

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
APPOINTMENTS

DOCUMENT NO.	APPOINTEE	POSITION	AGENCY	APPT. DATE	TERM LENGTH	COMMITTEE REFERRED	DATE REFERRED	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	SESSION DATE	DATE CONFIRMED	NOTES
37GL-23-0283	Honorable Robert R.D.C. Hofmann	Member	Mayor's Council of Guam Representative	3/20/23	To serve at the pleasure of the Governor	Committee on Maritime Transportation, Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens	3/27/23	4/6/23 8:30 a.m.	4/14/23 5:52 p.m.			



Office of Senator

AMANDA L. SHELTON

Legislative Secretary & Chairwoman

Committee on Maritime and Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth and Senior Citizens

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 37th Guam Legislature

April 12, 2023

The Honorable Therese M. Terlaje

Speaker

I Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan

163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagåtña, Guam 96910

VIA: The Honorable Chris Barnett
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

Subject: Committee Report on the Appointment of Robert R.D.C. Hofmann

Dear Speaker Terlaje,

Buenas yan Håfa Adai! Transmitted herewith is the Committee Report on the appointment of **Robert R.D.C. Hofmann** to serve as the Mayor's Council of Guam Representative to the Board of Directors of the Guam Visitors Bureau and which was referred to the Committee on Maritime & Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens.

Committee votes are as follows:

- 6 TO DO CONFIRM
- _____ TO NOT CONFIRM
- _____ TO REPORT OUT ONLY
- _____ TO ABSTAIN
- _____ TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE



COMMITTEE ON RULES

Received:

April 12, 2023 5:53 p.m.

Kamarin Nelson

Revisions Received:

April 14, 2023 3:21 p.m.

Respectfully,

Senator Amanda L. Shelton

Chairwoman, Committee on Maritime & Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens



GUAM CONGRESS BUILDING | 163 CHALAN SANTO PAPA | HAGÁTÑA, GUAM 96910





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AMANDA L. SHELTON

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Committee on Maritime and Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth and Senior Citizens

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 37th Guam Legislature

COMMITTEE REPORT

Nomination of Robert R.D.C. Hofmann

**As the Mayor's Council of Guam Representative
Member to the Board of Directors of the Guam Visitors
Bureau to serve at the pleasure of the Governor**



GUAM CONGRESS BUILDING | 163 CHALAN SANTO PAPA | HAGÁTNA, GUAM 96910

officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org | (671) 969-2574 • (671) 989-2572



Office of Senator

AMANDA L. SHELTON

Legislative Secretary & Chairwoman


Committee on Maritime and Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth and Senior Citizens

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 37th Guam Legislature

April 12, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: **All Members**
Committee on Maritime & Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens

From: **Senator Amanda L. Shelton** 
Chairwoman

Subject: **Committee Report on the Appointment of Robert R.D.C. Hofmann**

Buenas yan Håfa Adai! Transmitted herewith for your consideration is the Committee Report of **Robert R.D.C. Hofmann** to serve as a **Guam Mayor's Council Representative** to the **Board of Directors** of the **Guam Visitors Bureau**.

This report includes the following:

- Copy of COR Referral of the Appointment
- Copy of the Appointment Letter to the Speaker
- Copy of the Appointment Packet & Support Documents
- Notices of Public Hearing & Other Correspondence
- Copy of the Public Hearing Agenda
- Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet
- Submitted Written Testimonies and Supporting Documents
- Committee Vote Sheet
- Committee Report Digest

Please take the appropriate action on the attached voting sheet. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Respectfully,



Senator Amanda L. Shelton
Chairwoman





COMMITTEE ON RULES

Senator Chris Barnett, Chairperson
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
37th Guam Legislature

March 27, 2023

To: **Joaquin P. Taitague**
Substitute Clerk of the Legislature

Attorney Darleen Hiton
Legislative Legal Counsel

From: **Senator Chris Barnett** 
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

Subject: **Referral of Appointment**

Håfa Adai yan Biba Guåhan!

As per my authority as Chairperson of the Committee on Rules and subject to §9.01, Rule IX of our Standing Rules, I am forwarding the referral of the following appointment:

Appointee: **Honorable Robert R.D.C Hofmann**

Position: **Member, Mayor's Council of Guam Representative**

Term Length: **At the pleasure of the Governor**

Please refer the following document:

"Doc. No. 37GL-23-0283 – Office of the Governor – Appointment and Supporting Documents for Honorable Robert R.D.C Hofmann, Member, Mayor's Council of Guam Representative, Guam Visitors Bureau Board of Directors."

Ensure the appointment is referred to the Committee on Maritime Transportation, Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens chaired by Senator Amanda L. Shelton. I also request that the same be forwarded to Management Information Services (MIS) for posting on our website.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Kamarin J.A. Nelson, Acting Committee on Rules Director at 671-472-2461.



LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO
LT. GOVERNOR

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

March 20, 2023

Honorable Therese M. Terlaje
Speaker
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guāhan
37th Guam Legislature
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96932

31GL-23-0283
**OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER
THERESE M. TERLAJE**

~~03~~ 23 2023

Time: 2:41pm
Received: [Signature]

RE: Board Appointment

Hafa Adai Madame Speaker:

By virtue of the authority vested in me pursuant to the Organic Act of Guam and the applicable local laws, 12 GCA § 9106, I am pleased to transmit the following appointment and supporting documents:

APPOINTEE: Robert R.D.C. Hofmann
POSITION: Member, Guam Visitors Bureau
Board of Director, Mayor's Council of Guam Representative
TERM LENGTH: At the Pleasure of the Governor

The appointment is subject to the confirmation of *I Liheslaturan Guāhan*. Please schedule a hearing at your earliest convenience.

