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January 15, 2019

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Dear Honorable Mayor Victorino, Madam Chair King and Council Members:

I am writing this letter in support of Mayor Victorino's appointment of Scott Teruya for Director of Finance. I have worked with Scott since he came on board with the Real Property Tax Division in 1997 as an appraiser. I started with the division in June of 1991. In all of the years I have known Scott he is not only a hard worker; he has displayed excellent work ethics and is professional in conducting business matters.

In the mid 2000's at various times Scott was temporarily assigned as the acting administrator. He accepted the role and responsibilities of the position not only to oversee Real Property but also the tax billing and collections section in addition to his duties as an appraiser. In 2009 Scott was selected and promoted as the Real Property Administrator. Quite an accomplishment for someone his age.

From then till now, I have witnessed Scott excel to the highest position in Real Property. He has worked to provide the staff with the necessary tools, programs and resources to help make our jobs faster, better and more efficient. In listening to recommendations from the staff, Scott was active in proposing ordinance changes to close loop holes in exemption requirements. In doing so, this has helped the division improve its valuation methods and compliance efforts resulting in increased revenue for the County. With his leadership skills, ability to plan a strategy, and make sure it's implemented accurately and quickly, he has contributed immensely to the recent successes earned by the division.

In the past, the County of Maui along with the neighbor island counties, looked to the City and County of Honolulu to be at the forefront in tax policy and technology. That has changed. Because of Scott's knowledge, experience and innovation the County of Maui is the only agency in the State using ESRI GIS parcel fabric. Furthermore, our assessment software is integrated with several third party and intra governmental data sources making RPAD one of the most efficient divisions in the County of Maui.

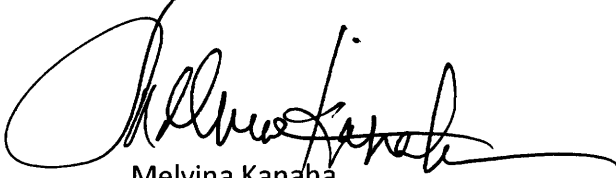
I am proud and honored to share, in April 2018 the County of Maui Real Property Assessment Division was the 38th jurisdiction globally to receive the prestigious International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) Certificate of Excellence in Assessment Administration (CEAA). There were strict requirements that needed to be met in order to qualify and gain approval. This says something about Scott's leadership skills and the hard work of his staff to make this possible. He was also elected by his peers to serve as a member on the IAAO Board of Directors.

The County would be fortunate to have Scott Teruya as the Director of Finance. If given the opportunity he will succeed in finding solutions to help Maui County continue to thrive fiscally and responsibly.

On a personal note, despite all of the accomplishments, responsibilities and duties Scott is tasked with, I am extremely impressed that he makes the time to actively be involved with youth baseball programs in the community.

And for all of the reasons stated, I humbly ask for your support in confirming Scott Teruya as Director of Finance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melvina Kanaha', with a large, stylized initial 'M' and a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Melvina Kanaha
Real Property Tax Clerk Supervisor
County of Maui