

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

Testimony of
Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawaii

Before the
Senate Committee on Water and Land

Wednesday, March 6, 2024
1:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229, and Videoconference

In consideration of
Governor's Message No. 603

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land:

I respectfully request your favorable consideration of Governor's Message No. 603, appointment of Mary Alice Evans to serve as Director, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD).

Mary Alice's extensive firsthand experiences in various state leadership positions throughout her longstanding public service career reflect her firm grasp of the role, functions, and processes of government. Her career progression in the areas of planning, land use, sustainable development, and environmental regulation, as well as her research, analysis, and policymaking skills also lend to her ability and credibility to lead the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development. Since May 2023, Mary Alice has been serving as Interim Director of OPSD, and from May 2019 to December 2022, Mary Alice was its Director.

Her other work experiences include serving as Interim Director and Deputy Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Interim Comptroller and Deputy Comptroller, Department of Accounting and General Services; and Special Assistant for Research, Office of the Governor. It is Mary Alice's work experiences as a planning program manager, planner, and research statistician in other state departments and the Office of the Governor that give her a solid understanding of the issues before OPSD and contribute to her ability to navigate through the complexities of the public policy process and formulate public policy.

Testimony of the Office of the Governor
Governor's Message No. 603
March 6, 2024
Page 2

Mary Alice earned a Master of Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Hawaii at Manoa and Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology from the University of California at Santa Barbara.

Lastly, Mary Alice's solid work experience in the executive branch and her effective leadership and utmost dedication to the job enable her to serve the State and community well as Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

Thank you very much for your consideration.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

KA 'OIHANA HO'OMOHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI
A HO'OMĀKA'IKAI

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT DIVISION

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
DIRECTOR

DANE K. WICKER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

DENNIS T. LING
ADMINISTRATOR

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Testimony of
Dennis Ling, Administrator
Business Development & Support Division
Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
before the
Senate Committee on Water and Land
Wednesday, March 6, 2024
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229
in consideration of
GM No. 603
Confirmation of Director,
Office of Planning and Sustainable Development,
Gubernatorial Nominee, MARY ALICE EVANS

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice-Chair Elefante, and committee members.

My name is Dennis T. Ling and I am the Administrator of the Business Development & Support Division of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.

I am writing to express my strong support of GM603 for Mary Alice Evans' gubernatorial nomination to be the Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD).

I have known Mary Alice for over 30 years and during that time she has always been an individual of high integrity and vast knowledge. Her various roles in state government in administration, planning and economic development have given her a wide range of experience and increased responsibilities.

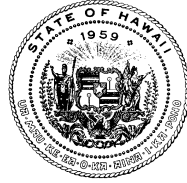
Planning is important to our state's continued growth and prosperity. The OPSD, in balancing the competing needs throughout the State, must be fair, impartial, and thorough in reviewing initiatives and projects. The wisdom that Mary Alice brings to the OPSD is extremely valuable as the State formulates policies and strategies. She knows how to bring people together to get results and understands the sensitivities of how the office needs to be responsive to stakeholders.

She also has a great working relationship with her peers and subordinates, as well as the community at large.

I can think of no better person to serve in this very important role. I respectfully urge the confirmation of her nomination.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII



KENNETH S. FINK, M.D., M.G.A., M.P.H.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
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**Testimony in SUPPORT of GM603
Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Office of Planning and
Sustainable Development, Gubernatorial Nominee, MARY ALICE EVANS, , for a term
to expire 12-31-2026.**

SENATOR LORRAINE R. INOUE, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Hearing Date: March 6, 2024

Room Number: 229

1 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) strongly supports the nomination of
2 Ms. Mary Alice Evans for Director, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

3 Ms. Evans' resume conveys an accomplished career in public service, working towards a
4 brighter, more resilient, and more fair future for Hawaii. Those who have worked with Ms.
5 Evans will attest to her genuine collegiality, her vast knowledge of public policy, her grasp of
6 data at a granular level, and her willingness to share resource and information in pursuit of a
7 worthy goal. In addition to her domain knowledge, Ms. Evans has a deep understanding of the
8 inner workings of state systems, making her an even more effective change agent.

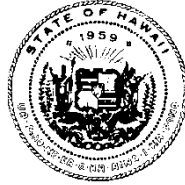
9 The State of Hawaii made great strides during her previous tenure as Director, Office of Planning
10 and Sustainable Development, including facilitating and coordinating the public policy and
11 administrative infrastructure for climate change response and resilience. A return to this position
12 will keep Hawaii on a meaningful path to pono future.

13 Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of Ms. Evans.

14

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR



DEAN MINAKAMI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
FAX: (808) 587-0600

Statement of
DEAN MINAKAMI
Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation
Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

March 06, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 229

In consideration of
GM 603

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, Gubernatorial Nominee, MARY ALICE EVANS, for a term to expire 12-31-2026.

