



Office of the Governor

INFRASTRUCTURE AND RECOVERY PROGRAM

2021 Annual Report



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

As a Commonwealth, we have dealt with some of the most challenging natural and weather-related disasters over the past several years. To recover from these disasters and to improve the CNMI's current infrastructure, my administration has obtained substantial government grant funding for disaster-related relief and federal grant funding. As many federal grants require funds to be spent over limited periods, it is important that they are properly managed and expended for the betterment of our Commonwealth.



**THE HONORABLE GOVERNOR
RALPH DLG. TORRES**

The purpose of establishing the Infrastructure and Recovery Program (IRP) is to improve the progress of projects, reveal obstacles and find solutions through experts and professionals in various fields. The IRP, since its establishment, has acquired these professionals in fields of engineering, archeology, anthropology, biology, and contracting, among other professionals whose collective goal is the completion of projects for the improvement of CNMI's overall infrastructure.

I want to commend the IRP for the work they have done this past year. It is exciting to know that the IRP will continue to collaborate with our federal partners and local departments and agencies to provide our communities with the resources and subject matter experts needed to help further our local infrastructure. In addition, they also ensure that stakeholders assess the permitting process, work alongside local and federal partners to regulate and ensure compliance, and to track progress and identify areas in need of assistance. I am confident in the IRP's abilities to perform these duties for the betterment of our infrastructure, our islands, and our people.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ralph DLG. Torres".

RALPH DLG. TORRES



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

DIRECTIVE NO. 2021-005

SUBJECT: Establishing the position of Coordinator of Infrastructure and Recovery within the Office of the Governor to head the operation and administration of an Infrastructure and Recovery Program.

AUTHORITY: NMI Const. art. III, § 1 provides that "[t]he executive power of the Commonwealth shall be vested in a governor who shall be responsible for the faithful execution of the laws;" and NMI Const. art. III § 14 grants the Governor the power to "at any time require information in writing or otherwise from the head of any administrative department, office or agency of the Commonwealth;" and 1 CMC § 2052 provides that the "Governor may employ staff as required to assist the office of the Governor in performing its functions..."

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands ("CNMI") has experienced many disasters and emergencies since 2018 including Typhoon Mangkhut, Super Typhoon Yutu, and most recently, the COVID-19 pandemic.

WHEREAS, Typhoon Mangkhut and Super Typhoon Yutu damaged or destroyed much of the infrastructure of the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota including school buildings, housing, air and seaport facilities, power poles, public health facilities, roadways and traffic signal equipment.

WHEREAS, as result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the CNMI has found it necessary invest in and improve the government's healthcare infrastructure including healthcare facilities and equipment in order to respond, prevent and contain the COVID-19 pandemic in the CNMI.

WHEREAS, due to federal government funding and the efforts of my administration in obtaining federal grants, the CNMI government has been awarded substantial federal grant funds that will allow the CNMI to rebuild its infrastructure and harden it against future natural disasters, and will allow the CNMI to build and maintain a public health infrastructure that will contain the COVID-19 threat. For example, the CNMI, through the Northern Mariana Housing Corporation, was awarded \$244 million to fund the CNMI's Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Action Plan.

WHEREAS, not only has my administration obtained substantial government grant funding for disaster related relief, my administration also has obtained substantial federal grant funding to improve the CNMI's current infrastructure. For example, the CNMI was recently awarded a \$10.3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration to support workforce development by constructing a new facility for the Northern Marianas Technical Institute. As another example, the CNMI was recently awarded \$565,980 from the Environmental Protection Agency to the CNMI in order to build capacity and develop long-term

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plans for solid waste. This was just the first tranche of potentially \$56 million of grant funding from the EPA for solid waste programs and infrastructure improvement.

WHEREAS, because many of the federal grants require the funds to be expended within a limited amount of time (often of short duration), it is important that the projects funded by the federal grants progress in an expeditious manner.

WHEREAS, because some agencies are inexperienced in procurement contracting of complicated projects, the permitting process, contract management, or proper financial management of grant funded projects, this has the potential to slow down the progress of the projects.

WHEREAS, due to the number of federal grants awarded to the CNMI for disaster recovery and infrastructure improvement, and due to the fact that these grants are spread across many agencies, it is difficult to track the progress of the individual projects being funded by the federal grant funds and ensure that the projects are being pursued in an expeditious manner.

WHEREAS, establishing a position of Coordinator of Infrastructure and Recovery and an Infrastructure and Recovery Program under the Office of the Governor that will report directly to the Governor will greatly aid in tracking the progress of the federally funded projects.

WHEREAS, establishing an Infrastructure and Recovery Program within the Office of the Governor with the ability to hire staff or contractors expert in the fields of procurement, permitting, contract management, administrative management, and financial management of grant funded projects, and using these staff and contractors to assist agencies with federal grant funded projects, would greatly assist the agencies in achieving key benchmarks on these essential projects.

