

For Official Release
PR 002-03232023
Office of the Governor
Utulei, American Samoa
March 23, 2023



Pago Pago International Airport Apron Rehabilitation Project Completed Under the Lemanu-Talauega Administration

“The airport is crucial as it is the first glimpse of American Samoa’s beauty to all travelers.. Here is their first taste of our culture.”

-Lemanu P.S. Mauga



Honorable Lemanu P.S. Mauga, Honorable Talauega E.V. Ale, Senate President Tuaolo Furean, Speaker of the House Savali Talavou Ale, along with several members of the cabinet, and honored guests at the Airport Apron dedication ceremony.

On Wednesday, March 22, 2023, the Department of Port Administration, under the leadership of Director Falenaoti Loi-On Fruean, hosted the dedication ceremony to commemorate the completion of the Pago Pago International Airport Apron Rehabilitation Project. Many in attendance included Honorable Lemanu P.S. Mauga, Honorable Talauega E.V. Ale, Honorable Senate President Tuaolo Fruean, honored guests, and several members of the cabinet.

The Apron Rehabilitation Project was completed in 6 phases. Phase 1 was contracted to McConnell Dowell American Samoa, and Phases 2 through 6 was contracted to Paramount Builders Incorporated. The construction management was provided by PPG Consultants and the DPA engineer assigned to the project was Ms. Natalia Palamo. The duration of the project took approximately 7 years to include design, permitting, and construction. Phase 1 began in 2018 and was completed within 2 years. Phase 2 through 6 began in 2019 and was completed in 4 years. The Scope of Work covered a total area of 741,000 sq ft (or 17 acres) of new pavement and utilities towards the Pago Pago International Airport. Completed work included new asphalt, new pavement, 7 new fuel hydrates connecting back to the new tank farm in Lion's Park, new storm water drainage to include an oil-water separator, 6 new flood lights to illuminate the entire apron, new pavement markings, new emergency station and many more. According to Director Falenaoti, there were 3 funding sources for this project and the are as follows:

- FAA issued 3 grants totalling to \$34,303,667
- DOI provided 2 local CID matching grants totalling to \$600,000
- ASG provided local matching funds of \$3,100,407

The total and final cost of this project came out to \$38,004,074

“We continue to improve our runways, taxiways, and aprons for the safety of the aircrafts flying into American Samoa, and we strive to maintain the highest safety standard at our airport facility not only because it is mandated in our federal regulations, but also the safety of our families traveling to and from is paramount to us,” stated Director Fruean.

“Today is the day of thanksgiving as we continue to see the Lord's blessing not only over our government, but also our Territory,” remarked Governor Lemanu. He continued, “I commend the work of Director Fruean and your entire department as you play a vital role in our government. The airport is crucial as it is the first glimpse of American Samoa's beauty to all travelers. Here they will see the luscious greenery of our mountains as seen on the runway and the happy faces of our people displayed across the arrival area. Here is their first taste of our culture. The airport also plays a vital role as this is the gateway to neighboring islands such as Manu'a, and it serves as another means of transportation aside from sea travel for our people.

I want to commend the hard work of our contractors who have ensured the completion and adequate apron for our Territory.”

###