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and members of the Committee.

HHFDC **strongly supports** the consideration and confirmation of Mary Alice Evans as the Director for the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) within the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT).

Ms. Evans has had a distinguished and dedicated career in public service, especially in this department, over the past 30 years. She started as a planner in 1990, served as the Deputy Director of DBEDT from April 2011 to December 2018, and then as the Director of OPSD from May 2019 to December 2022. Thus, Ms. Evans was an obvious choice as interim director.

HHFDC enjoys a productive and collaborative relationship with OPSD and this is largely due to the leadership provided by Ms. Evans. We appreciate the opportunity to express our strong support for GM 603.

Testimony of
CHUNG I. CHANG
Strategic Broadband Coordinator
Hawaii Broadband and Digital Equity Office
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT)
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Tuesday, March 6, 2024
1:00PM
State Capitol, Conference Room #229

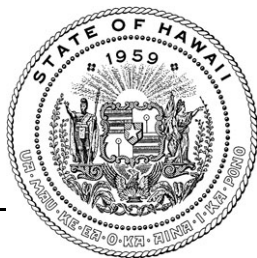
In consideration of
GM603
**Consideration and confirmation of Mary Alice Evans as the
Director, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.**

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and members of the Committee. On behalf of the Hawaii Broadband and Digital Equity Office, I am in **strong support** of Mary Alice Evans as the Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development. I have had the privilege of working closely with Ms. Evans since began my career in DBEDT as the Aerospace Coordinator in July 2018. She was the Deputy Director then; she was my supervisor and a mentor.

Ms. Evans has a wealth of experience and deep understanding of planning, along with a comprehensive knowledge of State processes and statutes. Her administrative skills are formidable, and she upholds the highest ethical standards in her work. Personally, I can attest to her instrumental role in shaping me into a responsible and productive leader.

I respectfully urge the committee to support Ms. Evans' appointment with your favorable decision on advice and consent.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMOHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI
A HO'OMĀKA'IKĀ'I

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
DIRECTOR

DANE K. WICKER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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Testimony of
Eugene Tian

To the
Senate Committee on Water and Land

Wednesday, March 6, 2024
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In consideration of
GM 603
Confirmation of Director,
Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, Gubernatorial Nominee,
MARY ALICE EVANS

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee.

I am Eugene Tian, Economic Research Administrator with the Research and Economic Analysis Division of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT). I am pleased to submit this testimony in strong support for the nomination of Mary Alice Evans as the Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

I worked with Mary Alice when she was DBEDT Deputy Director between 2010 and 2018. Mary Alice displayed excellent operation, organization, and communication skills. Her knowledge of government regulations, planning, and economic development was well respected by the people she worked with. Her instructions to the management team were always clear and concise, with the goal of maximizing DBEDT's effectiveness and impact. In working with her as Deputy Director, I have found that she treats people with respect, compassion, and fairness.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMOHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI
A HO'OMĀKA'IKĀ'I

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
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JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
DIRECTOR

DANE K. WICKER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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Fax: (808) 586-2512
E-mail: administrator@ftz9.org

Statement of
DAVID J. SIKKINK, Administrator
Foreign-Trade Zone Division
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Wednesday, March 6, 2024
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 and Videoconference

In consideration of
Governor's Message 603

The consideration and confirmation as Director of
the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development of
MARY ALICE EVANS,
for the term to expire December 31, 2026.

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, Members of the Committee:

I submit this testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** for GM603, the consideration and confirmation of **MARY ALICE EVANS** to serve as the Director of the Hawaii Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

I have worked very closely with Ms. Evans for over 15 years as a DBEDT colleague and in her lengthy term as Deputy Director of the Department. I have found her vast knowledge of state government operations, planning, and economic development to be unsurpassed.

Ms. Evans has extensive knowledge and experience in the areas of state planning and economic development dating back thirty (30) years with a keen sense of cultural and environmental awareness which she brings to her work. She understands effective leadership in government and is adept at moving critical initiatives through the administrative and legislative process.

I have also found Ms. Evans to be an accomplished mentor. She is extremely patient in her approach and a very constructive advisor in her direction and guidance



which has helped numerous colleagues better understand and excel in their work in government service and make a positive attribute as a public servant.

The Foreign-Trade Zone Division respectfully requests your confirmation and appointment of **MARY ALICE EVANS** to serve as the Director of the Hawaii Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT GOVERNOR



Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority

An Agency of the State of Hawaii

JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
CHAIR

GWEN S YAMAMOTO LAU
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

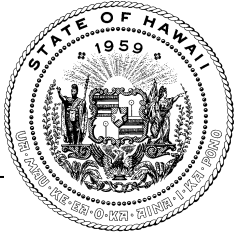
Testimony of
Gwen Yamamoto Lau
Executive Director
Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority
before the
Senate Committee on Water and Land
Wednesday, March 6, 2024, 1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229
in consideration of
GM No. 603
**Confirmation of Director, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development,
Gubernatorial Nominee, MARY ALICE EVANS**

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of Governor's Message 603, for Gubernatorial Nominee Mary Alice Evans, as Director of the Office of Planning.