Senseramente,

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
Maga'hāgan Guāhan
Governor of Guam



cc: *Honorable* Joshua F. Tenorio, Lt. Governor of Guam

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO
LT. GOVERNOR

UFISINAN I MAGA'HÅGAN GUÅHAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

March 20, 2023

HONORABLE ROBERT R.D.C. HOFMANN

Hafa Adai Mayor Hofmann:

Pursuant to my authority under the Organic Act of Guam and local law 12 GCA § 9106, I am appointing you to serve as a:

MEMBER, BOARD OF DIRECTOR, GUAM VISITORS BUREAU
Mayors Council of Guam - Representative

Appointing you to this position comes with great responsibility because you will have a vital role to perform placing many demands on your time and energy. Integrity and honesty are virtues that I prioritize for my Administration to exemplify, and I know that you will do the same while in service to the people of Guam. Your responsibilities shall be significant and consequential. I trust that you will fulfill your duties and set a standard for others to follow.

I appreciate your willingness to serve in this position, and I am confident that your time will be spent in a manner to improve the island of Guam.

This appointment is subject to the advice and consent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jean Taitano of the Office of the Governor at (671) 473-1121.

Senseramente,

Handwritten signature of Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero.

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

cc: *Honorable* Joshua F. Tenorio, Lt. Governor of Guam
Chairperson, Guam Visitors Bureau



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM
Nomination and Appointment Information Sheet

The following information is required for submission to the
Speaker of *Liheslaturan Guåhan* in accordance with Title 4, Guam Code Annotated Section 2103

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial
Hofmann	Robert	RDC
Mailing Address		Apartment/Unit #
[REDACTED]		
City	State	Zip Code
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Phone	E-mail Address	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Position to which Appointment is Made		
Member,		
Are you a citizen of the United States? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
If no, are you authorized to work in the United States? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		

EDUCATION

SCHOOL (Name, City and State)	DATES OF ATTENDANCE	TYPE OF DEGREE	YEAR EARNED
High School GWHS	1991-1995	High School Diploma	1995
College			
Graduate School			
Other Degree			

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Name of Present/Last Employer and Mailing Address People of Sinajana	Position Title Mayor (Elected Official)
	Dates Held Jan 2013- Present

Previous Employer and Mailing Address People of Sinajana	Position Title Vice Mayor (Elected Official)
	Dates Held Jan 2005-Dec 2012

Previous Employer and Mailing Address Sen. Rory J. Respicio 155 Hesler Street Hagatna, Guam 96910	Position Title Office Manager
	Dates Held Jan 2003-December 2004

Previous Employer and Mailing Address Office of the Governor- Gutierrez/Bordallo Administration POB 2950 Hagatna, Guam 96932	Position Title Staff Assistant
	Dates Held June 1995-December 2002

Previous Employer and Mailing Address St. Fidelis Friary 135 Chalan Kapuchino Sinajana, Guam 96910	Position Title General Helper
	Dates Held 1993-1994

PRIOR GOVERNMENT OF GUAM SERVICE

Agency or Department Name		Position Title	
Address	Phone No.	Dates Held	

Agency or Department Name		Position Title	
Address	Phone No.	Dates Held	

PRIOR GOVERNMENT SERVICE (EXCLUDING GOVERNMENT OF GUAM)

Agency or Department Name		Position Title	
Address	Phone No.	Dates Held	

Agency or Department Name		Position Title	
Address	Phone No.	Dates Held	

TRAINING

INSTITUTE/SEMINARS/ON-THE-JOB TRAINING	DATE
Ethics in Government	since 2012 to present
Disaster Management	since 2005 and numerous times
Vegetation Managment	since 2005 and numerous times
Prevention & Education Programds	since 2005 and numerous times

AWARDS

List all educational, professional, civic awards, and recognition for public service:

PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT

List involvement on a local/national/international level. List organizations, activities participated in, and offices held:

COMMUNITY / CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

List organizations, activities participated in, and offices held:

Guam Mami, Inc., President, since 2005 to present
St. Jude Parish Council, Board Member, since 1996
St. Jude Music Ministry, Music Director, Since 2002
Archdiocese of Agana Charities, Board Member, since 2016 to present

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

List any published articles, papers delivered at professional meetings, etc.:

MILITARY SERVICE (Please attach Form DD-214)

BRANCH	DATES OF SERVICE	RANK AT DISCHARGE	TYPE OF DISCHARGE

OTHER INFORMATION

(1) Have you ever been found guilty of a felony in any court, whether within or without the United States?

Yes No If so, please specify in detail: _____

Address of the Court: _____

Date(s) of Conviction: _____

Specific Infraction Committed: _____

(2) Have you ever been declared mentally incompetent by any court, whether within or without the United States?

Yes No If so, please specify in detail the reasons and facts related to such declaration:

(3) Have you ever been found not guilty or not punishable in any criminal proceedings by reason of insanity?

Yes No

(4) Have you ever been confined to a mental institution for any reason?

