

STATE OF THE TERRITORIAL REPORT THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT



Presented By:

Lolo M. Moliga
Governor of American Samoa
January 08, 2018



LOLO M. MOLIGA
GOVERNOR

**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**
Telephone: (684) 633-4116 Fax: (684) 633-2269

LEMANU P. MAUGA
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

January 8, 2018

Honorable Gaoteote Pala'ie Tofau
President of the Senate
Senate
American Samoa Government
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

Honorable Savali Talavou Ale
Speaker of the House
House of Representatives
American Samoa Government
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

Dear Mr. President and Mr. Speaker:

This State of the Territory Comprehensive Report memorializes the outcomes of our collaborative efforts to implement programs dedicated to both the development of our local economy and maintenance of government services and operations to improve the lives of all our people in 2017.

Last year was filled with economic challenges precipitated by factors beyond our control. Nonetheless, it has inspired action to nullify inherent adverse financial impact on the local economy. The support of the Legislature in approving recent legislations to establish the necessary financial platform for the Administration's financial capacity building initiatives is both commendable and appreciated. While we have made progress in stabilizing our revenue coffers, it is highly important that we revisit and strengthen various revenue measures to broader our revenue generation targets for more financial autonomy.

While we have been able to maintain our progress in 2017, our collective commitments to practice fiscal prudence, full accountability, transparency, and fiscal management will continually be hailed as top priorities for the American Samoa Government. Nevertheless, we still have made significant strides in the development of our educational programs, healthcare services, infrastructures, public safety, border security, coastal and environment, roads, services for our Senior citizens, youth and women, and the physically challenged population in the Territory.

There is much work still remains to be done to move our Territory forward in 2018, despite several uncertainties that keep threatening the overall growth of our local economy. As you are aware, the 30(A) Tax Credit was not included in the Tax Bill recently passed by the U.S. Congress. Additionally, the next hike in the federal minimum wage will become effective in

2018, while the adverse financial impact of the Samoa Tuna Processing's closure on the local economy continues to linger on. These are some of the challenges we have to navigate and continue mitigating for the sake and future of American Samoa's economy. Therefore, it is vital for us to remain united and recommit ourselves to working collaboratively to adequately address these uncertainties and economic threats.

Sincerely,



LOLO M. MOLIGA
Governor of American Samoa

Cc: Honorable Douglas Domenech, Assistant Secretary for USDOJ Office of Insular Affairs
Honorable Lemanu Peleti Mauga, Lieutenant Governor
Honorable Aumua Amata Coleman Radewagen, Member of Congress
Honorable Lealaialoa Michael Kruse, Chief Justice of American Samoa
Honorable Senators and Representatives

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I. Introduction

Fiscal Year 2017 was operationally strenuous for the Lolo-Lemanu Administration. Foremost, the Tri Marine's Samoa Tuna Processing terminated its tuna fish canning operation on December 31, 2016 in American Samoa, directly curtailing more than 700 local cannery jobs. Excise tax revenues also plummeted significantly in the beginning of 2017 followed by a gradual resurgence after five months of declining revenue collections, while the delayed release of Federal Funds due to the Administration's changeover compounded and severely exacerbated the American Samoa Government's already eroded cash flow position.

With these economic uncertainties and the limited cash flow, the bleak financial environment finally precipitated the government to implement the "Reduction to 70 Working Hours Per Pay Period" cost containment measure for the general government except all the Semi-autonomous agencies and Authorities. In addition, planned expenditures were delayed and in some cases eliminated to ensure continued compliance with our commitment to financial prudence, fiscal discipline, and be fiscally responsible.

Recognizing these harmful effects on the growth of the local economy, the Administration made a crucial effort to increase the revenue generation capacity by preparing and submitting to the Legislature a new comprehensive revenue package for its consideration. While the revenue package received opposition from the local private sector, naturally from the fear of losing sales, the cyclical financial backwash would have created a far greater economic devastation for the Territory as a whole than individual business losses.

The underpinning economic philosophy anchoring the recommended new revenue package is to sustain the growth of consumption for goods and services, which is expected to trigger more job creation and correspondingly expand sales for private businesses. In formulating these new revenue measures, the Administration took great caution to minimize invasive financial impacts on business viability. The effort of the Legislature to support the restructuring of the Territory's economic and financial landscapes is commendable, although it took a different pathway to accomplish our collective vision to become financially self-reliant to the maximum extent possible.

It is impractical to expect financial self-reliance be achieved continually by increasing taxes and fees for government services. It must be accomplished through a parallel and aggressive development of the local economy. It is not because of the lack of recent efforts to achieve the targeted level of substantial success in growing the economy, but the forceful and vigorous attempts constantly being made to remove several economic development barriers that are stymieing the Administration's current struggles and progress to expand the economy.

Given the absolute necessity to triumph over these economic challenges will require venture capital to support the financing of new business activities, as well as maintaining current concerted efforts to obtain a needed Routing Number for the Territorial Bank of American Samoa (TBAS). The positive response from the Legislature of American Samoa for approving the recent proposed amendment to the Territory's banking statute has finally opened the doorway

for the eventual obtainment of a routing number. Moreover, the exponential growth in the number of accounts, deposits, and loans is a clear indication on the high demand for TBAS.

With the transmission of the new comprehensive revenue package, the instituted 35-hours workweek for the rest of the general government workforce was finally rescinded. Its passage is expected to ensure sufficient revenues will be generated to address the myriad of government needs in healthcare services, education, public safety, economic development, border control, infrastructure, social services, and environmental conservation efforts. Legislative response to the Administration's collective vision to expand its basic revenue generation repertoire was commendable; nevertheless, its adopted path would be too financially invasive with regard to business viability and equity in the distribution of financial burden.

The subsequent sections of this Comprehensive State of the Territory Report documents the actions and progress taken during Fiscal Year 2017 to meet the commitments and priorities set by the local government to meet and satisfy the needs of the people and Territory of American Samoa.

II. Financial Status

A. Revenue Forecast and Actual Collections

Fiscal year 2017 was the most financially strenuous and difficult operating year for the Administration. Too many factors beyond its control has influenced and thwarted several attempts to stabilize the government's financial condition. These challenges have also prompted difficult decisions reflected in the submission of a comprehensive package of revenue measures to the Legislature for their consideration and action.

It is deemed important that Fono Leaders understand the factors that created the financial environment within which the American Samoa Government operated. Foremost, the excise tax collections on cigarettes fell short of projections by \$6 million dollars. Corporate challenges have caused a suspension in the importation of cigarettes for at least 5 months. Moreover, the lack of Continuing Resolution further delayed the disbursement of federal funds until April, in turn placed a tremendous strain on the Territory's cash flow position.

In the government's attempt to accommodate the needs of the public who needed financial assistance through their tax refunds, the Administration proceeded to use local funds to upfront the payments. The attempt further and severely strained the government's current cash flow position, especially when it took several months before federal funds were released to adequately reimburse these local funds.

These financial challenges have greatly impacted a significant drop in the government's revenue collection. The decline in revenue collections has also stressed more burdened on the General Fund with regards to payments of all the government's debt service needs. The total revenue forecasted for Fiscal Year 2017 was \$108,162,500 and comprised of the following revenue categories: Total Taxes = \$67,546,500; License and Fees = \$1,300,000; Fines and Fees = \$5,200,000; Public Services = \$6,700,000; Miscellaneous = \$6,300,000; Transfers-In = \$4,500,000; and DOI Basic Operating Grant = \$23,763,000.

However, actual revenues collected for Fiscal Year 2017 was \$91,621,392 with actual collections in the following revenue categories: Total Taxes = \$56,436,653; License and Fees = \$1,394,106; Fines and Fees = \$4,853,877; Public Services = \$5,385,705; Miscellaneous = \$3,390,945; Transfers-In = \$6,962,501; and DOI Basic Operating Grant = \$12,571,000.

B. Financial Operation and Status

The FY 2017 Fiscal Year approved budget was \$108,162,500. Actual Revenue collected was \$91,621,392; reflecting a 15.3% revenue shortfall.

A directive was issued to all departments and offices of the government to fix their 2017 fiscal year operating budgets at 10% less of their approved budgets. Many of the planned programs were scaled backward including special programs.

Recognizing the severity of our revenue posture, the “Reduction In Working Hours” was implemented. The standard 80 working hours per pay period was reduced to 70 hours. To ease the financial adverse impact on the economy the decision was made to exempt grant funded employees.

Through these efforts to contain spending to just the necessity, the Administration maintained its commitment to financial prudence and financial integrity as it was able to close FY 2017 in the black again for three consecutive years. Actual revenues for FY 2017 were \$91,621,392 versus actual spending of \$91,593,689; thus yielding a positive balance of \$27,703 to close the year.

This is a gigantic achievement given the multitude of factors, which negatively affected our revenue generating ability. This feat bodes well with respect to building investor confidence in our commitment to wise fiscal management and our fortitude and courage to make difficult financial decisions.

C. Budgetary – Debt Controls and Management

The deficit incurred in Fiscal Year 2014 lead to the institution of the 10% Budget Reduction Policy for Fiscal Year 2015 and to this day. Moreover, aligning spending with actual revenues instead of the approved budget was soon implemented as a secondary budget control feature in Fiscal Year 2015 and to this day. These new budget control and management measures have expanded the government’s ability to ensure current spending does not exceed actual revenues generated and collected. The effectiveness of these budget control and management measures is evident by the government ending of FY 2015, 2016, and 2017 in the black.

The institution of these new budget control and management measures also compelled the Office of Budget and Program Planning to work closely with the Department of Treasury, Office of Procurement, and the Department of Human Resources. The fundamental challenge currently stifling their progress is the derivation of real time revenue and expenditure data to create more effective budget control and management policies. However, in a collaborative effort with other governmental partners, the Department of Treasury has recently upgraded the government’s IFAS financial system to improve and produce real-time information necessary for effective decision-making by policy-makers and government leaders. Therefore, ASG financial system has now been fully upgraded from the IFAS system to One-Solution.

The financial and economic meltdown experienced by Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands impelled the federal government to evaluate the debt posture of all territories along with their capacity to manage the liquidation of these long-term debt obligations. With the passage of the PROMESA Act, the U.S. Government Accountability Office conducted an investigation on American Samoa’s debt capacity and debt management system. Fortunately, American Samoa’s debt level was far below its territorial counterparts. The assessment also highlighted the harmful

financial and economic effects of federal policies withdrawal to the long-term debts of the insular areas, particularly on their respective abilities to generate sufficient funds to defray bond payments.

Contrarily, American Samoa Government's current long-term debt level of \$148 million is being meticulously managed by local commitments to earmark sufficient revenues to ensure timely defrayment of interest and principal payments are consistently being met. Currently, all payments have been made pursuant to the bond repayment schedule. The passage of previous revenue measures has also given the Administration greater confidence in the government's capacity to fully address and meet its debt commitments.

D. Other Positive Financially Related Outcomes

1. One-Solution:

The Department of Treasury, together with the other governmental departments and agencies such as the Office of Budget and Program Planning, Office of Procurement, and the Department of Human Resources, has worked closely with financial consultants to upgrade the old ASG's IFAS system to improve accounting methods and practices of all government financial transactions, build financial management efficiency, and instill confidence in the integrity of financial information being generated. The new One-Solution financial system is now in place and currently being utilized. Nevertheless, it remains imperative that continual and consistent trainings be conducted to ensure that all system users utilize the system correctly.

2. High Risk Progress:

The High Risk Task Force has been very diligent in preparing and submitting semi-annual reports as pursuant to ASG's mandated corrective action plan. Some of the other high risk issues have also been resolved resulting in the elimination of high risk status for some of the government agencies such as the Criminal Justice Planning Agency, Department of Human and Social Services, Territorial Administration on Aging, and others. The installation of the One-Solution financial system addresses many of the high-risk issues related to proper accounting and recording of all grant related expenditures. ASG has also made significant progress with the installation of the Paperless System to improve further compliance with the established procurement process and to properly reflect these transactions on the American Samoa Government's financials.

3. Quarterly Performance Reports:

The Administration continues to honor its commitment to comply with Title 10: Chapter 10; Section 10.0509 of the American Samoa Code Annotated (A.S.C.A) by submitting to the local Legislature quarterly performance reports, detailing the progress of the work done on programs incorporated in the budget plan for the year. Continual efforts are also being invested to improve the quality of the submission report and its contents, as well as making it more reader friendly.

4. Budget Transfer Authority:

Section 10:0402 A.S.C.A was amended to provide greater flexibility to the Budget Office to transfer funds from one object class to the other and to eliminate the demand for repeated requests for budget transfers. The existing budget transfer authority of \$5,000 was increased to \$100,000. This necessary action has greatly improved both the efficiency with respect to the recurring need for budget transfers and the overall ability of agencies to implement programs.

5. Territorial Bank of American Samoa:

The establishment of the Territorial Bank of American Samoa (TBAS) culminates the Administration's exhaustive efforts to secure a U.S. replacement bank to fill the banking void created by the eventual departure of the Bank of Hawaii from American Samoa. The failed effort by the American Samoa Community Bank to obtain FDIC approval later prompted the Governor to establish a government owned bank.

In over 12 months since its opening, TBAS had not been able to obtain a routing number because of its unique setup from the standard bank ownership. The Governor, in collaboration with Congresswoman Radewagen, the U.S. Department of the Interior, and leaders of the State of Utah, could not wait any further and took the lead in recent efforts to secure a routing number for TBAS. A recent meeting held in November 2017 with the Vice Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board finally opened the door and possibility in the obtainment of a routing number. Recommendation from the Vice Chairman also prompted the Administration to propose a legislative amendment to local banking law, particularly the elimination of the "holding company" phrase. The local Legislature responded positively by approving the proposed amendment during a Legislative Special Session in December 2017. With the approval of the legislative amendment sent to the Federal Reserve, there is high optimism and enthusiasm over the possibility of a routing number being issued before the close of the year. The Board of the Director of the Territorial Bank of American Samoa will announce soon the culmination of their collective efforts to secure a "Routing Number" and "Federal Reserve Account". However, it appears that these collective efforts have been successful.

III. Economic Development

Collective efforts to expand the local economy in 2017 has continually being marred by the lingering negative financial effects of the closure of the Van Camp Samoa Packing in 2009 and the Samoa Tuna Processing in 2016. The cigarette anomaly impacting adversely excise tax collections and the delay in the release of federal funds also stymied further implementation of the government’s planned economic development strategies. Severely restricted lending policies of ANZ Amerika Samoa Bank and the cessation of loan issuance by the Bank of Hawaii reflected additional negative contributors to American Samoa’s hostile economic development environment.

Furthermore, the 2017 disadvantageous economic environment was continually being agitated by the developments of hostile Federal economic development policies aimed at the Territory. For example, the demise of both the Van Camp Samoa Packing and the Samoa Tuna Processing in American Samoa were highly aided by the automatic increase in the Federal Minimum Wage and the methodical withdrawal of Federal tax incentives such as the 30(A) Tax Credit. Therefore, the financial stability of the only remaining tuna cannery – Star Kist – is continually being threatened by the same negative federal economic development policies.

Since the inception of this Administration in 2013, aggressive attempts have been made to develop American Samoa’s tourism industry as the third economic pillar next to the Canneries and the Government. However, the existence of the Federal “Cabotage” policy has effectively and continuously derailed all of the government’s attempts to effectively build and develop American Samoa’s dilapidated tourism industry. These described hostile economic development landscape are also validated by some of the economic indicators discussed as follow:

A. Business Climate

The total number of registered Business Licenses issued dropped to 2,728 in 2017 from 3,037 in 2016 or by 11.3%. It reflects the financial impact of the closure of recent canneries and cutbacks in government spending. Assuming that each business owner who decided not to renew its business license employs one person, the curtailment of employment impact is 309. At the average wage of \$12,000 annually, the financial effect is \$370,000.

| Calendar Year | Total Registered Business Licenses | % Change (+/-) |
|---------------|------------------------------------|----------------|
| 2012 | 3,187 | - |
| 2013 | 3,416 | 7.2% |
| 2014 | 4,678 | 36.9% |
| 2015 | 3,813 | -18.5% |
| 2016 | 3,037 | -20.4% |
| 2017 | 2,728 | -10.2% |

Table 1: Five Year Overview of Registered Businesses in American Samoa
Reference: ASDOC Economic Development Division Database



Table 1a: Five Year Overview Trend of Registered Businesses in American Samoa

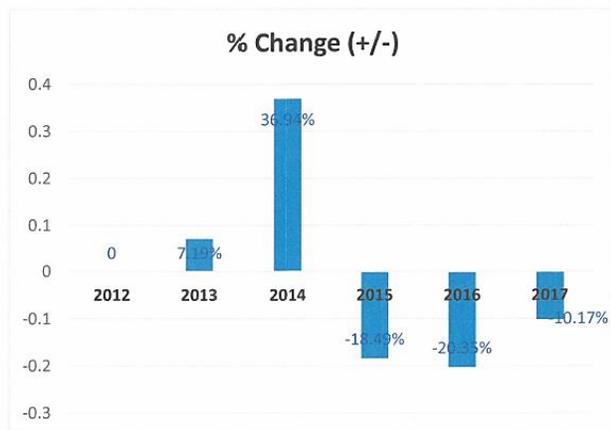


Table 1b: Five Year Overview Trend by Percentage Change

Given the total of 2,728 registered businesses as of July 2017, ASG generated a total of \$437,756.50 in revenues – a decrease of \$111,336.50 or 20% drop in revenue collections compared to CY2016’s total revenue of \$549,093. According to the Department of Commerce Economic Development Division (DOC-EDD), the Department of Commerce has processed approximately 2,470 renewals as of July 8, 2017 which represents about 81% of 3,037 business licenses in CY2016. The DOC-EDD has assisted in the registration of 2,788 business licenses as of September 2017.

B. Gross Domestic Product

Recent Gross Domestic Number (GDP) released by the United States Bureau of Economic Statistics also provided corroboration of the adverse impact of the closure of the canneries on American Samoa’s economy with the negative 2.6 decline in documented. Specifically, the consumption component of the GDP dropped between 2015 and the previous year. Private and public investments also declined.

| Category | History | | | Forecast |
|----------------------------------------------|---------|--------|--------|----------|
| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
| Real GDP (Inflation-Adjusted Dollars) | | | | |
| Real Gross Domestic Product (2009\$ Million) | 641.0 | 649.0 | 632.0 | 617.8 |
| Annual Growth (%) | 0.9 | 1.2 | -2.6 | -2.2 |
| Real Personal Consumption (2009\$ Million) | 453.6 | 435.3 | 420.7 | 407.4 |
| Annual Growth (%) | 2.7 | -4.0 | -3.4 | -3.2 |
| Real Business Investments (2009\$ Million) | 96.7 | 75.8 | 78.8 | 41.3 |
| Annual Growth (%) | 50.2 | -21.6 | 3.9 | -47.6 |
| Real Government Spending (2009\$ Million) | 341.9 | 365.4 | 314.1 | 314.3 |
| Annual Growth (%) | 10.3 | 6.9 | -14.0 | 0.1 |
| Real Net Exports (2009\$ Million) | -251.2 | -226.5 | -179.6 | -145.2 |
| Annual Growth (%) | -37.8 | 9.8 | 20.7 | 19.1 |
| AS Government Revenues (\$Million) | 98.6 | 96.0 | 89.8 | 87.2 |
| Annual Growth (%) | -10.5 | 2.7 | 6.4 | 2.9 |

The Territory's Gross Domestic Product figures affirm the detraction in American Samoa's economy and further precipitating the reduction in government revenues. The key elements of the GDP and also the contributing factors behind its decline included the reduction in personal consumption, drop in real business investment, and the contraction in real net exports. The above GDP elements has also provided the Administration an overall guidance on the economic and financial strategies American Samoa must pursue to reverse the downward path assumed by its economy.