With over 50 years of service to the state, Mary Alice has broad and deep experience not only at DBEDT, but throughout the state system. A planner for over three decades, a former deputy director at the Department of Accounting and General Services, and a former deputy director at DBEDT, Mary Alice has a proven track record and the relevant technical skills required to lead the Office of Planning. Under her leadership, the Office of Planning is poised to continue providing the Governor sound recommendations to shape state policies and strategies.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify and offer support and comments for Governor's Message 603.



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

MARK B. GLICK
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

(808) 451-6648
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Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Wednesday, March 6, 2024
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 and Videoconference

In SUPPORT of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 603

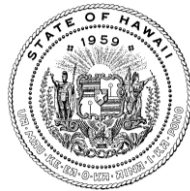
Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, Gubernatorial Nominee, MARY ALICE EVANS, for a term to expire 12-31-2026.

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and members of the Committee, I support the appointment of Mary Alice Evans as Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD). Mary Alice is particularly well prepared to serve in this role due to her extensive and varied state government roles and knowledge of State government and state planning policies and procedures.

Her two decades of direct experience at the highest levels of planning and management at OPSD makes her eminently qualified to serve as Director. Her specialties include economic development, social and intergovernmental, and Native Hawaiian issues. I had the opportunity to work closely with Mary Alice when she was Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, and deeply appreciated her great skills in dealing with complex procurement, planning and administrative matters.

I urge the committee to confirm the appointment of Mary Alice Evans as Director of OPSD.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

SABRINA NASIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kālā
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT

WRITTEN TESTIMONY BY
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 603

March 6, 2024
1:00 p.m.
Room 229 & Videoconference

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, MARY ALICE EVANS, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-31-2026.

Chair Lorraine R. Inouye, Vice Chair Brandon J.C. Elefante, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support the appointment of Mary Alice Evans to the position of director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development. I am working with Mary Alice Evans in my professional capacity as Director of Finance.

Governor Green's administration shares his priorities of homelessness and housing, the cost of living, climate change, and health care for the people of Hawai'i. We are committed to take action to make the needed changes to move Hawai'i forward.

Ms. Evans is an integral part of a team that is dedicated to achieving the goals of this administration in an honest, transparent, accountable, and responsive manner.

Ms. Evans has been serving as the director at the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) since May 2023. Prior to that, she has experience working at OPSD in the Special Plans Branch as planning program manager. Her work experience will benefit the department and the State; therefore, I support her confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

WILLIAM G. KUNSTMAN
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
KA 'OIHANA PONO LIMAHAHA

March 6, 2024

To: The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
The Honorable Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land

Date: Wednesday, March 6, 2024

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Place: Conference Room 229 & Videoconference, State Capitol

From: Jade T. Butay, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: G.M. 603, Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, Gubernatorial Nominee, MARY ALICE EVANS, for a term to expire 12-31-2026.

The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations **strongly supports** the confirmation of Mary Alice Evans as Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD).

Ms. Evans earned her Master of Urban Planning from the University of Hawaii and is a dedicated public servant to the State of Hawaii since 1973. She is an outstanding yet humble administrator having served in various leadership roles in the executive branch of the State. This is important because communities on the different islands and different communities are often distrustful of government. However, Ms. Evans has a way of “walking the talk” in a non-threatening way due to her years of experience, which can help guide the State in the right path as we all move forward now and in the future.

During her tenure as the former Director of OPSD, she reinvigorated the offices’ missions with aspirations towards a clean energy and environmental future and by collaborating with stakeholders to balance the needs and concerns of the community with those of industry.

The DLIR greatly appreciates her partnership in promoting job training, educational opportunities, and economic development across the energy sector and gives Ms. Evans the green thumb to plan our sustainable development without causing irreparable harm to Hawaii’s future generations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor’s Message 603.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



WENDY L. GADY
Executive Director

STATE OF HAWAII
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
235 S. Beretania Street, Room 205
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone: (808) 586-0186 Fax: (808) 586-0189

**TESTIMONY OF WENDY L. GADY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Wednesday, March 6, 2024
1:00 PM
Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

**GM 603 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director,
Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, Gubernatorial Nominee,
MARY ALICE EVANS, for a term to expire 12-31-2026.**

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante and Members of the Committee:

The Agribusiness Development Corporation (“ADC”) **supports** GM 603, relating to the consideration and confirmation of Ms. Mary Alice Evans’ appointment as Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

It is a privilege to be working with Mary Alice on the ADC’s Strategic Plan. She has both the institutional knowledge and the resourcefulness to give concise answers and direction. One of the most priceless and greatest of skills Mary Alice possesses is the ability to deliver difficult, complicated information in a way in which the listener can easily understand, interpret, and act. This skill saves the state countless hours of skilled professional time. Hawaii needs her continued help and support with the myriad of projects and studies for Maui and

the state to ensure much success in our future for a range of agencies, departments, and individuals.