Yes No If so, please specify in why the appointing authority believes you that you are not suffering from any mental illness or affliction:



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

Statement of Financial Interests

(Required by 4 G.C.A. §13104.1)

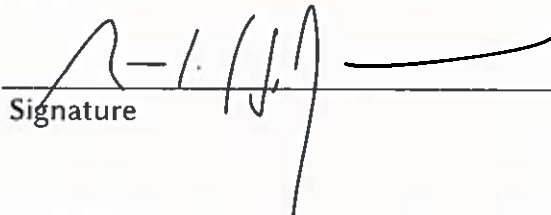
TO: The Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero
Governor of Guam
Ricardo J. Bordallo Governor's Complex
Adelup, Guam 96910

FROM: Robert RDC Hofmann

I have no financial interest in any business

I do have interest(s) in the following business(es):

NAME AND ADDRESS OF BUSINESS INTEREST	TYPE AND AMOUNT OF INTEREST

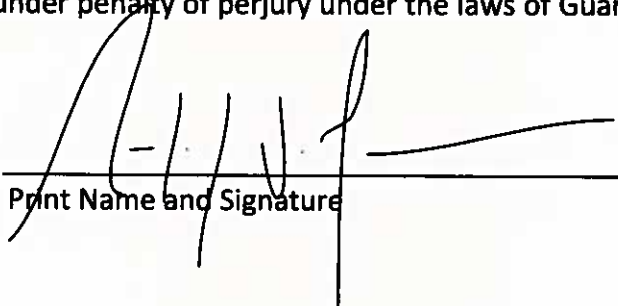

Signature

3/9/2023
Date

AFFIDAVIT / DECLARATION UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY

I, the undersigned, do hereby depose and say that: (1) I have read and reviewed the information contained in the attached Appointment/Nomination letter from the Governor of Guam; (2) that the matters contained in the Appointment/Nomination letter, together with all attachments thereto, are true and correct and that I am competent to testify to said matters; and (3) that this Declaration is made for the purpose of complying with the requirements of 4 G.C.A. Section 2103.5.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of Guam (4 G.C.A. Section 4308) that the foregoing is true and correct.



Print Name and Signature

3/9/2023

Date



**Government of Guam
 GUAM POLICE DEPARTMENT
 RECORDS & IDENTIFICATION SECTION
 P.O. Box 23909
 Guam Main Facility, Guam 96921**



March 13, 2023

SUBJECT: CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD

NAME:	Robert R. D.C. HOFMANN		
DATE OF BIRTH:	██████████	FINGERPRINT#:	██████████
■	The individual has no record of criminal conviction(s) in the Guam Police Department files that are subject to Guam law.		

*******NOTHING FOLLOWS*******

THIS INFORMATION MAY BE LIMITED TO A LOCAL CRIMINAL OFFENSE ONLY AND IS NOT INTENDED FOR USE FOR ANY LOCAL, STATE, OR FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.

By Direction: BARBIE

**STEPHEN C. IGNACIO
 Chief of Police**

The absence of an original GUAM POLICE seal invalidates this police clearance.
 REVISED 04/26/19



SUPERIOR COURT OF GUAM

Guam Judicial Center | 120 West O'Brien Drive | Hagåtña, Guam 96910 | (671) 475-3370 | Fax: (671) 475-0078

Name: **ROBERT RAYMOND DELA CRUZ HOFMANN**

Driver's License ID #: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED]

CERTIFICATE OF SEARCH

The undersigned Clerk hereby certifies the following results of a diligent search of the records of this Court:

Criminal Cases:
No Cases Found

Civil Cases:

Request for further information may be addressed at the Records Division of the Superior Court of Guam, Guam Judicial Center, 120 West O'Brien Drive, Hagåtña, Guam. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed Saturdays, Sundays and local/federal holidays. **Court Clearances are Non-Refundable.**

Dated:03/10/2023

Sophia Santos Diaz
Clerk of Court

By: *Evan L. Topasna*
Deputy Clerk I

Prepared by: Evan L Topasna



The absence of an Original Court Seal Invalidates this document. 162208



Office of Senator Shelton Guam Legislature <officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org>

First Notice of Confirmation Hearing – Thursday, April 6, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m

2 messages

Office of Senator Amanda L. Shelton <officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org>

Thu, Mar 30, 2023 at
8:15 AM

To: "Speaker Therese M. Terlaje" <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>, Vice Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes <senatormunabarnes@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>, "Senator Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, Senator Sabina Flores Perez <office@senatorperez.org>, Senator Roy Quinata <officeofsenatorquinata@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Will Parkinson <senatorparkinson@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Dwayne San Nicolas <senatorsannicolas@guamlegislature.org>, "Senator Telo T. Taitague" <senortelot@gmail.com>, "Senator Christopher M. Dueñas" <senatorchrisduenas@gmail.com>, Senator Thomas Fisher <senatorfisher@guamlegislature.org>, "Senator Joanne M. Brown" <office@senatorjoannebrown.com>
Cc: phnotice@guamlegislature.org

March 30, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media

From: Senator Amanda L. Shelton

Chairwoman, Committee on Maritime & Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth and Senior Citizens

Subject: First Notice of Confirmation Hearing - Thursday, April 6, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Buenas yan Håfa adai! Please be advised that the Committee on Maritime & Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth and Senior Citizens ("Committee") will convene a Public Hearing on **Thursday, April 6, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m in the Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building** on the following:

8:30 A.M. - Confirmation Hearing

- Appointment of the Honorable Robert D.C. Hofmann to serve as the Mayor's Council of Guam Representative on the Guam Visitors Bureau, Board of Directors

9:30 A.M. - Confirmation Hearing

- Reports and Updates
 - Financial Updates
 - GVB Board & Membership
 - GVB enabling legislation and bylaws
 - Guam Destination Management
 - Industry Recovery Updates

Watch Live

The Public Hearing will broadcast on local television, GTA Channel 21, Docomo Channel 117 and stream online via *I Liheslaturan Guåhan's* live feed. A recording of the hearings will be available

online via Guam Legislature Media on YouTube after the hearing.