C. Enforcement Activities

The Department of Commerce (DOC) has continued its regulatory enforcements to ensure business setup and licenses are both valid and legally obtained. Through on-going collaboration with the American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency and the DOC's Resource Management – PNRS and Zoning and the TIP Divisions, DOC has issued four violation notices since 2017. To further strengthen enforcement priorities and efforts, revenue collections from the business license fees and penalty fees for new applications and renewals should earmarked a certain percentage (5-7%) towards business licensing enforcement activity. As of June 28, 2017, the estimated uncollected revenue for business license fees and penalty fees is about \$173,558.

D. Business Assistance

Assistance provided to local business owners in obtaining valid business licenses are continually being maintained by the Administration. DOC also continues to offer its service to assist these businesses in order to qualify for financial assistance from the Business Development Center at ASCC, Bank of Hawaii Foundation Grant Program, DBAS-EDRLF, ASG DHHC Vocational Rehabilitation financial assistance, SBA, and SSBCI financing – to name a few. In collaboration with the ASG Tax Office, DOC also provides applicants assistance in processing their Employer Identification Number (EIN) applications online. For the 2nd and 3rd Quarter of FY2017, the DOC has completed a total of 25 EIN applications.

E. Minimum Wage

An analysis by the DOC's Economic Development Division (EDD) provided evidence that an increase to the U.S. Federal Minimum Wage of \$7.25 could lead to a significant reduction in employment in the Territory. The analysis concluded that the U.S. Federal Wage Bill, which mandates annual minimum wage increases of \$0.40 per hour every three (3) years thereafter until minimum wages reach the U.S. federal minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour, would likely produces a significant reduction in government sector employment in American Samoa.

Unless a new legislation is passed to increase ASG annual revenue collections, any increases in the federal minimum wage would create an increase in expenditures for which there is no local matching revenue to address its impact. The table below details the potential impacts of the proposed minimum wage increases using the FY2017 ASG employment and Wage Bill characteristics as a comparison:

Table 2 Proposed Minimum Wage Increases and Direct Impact

| Fiscal Year | New ASG Min. Wage | Affected Employees | % of ASG Workforce | FTE Reduction | Required Wage Bill Increase |
|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| 2017 | \$4.81 | 39 | 0.8% | 0 | \$0 |
| 2020 | \$5.21 | 1,065 | 22.5% | 24 | \$539,043.84 |
| 2023 | \$5.61 | 1,733 | 36.7% | 84 | \$1,895,452.60 |
| 2026 | \$6.01 | 2,305 | 48.8% | 169 | \$3,903,510.44 |
| 2029 | \$6.41 | 2,498 | 52.8% | 264 | \$6,241,397.95 |
| 2032 | \$6.81 | 2,602 | 55.0% | 361 | \$8,704,707.15 |
| 2035 | \$7.21 | 2,659 | 56.3% | 457 | \$11,260,620.13 |
| 2038 | \$7.25 | 2,671 | 56.5% | 466 | \$11,519,959.28 |

F. Fishery Developments

The local fishery development program is dual pronged: canneries and local fishery. While the focus has always been on the sustainment of the tuna fish canning operations in the Territory, the Administration does not discount the importance of economic opportunities inherent in the presence of fish processing activities. Documented below are efforts pursued by ASG to facilitate the achievement of the Administration’s goals in maximizing and seizing of all financial and economic benefits attached to the fish canning operations, food security, and the reduction of financial leakages caused by the import of fish related products to the Territory:

1. Fish Canning Operation:

The withdrawal of Federal incentives such as the 30(A) Tax Credit at the end of 2016 – coupled with the continued escalation in the Federal Minimum Wage, limiting fishing in the high seas, expanding the scope of the ocean monuments encroaching on traditional fishing grounds, increasing cost of fishing permits, and the climbing cost of complying with United States Coast Guard (USCG) and EPA rigorous regulations – has threatened both the financial and economic viability of the local fish canning industry. In light of the above operating environment, the following actions were and continually being pursued to mitigate these severe economic development disincentives:

2. 30(A) Tax Credit:

Through collaboration with the U.S. Department of the Interior, the White House, Congresswoman Radewagen’s Office, Governor Herbert of Utah, and other supporters and friends of the Territory in the U.S. Congress, the tax extender introduced by Congresswoman Aumua Radewagen has successfully passed the U.S. House of Representatives. Unfortunately, the U.S. Senate did not include American Samoa’s request to extend the 30(A) Tax Credit in the latest Tax Bill. Letters from the Governor have been distributed to all members of the Senate Conference Committee requesting their support for the tax extender bill as passed by the U.S. House of Representatives. Unfortunately, the 30(A) Tax Credit didn’t make the final version of the Tax Bill. There is still hope for the Territory as Washington D.C. affirms the inclusion of the

30(A) Tax Credit in a subsequent bill for passage since all Tax Extender Bills could be taken up collectively in one legislation early this year.

3. Federal Minimum Wage:

Congresswoman Aumua Radewagen is currently taking the lead in the Territory's collaborative effort to stop the automatic escalation in the Federal minimum wage with assistance from the U.S. Department of the Interior and the White House. The overall goal is to let American Samoa determine its own minimum wage based on prevailing economic conditions.

4. Expansion of Ocean Monument and Sanctuaries:

The American Samoa Government continues to advocate its position in opposing the expansion of the ocean monument and sanctuaries. Through this effort, the Rose Atoll was delisted and omitted from being listed as a National Monument. There is confidence that the new Ocean Monument Expansion declared by President Obama will be scaled backward by the Trump Administration.

5. High Seas Fishing Prohibition:

The American Samoa Government's highly documented opposition to the Ocean Monuments and Sanctuary expansions also showcased its recent resistance to the NOAA high seas fishing prohibition. Its efforts fully supports the plea by the American Fishing Fleet Association to open the high seas for fishing, especially when facing with the reduction in fishing days within the EEZs of independent countries throughout the Pacific Region and the high cost for fishing permits within these exclusive zones.

6. Cost-prohibitive Fishing Permits:

Recognizing the impact of the rising cost of fishing permits, the Governor will continue to reach out to all the independent nations in the Pacific Region to collaborate with the Territory's on-going efforts in utilizing the tuna cannery in American Samoa – given the beneficial financial impact on their respective economies. The Governor has invited the Polynesian Leaders Group to hold its next meeting in American Samoa. This will assist and hopefully provide an opportunity to create a joint strategy that will allow fishing within these EEZs at a discounted price, as well as compelling them to impel vessels fishing within their economic exclusive zones to off-load their catches in American Samoa.

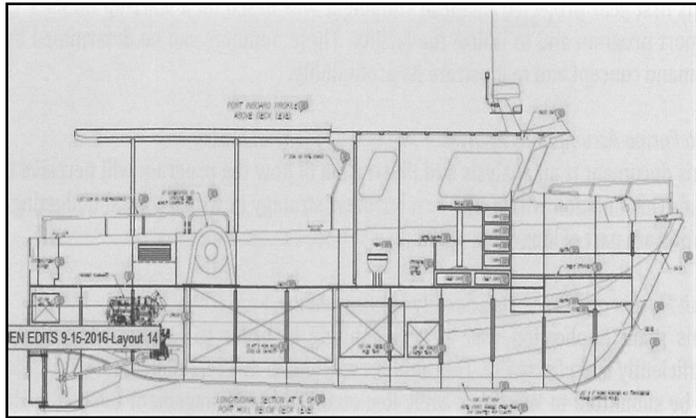
7. Local Fisheries Development:

The local fisheries development program in the Territory continues to operate in meeting its overall goals in capturing a portion of the economic and financial benefits inherent in the existence of the local tuna canneries, increasing its capacity for import substitution, strengthening and increasing food security capacity, and effectively conserving and managing fishery resources in the Territory for future generations.

8. Big Alia Project:

It became evident over the years that the existing capacity of the local *alia* fleet was limited in scope, especially with respect to the range of fishing ground it could navigate to access productive fishing areas. This challenge raised significant concerns over the years and soon fueled an effort by the Administration to design an appropriate *alia* fishing vessel prototype that fits American Samoa's ocean terrain and environment.

The super *alia* vessel project is currently on-going. A prototyped design was completed in 2016 and the American Samoa Shipyard Authority has been tasked to facilitate the construction of these vessels. The Shipyard has been working since 2017 to initially repair several of *alia* vessels damaged during the 2009 tsunami before moving in building the prototype super *alia*. This new prototype can extend fishing trips to 5 to 7 days instead of one day, and gives fishermen ability to fish further out of the 50-mile zone.



Furthermore, a grant application is now completed to facilitate the Administration's objectives of supplying fish to the local canneries and a Fresh Fish Export Market Program for the Territory. The grant proposal is currently set for submission to the Western Pacific Region Fishery Management Council in Hawaii with a total funding request of \$90,267.

The grant application proposal for the Fishing Methods and Quality Control Program training is also ready for submission to the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council in Hawaii. The requested amount of \$37,720 will help start a training and educational program for local fishermen on how to utilize both the long-line and vertical fishing methods, including specialized trainings to maintain and assure top quality in their fishing catches. This program is made possible through the collaboration and partnership between the Department of Commerce and the Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources (DMWR).

9. Fifty (50) Miles Large Vessel Protective Area:

Preserving the 50-miles of ocean area for small *alia* vessels is necessary to ensure the people of American Samoa can access fish resources for subsistence, especially during these economic times. Furthermore, harvesting of fish resources within the 50-miles protected zone must benefit the people of American Samoa through the access and sale of their fishing catches to the local cannery, or to support on-going developments of various fish export initiatives by the local government – particularly to reduce the importation of fish from outside the Territory.

The American Samoa Government (ASG) recently won a significant victory in establishing its sovereignty over the 50-miles Larger Vessels Protected Area (LVPA) by taking legal action

against the NOAA's U.S. National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS) and the Western Central Pacific Fisheries Management Council when NMFS proposed to reduce the 50-miles LVPA by 12-miles. The U.S. Federal Court ruling decided in favor of ASG. The decision is currently being appeal by NOAA.

10. Repair of the Damaged Alias:

The Tsunami of 2009 decimated many of the local *alias* fishing vessels. Fortunately, the Department of Marine and Wildlife Resource was able to secure a \$1 million funding assistance to reimburse these vessel owners to repair their damaged *alia* vessels. The partnership fashioned between the Department of Marine and Wildlife Resource and the American Samoa Shipyard Authority made possible to facilitate the repair of these *alias*. The work is currently on-going with six more *alias* vessels left for repairs.

11. Incentivizing Fisheries Development:

The Department of Commerce and the Department of Marine and Wildlife Resource instituted are currently collaborating to formulate a program with the basic aim of incentivizing local fishermen to increase their catches by showing an existing high demand for fresh fish. Additionally, the program also aims to provide a centralized place where the public can purchase fresh fish. The Department of Commerce had taken over the Fish Market Operation to entice fishermen to off-load and sell their catches. Nonetheless, the program is currently struggling because of operating barriers generating disincentives for local fishermen to use the public fish market.

12. Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point Plan:

The Department of Commerce is currently in the process of drafting a Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point Plan (HAACP Plan). This plan defines the procedures to maintain and control potentially hazardous food at certain critical control points during the food preparation or processing. All facilities dealing with food preparation and processing, including the DOC's Fish Market Processing Facility, needs a HACCP Plan approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). This would be the first of such plan developed locally by the government. Therefore, in order for the government's export strategy to begin, a HACCP Plan must be approved and the facility must be certified.

13. Planned Main Market Services Extension Construction:

The Department of Commerce is also proposing to construct an additional extension of the main market services on the west-side parking lot. The proposed structure will be set as a multi-purpose open-ended building. It will house the sale of fresh fish and seafood as an open market setting, as well as erecting a staging area for entertainers to perform on the First-Fridays and Third-Fridays at the Fagatogo Marketplace. The project will be funded by the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) with a total cost of \$160,000.

G. Other Economic Development Activities

1. Small Business Incubator Program:

The Small Business Incubator (SBI) at the Fagatogo Marketplace was recently established in 2015 in efforts to expand business development and elevate economic opportunities in the Territory. The SBI still remains open for operation and currently serving both new and existing small businesses by providing them needed office space to conduct their business at a low cost. About four businesses are currently operating full time at the incubator as of 2017.

2. On-going Infrastructural Projects:

The CDBG is currently working on completing several on-going infrastructural developments, as well as new projects for approval for its PY2017 Annual Action Plan. These projects include: Phase 2 of the Afono Elementary Playground (installation of playground equipment); Coleman Elementary School restrooms rehabilitation project; rehabilitation project for the Hope House at Fatu-o-Aiga; the Community Swimming Pool project; Manu'a High School Greenhouse project; and a new playground for Tafuna Elementary School.

3. Pago Pago Inner Harbor Development Project:

The final designs for the Pago Pago Inner Harbor Development Project have been completed. DOC is currently working on identifying funding sources for the construction and integrating construction into other development projects.

4. Community Facilities Facility Grant Awarded:

The DOC's Territorial Planning Division has successfully closed the awarded USDA Community Facilities \$19,500 grant. Final inspection was held on March 29, 2017, and all equipment was accounted for in respective divisions.

5. Solar Panel Grant Application:

A \$100,000 Community Facilities grant application to procure solar panels for the Fagatogo Marketplace has been completed. DOC is currently in the final stages of securing funding.

6. Tramway Rehabilitation Application Submitted:

A Community Facilities Grant application for \$46,000 to revitalize the Utulei Tramway site for educational and cultural preservation usages has been submitted. This will also complement the development of the Territory's tourism industry. ASG is also in the process of applying for a Community Facilities loan to construct the old aerial tramway system as a mode of transportation to the Pago Pago National Park. The application is a three-phase project – engineering study, feasibility study, and construction.

H. Territorial Planning Developments

1. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy:

The 2013-2017 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for American Samoa has expired on December 30th, 2017. The CEDS currently served as a guideline and directs the Territory's economic development to ensure sustainable and healthy growth. The DOC Territorial Planning Division has submitted a grant application to EDA for the development of an updated CEDS for years 2018-2022.

2. Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund:

A thorough audit of the Development Bank of American Samoa (DBAS) performance with the Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund (EDRLF) and the associated Administrative Plan has been completed. Improvements have continually being made in the maintenance and utilization of the fund at DBAS through on-going and closer working relationship with the DBAS Loan Division/ EDRLF staff.

Fidelity bonding is now secured since July 2017 to allow the EDRLF Program to resume lending. All conditions to utilize the recapitalization grant (\$600,000) have been met, and the DOC's Territorial Planning Division is in the process of promoting the program to the public, as well as receiving an 18-month extension on the recapitalization grant.

3. Capital Access Business Workshop:

An Access to Capital Business Workshop hosted by the DOC's Territorial Planning Division was held on July 27, 2017 to support the EDRLF and other financing program. About Five organizations (USDA RD, USDA FSA, DBAS, ANZ, and ASVF) presented their programs and services to support small businesses in the Territory. Other governmental agencies like the Department of Agriculture and the American Samoa Visitors Bureau were also invited to provide technical support and assistance to local entrepreneurs.

4. Economic Development Implementation Plan Finalized:

The Economic Development Implementation Plan has been finalized, which the Governor acknowledged as the Territory's Economic Plan for 2014-2017. All platform priorities will assist all income and non-income individuals of the Territory and will be fully endorsed by the Territorial Planning Commission (TPC). Copies of the finalized plans have been distributed to all branches of the Government, semi-autonomous agencies, and the general public.

5. Geospatial Information System:

One of the major milestones of the existing Geospatial information System is the Territorial Geospatial Framework Project and the purchase of the 3-Year ESRI Enterprise License Agreement (ELA) worth \$150K for the Territory. The software was successfully deployed to

participating agencies and departments to support the development of a centralized database that will enable data sharing amongst governance units.

I. Tourism Development

Economic diversification is one of the top salient economic development goals and tourism development effort currently facing the Administration. This goal remains elusive due to the existence of major economic barriers perpetrated in part by the “cabotage” federal policy, which not only created the existing air transportation monopoly but precipitated gross high airfares which in turn discouraged traveling to and from the Territory. Despite these thwarting impediments, the Administration has continued making strides to expand the local tourism industry through adequate economic developments. The following are some of these efforts by the Administration:

1. Cruise Ship Development:

Increasing the number of cruise ships frequenting the Port of Pago Pago reflects the brightest and most positive success in the Administration’s tourism development efforts. In 2017, about 13 cruise ships were confirmed to visit American Samoa, bringing in approximately 30,000 visitors to the Territory. At the average spending rate of \$50 per person and port fees, about \$1.7 million of new revenues were generated. There is confidence that more cruise ships will continue visiting the Territory each year.

2. Marketing Strategy:

Despite on-going challenges facing the Territory’s air transportation industry, marketing efforts are continuously being maintained by the Administration through the American Samoa Visitors Bureau (ASVB) to increase awareness and improve American Samoa’s profile in major tourist markets throughout the Pacific and abroad. Partnerships have also been established and maintained with the Independent State of Samoa given the number of airlines and flights serving its tourism industry and market. By maintaining the support and existing relationship with the Government of Samoa, the Administration is compelled by the hope that tourists and visitors to Samoa could be readily persuaded to extend their visits to the Territory. Furthermore, ASVB has finally completed American Samoa’s first International Air Visitors Survey aimed to generate information to create profiles of visitors visiting the Territory. Results of the survey are set to be released by January 2018.

Partnerships with the international media in both travel and trade travel publications have also been expanded and strengthened to provide more exposure for the Territory’s local tourism industry. The Administration has also continued promoting and pushing for more collaborative efforts among government agencies to work together in expanding the Territory’s tourism sector by hosting more conferences and events in the Territory like the annual Port Conference that was held in 2017 which brought participants from the U.S. Mainland, Micronesia, and other parts of the Pacific.

3. Tour Packaging:

To incentivize travel to the Territory, the American Samoa Visitors Bureau has engaged in the development of Tour Packages with airfare and hotel discounts. Hawaiian Airlines, Air New Zealand, and Air Fiji all participated in the program. ASVB has also partnered with the Hawaiian Airlines to offer a specialized American Samoa Holiday Package to U.S. visitors travelling from the West Coast. The package offers prospective travelers and visitors a total of \$1,800 in both airfare and 5 nights of hotel accommodation.

ASVB will continue to refine its effort in the future to negotiate and work in placing new competitive holiday packages with Hawaiian Airlines from the U.S and other international partners and markets, especially during key annual events like the Annual Flag Day, Manu'a Cessation Day, Independence Day on July 4th, the Moso'oi Festival, I'a Lapoa Game Fishing Tournament, and the Samoana Jazz & Arts Festival.

New international partnerships have also been formed with travel companies looking for new product, services, and destinations to sell to their clients, as well as strengthening partnerships between the two Samoa Governments as well as with the Samoa Tourism Authority, Samoa Airways (Polynesian Airlines), and Talofa Airways.

