

# Speaker Biographies

## **Joseph Alueta**

Joseph Alueta has worked for the Maui Planning Department for 21 years. As the Administrative Planning Officer, he is responsible for drafting updates to land use ordinances and administrative rules for the Planning Department. He has a BS in Economics from Southern Oregon University and a MBA from the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

## **Leo R. Asuncion, Jr., AICP**

Leo Asuncion is the Manager of the Hawaii Coastal Zone Management Program in the Office of Planning, and is responsible for implementation of the federal and state Coastal Zone Management Acts in Hawaii. He has experience in project management, land use planning, capital improvement, policy development, and program evaluation through his work with Hawaiian Electric Company, SSFM International, Inc., the Hawaii State Judiciary, and the State Land Use Commission. He holds a BA in Political Science and a Master's in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and holds a MBA from Hawaii Pacific University.

## **Robert 'Bobby' Command**

Bobby Command was appointed as the County of Hawaii Deputy Planning Director in May 2013. He is based in West Hawaii. He served as Executive Assistant to Mayor Billy Kenoi from 2008 until his appointment. As Executive Assistant, he worked on projects such as the Ane Keohokalole Highway and the Mamalahoa Highway Bypass. Mr. Command graduated from University of Hawaii at Manoa with a degree in journalism, and was a longtime reporter at *West Hawaii Today*, specializing in land use.

## **Carolyn Cortez**

Carolyn Cortez is the Supervising Planner for the Zoning Administration and Enforcement Division of the Maui Planning Department. Ms. Cortez has been with the Department for nine years and supervises the Land Use and Building Plans Examiners, Permit Clerks and Planners sections. She also oversees the flood program for the County and is the County Floodplain Manager.

## **Dalmacio 'Dale' Cua**

Dale Cua is the Regulatory Planning Chief for the County of Kauai Planning Department and has been with the Department for 19 years. He manages the regulatory division that oversees permitting for various land use entitlements, coastal zone management, subdivisions, and land use/zoning legislation. He attended the University of Hawaii at Manoa and attained a Bachelor of Architecture degree.

## **Jeffrey Dack**

Jeffrey Dack has been with the Maui Planning Department since September 2005. As the Current Planning Supervisor -Environmental Planning, he supervises staff responsible for coastal planning and permitting. Previously, he was a planner in California for over 26 years, 19 years as a city planning director, and prior to that, as a planner and community development block grant administrator. He has a Master's degree in planning from UCLA (1978) and a BA from UC Berkeley. His professional experience includes coastal planning, military base reuse/redevelopment, infill development, planning management, new urbanism, environmental review, general plan update, and major projects review.

## **Rodney Funakoshi, AICP**

Rodney Funakoshi administers the Land Use Division, which is primarily responsible for coordinating the State's position on land use district boundary amendment petitions and other actions before the State Land Use Commission. He is an experienced land use and environmental planner who has managed a wide range of government and private sector planning and development projects in Hawaii and the Pacific, representing major developers and landowners in development permit processes. He has held senior project management positions at Castle and Cooke Hawaii and Wilson Okamoto Corporation.

## **Gary Gill**

Gary Gill is the Environmental Deputy Director of the State Department of Health. In this capacity, he is responsible for the administration of a wide range of pollution control, food safety, and environmental protection programs in Hawaii. His prior work experience included program development for the Blue Planet Foundation, management of Waimea Valley for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, development of the Kalihi Nature Park and a bike recycling program for Kokua Kalihi Valley, and a water quality protection program for the Sierra Club. He also served eight years on the Honolulu City Council, including two years as Council Chair. He was born and raised on Oahu and attended public schools in Honolulu.

## **Robert (Bob) L. Hines**

Bob Hines joined the Hawaii State Energy Office in January 2012. He serves on the Permitting Team for the Renewable Energy Branch. His responsibilities include assisting utility-scale renewable energy projects in meeting federal, state and county permitting requirements. Bob also served as the Project Manager for Hawaii's Electric Vehicle (EV) Ready Grant and Rebate Program funded by the

U.S. Department of Energy. Prior to moving to Hawaii, Bob spent two decades working in Silicon Valley in government affairs, public policy, and community relations focusing on technology and clean energy. He served as General Counsel and Vice President of Energy for the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, an influential business trade association in California.

