

# Public Access Management Plan (Draft)





# Public Access to the Shore

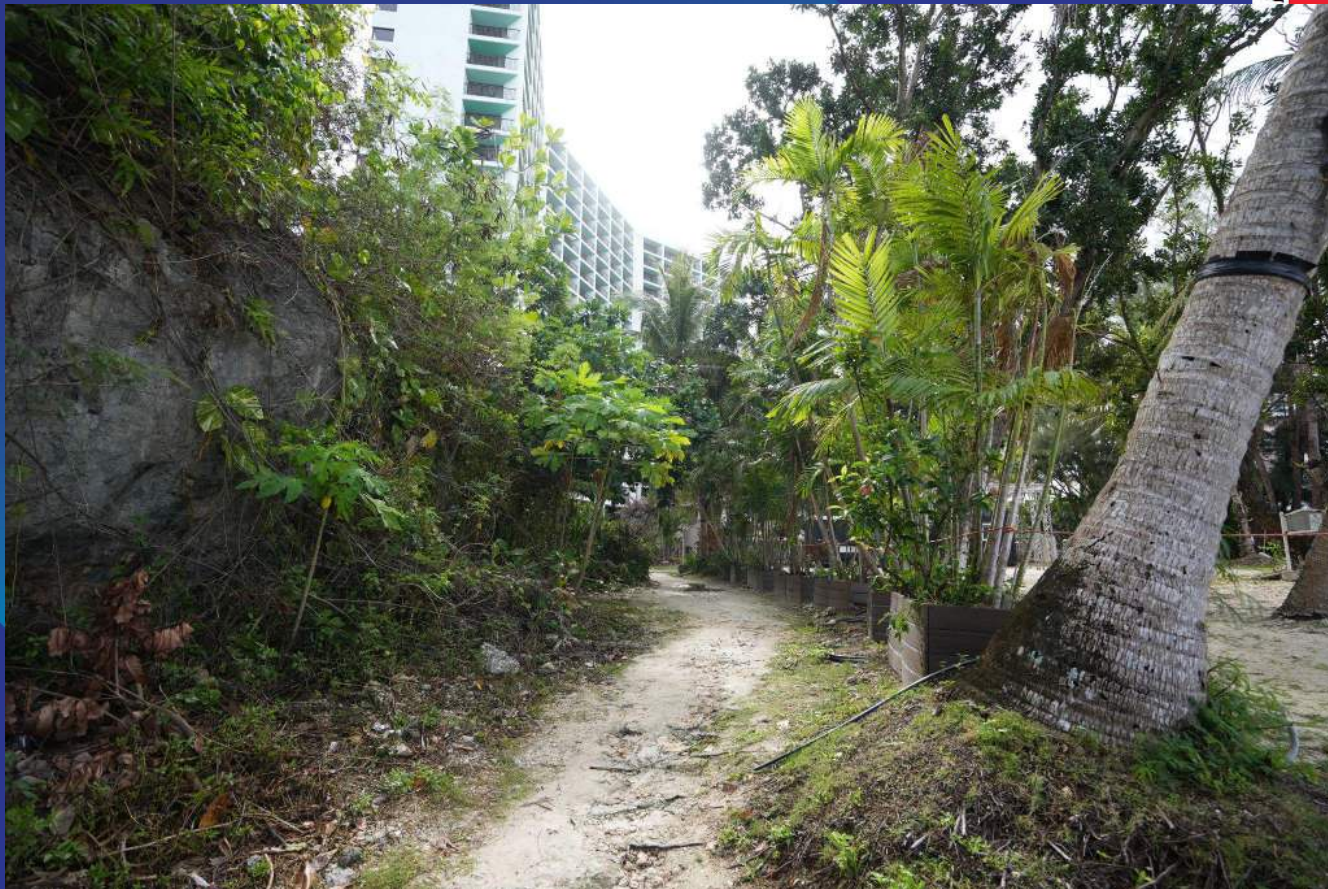
"Public access" is the ability of the general public to reach, touch, and enjoy the water's edge, to travel on the waters of the island, and to view the water and the shoreline from adjacent locations.



Nana's  
Cafe, 2024



Hyatt,  
2024



Reef  
Hotel,  
2024



## The rest?

No single consolidated source of information about where and what these access resources may be, how accessible they are to the general public, or the type of amenities (e.g. restrooms, water, parking) that may be found at each point (Market and Research Inc., 2019).