4. Visitor Infrastructure Development:

Today's traveler and visitors alike are always looking forward to a meaningful and unique travel experience. The appeal of several major tourist destinations in the Territory offers an opportunity for American Samoa to create a unique and memorable travel experience for those visiting and traveling from abroad. Also, American Samoa's uniqueness is punctuated by its culture and way of life, let alone its beautified and greenery landscape. Understanding the above demand for such traveling experience, the American Samoa Visitors Bureau has continued maintaining on-going collaboration with other government agencies and the local community to refine and build a tourist product with the right appeal that will lure visitors to American Samoa.

a. Hotel Development:

In spite aggressive efforts to attract investors to invest in the construction of a new hotel at the old Rainmaker Hotel site, the existing disincentives such as limited flights and high cost of airfares have effectively neutralized these endeavors. Even the declining number of visitors to American Samoa over the years further exacerbated attempts to construct a new hotel. Efforts aimed to construct a new hotel are ongoing and will be intensified in the future.

b. Air Transportation:

The stifling effect of the "cabotage" federal policy has precipitated collaboration between the Governor and Congresswoman Radewagen to articulate the disruptive effect of this federal policy on the Territory's efforts to develop its

tourism industry. This involves the holding of direct meetings and on-going correspondences with the U.S. Department of the Interior, the White House, and the U.S. Department of Transportation. In spite of these aggressive and joint efforts, it is apparent that American Samoa's plea has often fallen on deaf ears.

However, the Administration has greatly succeeded in ascertaining a 'cabotage' waiver for air services to the Manu'a Islands. The U.S. Department of Transportation is currently issuing monthly waivers to allow a foreign carrier to service the Manu'a Islands, in this case the Samoa Airways owned by Samoa Government. A proposed legislation was also submitted by the USDOJ Office of Insular Affairs, in collaboration with Congresswoman Radewagen, requesting approval for a 6-months waiver instead of once a month.

c. Cable Car Resurrection:

A collaborative effort between the Department of Commerce and the American Samoa Visitors Bureau have reached out to federal and private investors for investments to revive the cable car, especially when it was a huge and successful tourist activity in the past. The resurrection of the cable car project will continue to be promoted and advanced to forge the creation of a newly unique experience for visitors and residents alike in this current time and age.

d. Charter Fishing Excursions:

The growing and overwhelming success and attraction of the "I'a Lapo'a Annual Fishing Tournament" is continually attracting more visitors to American Samoa each year. In collaboration with the Department of Commerce and the American Samoa Visitors Bureau, the Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources have invested in expanding this annual tournament by developing the necessary support infrastructure and facilitating proper marketing strategies to lure more visitors to American Samoa during this annual event.

e. Community Initiatives:

Private businesses and individuals have also continued to invest in tourism related activities. The following reflects these efforts which are being supported and encouraged by the American Samoa Government, particularly of their contribution to the development of the local tourism industry:

i. Tisa's Annual Tattoo Festival:

This community activity is gaining international recognition and bringing in visitors to the Territory by the numbers. The owner has done a terrific job promoting this festival, especially creating the most memorable experience for its participants. The festival also promotes the necessary awareness and understanding of the

Territory's unique culture and way of life, as well as promoting the Samoan traditional tattoo or *tatau*. These participants also become the Territory's best source of marketing in incentivizing more potential travelers to visit American Samoa.

ii. Bed & Breakfast:

The rising cost of hotels is opening an opportunity for other local entrepreneurs to open "Bed & Breakfast" establishments. These individuals are seeing the financial gains to be made by offering rooms at reasonable prices for visitors interested to experience a true cultural living. This activity has just started with possible potential for growth. The Department of Commerce and the American Samoa Visitors Bureau are currently providing assistance to those interested to capitalize on this opportunity.

iii. Village Based Tourist Activities:

The Department of Commerce and the American Samoa Visitors Bureau are currently supporting on-going efforts by local villages to develop tourist related activities with respect to promoting the Samoa culture and way of life experiences. This activity is gaining traction with a high demand from tourist visiting American Samoa through the cruise ships. However, certain investments are crucially in need by many of these villages and families to further improve tourism activities. This includes the need for support facilities such as public restrooms and Samoan styled *fale* or huts along the beach areas to be used by visitors and residents alike.

f. Marriage Market:

To tap into the booming wedding industry in some of the most sought after wedding destinations in the Pacific like Fiji and the Independent State of Samoa, the American Samoa Visitors Bureau is working closely with the Department of Legal Affairs to amend local marriage laws to make it easier for foreigners to get married in American Samoa. Revamping the local marriage program will attract couples from abroad to share their wedding vows in American Samoa, and possibly opening new opportunities for the Territory to tap into this growing marriage market in the Pacific

g. Upgrading of Existing Tourism Sites:

Collaborative efforts between the ASVB and other governmental agencies and the local community to upgrade existing tourism sites are continually being maintained. The government is looking forward to provide necessary upgrades to

several existing tourism sites like the Tramway Site in Utulei, as well as seeking the assistance of private-public sector partnerships in identifying new sites that may be deemed vital for tourism development. ASVB is also looking into applying to the South Pacific Tourism Organization for funding to facilitate a Cruise Ship Visitor Survey in the Territory. This survey may be crucial to identify a much clearer picture of the true economic value of this visitor sector.

h. National Park Excursions:

The American Samoa National Park Services is doing a terrific job promoting American Samoa's national parks in several National Magazines. These efforts have also reached a great number of audiences abroad, as it featured and showcased some of the Territory's most pristine park destinations. Evidently, these park excursions have also increased a great number of visitors and park enthusiasts to American Samoa. In addition, the local Park Services has done a wonderful job in establishing access to all the national park sites with the construction of trails and access roads. Therefore, the Governor, through the American Samoa Visitors Bureau and the Department of Commerce, will continue providing an active support to the National Park Services and their ongoing efforts.

i. Marine Sanctuary:

The Fagatele Marine Sanctuary is experiencing a growing number of visitors throughout the year. In collaboration with the Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources, the Marine Sanctuary Office continues working to improve and maintain access and scheduled visitations to the site.

J. Agriculture Development

Addressing the importation of agricultural products and food security currently remains as the top agricultural goals for the Administration. In spite efforts to promote and advance these two objectives, agricultural imports continue to enter the Territory while food security is still below expectations. Thus, progress and work performed to strengthen agricultural development during the last Fiscal Year is as followed:

1. Import Substitution:

The Administration is continually working in increasing the production of agricultural products locally to prevent the importation of agricultural products from Samoa and the surrounding Pacific Islands. By improving local food production and farming, ASG will no longer depend on imported products to supply the local School Lunch Program.

a. School Lunch Program Initiative:

The Department of Agriculture, the Department of Education, the Office of Procurement, and the American Samoa Farmer’s Coop have collaborated on fashioning a process to increase the use of local agricultural products to supplant imported food products used by the School Lunch Program. The initiative also aimed in making sure all of the local farmers in American Samoa participate in the School Lunch Program, while ensuring they receive adequate compensation for their agricultural products.

b. Farm Restructuring:

Most of the local farmers mainly grow traditional crops such as taro, banana, breadfruit, and other root crops with long turn-over rates. However, the School Lunch Program is now putting more emphasis on vegetables. Asian farmers residing in the Territory have exploited the local market by providing and cultivating vegetables for a long time, including capturing the high demand of the School Lunch Program for vegetables in the past. To support and garner the interest of many local farmers as much as possible, the Department of Agriculture joined forces with the American Samoa Community College’s Land Grant Division to teach and engage these local farmers towards vegetable farming.

c. Increasing Agricultural Production:

The Department of Agriculture continues to cultivate arable lands in the Manu’a Islands to increase the production of traditional crops and other types of needed agricultural varieties. Moreover, the department is collaborating with the American Samoa Farmers’ Association to increase production by introducing better growing and maintenance techniques to expand harvest.



2. Food Security:

The Administration continues to prioritize food security efforts in order improve the Territory’s capacity to feed itself during time of a major disaster due to the breakdown in surface and air transportation, or an agricultural devastation experienced by the United States or other major food producing countries of the world.

a. Expanding Production:

The Department of Agriculture is cultivating government land on Ta'u Island to increase production of Taro, Banana, and other root agricultural products commonly imported into the territory. The same initiative is being implemented on the islands of Ofu and Olosega. The food security objective is also impressed on the local farmers; while the American Samoa Land Grant continuously engages in developing and teaching local farmers more efficient and safe methods of production.

b. Food Consumption:

While aggressive efforts are being pursued to increase production and expand the variety of agricultural products cultivated locally, due diligence is also practiced to ensure the products harvested are safe for consumption. Therefore, the Department of Agriculture, the American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency, the American Samoa Community College's Land Grant Division, and the Department of Treasury will continue to work on controlling the importation of fertilizers and chemicals utilized by local farmers to increase their yields in short periods of time.

c. Veterinary Clinic Services:

The Veterinary Clinic under the Department of Agriculture has completed their spaying and neutering surgeries for dogs and cats in the Manu'a Islands and Aunu'u in 2017. Spaying and neutering efforts has started for Tutuila since June 2017 and hopefully will be completed by March 2018.

IV. Economic & Public Infrastructural Systems

Attracting investments into the Territory, determining the quality of life of the people with respect to payments for government services, and profitability of local businesses is mostly influenced and dependent on the quality, efficiency, and reliability of the Territory's economic and public infrastructural system. The subsequent section summarizes some of the progress made during 2017 on economic and public infrastructures:

A. Docks, Wharf, Harbors, & Airports

American Samoa's surface and air transportation infrastructural systems are critical to the advancement of the Territory's economic goals, especially when over 90% of all consumable goods are imported and provides the exclusive support for the movement of passengers entering and departing the Territory. However, the following reflects the work done by the Department of Port Administration in collaboration with other governmental agencies to achieve surface and air transportation improvement projects:

1. Purchase of New Tugboat:

The Department of Port Administration has purchased a new tugboat to remain in full compliant with the United States Coast Guard (USCG), which requires two tugboats to escort big vessels such as tankers and cruise ships in and out of harbor. USCG has issued a final waiver to allow Port Administration to use one tugboat until a new boat arrives and sets to expire by the end of March 2018. The new tugboat is slated to arrive on the Territory by early January 2018. This new additional tugboat will further improve and minimize turn-around time in harbor operations and further enhance the image of the International Port of Pago Pago as an efficient port.

2. Service Wharf Refurbishing:

The Interisland Service Wharf in Fagatogo is ready for dedication once the installation of short power cables and other structural works are completed. Project construction began in 2016 and is slated to be dedicated early in 2018. This project will improve interisland services and enhance safety within the harbor as more docking space will be available for both inter-island vessels and fishing vessels.



3. Jet-A Fuel New Tank Farm:

The new Jet-A Fuel Tank Farm construction project is the Administration response to the long standing concern raised by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) over the apparent danger and hazardous proximity of the existing Jet-A Fuel Tank Farm located at the Pago Pago International Airport to the general public. The old tank farm will consequently be demolished once the new tank farm is built and setup.



The \$5.6 million funding for the re-location project was to come from bond proceeds. However, positive relations fashioned with FAA administrators in the Region and Washington D.C. led the FAA to fund the entire project. Project construction began in 2017 and it is forecasted for completion by mid-2018.

4. Runway Resurfacing:

The sole source contract has been awarded to McConnell Dowell to perform this project. It is anticipated that this project will be completed by mid-year. The project is fully funded by the Federal Aviation Administration.

5. Faleasao Harbor Dredging:

Unsafe passage into the Faleasao Harbor, particularly the channel, has compelled immediate dredging mitigation effort by the Administration to prevent any damages to the newly purchased government vessel – MV Manu’atele. The project has remained incomplete because of contractual and environmental complications. Subsequent efforts were mounted to ensure that the dredging of the Faleasao Harbor continues to move forward. To successfully complete the dredging project at Faleasao Harbor about \$1.5 million is needed. Nonetheless, the Administration remains hopeful that this project will be completed before the close of 2018. As long as this project stays incomplete, both MV Manu’atele and the MV Sili will continue to operate in very hazardous conditions and could sideline either of the vessels for repairs.

6. Removal of the Sunk Vessel:

The Department of Port Administration is working collaboratively with the Department of Public Works and other respective governmental agency to secure funding to facilitate the removal of the sunken vessel blocking the navigation route for vessels in Fagatogo. This is a critical project to ensure maximum use of the new interisland service wharf and there is tremendous urgency attached to the completion of this project.

7. Malaloa Dock Extension:

The demand for more docking space for fishing vessels prompted the Administration to construct additional spaces at the Malaloa Dock. After evaluation of different sites, the Malaloa Dock extension is deemed to be most practical and cost-effective option. The design is being developed and it is planned that construction will start the middle of 2018. This project reflects collaboration among government agencies such as the Department of Port Administration, Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources, Department of Commerce, and the Department of Public Works.

8. Container Yard Rehabilitation:

The condition of the container yard continues to deteriorate and funding is direly needed to facilitate a rehabilitation project for the container yard. The Department of Port Administration is currently working with the Port and Airport Users Committee to develop a strategy to implement necessary actions to upgrade the yard. New policies have been articulated to generate revenues to fund port rehabilitation projects.

9. Airport Apron Project:

After much delay, the rehabilitation project for the terminal apron at the airport was finally awarded to the McConnell Dowell for \$11.2 million. This project is crucial for the accommodation of the new Airbus plane utilized by Hawaiian Airlines to service the Hawaii-Pago route. The project is fully funded by the Federal Aviation Administration and it represents one of the projects funded from the \$31 million approved by FAA for airport related projects which include the following:

| Fiscal Year | Project Costs | Program Name |
|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2015 | \$1,000,000.00 | Reh. Apron (Phase I-Design);Reh.RW05/23(Phase I-Design) |
| 2016 | \$166,666.00 | Prepare SMS Manual and Implementation Plan |
| | \$333,333.00 | Conduct AMPS - Update ALP including AGIS data collection |
| | \$777,777.00 | Improve Runway Safety Area - Shoreline/RSA Erosion Protection |
| | \$6,000,000.00 | Rehabilitate Lighting for Runway 8/26 and Taxiways |
| | \$8,165,416.00 | Rehabilitate Apron (Phase 1) and Rehabilitate Runway 5/23 (Phase 2 - |
| | \$6,888,888.00 | Construct Parking Lot (Phase 1 - Relocate Public Utility (Fuel Tanks)) |
| 2017 | \$1,000,000.00 | Rehabilitate RW5/23 - Design remaining 7,000' |
| | \$3,364,172.00 | Rehabilitate RW5/23 (Phase 2 Construction (3,000 ft.)) |
| | \$555,555.00 | Construct Parking Lot (Phase 2 Design Expansion) |
| | \$150,000.00 | Improve RW8/26 RSA Erosion Protection (Phase 2 Design) |
| | \$11,111,111.00 | Rehabilitate Terminal Apron (Phase 2 Construction) |
| | \$39,512,918.00 | TOTAL |
| OFU AIRPORT | | |
| 2013 | \$166,666.00 | Conduct Wildlife Assessment Study |
| 2016 | \$900,000.00 | Conduct AMPS - Update ALP including AGIS data collection |

| | | |
|------|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | \$100,000.00 | Prepare SMS Manual and Implementation Plan |
| 2017 | \$500,000.00 | Rehabilitate RW8/26 (Phase 1 Design) |
| | \$1,666,666.00 | TOTAL OFU AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT INVESTMENTS |
| | | |
| 2011 | \$600,000.00 | Update AP Master Plan & Conduct Wildlife Hazard Assessments |
| | \$300,000.00 | Install Perimeter Fencing - Phase I (Design only) |
| 2013 | \$2,133,333.00 | Install Perimeter Fencing - Phase II (10% Match) |
| 2016 | \$100,000.00 | Prepare SMS Manual and Implementation Plan |
| | \$900,000.00 | Conduct AMPS - Update ALP including AGIS data collection |
| 2017 | \$500,000.00 | Acquire ARFF RIV |
| | \$4,533,333.00 | TOTAL SAFETY, PROTECTION AND OPERATIONAL PROJECT INVESTMENTS |
| | | |
| | \$45,712,917.00 | TOTAL FAA FUNDED PROJECTS INCLUSIVE OF LOCAL MATACH |

B. Shipyard

Improving and upgrading the current decrepit condition of the Shipyard in Satala reflects the Administration's recognition of the residual economic opportunity inherent in the presence of the fish canning facilities. Investments were made to improve the shipyard's capacity to address the repair needs of the purse seiners. With the future of the tuna cannery being threatened by federally imposed impediments, the future of the only shipyard in the Territory remains questionable, necessitating a need to fashion alternative strategies to sustain the shipyard's operation in the event the local fishing industry collapses. Some of these efforts and progress are described as followed:

1. Operating Statistics:

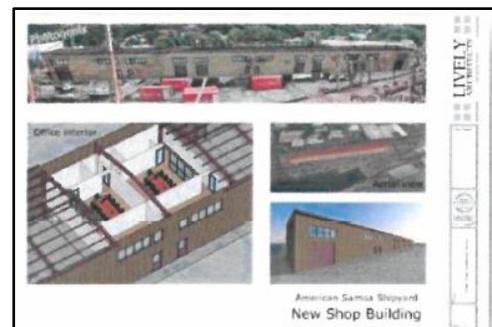
In FY2017, the American Samoa Shipyard Authority (SA) serviced a total of 16 boats of various types – 3 government vessels; 1 large private vessel; and 12 longliners. Because of the slipway's advanced deteriorating condition, SA was unable to haul-up a purse seiner in the previous fiscal year.

2. Financial Performance:

For the first time since the Shipyard became a public Authority, a complete review of its financial records were evaluated and assessed by a local independent CPA firm.

3. Upgrading the Facilities:

The Shipyard has secured funding from the American Samoa Economic Development Authority (ASEDA) funds to construct a 2-level facility to house its Administration Division, stock-rooms, and six engineering workshops. The new facility will replace the existing sixty-year old structure that has been recently deemed unsafe and dangerous for use.



The \$1 million initiative marks the beginning of the Shipyard’s efforts towards full restoration of its services to the public and industries (fishing, transportation, and maritime).

4. Shipyard Restoration Project:

CIP funds, in the amount of \$1 million, have been earmarked by the Governor to finance the Slipway Restoration Project in FY2017. The initiative is a temporary fix to the slipway until a \$6 million funding source is obtained to totally replace the 3,000-ton slipway as recommended by the Crandall Dry-docking Engineering Firm. The slipway is the primary revenue source for the Shipyard and the “flagship” of its whole operations.



5. Alia Repair Project:

The Shipyard has tasked the Alia Repair Project (ARP) in conjunction with the Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources. To rapidly return *alias* to fishing grounds and stimulate fishing activities locally, the Shipyard Authority agreed to utilize its expertise and available resources to repair all the damaged *alia* boats at the shipyard. The \$60,000 initiative has given the Shipyard Authority a chance to expand its services to this underserved sector of the fishing community. The Shipyard is expected to repair the first ten *alia* vessels within three months then followed by the additional remaining vessels.

6. Repair Services for Foreign Vessels:

The shipyard has also been providing service repairs to a number of foreign vessels last year. In 2017, the Shipyard serviced several notable foreign vessels which include the PV Te Kukupa – a marine patrol boat from the Cook Island – and the MV Lady Naomi from Samoa.

7. Going Forward:

The Shipyard Authority is in the process of developing a new “business model” Plan that reflects the extreme changes and challenges within American Samoa’s local business climate. To realistically turn the Shipyard’s operation around, the Shipyard Authority would need the “unconditional” support of the local government in all aspects of its operational efforts, including the endorsement of grants, the providing of direct grants and subsidies, and the payment of outstanding bills owed by ASG. To complete its action plan within 3 to 4 years, the Shipyard Authority needs a minimum of \$12.5 million to fully complete its restoration and improvement efforts of the entire shipyard. Based on its new plan, this amount could also be amortized to \$4 million for a period of 3 years or \$3 million for a period of 4 years.

