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Deputy General Manager, Operations
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Deputy General Manager Administration & Finance



Hotel Wharf Groundbreaking Ceremony



On Wednesday, July 6, 2022, the Port Authority of Guam held a groundbreaking ceremony marking the start of the Construction and Rehabilitation of Hotel Wharf. The contractor awarded the \$46,331,895.00 project is Sumitomo Matsui Construction Co.

The development of H-Wharf is a game-changer for the Port, Guam and the region in that it increases vessel berth capacity for cargo and cruise ships, it allows for future homeporting of cruise liners, and provides military readiness – where military assets can be received and deployed at a moment’s notice.

“Josh and I knew we needed to support the Port’s expansion of wharf space to accommodate larger vessels and increase vessel handling capacity. With the impending military buildup and the need to ensure the Port remains capable of providing full service to ocean vessels in support of loading and unloading cargo, our administration provided whatever financial resources we could use to push this project forward,” stated Governor Lou Leon Guerrero. “When presented with the shortfall in this project, our Administration allocated \$15 Million from the American Rescue Plan. And in providing these funds, we directed that the Port will freeze its tariff rates for the next two fiscal years which will help to stabilize the prices of goods for our people.”

“The Governor and I, together with our Port Strong Family, are revolutionizing how the Port operates and at the same time pushing a major masterplan update for the Port to capture the attention of the Department of Defense (DOD) as its soon to be the largest customer thus diversifying its revenue base,” said Lt. Governor Josh Tenorio.

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“We are pursuing every opportunity for DOD and the Department of Transportation (MARAD) to become major benefactors in our acquisition of three new STS gantry cranes, replacement of yard equipment, rehabilitation of its wharves and aging facilities, and meeting its alternate fuel storage here in the Pacific.”

Upon project completion, we will have added over 500 feet of usable wharf water frontage to the Port’s footprint. This will alleviate vessels arriving with construction materials, roll on or roll off operations and cruise liners away from the main cargo terminal which only has three berthing spaces.

Agat Marina’s Groundbreaking Ceremony

On Monday, July 11, 2022, the Port Authority of Guam held a groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of Dock B and a new restroom facility.



In June, the Port’s Board of Directors and the Public Utilities Commission approved the bid awards for the construction of the dock and restrooms. AIC International Inc. was awarded the bid for the dock construction, and ProPacific Builder Corporation was awarded the bid for the construction of the restroom facility.

“This project will provide an additional 48, 25-foot recreational boating slips at the Agat Marina,” said Governor Lou Leon Guerrero. “In addition to restoring the 48 slips damaged in 2013 by Tropical Storm Wipha and Tropical Storm Francisco for recreational boaters, we are looking to make these slips available to accommodate more fishermen and promote sustenance fishing.”



“The Governor and I are deeply committed to investing in our island’s public facilities, building gyms, refurbishing basketball courts, and paving roads,” said Lt. Governor Josh Tenorio. The construction of a new restroom facility will provide our community and tourists better accommodations at the Agat Marina, and we are emphasizing that the Port must have a plan to keep these restroom facilities clean at all times.”

On September 1, 2021, the Port entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Guam Department of Agriculture to fund the reconstruction of Dock B and the restroom facility at the Agat Marina under a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Grant for \$500,000.00. The Port will fund the difference of \$994,750.00.

The upgrade to the dock will use no-rot recycled plastic composite material, marine-grade aluminum frames and stringers, stainless steel components, connections, and accessories. The power utility will have NEMA 4X junction boxes and watertight fittings.

Summer Interns Take Emotional IQ Webinar

The Port Authority of Guam's summer interns have completed the Government of Guam's EQ Webinar, a practice of emotional wellness, presented by the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center (GBHWC). Thirty-three (33) of thirty-five (35) interns partook in the webinar for a total of 94% participation. Administrative leave for one (1) hour is offered to all Government of Guam employees who opt to participate.

Acting Governor Josh Tenorio, Judiciary of Guam Chief Justice Philip Carbullido, and Director Therese Arriola from the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center (GBHWC) collaborated on this project and made this webinar available free to all Government of Guam employees. The Port's summer interns also took part in this webinar training. This webinar seeks to reduce the influx of residents into the judicial system by proactively teaching people how to manage one's emotions effectively. This is a proactive effort to steer residents away from the Judicial system.



The GBHWC has made the EQ Webinar available to all Government of Guam employees from July 11 – 15, 2022. The webinar takes less than 45 minutes and discusses the concept of emotional intelligence and the practice of emotional wellness.

“We are grateful that this resource is available for all of our Port Strong Family and the entire GovGuam workforce, thanks to Governor Leon Guerrero, Lt. Governor Tenorio, Chief Justice Carbullido, Director Arriola, and her team at GBHWC. Understanding how Emotional intelligence works and how, when applied, will go a long way to effectively managing situations at the work and homefront,” said Rory J. Respicio, Port General Manager. “These coping skills transcend all ages. We hope others will go through this training and find value in deploying emotional intelligence coping skills to foster healthy relationships with their families, friends, and colleagues. Today, we provided the same training opportunities for DYA’s summer interns assigned to the Port.”