How to Participate

Individuals wishing to participate in the Public Hearing to provide testimony may contact the Office of Senator Amanda L. Shelton at (671) 969-2574/989-2572 or via email at officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org no later than April 5, 2023, for further guidance.

If written testimonies are to be presented at the Public Hearing, the Committee requests that copies be submitted prior to the hearing date and should be addressed to Senator Amanda L. Shelton, Chairwoman of the Committee. Testimonies may be submitted via drop-box or email to the Office of Senator Amanda L. Shelton at the aforementioned addresses.

Special Accommodations

Individuals requiring special accommodations, auxiliary aids, or services may contact and submit their request to Mr. Jay Milan at the Office of Senator Amanda L. Shelton at 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910, by phone at (671) 969-2574/989-2572 or via email at officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org.

We look forward to your attendance and participation.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse'.



Office of the People • Senator Amanda L. Shelton

Legislative Secretary & Chairwoman, Committee on Maritime Transportation, Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens

37th Guam Legislature

163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

T +1 (671) 969-2574 • (671) 989-2572

E officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org

 **1st Notice of Public Hearing on 4.6.23.docx.pdf**
361K

Ed Pocaigue <sgtarms@guamlegislature.org>

To: "Office of Senator Amanda L. Shelton" <officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org>

Thu, Mar 30, 2023 at 8:29 AM

Hafa Adai=)

Noted and Posted on Calendar.

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Si Yu'os Ma'åse'

Edward S. Pocaigue, Jr.
Sergeant at Arms

37th Guam Legislature

I Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Tel: (671) 969-3514

Email: sgtarms@guamlegislature.org

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Office of Senator Shelton Guam Legislature <officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org>

Rescind and Replace: First Notice of Public Hearing – Thursday, April 6, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

2 messages

Office of Senator Amanda L. Shelton <officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org>

Thu, Mar 30, 2023 at 8:56 AM

To: "Speaker Therese M. Terlaje" <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>, Vice Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes <senatormunabarnes@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>, "Senator Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, Senator Sabina Flores Perez <office@senatorperez.org>, Senator Roy Quinata <officeofsenatorquinata@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Will Parkinson <senatorparkinson@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Dwayne San Nicolas <senatorsannicolas@guamlegislature.org>, "Senator Telo T. Taitague" <senortelot@gmail.com>, "Senator Christopher M. Dueñas" <senatorchrisduenas@gmail.com>, Senator Thomas Fisher <senatorfisher@guamlegislature.org>, "Senator Joanne M. Brown" <office@senatorjoannebrown.com>
Cc: phnotice@guamlegislature.org

March 30, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media

From: Senator Amanda L. Shelton
Chairwoman, Committee on Maritime & Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth and Senior Citizens

Subject: First Notice of Public Hearing – Thursday, April 6, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

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We look forward to your attendance and participation.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse'.



Office of the People • Senator Amanda L. Shelton

Legislative Secretary & Chairwoman, Committee on Maritime Transportation, Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens

37th Guam Legislature

163 Chalan Santo Papa, *Hagåtña*, Guam 96910

T +1 (671) 969-2574 • (671) 989-2572

E officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org

 **1st Notice of Public Hearing on 4.6.23.docx.pdf**
361K

Office of Senator Amanda L. Shelton <officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org>
To: Valerie Sablan <valerie.sablan@visitguam.org>

Thu, Mar 30, 2023 at 9:29 AM

Si Yu'os Ma'åse'.



Office of the People • Senator Amanda L. Shelton

Legislative Secretary & Chairwoman, Committee on Maritime Transportation, Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens

37th Guam Legislature

163 Chalan Santo Papa, *Hagåtña*, Guam 96910

T +1 (671) 969-2574 • (671) 989-2572

E officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org

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1st Notice of Public Hearing on 4.6.23.docx.pdf
361K



Office of Senator Shelton Guam Legislature <officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org>

Second Notice of Public Hearing – Thursday, April 4, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

3 messages

Office of Senator Amanda L. Shelton <officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org>

Tue, Apr 4, 2023 at 8:00 AM

To: "Speaker Therese M. Terlaje" <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>, Vice Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes <senatormunabarnes@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>, "Senator Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, Senator Sabina Flores Perez <office@senatorperez.org>, Senator Roy Quinata <officeofsenatorquinata@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Will Parkinson <senatorparkinson@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Dwayne San Nicolas <senatorsannicolas@guamlegislature.org>, "Senator Telo T. Taitague" <senortelot@gmail.com>, "Senator Christopher M. Dueñas" <senatorchrisduenas@gmail.com>, Senator Thomas Fisher <senatorfisher@guamlegislature.org>, "Senator Joanne M. Brown" <office@senatorjoannebrown.com>
Cc: phnotice@guamlegislature.org, Valerie Sablan <valerie.sablan@visitguam.org>

April 4, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media

From: Senator Amanda L. Shelton
Chairwoman, Committee on Maritime & Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth and Senior Citizens

Subject: Second Notice of Public Hearing – Thursday, April 4, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Buenas yan Håfa adai! Please be advised that the Committee on Maritime & Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth and Senior Citizens ("Committee") will convene a Public Hearing on **Thursday, April 6, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m in the Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building** on the following:

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 - GVB enabling legislation and bylaws
 - Guam Destination Management
 - Industry Recovery Updates

Watch Live

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We look forward to your attendance and participation.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse'.