V. Utilities

Utilities have a pervasive financial impact on every sector of the local community because each resident and business requires electricity, water, wastewater, and solid waste services. The government, the local community, and the business sector looks to the American Samoa Power Authority (ASPA) for cost effective rates for its services. The following provides a brief description on the government’s progress and on-going efforts towards improving the Territory’s utility services and operations.

A. Electricity

The cost of electricity is steadily edging upward due to an increased surcharge on fuel. However, the American Samoa Power Authority (ASPA) is working diligently to secure options to stabilize and reduce electricity costs – some of these efforts are described below.

1. Satala Power Plant Commissioning:

The 2009 Tsunami decimated the entire Satala Power Plant. However, the newly and recently commissioned 26 Megawatts Power Plant now provides a capacity of 100 standby power generations to electrify the entire island of Tutuila. The new power plant is also considered environmental-friendly due to its low sulfur emission content, greater power generation reliability, and efficient kilo-watt production. Supposedly, this power generating efficiency would favorably impact the cost of power and reduce the rate of power outages.



2. Solar Powered System for all Manu’a Islands:

The commissioning of ASPA’s solar powered electricity generating systems for the islands of Ta’u, Ofu, and Olosega garnered praises from across the globe for its innovative boldness. It is a monumental accomplishment and a great credit to the ASPA. Both PV solar systems have greatly minimized the hazardous condition of transporting diesel fuel to the Manu’a Islands and the high cost of electricity generation for its residents.



3. Pago Booster Station Repair:

The Pago Booster Station repair project was commissioned in January 2017. ASPA water crew repaired the broken check valve during the holidays when the canneries were on break. The installation of a new transformer, booster pump, and motor at the station is now up and running.

B. Water

Providing and maintain an adequate, clean, and affordable supply of water for the people of American Samoa is a long standing and on-going commitment of the American Samoa Power Authority. However, boil water notices for some of the affected villages remains on-going and often times the quality of public drinking water is tainted with high chorine content. The cost of water is also on the rise due to the deterioration and subsequent high rate of water leakage. Yet, ASPA remains committed to improve these endless conditions by upgrading and fixing several decrepit and old underground water pipes, as well as finding new water sources or aquifers for drinking.

1. Containing Water Losses:

Significant Water Loss of Non-Revenue Water (NRW) – the usage in the ASPA water system for September 2017 was 2,960 gpm, which is 55 gpm less than the previous month. This resulted in a NRW of 5,610 gpm (65.4%) for the month of August. Efforts in reducing NRW production resulted in more low-pressure issues in the system. The production reduction initiative has been put on hold until the NRW Taskforce is ahead on its efforts in detecting and repairing existing water leakages to help maintain good water pressure in the system. In its 4th Quarter Performance Report, the ASPA leak detection team has detected and repaired an estimated total leakage of 191,520 gallons per day (133 gpm) in September of last year.

Majority of the water leaks detected on water mains were on AC pipe joints with deteriorated gaskets. More than 2,900 leaks were detected between January 2015 up to October 2017 on 4" inches and larger water pipes. AC pipe joints accounted for over 70% of leaks on water mains. An average of 200 leaks are detected and repaired on PE service laterals each month costing ASPA approximately \$40,000-\$50,000 per month.

4. In-line Meters Construction:

Construction is on-going for in-line meters in Pago, Aua, Leone and Afao villages with completion statuses at 75%, 60%, 75%, and 55% respectively.

5. Increasing Water Supply:

a. New Wells Drilling:

Permits for the drilling and construction of Well 13 in Aunu'u have been submitted to ASEPA and are currently under review. The Contractor for the *RFP ASPA 17.020A* is reviewing the proposal for negotiations of contract from ASPA. A new well to replace Well 13 was originally sited at

Masefau but has been replaced with a new location on Aunu'u Island. ASPA has signed easement from landowner and the new revised SOW for this project, which was approved on August 25 by USEPA.

6. RFP for ASPA-17.020:

Bidding on the RFP ASPA17.020A for a well driller and construction manager has been closed since August 2017. One of the bidding proposals submitted for the project was from a contractor in Australia, and it is currently under review by ASPA's Procurement Office and Water Engineering Division.

7. Tramway Water Tank Replacement Project – Phase 2:

Phase 2 of the Tramway Tank Replacement Project RFP is currently being finalized for rebid. The awarded vendor did not sign the contract due to its inability to secure a Performance Bond. SEB recommendation was submitted to the Procurement Manager for consideration of award. All bidders have been scheduled for interviews.

C. Wastewater

Wastewater development is crucial to prevent the contamination of the Territory's water aquifers and ocean ecosystem. Unfortunately, contamination of water aquifers has been found in the Tafuna area. Despite the contamination, the Administration has strengthened the development of American Samoa's wastewater capacity to discourage and stop the construction of cesspool and septic tanks, which constitute as an additional source of pollutant to the local marine ecosystem and water aquifers.

1. Eastside Village Wastewater Collection System:

The Eastside Village Wastewater Collection System Package 3 project currently extends the sewer line from Atu'u to Onesosopo is nearing completion with minor items currently pending. Package 5-RFP has closed which will address remaining items to operationalization of this wastewater collection.

2. Administrative Order Inflow & Infiltration Project:

The Administrative Order Inflow & Infiltration Project which entails manhole checks has been conducted throughout the entire collection system. The Manhole Rehabilitation project has been awarded to ERRG. A total of sixty-six manholes have been repaired since 2017.

D. Operating Performance

The American Samoa Power Authority's basic performance deliverable aims to reduce the cost of utilities being paid by local residents and businesses. Investments in renewable energy reflect the government's attempt to lower electricity cost as much as possible; however, it

appears that the impact has been minimal. Nonetheless, ASPA has invested more focus in improving services to the people and businesses since 2013.

1. Financial Performance:

The American Samoa Power Authority has been making some progress on all its on-going projects during the fourth quarter of FY2017. Its total revenues were under budget by 10.5% year-to-date due to the decrease in fuel prices and unbilled grant funded projects, which directly affected revenues. ASPA’s overall expenses were favorable to budget by 10.3% mainly due to improvements in cost control measures. The total net operating variance as of the end of September 2017 is unfavorable to budget by 0.3% or \$128,178.

2. Better Accounting of Utility Customers:

From October 2016 to August 2017, about 12,232 customers have been counted with registered electric meters, 9,426 customers with water meters registered, and 1,078 customers with trash bins. ASPA estimated these numbers to rise by FY2018 as characterized by the following chart:

| <i>Service</i> | <i>Metric</i> | <i>FY2016</i> <i>(Actual)</i> | <i>FYTD 2017*</i> <i>(August 2017)</i> | <i>FY2017</i> <i>(Projected)</i> | <i>FY2018</i> <i>(Projected)</i> |
|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Electric | Meter Count | 12,304 | 12,232 | 13,344 | 13,480 |
| Water** | Meter Count | 9,400 | 9,426 | 10,283 | 10,385 |
| Solid Waste | Bins Count | NA | 1,078 | 1,176 | 1,190 |
| | Container Count | NA | 862 | 940 | 950 |

*Fiscal year-to-date as of August 2017

**Every water meter is billed a wastewater and ground water protection fee

NA - Data not available

3. Electricity, Water, Wastewater & Solid Waste Production Performance:

Electricity and water, including the processed of wastewater and solid waste, are continually being provided by ASPA to its customers. The table provides total production for the year.

| <i>Service</i> | <i>Metric</i> | <i>FY2016</i> <i>(Actual)</i> | <i>FYTD 2017*</i> <i>(August 2017)</i> | <i>FY2017</i> <i>(Projected)</i> | <i>FY2018</i> <i>(Projected)</i> |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Electric | Production (kWh) | 169,903,485 | 153,928,919 | 167,922,457 | 169,601,682 |
| | Sold (kWh) | 145,511,695 | 135,509,784 | 147,828,855 | 149,307,145 |
| Water | Production (gallons) | 4,456,500,000 | 4,108,700,000 | 4,182,218,182 | 4,527,040,364 |
| | Sold (gallons) | 1,784,435,510 | 1,547,377,015 | 1,688,047,653 | 1,704,928,130 |
| Wastewater | Flow (gallons) | NA | 1,046,190,000 | 1,141,000,000 | 1,152,410,000 |
| Solid Waste | Tipped (tons) | 31,682 | 28,093 | 30,647 | 31,000 |

*Fiscal year-to-date as of August 2017

NA - Data not available

4. Customer Services:

Customer service and responding and meeting service order requests are continually being maintained by ASPA year around. Refer to the Appendix for the number of service orders maintained and the types of customer service rendered by ASPA last year.

5. Ongoing and Future Projects:

ASPA is currently maintaining a vast utility system for all four islands and must undertake continuous efforts to improve and maintain. Refer to the Appendix for a list of completed projects by ASPA in FY2017, including on-going projects and project that will begin in FY2018.

6. New Operation Center Building:

ASPA's newly Operation Center Building in Tafuna is now completed and opened since July 2017. However, the Center is currently completing a few minor touchups. The remaining door for the Center is now installed and completed, including the installation of PV and workstations. A Punch list items rectification is 20% completed. Other remaining and on-going projects for the Center includes the installation of wall tiles outside of the concession room; wood termite/bugs rectification; and O&M manual and related closeout documents for process; C0#8 will be finalized later to cover additional cost until project completion.

E. Other Utility Related Accomplishments:

1. LED Lights Retrofitting:

LED lighting retrofitting program by the Territorial Energy Office (TEO) for some of the American Samoa Government departments and agencies have been completed. These offices include the OPAD Office, Fono Building, Veterans Stadium, Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Motor Vehicles, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, the ASCC Land Grant Portables, Department of Agriculture, Office of Archives, Office of Samoan Affairs, Feleti Barstow Public Library, Election Office, Jean P. Haydon Museum, Telecommunication Office Building in Fagatogo, Office of Public. LED lighting retrofits for some of the eligible families have also been completed.

2. Energy Supplemental Program:

Low-income households continue to receive assistance through the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program administered by the TEO. The program helps low-income households by paying a portion of their electricity bill, as well as offering crisis intervention services. Approximately 450 of household customers were assisted by TEO concerning their ASPA Electric Bill.

3. Energy Efficient Program:

Approximately 80 energy efficient refrigerators and 16 Air Conditioning Units were offered to low-income families under TEO's Weatherization Assistance Program in 2017. This program assists low-income families by making their home more energy efficient by replacing their old units with new Energy Star approved appliances at no cost to the homeowner.

VI. Telecommunications & Public Information

Connecting with the outside world is crucial to business, economic, and social development. It is no longer sufficient to sustain local internet connection with the outside world as the demand for speed or fast internet is growing exponentially. Streaming the internet for movies and music, as well as social media and other interpersonal communication mediums, is one of the contributors to accelerate demand for more internet speed in the Territory. Business applications stemming from the utilization of the internet have already been proven vital for planning and development. Therefore, the potential for industrial development is greatly dependent on the Internet and the maintenance of well-improved telecommunication infrastructures throughout the Territory.

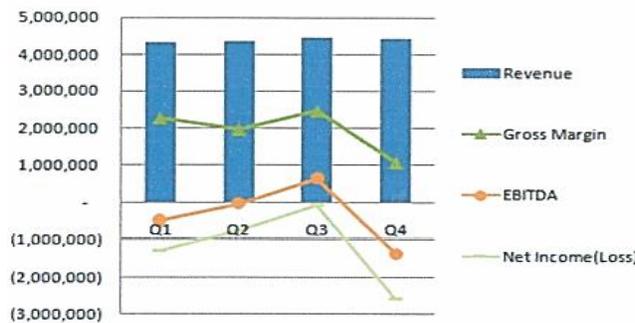
A. Improving Financial Stability

The American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (ASTCA) is making steady improvements in its financial position compared to 2016 in revenue, gross margin, and net profit. The Finance metric below compares ASTCA’s financial performance between 2016 and 2017, which clearly shows some improvement in all three areas, particularly in the final two quarters of FY2017.

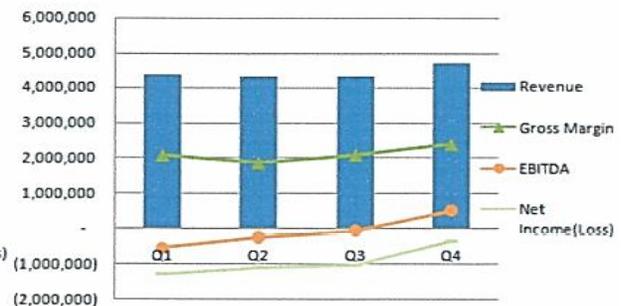
SUMMARY OF FINANCIALS

| 2017 Income Statement | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Revenue | 4,397,432 | 4,287,029 | 4,301,465 | 4,712,126 |
| Gross Margin | 2,079,670 | 1,852,858 | 2,083,197 | 2,393,518 |
| Operating Income(Loss) | (547,618) | (251,510) | (55,023) | 514,319 |
| Net Income(Loss) | (1,289,662) | (1,113,581) | (1,033,843) | (350,463) |
| 2016 Income Statement | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
| Revenue | 4,331,694 | 4,339,014 | 4,452,994 | 4,432,742 |
| Gross Margin | 2,268,788 | 1,967,869 | 2,463,728 | 1,069,772 |
| Operating Income(Loss) | (481,493) | (27,547) | 648,303 | (1,363,121) |
| Net Income(Loss) | (1,285,870) | (744,899) | (67,488) | (2,588,433) |

2016 Income Statement



2017 Income Statement Forecast



Cash controls were implemented along with the installation of more aggressive collection measures to maximize ASTCA’s cash flow in FY2017. This includes a controlled check run of cash once a week, set of tangible and financial targets for ASTCA’s collection team, and enforcement of monthly disconnection.

ASTCA continues to manage inter-department charges and requests. However, other ASG departments have traditionally put pressure on ASTCA to reconnect their services without payment, especially considering the detrimental effect of such request on ASTCA’s current financial position. Therefore, ASTCA is currently working with these departments to change this culture and habit.

Furthermore, ASTCA is slowly making progress in its finances but continues to face cash flow challenges. Accounts payable remains high due to insufficient incoming cash to cover its debts, as well as affecting the facilitation of CAPEX Projects due to the lack of funds. However, ASTCA has made recent efforts to strengthen and improve federal compliance and completing several successful and major revenue projects for some financial relief.

1. Improving Compliance:

ASTCA has started filing for the new RUS Loan Application, while continuing working with its local team to resolve issues around non-compliance with USDA Loan, as well as the large penalties with FCC filings and the lack of understanding on NECA Filing contributed to the problem and compelled the dire need to conduct trainings for staff.

2. Increase Sales:

To improve sales, ASTCA restructured its commercial team to strengthen not only sales and marketing priorities and commitments, but also to improve ASTCA’s commercial performance outcomes. Through such determination, ASTCA was able to show some improvement in commercial sales (as indicated by the highlights below):

COMMERCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

HIGH LEVEL COMMERCIAL METRICS

| Department | Objectives | Actuals (new monthly revenue) | Attained (%) |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Corporate Sales | \$14,000.00 | \$21,604.44 | 154% |
| Marketing | | | |
| ** Prepaid revenue | \$610,392.00 | \$610,918.00 | 100% |
| ** Minutes (MOUs) | 9,000,000 | 9,551,943 | 106% |
| Customer Service | | | |
| ** Answered Calls vs Abandoned | 95% | 80% | -15% |

B. Telecommunication Services

1. Mobile Subscriber Count:

Mobile subscriber count has increased by 4 percent within a three month span in 2017 due to aggressive efforts by ASTCA to boost its marketing strategy. ASTCA also reached a new milestone on its mobile prepaid sales of more than \$200,000 in a month, as well as launching more promotion efforts than before such as the Calling Samoa Promotion and the Bonus Top Up Promotion.

2. Electronic Top Up Initiative:

ASTCA successfully launched its new Electronic Top Up solution to replace phone cards. This system allows ASTCA to capture vital information on sales and customer demand in real time.

3. Improving Operation:

To strengthen customer service priorities, ASTCA successfully combined the old Operator setup into one Customer Service team to improve efficiency and customer support. It also implemented new and improved service level agreements (commitments to customers) for response times, installation times and outage repair times. These changes helps ASTCA measure and monitor both operator performance and help desk support.

To improve technical response services to the community, ASTCA successfully implemented a new process to improve its turn-around time for pending service orders and work orders when installing new services to customers, or when responding to trouble tickets. Operators for the 411 and 611 call service have also shown some huge improvements in 2017 as they met 80 percent of incoming calls from customers.

4. Building Top Notch Business Customer Team:

ASTCA managed to create a new team dedicated to business customers. This team consists of additional new staff being restructured and retrained to implement target tasks. An online tool called the Customer Relationship Management (CRM) has also been implemented at ASTCA to better manage its business customers and new sales leads.

C. Technical Operations

1. Hawaiki Cable & Related Projects:

The American Samoa Telecommunication Authority engaged in some key telecommunications projects that were initiated and strengthened since FY2017. These projects include the renegotiation of the Hawaiki Project to include 200GB of capacity; the LTE project to deploy a high speed mobile data network; financing for projects worked on with the Hawaiki,

USDA (RUS loan application), and the Retirement Fund; and the AT&T First Net Development which is still under negotiation between ASTCA and AT&T.

2. IP Network Upgrades:

IP Network upgrades have been completed for Leone, Olotele, Tafuna and Ili'ili areas. This includes a Customer Edge upgrade to eliminate CPU/Memory failure, which in turn caused performance degradation at certain specified areas of Tutuila.

Moreover full IP Network Audit of the BLAST (Calix) FTTX was completed in September 2017, while the O3B additional capacity of 50Mbps acquired and turned on for service.

Additionally, the IP Network upgrade plan is currently being developed to reduce network congestion in the Territory, as ASTCA is also working on a new submarine cable solution to remedy international bandwidth congestion.

To this date, all DSL customers have been converted to the BLAST fiber. Additionally, the new cell site in Vatia is now in service, as well as the Ofu cell site, which have been down for more than 10 months.

3. Phase I of the GP21 Project:

Phase 1 of the GP21 Project is completed causing larger copper cables disconnection from pole lines and underground conduits. These large copper cables have been shipped off-island for recycling. Phase 2 of the project is nearing completion, which entails the removal of the final and smaller copper lines.

4. Core Cell Site Towers Upgrade:

Most core cell site towers are in danger of collapsing during high winds. ASTCA is planning to replace damaged parts and/or full tower replacement in Tafuna, Breakers Point, Aunu'u, Olotele, and several others tower sites.

5. New Services:

For 2018, ASTCA plans to launch several new product developments. This includes the IPTV and the new Mobile Data plans. They also look forward in finalizing planning for the LTE project and the re-branding effort for a new logo.

D. Broadcasting Activities Purview

One of the priorities of the Administration is to maintain transparency and full accountability to the residents of American Samoa. The KVZK, under the administrative purview of the Office of Public Information, is continually being used to inform the general public on the works being done by the government and public news correspondences. Therefore, the following provides some of the work and efforts by of the Office of Public Information since 2017.

1. Organizational Transformation:

The Office of Public Information (OPI) has made significant transformation since the Administration took over in 2013. In FY 2017, OPI was able to air live-streaming programming of various broadcasting shows and programs such as the Annual Flag Day Festivities, Arts Council Performances, Graduations, Sports and games, and Church and government performances and programs – to name a few.

