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The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
City Council  
City and County of Honolulu  
Honolulu Hale  
530 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Council Chair Dela Cruz:

This letter is written in support of the confirmation of Mr. Eugene C. Lee to the position of Director of the Department of Design and Construction, City and County of Honolulu. I have known Mr. Lee both personally and professionally for nearly 15 years and can attest to his integrity, intelligence, dedication, professionalism and ability to fulfill the responsibilities as Director.

I have known and worked with Mr. Lee in his capacities as: Program Coordinator, Chief Engineer's Office, Department of Public Works; Program Coordinator, Department of Design and Construction; and Deputy Director, Department of Design and Construction. I have also served with Mr. Lee as an officer of the American Public Works Association, Hawaii Chapter.

Mr. Lee has extensive experience with design and engineering projects, project management, disaster preparedness and recovery, operating and capital budget preparation, supervision, and public speaking. He is committed to serving the people of the City and County of Honolulu and unselfishly works evenings and weekends as necessary to get the job done.

Mr. Lee is highly respected and well-liked by his peers in government as well as the private sector. He played a vital role in perpetuating the American Public Works Association, Hawaii Chapter's work in promoting recognition of excellence in the field of public works projects while encouraging University of Hawaii engineering students to enter the public works and government fields of employment.

Mr. Lee's extensive experience in the City and County of Honolulu has provided him with many opportunities to demonstrate his eloquence and intellect in writing reports and correspondence. He is also very well spoken and a practiced public speaker who has provided testimony before state and county legislative bodies in addition to many neighborhood boards and other special interest groups.

During these challenging times of mounting fiscal obligations, increasingly stringent environmental regulations, and growing public concern over aging infrastructure, the Department of Design and Construction is in dire need of an experienced and respected leader. The ideal candidate for this position should: know the inner workings of daily operations; understand the consultant selection process; have first hand experience dealing with the prioritization of a multitude of capital funds projects; be well versed with the City budget process; recognize and greet employees at the lowest level of the organization by their first name; and have the admiration and respect of subordinates, colleagues, peers, associates and superiors.

You need not look far to find a candidate that bears these traits. He is already acting in the capacity of Director and has my respect, admiration, and trust for his dedicated service to the City and County of Honolulu. Mr. Eugene C. Lee is the ideal candidate. I ask for your support in confirming Mr. Lee to the position of Director for the Department of Design and Construction.

Sincerely,



Ross S. Sasamura, P.E.

Misc. Com. No. 1126

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