

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



**LATE**

**TESTIMONY BY:**

JADE T. BUTAY  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN  
DEREK J. CHOW  
ROSS M. HIGASHI  
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

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

February 2, 2021  
3:00 PM  
State Capitol, Teleconference

**S.B. 651**  
**RELATING TO RENAMING KAHULUI AIRPORT ACCESS ROAD**

Senate Committee on Transportation

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** the intent of this bill; however, the DOT would recommend that the more appropriate method would be to pass a Resolution.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Council Chair  
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair  
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore  
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers  
Gabe Johnson  
Kelly Takaya King  
Michael J. Molina  
Tamara Paltin  
Shane M. Sinenci  
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura




Director of Council Services  
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 S. HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.MauiCounty.us](http://www.MauiCounty.us)

February 1, 2021

TO: Honorable Chris Lee, Chair  
Senate Committee on Transportation

FROM: Alice L. Lee  
Council Chair 

DATE: February 2, 2021

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF SB 651, RELATING TO RENAMING KAHULUI AIRPORT ACCESS ROAD**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to rename Kahului Airport Access Road on Maui as the Mayor Elmer F. Cravalho Way.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

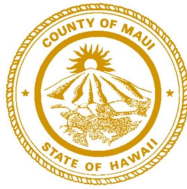
I **SUPPORT** this measure for the following reasons:

1. Born in Paia, Maui, Elmer Franklin Cravalho served as the first speaker of the state house of representatives following statehood.
2. He maintained his position of speaker of the state house of representatives through 1967 and then served as Maui county's first mayor until July 24, 1979.
3. Mayor Elmer F. Cravalho has a clear connection to Maui's history, and he should be remembered for his civil service by naming a highway in his honor.

For the foregoing reasons, I **SUPPORT** this measure.

Michael P. Victorino  
Mayor

Sananda K. Baz  
Managing Director



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 S. HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.mauicounty.gov](http://www.mauicounty.gov)

February 1, 2021

TESTIMONY OF MICHAEL P. VICTORINO  
MAYOR  
COUNTY OF MAUI

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
Tuesday, February 2, 2021, 3:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 224

**SB651 RELATING TO RENAMING KAHULUI AIRPORT ACCESS ROAD**

Honorable Chris Lee, Chair  
Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Vice Chair  
Honorable members of the Committee on Transportation

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Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **STRONG SUPPORT** of **SB651**.

This bill renames Kahului Airport Access Road on Maui to Mayor Elmer F. Cravalho Way.

Mayor Elmer Cravalho is known as an iconic figure, in Maui County and around the state, for his work in creating a robust economy in tourism and high technology. He moved barriers to create affordable housing for residents and built the existing Kalana O Maui building, the seat of Maui County government.

**I strongly urge you to pass this measure, SB651.**

Council Chair  
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair  
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore  
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers  
Gabe Johnson  
Kelly Takaya King  
Michael J. Molina  
Tamara Paltin  
Shane M. Sinenci  
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura




Director of Council Services  
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

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February 2, 2021

TO: Honorable Chris Lee, Chair  
Senate Committee on Transportation

FROM:   
Yuki Lei Sugimura  
Councilmember

DATE: January 29, 2021

SUBJECT: **SB 651, RELATING TO RENAMING KAHULUI AIRPORT ACCESS ROAD**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to rename Kahului Airport Access Road as "Mayor Elmer F. Carvalho Way."

I strongly support this measure for the following reasons:

1. Mr. Carvalho's impact on Maui County is immense having served both as Mayor and in the State Legislature.
2. Mr. Carvalho had the distinct recognition as having served as both the very first Speaker of the State House of Representatives following statehood and first Mayor of Maui.
3. Through Mr. Carvalho's many years in public office and serving in other community organizations, he oversaw critical infrastructure projects that allowed for Maui's growth and prosperity.

For the foregoing reasons, I strongly support this measure.



February 1, 2021

Senate Committee on Transportation  
Senator Chris Lee, Chair  
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Vice Chair

Re: SB651 Relating to Renaming Kahului Airport Access Road

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Committee Members:

I am writing in strong support of renaming the Kahului Airport Access Road to the Mayor Elmer F. Cravalho Way. The basis for this support stems primarily from my association with Mr. Cravalho in his professional capacity as the CEO of the Kula Community Federal Credit Union (KCFCU) and spanned nearly three decades.

Mr. Cravalho was one of seven charter members who founded KCFCU, a member owned not-for-profit cooperative in 1954, believing this institution could assist the upcountry community, its farmers, ranchers and residents with their financial needs. Through his dedication, hard work and leadership, he and his Board successfully accomplished what the organizers set out to do. He was a living embodiment of the "People Helping People" credit union philosophy.