Office of the People • Senator Amanda L. Shelton
Legislative Secretary & Chairwoman, Committee on Maritime Transportation, Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens

37th Guam Legislature
163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910
T +1 (671) 969-2574 • (671) 989-2572
E officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org

 **2nd Notice of Public Hearing on 4.6.23.docx.pdf**
362K

Speaker Therese M. Terlaje <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>
To: "Office of Senator Amanda L. Shelton" <officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org>

Tue, Apr 4, 2023 at 12:08 PM

Håfa Adai,

Is thia meeting on April 4th or 6th?

Si Yu'os Ma'åse'.

Maria Abante
Legislative and Special Projects Assistant



Office of Speaker Therese M. Terlaje
Committee on Health, Land, Justice, and Culture
I Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan 37th Guam Legislature
Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910
☎ (671) 472-3586
✉ senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com
🌐 www.senatorterlaje.com

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[Quoted text hidden]

Office of Senator Amanda L. Shelton <officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org>
To: "Speaker Therese M. Terlaje" <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>

Tue, Apr 4, 2023 at 12:18 PM

Buenas Maria,

The meeting will take place on April 6th. A rescind and replace has been issued. Thank you and have a nice day!

Si Yu'os Ma'åse'



Gwen Yanger | *Research Policy Analyst*

Office of the People • Senator Amanda L. Shelton
Legislative Secretary & Chairwoman, Committee on
Maritime Transportation, Air Transportation, Parks,
Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of
Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens

37th Guam Legislature

163 Chalan Santo Papa, *Hagåtña*, Guam 96910

T +1 (671) 969-2574 • (671) 989-2572

E officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org

[Quoted text hidden]



Office of Senator Shelton Guam Legislature <officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org>

RESCIND AND REPLACE Subject: Second Notice of Public Hearing – Thursday, April 6, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

1 message

Office of Senator Amanda L. Shelton <officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org>

Tue, Apr 4, 2023 at 8:29 AM

To: "Speaker Therese M. Terlaje" <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>, Vice Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes <senatormunabarnes@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>, "Senator Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, Senator Sabina Flores Perez <office@senatorperez.org>, Senator Roy Quinata <officeofsenatorquinata@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Will Parkinson <senatorparkinson@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Dwayne San Nicolas <senatorsannicolas@guamlegislature.org>, "Senator Telo T. Taitague" <senatortelot@gmail.com>, "Senator Christopher M. Dueñas" <senatorchrisduenas@gmail.com>, Senator Thomas Fisher <senatorfisher@guamlegislature.org>, "Senator Joanne M. Brown" <office@senatorjoannebrown.com>
Cc: phnotice@guamlegislature.org, Valerie Sablan <valerie.sablan@visitguam.org>

April 4, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media

From: Senator Amanda L. Shelton
Chairwoman, Committee on Maritime & Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth and Senior Citizens

Subject: Second Notice of Public Hearing - Thursday, April 6, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Buenas yan Hâfa adai! Please be advised that the Committee on Maritime & Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth and Senior Citizens ("Committee") will convene a Public Hearing on **Thursday, April 6, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m in the Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building** on the following:

8:30 A.M. - Confirmation Hearing

- Appointment of the Honorable Robert D.C. Hofmann to serve as the Mayor's Council of Guam Representative on the Guam Visitors Bureau, Board of Directors

9:30 A.M. - Oversight Hearing - Guam Visitors Bureau

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We look forward to your attendance and participation.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse'.



Office of the People • Senator Amanda L. Shelton

Legislative Secretary & Chairwoman, Committee on Maritime Transportation, Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens

37th Guam Legislature

163 Chalan Santo Papa, *Hagåtña*, Guam 96910

T +1 (671) 969-2574 • (671) 989-2572

E officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org

 **2nd Notice of Public Hearing on 4.6.23.docx.pdf**
362K


First Notice of Public Hearing – Thursday, April 6, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

 PRINT

First Notice of Public Hearing – Thursday, April 6, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

PUBLIC HEARING



 **Posted on:** 03/30/2023 08:41 AM

 **Posted by:** Jay Milan

 **Department(s):**
GUAM LEGISLATURE (/notices?department_id=92)

 **Division(s):**
OFFICE OF SENATOR AMANDA SHELTON (/notices?division_id=279)

 **Notice Topic(s):** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?topic_id=74)

 **Types of Notice:** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?type_id=7)

 **For Audience(s):** PUBLIC (/notices?public=1)

 **Share this notice**

March 30, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: **All Senators, Stakeholders, Media**

From: **Senator Amanda L. Shelton**

Chairwoman, Committee on Maritime & Air Transportation,
Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of
Women, Youth and Senior Citizens

**Subject: First Notice of Confirmation Hearing – Thursday,
April 6, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m.**

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Appointment of the Honorable Robert D.C. Hofmann to serve as the Mayor's Council of Guam Representative on the Guam Visitors Bureau, Board of Directors

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Reports and Updates
Financial Updates
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GVB enabling legislation and bylaws
Guam Destination Management
Industry Recovery Updates

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Second Notice of Public Hearing – Thursday, April 6, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

 PRINT


Second Notice of Public Hearing – Thursday, April 6, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m.