WHEREAS, the establishment of an Infrastructure and Recovery Program would greatly improve progress of projects by coordinating activities, revealing where obstacles to progress exist, allow application of assistance to overcome those obstacles, and ensure that the projects are conducted in an administrative and financially proper manner.

NOW THEREFORE, I, RALPH DLG. TORRES, by virtue of the power vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and in order to achieve effective and efficient government administration so as to better serve the interests of the Commonwealth and its people, hereby direct the following:

1. Establishment of Infrastructure and Recovery Program

(a) Within the Office of the Governor, there is established an Infrastructure and Recovery Program ("IR Program") which shall be headed by a Coordinator of Infrastructure and Recovery ("Coordinator"). The Coordinator shall be appointed by and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The Coordinator shall serve under and report directly to the Governor.

(b) The purpose of the Coordinator and the IR Program is to aid the Governor and the government of the Commonwealth in executing "designated federal grant funded projects."

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It will do this by tracking the progress of the designated federal grant funded projects for the Governor, coordinating activities amongst agencies of the Commonwealth, aiding agencies with projects in overcoming obstacles to progress, and ensuring that the projects are conducted in an administratively and financially proper manner. "Designated federal grant funded projects" are federal grant funded projects specifically designated by the Governor to be within the purview of the IR Program and the Coordinator.

(c) The Coordinator shall be a person with extensive experience in management, especially in government, contract and federal grant management. It is preferred that the Coordinator also have experience in permitting, government procurement, and financial management. In lieu of a government employee filling the position of Coordinator, the position may be filled by an independent contractor.

2. In furtherance of the purposes of the IR Program, the Coordinator and the IR Program will have the following powers, duties and responsibilities:

(a) The Coordinator and the IR Program shall track the progress of designated federal grant funded projects and report regularly, or as called, to the Governor and Lieutenant Governor on the progress of the designated federal grant funded projects.

(b) The Coordinator and the IR Program shall coordinate the activities of CNMI agencies with designated federal grant funded projects with permitting agencies, Division of Procurement and Supply, Department of Finance, Zoning and any other necessary government agency, commonwealth or federal, with the aim of achieving expeditious progress in the execution of the designated federal grant funded projects.

(c) In tracking the progress of the designated federal grant funded projects, the Coordinator and the IR Program shall determine when and where any obstacles to the expeditious execution of the projects is occurring, investigate and determine their cause, and coordinate or assist the agencies as necessary in overcoming the obstacles.

(d) The Coordinator and the IR Program shall, in coordination with the Office of Grants Management and State Clearinghouse, ensure that the government of the CNMI complies with all applicable federal laws related to federal financial assistance and that there exists sound tracking, management, and financial accountability for the designated federal grant funded projects. If deemed necessary or appropriate, the Coordinator may directly assist CNMI agencies in complying with this subsection.

(e) The Coordinator shall create a process map for the designated federal grant funded projects and shall identify inefficiencies or impediments in the process. The Coordinator shall identify actions that would remediate the inefficiencies or impediments. The process map and the identified inefficiencies, impediments and remedial actions shall be provided in a report to the Governor.

(f) The Coordinator may request information, including customized reports, from any department, agency, office, board, commission, public corporation, instrumentality, or

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other entity of the Commonwealth government in relation to matters within the Coordinator's and IR Program's purview.

(g) The Coordinator may call to meetings any department, agency, office, board, commission, public corporation, instrumentality, or other entity of the CNMI government in relation to matters within the Coordinator's and IR Program's purview and so as to advance the purposes of this Directive. The cooperation and attendance of these CNMI government entities to these meetings is fully expected.

(h) The Coordinator may request the assignment or detailing of government employees to aid the IR Program and Coordinator in the performance of their duties.

(i) With the approval of the Governor, the Coordinator and the IR Program may employ staff or procure the services of independent contractors such as experts, consultants and other professionals to execute the powers, duties, responsibilities, and purposes under this Directive.

(j) The Coordinator may investigate and determine whether any other federal grant funded projects should be within the purview of the IR Program and the Coordinator. The Coordinator shall report such investigation and determination to the Governor.

(k) The Coordinator and the IR Program may assist government agencies with designated federal grant funded projects as necessary. With the coordination and consent of any necessary parties, the Coordinator and the IR Program may directly manage and execute a designated federal grant funded project including administration, permitting, contracting, and financial management.

(l) The Coordinator and the IR Program shall perform any other duty that the Governor may from time to time direct the Coordinator or the IR Program to undertake.

3. **Agencies of the CNMI government, especially permitting agencies, are hereby directed to make the designated federal grant funded grant projects under the purview of the Coordinator and the IR Program a priority for their respective agencies.** Agencies with designated federal grant funded projects shall take any and all necessary actions to make their agency able to prioritize the designated federal grant funded projects. Any deficiencies of a respective agency in being able to prioritize the designated federal grant funded projects shall be reported to the Coordinator so that the IR Program, or other government agencies, may assist the agency in overcoming the deficiency.

Other heads of departments, agencies, boards, commissions, instrumentalities, or other entities of the executive branch, and the heads of independent entities of the Commonwealth government including any public corporations are directed or otherwise requested to cooperate with the Coordinator and the IR Program to the maximum extent practicable.

