

## **Dan Hirota, PE, LPLS GM#623**

### **(1) Why do you wish to be a member of the Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects?**

As the third generation of my family to practice as a licensed Civil Engineer, Land Surveyor and Land Court Surveyor in the State of Hawaii, my grandfather, Sam O. Hirota, and father, Dennis I. Hirota, have always stressed the importance of professional registration in the practice of civil engineering and land surveying. I wish to continue to support the professional registration process here in Hawaii through the Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors and Landscape Architects (EASLA) as a re-appointed member of the Board.

### **(2) What do you perceive are the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects?**

I believe that the primary function of EASLA is to help protect the health, safety and welfare of the public when professional services are required.

### **(3) Given your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects member, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise and knowledge that would aid you as a member of the Board.**

I have had 30 years of experience in the engineering and surveying industry in Hawaii, 18 of those years being licensed as both a land surveyor and civil engineer. I am completing my 3<sup>rd</sup> term (12 years) on the EASLA board as a land surveyor member and have also been appointed Chairperson twice. I am also a current member of the rules committee which reviews and proposes changes to the rules related to the EASLA professions.

### **(4) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?**

The rules committee is continuing its effort to tighten up the rules for professions that the EASLA board covers. This has been a long ongoing process with rules and procedures constantly changing. I hope that we can wrap up the revised rules and get them approved including adding licensure for Fire Protection and Environmental Engineering.

### **(5) Name three qualities that best describe you and how these qualities will benefit the Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects.**

I am ethical, hard working and a good listener. I feel that having a strong ethical background is important when it comes to protecting the consumer, setting forth rules and procedures that will benefit everyone not just yourself. Hard work is the key to getting things done. If I don't understand something, I will put in the extra time to do more research on the subject. I am also a good listener. I listen to all sides of a story and pay attention to details before I speak. This is invaluable when guests attend a meeting to address the board on a variety of matters.

### **(6) Name a previous experience you've had that will be beneficial as a Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects member.**

I have served 3 terms (12yrs) on the EASLA board before so I am familiar with how the board operates. I have also served as a past president of the HLSA, the Hawaii Land Surveying Association so I am well tuned into the surveying community and any surveying issues that may arise. Also, as a dual licensee (Surveying & Civil Engineering), I can voice my experience on both matters as needed.

### **(7) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service on the Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects? How would you overcome conflicts of interest?**

In the 12 years I have served already, I did not come across any conflicts of interest, so I do not foresee any conflicts of interest if I serve again. However, there is always the possibility that one of my colleagues, family members or someone I know may be reprimanded for some reason. As someone who can make impartial decisions, I don't feel that I would have to recuse myself from a decision. However, if I really felt that I couldn't be impartial, I would recuse myself from the situation.

**Testimony of the Board of Professional Engineers,  
Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects**

**Before the  
Senate Committee on Commerce & Consumer Protection  
Wednesday, March 10, 2021  
9:30 a.m.  
Via Videoconference**

**On the following measure:  
G.M. 623, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION  
TO THE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS,  
ARCHITECTS, SURVEYORS, AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, DAN HIROTA,  
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2024**

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

My name is Sandra Matsushima, and I am the Executive Officer of the Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects (Board). The Board supports the reappointment of Mr. Dan Hirota to the Board as a licensee member.

Mr. Hirota has been licensed as a land surveyor in Hawaii since June 25, 2002, and his license is current, active, and in good standing. He has more than 29 years of experience in civil engineering and land surveying in the State, and he is currently employed as a senior engineer and surveyor of Coffman Engineers, Inc.

Mr. Hirota has been serving as a board member since July 1, 2017, and he has attended 30 out of 34 board meetings since his appointment. Mr. Hirota is currently the chairman of the Board, and his experience provides the Board with a wealth of local and national knowledge, due to his representation of the Board at regional and national conferences.

Mr. Hirota's experience as a land surveyor and his desire to contribute to the community will continue to be an asset to the Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**GM-623**

Submitted on: 3/6/2021 6:32:29 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/10/2021 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alan Urasaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

In Support

**ALAN Z. INABA**  
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February 25, 2021

The Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker  
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230  
425 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Dan H. Hirota, P.E., PLS - GM623  
Nomination to EASLA

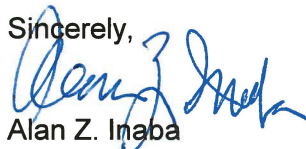
This letter is in reference of Mr. Dan Hirota, Professional Engineer, and Licensed Professional Land Surveyor, who is up for appointment, to the Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects (EASLA). I strongly support Mr. Hirota's appointment and humbly ask for your support and confirmation.