2. Program Live-streaming:

In February 2017, OPI signed a live-stream contract and prepaid for one year amounting to a saved of \$684 from the \$99 per month. They also began airing church services for independent churches that are not members of the National Council of Churches, as well as launching *Tatalo o le Afiāfi* (evening prayer) in the evenings.

3. Building Human Resource Capacity:

To address the lack of specialized manpower at KVZK, OPI recently hired, in partnership with the Department of Human Resources and the OJT Program, additional staff to work in video editing, camera operations, studio production, and a reporter.

4. Utilization of State of the Art Broadcasting Technology:

For the first time ever, the Administration implemented a full time TV coverage using drone video services of the 2017 Flag Day at Veterans Stadium, as well as the *fautasi* regatta. This effort required the use of six 84 Drone Aerial Services for ten days at the cost of \$6,000. OPI also created for the first-ever policy to accept monies as payment for dubbing service and copies of KVZK programs. These funds are deposited at the ASG Revenue Office.

5. Expanding Community Television Coverage:

OPI also broadcasted for the first time ever 10 out of 11 high school graduations via live stream, including Manu'a High School. The overall cost for this effort was \$38,000. Due to this success, more community programs and activities and interests have been covered live.

6. Financial Compliance:

After years of late annual Audit Financial Report filing, KVZK for the first-time ever received an opportunity and assistance to learn the entire grant management process from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and National Education Telecommunications Association at a cost of \$2,000.

VII. Public Roads and Facilities

On the onset of the Administration in January of 2013, a commitment was made to invest and prioritize more focus in the rehabilitation of the Territory's severely deteriorated public highway. This commitment continued to be energized each year and will continue until all of the Territory's public thoroughfares are fully rehabilitated for Tutuila, Manu'a, and Aunu'u. It is important to note on the number of completed and on-going drainage improvement projects accompanying several road development projects to further increase the life expectancy of the Territory's public roads. The following discussion provides some of these road works and efforts completed and on-going since 2017.

A. Public Roads Development

1. Road Projects Completed:

Some of the road projects successfully completed by the Department of Public Works include the Airport road and intersection (Route 014), the Island Wide Safety Project Pavement Striping and Signage, roads in Ta'u Island, installment of road guardrails from Avau to Gataivai, Route 009 at Afao Village, and the damaged parking space at the Governor's Mansion.

2. On-going Road Projects:

The Administration is currently working towards completing a number of other road projects that are currently on-going. Some of these on-going road projects include drainage improvements in Afono near the elementary school (50% completion); the drainage improvement project in Ottoville – Route 014 (15% completion); and Route 003 in Taputimu Village (80% completion).

Several of other road reconstruction improvement projects, as well as drainage, are currently within the designing phases. This include projects of the Agasi'i Bridge (75% completion); Route 018 – Leapaga Village Access Road (10% completion); Leone Village Access Road (10% completion); Route 013 – the loop road in Malaeloa Village (5% completion); Route 009 from Amanave to Poloa (60% completion); Reconstruction and drainage project for Route 019 – Fagaima Road (30% completion); Route 002 – Aoloau Road (currently pending); Airport Road – particularly driveways and drainages (65% completion); Futiga Intersection (currently pending); Route 009 – Failolo Village (33% completion); Route 008 – Alofau to Onenoa (80% completion); Route 009 – Amaluia Village (100% completion but pending an update from ACoE); Route 009 – Asili Village (97% completion); Route 001 – Breakers Point, Laulii to Fagaitua Village (100% completion but pending an update from ACoE); landslides project from Amaluia to Poloa (90% completion); Route 009 – Nua & Seetaga (95% completion); and shoreline repairs for Route 001 – Nu'uuli to Utulei (85% completion).

The pending Nu'uuli Village Road project has been terminated by convenience due to land issues. The Department of Public Works is currently working on a new scope of work and location. Furthermore, the designing phase of Road Improvement Project for the decrepit Route

104 that goes to the LBJ Hospital in Fagaalu has been completed. However, the original bid has been cancelled due to non-responsive of all bidders. The project is currently pending for another re-bid. Also, the drainage improvement projects set for Fagaima Village and the Fatu-o-Aiga Road is currently pending as it waits for funding.

Designing Phases for both road improvement projects in Poloa (Route 102) and Route 011 from Fagatogo to Satala have been completed. Both projects are currently pending a revision of Plans, Specifications and Estimate (PS&E) to forward to FHWA for final review prior to obligation of funds for advertisement.

3. Drainage Projects:

The Department of Public Works has completed the drainage and stream improvement project in Malaeloa Village. The project was constructed by the Samoa Maritime Corporation and funded by the Federal Highway Administration.

4. Bus Shelters Development:

Designing for the re-construction and repairing projects of various Bus Shelters and Pullouts throughout Tutuila has been completed by the Department of Public Works. The project is currently pending revision of Plans, Specifications and Estimate (PS&E) prior to issuance for advertisement. Also, the design for the Rockfall Mitigation Project of selected sites around Tutuila has completed and advertisement is currently in progress.

B. Public Buildings & Facilities

1. Current and On-Going Building Projects:

Infrastructural Building Projects currently on-going for FY2018 includes school buildings for the Coleman Elementary School in Pago Pago, repairing of the Governor's Mansion, the Shipyard Workshop / Metal Building, a new structural building for the Jean P. Haydon Museum, and the Auto Body Shop at the Nu'uuli Vocational and Poly-technical High School. Also, the new 2-story classroom building at Samoana High School is now opened.

2. Educational Facilities Being Designed:

Some of the improvement projects for educational facilities projects throughout the Territory are currently under designing phases. This includes the 2-story classroom building for Matafao Elementary School, a gymnasium for Lupelele Elementary School, and new 2-story classroom buildings for both Tafuna and Fagaitua High Schools.

3. Tafuna Youth Center:

The Tafuna Youth Center is currently being proposed for FY2018. The proposed project is a part of DYWA's plan to construct another facility based on the success of the DYWA Youth Center in Pago Pago. DYWA will work with the Department of Public Works to obtain the

USDOJ-OIA required NEPA Clearances. Total proposed CIP funding for the project is approximately \$2 million.

4. Legislature’s New Meeting Complex:

The demolition of the Fono building has been completed. A proposal is being prepared for a new 2-story building for the Fono through CIP at an estimated cost of \$2.9 million. This project is slated to begin hopefully by 2018.

5. Facilities Demolished:

The demolition of the Fono Building, as well as other buildings such as the Triple A Gymnasium and the Pago restaurant across from DYWA, has been completed in 2017. However, the current demolition of DPS Headquarters in Fagatogo remains on-going.

C. Community Developments & Services

Investing in community facilities demonstrates the Administration’s having a full understanding of the benefits and how crucial these community developments are for the people of American Samoa. Since its inception in 2013, the Administration has methodically build new and renovated old facilities to further improve the quality of services rendered to the local community. The following provides a brief discussion on some of these efforts and progress:

1. Community Development Block Grant Funded Projects:

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program administered by the Department of Commerce operates by Program Year (PY). For FY2017, the CDBG program achieved the following projects and initiatives within its PY2016 (July 2016 – June 2017), and PY 2017 (July 2017 – June 2018). Majority of these projects are 100% completed.

2. ADA Accessibility Initiative:

This is an on-going program that was established to assist homes to be more accessible and compliant with the American Disabilities Act (ADA). Upon a Fair Housing assessment performed by the CDBG, DOC discovered that most primary homes of disabled individuals were not compliant with the ADA. Through this program, the government is not only assisting community members and affected families, but also providing an opportunity to small construction businesses to be hired and perform the labor. The first batches of homes were completed in FY2017 which includes a total of nine homes totaling to \$35,040.14.



3. Afono Elementary School Playground:

In collaboration with the Afono Elementary School's Parent Teacher Association, the American Samoa Department of Education, and the Department of Commerce, a new multi-purpose court has been erected and built for Afono Elementary School. Total cost of the project is \$29,943.74.



4. Fagatogo Square Playground:

The new children's playground costing a total of \$87,640.87 has successfully been built next to the Fagatogo Square in December 2016 – a collaborated effort between the DOC, the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), and Fagatogo Village. An off-island company won bid for the equipment via Procurement Office, while CDBG hired local vendors to install these equipment and construct picnic tables at the site and DPR responsible in building the gated fence around the premises.



5. School Vans For Manu'a:

To address the lack of school transportation for students in Manu'a, CDBG successfully purchased two 15-passenger vans costing \$106,098 in 2017. One the vans have been given to Olosega Elementary School to serve close to 60 students while the other was given to serve both the Faleasao Elementary School (close to 130 students) and Manu'a High School.



6. Manu'a Fire Truck:

The Department of Public Safety proposed the purchase of a Fire Truck for Manu'a in 2013. The project qualified under the CDBG program as a public service. The Fire Truck is to be housed at the Fire Station in Ofu. DPS is currently training staff to operate the vehicle. The vehicle has been purchased at a total cost of \$147,420 and will be shipped to Manu'a for use.



7. Nu'uuli Vocational Technical High School Multipurpose Building Renovations:

The renovation of the NVTHS Multi-purpose Building proposed by the NVTHS Parent Teacher Association has been completed at a total cost of \$357,520. A full renovation of the building included installation of high quality car lifters and a paint booth.



D. CDBG Support for Non-Profit Organizations:

The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) administered by the DOC continues to support and collaborate with non-profit organizations and public agencies in providing needed services and programs to fight poverty in the territory, as well as promoting self-sufficiency, family stability, and community revitalization. For FY16, CSBG received \$976,675 which was allocated to 11 sub-grantees, some of which are listed as followed:

1. Hope House – Diocese of Samoa Pago Pago

This is the only respite care facility serving the entire island community. CSBG has been in partnership with Hope House for many years to ensure respite care services are available and accessible to the community, primarily for the disabled elderly persons and young people with special needs.



2. American Samoa Legal Aid (ASLA)

CSBG for the first time has allocated funding to this non-profit organization considering the need and services they provide and their target population. ASLA provides unique legal services and thus do not violate duplication of services. Many on island do not afford to pay for attorneys' fees but ASLA's presence on island can help alleviate this problem by providing free legal services to low-income people and the elderly.

3. Alofa Mo Meaola (AMM)

This organization aims to create and provide a more safer and humane community for people and pets through education, promotion of civic responsibility and compassion. They provide community outreach and education programs to help fight the increase of dog attacks on island. AMM works closely with the local veterinarian in providing services and programs to increase public health, safety, and animal care.



4. Emergency Medical Services

CSBG's financial support helps provide training and education programs for local trainees to become certified Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT). Upon successful completion of the program, trainees are certified and should be placed on permanent job status to man EMS work stations on island. There is a shortage of EMS personnel in the Territory. Thus, the objective of this program is to graduate enough skilled and certified EMT trainees to serve the community.

5. American Samoa Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

CSBG's assistance has made it possible for this non-profit organization to provide educational and hands-on training to the public on hydroponics, agriculture, and computer training. This training was a collaborative effort and support by the DOC, ASCC Land Grant Division, and some local businesses. Funding also provided the Coalition with needed training and education on computer and software use to expand their understanding and knowledge in computer literacy.

6. Department of Parks & Recreation Summer Program:

Through CSBG funding, DPR was able to fund five active sports organizations for their youth summer programs in 2017. These sports programs were opened and available to all kids and youth in the Territory. The aim of these programs is to help promote physical activities, healthy living and well-being among the youth,



as well as promoting and utilizing sports in combating the rise of obesity in American Samoa.

7. Boys and Girls Club:

CSBG is pleased to provide continuing assistance to the Boys and Girls Club of American Samoa. They have a variety of educational and after school programs to help kids and the youth become better prepared for the future. Their educational, tutoring, and counseling programs help build skills and higher learning so kids can attain better grades and be successful in school.



8. ASCC Nursing Program:

The Nursing Program at ASCC still plays a vital role and support in meeting the needs of the LBJ hospital and the Department of Health for highly trained nurses. CSBG continues to support the Nursing Program at ASCC to open up training and educational opportunities to local nursing students by providing necessary funding to accommodate the needed resources, training, and education of nurses on island. The model used by the nursing program meets all national goals of the CSBG program in elevating academic and educational skills and increase self-sufficiency in obtaining permanent jobs, which in turn stimulate economic growth.



VIII. Education

Improving the quality of education is one of the top priorities for the Administration. An educated population assures substantial growth for the Territory and empowers every resident of American Samoa to achieve their aspirations and dreams. A well-developed educational system opens doors to great opportunities. Since the onset of this Administration, substantial investments have been made to raise the effectiveness of American Samoa's educational system. Some of these efforts and programs are discussed as followed:

A. School Environment Improvement Projects

1. Educational Infrastructure Projects:

For FY2017, the Administration successfully completed the construction and renovation of several school facilities. These completed projects include the new 2-story classroom building at Samoana High School; the newly built gymnasium for Aua Elementary School; a newly repaired Matafao ECE Building; the new Fagalii Elementary School that was dedicated on August 2017; and the new multi-purpose court for Afono Elementary School.

Other projects currently under designing phases include the 2-story building for Matafao Elementary School, a gymnasium for Lupelele Elementary School, and new 2-story classroom buildings for both Tafuna and Fagaitua High Schools.

2. Financial Performance:

For FY2017, the American Samoa Department of Education (ASDOE) was able to received \$24.7 million from the USDOE Consolidated Grant – an increase of \$6 million from the previous fiscal year. The consolidated grant helps improved numerous of existing educational programs administered by ASDOE for public and private schools, as well as supporting and strengthening teaching and student learning services, professional development priorities and operations, technical services and support, and community efforts and services.

ASDOE was also awarded two federal grant awards from the USDOE Office of Special Education totaling \$6.9 million. Both awards provided necessary funding to help improve and strengthen vital educational services to all local school children with disabilities, and the necessary assistance and support for early intervention services to infants and toddlers with disabilities.

B. Curriculum and Instructional Improvements

1. STEM Subjects Focus:

The Administration continues facilitating various efforts to strengthened science and math related subject matter and field among local students and schools like the STEP-UP

Symposium coordinated by ASDOE and the American Samoa Community College Agriculture Community and Natural Resources Division (ASCC-ACNR) in the previous year.

2. Developing Marketable Skills:

The Certification Workforce Development project at Nu'uuli Vocational Technical High School (NVTHS) is now in the third and final year – a collaborated effort between NVTHS and DOC. Practical and theory *National Occupational Competency Institute* (NOCTI) tests were held earlier in April 2017. Since its commencement in 2014, no NVTHS student has received a NOCTI badge and/or college credit but marked improvements have been seen in the practical application of skills learned. NVTHS will take additional steps to improve students testing results by implementing after-school tutoring services on applied mathematics – an area that most students tend to struggle with. DOC will continue to monthly with NVTHS to monitor and provide support to the program.

C. Other School Infrastructural Support Efforts

1. Governor's Adopt-A-School Initiative:

The Adopt-A-School initiative is currently being maintained by all ASG departments and agencies. Each department and agencies continued to offer its assigned or adopted school – private or public – minor maintenance and repairing assistance during the summer. Majority of these classrooms and facilities among these public and private schools have been repaired, repainted, and beautified.

2. School Transportation System:

To accommodate the declining fleet of school buses at ASDOE, the Administration looks forward in purchasing four new school buses through the CIP funding. These new buses will further help accommodate and improve the transport modes for the school students. The total estimated cost for these four school buses is about \$600,000.

3. Teacher Reclassification:

The new compensation threshold policy articulated by the Governor raised the remuneration for all government employees with a Bachelor's Degree to \$23,000 and a Master Degree holder to \$27,000. Teachers' salaries were also adjusted accordingly to comply with the new compensation policy. Secondly, a complete salary re-classification of all School Principals has been implemented before moving onto the Vice Principals. All the specialty positions have also been re-classified will salary equivalent. The final position to be addressed under the re-classification initiative will be the school teachers.

D. Post-Secondary Education (Community College)

Not all of the high school graduates will have the opportunity to acquire post-secondary education outside of American Samoa. This factor necessitates the improvement of the American Samoa Community College program offerings to provide post-secondary educational options to the majority of high school graduates. The existence of the American Samoa Community College has prepared many of American Samoa's local students to secure a two or four year degree, as well as preparing them for the workforce and future careers. The following are some of the progress and program efforts made by ASCC in 2017:

1. Compliance with National Community College Standards:

The American Samoa Community College (ASCC) completed a Follow-Up Warning Sanction Report as required by the Accreditation Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) to address three substandard deficiencies noted in the Visiting Team's evaluation of the College in October 2016. The ACCJC released a memo in February 2017 indicating the Commission's decision to remove the Warning Sanction from ASCC and to "Reaffirm" the College's Accreditation Status. ASCC is also looking forward in submitting a Mid-Term Follow-Up Report by October 2018 as required by the ACCJC.

To meet federal compliance, ASCC has appointed a Title IX Coordinator for the College, which is a requirement for all school districts, colleges, and universities receiving Federal financial assistance. The appointment of the Title IX Coordinator will assure compliance with federal expectations and regulations on institutional processes and consistency are met.

2. ASCC Teacher Education Bachelor Program:

The ASCC-Teacher Education Department/American Samoa Bachelors of Education Program is nearing the completion of its 2016-2017 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the American Samoa Department of Education (ASDOE). This existing MOU enables public and private school teachers to obtain an Associate Degree in Elementary Education and/or Bachelors of Education in Elementary Education at ASCC. Therefore, both the collaborative effort between ASCC and ASDOE to clarify the needs and necessary measures to accommodate in-service/pre-service needs in attaining teaching credentials (certification/degree requirements), and the renewal of the 2017-2018 MOU for services is currently on-going.

3. Developing Trades and Technology Skills:

The Trades and Technology Department at ASCC continues to offer Apprenticeship and Workforce Development (AWD) courses for government agencies and private sector employees. Since its inception in 2013 to this day, the AWD Program has served a total of 558 participants, awarded 472 Certificates of Completion, and confirmed only 40 participants having found employment after completing some of the AWD courses.

4. Financial Stability Initiative:

The American Samoa College Research Foundation (ASCRF) held its 1st Annual Golf Tournament in June 2017 at the Ili’ili Golf Course. The proceeds from the event will be used for and providing student scholarships and professional development programs for ASCC staff and faculty.

5. Facilities Development:

The Multi-Purpose Center is nearing completion and will be dedicated on January of 2018. Moreover, continued maintenance is on-going to ensure that all facilities are accessible, safe, and conducive to teaching and learning.



6. Ensuring Provision of Quality Programs:

The Institution-set Standards has been implemented for its 2nd year at ASCC to define and provide measurements to determine the amount of academic content a student learns in a determined amount of time. The College’s defined standards and data statistics are used as a basis to focus the institutional dialogue on improving student learning achievement through the College’s assessment practices. It is now undergoing the review of its standards and institutional processes that will require the approval of both the ASCC President and the Board of Higher Education.

7. Community Activities:

Several of other opportunities have continuously being provided to expand educational services to both students and the overall public at ASCC. Some of these events and activities conducted since the past fiscal year included the hosting of the Domestic Violence Awareness Forums; a ASCC Samoan Language Writing Competition; hosting of Political Status Forum as well as the Sexual Assault Awareness Forum; and various internship opportunities for students with agencies such as the Federal Aviation Administration and the NOAA Okeanos Explorer – to name a few.

