

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO
LT. GOVERNOR

UFISINAN I MAGA'HĀGAN GUĀHAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

July 3, 2023

The Honorable Carlos Del Toro
Secretary of the Navy
Office of the Secretary of the Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon, Room 4D652
Washington, DC 20350

Dear Secretary Del Toro,

I am writing regarding the years-long collaborative effort between the government of Guam and the United States Navy to negotiate a lease of the U.S. Navy property in Mangilao, Guam, known as Eagles Field. The period provided by the U.S. Navy for execution of the lease expired in April 2023. Due to various objections to the lease raised by the Attorney General of Guam and the Guam Legislature, the lease expired without action. In the months since the execution period lapsed, I have reflected on the best path forward. Though I sincerely believe that the Eagles Field lease would have provided a substantial benefit to the people of Guam, for the reasons discussed herein, regrettably, it is necessary to focus our resources and efforts toward identifying another option for the site for the new medical complex, to ensure the expedient construction of a new hospital.

Under your direction, beginning in 2021, the Navy, in good faith, through various representatives including Joint Region Marianas, engaged in negotiations for the lease of the Eagles Field property with several government of Guam executive branch agencies, including the Guam Economic Development Authority ("GEDA") and the Department of Land Management ("DLM"). After the Initial Lease had been drafted, I requested review by the Attorney General of Guam, Douglas B. Moylan. Attorney General Moylan publicly expressed concerns about certain provisions in the Initial Lease. Following receipt of Attorney General Moylan's feedback, the parties resumed negotiations to resolve the concerns Attorney General Moylan identified, resulting in the negotiation of the Final Negotiated Lease.

The Final Negotiated Lease was again presented to the Attorney General for review, and published widely to ensure broad community engagement. The Attorney General continued to oppose the lease, identifying new objections he did not previously raise. During the execution period of the Final Negotiated Lease, the Guam Legislature passed a bill requiring legislative approval of all leases between the government of Guam and the federal government, overriding my veto.

In an effort to move forward with the utmost expediency, and anticipating the Guam Legislature's continued objection to a lease of the Eagles Field property for use as the site of a new medical complex, I have decided to proceed in exploring other potential properties. Though, regrettably, the Eagles Field property will not be the site of our new medical complex, I sincerely appreciate the U.S. Navy's good faith efforts to provide the government of Guam with a lease that would have benefitted our community for decades, and I commend the professionalism of the U.S. Navy negotiating team, who worked diligently to ensure the lease achieved the common goals of our two governments.

To: The Honorable Carlos Del Toro, *Secretary of the Navy*
Fr: The Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *Governor of Guam*
Date: July 3, 2023

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On behalf of a grateful island, I am thankful for your continued leadership, compassion and consideration, and hopeful that we will continue to work closely together to secure the funding necessary for the ultimate construction of the new medical complex, which will serve the people of Guam, and our proud servicemembers and their families that call Guam home.

Senseramente,



LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
Maga'hâgan Guåhan
Governor of Guam

cc via email: *Honorable* Joshua F. Tenorio, *Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan*, Lt. Governor of Guam
Honorable Meredith Berger, Assistant Secretary of the Navy
Honorable Gregory Huffman, Commander Joint Region Marianas