

## Soares, Tommilyn

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**From:** RichardPrahler <rkprahler@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 3:48 PM  
**To:** DBEDT HCDA Contact  
**Subject:** Public Testimony Website Submission {Project Name:15}

### Name

Richard Prahler

### Organization

Retired - Formerly of HHFDC

### Address

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### Email

[rkprahler@gmail.com](mailto:rkprahler@gmail.com)

### Project Name

Appointment of Deepak Neupane as Executive Director of HCDA

### Do you support or oppose?

Support

### Comment

In my 10 plus years as the Development Branch Chief for HHFDC, I interacted with Deepak on a regular basis. He has a terrific background in almost all facets of real estate development and had a long history with the State. He is exceptionally rational and fair minded and I cannot imagine a better choice to lead HCDA. His long tenure both there and at HHFDC as my replacement is probably the best background any candidate could possess. I strongly support Deepak as the next Executive Director for HCDA.

Rick Prahler

## Soares, Tommilyn

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**From:** LenHigashi <len@htdc.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 11:44 PM  
**To:** DBEDT HCDA Contact  
**Subject:** Public Testimony Website Submission {Project Name:15}

### Name

Len Higashi

### Organization

Hawaii Technology Development Corporation

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### Phone

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[len@htdc.org](mailto:len@htdc.org)

### Project Name

September 16 Board Meeting Executive Director confirmation

### Do you support or oppose?

Support

### Comment

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in support of the selection of Deepak Neupane as executive director for HCDA.

I have personally had the pleasure of working with Deepak and HCDA through the development of the Entrepreneurs Sandbox project. Deepak is knowledgeable, professional, and has integrity. He will be a great representative for HCDA and the State.

Aloha,  
Len Higashi  
Acting Executive Director  
HTDC

## Soares, Tommilyn

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**From:** CarsonSchultz <carson.schultz@eahhousing.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 6:17 PM  
**To:** DBEDT HCDA Contact  
**Subject:** Public Testimony Website Submission {Project Name:15}

### Name

Carson Schultz

### Organization

EAH Housing

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### Project Name

New HCDA ED - Deepak Neupane

### Do you support or oppose?

Support

### Comment

Aloha HCDA Board,

I support the hiring of Mr. Deepak Neupane as the HCDA Executive Director.

I started working with Mr. Neupane nearly a decade ago while he was the HCDA Director of Planning and Development. As a director, he was knowledgeable, forward-thinking, and engaging. As an employee supervisor, he set his staff up for success, fostered growth opportunities, and encouraged his staff to hone their individual talents.

I'm fortunate to have worked for Mr. Neupane and the HCDA Board and staff are fortunate to have this opportunity to bring him back as your executive director.

Mahalo,  
Carson Schultz

## Soares, Tommilyn

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**From:** CatherineCamp <cathy.camp@cpb.bank>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 8:51 AM  
**To:** DBEDT HCDA Contact  
**Subject:** Public Testimony Website Submission {Project Name:15}

### Name

Catherine Camp

### Organization

NAIOP Hawaii

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[Map It](#)

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### Project Name

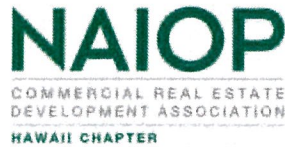
Hiring of Deepak Neupane as Executive Director HCDA

### Do you support or oppose?

Support

### File Upload

- [2020-09-16-Testimony-re-HCDA-Executive-Director.pdf](#)



September 15, 2020

Chair John Whalen  
Vice-chair Amy Luersen  
Members of the Hawaii Community  
Development Authority  
547 Queen Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: **Special Meeting Agenda – Action Item  
Confirming the Selection and Hiring of Deepak Neupane to Fill the Position  
of the Executive Director of the Hawaii Community Development Authority**

**Hearing date: September 16, 2020 at 10:00 am**

Aloha Chair Whalen and members of the Authority,

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in SUPPORT of the selection and confirmation of Deepak Neupane for the Executive Director position with the Hawaii Community Development Authority. NAIOP Hawaii is the local chapter of the nation's leading organization for office, industrial, retail, residential and mixed-use real estate. NAIOP Hawaii has over 200 members in the State including local developers, owners, investors, asset managers, lenders and other professionals.

NAIOP Hawaii members have had the pleasure of working with Deepak during his 14 years as project director and director of planning and development with HCDA. In these roles, Deepak brought significant knowledge of planning principles and design which helped to shape many of the current projects in Kakaako. He was also skilled at balancing community input with the need to build projects, including affordable housing projects. This effort often takes an incredible amount of patience and fortitude. It will be important to have an Executive Director with the skills and knowledge, as well as previous experience with HCDA, to ensure a balanced approach to sustainable development within HCDA lands.

We strongly support your selection of Deepak Neupane for the Executive Director position with HCDA.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Catherine Camp, President  
NAIOP Hawaii