E. Public Library Services

The Public Library Services continues to supplement learning in the classroom by holding hands-on types of programs like computer literacy and literacy programs not only for the students but also for the adults. It has offered programs not only on maximizing the use of the Internet for project research, but also providing tutoring services to students. The following provides some of the progress and efforts in library services by the Administration since 2017:

1. Operating Statistics:

For FY2017, a total of 67,848 library users were served at the Feleti Barstow Public Library (FBPL). A total of 14,250 have been verified library card patrons, while a total of 669 new library cards were issued and more than 34,000 books were loaned to library users. FBPL also has recorded a total of 5,562 attendees for its Children's Programs; and a total of 14,462 attendees utilizing its Homework Club program.

2. Children's Programs Offered:

Children's Programs are continuously being offered at FBPL six days a week, while its Early Literacy programs are still offered twice a week for 0-4 year olds. The Homework Club has remained opened to students of all ages in offering a great opportunity to complete their homework assignments in a study hall environment with the help of the library staff. FBPL also has implemented Saturday Program called ABC (Activities, Books, and Crafts), which is currently opened to all ages and may often feature guests from the local community to present.



3. Preservation and Storage of Cultural & Historical Images:

The continued preservation and storage of cultural and historical images for public access has been on-going for the Polynesian Photo Archives at FBLP. This project has currently allowed FBLP to add chronologically from 1975 to 2011 through the addition of the Keith Dahl Collection featuring close to 800,000 Photos.

4. Ofu Community Center:

The Ofu Community Center continues to remain as a satellite branch of the FBPL. However, the operation of the Center is a collaborative effort between FBPL, the American Samoa Power Authority (ASPA), and the American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (ASTCA). ASPA provides the building, while ASTCA is responsible for the internet and communication provisions and FBPL provides the reading materials and staffing. FBPL is currently searching for a qualified Library Assistant for the Center and has been offered a space for re-location at the government's Executive Building in Ofu.

FBPL has also secured needed funds to upgrade its Computer Labs both at the Ofu Community Center and main location in Utulei. Also, through grant funding, FBPL continues to provide access to an Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) for several information entities in American Samoa that include the American Samoa Historical Preservation Office, the American Samoa Community College Learning Resource Center, and the Kanana Fou Theological

Seminary. The OPAC allows each entity to catalog their holdings for the public to view online. Together, these entities form the American Samoa Library Consortium (ASLC), with FBPL as the lead entity.

5. Annual Summer Reading Program:

The annual Summer Reading Program at the FBPL is continually being offered and maintained during the summer months. In 2017, the FBPL partnered with the BYU Alumni and ASCC volunteers to expand its reading program. In doing so, the attendance level for the annual program last year nearly tripled.



IX. Healthcare

Quality healthcare service is a necessity to any community and especially for the Territory of American Samoa because the nearest United States healthcare facility is Hawaii, which is 2,300 miles away and accessible only by plane. At some point in every resident's life, he or she will require healthcare service. The quality of life of the community is influenced by the quality of healthcare service received. In light of these realities, the Administration has since its inception on January of 2013 made healthcare service one of its top priorities.

Pursuance of healthcare service improvements is marred by significant challenges. The most difficult is the absence of adequate funding to finance a more comprehensive healthcare system. Most obvious case in point is the current desire to recruit U.S. Board Certified Physicians. The Territory could not hire these physicians due to the lack of financial wherewithal to cover their salaries. Availing alternative healthcare options off-island is again impaired by the lack of funds.

In spite the financial challenges, the Department of Health and the LBJ Tropical Medical Center continued to work to improve the quality of healthcare services received by the people. Documented below reflect the progress of the work done by the healthcare institutions to sustain and improve healthcare services.

A. Health & Medical Services

1. Encouraging Access of Healthcare Service:

Through the efforts of the Medicaid Office, the Department of Health (DOH) recently received a Medicaid Certification approval from the CMS. The certification allowed DOH to successfully waive the usual \$10.00 facility fee paid by clients and patients at the community healthcare centers.

2. Improving Access to Healthcare Services:

a. Faga'alu Primary Care Facility:

The new primary care in Faga'alu is completed with anticipation to help alleviate congestion and overcrowding conditions at the LBJ Emergency Room, as well as reducing the waiting time for patients to see a physician.

b. DOH Laboratory Certification:

The existing laboratory at DOH is now certified under CLIA Certification to perform moderate to high complexity testing. This certification denotes the ability to perform laboratory tests traditionally handled by the LBJ Tropical Medical Center Laboratory. With the additional laboratory at DOH, diagnostic services

can now speed up and terminating unnecessary waiting time and delivery of service.

3. Healthcare Facilities and Equipment Upgrade:

a. Operating Room & Labor Delivery Unit Expansion:

The OR/Labor Delivery Unit expansion and renovation project is currently working on Phase 1. This portion of the project includes all civil work, structural work, and erection of steel building expanding approximately 9,800 square feet of additional space, including additional space to expand existing services for mechanical and electrical system routings.

b. Dedicated Oxygen Manifold:

The new dedicated oxygen manifold has been installed for the Hyperbaric Chamber at LBJ. It no longer connected to the main oxygen distribution used by patients. This equipment is essential to improve treatments for severe cases of diabetes.

c. Reducing Energy Cost – Solar Powered System:

The new Solar Pane Project is currently underway. The PPA has been executed between LBJ and the Investor Hawaii Limited Liability Company of Hawaii. Site visit by the PNRS Board has been conducted and awaiting permitting approval. This new project will provide 2,500,000 Watt in total PV Array and 5,500,000 Watt hours of Battery Storage System, including CAT 1000 Kw Mission Critical Standby Generator Set and LED Lighting Fixture Retrofit or Replacement. The project will be financed fully from off-island investors.

4. New Healthcare Services Implemented:

a. New Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) Clinic:

The new Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) Clinic at LBJ recently opened to the general public since November 2017. It is housed at the Old Dialysis Satellite Unit location which has been fully renovated for the clinic's operations. The main function of new CKD Clinic is to increase patients' awareness of the danger of kidney disease in order to slow down the number of patients requiring dialysis services which is now very alarming.

b. Sexually Transmitted Disease Prevention:

A federal grant funding of more than \$200,000 to stifle and prevent sexually transmitted diseases in American Samoa has been successfully awarded to DOH as of December 2017. These funds will help beef up efforts to contain and to eradicate sexually transmitted diseases in the Territory.

c. Dental Services Access:

All the Community Health Centers in Leone, Tafuna, Amouli, Ofu, and Ta'u have recently received approved Medicaid eligibility. Patients are now able to visit these Community Health Centers for primary care, mental and dental services at no cost since September 2017. A significant number of children and low-income families visiting the dentists or the primary care physicians have increased tremendously ever since the \$10 fee was waived. With the financial barriers eliminated at the primary care level, ASG hopes more people will become more engage in preventive care and consistent care management to improve their health and well-being.

d. Off-Island Medical Referral Program:

The Administration officially implemented the Off-Island Medical Referral Program through the Medicaid State Agency with a local budget of \$2 million since November 2016. With the appropriation of this local match funding, the people of American Samoa can now be referred to New Zealand through the Off-Island Medical Referral Program, where it is more affordable. Medicaid will not only pay for air transportation, including air ambulance or Medivac, but also pays for all medical expenses for referral patients in New Zealand. The only cost patients will have to bare is housing, as CMS will not reimburse for that cost – at least for now. To address some doubts towards this new route and endeavor, the people of American Samoa should find great comfort in knowing that New Zealand's healthcare system is one of the top five best healthcare systems in the world.

X. Law Enforcement, Public Safety & Border Security

Public safety and protecting American Samoa's borders from human and drug trafficking, terrorists, and other illegal activities is of great importance to the Administration. To be aligned with social transformation and the severity of criminal acts perpetrated against society, the Administration has responded according to ensure the lives of the general public and property are protected. Programs and activities implemented during 2017 are discussed hereunder.

A. Police Enforcement

1. Building Enforcement Capacity:

To address the declining numbers among police officers at the Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Administration successfully launched and completed the recent 25th Police Academy, which was made possible through the successful submission of the funding application by the American Samoa Criminal Justice Planning Agency (ASCJPA) to the U.S. Department of Justice – Community Oriented Policing Services (USDOJ - COPS) for \$272,371 to hire twenty new police officers for DPS. These twenty new police officers have successfully completed the training and courses as set out in the 25th Police Academy in 2017.



With the number of police officers still in demand, DPS recently launched the 26th Police Academy. Through ASCJPA, the USDOJ-COP program granted a total funding of \$602,840 to hire twenty-six new police officers for DPS. With the successful completion of the 26th Police Academy in December 2018, DPS will be able to improve its manpower shortages and strengthen law enforcements services to the people of American Samoa.



2. Support Infrastructure Improvements:

a. Purchase of Police Vehicles:

Despite the stringent federal requirements and limitations placed on the purchase of vehicles from federal funding under the Justice

Assistance Grant Program, ASCJPA was able to maintain a collaborative effort and negotiations with the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) to fund a much needed Transport Vehicle for the DPS K-9 Unit.

b. Potential for New Funding:

The American Samoa Criminal Justice Planning Agency successfully submitted the FY2017 grant application for all of the federal grant programs under its administrative purview. The 2017 awards totaling \$3 million will ensure the continuation of existing criminal justice projects and to fully serve local criminal justice agencies and participating private/community organizations in the Territory.

c. Recognizing the Contribution of Law Enforcement:

The Governor has authorized the re-classification and compensation schedule proposed by the DPS Commissioner for the rank and file of the Police Bureau. Pursuant to the Governor's approval, the salary threshold of all new incoming officers should be raised to \$16,000 per annum. Based on this policy, DPS provided a synopsis of its proposal and estimated cost to re-adjust salary and wage compression of all wage earners assigned to DPS. The re-classification and compensation initiative is a milestone that was long overdue to these men and women in uniform. The increase in salary is hoped to provide the required catalyst to spur and encouraged quality service performance.

d. Establishing Pacific/Global Networks:

DPS has joined the formulation of the Pacific Nations Crime Network (PNCN) which consists of 17 island countries and the United States Homeland Security in the analysis of intelligence gathering, cyber-crimes, human trafficking, and the detection, disruption and dismantled of organized crime that has been impacting domestic borders and the Pacific as a whole.



Prior to joining the PNCN, DPS established a Transnational Crime Unit in the Territory with an active engagement in policy making and dialogue throughout the Pacific Region and United States. The taskforce will continue to

invest in field training and identifying rising threats to the National Security of all Pacific Islands.

3. Drug Enforcements & Firearms:

a. Drug Enforcement Campaign:

There has been a significant increase in presence of police patrol coupled with the support of DPS Vice and Narcotics Unit to weed out suspected activities that supports both narcotics and drug trafficking operations. As a result, public confidence has improved towards public safety officers and their willingness to provide tips and reports of suspected activities within their village and districts. Moreover,



DPS has launched simultaneous initiatives to include televised public outreach and daily highway enforcement to crackdown on highway safety violations.

b. Drug Free Work Environment Policy:

In support of the Governor's call for a drug-free workplace, DPS successfully launched on May 1, 2017 the Drug Free Workplace Policy. All DPS employees are now subject to drug testing. To date, the success of this policy has allowed for the resignation of



police officers who have opted on administrative separation rather than undergoing required drug testing. Their resignations have been accepted.

c. Arming the Police Force:

The Governor has authorized the enrollment and deployment of weapons for qualified police officers in 2017, especially to ensure their lives and safety are protected in the line of duty. Qualified police officers have been



selected and fully engaged in 80 hours of stringent and comprehensive course and trainings on utilizing a firearm, safeguards to prevent officers from accidental discharging a firearm, and the use of lethal force – to name a few. These trainings were conducted by Mr. Ernest Haleck; a retired LAPD Officer.

With the rise of illegal activities in the Territory, the Commissioner of Public Safety is fully invested to proceed with the safety and arms training of its police officers. These trainings will also include consistent psychological evaluations and the application of random drug testing to ensure all qualified armed enforcers maintains both mental stability and competence.

B. Homeland Security & Disasters

1. Establishment of the New Fusion Center:

The Governor approved the installation of a new Fusion Center for American Samoa through the Homeland Security Grant Program – LETPA – of \$215,000. Preventive maintenance of existing 48 outdoor sirens have also been completed, including the installation of radio antenna for the Territory’s Siren System, through the Emergency Management Performance Grant Program (EMPG) at a total of \$575,000.

2. Installation of the Surveillance Camera System:

The installation of surveillance camera system for the American Samoa Power Authority through the American Samoa Department of Homeland Security (ASDHS) is completed. The project is funded through the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) at the cost of \$82,000 as well as the Intelligence Gathering Equipment for OTICIDE costing \$25,000.

3. National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program:

Through the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program (NTHMP), ASDHS were able to purchase and installed Tsunami Siren totaling \$575,000 (share cost with EMPG). Also, seismic assessment of critical infrastructures and building code training were carried out through the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP). ASDHS have also conducted a Multi-Agency HAZWOPER Exercise Drill totaling \$32,000 and facilitated a Commodity Flow Study at an estimated cost of \$10,000 through the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP).

4. Training and Outreach Activities:

Valuable trainings and workshops through ASDHS to ensure outreach and awareness remains consistent throughout the Territory were conducted during the year. This includes Essentials of Community Cyber Security (AWR 136); Community Preparedness for Cyber Security (MGT 385); Promoting Community Cyber Security (AWR 135); 2017 SAR Survey

Assessment with USCG and Maritime New Zealand; Homeland Security Executive Leaders Seminar with CDHS; and the National State Administrative Agency-Training Symposium – to name a few.

5. Disaster Drills and Exercises Conducted:

Critical drills and exercises for the local community and at the interagency level were also conducted and completed through ASDHS like the Great American Samoa Shakeout Island Wide Exercise; CERT Program with Samoan Affairs; 2016-2017 Tropical Cyclone Workshops; Spill Drill Course; Airplane Crash Full Scale Exercise; and evacuation drills for several local government agencies and departments – to name a few.

6. On-going Projects Sustained:

Several projects are currently underway and on-going such as the pre-assessment and trainings for the pending American Samoa Fusion Center; a security system for the Office of Vital Statistics main database; purchasing of additional surveillance cameras for ASDHS; a security measure-fencing and camera system for the Office of Procurement; a supplementary equipment for ASDHS Electronic Grants Financial Management System (eGrants System); an Evaluation Route Mapping equipment for the Department of Public Works; continuity assessments and improvements for the Land Mobile Radio (LMR) System; Tsunami Workshop in Manu'a; Siren System Health Audit; and addressing the compliance requirements and implementation of the REAL ID Act of 2005 for the Territory.

C. Legal Affairs & Immigration

Enforcing all local laws and regulating entry into the Territory is important to the Administration to protect and ensure the overall safety of the general public and the sovereignty of the Territory over its natural assets. Major initiatives pursued during the year are described as follow:

1. Protecting American Samoa's Sovereignty:

Through the leadership of the Attorney General, the American Samoa Government successfully sued the Federal Government regarding an amendment to the Large Vessel Prohibited Area (LVPA) that adversely affected the fishing rights of local fishermen. The Federal Courts ruled in favor of American Samoa and struck down the amendment.

2. Organizational Restructuring:

The Consumer Protection Division and the Weights and Measures Division have both been re-organized. This organizational restructuring was undertaken for the purpose of creating service effectiveness in consumer protection services and ensuring that business comply with established weight and measure standards. This restructuring initiative improved the disposition of caseload backlog by 25% despite the shortage of staff.

3. Improved Immigration Accountability:

To further improve the efficiency and accountability of the Immigration Division, additional checks and balances mechanisms were implemented not only to streamline documentation process, but also to establish a more accountable and better vetting process for immigrants, as well as projecting a notable public image that Immigration Officers are beyond reproach thereby ending the perception of corruption.

4. Increased Prosecution of Cases:

In Fiscal Year 2017, the Department of Legal Affairs successfully increased its prosecution rate for sexual offenses and cases involving violence against women (total of 127 cases in the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Quarter).

5. Establishment of the Sex Offender Registry & Notification Office:

ASG has successfully established and launched the American Samoa Sex Offender Registry and Notification Office (ASSORN) under the Department of Legal Affairs. Additionally, the ASCJPA also successfully worked in collaborative partnership with the Sexual Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering and Tracking (SMART) Office under the USDOJ to formulate an acceptable version of the sexual offender registry statute to determine the Territory's full compliance with the Sexual Offender Registration & Notification Act (SORNA). On October 10, 2017, the Governor officially signed into law SB 35-12 which amended the American Samoa Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act to fully comply with the SORNA requirements.

6. Existing and New Projects Development:

The DLA is currently working in facilitating several pending and on-going projects such as the launching of a website for the department, an online permit services, a American Samoa Registry Digitization for all of the territorial records archived at the Territorial Registrar's Office, and improving the professional quality of the department by addressing the need in hiring more highly qualified, legally trained, and licensed personnel that would ensure ASG's legal exposure will be well mitigated.

XI. Social Development

All investments executed by the American Samoa Government are intended to generate benefits to improve the lives of the people of American Samoa. There is a sector of American Samoa's population currently living below the poverty level. Accordingly, the American Samoa Government has established a variety of programs and assistance to provide relief to these people. Thus, the Administration has focused much of its attention to expand existing services and established new service programs to improve the lives of the less privileged, the impoverished, and the underserved. The following section provides a glimpse of these efforts and services by the Administration to address the on-going needs of the less fortunate and special population since 2017.

A. Food Stamp & WIC Assistance Programs

1. Food Stamp and WIC Assistance Bonus:

The American Samoa Nutrition Assistance Program (ASNAP) provided a one-time bonus of \$80 for all authorized participants. The new bonus was administered in September 2017 monthly benefit.

2. Improving Food Stamp & WIC Assistance Service:

ASNAP is currently planning to complete the new \$2 million eligibility system (FADS) by August 2018. This project started in FY2016 and will replace the old system the Department of Human and Social Services (DHSS) developed back in 2000. ASNAP also plans to provide a justification to the U.S. Department of Agriculture to increase the monthly benefit level due to the increase in the cost of living in American Samoa.

DHSS has implemented the American Samoa Women, Infants, and Children Program (ASWIC) web-based paperless certification system (HANDS) at the Fitiuta and Olosega clinics. ASWIC is also planning to move from paper checks to an electronic system called the Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) to considerably improve services for WIC participants and to increase program accountability at DHSS. The EBT system will go live in April 2018.

B. Behavioral & Child Care Services

1. Behavioral Health Service Division:

The Behavioral Health Services Division (BHSD) at DHSS received approval and funding for the Opioid grant of \$500,000 for two years. BHSD plans to utilize the funds to prevent and educate the community on the dangers of addiction to prescription drugs.

2. Domestic Violence Service:

The AMANAIA program is currently implemented as an intervention program for batterers to help reduce domestic violence against women and to hold batterers' accountable for their actions and keep victims safe. This is a well-coordinated effort between the High Court of American Samoa and the DHSS Children and Family Services Division (CFSD). The program also aims to help batterers work towards changing their attitude and personal behavior so they would learn to be non-violent in any relationship.

3. Improving Capacity of Development Disabilities Planning Council:

Technical Assistance has been provided for the twenty members of the American Samoa Developmental Disabilities Planning Council. This is the first time all new Council members received training on their roles and responsibilities. Council members are responsible to advocate, educate and provide systems change for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

4. Tobacco Monitoring & Evaluation Improvement:

The Program Evaluation and Tobacco Licensing and Enforcement Division (PETLE) at DHSS successfully demonstrated and operated its new FDA Tobacco contract and received funding approval for FY2018 totaling \$147,378. PETLE is planning to submit proposals to the Fono to amend the current Tobacco law to cover e-cigarettes, increase tobacco license annual fees, and increase the legal smoking age to 21.