In his capacity as CEO, for nearly two decades up to the time of his retirement in 2014 and the merger of KCFCU, he took no compensation even though he was at the helm of a \$40 million institution and oversaw every facet of its operation. He had expressed that he did so because it was just another way he could give back to the community as he continually sought to do.

In 1996 when the federal regulators sought a merger partner for Hana Community FCU (HCFCU), they reached out to Mr. Cravalho. Mr. Cravalho recommended to his Board that their credit union should continue serving the Hana community by acquiring HCFCU because from a financial institution perspective it was an underserved area and despite what might be some fiscal reasons not to do so. The merger was approved by both the HCFCU membership and the regulators.

When it came to lending, he often took a different approach and looked beyond the traditional underwriting of FICO scores and debt-to-income ratios. Mr. Cravalho subscribed to a saying he coined "If we not going then who going". What this meant was he considered his credit union a

lender of last resort for some of the applicants. He would leave "no stone unturned" to approving a request to borrowers who had less than ideal credit if he felt they were deserving based on the need.

These are just some of the examples of how his unconventional thinking and actions benefitted those he served in his credit union. He was always about helping others. It is with this in mind that I support honoring his many accomplishments for the love of Maui by renaming the road as proposed.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit this testimony and your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Clayton Fuchigami". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial letter.

Clayton Fuchigami  
President/CEO

**SB-651**

Submitted on: 1/31/2021 9:54:22 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/2/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Patrick Constantino	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly ask the committee to support SB651 and ask the committee to approve it. I have worked for Mayor Elmer F. Cravalho as Assistant Sargent of Arms at the State Legislature Budget Session in 1964 and as his Excutive Assistant of the County of Maui. He has done alot for the State of Hawaii and the County of Maui. He has proven to be a good leader. I would want to have the change of Kahului Airport Access Road to Mayor Elmer F. Cravalho Way.

**SB-651**

Submitted on: 1/31/2021 10:01:21 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/2/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cora Constantino	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly ask the committee to support the SB651 and ask the committee to approve it.



**SB-651**

Submitted on: 2/1/2021 12:14:22 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/2/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Virgilio Agcolicol	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am Virgilio "Leo" Agcolicol, a U.S. Army veteran and I retired in 2013 from Central Pacific Bank after being employed 46 years as a bank officer including Bank Manager, Assistant Vice President, and Business Relationship Officer. I have been a resident of Maui since 1967 and been involved in the Maui Arts & Cultural Center and a past Board member of the J. Walter Cameron Center. I have been extremely active in the various Filipino community organizations on Maui and statewide, e.g., past president of the United Filipino Council of Hawaii, past president of the Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce, and past president of Maui Filipino Community Council. I was also a radio announcer for over fifty years on KMVI and KNUJ.

I first met Mayor Cravalho in 1967 and worked with him over the years on various community issues. I always found him to be honorable, dedicated to the Maui community, and concerned about Maui's future.

I believe naming the current Airport Access Way after Mayor Cravalho would be an excellent way to honor the first Speaker of the House after statehood and Maui's first Mayor.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at 283-6943..

**SB-651**

Submitted on: 2/1/2021 12:31:43 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/2/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alan Vares	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of renaming the Airport Access Road in Kahului to Mayor Elmer F. Cravalho Way.

Thank you,

Alan Vares

To: Chair Chris Lee + Members, Senate Transportation Committee  
From: Prof. Dick Mayer 1111 lower Kimo Dr. Kula, Maui, HI 96790  
RE: **SB 651 3pm Tuesday, February 2, 2021**

**Renames Kahului Airport Access Road on Maui as the “Mayor Elmer F. Cravalho Way”**

I **strongly support** recognizing and honoring one of our Maui's "Native Sons", the late Mayor Elmer F. Cravalho.

Mayor Cravalho had a long and distinguished career serving Maui County and the State of Hawaii. At the State level Mr. Cravalho was elected to the State House of Representatives in 1954, and soon thereafter became Speaker of the House. In 1959 he famously was on the telephone with Washington receiving the news that Hawaii was going to be making the transition from being a United States territory to becoming the 50th state.

As a powerful State Representative Mr. Cravalho was instrumental in getting funds allocated that provided so many benefits to Maui County. For example, the excellent highway from Pukalani toward Keokea was significantly improved. Kula Elementary School was funded and constructed, opening in 1964. The new school served a broad area and was able to consolidate the needs of students who had previously been attending five smaller elementary schools into one beautiful school that has now served my Kula community for over 50 years.

