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February 14, 2013

Transportation Chair Breene Harimoto
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Favor of Resolution 13-13

Dear Chair Harimoto and members of the Committee,

It is with great pleasure that I speak today in support of Michael Formby to become the next Director of Transportation Services.

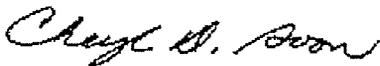
I met and worked with Mike when he was Deputy Director of State Harbors. Mike was appreciated by the employees and harbors users because he was accessible, engaged, and thoughtful. He is extraordinarily gifted at bringing people together of differing ideas and helping to facilitate an agreeable outcome. When Mike rose to Director late in the administration, the rest of the department quickly came to know how his style could be used to resolve even the thorniest issues.

I know that Mike will be appreciated by the city workers, by the Council and by the entire community. There are a number of important initiatives needing his leadership: Complete Streets, coordinated traffic signal timing, completion of the Joint Traffic Management Center, and of course the vital and ongoing work of rapid transit. Mike has already identified station access and street level issues around transit stations as one of his priority issues. He is just the man to move forward that agenda.

We have high expectations of wonderful things ahead in this new and vibrant administration. With Mike Formby at the helm of DTS I am confident of great things happening.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Aloha,



Cheryl Soon, PhD, FAICP
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