

**COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI**

# **GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, ETHICS, AND TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE**

January 21, 2022

**Committee  
Report No. \_\_\_\_\_**

Honorable Chair and Members  
of the County Council  
County of Maui  
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

Chair and Members:

Your Government Relations, Ethics, and Transparency Committee, having met on January 4, 2022, makes reference to County Communication 21-42, from Council Chair Alice L. Lee, relating to nominations to boards, committees, and commissions.

By correspondence dated and received on December 15, 2021, the Mayor transmitted a proposed resolution, entitled "RELATING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF JOAQUIN FREITAS, JR. TO THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI," with a completed application for the nominee.

The purpose of the proposed resolution is to approve or disapprove the Mayor's nomination of Joaquin Freitas, Jr. to the Public Works Commission, for a term expiring on March 31, 2024, to fill a vacancy due to the resignation of John Blanchard.

Your Committee notes general appointment procedures for boards, committees, and commissions are outlined in Section 13-2, Revised Charter of the County of Maui (1983), as amended, and Chapter 2.41, Maui County Code.

Your Committee further notes specific provisions for the Public Works Commission are located in Section 2.40.220 and Chapter 2.98, Maui County Code.

The Council must approve or disapprove the nomination by February 13, 2022, or the nomination will be deemed approved.

Your Committee interviewed Mr. Freitas.

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According to his application, Mr. Freitas is a self-employed business owner.

Mr. Freitas has a good understanding of County operations having previously served on County boards such as the Cost of Government Commission, Public Works Commission, and Fire and Public Safety Commission.

Mr. Freitas' business acumen will be an asset to the Public Works Commission. He expressed concern on the operational costs of running the Department of Public Works, with a focus on evaluating the Department's equipment costs.

Your Committee was satisfied with the nomination and appreciated the oversight and scrutiny of spending Mr. Freitas will offer the Commission.

Your Committee voted 8-0 to recommend adoption of the proposed resolution approving the nomination. Committee Chair Molina, Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, and members Johnson, King, Lee, Paltin, Sinenci, and Sugimura voted "aye." Committee member Kama was excused.

Your Government Relations, Ethics, and Transparency Committee RECOMMENDS that Resolution \_\_\_\_\_, attached hereto, entitled "RELATING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF JOAQUIN FREITAS, JR. TO THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI," be ADOPTED.

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This report is submitted in accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of the Council.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MICHAEL J. MOLINA, Chair

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# Resolution

No. \_\_\_\_\_

## RELATING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF JOAQUIN FREITAS, JR. TO THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI

WHEREAS, by correspondence dated December 15, 2021, Mayor Michael P. Victorino notified the Council he nominated Joaquin Freitas, Jr. to the Public Works Commission for the County of Maui for a term expiring on March 31, 2024, to fill a vacancy replacing John Blanchard, pursuant to Sections 2.40.220 and Chapter 2.98, Maui County Code, and Section 13-2, Revised Charter of the County of Maui (1983), as amended, ("Charter"); and

WHEREAS, Charter Section 13-2, requires the Mayor's nominee to be approved by the Council; and

WHEREAS, Charter Section 13-2(17), requires the Council to approve or disapprove the nomination within sixty days after the Mayor submits the name of the nominee to the Council because of the death, resignation, or removal of a member; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Maui:

1. That it approves the appointment of Joaquin Freitas, Jr. to serve on the Public Works Commission for the County of Maui for a term expiring March 31, 2024;
2. That the Council expresses its gratitude and appreciation to Joaquin Freitas, Jr. for his willingness to be considered for public service and actively participate in County government; and
3. That certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Managing Director, and the Corporation Counsel.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

/s/ Mimi Desjardins

MIMI DESJARDINS

Department of the Corporation Counsel

County of Maui

2021-0029

2021-12-11 PWC Freitas, Jr. replace Blanchard term end 3-31-24