## Public Access (Pre and Post WWII)



- Pre-WWII—individual ability to gain access to the shoreline was relatively easy, based off familial and associative tie within the smaller, overall population.
- Japanese invasion and occupation—shoreline access restricted as it became paramount for setting and fortifying defenses. An aside, most of the caught marine resources by the people of Guam were confiscated for war rations.
- Post WWII—United States in the process of land condemnation and acquisition, majority of which were shoreline inclusive for the use by the Navy.

Shoreline Access to the  
Ocean Shore Study, 1987



## Public and Private Input

- 2019 Market Research and Development, Incorporated
- 2019 Public Access Stakeholder Engagement Report
- Agency Steering Committee (2022)
- BSP Public Website Survey (2021-2022)





# PAMP Draft Guiding Reference Documents



- 1977 Environmental Impact Statement for the Guam Coastal Management Program
- 1987 Shoreline Access to the Shoreline Study
- Territorial Seashore Protection Act of 1974
- Public Access to the Ocean Shore Act
- Zoning Law of the Territory of Guam
- Subdivision Law



## Agency Steering Committee (2022)

- Department of Lands Management
- Guam Land Use Commission
- Seashore Protection Commissions
- Guam Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Soil Resources Division
- Legal Counsel for the Office of the Governor
- Guam Coastal Management Program

On August 12, 2022, GovGuam planning representatives met to discuss the draft PAMP document and provide feedback on priorities. Overall the draft was well received, and substantive comments highlighted the need for additional coordination.



# Long-range Goals

- Impacts of sea level rise and storm surge are identified in shoreline access and management planning initiatives;
- Shoreline and public access management is supported by sustained programs that support multiple uses and conservation priorities connecting and providing stewardship for Guam's public spaces and the ecosystem services they provide;
- Shoreline public access is planned and made available to enhance locations in Northern, Central, and Southern Guam and provide basic public amenities such as benches, trash and recycling containers, restrooms, and other facilities where appropriate;
- Shoreline access sites are enhanced by appropriate and well-maintained signage and amenities to support multiple uses and access for all;
- All new shoreline developments enhance public access and support amenities at public access areas that are also heavily used by tourists;
- Public accessways and systems are sited and designed to optimize access while avoiding environmental constraints and minimizing alteration of natural landforms, conforming with existing contours, and, where possible, be designed to be link access to public streets, trails, parks, and other open spaces, and to be compatible with the character of their setting and be informed by community feedback;
- The necessity of public access is considered early in any project's design so that it becomes an essential and integral part of public and private development projects and incorporated into relevant policies, permit requirements, and design guidelines as appropriate; and
- Comprehensive conservation management and enhancement planning include shoreline and public access monitoring and maintenance supported by sustainable funding mechanisms.



## Mid-range Objectives

- Shoreline change is being regularly tracked through a robust networked agency monitoring and mapping program with eroding sandy beaches and artificially hardened areas identified to support active management planning and implementation discussions;
- Shoreline maintenance priorities are evaluated and incorporated within the Guam SCORP 5-yearly update and implementation is supported by annual LWCF and other competitive funding applications;
- Local funding is dedicated for identified high-priority maintenance and grant matching needs, with annual applications to federal funding streams supported by 5-year updates of the SCORP and other relevant open space and public access management efforts; and
- Competitive and non-competitive conservation grant applications are developed to implement interagency management priorities.

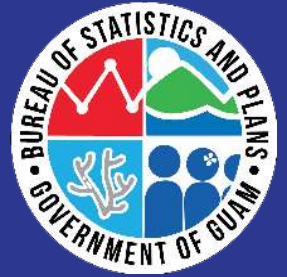


## Short-range Action Items

- Reconcile and update maps of shoreline and other access trails and boat marinas and cross-check place names with Chamoru Language Commission to verify if updates are needed before posting and as lists are regularly updated;
- Seek funding support to establish and implement a shoreline monitoring program to update data for the ordinary high-water mark and require updated surveys to confirm setback requirements in new development projects;
- Grant-writing and project development for LWCF-SCORP implementation;
- Develop methodologies and standard operating procedures for collecting data on public access and align these procedures with other management mandates; and
- Five-year sign installation and maintenance plan for prioritized beaches o A Draft Five-Year Sign Installation and Management Plan framework is included in Appendix V. Implementation priorities should be informed by available funding. Local funding and support through SCORP tri-annual applications would support more robust implementation across high use beaches identified in the PAMP Survey.



# Si yu'os ma'åse!



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