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4. The Office of the Attorney General shall provide legal counsel to support the work of the Coordinator and the IR Program, to include the navigation of government procurement regulations, permit processing, and administrative legal matters as required by the IR Program.

5. The Coordinator and the IR Program shall utilize funds appropriated or otherwise available to the Office of the Governor and designated for such purpose by the Governor or Legislature; and may utilize federal grants or other sources of funds available to the Commonwealth to fund personnel, operations, capital expenses and programs.

6. The Coordinator, with the approval of the Governor, may make internal organizational arrangements to the IR Program as may be administratively necessary to fulfill the purpose, duties and responsibilities outlined in this Directive.

7. This Directive is effective immediately. The IR Program and the position of Coordinator shall continue in existence indefinitely for so long as the IR Program and the Coordinator are needed to serve the people of the Commonwealth.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED on this 1st day of May, 2021

RALPH DLG. TORRES
GOVERNOR

QR code for
Directive 2021-005:



INFRASTRUCTURE AND RECOVERY PROGRAM

2020-2021 have presented globally unprecedented challenges. But the period also provided unforeseen opportunities to seek creative solutions. The Office of the Governor's Infrastructure and Recovery Program is borne from the Governor's vision in creating a streamlined process to help expedite federally funded projects for different government agencies by first assessing the current permitting process. The Governor's Directive 2021-005 was issued in May 2021 and IRP has since established its staff and subject matter experts necessary in accomplishing its mission.



Infrastructure and Recovery Program

Horiguchi Building, 2nd Floor, Garapan Caller Box 10007, Saipan MP 96950

INFRASTRUCTURE AND RECOVERY PROGRAM



VISION

To assist stakeholder agencies in successfully executing federally-funded infrastructure projects during the program period, aiding the CNMI in hardening its water and wastewater infrastructure for the health and safety of its people.

MISSION

Dedicating resources and subject matter experts to agencies to ensure timely completion of federally funded projects with limited performance time. Networking stakeholder agencies to bridge gaps and increase capacity

GOALS

To fulfill the intention of Directive 2021-005 of streamlining permitting processes to assist in expeditiously realizing federally-funded projects for a more robust infrastructure in the CNMI. IRP will first assess the current permitting process, identify gaps to maximize capacities, minimize permitting process time, execute, and complete projects.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND RECOVERY PROGRAM: Strategy and Planning

STREAMLINE

The primary objective of the Infrastructure and Recovery Program is to help the stakeholder agencies with federally-funded projects to streamline local permitting. IRP's subject matter experts are equipped to assist with projects at varying stages of completion: whether it is A&E design for a brand-new building, liaising for a permit applicant whose project approval is experiencing delay or completing assessments for a project that has already received an awarded contract.

ASSIST and EXPEDITE

IRP stakeholders also include permitting agencies responsible for reviewing permit applications for approval. IRP staff are trained to understand what is needed for permitting sufficiency. IRP staff may also be assigned to assist these permitting agencies to review the work to facilitate permitting approval. IRP staff conduct site assessments to determine if the project sites will have any Threatened or Endangered Species concerns, or cultural/historical concerns, etc.

COMMUNICATE and COORDINATE

IRP also coordinates regular stakeholder meetings for both parties: stakeholders who issue permits and stakeholders who have federally funded projects to complete. IRP held its first roll out stakeholder meeting on July 28, 2021, followed by a meeting on September 14th, 2021, and its third on January 4, 2021 (rescheduled from December 6th due to government shutdown). These meetings are vital to present project updates and address permitting needs. From the meetings, IRP creates action items to be addressed prior to the next stakeholder meetings and will follow up with all entities until the action items are complete. Subject matter experts are tasked to assist with those action items when needed.



IRP TIMELINE

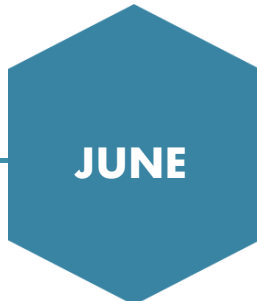
GOVERNOR'S DIRECTIVE

INITIATION

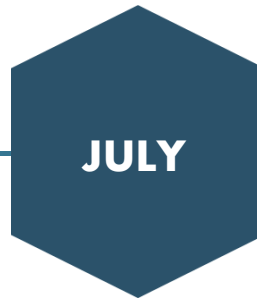
LAUNCH



MAY



JUNE



JULY



SEPTEMBER

IRP COORDINATOR

- IRP established as a program within the Governor's Office May 1
- Project Liaison and Administrative Officer join IRP May 25th

- Fact-finding meetings with stakeholders
- Senior Civil Engineer and Human Resource Officer join IRP

- Anthropologist, Wildlife Biologist, Inspector and 3 Administrative Assistants join IRP
- IRP Roll out meeting for all stakeholders July 28th

- First IRP Stakeholders Meeting September 14th
- Technical Writer and second Inspector join IRP



