

2022 CHARTER COMMISSION BOARD APPLICATION (COUNCIL) (Please print or type)

Name: Williams, Michael Lowell

Residency Area: Kula

1. **Why do you want to serve on the Charter Commission? (50 words or less)**

I think I can make a valuable contribution to the Commission's work because of my active involvement in many aspects of County government over the past several years. Last year, I was on the executive committees of two Ballot Measure Political Action Committees that successfully advocated for the new Charter amendments re Affordable Housing and the Department of Agriculture, and unsuccessfully for a Professional Manager. I am actively involved in many county government issues: affordable housing, property tax reform, and several investigations underway by the Cost of Government Commission.

2. **What knowledge or experience will you bring to the Charter Commission? Check all that apply and provide further details below. (50 words or less)**

I am a/have:

Former or current County government employee.

Former or current County board commission member.

Good working knowledge of County government laws and operations.

As Chair of the Cost of Government Commission I have overseen its two 2020 completed reports on the Maui Visitors Bureau and the Financing of the Wailuku Parking Structure, and the ongoing investigations into homelessness, capital budgets of DWS and DEM, road safety, making the County's public litigation filings accessible, and policy options for managing visitor accommodations. As President of Maui Tomorrow, I have overseen successful lawsuits against the County to end the Anaergia PPA for the Kahului WWRF, and to reform the Maui Redevelopment Agency. I have testified many times about affordable housing and property tax policies, among others.

3. **Which sections of the Charter should the Commission focus its review on and why? (50 words or less)**

The political affiliation rule should have been eliminated when the Council and Mayor became non-partisan.

The County may need a Public Housing Authority or Department of Housing.

The staggered term plan for board and commission members has failed.

The County should find a way to detach the tenure of Department heads from the mayoral election cycle.

The current two-month lame duck period following Council elections should be shortened.

There are other issues that should be examined, but the 50 word limit precludes listing them.

Name: Williams, Michael Lowell (p 2 of 2)

4. **The commitment for the Charter Commission term will be from March 1, 2021 to July 1, 2022. Will you prioritize this commitment by ensuring reliable attendance to Commission meetings, once scheduled and approved by the Charter Commission? (50 words or less)**

I am retired and have plenty of time. The COGC and Maui Tomorrow board both meet only on the 2d Thursday of each month. The Kula Community Association meets only one night a month. The ballot measure committees are terminated. The Stand Up Maui board meets only quarterly. I can and will prioritize my time for this Commission if appointed.

5. **Brief Employment Summary (previous 10 years, list current or most recent employment first):**

I was a trial attorney in Portland, Oregon from 1978 until 2014, managing my own law firm after 1986, then retired to live on Maui full time. We have a working farm in Kula, but my wife and her employees do all the work.

6. **Community and Professional Organizations/Activities (all current):**

Chair, Cost of Government Commission
President, Maui Tomorrow Foundation
Treasurer and Board Member, Stand Up Maui
Board Member, Kula Community Association