

P.O. BOX 1539 PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT



PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT – DRAFT PROPOSAL AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT OF PORT ADMINISTRATION PROJECTS:

NEW SEAPORT BUILDING / AIRPORT RECONSTRUCTION / INTER-ISLAND TRANSPORTATION and HARBOR VESSELS

Notice is hereby given that the American Samoa Department of Port Administration (AS-DPA) has prepared a Draft Proposal for the following capital improvement projects: 1) New Seaport Building, 2) Airport Reconstruction and, 3) the Inter-Island Transportation and Harbor Vessels. The proposed projects listed in this document are aimed towards executing the necessary infrastructure improvements to the Pago Pago Port and Pago Pago International Airport which have encountered numerous negative impacts due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The projects are designed to ensure that these critical border facilities have sustainable infrastructures to recover from the negative effects of the pandemic, and to increase economic productivity for the years to come. Once completed, the AS-DPA will be better prepared to plan for, respond to and mitigate the negative impacts this global pandemic has had, and will have, on our Territory's border facilities/operations.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SCHEDULE / PUBLIC HEARINGS

Community engagement is an essential aspect of ARPA funded projects, as it maintains the intent of the US Treasury in fostering public participation in an effort to maintain transparency and provide opportunities for feedback to ensure that funds are used in the most beneficial matter. As such, to provide early and meaningful public involvement, AS-DPA is providing a 30-day public comment period for this proposal. The Public Hearings are scheduled as follows:

| 0 | General Meeting #1 November 09, 2021 | West Side | 9am | Airport Conference Room, Tafuna |
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| 0 | General Meeting #2 November 10, 2021 | East Side | 9am | Seaport Conference Room, Pago Plaza, Pago Pago |
| 0 | General Meeting #3 November 16, 2021 | West Side | 9am | Airport Conference Room, Tafuna |
| 0 | General Meeting #4 November 17, 2021 | East Side | 9am | Seaport Conference Room, Pago Plaza, Pago Pago |

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: NOVEMBER 03 – DECEMBER 3, 2021

Public comment on the proposal will be accepted during the 30-day public comment period beginning November 3, 2021, and ending December 3, 2021. Comments may be accepted in writing; by attendance at the scheduled public hearings; or by Email. Written comments may be delivered to the Director's Office at Pago Plaza, Room 114. Please address and submit sealed envelope to: AS-DPA Director Christopher J. King, Subject: AS-DPA ARPA PROJECT COMMENTS. To submit comments via email, please send to either Natalia Palamo at: natalia.palamo@gmail.com, and Mika Aga at mikaaga9@gmail.com. Please include in email correspondence subject line: AS-DPA ARPA PROJECT COMMENTS.

All comments received or postmarked by December 3, 2021 will be reviewed and considered. At the close of the Public Comment Period, AS-DPA will have 20 days to revise the project proposal as appropriate from the comments received, and submit the Final Proposal to the American Samoa ARPA Oversight Office. The Final Draft of the project will be posted for public view once completed and certified by the American Samoa Oversight Office.

PROJECT DOCUMENTS/DRAFT PROPOSAL

A copy of the proposal is available for review at the following locations: 1) AS-DPA Office Pago Pago Plaza – Room 108; 2) AS-DPA Office Pago Pago International Airport; 3) Electronically on the American Samoa Department of Port Administration website at: https://americansamoaport.as.gov/, and the American Samoa Government website at https://www.americansamoa.gov/.

For information, please contact Natalia Palamo at 699-910 or 733-4548, <u>natalia.palamo@gmail.com</u>; or Mika Aga at 633-4160 or 733-3051, <u>mikaaga9@gmail.com</u>.

"In the global market, American Samoa will become the hub of the Pacific Island region"

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