

Resolution

No. _____

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO COUNCILMEMBER DON S. GUZMAN

WHEREAS, Councilmember Don S. Guzman will be leaving office on January 2, 2019, having served on the Council from the Kahului residency area for three consecutive terms; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Guzman assumed Council and committee leadership roles through his service as Vice-Chair of the Council (2015-2017 Council term), and Chair of the Economic Development, Energy, Agriculture, and Recreation Committee (2013-2015 and 2015-2017 Council terms), the Committee of the Whole (2015-2017 Council term), and the Parks, Recreation, Energy, and Legal Affairs Committee (2017-2019 Council term); and

WHEREAS, to promote legislative solutions capable of garnering widespread support, Councilmember Guzman worked collaboratively with stakeholder groups, including an agricultural working group comprised of farmers and ranchers, which still functions as a cohesive group today; and

WHEREAS, through such collaboration, Councilmember Guzman worked on legislation to expand commercial activity on agricultural land by allowing commercial agricultural structures such as farmers' markets and retail food establishments; and

WHEREAS, in the same spirit of collaboration, Councilmember Guzman worked with the Maui County Arborist Committee, Maui Green and Beautiful, and the Department of Parks and Recreation, to initiate a process to standardize the form for review of trees recommended as exceptional by the committee, and during his tenure, over 500 trees were declared exceptional; and

WHEREAS, inspired by a youth-initiated movement to clean the County's beaches of cigarette butts, Councilmember Guzman introduced a bill to make County parks and facilities tobacco free, shepherding it through passage in roughly sixty days; and

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WHEREAS, to further foster healthy communities, Councilmember Guzman introduced a resolution urging the Administration to use the “Central Maui Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan for 2030” as a guide for infrastructure improvements; led the County’s effort to revise legislation regarding the use and management of County parks and recreational facilities; and vetted energy alternatives for the County; and

WHEREAS, to support open space initiatives, Councilmember Guzman proposed the acquisition of and funding for two hundred sixty-seven acres of coastal frontage property in Hamakualoa in the vicinity of the “Jaws” surf break; and spearheaded a resolution to authorize the grant of a fifty-year lease of seventy-three acres in Hana to Na Mamo O Mu`olea for the purposes of managing, restoring, and maintaining the natural, cultural, historic, and marine resources of the property; and

WHEREAS, more recently Councilmember Guzman introduced and shepherded to passage, legislation to guide decision-making for property acquired for land preservation purposes and to establish procedures for long-term conservation planning and management of lands with open space, natural resources, cultural resources, and scenic views values; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Guzman provided oversight of property agreements and efforts to obtain archaeological assessments for the Moku`ula and Mokuhinia ecosystem restoration site, and introduced a bill to establish a Hawaiian Cultural Restoration Revolving Fund, which now provides a dedicated funding stream to support restoration efforts; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Guzman also introduced a bill to preserve and protect sensitive historical, cultural, and archaeological sites and unmarked human burial sites by clarifying the County’s grading and grubbing permit process; and

WHEREAS, to encourage economic development, Councilmember Guzman proposed the creation of an Economic Development Revolving Fund, which was established with a one million dollar initial appropriation; and

WHEREAS, when the County was confronted by the proposed closure of the Waiehu Municipal Golf Course, Councilmember Guzman led the effort to review the operations of the course and encourage

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improvements to the health of the greens, network connectivity, and revenue generation; and

WHEREAS, over the last four years, Councilmember Guzman provided guidance on critical and complex litigation matters transmitted to the Council for review, resulting in approximately one hundred litigation-related committee reports; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Guzman introduced ballot measures to amend the County Charter, successfully garnering the support of the electorate for amendments to strengthen the role of legislative attorneys and to expand the uses of the Open Space, Natural Resources, Cultural Resources, and Scenic Views Preservation Fund to include safety and security improvements on lands acquired through the fund; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Guzman's dedication to public service and forward-thinking policies have helped to improve the lives of our citizens for generations to come; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Maui:

1. That it hereby expresses its appreciation to Councilmember Don S. Guzman for his leadership and dedicated service on the Maui County Council, and for his outstanding public service to the people of the County of Maui and the State of Hawaii; and
2. That certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to Councilmember Don S. Guzman and his wife Dr. Rose Guzman; his parents, Evelyn and Manuel Guzman; his children, Theres, Nealon, and Andrew Guzman; the State's delegation to the United States Congress; the Honorable David Y. Ige, Governor, State of Hawaii; the County's delegation to the State Legislature; and the Honorable Alan M. Arakawa, Mayor, County of Maui.