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Office of the Governor  
Utulei, American Samoa  
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## “Long Anticipated Lions Park Development Takes a Step Forward.”

*Governor Lemanu has selected a special working committee to lead the planning for this major development.*

*The local digital economy is on the rise, this park will serve as a hub for all technology and innovation type businesses.*

The Department of Commerce has presented to Governor Lemanu that they are ready to move forward with the Innovation and Technology Campus of American Samoa project.

On May 14, 2021, during a presentation given by Director Petti Matila of the Department of Commerce, she stated that the project would provide "an additional public realm, a bustling retail strip featuring cafes' direct access banking facilities, restaurants, and a business area. In addition, the waterfront project will become a pedestrian-friendly precinct with many community benefits while focusing on preserving the natural resources that currently exist near the Pala Lagoon and protecting the eroding shoreline."

The concept plan of the campus's layout covered most of the area, starting from Tasi Street to Lima Street and along the main road. The project includes approximately 12 dwellings, ranging from 3 to 4 story buildings, sports complexes, shoreline upgrades, a walking trail, a seawall, a beach multisport Court, Tennis courts, a modern playground, Volleyball, and Basketball Courts.

In a previous meeting held on May 5, 2021, with a special working committee selected by Governor Lemanu, the project demonstrated a significant opportunity to revitalize a strategic site next to the International Airport and the busiest part of Tafuna.

According to Honorable Governor Lemanu P. S Mauga, "...this development is designated to enable people and businesses to thrive. In addition, the public will benefit from a new section of the oceanside walk and sports facilities. The local digital economy is on the rise, this park will serve as a hub for all technology and innovation type businesses." The Department of Public Works is also identifying Lions park as a potential location for the new hospital. "I have

asked all the partners involved and interested in developing this portion of land to go back to the drawing board and work together to come up with an integrated plan."

This transformation includes newly created office spaces for ASG and private businesses currently leasing a section of the Lions Park. According to the Governor, "Priority will be given to those ASG offices and businesses currently located at Lions Park to relocate inside the new development upon completion."

The total capital cost of the development has yet to be determined.

The Governor and Lt. Governor are adamant that the project will provide the space needed to deliver world-class facilities, become a sought-after tech destination, popular tourist attraction, stimulate private investment, create jobs, and protect critical enabling infrastructure.

The working committee consists of Director Petti Matila (DOC), Attorney General Fainu'ulelei Falefatu Alailima Lutu, Director Faleosina (DPW), Dr. Mikaele Etuale (CPO), Director Afalava Elike Afalava (Admin Services), Director Talauega Dr. Samasoni Asaeli (DOE), Director Christopher King (DPA), and Director Kenneth Tupua (PR).

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