OCTOBER



NOVEMBER



DECEMBER



ONGOING

- Wildlife Biologist, Section 106 Coordinator and Archaeologist join IRP
- 2021 IRP Citizen Centric Report Submitted

- Coordinated, facilitated & hosted Coastal Construction Training in collaboration with FEMA IRC November 9-10; 15-16: 80 participants trained and certified
- FEMA MAT Team small group meetings with over 30 entities on Saipan Tinian & Rota

- Assistance requested for Oleai Sports Complex in preparation for Pacific Mini Games
- 2nd IRP Stakeholders Meeting Scheduled for December held January 4th

- Weekly one on one meetings with Stakeholders
- Weekly meetings with FEMA/IRC

IRP ROLL OUT

The IRP Stakeholder Roll out Meeting was held on July 28th 2021 at the Aqua Resort Club. The purpose of the roll out meeting was to officially introduce the Infrastructure and Recovery Program to the governmental entities involved in the CNMI permitting process and explain the purpose, framework timeline and vision of the Program.

After the Program was created, IRP Coordinator Teregeyo conducted fact-finding meetings with numerous permitting offices, government departments and private sector permittees to understand the state of permitting in the CNMI, the different perspectives of what factors prevent the expeditious permitting of projects and the stakeholders' suggestion for improvements.

In the morning's session of the roll out meeting, Coordinator Teregeyo and Project Liaison Dela Cruz shared their findings from the meetings as well as what role the IRP can play to help stakeholders prevent or eliminate permitting roadblocks. The afternoon workshop focused on open dialogue from the stakeholders regarding the discussed findings on an internal, interdepartmental and external level and generate more solutions that will be implemented in IRP's program objectives.

Governor Ralph Torres and Lieutenant Governor Arnold Palacios made introductory speeches. FEMA Interagency Recovery Coordination's Dr. Olivia Scriven and Ed Arriola from Energov spoke about of their offices and their expectations from the Infrastructure and Recovery Program.

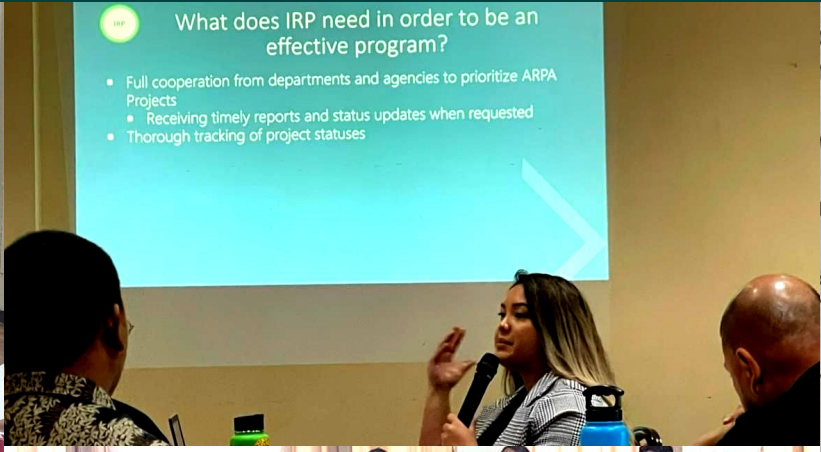




IRP ROLL OUT



To see the IRP Stakeholder Roll Out Meeting Presentation, please use the following scan the QR code:
<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1ObAKJzOMo3ykShYhxSUcKtfs0JW8vOj2/edit?usp=sharing&oid=104306785320370534953&rtpof=true&sd=true>



Strategy and Planning: building capacity

The inaugural IRP/FEMA IRC Joint Training Initiative was the “Coastal Construction Training: Building Resilience.” FEMA Mitigation Assessment Team (MAT) Building Star II instructors flew to Saipan for the training and meetings geared towards those with construction, engineering, and building inspection backgrounds in both the public and private sectors.

Virtual Office Hours November 3 & 5- In compliance with the CNMI’s COVID-19 protocols, the 5 instructors, while still in quarantine, hosted virtual office hours. Around 20 participants signed up for an hour time slots and prepared questions to be answered by construction professionals.

Small Group Meetings November 9,10, 12, 15,16- While on island, the MAT instructors held meetings with 30 local departments and entities to discuss their DR-4404-MP Super Typhoon Yutu assessments from their previous trip to the CNMI and recommendations to increase building resilience to prevent damage in the event of future disasters. Each meeting was tailored for different offices’ needs including PAO, NMHC, DPW, OPD, HSEM, CUC, the municipalities from Tinian and Rota and others.

Coastal Construction Training November 9-10 & 15-16- The MAT instructors facilitated two free two-day trainings on Coastal Construction from 7:30 am to 4:30 pm. The training promptly began with a kickoff introduction from Governor Ralph Torres, FEMA District 9 and JRO leads and IRP Coordinator on the importance of increasing local capacity to harden infrastructure. Each session had 40 participants comprised of engineers, architects, building inspectors and project managers from Saipan, Tinian and Rota. There were 9 training units with knowledge checks on each section and a final exam at the end of the second day. All 80 participants passed the exam and completed the course to receive a certificate of completion for the MAT training .