ADC is confident she has the experience and skills required to serve as Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development and respectfully asks for your consideration and support of her nomination.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.



LAND USE COMMISSION

Komikina Ho'ohana 'Āina

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM
Ka 'Oihana Ho'omōhala Pā'oihana, 'Imi Wai wai a Ho'omāka'ika'i

JOSH GREEN, MD
GOVERNOR

DANIEL E. ORODENKER
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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Statement of
Daniel E. Orodener
Executive Officer
State Land Use Commission

LATE

Before the
Senate Committee on
Water and Land

Wednesday March 6, 2024
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Room 229 & Video Conference

In consideration of
GM 603
FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, MARY ALICE EVANS
As the director for the State Office of Planning and Sustainable Development
Term to expire December 31, 2026

Chair Inouye; Vice Chair Elefante; and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land:

Please accept this testimony in support of the confirmation of Mary Alice Evans as director for the State Office of Planning and Sustainable Development ("OPSD"). I have known Mary Alice for some time and she has shown herself to be an exemplary planner. She is well versed in planning principles and has a thorough understanding of the planning process.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony on her appointment.



NATURAL ENERGY LABORATORY OF HAWAII AUTHORITY

An Authority of the State of Hawaii attached to the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism

Written Only

Statement of
Gregory P. Barbour
Executive Director

Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority
before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Wednesday, March 6, 2024

1:00 pm

State Capitol, Conference Room 229 and Videoconference

in consideration of

GM 603 RELATING TO THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION OF MARY ALICE EVANS AS DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

I am pleased to provide testimony in strong support of Mary Alice Evans for the position of the Director of the State Office of Planning and Sustainable Development. I have worked closely with Ms. Evans over the past twenty years in her various positions as DBEDT and other State agencies.

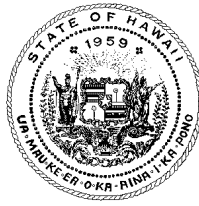
Her experience and understanding of government, planning, and economic development are complementary and provide her with perfect qualifications for this important position. For example, she has a very detailed knowledge of the inter-workings of government, checks and balances and the different role of each agency. In this regard, she has been truly

instrumental in dramatically speeding up the flow and approval of requirements necessary for effective and efficient government.

In addition, she has served as a member to the NELHA Board of Directors at various times over the past ten years and I have always valued her opinion on critical issues facing NELHA. Her practical realistic assessment of issues and straight-forward thinking has been invaluable in this regard.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII
**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
AND REHABILITATION**
*Ka 'Oihana Ho'omalua Kalaima
a Ho'oponopono Ola*
1177 Alakea Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

TOMMY JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

Melanie Martin
Deputy Director
Administration

Pamela J. Sturz
Deputy Director
Correctional Institutions

Sanna Muñoz
Deputy Director
Rehabilitation Services
and
Programs

No. _____

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR MESSAGE NO. 603
RELATING TO THE NOMINATION OF MARY ALICE EVANS
TO BE THE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
By
Tommy Johnson, Director

Senate Committee on Water and Land
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 6, 2024; 1:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 & Via Video Conference

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee:

I submit testimony in support of the nomination and confirmation of Mary Alice Evans as the Director, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development for a term to expire on December 7, 2026. Ms. Evans has a diverse and wide-reaching work background that spans almost 50 years.

Ms. Evans' vast work experience includes working in two (2) previous Governor offices, and with the Departments of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR), Deputy Director and Interim Director of Business Economic Develop and Tourism (DBEDT), Deputy Comptroller and Interim Comptroller, previous Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development from 2019 – 2022, and now serves as Interim Director of that same agency.

She clearly possesses the prerequisite knowledge, honed leadership and managerial skills, and interpersonal skills required for such a complex and far-reaching position. I strongly urge the committee to recommend advice and consent for this highly qualified nominee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of the Governor's Message No. 603 and Ms. Evans.



STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION & ADAPTATION
COMMISSION
POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Co-Chairs:
Chair, DLNR
Director, OPSD

Commissioners:
Chair, Senate AEN
Chair, Senate WTL
Chair, House EEP
Chair, House WAL
Chairperson, HTA
Chairperson, DOA
CEO, OHA
Chairperson, DHHL
Director, DBEDT
Director, DOT
Director, DOH
Chairperson, DOE
Director, C+C DPP
Director, Maui DP
Director, Hawai'i DP
Director, Kaua'i DP
The Adjutant General
Manager, CZM

Testimony of
Leah Laramee
Coordinator, Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission

Before the Senate Committees on
WATER AND LAND

Wednesday, March 6, 2023
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 415 & Videoconference

In consideration of
Governors Message 603
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Governors Message 603 nominates Mary Alice Evans for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD), for a term to expire 12-31-2026. **The Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (Commission) supports this nomination.**

The Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission consists of a multi-jurisdictional effort between 20 different departments, committees, and counties. Mary Alice Evans' confirmation would establish her as a Co-Chair of the Commission. Evans is a long time civil servant who has worked in many capacities on behalf of the people of Hawai'i. Evans has proven her capabilities in her time as Director of OPSD and Co-Chair of the Commission. Evans understands the nature of the work and has the long-term insight to continue in the role.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of Mary Alice Evans' nomination.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



SHARON HURD
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

DEXTER KISHIDA
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawai'i
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
KA 'OIHANA MAHI'AI
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

**TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2024
1:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 229**

GOVERNORS MESSAGE NO. 603

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, Gubernatorial Nominee, **MARY ALICE EVANS**, for a term to expire 12-31-2026.

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Gubernatorial Nominee, Mary Alice Evans, as the Director, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD). Mary Alice began her career in public service as a Research Statistician in the Office of the Governor, then served in DLIR, DAGS, and joined the DBEDT team in 2002 as Planner VI, Planning Program Manager, Deputy Director, Director and is seeking confirmation to serve as Director once again. With experience gained from her years in planning and sustainable development, and based on my interactions working with her, Mary Alice has my strong support to be the Director of OPSD.

Her Master of Urban and Regional Planning from UH Manoa has been put to good use during her many years. If past performance is an indicator of future success, Mary Alice Evans will be a very successful Director! Respectfully requesting your vote to confirm Mary Alice as Director of OPSD. She is qualified, well-respected and the right person for the position.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

SABRINA NASIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kālā
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT

WRITTEN TESTIMONY BY
SABRINA NASIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 603

March 6, 2024
1:00 p.m.
Room 229 & Videoconference

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, MARY ALICE EVANS, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-31-2026.

Chair Lorraine R. Inouye, Vice Chair Brandon J.C. Elefante, and Members of the Committee:

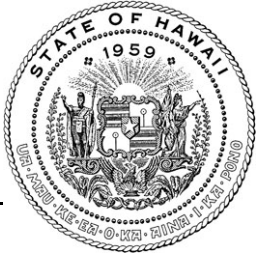
I strongly support the appointment of Mary Alice Evans to the position of director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development. I am working with Mary Alice Evans in my professional capacity as Deputy Director of Finance.

Governor Green's administration shares his priorities of homelessness and housing, the cost of living, climate change, and health care for the people of Hawai'i. We are committed to take action to make the needed changes to move Hawai'i forward.

Ms. Evans is an integral part of a team that is dedicated to achieving the goals of this administration in an honest, transparent, accountable, and responsive manner.

Ms. Evans has been serving as the director at the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) since May 2023. Prior to that, she has experience working at OPSD in the Special Plans Branch as planning program manager. Her work experience will benefit the department and the State; therefore, I support her confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMOHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI
A HO'OMĀKA'IKA'I

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
DIRECTOR

DANE K. WICKER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: dbedt.hawaii.gov

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Testimony of
JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Wednesday, March 6, 2024
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In consideration of
GM 603
**Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Office of Planning
and Sustainable Development, Gubernatorial Nominee, MARY ALICE EVANS,
for a term to expire 12-31-2026.**

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante and Members of the Committee.

I **strongly support** the appointment of Mary Alice Evans to serve as the Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD).

Ms. Evans has an extensive background in planning with a Master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and has held a number of planning positions in the Office of the Governor and the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT).

Ms. Evans has the proven leadership experience as she has previously served as deputy and interim comptroller for the Department of Accounting and General Services and deputy and interim director for DBEDT. She has also previously served as the director of OPSD and has been serving as the interim director since May 2023. Ms. Evans works collaboratively with local, state, and federal government agencies and community stakeholders and has supported the Green administration in a number of capacities in response to the Maui wildfires.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask for Ms. Evans' confirmation as the Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development. I look forward to continuing to work with her to ensure the sustainable development of Hawai'i. Thank you for the opportunity to offer my strong support.



