



27th June, 2021.

Re: Press Release

Tribute to Former Chairman and Lord Mayor Suva City Council - Late Chandu Kant Umaria

Suva City Council with deep regret sympathizes with the Late Chandu Kant Umaria family on the passing away of Late Chandu Kant Umaria yesterday. Late Mr. Umaria came from a well-known family and the family has been a great contributor to the progress of Suva City.

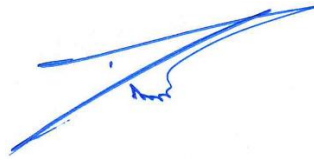
Late Chandu Kant Umaria had served as a City Councillor for 23 years since 1992. According to City Council records he was one of the most popular candidates during Municipal Elections on average polling 1600 votes in his respective ward. He served as a Deputy Mayor in 1995 and 1996.

In year 2000 he was elected as the First Citizen of the Suva City Council and held the seat of the Lord Mayor from 2000 to 2003. During his term as the Lord Mayor, the Suva City hosted the South Pacific Games. In 2003, he was appointed as the President of the Fiji Local Government Association which was a body incorporated for the association of all Mayors of Fiji. During his term as the President of the Fiji Local Government Association, the Municipal Councils in Fiji were able to strengthen relationship with the Commonwealth Local Government Forum and the ESCAP. The Association organized the first ever Fiji Local Government Convention in 2003 for all Mayors and Councillors where international speakers were invited to speak on Urban Development.

In 2010, the Fijian Government appointed him as the Chairman (Special Administrator) for the Suva City Council. He held the position until 2019 and due to illness had vacated the position. From 2010, based on the policies of Fijian Government, Mr. Chandu Umaria excelled as a Chairman and focused on City Beautification and Municipal Asset Redevelopment Projects. The Fijian Government support and assistance during his term as the Chairman of the Suva City Council (Special Administrator) has seen the Redevelopment of the Albert Park and the Upgrade of the Suva City Auditorium. The Olympic Pool was re-opened, Terry Walk upgraded and My Suva Park upgraded during his term as Chairman from 2010 to 2018.

Late Mr. Chandu Kant Umaria had been recognized as Mayor of the Year in 2002 and the Special Administrator of the year in 2012. Late Chandu Kant Umaria will be known for his dedication to the People of Suva and Suva City Council.

The Council's sincerest sympathizes goes to the family. An Online Condolence book will be set up by the City Council on Monday, 28th June, 2021 and Citizens will be able to send condolence through City Council Facebook and Council Webpage.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping strokes that form a stylized, abstract shape.

Isikeli Tikoduadua
Chairman- Suva City Council