The IRP and FEMA IRC are now working on organizing a training for Cost-Benefit Analysis and Project Management among other training opportunities.



Strategy and Planning: building capacity



November 9th Coastal Construction Training



November 15th Coastal Construction Training



November 15th Coastal Construction Training

IRP

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

REQUESTOR	PROJECT
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation	Customized Sewer Line Inspection & Grouting Truck Acquisition
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation	Priority Water and Wastewater Projects
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation	Oil-Water Separator for the Lower Base Power Plant
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation	Waterline Extension and Meter Installation Project
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation	Route 33 (Beach Road) Improvement Project
Department of Lands and Natural Resources	Garapan Fishing Base Revetment Project Construction contract has been signed awaiting Notice to Proceed (NTP) from DLNR Secretary

IRP

Other Projects with IRP Assistance

REQUESTOR	PROJECT
Office of Planning & Development	Garapan Revitalization Project (OPD 1)
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation	Garapan Revitalization Project (CUC 1) Garapan Business District Sewer Line Replacement
Department of Public Works	Garapan Revitalization Project (DPW 1) Route 30 Phase III / IV
Office of Planning & Development	Oleai Sports and Cultural Tourism Enhancement Project
Public Assistance Office	Oleai Sports Complex Outfield Fence and 2 Light Towers
Northern Marianas Technical Institute	Workforce Training Center

IRP

Designated Projects

REQUESTOR	PROJECT
Department of Public Lands	<p>As Gonno Homestead Water/Wastewater</p> <p><u>CUC/DPL/IRP ready to proceed with construction</u></p> <p>IRP Engineering—The As Gonno Subdivision design and scope of work is at 100 percent but additional modifications to the design is required to complete sewer lateral connections to 228 lots, rehabilitation of existing sewer lift station to include pump and discharge lines. GHD to complete the modification of the existing and proposed ser lateral drawings. Sole Source procurement of services for lead and procurement of additional A/E services</p>
Department of Public Lands	Various Homesteads
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation	<p>OR/ER/Dietary/MRI Expansion Contract/Hyperbaric Chamber Design</p> <p>IRP Engineering—The CHCC is pursuing expansion plans for the OR Ward, Pharmacy, Dietary facilities, and offsite construction of an MRI center. Submitted recommendation and justification for the CHCC to retain the services of an engineering firm to perform A/E services, and project management.</p>
Department of Lands and Natural Resources	Marpi Public Cemetery
Northern Islands Mayor's Office	Northern Islands Rainwater Catchment System

IRP

Technical Assistance

REQUESTOR	PROJECT
Department of Public Works	Naftan Road Paving (issue resolved 10/13)
Tinian Mayor's Office	Miscellaneous (transient dock and main dock)
Division of Fish and Wildlife	Fuel Docking Station
The Substance Abuse, Addiction, and Rehabilitation (SAAR) Program	Design of New Building
CNMI Office of Homeland Security	<p>Communications Tower</p> <p>DPL drone footage indicates corrosion has accelerated and further underscores the need for immediate repair. Funding has been identified but likely insufficient. Funding issues need to be resolved.</p>
Northern Marianas College	Right of Way Assistance