Port Increases Facility Presence to Deter Illegal Entries

Question: How should the government handle the arrival of migrants who illegally make their way to Guam's shores?

I am writing to express support for Governor Lou Leon Guerrero and Lt. Governor Josh Tenorio's efforts to reach out to federal agencies tasked with border protection and ensuring that all individuals coming into Guam do so legally and legitimately. And in so doing, make every effort possible, with federal and local enforcement, to prevent drug smuggling and human trafficking into Guam and at all of Guam's Ports of Entry.

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The Port Authority of Guam, together with the Coast Guard, Customs and Quarantine, and Guam Police Department's Maritime Division, implemented policies over a year ago to require all boats coming from the CNMI, particularly Rota, to submit a notice of arrival (NOA) to the Harbor Master before embarking to Guam. This NOA must also include securing dock space, or this noncompliant vessel will be denied entry into the Gregorio D. Perez Marina in Hagåtña. Upon arrival, these boats and their attendant passengers are greeted by Customs for them to conduct the necessary clearances.

These policies are only good, if boats arrive at the Hagåtña Marina. Unfortunately, as we have seen with the growing number of migrants, they arrive into Guam by boat in areas other than the Airport or the Port, thus evading our government's port of entry requirements.

We understand that Guam has no jurisdiction over this issue, as authority falls under the duties of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (USCBP). But this doesn't mean we STOP and do nothing. We are aware that the Governor has fostered greater cooperation through regular communication with USCIS and USCBP to have these migrants identified through biometric means, interview them and obtain as much information as possible. This information is also being shared by the Guam Homeland Security Advisor and the Marianas Fusion Center. Investigations are being conducted, and determinations are being made if any other violations of Guam laws have been committed, and if such violations have been committed, these violators will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Local authorities continue working with federal agencies to explore ways to prevent illegal entry into Guam. In the meantime, the Port continues to secure the Hagåtña and Hågat Marinas and closely monitor its surveillance cameras. In addition, there is a heightened awareness of the situation with Port Police officers as they conduct their routine patrol of the marinas and port properties. And Governor Leon Guerrero has not given up on the hope that Guam's federal partners in Washington D.C. will find meaningful alternatives to address the local safety and national security concerns raised by this situation.



*This letter was sent to the Editor of the Pacific Daily News
Submitted by: Rory J. Respicio, Port GM*

Summer Internship Program Culminates

From June 20 to July 30, 2022, thirty-five students from various public and private high schools throughout the island participated in the Governor's Summer Youth Employment Program (GSYEP). Under this program, which is federally funded by the Education Stabilization Fund (ESF), participants ranging between the ages of 14 to 17, must be a resident of Guam, and be able to work thirty hours a week.

With the regulations and restrictions imposed by the Port's security facility plan, interns were assigned to divisions within the Administration building. Interns had the opportunity to learn the duties of the following divisions: Human Resources, Port Police, Planning, Finance, Clerical, Information Technology, Commercial, Procurement, Safety and Engineering.

Interns also had the opportunity to attend several trainings during their 6 week employment with the Port Authority. These included Job Readiness Training comprised of two sections – Interview Preparations and Resume Writing; Water Safety Certification – A course on Responsible Boating; Government of Guam's EQ Webinar, A Practice Of Emotional Wellness by the Guam Behavioral



Health and Wellness Center (GBHWC); and Introduction to the Incident Command System (ICS) for interns under the Planning Division. They received a certificate for each training course they completed.

“As we work on recovering from the pandemic, the young people of Guam are assuming a critical role in the foundation of our prosperity, with this program serving as their springboards into public service,” said Governor Lou Leon Guerrero.

“This is a valuable opportunity for our island's young people to participate directly in their government and explore the potential of their future,” said Lt. Governor Josh Tenorio. “Our Administration is committed to empowering our youth and providing them with the stepping stones to succeed through gainful employment.”

As part of the program, interns participated in community events with some choosing the Island wide Beautification Task Force Clean-up sponsored by the Office of the Lieutenant Governor where they picked up trash along the North and South bound traffic from Agana Shopping Center to Guam Police Department (GPD) Sinajana Precinct, while others represented the agency by riding the Port float during the 78th



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Guam Liberation Day Parade. All interns also took part in the groundbreaking ceremonies for the Construction and Rehabilitation of Hotel Wharf and Construction of Dock “B” and Restrooms at the Hâgat Marina. A highlight for the participants was a tour of the yard operations and Port properties. Interns got a glimpse of what a day is like working in the Operations and Equipment Maintenance Divisions.

To close the summer program, an appreciation luncheon was held for the interns on their last day of work. General Manager Rory J. Respicio and Deputy General Managers Dominic G. Muna and Luis R. Baza presented each participant with a certificate and Port memorabilia.