PUBLIC HEARING



 **Posted on:** 04/04/2023 08:20 AM

 **Posted by:** Jay Milan


 **Department(s):**
GUAM LEGISLATURE (/notices?department_id=92)

 **Division(s):** (/notices?division_id=)

 **Notice Topic(s):** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?topic_id=74)

 **Types of Notice:** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?type_id=7)

 **For Audience(s):** PUBLIC (/notices?public=1)

 **Share this notice**

April 4, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media

From: Senator Amanda L. Shelton

Chairwoman, Committee on Maritime & Air
Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher
Education, and the Advancement of Women,
Youth and Senior Citizens

Subject: Second Notice of Public Hearing - Thursday, April 6, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

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•

Reports and Updates

•

Financial Updates

-

GVB Board & Membership

-

GVB enabling legislation and bylaws

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Guam Destination Management

-

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We look forward to your attendance and participation. *Si Yu'os Ma'åse'!*



Biggie Breakfast Platter
\$6.10

Pacific Daily News
PART OF THE GMA 7000 NETWORK

13th baby of 2021 Island welcomes
1st after midnight

EE PDN with every Local Breakfast Platter or a minimum purchase of \$5 on any breakfast menu!
*While supplies last



Office of Senator
AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary & Chairwoman

Committee on Maritime and Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth and Senior Citizens
I Mina'trentai Siete Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 37th Guam Legislature

FIRST NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

April 6, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. • Guam Legislature Public Hearing Room

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officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org | (671) 969-2574 • (671) 989-2572

18
 2023

**DESIKOND
MAGLEN
MAGLEN ESTER**




Desikond "Maglen" Maglen Ester, 74, passed away March 28 at the age of 74. Viewing and last respects may be held from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. April 4 at Our Lady of Peace Funeral Home, Barrigada. Private cremation service will follow immediately at Our Lady of Peace Crematorium, Windward Hills, Yona.

**NGA LEWIS
TURNER**



Nga "Connie" Lewis Turner, of Yigo, passed away March 28 at the age of 74. Viewing and last respects may be held from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. April 4 at Our Lady of Peace Funeral Home, Barrigada. Cremation service will follow immediately at Our Lady of Peace Memorial Gardens, Windward Hills, Yona.

**JOSE CRUZ
LEON
GUERRERO**



Jose "Joe" Cruz Leon Guerrero of Barrigada, passed away March 22 at the age of 80. Rosary is prayed at 7 p.m. at his residence, 215 Pangasinan Way, Barrigada. Last respects will be held from 9-11:30 a.m. April 4 at


Our Lady of Peace and Saint Journey Catholic Church, Chalan Pago Malls or Christian Burial will be celebrated at noon, followed by interment at Guam Memorial Park, Barrigada.

**DAEVIN LAYNE
FULMER**



Daevin "Zoe" Layne Fulmer, of Hagåt, passed away March 29 at the age of 11. Rosary is being prayed at 7 p.m., ending April 6, at the family's residence, 188 S. Santa Cruz Drive, Hagåt. Last respects will be held from 9-11:30 a.m. April 10 at the family's residence. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at noon at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church in Hagåt. Private cremation will follow.

**ROBERT
IGNACIO
CHARGUALAF**



Robert Ignacio Chargualaf of Yigo, passed away March 22 at the age of 48. Last respects will be held from 9 a.m. to noon April 6 at Guam Memorial Park Funeral Home, Leyang, Barrigada.

Funeral and Resary

We are here to help you
Contact us at 671-649-1924
advertis@postguam.com

Nga Lewis Turner
(VIGO COUNTRY CLUB)
"Connie L. Turner"

SEPTEMBER 07, 1948 - MARCH 28, 2023

From the Village of Yigo, called to eternal rest at 74 years old.

She now joins her:
Father: Nguyen Van Tam
Step-Father: Nguyen Van Xieu
Mother: Huynh Thi Tai
Brother: Nam

She will be missed by her:
Husband: Allen L. Turner
Children & Their Spouses:
Bobby C. Lewis Jr.
Garry R. Lewis
Mariana Q. Turner

Sisters: Trung, Bat; Bai; Tri
Brothers: Thong; Dounc
Son In Law: Timothy Connor
Grand Children: Leilani Alfaro;
Andria Jose

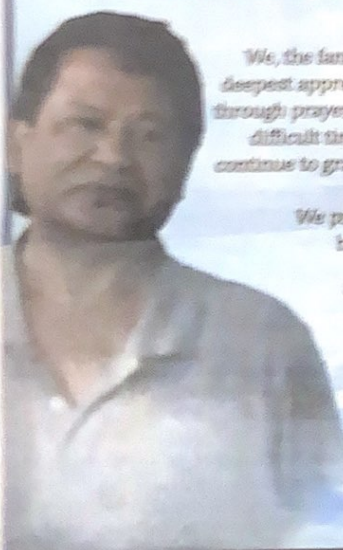
Viewing and Last Respect may be held from 9:00am to 12:00pm on Wednesday, April 5, 2023, at Our Lady of Peace Funeral Home, Barrigada. Cremation Services will immediately follow at Our Lady of Peace Crematorium, Windward Hills, Yona.



OUR HUMBLE GRATITUDE
FROM THE FAMILY OF

Roque

PANGELINAN SABLAN



We, the family, wish to extend our deepest appreciation for supporting us through prayer and presence during this difficult time. Roque's memories continue to grant us strength and peace.

We pray the Lord continues to bless you all abundantly.

The Sablan Family

**Office of Senator
AMANDA L. SHELTON**
Legislative Secretary & Chairwoman

Committee on Maritime and Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth and Senior Citizens
1 Minuartes State No. Libertadown Gulshan • 37th Guam Legislature

SECOND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
April 6, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. • Guam Legislature Public Hearing Room

Buenas yan Háfa adai! Please be advised that the Committee on Maritime & Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth and Senior Citizens ("Committee") will convene a Roundtable Hearing on **Thursday, April 6, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building** on the following:

8:30 A.M. - Confirmation Hearing

- Appointment of the Honorable Robert D.C. Hofmann to serve as the Mayor's Council of Guam Representative on the Guam Visitors Bureau, Board of Directors

9:30 A.M. - Oversight Hearing - Guam Visitors Bureau

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Office of Senator

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Committee on Maritime and Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth and Senior Citizens

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 37th Guam Legislature

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Office of Senator

AMANDA L. SHELTON

Legislative Secretary & Chairwoman

Committee on Maritime and Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth and Senior Citizens

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 37th Guam Legislature

AGENDA

Public Hearing • April 6, 2023 at 8:30 a.m.

Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building

I. Call to Order

II. Opening Remarks/Housekeeping

III. Confirmation Hearing

- a. **Appointment of Honorable Robert D.C. Hofmann to serve as the Mayor's Council of Guam Representative Guam Visitors Bureau, Board of Directors**

IV. Oversight Hearing

- a. **Reports and Updates**
 - i. **Financial Updates**
 - ii. **Guam Visitors Bureau Membership**
 - iii. **GVB enabling legislation and bylaws**
 - iv. **Guam Destination Management**
 - v. **Industry Recovery Updates**

V. Closing Remarks/Announcements

VI. Adjournment



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Office of Senator
AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary & Chairwoman

Committee on Maritime and Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth and Senior Citizens
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 37th Guam Legislature

PUBLIC HEARING

Appointment of Honorable Robert R.D.C. Hofmann to serve as the Mayor's Council of Guam Representative to the Guam Visitors Bureau, Board of Directors
Thursday, April 6, 2023, at 8:30 a.m.

SIGN-IN SHEET

NAME	POSITION	AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION (IF ANY)	Please indicate with ✓				Contact Number	Email Address
			Written	Oral	Support	Oppose		
Jesse Aliq	Mayor of Piti				✓			
Carl Gutierrez	Pres/Geo	GVB			✓			
M. B. Rivera								
H. Hofmann	Mayor, MCOB	GVB Board			✓			
Anthony Chagnoff	Mayor	IMO			✓			
JUNEL BLAS	Mayor	BARRIGADA			✓			
JOSAFP. BAPTISTA	VICE MAYOR	BARRIGADA			✓			

Confirmation Hearing Testimony
For
Sinajana Mayor Robert RDC Hofmann
Thursday, April 6, 2023
Before the Committee on Maritime Transportation, Air Transportation,
Parks, Tourism, Higher Education and the Advancement of Women, Youth,
and Senior Citizens

Good Morning, Honorable Chairperson Shelton and Members of the
Committee!

I come before you today to humbly ask for your support for my nomination. I am humbled to represent the Mayors' Council of Guam as a Board of Director to the Guam Visitors Bureau. I previously served on the board from 2005 to 2010 and 2013 to 2020 holding several positions as a committee chairperson for Community Development, Destination Management, and the North America & Pacific market.

The inclusion of the Mayors' Council of Guam at the board level has been always welcomed because we bring the frontline grass roots perspective. After all, the villages, the people, and the culture are what makes Guam a unique destination. At the end of the day, the workers from the security guard to the front desk, managers, and staff... even the owners...everyone...goes home to a village community.

I want to publicly thank you Senator Amanda Shelton for always playing an active and engaging role in tourism. I have witnessed your involvement and interest in tourism as the oversight chairperson of GVB. You bring a well-balanced view of our island's tourism and economic needs.

While at GVB, I was surprised to discover the amount of work and responsibility that GVB has taken on outside of its legislated and fiduciary duties and mission. From roadside clean ups and roadside grass cutting all the way down to the southern end of the island to cleaning drainage culverts and ponding basins, developing beach signs, dealing with panhandling, painting over graffiti, removing trash in public parks, dealing with abandoned buildings, and trying to correct airport issues – GVB does so much for our island.

GVB has focused its efforts and limited funding on marketing Guam as a destination, but it is forced to get involved in island maintenance because our partners, stakeholders, and visitors raise the issues. Sadly, some of the agencies whose responsibility and mandates these fall under come up short because of lack of manpower, authority, resources or funding.

We need to be proactive and get it done because if we don't act, the continuing decline in recreation areas, facilities, graffiti, and other issues will ultimately damage our tourism sector and our island's economy. Our image as a resort destination is at risk. Since the last time I served on the board, I've seen that GVB is slowly making a small dent, but it is a Herculean task. Quite frankly, most of these items simply require sufficient funding to complete the tasks.

As you know tourism is the driving force of Guam's economy and in trying to become a world class destination – upkeep and maintenance is vital. We all benefit when Guam's economy is good.

In the coming months, you and members of this august body will work on the annual budgets of the Government of Guam. While I respect the daunting task you all must play in this, please be mindful that we need to improve our product if we are to remain competitive with other destinations. Our investments in marketing could be much more effective if given the appropriate funding, resources, and support.

Keep in mind that our annual appropriation to market Guam and deal with all the destination maintenance issues mentioned above will require a significant investment. Appropriations granted from the Tourist Attraction Fund to areas and programs that are not directly related to tourism is counter productive because the investment and focus should be on Guam's economic engine...this complex competitive creature called tourism. GVB is one of the few organizations tied to GovGuam that are revenue generating. I am sure you have heard what is said about the island and the growing frustrations of the bureau in trying to use the limited resources to not only market Guam and drive revenue but to maintain the hotel zone in a manner that does not degrade our island's image. Guam is at an important crossroads as a destination, and we need your help to begin to move from "close and cheap" towards being a first tier "international standard" resort destination.

I look forward to working with the new board and lending what I know and have learned over the years. I am focused on improving the quality of our island in order to raise the quality of tourists we receive and the yield or profit we receive from each visitor. In the coming months, I look forward to

taking creative approaches that examine new ways to accomplish broad goals. I hope that we continue to have this legislative body's support.

