

# PORT AUTHORITY OF GUAM

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## NEWS RELEASE

### Public Hearing held on 2023 Port of Guam Master Plan

**Piti, Guam, May 5, 2023:** A public hearing was held today on the 2023 Port of Guam Master Plan.

The public hearing was conducted by the Bureau of Statistics and Planning (BPS) pursuant to 5 GCA, Chapter 1, §1205. The hearing took place at 3pm at the Port Authority of Guam Board Room and was broadcast live on the agency's website and social media pages.

"The geopolitical climate in the Indo-Pacific region makes it a critical time for Guam, especially for the Port Authority, as the Port must have the capacity to provide full service to ocean vessels in support of loading and unloading cargo operations while meeting the demands of the military realignment and buildup activities," said Port General Manager Rory J. Respicio." The updated Master Plan will modernize facilities and services while recognizing the evolving priorities of Guam's community and the Western Pacific Region."

The purpose of the 2023 Port of Guam Master Plan is to provide statutory structure to ensure that the Port continues to improve and maintain fiscally sustainable operations, promote increased awareness, and consensus on its approach among all affected stakeholders and the rate payers of Guam.

Respicio said the 2023 Port of Guam Master Plan will guide the agency over the next five to 10 years as the agency upgrades and modernizes the Port in order to meet the growing demands of Guam. The Plan also will allow the Port to accommodate the peak of the military buildup, support Indo-Pacific Command's Pacific Deterrence Initiative and ensure maritime posture for future deployments of military assets.

"The Port Authority of Guam is seeking funding support from the Department of Transportation and the Department of Defense to acquire three new STS Gantry Cranes and to upgrade our infrastructure and facilities," Respicio said. "The 2023 Port of Guam Master Plan will further enhance the Port's core capabilities and implement new strategies based on the agency's financial, operational and sustainability needs."

The 2023 Port of Guam Master Plan addresses the Port'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 span, and increase capacity in areas that will better serve commercial customers and the Department of Defense's (DOD) readiness plans in the Indo-Pacific theater. Additionally, the resiliency upgrades allow for the implementation of environmentally sustainable equipment and infrastructure, such as cargo handling equipment with emission reduction technology and vapor recovery systems at the Port's two (2) fuel facilities – Golf Pier and Pier F1, which will dramatically improve air quality as a result of cleaner operations.

The public still has time to provide comment on the Port of Guam 2023 Master Plan, which is available for public review on the Port's website at [www.portofguam.com/modernization](http://www.portofguam.com/modernization) and the Bureau of Statistics and Plans website, <https://bsp.guam.gov/latest-news/>. Hard copies are available for review at the Bureau of Statistics and Plans, Office of the Director, 513 West Marine Corps Drive, Ricardo J. Bordallo Complex, Hagatna, 8am-5pm and at the Port's Strategic Planning Division, 1026 Cabras Highway, Suite 203, Piti. Written testimonies may be mailed and delivered to the Bureau of Statistics and Plans located at the Ricardo J. Bordallo Governor's Complex, Adelup, Guam or submitted online to [gcmp@bsp.guam.gov](mailto:gcmp@bsp.guam.gov). Please include your name when submitting testimonies online. Deadline to submit comments is Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at 5:00 pm. For more information, please contact PAG Chief Planner Joe Javellana at 671- 477-5931/4, ext. 420.

In accordance with the law, comments will be packaged with the Master Plan and transmitted to the Governor Lou Leon Guerrero for approval and then forwarded to the Legislature for adoption.