



Public Hearing: Bill 207-30 Rights of Way Manual

Dededo Senior Citizens Center

August 25, 2009

Committee on Transportation, Public Works, Utilities
and Veterans Affairs

Senator Tom Ada, Chairman





DPW Mission Statement

“The Mission of the Department of Public Works is to provide a safe, efficient and sustainable transportation system for our residents, visitors and military personnel that supports economic diversification, resource conservation and an exceptional quality of life.”



Introduction

- DPW and FHWA has embarked on an aggressive program to improve Guam's roads through the 2030 Guam Transportation Plan (GTP).
- The GTP is designed to address long standing issues with Guam's transportation needs.
 - Immediate roadway safety and hazard elimination
 - Restoration, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of our roads
 - Protection of natural resources and property rights



Introduction

- \$75 million in GTP roadway improvements are presently underway
- Additional \$200 + million projected through 2011
- Several projects will involve Rights of Way acquisitions
- FHWA policy dictates that DPW shall maintain a manual describing its Rights of Way organization, policies and procedures before Rights of Way acquisition is authorized



Rights of Way Manual Benefits

- Rights of Way Manual is crucial to the orderly improvement of our roads
 - Compiles, Coordinates & Structures all local & federal Eminent Domain statutes, policies & procedures into one compendium.
 - Required for federally funded road projects that have Rights of Way issues



Rights of Way Manual Benefits

- Establishes continuity through Uniform Rights of Way procedures for certification
- Safeguards the rights of property owners
- Establishes fair and equitable process for the acquisition of Rights of Ways
- Provides for the proper management and disposal of Rights of Ways
- Secures availability of FHWA funding for projects



Rights of Way Manual

- Manual has been developed in accordance with local and federal laws and procedures
- Incorporates best practices from other jurisdictions
- Designed to be user friendly and practical in application
- Principle users are government infrastructural agencies (DPW, GPA, GWA, etc)
- Coordinates with other GovGuam agencies impacted by the ROW process



Rights of Way Manual

- Comprised of ten (10) comprehensive chapters:
 1. Rights of Way Procedures Manual (Introduction)
 2. Land Title
 3. Contaminated parcels
 4. Appraisal
 5. Negotiation Process
 6. Advance Acquisition
 7. Relocation Assistance
 8. Property Management
 9. Funds Management
 10. Rights of Way Certification



Rights of Way Manual

- Manual includes required forms.
- Process flow chart designed to clarify the steps required and decision process alternatives.
- Extensive policies and procedures outlined in each of the 10 chapters in accordance with local and federal mandates.
- Manual is designed for all affected agencies requiring Rights of Way acquisitions.



Conclusion (1 of 2)

- Rights of Way manual is a crucial element of the Guam Transportation Program
- Required for federally funded roadway improvements
- Ensures continuity among agencies relative to ROW acquisitions
- Assures the protection of private property rights through fair and equitable procedures for the acquisition of Rights of Way
- Assures the preservation of natural resources



Conclusion (2 of 2)

- The DPW and FHWA fully support Bill 207-30 as a necessary and crucial element to the orderly and sustainable growth of our island.
- We thank Senator Ada and the Committee on Transportation, Public Works, Utilities and Veteran's Affairs for your continued support
- We urge the legislature to help us continue our aggressive plan to ensure the safety and overall improvement of our roadways through the passage of this legislation.



Next Steps

- Legislative Committee Mark-up
- Legislative Floor Deliberations and Voting
- Governor's enactment (if passed)



Thank you and Si Yu'os Ma'ase!

For more information visit:

www.guamtransportationprogram.com

or call

DPW Division of Highways at 649-3121

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