CUC Chinatown Waterline Replacement



CUC San Vicente Water Tank Project



CUC San Vicente Water Tank Project

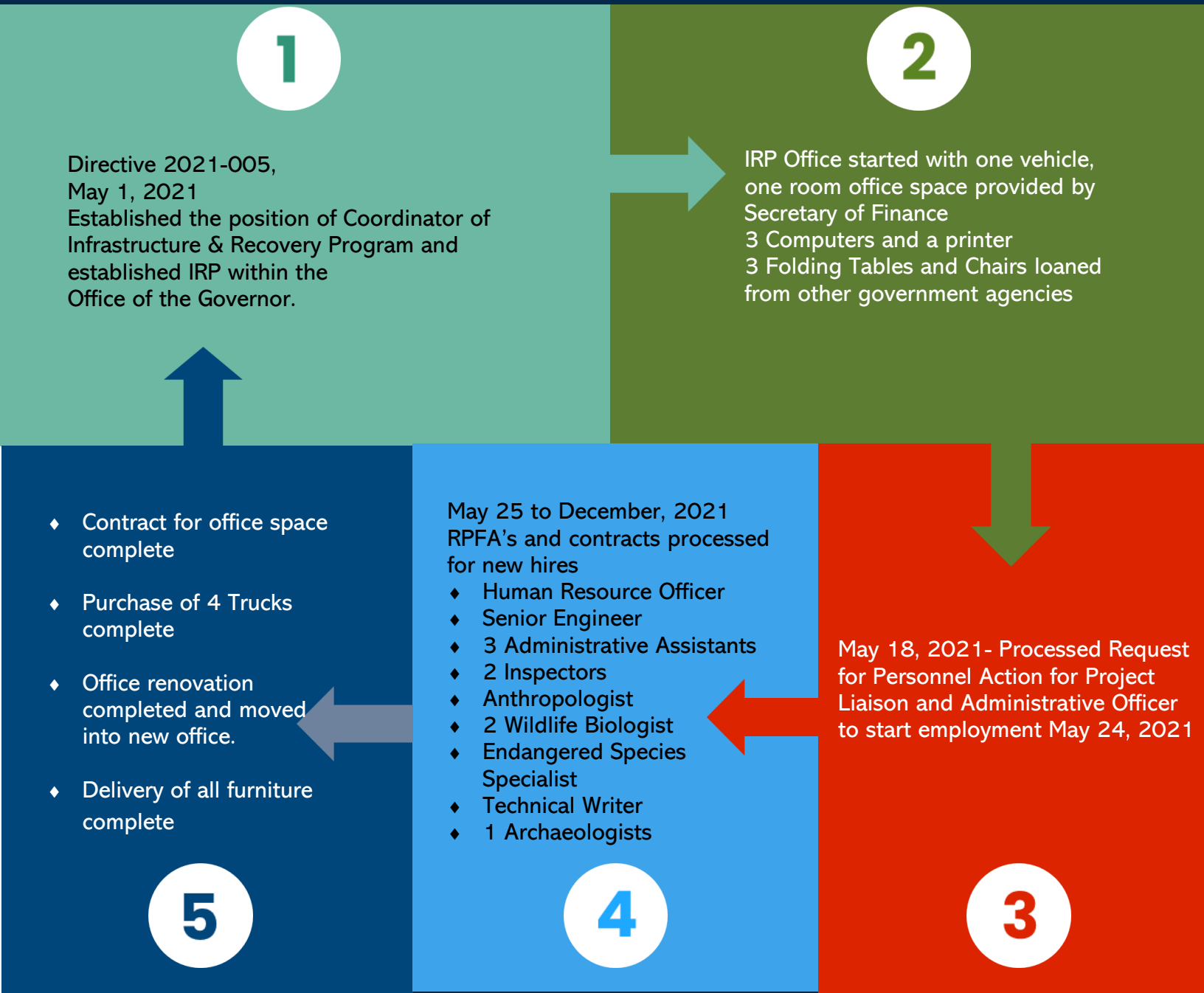


Yellow Bittern in As Lito

ADMINISTRATIVE

Since MAY 2021

The dedicated administrative staff at IRP have been working tirelessly to set up the IR Program office and bring in a team of experts.



