



**HAWAII COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

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GOVERNOR

SUSAN TODANI
CHAIRPERSON

CRAIG K. NAKAMOTO
INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Statement of
CRAIG NAKAMOTO
Interim Executive Director
Hawaii Community Development Authority

before the
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM**

Friday, March 4, 2022
3:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

In consideration of

GM 557
**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Community
Development Authority (Kaka'ako District), Gubernatorial Nominee,
VERNON INOSHITA, for a term to expire 06-30-2025.**

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Misalucha, and members of the Committee. The Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) **supports GM 557**, that confirms Vernon Inoshita as a Kakaako District member of the HCDA board.

Mr. Inoshita's vast experience as an architect and designer brings a wealth of knowledge and insight to the Authority. His work in securing large permits from the city Department of Planning and Permitting adds another layer of understanding and expertise that aids in the deliberations of the Authority members.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.



March 2, 2022

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair
Senator Bennette E. Misalucha, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Energy,
Economic Development and Tourism
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 407
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: GM 557 – confirmation of Vernon Inoshita to the Hawaii Community Development Authority

Dear Senator Wakai, Vice Chair Misalucha and Members of the Committee:

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of GM 557 regarding the confirmation of Vernon Inoshita's appointment to the Hawaii Community Development Authority. I have known Vernon Inoshita for 30+ years. He has a wealth of knowledge and experience that he brings to the table. Vernon Inoshita is a founding Principal & President of Design Partners Incorporated and is responsible for the management of the firm, parlaying it into the number one Architectural Firm for 2018 and 2019, PBN. Mr. Inoshita also serves as Lead Designer and Principal in Charge of the firm's largest and most complex projects. His experience spans the entire spectrum of design, from high-rise luxury condominiums, resort and hospitality, multi-family affordable housing, to airport improvements and educational facilities.

Since the Inception of Transit Oriented Development in Honolulu, Vernon has been at the forefront of this urban growth, forging the community connections that are enabling the healthy growth of Kaka`ako and the Kapi`olani Corridor. Current projects include the award-winning Kapi`olani Residence, Azure Ala Moana, Sky Ala Moana, The Park on Keeaumoku, The Central Ala Moana, and Waihonua at Kewalo.

Working with DPP, two of the projects required changes proposed by Vernon amending the Ala Moana Master Plan, which was then successfully implemented. Prior to his career at Design Partners Incorporated, he served as a senior designer for a number of firms on the mainland as well as in Hawai`i. On the mainland, Vernon was a designer with Minoru Yamasaki, working on the World Trade Center in New York and the Century Center Towers in Los Angeles.

In short, in my view, Vernon is the right person to help guide HCDA, and we as a community are very fortunate to have him step up to serve.

With Aloha,

Mitchell A. Imanaka, Managing Principal