

GET Committee

From: Mike J. Molina
Sent: Wednesday, January 30, 2019 2:04 PM
To: GET Committee
Subject: FW: Planning Director Appointment

From: jim@mauiarch.com <jim@mauiarch.com>
Sent: Monday, January 28, 2019 12:01 PM
To: Kelly King <Kelly.King@mauicounty.us>; Mike J. Molina <Mike.Molina@mauicounty.us>; Keani N. Rawlins <Keani.Rawlins@mauicounty.us>
Subject: Planning Director Appointment

Aloha Counsel Chair and Members,

I am writing to endorse the continuing appointment of Michele McLean as Director of the Planning Department. I have been working with the Department since its inception and have observed all of its past directors as I watched the agency grow into its pivotal role in shaping the future of this special place. It is my opinion that Ms. McLean has shown exceptional skill in her role as the Deputy Director and recently as head of the Department. I don't always agree with her interpretations and directives but hold her in high regard for the integrity and strength it takes to manage this critical department. Under her watch the Department has taken the one most important step toward increasing the affordable housing stock while stepping on the illegal short term rental crisis the County faces by the drafting revisions to and nurturing Ordinance 4936- Accessory Dwellings through unanimous adoption by the Council and Mayor.

Why would we change course at this point when we have competent, strong leadership already on-board? And, of course, in this is the era of strong, competent women in the position to make a difference, Ms. McLean is a perfect fit.

Sincerely,
James Niess
Architect