PERSONNEL AND OPERATIONS

PERSONNEL: \$376,480 All OTHERS: \$540,099

TOTAL EXPENDITURE **\$916,579**



CUC Finasisu Waterline Project



IRP Stakeholders Meeting
September 14th



IRP/FEMA MAT Team debriefing November



IRP Rollout July 28th



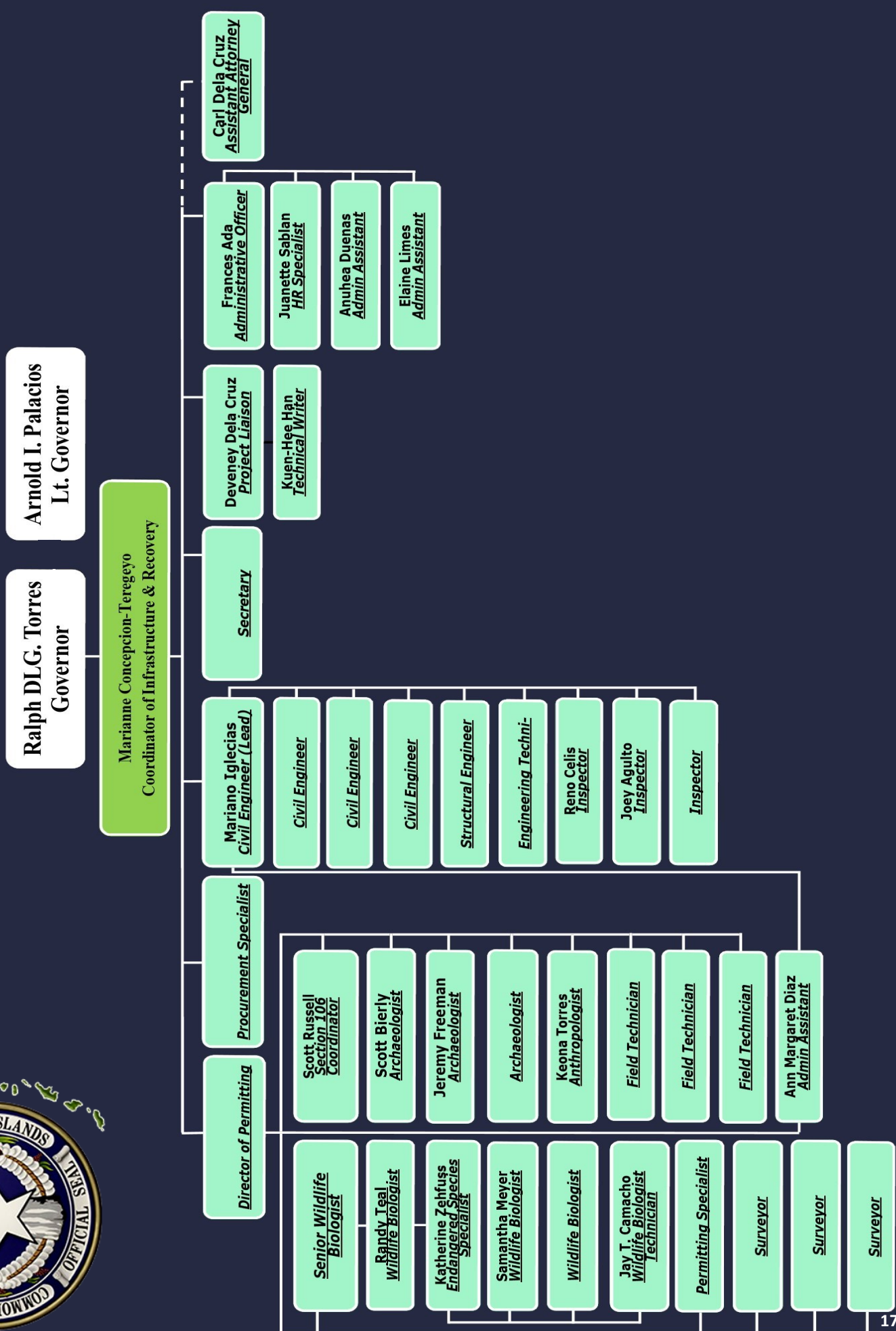
IRP Staff November 2nd



Office of the Governor

INFRASTRUCTURE AND RECOVERY PROGRAM

Organizational Chart



ARCHAEOLOGY

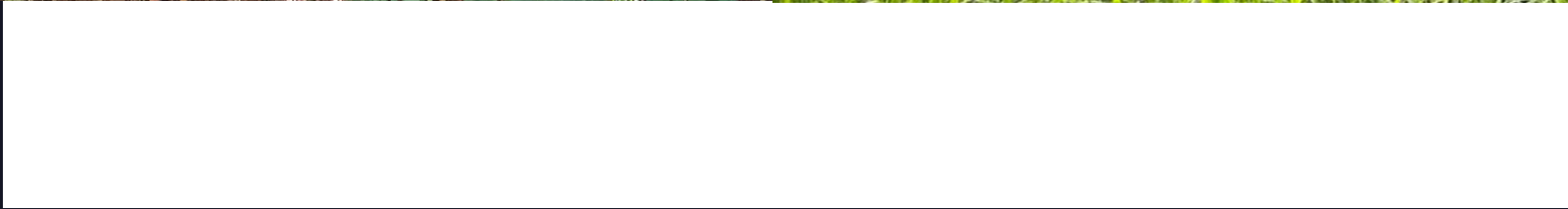
IRP subject matter experts has developed plans and conducted one to one sessions with both stakeholders and permitting agencies to understand their processes and concepts for areas to streamline. IRP Archaeologist Scott Bierly has been working to provide research designs that fit HPO standards and developing suggested actions for each project. The suggested actions include archaeological monitoring, archaeological surveys, and the development of scope of work in testing/ work plans that will go through DCCA Historic Preservation Office (HPO) Director Rita Chong, for approval.

IRP Archaeology team has totaled over 200 hours at the CNMI HPO. Upon joining the IRP team, IRP Anthropologist Keona Torres started shadowing the HPO staff, gaining exposure to their office workings and daily schedules. The team has attended and hosted organizational meetings with HPO for projects such as the DLNR Garapan Fishing Base Revetment Project, CUC/DPW/NMHC Oleai Drainage project, DPL As Gonno Homestead Subdivision and more. The meetings foster collaboration to find the best and most accurate ways to carryout projects. IRP Section 106 Coordinator Russell worked 100 hours preparing historic and archaeological overviews for the Oleai Road and Drainage project, the As Gonno Homestead project and the Garapan Fishing Base Revetment project.





As Perdido



Currently, the IRP Archaeology team is working on a testing plan for the Oleai Sports Complex project. With the Pacific Mini Games commencing in June 2022, time is of essence for this project and IRP is working together with the Public Assistance Office and the Historic Preservation Office to streamline our process to begin subsurface testing. IRP Archaeology team has also turned in two research designs for the DLNR Fishing Base Revetment and the NMHC Oleai Drainage project to HPO for review.



As Perdido



Quartermaster Route 315

ARCHAEOLOGY

240 hours

Anthropologist

IRP Anthropologist spent over 200 hours at DCCA's Historic Preservation Office to understand HPO's rules and regulations when dealing with infrastructure projects in a culturally or historically sensitive areas.