TESTIMONY BY:
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
DREANALEE K. KALILI
TAMMY L. LEE
ROBIN K. SHISHIDO
JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

Wednesday, March 6, 2024
1:00 P.M.
Conference Room 229 & Videoconference
State Capitol

In consideration of
Governor's Message 603

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, Gubernatorial Nominee, Mary Alice Evans

Senate Committee on Water and Land

The Department of Transportation (DOT) strongly supports the confirmation of Mary Alice Evan as the Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD).

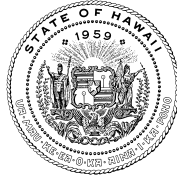
Ms. Evans earned her BA in Sociology from the University of California in Santa Barbara, and a MA in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. She has served on the Hawaii Chapter of American Planning Association, the Hawaii Economic Association, Honolulu City Planning Commission, and the Urban Land Institute.

We've had the pleasure to work with Ms. Evans as Deputy Director of Department of Business and Economic Development and Tourism and find her to be an exceptional leader. She is a visionary who optimizes the effectiveness of Hawaii's assets and infrastructure and as a dedicated public servant for almost 40 years, she brings a wealth of institutional insight encouraging more public and private partnerships with government.

Planning is so important to our continued growth and prosperity. The OPSD continually balances competing needs throughout the State so it must be fair and thorough in reviewing initiatives and projects. What Ms. Evans brings to the OPSD is extremely valuable as the State formulate policies and strategies. She knows how to bring people together to get results and understands the sensitivities of how her office needs to be responsive to all the stakeholders. We have every confidence that she will continue to do a fantastic job. The DOT looks forward to continuing our good relations with Ms. Evans and is hopeful you will unanimously approve her nomination to continue her fine work at the OPSD.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



KEITH A. REGAN
COMPTROLLER
KA LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

MEOH-LENG SILLIMAN
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | KA 'OIHANA LOIHELU A LAWELAWÉ LAULĀ
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
OF
KEITH A. REGAN, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

MARCH 6, 2024, 1:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 229 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

G.M. 603
SUBMITTING FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE
DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, MARY ALICE EVANS, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE
12-31-2026.

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on G.M. 603. I **support** the nomination of Mary Alice Evans as the Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD).

Ms. Evans has led the OPSD as Interim Director since May 2023 and as Director from 2019 to 2022. She also served as Deputy Director and Interim Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism. In addition, Ms. Evans has served as Deputy Comptroller and Interim Comptroller for the Department of Accounting and General Services.

Having had the opportunity to work with Ms. Evans over the past many years in various capacities, I have found her to be extremely responsive, knowledgeable, and always willing to serve as a resource and assistance. I believe that her extensive experience and well-honed skills has served her well in the numerous leadership positions she has held within the State. She has dedicated her career to public service and has a proven track record of selfless service to our community. I am confident that Ms. Evans will continue to be an invaluable asset to State government if confirmed. I humbly ask for your support of her confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

GM-603

Submitted on: 3/4/2024 7:18:22 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/6/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Douglass Adams	Testifying for Dept of Research & Development, County of Hawai'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante and Members of the Committee on Water and Land:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in STRONG SUPPORT of the nomination of Mary Alice Evans to serve as the Director, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) through December 31, 2026. Mary Alice's experience and effectiveness in this position is more than evident. In addition, the Department of Research and Development notes the importance of continued collaboration with OPSD under Mary Alice's leadership, whether it be for economic development or sustainability-related purposes.

We strongly encourage the Committee to forward Mary Alice Evans's nomination to the Senate with a favorable recommendation for confirmation.

very respectfully

Douglass S. Adams

Director, Department of Research & Development

County of Hawai'i



Hawaii Technology Development Corporation
521 Ala Moana Blvd, Ste 255 | 808-539-3806
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 | www.htdc.org

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

Written Statement of
Wayne Inouye
Interim Director
Hawaii Technology Development Corporation
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Wednesday, March 06, 2024
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room #229

In consideration of
GM603

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elephante, and members of the Committee.

The Hawaii Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) strongly supports the appointment of Mary Alice Evans to serve as the Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD)

Mary Alice Evans has repeatedly proven her strong leadership skills with her previous experience within the state as deputy and interim comptroller for the Department of Accounting and General Services and deputy and interim director for DBEDT. Along with her experience, she is armed with a Master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning. Her extensive experience and education qualify her for the Director position in OPSD.

HTDC supports Ms. Evan's confirmation as the Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development and looks forward to working alongside Ms. Evan's in the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Statement of
LEO R. ASUNCION, JR., AICP
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND
Wednesday, March 6, 2024
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

in consideration of
Governor's Message (GM) 603

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land.

I strongly support the nomination of Mary Alice Evans to serve as Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

I have known and worked with Ms. Evans for some three decades, and she continues to demonstrate competency of the broad range of planning topics facing Hawai'i, as well as nationally and globally. Her career long experience in state government is second to none, and she is a proven planner, manager, and administrator. Moreover, Ms. Evans is respected by the community of public, private, and non-profit planners throughout our state. It is my professional and personal opinion that Ms. Evans is the right person to lead the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to ensure the State's critical planning initiatives are advanced for our island state and its residents.

