



GUAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
PARTNERS IN PROGRESS

September 4, 2009

MONTE MESA
Chairman of the Board
Port Authority of Guam
1026 Cabras Highway, Suite 201
Piti, Guam 96915

GLENN LEON GUERRERO
General Manager
Port Authority of Guam
1026 Cabras Highway, Suite 201
Piti, Guam 96915

**RE: "AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT" SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION DISCRETIONARY GRANTS**

Dear Monte and Glenn,

The Board of Directors and Maritime Affairs, Wholesale Merchants and Retail Merchants Committees of the Guam Chamber of Commerce continue to support the Port Authority of Guam's initiatives for steadfast improvements at the Jose D. Leon Guerrero Commercial Port of Guam. We reiterate our concerns about the critical need for the Port of Guam to not only move forward with efforts to grow its capacity to support the ongoing and planned military buildup, but more importantly, to support the natural growth of our local community.

Plans for the U.S. Department of Defense relocation of Marine Corps Forces from Okinawa and the related build up on Guam has been set in motion and will accelerate growth to our island over a very short period of time, inevitably increasing the cargo handling demand on our Port. Modernization of the Port of Guam will provide the infrastructure, resources, and capacity required, to not only support the buildup, but to meet the needs of local and regional communities.

We are encouraged by the progress made thus far to prepare for the modernization process, including the completion of the plan and required studies, the contracting of an Owner's Agent/Engineering team to oversee the modernization program, the addition of three Panamax Cranes and other essential cargo handling equipment and the transfer of tariff oversight to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC). We are concerned however, that current financial constraints may stall further forward movement of the project.

Without proper funding the Port of Guam will be strides behind a timeline directly linked to the military buildup. Adverse affects such as loss of military cargo movements and missed economic development and investment opportunities will contribute to elevated costs for consumers in Guam. It is imperative that the Port Authority of Guam seeks out all funding necessary to continue progress in a forward direction. The Chamber supports your application for \$49.7 million in Title XII Funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) in order to help begin the modernization of our Port.

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The Chamber, through our Maritime Affairs Committee, stands ready to assist, and looks forward to being an active participant in carrying out solutions presented in the Port Master Plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "F. Campillo", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

FRANK J. CAMPILLO
Chairman of the Board

Cc: Hugh Healey, Maritime Affairs Committee Chairman
Frank S.N. Shimizu, Wholesale Merchants Committee Chairman
Michael Benito, Retail Merchants Committee Chairman