In 1967 after Maui's Mayor Eddie Tam passed away, Mr. Cravalho was elected mayor of Maui County. He served as Maui County Mayor for 12 years. During that time Maui made a very significant transformation from a purely agricultural community into a world-class tourist destination area. Many infrastructure projects were completed all over the county during that time.

Within our Upcountry Maui community Mr. Cravalho was well known as the manager of the very successful Kula Community Credit Union which provided banking services and loan funds for many families and farmers.

In the mid-1990s Mr. Cravalho demonstrated his leadership skills by chairing the citizen advisory committee for the UpCountry Makawao-Pukalani-Kula community plan. He also Chaired Maui County's Board of Water Supply, and the Upcountry Maui Community Plan Citizen Advisory Committee.

The above listing is a mere outline of the many contributions which Mayor Elmer F. Cravalho made to our local and broader community. **I wish to recognize and honor these contributions by recommending that Kahului Airport Access Road on Maui as the "Mayor Elmer F. Cravalho Way".**

Let us recognize this truly outstanding Maui County and State leader.

Please pass: **SB651**

**Renames Kahului Airport Access Road on Maui as the "Mayor Elmer F. Cravalho Way"**

Mahalo, Dick Mayer

**SB-651**

Submitted on: 2/1/2021 2:37:47 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/2/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lydia Coloma	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Mahalo Chair Lee and Vice-Chair Inouye:

I have been a resident of Maui County since 1961. I am now 92 years old. I support this bill which proposes to honor former Maui County Mayor, Elmer F. Cravalho, who passed away in 2016. Whether you supported his style as a legislator (he was Speaker of the State House when Hawaii won statehood) or as our first County Mayor in 1968, he remains one of our county's most effective and strong leaders. Whether in office or as an appointed commissioner or a business and community contributor, Mayor Cravalho left quite a stamp on our county with a clear vision for a vibrant and prosperous island. He was also a great supporter of the many different ethnic groups that made up the Maui community, with a close affinity and friendship for our Filipinos, both local born and immigrant. I wholeheartedly believe that its long overdue to name something on Maui in honor of Mayor Cravalho.

**SB-651**

Submitted on: 2/1/2021 5:47:34 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/2/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alfredo G. Evangelista	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Senators. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of SB 651, renaming Airport Access Way to Mayor Elmer Cravalho Way, honoring Maui's first Mayor and the first speaker of the House post-statehood.

Mayor Cravalho did a lot for Maui and the State of Hawaii, especially in making Maui a destination for visitors, making it appropriate to name the airport access road after him.

Mayor Cravalho also was very passionate about providing opportunities for locals and immigrants. He was very instrumental in hiring many Filipino immigrants to work at the

County and be the "first" Filipino in that capacity. As a youngster, I recall attending events where Mayor Cravalho was the guest speaker and he would be sure to

recognize those in the audience of Filipino ancestry who were the first, e.g., Richard

Caldito as the first Councilman of Filipino ancestry; Rafael Acoba as the first Maui

Police Department Lieutenant of Filipino ancestry, Patrick Constantino as the first

Executive Assistant to the Mayor (and later County Treasurer) of Filipino ancestry; Claro

Capili as the first Managing Director of Filipino ancestry. As a teenager, it encouraged

me that opportunities were available regardless of one's ethnicity.

After my first year of college, I was given a summer job in the County of Maui--splitting

time between the Mayor's office and the Department of Motor Vehicles. I learned a lot

during that summer and as a political science major, it helped to open my eyes as to the

process of government and politics. I also was the fortunate recipient of an Elmer Cravalho scholarship given to a child of a Sakada majoring in political science.

My late brother Rogelio Evangelista also worked closely with Mayor Cravalho on a number of community issues. Many of my elders--many who have passed away--also worked closely with him. Mayor Cravalho always remained committed to the people of Maui County. Even after leaving office, he served several community organizations such as the Board of Water Supply and the Kula Credit Union where he was the CEO. Like all politicians, he loved to talk story and share his mana`o.

Without a doubt, Mayor Cravalho was a colorful guy and greatly contributed to the success of the County of Maui and the State of Hawaii.

Mahalo nui loa.

**LATE**

February 2, 2021  
393 Aulii Drive  
Maunaloa, HI 96768

The Honorable Senator Chris Iee  
Chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee  
The Senate, State of Hawaii Legislature

Re: SB651  
Dear Honorable Senator Iee:

As a longtime resident of Maui County, who has a deep admiration of the many good things done by the late Mayor Elmer F. Crowl for the County of Maui and the State of Hawaii, I fully support the approval of SB651 to change the Kahului Airport Road name to "Mayor Elmer F. Crowl Way."

Very respectfully yours,  
Aileen L. Baxa