March 31, 2021

David Zen-Yu Arakawa is the Executive Director of the Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF), which is a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers, resort operators and utility companies. LURF's mission is to research, educate and advocate for reasonable, rational, and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, while being stewards of Hawai'i's significant natural, cultural, and historic resources and safeguarding public health and safety.

Dave has over 39 years of legal experience with land use, government at all levels, a broad based legal practice, and a strong commitment to the local community. During Dave's tenure, LURF continues to be instrumental in raising issues, doing research, and providing information to decision-makers who shape government policy, legislation and rules and regulations relating to, among other things, agriculture, Important agricultural lands, affordable housing, development impact fees, transportation, infrastructure and infrastructure financing. renewable energy, sustainability, criteria for urban, rural and agricultural land use classifications, county plans and zoning issues, shoreline setbacks and shoreline management areas, Hawaii's environmental review system and resort-related issues.

A member of the Hawaii Tourism Authority since 2018, Dave serves as the Chair of the Audit Committee, Vice Chair of the Legislative Committee, Vice Chair of the Budget & Finance Committee and serves on the Administration Committee. He was responsible for monthly monitoring of the HTA's progress to comply with the recommendations in the 2018 Audit of HTA, requested HTA training by the Office of Information Practices (OIP) and the Ethics Commission, initiated the sharing of daily tourism reports for HTA board members, served on two Selection Committees for the HTA CEO, and helped establish policies and procedures relating to the CEO selection process, requested an OIP opinion that opened the HTA Marketing Committee meeting to all HTA Board members, and following the loss of TAT during the COVID-19 Pandemic, recommended establishment of the HTA Budget Review Investigatory Committee and the HTA Legislative Investigative Committee.

State and county lawmakers and officials have appointed Dave to a number of different advisory committees and task forces including, but not limited to, the Governor Ige's Hawaii 2.0 economic recovery initiative (Convener), the Governor's Housing Working Group, the Managing Capacity Work Group for the Hawaii Tourism Authority Strategic Plan 2015-2020, State Land Use Task Force (Office of Planning, State of Hawaii); Working Group for Shoreline Setback Ordinance Amendments (Kauai County Council); Governor's Affordable Housing Barriers Task Force, Senate working group on the environmental review system, Governor's Affordable Housing Working Group, State Department of Transportation's (DOT) Statewide Long Range Transportation Plan Stakeholder Advisory Committee and DOT's State Scenic Byways Program Advisory Committee, Mayor's Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (Mayor Mufi Hannemann); Department of Planning and Permitting's (DPP) City's Affordable Housing Focus Group and DPP's Agricultural Focus Group for the General Plan Update, City Council Affordable Housing Working Group; City Council's Sustainable Building Task Force and City Council Affordable Housing Working Group, City's Aiea-Pearl City Neighborhood Transit Oriented Development Advisory Group, the City's Homeless Coalition, the City's Land Fill Site Selection Committee (Mayor Peter Carlisle) and the City's Technical Advisory Committee on Important Agricultural Lands (City Department of Planning and Permitting).

Prior to joining LURF, Dave served as Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary for Hawaiian Airlines, where he oversaw all legal issues relating to the operations of Hawaiian Airlines. For eight years prior to that, he served as the Corporation Counsel for the City and County of Honolulu, serving as the chief legal advisor and representative for the Mayor, the Honolulu City Council, and all City and County agencies and employees. While Corporation Counsel, he supervised the amendment of the City Charter, which reorganized the City departments (2000 Edition), established a new procurement policy and requirements, oversaw the civil investigation of corruption within the City's housing agency, successfully defended all city officials in criminal investigations of City contracts, prevailed in a lawsuit against the State Administration and the State Employment Retirement System, facilitated a moratorium on requirements relating to the sales of affordable housing units, initiated the third-party permit review system, provided legal advice and representation for the Waikiki Beachwalk condemnation, provided legal advice the Kalakaua Avenue Improvements and established a statewide training conference for county corporation counsels.

Before joining the City, Dave spent 13 years in private practice, including positions as an associate and partner with the law firm of Fujiyama Duffy and Fujiyama, specializing in resort development, land use, state, county, and federal government permitting, general business and employment law. Upon graduating from law school, he served as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, which included felony jury trials in the Career Criminal and Organized Crime Units. He started his legal career while in college and law school, working as a paralegal and law clerk in the Native Hawaiian Rights Unit of the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii.

Throughout his career, Dave Arakawa has been involved in numerous professional, civic and community activities and has served and continues to serve as a member of several nonprofit organizations committed to improving Hawaii's quality of life and preserving Hawaii's cultural heritage. He is a member of the Aiea Neighborhood Board, and a past member and chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee of the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization. His community involvement includes, among other things, co-founding Kizuna Hawaii, which is a statewide coalition of the major Japanese organizations in Hawaii, current advisor and past president of the United Japanese Society of Hawaii and the Hawaii United Okinawan Association, Board of Governors for the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii, past co-president of the Hawaii Imin Shiryo Hozon Kai, member of the Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce, and member of the Worldwide Uchinanchu Business Association/Okinawan Chamber of Commerce.

Dave attended Waipahu Elementary School, and graduated from Punahou School, the University of Hawaii at Manoa (Bachelor of Arts - History) and the William S. Richardson School of Law (Juris Doctor).