## **Kaaina Hull**

Kaaina Hull is a graduate of Kamehameha Schools and holds a BA in Political Economy of Industrial Societies from UC Berkeley. A planner with the Kauai Planning Department for approximately seven years, his projects include Kauai's first proposed Small Wind Energy bill, an ordinance for Farm Worker Housing, review of the majority of Kauai's recently established renewable energy facilities, including Hawaii's largest solar farm.

## **Anne Lau**

Anne Lau has over 25 years of experience working with the zoning ordinances for the City and County of Honolulu. As the head of the Zoning Plans Review Branch, she has extensive knowledge of the City's zoning codes. In a continued effort to improve the building permit process, Anne has been in the forefront of the Department's innovations, including the development of an AutoCAD training program for staff, the City's electronic permitting system (POSSE) and most recently the electronic plans review process known as ePlans.

## **Paul V. Luersen, AICP**

Paul Luersen has 37 years of experience as an environmental planner. He has worked as a project manager and senior consultant for planning, environmental, and permitting services on various transmission lines, power plants, and renewable energy projects. He holds a MCRP in City Planning/Regional Development from the Harvard Graduate School of Design (1978) and a BA in Near Eastern Studies from the University of Washington (1973). He has been a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners since 1984.

## **Andy Matsumoto**

Andy Matsumoto is the Environmental Information Manager for the State Department of Health, Environmental Health Administration (EHA). He has been with the Department for five years, responsible for all information management activities within EHA. Prior to joining the State, he was at Aloha Airlines for over 20 years in Information Technology and also served in the US Air Force. In his five years with EHA, he has supported the development and implementation of a number of environmental information systems, including the e-Permitting Portal and Environmental Health Warehouse.

## **Bruce McClure**

Bruce McClure has over 14 years of experience as a civil engineer, with experience in the states of Washington and Hawaii. He has been with the Department of Planning and Permitting for the last seven years as a Plans Examining Engineer. He has been instrumental in the establishment of the electronic plans review system known as ePlans.

## **Jeffrey H. Overton, AICP**

Jeff Overton has 28 years of experience in preparing master plans, sustainable development plans, environmental impact documents, land use and environmental permitting, and community involvement. As Principal, he leads Group 70's planning services for a wide range of clients including private developments, military installations, and government projects. He has completed EA/EIS and permitting for over 120 projects in Hawaii. He earned a MS in Marine Environmental Sciences from the State University of New York at Stony Brook (1983) and a BS in Zoology/Biological Oceanography from Duke University, North Carolina (1979).

## **Jesse K. Souki**

Jesse Souki is the Director of the State Office of Planning, where his work focuses on reducing regulatory project risk in Hawaii's land use and planning system. He has advised decision-makers and project proponents in both the public and private sectors on matters related to county, state, and federal environmental, land use, and planning laws. Client projects have included industrial, commercial, residential, and resort developments, municipal landfill, rail transit, and other public infrastructure projects. He earned his BA in Economics and MA in Political Science from the University of Hawaii at Manoa and his JD from the Seattle University School of Law.

## **William 'Bill' Tam**

William Tam, one of two Deputy Directors for the Department of Land and Natural Resources, oversees and manages the State Commission on Water Resource Management. A natural resources and water lawyer, he co-authored the State Water Code (HRS Chapter 174C) and served as co-counsel for the State in the *Robinson v. Ariyoshi* water rights litigation. He has served as Deputy Attorney General (1982-1997), counsel to the State Water Commission (1987-1997), and legal counsel to the Board of Land and Natural Resources (1982-1997). From 1998-2011, he was in private law practice, *Of Counsel* to Alston Hunt Floyd & Ing. He holds a BA in History from Wesleyan University and a JD from Boston University School of Law.