

Mike J. Molina

From: mnahoopii@hawaii.rr.com on behalf of mnahoopii@kirc.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 22, 2019 3:42 PM
To: Kelly King; Mike J. Molina; Keani.Rawlins@mauicounth.us
Subject: Appointment of Planning Director, GET-1; Letter of Support
Attachments: Mclean letter of support 01_22_19.pdf

Aloha all,

Please accept this testimony from the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission in support of the appointment of Michele Chouteau McLean for Planning Director.

Mahalo,
Mike Nahoopii

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Michael K. Nāho'opi'i
Executive Director

Testimony of
MICHAEL K. NAHO'OPI'I
Executive Director, Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission

Before the Maui County Council's Committee on
GOVERNANCE, ETHICS and TRANSPARENCY

Wednesday, January 23, 2019
9:00 AM
Maui Council Chambers

In consideration of
GET -1: APPOINTMENT OF MICHELE CHOUTEAU MCLEAN FOR THE POSITION
OF PLANNING DIRECTOR

Maui County Council agenda item GET-1 considers the appointment of Michele Chouteau McLean for the position of Maui Planning Director. On behalf of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC), I wish to express my strong support and recommend her appointment.

Michele has proven over the past eight-years to be an excellent member of the KIRC and as its Chair. She has provided a respectfully balanced approach to dealing with issues that the KIRC has faced over the term of her appointment. She has also been a great champion of the KIRC through her ability to garner the support of the Maui Mayor's office and the financial support of County of Maui in developing alternative energy projects on Kaho'olawe.

Michele has a very good technical understanding of the complex issues faced by Maui County. Her areas of expertise are in the regulatory and administrative issues regarding Kaho'olawe and her experience has brought great support to the KIRC's Commissioners as they have faced difficult management decision. She is very detailed oriented and very well versed in the intricacies of State and County procedures which has supported the KIRC in their oversight and management of Kaho'olawe. Her role as our commission's Maui County representative has allowed the KIRC and the Maui Mayor's office to work closer together to mutually support the natural and cultural resources placed in the KIRC care and for the KIRC to support the County with its technical expertise in restoring devastated and damaged ecosystems.

As the KIRC's former Deputy Director and previous Acting Executive Director, Michele has worked very closely with the staff of the KIRC and with the KIRC's stewardship partners. She

had demonstrated a very professional attitude and a willingness to get things done. She has always worked well with those that have been involved in the Kaho`olawe's past and is a willing to develop new relationships for its future.

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer this testimony in strong support of Michele Chouteau McLean for the Maui County Planning Director.