5. Improving Understanding of Mental Health

In July 2017, DHSS successfully coordinated and implemented a Hybrid Survey through its Special Projects and Community Assistance Division (SPCA) to gather information concerning behavioral and mental health and non-communicable diseases. The survey helped established a baseline data to better understand and identify the critical health needs of the local community. DHSS temporarily employed 26 mappers and 27 surveyors to facilitate this survey.

6. Combating Opioid Use:

SPCA is currently planning to launch its Prevention of Opioid Program with the Medical professions, including a submission proposal to the Fono to create a law for alcohol advertising to include warning messages.

7. Strengthening Operating Policies:

The Child Protective Services and Crisis Intervention Policy and Procedure manuals is being considered for revision by the CFSD with the assistance of the Capacity Building for States, as well as connecting the CFSD to the Behavioral Health's TAUTUA Electronic Health Record (EHR) system to assist with DHSS data collection for annual reports.

C. Other Programs

1. Mapusaga Emergency Homelessness Shelter:

The Mapusaga Emergency Homelessness Shelter (MEMS) overseen by the Department of Youth and Women Affairs (DYWA) is currently opened and occupied. The program provides homelessness person with temporary shelter at no cost, as well as empowering them towards finding and attaining a permanent housing. Between January and November 2017, a total of 24 people were served by the MEMS. Thirteen of them were adults (18 years old and above) while eleven of them were children (17 years old and below).

2. Homeless Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing Program:

The Homelessness Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) remains operable and well maintained under DYWA. The HPRP was created as a short-term solution to help those severely afflicted by economic crisis. It provides assistance to households who would otherwise become or already considered as homeless. In 2017, a total of six families were served by HPRP.

D. Community Efforts

1. Cultural and Arts Activities:

Annual programs overseen by the American Samoa Council on Arts, Culture, and Humanities (ASACH) remains operational. Over the course of FY2017, ASACH has been able to conduct its usual Annual Arts Fiafia Program, Annual Holiday Music Festival, Annual Flag Day Performing Arts Program, and the Children's Culture Maintenance Summer Program.

2. Cultural Preservation Activities:

For 2018, the ASCACH looks forward to facilitate the development and implementation of the following efforts: develop a program in which the traditional Samoan youth artist can maintain and excel in two or more skills or trades; artistic programming and funding groundwork for American Samoa's representation at the 13th Festival of Pacific Arts; and coordinating and correlating development (in tourism) with the local museum board, American Samoa Historic Preservation Office, the Feleti Barstow Public Library, and the Office of Archives.

XII. Youth & Women

The Department of Youth and Women Affairs was established to highlight the importance and role of youth and women plays in the future of American Samoa's society. Failure to develop this sector of the population only increases American Samoa's vulnerability to certain chaos. Therefore, the Administration has assumed a great responsibility to make sure the needs of the local youth and women are positively accommodated. These efforts and progress are showcased as followed.

A. Youth Development Programs

1. Community Re-Entry Transition Program for Juveniles:

The Re-Entry Transition Program for juveniles is currently ongoing and supervised by the Department of Youth and Women Affairs (DYWA). The program helps supervise juveniles who are transitioning back into the community to complete their parole time until they reach 18 years old and can no longer housed at the Juvenile Detention Center in Tafuna. These clients are closely monitored by DWYA as they move back to their families, particularly on their behavior and interaction with their overall community to ensure they become productive citizens. Violation of their set conditions will incarcerate violators back to the Tafuna Correctional Facility in Tafuna. About nine clients were served under this program during 2017.

2. Empowerment Program for Young Mothers:

To assist and prepare young mothers for employment opportunities, DYWA created a Teen/Young Mother's Rehabilitation Program. The program was created only for six weeks to assist and teach young/teen mothers with the necessary skills through certain courses on resume training, computer skills, job application and job interview trainings, communication skills, *lei* training, sewing, and cooking – as well as transferring them to continue their education or complete a GED from Adult Education.

3. Mulumuluga Veve Activity:

In March 2017, DYWA implemented the *Mulumuluga Veve* event. The two-hour event was a one-stop service location that hosted a number of service providers from both the private and public sector. This included organizations such as DHSS, ASDHS, DOC, ASEPA, NOAA, USDA, DMWR, OPAD, DOH, Election Office, National Park Services, ASCC, Red Cross, U.S. Army, GHC Reid, Nana's Company, Lion's Club, Alliance, Tradewinds Hotel, Panamax Pacific, Tutuila Print Shop, Uti Financial Services, and Argosy University. The event not only helped exposed several of these local service providers to those in the community requiring their assistance, but also a chance for the participating local youth and families to learn about these available services.

4. Samoan Culture Preservation:

In efforts to maintain and sustain important cultural practices and heritage among the local youth, DWYA offered a three months course on Samoan Oratory. This class offered and re-introduced the younger generation and older adults in learning the Samoan art of oratory and speechmaking.

5. Basic Computer Training Course:

Basic Computer Training Course over the summer months is continually offered to the local youths. About 15 students were registered and completed the course in June 2017. The course was again offered in two sessions in August 2017, whereby sixteen participants were registered for the 1st Session and fifteen on the 2nd Session. The basic computer course teaches students' basic computing skills on typing, emailing, operating of certain computing hardware like the facsimile and typewriter, job application and interview training, resume training, and the use of certain productivity software such as Microsoft Word, Excel, Publisher, and PowerPoint.

6. Annual Youth Leadership Forum:

DYWA successfully held its annual Youth Leadership Forum in July 2017. With the aid of the Department of Human Resources – Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP), the event brought in closed to 300 young people from the ages of 14-23 years old. The 3-day event focused on subjects of the Fa'a-Samoa, Health, and Sports.

7. Summer Youth Employment Program:

Employment opportunities for the summer for the local youths such as the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) by the Department of Human Resources are currently being maintained as usual. In 2017, SYEP was able to place more than 800 youth participants in temporary jobs during the summer at various government departments and agencies, as well as in the private sector.

8. Mental Health Collaboration:

The Administration currently pushes a high demand for DYWA and other respective government agencies to prioritize awareness and efforts in helping and assisting a rising number of youths suffering with mental illness. In collaboration with other government agencies and non-profit organizations, DYWA is considered one of the partners for the Mental Health Awareness Month during the Month of May. As a partner, DYWA provided support for the recent Mental Health Summit that was held in May 2017 at the Latter-day Saints Church in Malaeimi. The Summit brought presenters and experts from the medical field to help service providers navigate their work and services to reach out to the community and for those individuals with Mental Health.

9. Le Tausagi Camp:

The Administration conducted a 3-day *Le Tausagi* Camp at the DYWA's gymnasium on August 2017. The *Le Tausagi* group is composed of various ASG agencies fully collaborated in partnership to help educate and promote awareness of the Territory's natural resources. About 88 participants between the ages of 8-15 camped overnight as the group aims to promote awareness and educate the younger population of American Samoa about the care of the Territory's natural resources, as well as promoting careers and interest in the field of Ocean, Land, Water, and Resources.

B. Women Development Programs

1. Sewing Training Program:

Sewing training are currently being offered and maintained by DYWA for both women and men. Funds from the VAWA grant administered by the American Samoa Criminal Justice Planning Agency currently helps pay for the sewing training. Close to 50 participants registered for these trainings each year.

2. Culinary Training Program:

Culinary trainings are also offered to both women and men each year at DYWA. About three training sessions were held between January and June 2017. A total of 62 women and 5 men completed the culinary training and each received a Certificate of Completion.

3. Flower Arrangement Training Program:

Flower arrangement trainings are continually being administered and offered at DYWA. These trainings allow women to earn skills in flower arrangements to help earn some extra cash for their families. About 42 women completed the training and were awarded with a Certificate of Completion in January 2017.

4. *Elei* Printing Training Program:

DYWA also continues to offer the *elei* printing training program to both women and men. Between January and September 2017, a total of 45 women and 17 men completed the *Elei* Printing Training Program and were awarded with a Certificate of Completion.



XIII. Senior Citizens

Honoring Senior Citizens and recognizing their contributions to the Territory reflects the commitment by the Administration to strengthen government services to improve the quality of services for the elderly. Demonstration of this commitment is reflected in the institution of programs which has been sustained since 2013. These programs and their progress are discussed below.

A. Outreach & Awareness Efforts:

1. Identification of the Senior Citizen Population:

In FY2017, the Territorial Administration on Aging (TAOA) created an inclusive database of over 4,000 registered Senior Citizens in American Samoa, regardless if they are active or inactive in the program. The database has enabled TAOA to keep an up-to-date reference and records on all registered seniors to assist the policy-makers in making well-informed decisions concerning dietary and health needs of seniors and matters concerning TAOA operations, as well as providing AS Senior Citizen population data when needed by other governmental agencies.

2. Community Partnership Activities;

TAOA has engaged and facilitated many public outreach efforts since 2017 such as establishing a Community Partnerships/Community Tours with ASCC Land Grant, ACE Hardware, National Park Service, Department of Health, LBJ Medical Center, American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency, American Samoa Telecommunications Authority, American Samoa Department of Education, KHJ Radio Station, KSBAS Radio Station, Samoa News, and others.

3. Wellness Partnership with the Department of Recreation:

Partnership and collaboration between TAOA and the Department of Parks and Recreation is currently being maintained to promote health and well-being among Senior Citizens in American Samoa – resulting in the donation of a Ping Pong table for seniors. TAOA also developed a partnership with the Mission of Hope Ministries to access needed resources to support TAOA’s vision and mission.

4. Improving Financial Compliance:

The eight-month process of resolving TAOA’s FY2015 and FY2016 grant expenditures has resulted in the identification of previous actions and practices contributed to TAOA’s ‘High Risk Status’ concerning the Title III Program. The process has also developed corrective practices and procedures that must be implemented to ensure compliance, accountability, timely and accuracy in reporting are fully met. Thus, grant reporting through weekly, monthly, or quarterly reports to the federal grantor has now aligned with annual federal reporting requirements as required by all Title III / V Programs.

TAOA has even completed an overall compiling of its Title III Policy Manual to address and ensure all TAOA policies and procedures delegated for the operations of all its Title III Programs remain compliant. The manual is currently under internal review.

B. Support & Preventative Services:

1. Transportation Services:

Transportation services and other support services provided by TAOA for Senior Citizens are currently on-going and well-maintained. TAOA continues to sustain its collaborative partnership with the Department of Public Works to ensure dependable and reliable transportation through the Dial-A-Ride Program is available to all Senior Citizens in American Samoa.

2. Healthcare Services:

In collaboration with Title III D Preventive Health Programs, TAOA initiated a vast Community Outreach Program through its Title III B Program for seniors to explore and learn various environmentally friendly, healthy and safe-living practices at first-hand as presented by various government agencies and the private sector. This includes initiating field trips and exploration opportunities with the ASCC Land Grant, Tauese Ocean Center, Feleti Barstow Public Library, Museum of American Samoa, and the National Park of American Samoa.

To further improve commitment towards preventive health, TAOA continues to adjust and promote several health activities at the site. This includes the implementation of a regularly scheduled morning Hula and Tai Chi Exercise Program at the TAOA headquarter. These wellness activities not only aim to improve both health and well-being among seniors, but also strengthening their congregating and fellowship opportunities.

3. Care Giver and Respite Care Program:

TAOA Support Services Program is also working closely with the Caregiver program to develop further the Respite Care for Seniors Program. Through the Title E Caregivers Program, TAOA has conducted home-site visits to assess the needs of bed ridden patients and their Caregivers, as well as developing a database of Care Receivers and their Caregivers, conducting trainings and information dissemination opportunities related to caregiver responsibilities, expectations, concerns, and opportunities for support.

TAOA is currently conducting a survey of Caregivers island-wide to identify concrete data for the purpose of developing and implementing a successful program that will meet both the physical and psychological needs of Caregivers, especially ways to help reduce the levels of stress related to their role and job.

C. Employment Opportunities & Community Outreach:

1. Senior Citizen Employment Program:

The SCSEP program continues to offer and address employment opportunities and training needs for seniors at TAOA. More emphasis is now being placed on properly developing IEPs (Individualized Employment Plans) for SCSEP participants to ensure the planning for employment trainings and placements are well-aligned with employment goals.

SCSEP participants also continue to play host to a number of community groups and for a chance to demonstrate their crafts and skills of the Samoan culture. Through partnership with the National Park Service, passengers from all cruise ships are brought to TAOA to spend 30-45 minutes with SCSEP participants.

2. Cultural Support Activities:

TAOA continues to host a number of school visits to improve student exposure to crafts and traditional knowledge of the Samoan culture.

3. Advocating and Protecting Senior Citizen Rights:

The Administration has also taken further steps to improve the protection and rights of all Senior Citizens in American Samoa through proposed legislations. Therefore, a set of specific proposed legislations has been drafted and prepared for submission to the Fono for approval. Also, TAOA is now enrolled in the National Adult Maltreatment Reporting System (NAMRS) database. Its inclusion in the database will ensure American Samoa have complete access to all available resources to prevent neglect and abuse among Senior Citizens in the Territory.

XIV. Coastal & Environmental

Maintaining the integrity of American Samoa's ecosystems and environment is of great importance to the Administration, especially conservation efforts to sustain the environment and ecosystem for future generations to enjoy. This commitment is reflected in the number of programs which been implemented to accomplish the Administration's environmental inspirations since 2013. The following are some of the progress and program activities by the Administration towards the protection and conservation of the Territory's coastal and environmental priorities.

A. Fisheries Management & Research

1. Mechanism to Guarantee Safety of Fish Consumed:

A statistical framework has been developed by the Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources (DMWR) to track fish caught and flow through the local market – especially imported fish from the Independent State of Samoa, as well as sold by-catches from longliners and purse seiners. An analysis on the impact of climate change on near shore fisheries and fish stock relationships between Samoa and American Samoa have also been completed.

2. Invasive Species Plan and Wildlife Action Plan Completed:

Both the Invasive Species Plan and Wildlife Action Plans have been completed and developed by the DMWR, while audits findings from FY2009 and FY2014 concerning both NOAA and WSFR funded awards have been resolved.

3. New Fish Aggregation Devices (FADs) Deployed:

A total of two new Fish Aggregation Devices (FADs) were deployed in 2017 to provide local fishermen more access to pelagic fish. Also, the Shark Regulation has been revised to strengthen further protection of local shark species.

4. Portable Fish Market Established:

To assist local fishermen with the limited infrastructural facilities in selling their catches, a Portable Fish Market has recently been established to assist them with this challenge.

5. Promoting Interest in Fishery Conservation:

In meeting its commitment to improve the interests of local students towards fishery conservation and research, DMWR mentored closed to twenty young and motivated students to pursue Marine Science studies in 2017.

B. Conservation Enforcement

1. Compelling Compliance with Conservation Policies:

In FY2017, DMWR has contacted a total twenty four stores and restaurants island wide with 98% compliance, including achieving a 90% compliance rate in enforcing commercial fishing licenses (10% still unknown fishers without licenses). DMWR has also achieved a 90% compliance rate of roadside sale inspection and 10% after hours and unknown sellers – including social media advertisement.

2. Large Vessel Prohibited Area Support:

DMWR played a major role in assisting the Department of Legal Affairs to provide date and information to prepare for the federal court case against NOAA concerning the Large Vessel Protected Area (LVPA) or the 50-mile closure area set aside for the local *alia* fishing vessels.

C. Wildlife Developments & Research

1. Myna Bird Control Project:

The Myna Bird Control Project, which targeted three different species of myna, was successfully implemented by DMWR in 2017. They have also worked together with the local community on trapping activities.

2. Manuma Bird Breeding Project:

DMWR has successfully partnered with the Toledo Zoo to breed *manuma* bird species in captivity in order to determine a viable strategy to avoid extirpation of *manuma* populations in the wild.

3. Investments in Research:

About \$1.5 million worth of Wildlife Restoration funds have been allocated to provide research on specific wildlife populations in American Samoa, and the recent revision of the American Samoa Comprehensive Wildlife Strategy has also been completed.

4. Lease of Naumati Land:

The government has completed lease negotiation for the Naumati land with the Haleck family and the ASCCC Church. This lease will help preserve both the natural environment and ecosystem for wildlife within that area.

5. MOA Signed with Leone Village:

Preparation of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Leone Village Council for the cleaning of the Leone Wetland has been completed. This project was approved for

implementation in 2013 but was never materialized. Therefore, the MOA has been signed by six extended families of the Leone Village and funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior – Division of Fish and Wildlife Services for American Samoa to help clean the wetland affected during the 2009 tsunami.

D. Disaster Relief Funds

1. Projects Funded from Disaster Relief Funds:

Several fishery development projects overseen by DMWR are funded by grants from the NOAA/NMFS. Majority of these projects aim to restore damaged infrastructures during the 2009 tsunami. Therefore, flood lights for the marina in Fagatogo is completed, while the ice machine project for the marina is currently awaiting the construction of a facility to house the new ice machine that has already been purchased. Also, the construction of a trailer at the marina is completed to help haul alia fishing boats out of the water for repairs.

2. Pago Pago Boat Ramp Project:

Blueprints and plans for the Pago Pago Boat Ramp project have been completed with the kind assistance of the Department of Public Works. The Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) for this project has also been contracted out to a qualified firm. An EIA is required for federal and local permitting process before DMWR can start with the project's construction.

3. Rehabilitation of the Fagatogo Floating Docks:

About 50 percent of the repair works for the Fagatogo floating docks is completed. Bidding for driving ten concrete piles to make the floating dock more secure is currently underway.

4. Alia Fishing Boat Repair Project:

For the Alia Fishing Boat Repair project, a contract for the repairing of 10 fishing *alia* vessels has been signed between DMWR and the American Samoa Shipyard Authority. About 6 of those vessels have been repaired. However, there is still a total of twenty *alia* vessels damaged during the 2009 tsunami and will be repaired by the Shipyard. Phase I of the contract will include the first 10 *alia* vessels while Phase II has been set for the remaining ten vessels.

E. Environment

1. Implementation of the American Samoa Beautify Act:

The new Keep American Samoa Beautiful Act (KASB) is now in effect since 2017. Enforcement operations of the new legislation through the American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency (ASEPA) and other responsible agencies and departments such as the Office of Samoan Affairs, Department of Public Safety, Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources,

and ASPA have already begun. During FY2017, ASEPA has issued citations to a total of sixty-six violators from both the general public and business establishments for littering.

2. Establishment of the Air Emission Permit Program:

The American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency (ASEPA) has created and established its own Air Emission Permit Program. Since the establishment of the program, ASEPA via the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) has issued six Air Emission Permits. The air emission permitting program set conditions or guidelines for facilities to follow when operating an applicable air emissions unit. This ensures that any regulated emission source is operated in a manner that minimizes the emissions of regulated pollutants through the implementation of good air pollution control practices, which in turn helps improve the overall ambient air quality in American Samoa.

3. Targeted Brownfield Assessment Project:

ASEPA has launched its first Targeted Brownfield Assessment project as part of the USEPA Making a Visible Difference Program (MVD), which provided \$90,000 in technical assistance to rehabilitate contaminated soil at the old Rainmaker Hotel site. Despite delays with lingering debris, ASEPA and USEPA have move forward with the project contractor to collect soil samples to minimize uncertainties of contamination associated with the Rainmaker site so it could be allowed for future development.

4. Wastewater Disposal System Improvement:

For efforts to improve on-site Wastewater Disposal System, ASEPA has provided Technical Assistance to ASPA to replace old cesspools and approved the installation of twenty on-site wastewater disposal system in the Village of Malaeimi through the USEPA funded septic system program administered by ASEPA.