In addressing the interns, General Manager Respicio expressed the Port Authority’s support for Governor Lou Leon Guerrero’s Summer Youth Employment Program. “We are pleased to be able to provide you interns with a glimpse of what it’s like to work at the Port Authority. You are now a part of the Port Family and we hope you find a career here in the future,” he said to the participants. “The Port will continue to support programs that invest in the future of our island’s youth and provide opportunities to explore different career options within the government.”

Water Safety Certification Course



On July 28, 2022, the Guam Police Department, in conjunction with the Port Authority’s Harbor Master Division, conducted a Water Safety Certification Course offered at the Port’s Training room and made it available to all members of the public to include Port interns.

The course provided information on the legal requirements of boating, navigational aids/markers, safety equipment, visual distressed signals, waste, oil and trash disposal to include discarding sewage and hazardous substances, and law requirements in the event of a boating accident or casualty.

The four hour long course increases safe boating education and awareness for all Port users and will be offered on a quarterly basis.

78th Guam Liberation: Port Overcomes and Perseveres

The Jose D. Leon Guerrero Commercial Port of Guam is the largest deepwater seaport in the Western Pacific Region. As the only commercial port on the island, it provides marine transportation services to local, private, federal, and military customers. In addition, it is the primary transshipment hub for neighboring islands in the region serving a population of over 400,000.

With over 90% of containerized and breakbulk commodities passing through its wharves and the lifeline between Guam, the region, and the rest of the world, it is critically important that the Port Authority of Guam (PAG) invests in initiatives that will upgrade its infrastructure, facilities, and equipment to achieve resiliency, ensure supply chain sustainability, and enhance its operational capacity and services.



Through the leadership and overwhelming support of Governor Lou Leon Guerrero and Lt. Governor Josh Tenorio, the PAG has been successful in leveraging federal funding sources to supplement Port funds in order to address organic growth and the impending military buildup that will relocate DOD Marines personnel and assets from Okinawa, Japan to Guam.

With the recent completion of the \$50 Million Port Modernization Program, the recent ground breaking for the Hotel Wharf Rehabilitation Project, and federal funding to repair its F1 – F6 wharves, the Port has come a long way from where it was since 2019, where it is today, and where it is going in terms of the Port's readiness and its partnership with the Department of Defense's Indo-Pacific Strategy and the Pacific Deterrence Initiatives.



Shifting from a modernization mode to a now more pronounced resiliency and readiness mode of management and operation, the Port has established more solid relationships with DOD leadership, federal funding partners, the Association of American Port Authorities (AAPA), Association of Pacific Ports (APP), and key members and policy makers in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. The aggressive networking direction that the Port has undertaken since 2019 has allowed Management to vocalize the Port of Guam's challenges in its efforts to replace aged Ship-To-Shore (STS) Gantry Cranes, upgrade revenue generating wharves that are in dire need of repair, replace facilities and equipment that have exceeded their useful life, and increase capacity in areas that will better serve its customers and DOD's readiness plans in the Indo-Pacific theater.

On this historic day in Guam's history, we want to acknowledge the Port Strong family that keeps the Port moving, the island moving, and the region moving...24/7... year-round!

Biba Guam! Biba Port! Biba Port Strong Family!



Thank you everyone for your kind contribution in support of American Cancer Society’s (ACS) Relay for Life fundraising efforts. We have exceeded our goal of \$3,690 for the 369 employees. A summary of the Port’s donations is provided below:

Cash collection	\$3,573.00
Dri-fit shirt sales	\$780.00
Luminaria bag sales	\$250.00
Total contribution	\$4,558.00

On Saturday, July 30, Port employees alongside other Government of Guam agencies and the private sector attended the Relay for Life Block Party at the Guam Museum/Skinner Plaza. The event included the survivor/caregiver walk, luminaria tribute, food trucks, activities, music, performances and guest speakers.

The Luminaria Tribute will take place at the Father Duenas Gymnasium on Saturday, August 6, 2022 from 10am – 5pm.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



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|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Lina M. Quinata | Colby John L. Santos |
| Albert E. Santos | Victor Q. Duenas |
| Donna A. Lizama-Acosta | Raymond I. San Nicolas |
| Vivian C. Leon | Ranie F. Fausto |
| Sonja L. Cruz | Vester G. Lagaras |
| Edwin A. Malaga | Mark C. Tolenoa |
| Jennifer Ann N. Leon Guerrero | Dominick V. Fernandez |
| Kevin R. Sanchez | Gussieannmarie Diaz |
| Jose B. Guevara, III | Asuncion A. Nocon |
| Frank V. Lujan | Perry O. Blas |
| Reed K.S. Topasna | Ellaine G. Santayana |
| Evelyn G. Pangelinan | Paul P. Francisco |
| Rene L. Topasna | Kenneth S. Cruz, II |
| Jeffrey J. Quinata | Jake M. Padrones |
| Keesha Ann R. Duenas | Robert F. Camacho, Jr. |
| Christopher J. Aguigui | Michael D. Taitano |
| Wayne K. Drilon | Ryan M. Duenas |
| Maui C. Ogo | Jacob B. Aquiningoc, II |