



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097
April 13, 2011

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 751
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO
THE COMMISSION ON TRANSPORTATION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE
ERIC M. MATSUDA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2014

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, INTERNATIONAL AND
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The State Department of Transportation strongly supports the confirmation of Mr. Eric M. Matsuda to the Commission on Transportation. Mr. Matsuda is currently the Vice President of Maui Operations for SSFM International, Inc. He is both a licensed Civil Engineer and Land Surveyor.

Mr. Matsuda brings a diversity of knowledge and experiences in engineering and construction work which are key components in our transportation programs. In his current position with SSFM International, Inc., he is responsible for managing the operations of the Maui office which provides civil engineering design and construction management services. Additionally, he oversees and supervises the design work for residential, commercial, and utility infrastructure projects.

Beyond his work responsibilities, Mr. Matsuda is also a member of a number of professional and community organizations such as the National and Hawaii (Maui Chapter) of the Society of Professional Engineers, the American Water Works Association, Maui Japanese Cultural Society and Kahului Hongwanji Mission to name a few. His participation in these organizations exemplifies his commitment and dedication to public service. Mr. Matsuda will be a valuable asset for the Commission on Transportation and his insights and counsel on issues relative to transportation will be most welcome.

The Department of Transportation respectfully requests that this Committee confirm Mr. Eric M. Matsuda to the Commission on Transportation.

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2011

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS

Senator J. Kalani English, Chair
Senator Will Espero, Vice-Chair

DATE: Wednesday, April 13, 2011

TIME: 1:15PM

PLACE: Conference Room 224

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 751

(Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Commission on Transportation,
Gubernatorial Nominee, ERIC MATSUDA, for a term to expire 6-30-2014)

From GILBERT S.C. KEITH-AGARAN

CHAIR ENGLISH, VICE-CHAIR ESPERO:

Thank you for the opportunity to write in strong support of ERIC MATSUDA to serve on the Commission on Transportation.

I have known Eric, his wife Annette and his family for about fourteen years. I met him in connection with community events on Maui. I later worked with him while I served as Public Works Director for the County of Maui and he was a consulting engineer with one of the local Maui firms. Eric, you should know, is an engineer, but he is also a dedicated family man and community volunteer.

During the past fourteen years, he has impressed me with his common sense and strong Maui island values. He graduated from that fine institution, Maui High School, and is a well-respected licensed engineer. After toiling many years at the Wailuku firm Warren S. Unemori Engineering, he now manages the Maui office of SSFM International, except when he abroad supervising SSFM International's Manila operations.

His work at both WSUE and SSFM provides Eric with experience and knowledge about the engineering design requirements and the funding nuances and entitlement processing for Federally funded transportation infrastructure, the State Transportation Infrastructure Program and prioritizing process, as well as State and County engineering standards. His work has taken him through the entitlement processes of the Federal Highways Administration, the Hawaii Department of Transportation, and the County of Maui Departments of Public Works, Planning, Water and Environmental Management. In short, Eric knows his stuff as an engineer.

Eric is a dedicated and skilled engineer, with practical experience regarding the guiding of a project from conception to planning and entitlement to design to construction and implementation to the litigation that follows. He can become obsessed with the details of a project but that reflects his professionalism (he is an engineer). I have no doubt that Eric will contribute to making sure that the Hawaii transportation system improves in practical and cost-effective ways.