5. Styrofoam Ban Initiative:

ASEPA is currently working on gathering information and data to help establish a law to ban Styrofoam (polystyrene) products from the Territory. Polystyrene is lightweight and easily flies out of trash bins and landfills where it breaks apart into little pieces and often mistaken as food by marine animals.

F. Coastal & Wetland Management

The American Samoa Coastal Management Program (ASCMP) continues to balance economic development and coastal resources management ensuring resiliency and sustainability through the Project and Notification Review System (PNRS). Key specific areas that provide support for PNRS include the Geographical Information System (GIS), the Wetlands Management, Public Awareness, Ocean Resource Management, Environmental Planning, and the ASCMP Administration.

1. Additional Capacity Building Opportunities:

Additional opportunities for the GIS team to be certified in the ESRI products and software to be able to conduct training for the local GIS User's group was coordinated by the ASCMP. The GIS team have successfully completed up to level 6 certifications.

2. Inter-agency Support:

ASCMP continued to provide mapping support and create Tsunami Evacuation maps in collaborations with the American Samoa Department of Homeland Security and NOAA. Maps were created for villages within the inundation zone and are currently going through a review process. In addition, NOAA and ASDHS are working on creating a safe zone evacuation plan for the Territory.



3. Installation of En-catchment Nets:

En-catchment nets have been installed throughout several participating village streams and designated areas. These nets have been effective in reducing the amount of debris flowing into the ocean and are continually being monitored by the ASCMP.



4. New Data Base Established:

The older hydrography data is now been replaced by the American Samoa's new data, which are available for public access as part of the U.S. Geographical Survey's National Hydrography Dataset. The new data includes the official NOAA coastline for the American Samoa islands, a key mapping component. Local and federal agencies and organization are relying on the data for research and management application, and the new data are currently being maintained by the American Samoa Department of Commerce.



5. Wetland Conservation Annual Art and Tide Calendar:

To promote wetland conservation, DOC's Wetland Division successfully launched its Annual Art and Tide Calendar event. Art winners' ranged from grades K-5 to Grade 12. Usual sponsors of this important event include business sponsors such as the Hawaiian Airlines who helped shipped 1,200 poster calendars via their cargo flight at no cost, and Bluesky Communications who donated prizes such as gift cards and school supplies for all of the student winners in both the Art and Tide Calendar competition and the Poetry contest.



6. Expanding Community Partners:

In 2017, ASCMP recruited five more community groups to participate in the community conservation program where communities initiate a conservation project within their respective villages as part of their wetland conservation efforts. A total of \$5,500 worth of materials and cleanup supplies were provided to these groups to assist with their community conservation projects.

7. Expanding Interagency Collaboration:

A total of six agencies have been recruited to partner with the Department of Commerce in creating and developing a wetland monitoring council to manage and assess the Territory's wetland areas. Partnering agencies include the Office of Samoan Affairs, American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency, National Parks Services, Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources, Department of Commerce, and the Agriculture, Community and Natural Resources Division at ASCC.

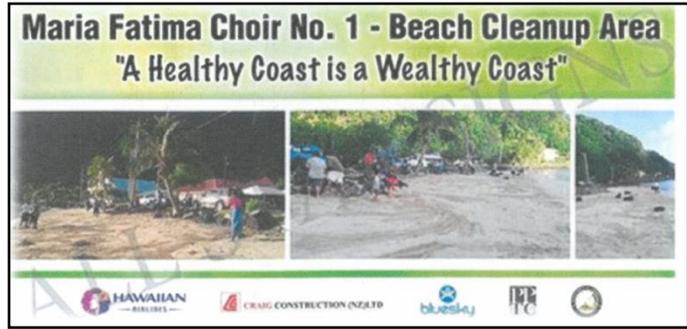
8. Collaboration with Leone Village:

In collaboration with the Village of Leone, ASCMP installed a total of seven wetland interpretive educational and awareness board signs that provides and display information and interesting facts about the wetlands of Leone Village.



9. Adopt-A-Wetland Program:

Through the Adopt-a-Wetland Program, the Maria Fatima Church Choir from the Village of Aua has partnered with ASCMP to installed one awareness sign highlighting the group's effort in taking ownership of their coastal cleanup project.



10. Annual Coastal Week & Island Wide Cleanup Initiative:

To sustain and promote on-going priorities of protecting the Territory's coastal areas, the Administration continues to maintain the annual Coastal Weeks event and a variety of other on-going events such as the ASG's Island-Wide Coastal Cleanup and efforts aimed in teaching coastal conservation and resource management through recreational events, coastal cleanups, and outreach activities. In 2017, ASCMP successfully secured \$5,000 from the Pago Pago Trading Company (PPTC) to leverage the limited grant funds for ASCMP and to ensure the successful implementation of this year's Coast-weeks and Fautasi Coastal Challenge.



XV. Disabled Population

The Administration remains adamant and committed to ensure that the quality of the lives of the physically and mentally challenged population of American Samoa are afforded the same opportunities and access of all government services, employment, and maximum integration and participation in community activities. The programs and efforts administered to meet the needs of the challenged population of American Samoa are reported as followed:

A. Disability & Advocacy Services

1. Financial Investments:

All eight of the Federal Grants Programs offered and administered by the Office of Protection and Advocacy for the Disabled (OPAD) were operable and maintained with a total budget of \$710,000 for 2017-2018.

2. Support Services to Juveniles:

Advocacy for the diagnoses, assessment, and treatment of students and adults with both mental and behavioral health issues at the Juvenile Detention Center, LBJ Behavioral Health Facility, and the Tafuna Correctional Facility are continuously been offered through the Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness (PAIMI) and Traumatic Brain Injuries (PATBI) programs at OPAD.

Members of the LBJ Planning Team have been empowered to promote rights and advocacy for clients being discharged into the community so that they receive appropriate medication, as well as community health follow-up and supports to cope with their illness.

3. PATBI & PAIMI Monitoring Programs:

Clients with mental illnesses within the judicial system are continually being monitored by the PATBI and PAIMI programs for appropriate treatment at the Forensic Clinic, the Department of Health, other government agencies, and private organizations, as well as conducting service follow-ups of these clients when released back to the community.

4. Interagency Collaboration & Coordination:

Collaboration between OPAD's Protection and Advocacy for Individual with Developmental Disabilities (PADD) program, P&A Voting Act (PAVA), and the P&A Assistive Technology (PAAT) program with the Parent Support Network continues to maintain to help train both parents and teachers on educational rights of students with disabilities.

Moreover, collaborative efforts are currently remains firmed between OPAD and the Department of Commerce's Community Development Block Grant in providing needed

accessibility services among homes and schools. OPAD is also facilitating on-going collaborative efforts with the Election Office for accessible polling stations throughout Tutuila and Manu'a to better assist those with disabilities during the election season.

5. Enforcing Compliance with Existing Laws:

Trainings on the Parking legislation and citing of disability parking violation at OPAD have been completed. A Field Representative has also been hired to administer all of OPAD's eight federal programs in the Manu'a Islands.

B. Vocational Rehabilitation Services

1. Independent Living Program:

The Independent Living Program (IL) and the Older Blind Program (OBP) administered by the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) are 100 percent federally funded. In FY2017, both programs gratefully received its respective grant awards. About 388 caseloads were dealt by the IL services and 75 new customers during FY2017, while the Older Blind Program dealt with a total of 102 caseloads.

2. Assistive Technology Support:

Medical equipment and supplies such as wheelchairs, grab bars, hand rails, crutches, shower chairs and hospital beds were continually being provided by OVR to several of its consumers requesting assistance for mobility and accessibility, while referring clients requesting home modification and accessibility assistances for wheelchair ramps to the Department of Commerce.

3. Interagency Collaboration for Employment Opportunities:

Partnership revolving around the Title IV of the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) Act of 2016 between OVR, the Department of Human Resources (DHR), and the American Samoa Community College Adult Education continues to progress and maintained.

4. School-To-Work Transition Program:

School-to-Work transition in the past has been deemed and recognized as inadequate. In 2017, OVR worked together with the American Samoa Department of Education Special Education Division (SPED) and the DHR-WIOA to identify crucial services to improve challenges with School-to-Work transition. By addressing these issues, OVR was able to place thirty disabled students in training venues with students their own age. The OVR and SPED are also presently working on coordinating their services to improve more parental participation, universal design and access to mainstream school technology, and share funding of activities and improving student rights.

5. Educational Opportunities Collaboration:

OVR and the American Samoa Department of Education (ASDOE) have continued collaborating in working together since 2017 to address key issues of identifying appropriate training sites for transitioning students as they exit secondary education and start looking for employment.

6. Assistive Technology Program:

The American Samoa Assistive Technology Program (AT) has for many years worked with other agencies and the private sector to organize, establish, and maintain accessible computer labs for the special needs community. Through collaboration with DYWA, the AT Program was able to place two computers at DYWA's existing computer lab in Pago Pago. These two computers are fully accessible to all with the emphasis on Special Needs community and have specialized software installed to assist those with mobility issues and the visually impaired. Other computers are installed at the Executive Office Building in Utulei, the OVR headquarters at the Lion's Park Industrial Area, and the Executive Office Building in Ta'u, Manu'a.

7. Addressing Special Population Rights under Homeland Security Perspective:

OVR is currently working with the American Samoa Department of Homeland Security to facilitate important discussions of public issues such as the safety of individuals with special needs during natural disasters. OVR expresses a number of concerns regarding the ability of people with disabilities to obtain key security information or to participate fully in community responses to emergency situations.

XVI. Manu'a Developments

For years, the residents of Manu'a have been grossly underserved with the lack of public facilities and other infrastructural mechanisms, unreliable and infrequent surface and air transportation systems, healthcare services, educational services, business services and many other challenges. With the inception of the Lolo-Lemanu Administration on January 3, 2013, major investments have been made to mitigate these challenges. The section as followed identifies several continued efforts by the Administration in 2017 to improve social and economic conditions on the Manu'a Islands.

A. Air & Surface Transportation

1. Air Services:

Air services are continually being maintained by Samoa Airways (Polynesian) through an approved cabotage waiver of one month. Flights are currently being operated to both Fitiuta and Ofu Airports. The Administration is still seeking and exploring for other airline services to accommodate this route.

2. Surface Transportation:

Surface transportations are continually being maintained by both the MV Sili and the newly christened MV Manu'a Tele Vessel which made its maiden voyage to the Manu'a Islands in October 2016. Trips to the Manu'a Islands are continually being maintained and scheduled by the Port Administration. Although freight charges were waived for four years since 2013 to accommodate the lack of transportation needs and the increasing cost of living for residents of the Manu'a District, ASG has decided to reinstate fees and freight charges with the acquiring of the new Manu'a vessel in 2017, as well as a way to financially maintain both ocean vessels.

B. Other Developments:

1. New PV Hybrid System on Ofu:

The new PV hybrid system in Ofu has officially opened in 2017 (Phase 1). Total cost of the project was \$2.5 million. Phase 1 of the project called for the installation of a 350kW Solar PV Array and a 250 kW/1,000 kWh Battery Storage System and will supply 80% of Ofu power needs. Phase 2 is currently on-going with the installation of another 150kW PV Panels and a 500kWh of storage batteries. The pending completion of Phase 2 will allow Ofu to



increase solar energy by 100% power.

2. New Executive Office of Ofu:

The construction of the new government Executive Office Building in Ofu is completed. Construction started in 2012. Construction started in 2012 and the entire project is locally funded. The 2-story building is made of reinforced concrete with *cmu* walls structure, wood roof trusses with metal roofing, and louver windows with security mesh. Total flooring area of the entire structure is 11,920 sq. ft.



(120' length x 48' wide with 20' x 20' drop off area). First floor consists of seven (7) ASG offices, Lobby, a Kitchen/Dinning area, and lavatories. Second floor consists of the Governor's suite and offices, four (4) ASG offices, Conference Room, and lavatories. There is also a Samoan fale situated on the left side of the building with all paved driveway on both front and back.

3. New School Vans Purchased:

Two new school vans have been purchased for both the Olosega Elementary School and the Faleasao Elementary School (also serving Manu'a High School).

4. Faleasao Harbor Dredging:

Faleasao Wharf was dredged in late 2016 but due to limited funding and poor weather the project was not completed. ASG is looking forward to resume its dredging effort of the wharf hopefully by January 2018 with a proposed CIP funding cost of \$1 million.

APPENDIX

APPENDIX I
Number of Service Orders and Inspections by ASPA (FY2017)

| <i>Service</i> | <i>Description</i> | <i>FY2017 (Actual)</i> | <i>FY2018 (Projected)</i> |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Electric | Claim Damage Service Order | 5 | 5 |
| | Debit Meter Release | 458 | 463 |
| | Debit Meter Trouble Call | 494 | 499 |
| | Disco Service-(Inactive Acct/Repairs) | 177 | 179 |
| | Disconnect Service Order | 1107 | 1118 |
| | Disconnect Streetlight Service Order | 59 | 60 |
| | EI-Wire/Service Line Related Emergency | 1122 | 1133 |
| | Electric Meter Calibration/Test And Chk | 30 | 30 |
| | Energy Audit Service Order | 57 | 58 |
| | Estimate For Meter Relocation | 80 | 81 |
| | Estimate For New Installation | 321 | 324 |
| | Estimate For Pole Replacement/Relocation | 118 | 119 |
| | Estimate-Service Upgrade/Downgrade | 22 | 22 |
| | Estimates Service Order | 60 | 61 |
| | Flood Light Service Order | 43 | 43 |
| | Meter Change Service Order | 826 | 834 |
| | Meter Relocation Service Order | 53 | 54 |
| | New Streetlight Service Order | 23 | 23 |
| | Pim For Service Connection | 415 | 419 |
| | Pole Maintenance | 123 | 124 |
| | Pole Maintenance Service Order | 13 | 13 |
| | Streetlight Repair Service Order | 1354 | 1368 |
| | Temporary Switch | 39 | 39 |
| | Tree Trimming Service Order | 473 | 478 |
| | Trouble Call Fire - 911 All Respond | 11 | 11 |
| | Upgrade Service (1wire/3wire) | 3 | 3 |
| Water | Back Flow Assembly - Inspection | 10 | 10 |
| | Estimate For Meter Relocation | 68 | 69 |
| | Estimate For New Installation | 205 | 207 |
| | Estimate-Service Upgrade/Downgrade | 17 | 17 |
| | Fire Hydrant Rental Service Order | 4 | 4 |
| | General Service Order | 17 | 17 |
| | Meter Change Service Order | 287 | 290 |
| | Pim For Service Connection | 427 | 431 |
| | TC9-Referred To Contractor For Water Div | 39 | 39 |
| | Water Line Improvements | 14 | 14 |
| | Water Meter Raise Up Service Order | 38 | 38 |
| | Water Meter Upgrade/Downgrade | 10 | 10 |
| | Water Repair Work | 638 | 644 |
| | Wu - Meter Faults | 12 | 12 |
| | Wu - Water Quality | 214 | 216 |
| | Wu - 1068 Low Pressure/No Water | 1623 | 1639 |
| Wu - 1069 Busted Water Line | 2919 | 2948 | |
| Wastewater | Honeywagon Service Order | 531 | 536 |
| | Septic Tank Inspection - Phase 1 | 18 | 18 |
| | Sewer Backup Call | 137 | 138 |
| | Sewer Busted Line | 26 | 26 |
| | Sewer Connection - Phase 1 | 4 | 4 |

APPENDIX II
Status of On-going & Pending ASPA Projects (FY2017)

| <i>Service</i> | <i>Description</i> | <i>Cost</i> | <i>Status</i> | <i>Start Date</i> | <i>End Date</i> |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Electric | Ta'u Hybrid System | | Commissioned – 11/2016 | | |
| | 24.5 MW Satala Power Plant Replacement Project | 52,000,000 | Commissioned – 5/2017 | | |
| | Ofu Hybrid System | | | | |
| | ▪ Phase-I. 341 kW PV Array with 1,050 kWh Battery Storage | 2,522,000 | Commissioned – 5/2017 | | |
| | ▪ Phase-II. 150 kWh PV Array with 1,000 kWh Battery Storage | 1,025,488 | | 10/2017 | 10/2018 |
| | 34.5 KV Satala/ Tafuna Power Plant Tie-Line Upgrade (5.0 MW to 10.0 MW) | 500,000 | Commissioned – 6/2017 | | |
| | Ottoville 13.2kv Underground Distribution Line Project: | 2,400,000 | | 5/2017 | 6/2018 |
| | Aunu'u Submarine Cable Project | 292,000 | | 11/2017 | 4/2018 |
| | Tafuna Power Plant Rehabilitation Project | 1,786,000 | | 9/2017 | 6/2018 |
| | Tafuna Power Plant: 3 x 2.75 MW Generator Sets | 2,990,000 | | 12/2017 | 6/2018 |
| | Aoloau 2x 100KW Wind Turbine Project | 550,000 | | 11/2017 | 5/2018 |
| | 10MW Solar PV with Storage Batteries for Tutuila | TBD | | 1/2018 | 12/2019 |
| Water | New Wells Project - Malaeimi (Wells 1, 2, 3) | | On-going | | 12/2017 |
| | Lepine AC Pipe Replacement | | Project awarded | | 5/2018 |
| | Tramway Tank Phase II | 2,400,000 | Awaiting award | | 12/2018 |

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|---------|---------|
| | Upper Pago Pago Water Improvement Project | 2,258,000 | approval | 10/2017 | 12/2018 |
| | Replacement of Upper Amouli Tank | 1,500,000 | Under SEB review | | 6/2018 |
| | New Wells Project - Nuuuli (Well 24) | | Currently under design | 04/2018 | 10/2018 |
| | Vaitogi AC Pipe Replacement | | Currently under design | 5/2018 | 1/2019 |
| | New Wells Project - Malaeloa (Well 15) | 1,300,000 | Currently under design | 2/2018 | 12/2018 |
| | Aoa Water System Improvements | 247,030 | Currently under design | 9/2018 | 4/2019 |
| | Manu'a Water System Sanitary Survey | 1,000,000 | Finalizing RFP for solicitation | | |
| | Central Water System - Water System Upgrades | 3,426,000 | Currently under design | 6/2018 | 4/2019 |
| | ASPA Microfiltration Project – Fagatogo Plant | | On-going | 1/2018 | 12/2018 |
| | Lift the BWN in the Malaeimi to Pavaiai to Aoloau Area (~9,000 people affected [16% of population]) | | On-going | | 2/2018 |
| Wastewater | UV Disinfection | | Commissioned FY2017 | | |
| | Inflow and Infiltration | 1,500,000 | On-going | | 6/2018 |
| | East Side Village: Package 5 | 4,336,536 | Soliciting | | 2021 |
| | Outfall Modifications | 1,344,000 | Contract awarded | | 6/2018 |
| | Lift Station Upgrade Project | 600,000 | Materials received | | 8/2018 |
| | Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project | 1,250,000 | Materials being procured | | 8/2018 |
| | Onsite Systems | 900,000 | On-going | | 6/2018 |
| Solid Waste | Landfill Boundary Project | TBD | | 10/2017 | 3/2018 |
| | Landfill Scale Repair Work | 15,000 | | | 2/2018 |
| | Futiga Landfill Road | 750,000 | | 10/2017 | 9/2018 |
| | Airport Mini Park | 35,000 | | 10/2017 | 9/2018 |
| | Waste Conversion Project | TBD | | 1/2018 | 12/2018 |

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