

Port awarded \$2M in federal funds for modernization efforts

Office of Economic Adjustment grant to focus on studies and permitting

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 10, 2009

The Port Authority of Guam has been awarded \$2 Million in federal funding from the Office of Economic Adjustment to bolster the sea port's modernization efforts.

The Port will now issue a "Notice to Proceed" to Parsons Brinckerhoff International, which is the agency's Owner's Agent/Engineer, to move forward with the studies and permitting associated with this grant.

"I want to thank Governor Felix P. Camacho, along with the Office of Economic Adjustment, for their commitment to the modernization of the Port Authority of Guam," said Port General Manager Glenn A. Leon Guerrero. "Thanks to their dedication, we are one step closer to transforming Guam's commercial sea port into a world-class facility."

The Port has already embarked upon a massive modernization program. The program calls for nearly \$200 million in capital improvement upgrades to the 34-year-old facility and incorporates the port's updated master plan. Many projects associated with the modernization program have already been launched in this aggressive effort to prepare Guam's sea port for our community's natural organic growth along with the anticipated military buildup.

The \$2 Million will be used to fund a series of fact-finding investigations and studies in order to explore and evaluate viable Port development solutions, which are integrated and compatible with the current physical site, environmental, financial and operations constraints. The factual information garnered from the fact-finding activities will be used as the basis for Port officials and planners to make informed decisions in regards to design, procurement and construction of the terminal facilities, systems and components.

"Fact finding studies will include aquatic and terrestrial ecology surveys, a hydrographic survey, a topographic survey and geotechnical borings," Leon Guerrero said. "The information gathered from the studies will be used strategically during our preliminary discussions with the regulatory agencies and will also be used to help us prepare permitting documents."

"This federal funding will strengthen the aggressive efforts underway at the Port Authority of Guam to modernize and prepare our island's only commercial sea port for the 21st century," said Governor Felix P. Camacho. "I commend the Office of Economic Adjustment, the Port's General Manager Glenn Leon Guerrero and the dedicated port employees for their hard work and commitment in furthering the progress of the port."

The federal funding will be broken down into the following for implementation by the Owner's Agent/Engineer (OAE):

- In-Water Permitting \$145,000
- Aquatic and Terrestrial Ecology Surveys \$405,000
 - Benthic Mapping and Characterization

- Benthic and Infauna Sampling and Lab Analysis
- Essential Fish Habitat Assessment
- Foundered Ship Assessment
- Terrestrial Biological Survey and Report
- Water Quality Assessment
- Hydrographic Survey, Sub-Bottom Profiling \$160,000
 Multi-Beam Bathymetry
- In-Water and Uplands UXO Surveys \$ 90,000
- Phase I Environmental Site Assessment \$ 70,000
- Geotechnical Borings and Lab Work \$775,000
- Topographic Survey \$355,000

The work related to this grant is expected to take 12 months.

For more information, please contact Port Marketing Administrator Bernadette Meno at (671) 477-5931 ext. 300 or via email at bmeno@portguam.com