

Agenda

CMTF Economic Development Subcommittee Meeting

10:00 a.m., Friday, February 15, 2008

- I. Introductions
- II. Issues/Discussions
 - Minutes of Last Meeting
 - Military EIS Socio-Economic Portion
 - Mr. John Knox
 - Mr. David Kiernan
- III. Other Discussion Items
- IV. Next Meeting
- V. Adjournment

Highlights of Economic Subcommittee Meeting
January 31, 2008

Attendees:

- Anthony Blaz, Chairman
- Rufo Lujan
- Mary Torre
- Joe Blas
- Albert Perez
- Mike Cruz

Highlights:

- Military population demographics will show that most arriving military will be single. Tendency is for this population to frequent bars and other entertainment establishments. Need to provide “clean” businesses.
- Tumon adult entertain establishments need to be removed from Tumon. Need to outlaw “pay day loan” establishments
- Guam’s location provides advantages from a strategic military standpoint but also provides disadvantages from a business standpoint due to distance from sources of supply and materials.
- Businesses should not be considered “local” if they have just relocated to Guam to take advantage of military expansion opportunities.
- The playing field is not level so long as special preferences are provided to Native Alaskan and Native Hawaiian businesses. Guam’s lack of Congressional clout is a primary reason why local preference cannot also be given to Guam.
- The military needs to be convinced of the need to support local businesses. DoDEA school uniforms now being purchased at the Navy Exchange although originally supplied by local business. Base security is being conducted by off-island businesses that have made numerous mistakes due to their unfamiliarity with Guam. Such practices have created an immediate impact on the local workforce and dollars spent on island do not circulate within the local economy.
- Companies pay different wages for workers on local versus federal projects even within the same company
- Need to make Guam tour a memorable experience and need to get military personnel and families off the base. Per diem for military contract personnel is lower for Guam than Hawaii leading one to believe that Guam is a hardship location.
- Subcommittee members reviewed the list of small business initiatives generated from meetings with SBA, SBDC and the Chamber of Commerce Small Business Focus Group and agreed that staff should research initiatives and report back to the subcommittee.
- Subcommittee members reviewed the proposed FY2010 funding requests and concurred with the preparation of detailed justifications for each project which will be submitted as part of the Governor’s FY2010 budget request to federal agencies.

- Members reviewed the Subcommittee's mission statement which will be taken up at the next meeting. A member suggested that the mission statement be modified slightly as follows: "To explore and identify the elements that will address Guam's economic impact and development ~~during~~ to include the military's expansion over the next decade and beyond."

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