

## **Mike J. Molina**

---

**From:** Ka'onohi Lee <CmLee@kirc.hawaii.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 5:19 PM  
**To:** Mike J. Molina  
**Subject:** Appointment of Planning Director, GET-1  
**Attachments:** Testimony\_GET Chair.docx

Aloha GET Chair Molina,

Attached is my testimony in strong support for the appointment of Michele Chouteau-McLean as the Planning Director.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Me ka ha`aha`a,  
*Ka`onohi Lee*  
Administrative Officer  
Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission  
811 Kolu Street, Suite 201  
Wailuku, HI 96793

Phone: (808) 243-5020  
Fax: (808) 243-5885  
Cell: (808) 383-4805

January 22, 2019

The Honorable Mike Molina  
GET Chair, Maui County Council  
200 South High Street  
Wailuku, HI 96793

Aloha Chair King,

Subject: Appointment of Planning Director, GET-1

I am writing in strong support for the appointment of Michele Chouteau McLean as Planning Director for the County of Maui.

I worked with Michele as a colleague during her time as Policy Advisor and subsequently as the Deputy Director during her time at the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC). The vision of the KIRC was her compass and ensuring that staff had the tools and support to reach their program goals was her compass. Her leadership skills provided program staff guidance and encouragement given the environment they worked in on a daily basis.

Upon leaving the KIRC, Michele joined the County Department of Planning as the deputy, which afforded her the opportunity to utilize and broaden her planning skill set. I have watched Michele on Akaku from time to time and saw her analytical application of the “rules” to an issue or to solve an issue that provided the best outcome.

The KIRC has been fortunate to have Michele as its chairperson for the past six years. Her experience as the KIRC Deputy Director provided insight when making policy decisions and providing guidance to the KIRC staff. Much has been accomplished during her tenure as the Chairperson and staff is very grateful for guidance and support during the very tough times and when great strides are made on Kaho‘olawe.

I am confident that Michele will fulfill her duties as the Director of the Planning Department to the best of her abilities. I am also confident that with the support of her staff, decision will be made for the betterment of the County of Maui and its people.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of the appointment of Michele Chouteau McLean as the Director of the Planning Department for the County of Maui.

Me ka ha‘aha‘a,

Carol-Marie Ka‘ōnohi Lee  
KIRC, Administrative Officer