Dan Hirota ascends from a legacy of licensed professional civil engineers and land surveyors, he is of the third generation of licensed professionals in the Hirota lineage. I have worked with Dan on surveying projects and served on the EASLA Board during his previous and current appointment.

Dan is an individual with high morals and character, conducts himself in a very professional manner, and possesses leadership skills. Dan is also very knowledgeable of the local profession and board matters, which makes him an asset to the profession and the EASLA Board. I feel that these qualities will make Dan Hirota, PE, LPLS a great member of the Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects.

Should you have further questions or require additional information, please call or email.

Sincerely,



Alan Z. Inaba  
Licensed Professional Land Surveyor  
Certificate No. 5626 LPLS  
State of Hawaii, U.S.A.  
Land Court Surveyor No. 249  
Land Court of the State of Hawaii

Thursday, February 25, 2021

Office of Senator Rosalyn Baker  
Hawaii State Senate Office, State Capitol, Room 230  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Attn: Alisha, Legislative Assistant

Subject: **GM#623** Letter of Support for Dan Hirota  
For EASLA Licensing Board

Honorable Senator Baker and Members of the Committee.

I am honored to provide you with this letter of support for Dan Hirota to be reappointed to the EASLA Licensing Board. I've worked closely with Dan over the 8 years we served on the EASLA Board together in my capacity as the Landscape Architect member and past chair of the Licensing Board. I also currently serve as a member of the EASLA Rules Committee of which Dan is also a current member. I have also known Dan for many more years professionally as a Land Surveyor. Dan has proven to be one of the most hardworking members of the EASLA board, assuming the Chairmanship in 2015-16. To underscore this, I also understand Dan will be serving as board chair once again this coming year.

Dan is not only a leader in the land surveying community in Hawaii and nationally as a member of the National Society of Professional Surveyors, but in the broader community as well, serving on numerous civic committees.

I am certain that Mr. Hirota will continue to be a valuable asset to the EASLA Board and I give him my highest recommendation for his reappointment.

If you have any questions or if I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,



Joel Kurokawa, ASLA  
Past EASLA Board Chair  
Past Trustee, Hawaii Chapter ASLA  
Principal/Founder, Ki Concepts LLC  
E: [joelk@kiconcepts.com](mailto:joelk@kiconcepts.com)  
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February 25, 2021

Office of Senator Roselyn Baker  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Nomination of Mr. Dan Hirota  
**GM-623**

I am writing in support of Mr. Hirota's nomination to the Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors and Landscape Architects (EASLA). I have known Mr. Hirota both from a professional, and on a personal basis for more than 15 years. I have had the privilege and honor to collaborate with him on several projects and Board challenging issues as members of the EASLA Board the past 12 years where he has demonstrated his passion and unselfish willingness to execute his duties effectively. He is also a current member of the Board's Rules Committee which I chair and observed in person his ability to weigh significant and challenging issues, especially when it comes to the health, safety, and welfare of the general public.

I know that with his impeccable resume and his desire to continue to serve on the Board, his contribution will again be more than welcome by the Board.

Considering his busy schedule, Mr. Hirota's decision to continue undertaking the challenging responsibilities inherent in this kind of public service is commendable.

I, therefore, urge you to favorably consider his nomination and vote in favor of his appointment.

Sincerely,



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Roberto, B. Yumol, AIA, LEED AP, NCARB MBM



February 25, 2021

Office of Senator Rosalyn Baker  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 320  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Letter of Recommendation for the Confirmation of Mr. Dan Hirota  
GM623 – Nomination to the Board of Professional Engineers, Architects,  
Surveyors and Landscape Architects

Dear Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair; Honorable Senator Stanley Chang, Vice  
Chair; and Members of Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health:

Mr. Hirota is a well-respected professional engineer in Hawaii. He is not only very knowledgeable in his field, but also represents his profession with a high level of integrity and high ethical standards. He has demonstrated strong professional expertise throughout his professional career specializing in the fields of Land Surveying and Civil Engineering.

I have known Mr. Hirota professionally for the last 7 years. Mr. Hirota will certainly bring valuable professional experience and knowledge to this position on the board. He will be a great addition to the State Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ron E. Iwamoto' with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Ron E. Iwamoto, P.E.  
President  
Iwamoto Engineering Consultants, Inc.  
Consulting Structural Engineers