Ms. Evans has and continues to demonstrate the highest level of leadership, and she has gained my trust as a colleague and a friend. I have the utmost confidence that she will continue to serve our State well in this position.

I respectfully encourage the Committee to advise and consent to the nomination of Mary Alice Evans as Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on GM 603.



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

March 6, 2024

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

TESTIMONY ON GM 603

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, Gubernatorial Nominee, MARY ALICE EVANS, for a term to expire 12-31-2026

Conference Room 229 & Videoconference
1:00 PM

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice-Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawai'i Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide and serves as Hawai'i's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate, and advance the social, economic, and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawai'i Farm Bureau strongly supports the confirmation of Mary Alice Evans as the Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

HFB has had the opportunity to work with Ms. Evans for nearly eighteen years in her capacities at the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT). We have found her to be exceptionally qualified, dedicated, honest, and fair in her handling of the many complicated issues tackled by DBEDT. Ms. Evans' extensive planning and administrative experience makes her an ideal candidate for the position of Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

We are confident that Ms. Evans is the right person for this position. Her experience, expertise, and dedication have been and will continue to be an asset to the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development and Hawai'i.

Please accept our strong support for Ms. Mary Alice Evans to continue her great work as the Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

GM-603

Submitted on: 2/28/2024 4:08:24 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/6/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jesse K. Souki	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land:

I appreciate the opportunity to register my support for the confirmation of Mary Alice Evans as the Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

Ms. Evans’s work at the Office in staff and management roles has been exemplary. As Director of the Office of Planning, I worked with Ms. Evans on important issues for the State of Hawai’i and produced important work that continues to guide the state. This work included developing the state’s climate adaptation policy (Act 286, SLH 2012); reenvisioning and making significant updates to the “Ocean Resources Management Plan”; producing guidance to state agencies such as “Leveraging State Agency Involvement in Transit-Oriented Development to Strengthen Hawaii’s Economy”; and producing the “Increased Food Security and Food Self-Sufficiency Strategy.” This important work could not have been accomplished without a capable team and the guidance and insights of Ms. Evans.

Mahalo for your consideration.

GM-603

Submitted on: 3/1/2024 12:12:08 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/6/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anonymous	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly object to the nomination of Mary Alice Evans for the position of Director, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD).

Ms. Evans exhibits a markedly outdated approach to problem-solving and appears resistant to adapting to the evolving needs of the office under her jurisdiction. Despite innovative advancements within the State of Hawaii, she fails to leverage it effectively to enhance operational efficiency within OPSD. Additionally, her practice of hiring individuals based solely on tenure or just to fill the position that is vacant rather than their suitability for the role demonstrates a concerning disregard for meritocracy.

Furthermore, Ms. Evans' evasive communication style, characterized by a reluctance to provide direct answers and frequent attempts to deflect inquiries, raises doubts about her transparency and credibility. Given the rapidly changing landscape and intricate dynamics within the OPSD, her leadership style does not align with the forward-thinking approach necessary to drive meaningful progress.

Thank you for considering my perspective on this matter.

GM-603

Submitted on: 3/4/2024 8:02:46 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/6/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dexter Kishida	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mary Alice has always been an amazing partner to work with. Specifically, I commend her deep understanding of the issues surrounding Hawaii agriculture. Her deep understanding of how government works in Hawaii, her ability to balance the competing priorities of land use, and continued cross department partnerships make her a unique candidate for Director and has my strong support.

Thank you,

Dexter Kishida

TESTIMONY

Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Wednesday, March 6, 2024

1 PM

GM 603 Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director,
Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD), Gubernatorial
Nominee, Mary Alice Evans

I strongly support the confirmation of Mary Alice Evans as Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD).

Mary Alice Evans has strong management skills. She has served as Interim Director of the OPSD since May 2023. She previously served as OPSD Director from May 2019 to December 2022 and as Interim Director of DBEDT from December 2018 to January 2019.

Mary Alice Evans also has extensive prior experience in OPSD serving as a Planner and Planning Program Manager in various programs.

She works collaboratively and calmly with staff, other government agencies and officials, the private sector, and the public.

In past years, I worked on various projects with her as she served in many capacities including Planner, Planning Program Manager, Director and Acting Director. I have the highest regard for her expertise and her ability to work with others.

