for qualifications with a timeline of one year to allow for community meetings, meetings with affordable housing developers, advocates and government officials. During the discussions about the different proposals, I do not remember any comments from Mr. Spence on either proposal. We know now that Mike White and Stacy Crivello had their way, but eventually hired only one contractor, SMS Hawaii, who concluded that an affordable housing plan was needed by the County of Maui.

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> It is interesting that, on the question "what are your plans to implement an affordable-housing policy and implementation plan?", Mr. Spence says that he will develop "a plan for affordable housing would establish a proactive program within the department" without mentioning the hiring of a "housing czar" (Development Director), a key recommendation of SMS Hawaii in their policy analysis and implementation plan. In addition, Mr. Spence said that he would take on the housing issue while his deputy, Lori Tshako, will take on the human concerns side. This to me does not make sense since Lori Tshako, his deputy, has had experience on working on housing issues especially homelessness. Mr. Spence, writing about his qualifications, states that "I was a land-use consultant for seven years". There is no statement on his work on housing especially for moderate or low income residents.

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> In conclusion, as an advocate for affordable housing since 1986 when I helped open Maui's first homeless shelter, I believe that the right person must show accomplishments in planning, building or managing affordable housing developments. I am opposed to having another Director of Housing and Human Concerns with very little to no real experience in affordable housing. So, I oppose the appointment of William Spence as Director of Housing and Human Concerns.

> Thank you for your diligence in getting the best available person to run the Department of Housing and Human Concerns.

>

> Sincerely,

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> Stan Franco

> 214-3575