Current projects:

- DLNR Garapan Fishing Base Revetment Project
- CUC DPW NMHC – Oleai Drainage Project
- DPL – As Gonno Homestead Subdivision
- Walk through survey for As Perdido for the relocation of Admiral Herbert G. Hopwood Middle School
- Meetings with DLNR Secretary Anthony Benavente for Garapan Fishing Base Revetment project
- HPO Training at Route 36 (Screening, Soil Sampling)
- Weekly update with NMHC Wilfred Villagomez
- Meeting with PAO for Oleai Sports Complex

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Archaeologist

Before coming on board, IRP archaeologist provided equipment list, assessed future projects including DPW and CUC to ensure archaeological input can be ready upon his arrival.

- Worked on research design for Oleai Drainage/Road/Sewer and Garapan Fishing Base Revetment project
- Meeting with PAO for Oleai Sports complex
- Meeting with IRP Stakeholders for proposed relocation of Admiral Herbert G. Hopwood Middle School
- Walk through survey for Oleai Sports Complex and As Perdido for the relocation of Hopwood
- Meetings with DLNR Secretary Anthony Benavente for Garapan Fishing Base Revetment project
- HPO Training at Route 36 (Screening, Soil Sampling)

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Section 106 Coordinator

- Consulted and met with HPO Staff for Oleai Roads/Drainage/Sewer, As Gonno Homestead, Garapan Fishing Base Revetment, EPA/CUC projects
- Staff/constituent meetings
- Historical/Archaeological overview of the As Gonno Homestead Subdivision Project Area
- Soil Analysis for CUC EPA Projects
- Review comments on research design draft
- Partial draft of the research design for Oleai testing
- Review comments on research design draft for Oleai road/drainage/sewer
- Meeting with IRP and stakeholders for the Admiral Herbert G. Hopwood Middle School relocation
- Research in HPO technical library, background research/revise research design for Oleai Drainage/road/sewer and Oleai Sports Complex
- Background research/Revise RD for Oleai drainage/road/sewer, Oleai Sports Complex and As Perdido alternative site for the relocation of Admiral Herbert G. Hopwood Middle School

ENGINEERING

The Infrastructure and Recovery Program Engineering team is dedicated to planning, designing, and/or overseeing the construction, renovation, and maintenance of infrastructure projects.

516 hours

Engineering

DPL	As Gonno Homestead Subdivision Design	60
CHCC	Hospital Expansion Project A/E Services	25
DPW	Route 30 Improvement Project	10
DLNR	Fishing Base Revetment Project	4
NMHC	HSEM -Communications Tower	15
NMHC	Ghili St & Apenga/DFEMS-Generator Facilities/Municipality of Tinian	20
NMC	ROW - Fina Sisu Lane	2
Municipality of Tinian	FEMA Rehabilitation projects	5
CNMI Hazard Mitigation Office	CUC Generator Facilities	4
CUC	CNMI Water/Sewer Projects	200
Energy Task Force	Energizing Insular Communities / Energy Initiatives	5
Public Assistance Office (PAO)	Oleai Sports Complex for Pacific Mini-Games	20
FEMA	DR 4404 - CNMI Building Resilience/ Interagency Recovery Program	45
	Garapan Sewer line Replacement Project and various CUC related projects	
EDA Funded Projects	NMC/NMTI/OPD/PSS/DOF/DCCA	200
		516



CUC San Vicente Water Tank Project



Capitol Hill Wastewater Assessment



CUC San Vicente Water Tank Project 21

BIOLOGY

The IRP Biology Team has a multitude of responsibilities both in the field and in the office. Mornings are usually spent conducting onsite surveys/inspections to identify the presence of protected and endangered species around the CNMI. The team is composed of experts trained in identification of the island's threatened and endangered species, including both flora and fauna. Once onsite data has been collected, assessments, impact statements, and biological opinions are completed and submitted. These require the team to stay up to date on ESA regulations, the NEPA process, mitigation tactics, and DFW and USFW rules.

Communication between intergovernmental agencies is the key to success. Constant and consistent communication with different government agencies and other various stakeholders around the island is critical in pushing projects ahead.



Capitol Hill



Banzaï Cliff



Caves near Banzai Cliff

BIOLOGY

300 hours

Biologists

During the first two months at IRP, Wildlife Biologist spent over 200 hours shadowing and assisting DFW staff for surveys including FEMA rebuilds and new project applications. Documents for upcoming IRP biological surveys were also created.

Approximately 70 training surveys were completed shadowing DFW

Over 50 surveys for projects were completed since July 2021.

- Mt Tapochau Road Repair - 90 hours
- Aslito Ponding Basin Fence Repair - 54 hours
- Oleai Sports Complex -44 hours
- Admiral Herbert G. Hopwood Middle School - 18 hours
- Marpi Public Cemetery - 6 hours
- CUC Projects - 5 hours
- Research, Training, Team Meetings, Misc. - 40 hours



CUC San Vicente Water Tank Project



Tinian Mayor's Office Meeting



S-5 & S-9 Sewelift Station Renovation



Rota Mayor's Office



Marpi Road





IRP Roll out



Tinian Mayor's Office

IRP Staff Meeting



IRP Roll out



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