Please support her confirmation as Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

Mary Lou Kobayashi
3325 C Maunaloa Ave.
Honolulu, HI 96816

GM-603

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 9:56:26 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/6/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mason S.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Kākou,

My name is Mason and I am currently a student attending highschool. In my classes we are learning a lot about sustainable development and how we as a community can achieve this goal. I think that if we as a state start to focus on becoming more and more sustainable we will have better longevity. With finding more sustainable solutions it will maybe at first be expensive, but when the solution starts to role it will end up saving more money for us letting the state use more money to help solve other problems that our community is facing.

GM-603

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 10:02:30 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/6/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lauren Primiano	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,

My name is Lauren Primiano and I stand in strong support of the confirmation of Mary Alice Evans as Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

I've had the opportunity to work with Mary Alice in two capacities, first while she served as Deputy Director of DBEDT, and most recently as the Director / Interim Director of OPSD. In both roles, I have observed her to be a savvy, approachable, fair, and pragmatic leader, and have enjoyed working with her and learning from her decades of committed public service.

I believe these qualities make her an excellent choice to serve once again as Director of OPSD, and respectfully encourage you to confirm her appointment. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,
Lauren Primiano

GM-603

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 12:53:40 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/6/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
K. Piltz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I write in strong support of Mary Alice Evans for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, for a term to expire 12-31-26.

I have known Mary Alice for many years. She is the consummate planning professional. Her knowledge and practice of state planning policies and procedures will help the state not only with the rebuilding of areas devastated by the wildfires, but in helping to guide the state's vision into the future.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

LATE

GM-603

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 1:36:17 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/6/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dawn Hegger-Nordblom	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the nomination of Mary Alice Evans.

GM-603

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 2:21:42 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/6/2024 1:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robin Kaye	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mary Alice Evans should be confirmed as the Director of OPSD. She is passionate about planning, incredibly knowledgeable about land use issues, a talented and collegial leader, and a good listener. I support her nomination with no reservations whatsoever.

LATE

GM-603

Submitted on: 3/5/2024 2:48:20 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/6/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janet Ashman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support the confirmatiion of Mary Alice Evans as the Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

Thank you.

Puananionaona Patria Thoene

onaona.thoene@gmail.com

Testimony of Puananionaona P. Thoene before
the **SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND
LAND**

Wednesday, March 6, 2024
1:00 pm
Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

in **SUPPORT** of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE (GM) 603
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND
CONFIRMATION OF AS THE DIRECTOR, OFFICE
OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,
MARY ALICE EVANS

LATE

March 5, 2024

Aloha e Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,

I **STRONGLY SUPPORT** GM 603, appointing Mary Alice Evans as the Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) for a term to expire on December 31, 2026.

I am a partner at Carlsmith Ball LLP and the current Chair of the State Environmental Advisory Council (Council). I first became acquainted with Mary Alice when the Council and the Environmental Review Program (ERP) (formerly the Office of Environmental Quality and Control (OEQC)) became administratively attached to OPSD in 2021. Mary Alice has been extremely supportive of the Council and ERP over the years.

Mary Alice has served as OPSD's Director for many years and over the past year has once again stepped up as the Interim Director. Mary Alice has vast expertise as a land use planner and program manager for the State. She is knowledgeable about the pressing land use and planning concerns that the State is facing and is experienced at leading a State agency. Mary Alice is thoughtful in her consideration of all issues presented to her and is skilled at developing processes and workable frameworks to address those issues, as well as working with various stakeholders.

For these reasons, I strongly support GM 603 and ask that this Committee please vote in favor of confirming Mary Alice's appointment as Director of the OPSD.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this matter and for your consideration.



**HAWAI'I COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

547 Queen Street, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
Telephone: (808) 594-0300 Fax: (808) 587-0299
Web site: <http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hcda/>

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

CHASON ISHII
CHAIRPERSON

CRAIG K. NAKAMOTO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Statement of
CRAIG K. NAKAMOTO
Executive Director
Hawai'i Community Development Authority
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Wednesday, March 6, 2024
1:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

In consideration of
GM 603
**Consideration and Confirmation as the Director, Office of
Planning and Sustainable Development, Gubernatorial Nominee,
MARY ALICE EVANS, for a term to expire 12-31-2026.**

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and members of the Committee. The Hawai'i Community Development Authority (HCDA) **supports GM 603**, that considers the confirmation of Mary Alice Evans as the Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD).

Ms. Evans brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the OPSD as having worked as a Planner, Program Manager, and Director at the OPSD.

Ms. Evans has also held positions as the Deputy Director and the Interim Director for DBEDT, she has participated and represented DBEDT on the HCDA board and proven to participate in complex and robust discussions that the HCDA board is presented with.

It has been a privilege to work with Ms. Evans as the Director of OPSD and we look forward to continued collaboration and planning of Hawaii's sustainability, growth and resiliency with Ms. Evans as the Director of OPSD.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our comments.

GM-603

Submitted on: 3/6/2024 12:56:30 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/6/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lyle Roe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testifying in *strong* support.