We have many challenges ahead, but I am prepared to rise to the occasion.

Like my Nino +Bert Unpingco, Mr. Tourism himself, always tells me, "*We must do what we can to make Guam a safe place to live, work, play, and do business. We need to spruce up, fix up, clean up the island.*" I am honored to be his Godson and appreciate the words of wisdom he shares and imparts with me. "*Tourism - It is everyone's business.*"

I humbly ask for your vote of confidence. Thank you and *Si Yu'us Ma'åse'!*

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I humbly ask for your vote of confidence. Thank you and *Si Yu'us Ma'ãse'!*



Mayors' Council of Guam

Konsehelon Mahot Guahan

March 30, 2023

Testimony for Mayor Robert RDC Hofmann

Mayor of Sinajana

I am Angel R. Sablan, Executive Director, Mayors' Council of Guam. I pen this letter of support in favor of the appointment of Mayor Robert RDC Hofmann to the Guam Visitors Bureau Board of Directors. If anyone would know the abilities and capabilities of this mayor, it would be me as I have served with him when he was a staff assistant under the administration of then Governor Carl Gutierrez and in my present capacity. I have seen him perform his duties as Vice Mayor of Sinajana and now as Mayor. All the time that I have had interaction with Mayor Hofmann he has always had best for Guam at the forefront of his decisions. He has been a catalyst for many other mayors to assist them in improving their villages by supporting their opportunities to seek financial grant assistance for their community projects and programs. In fact he has been the "go to guy" in making sure their opportunities for grants are realized. Mayor Hofmann is no stranger to the people of Guam or to the Guam Visitors Bureau. He has served as a member of the Guam Visitors Bureau Board of Directors for many years with dedication and a sincere desire to enhance our tourism industry. Mayor Hofmann has also proven his skills and abilities in working with his residents and making decisions for them to improve their livelihood, and in turn, improve the lives of all our people.

The position of Mayor carries many responsibilities and wears many hats. I have witnessed the performance and work of Mayor Hofmann as an active member of his community. I have no doubt in the passion he would bring to the table at any Guam Visitors Bureau Board of Directors meeting. I know he has great ideas to offer. Even more so now he has an even greater enthusiasm and desire to make things better for the people of Guam. I know he has the commitment to working hand in hand with anyone both here and abroad to make things happen for Guam.

Mayor Hofmann knows the people of Guam and the people of Guam know him. From his youthful years singing his heart out for his Parish and many personal and public functions to the present where he continues to build for Sinajana...an Arts Theatre, a Children's Park, a Veteran's Memorial, a Public Market and many more. He has the desire. He has the will. He has the knowledge. He has the capability.

Now let us give him this opportunity to help build our tourism industry for all of us.

Please support and vote for his confirmation as the Mayors' Council of Guam representative to the Guam Visitors Bureau Board of Directors

Senseramente,

Angel R. Sablan
Executive Director



Ancient Latte Stones

P. O. Box 786, Hagåtña, Guam 96932
Office: (671) 472-6940, 477-8461, 477-6886 • Fax: (671) 477-8777
E-mail: mcogadmin@teleguam.net



Office of Senator

AMANDA L. SHELTON

Legislative Secretary & Chairwoman

Committee on Maritime and Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth and Senior Citizens

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 37th Guam Legislature

COMMITTEE VOTE SHEET

Nomination of Robert R.D.C. Hofmann to serve as the Mayor's Council of Guam Representative to the Board of Directors of the Guam Visitors Bureau to serve at the pleasure of the Governor

	SIGNATURE	TO DO CONFIRM	TO NOT CONFIRM	TO REPORT OUT ONLY	TO ABSTAIN	TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE
Senator Amanda L. Shelton Chairperson		✓				
Senator Jesse A. Lujan Vice Chairperson	E-Vote 4/12/23	✓				
Speaker Therese M. Terlaje Member						
Senator Joe S. San Agustin Member	E-Vote 4/12/23	✓				
Senator Roy A.B. Quinata Member	E-Vote 4/12/23	✓				
Senator William A. Parkinson Member	E-Vote 4/13/23	✓				
Senator Dwayne San Nicolas Member						
Senator Christopher M. Dueñas Member	E-Vote 4/12/23	✓				
Senator Telo T. Taitague Member						



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Office of Senator Shelton Guam Legislature <officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org>

REQUEST FOR E-VOTE: ROBERT RDC HOFMANN, GUAM VISITORS BUREAU

6 messages

Office of Senator Amanda L. Shelton <officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org>

Wed, Apr 12, 2023 at
11:51 AM

To: Senator Jesse Lujan <senatorlujan@guamlegislature.org>, "Speaker Therese M. Terlaje" <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>, "Senator Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, Senator Roy Quinata <officeofsenatorquinata@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Will Parkinson <senatorparkinson@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Dwayne San Nicolas <senatorsannicolas@guamlegislature.org>, "Senator Christopher M. Dueñas" <senatorchrisduenas@gmail.com>, "Senator Telo T. Taitague" <senatortelot@gmail.com>

Hafa Adai Committee Members:

Please see attached Committee Report for Robert R.D.C. Hofmann to serve as the Guam Mayor's Council Representative to the Board of Directors, Guam Visitors Bureau.

Please indicate your preferred action, based on the following options:

- To Do Confirm;
- To Not Confirm;
- To Report Out Only;
- To Abstain; or
- To Place in Inactive File.

Please submit your response as soon as possible. Your responses will be logged into the Committee Report Vote Sheet for Robert R.D.C. Hofmann which will be filed with the Committee on Rules.

Respectfully,



Jay Milan | Policy Analyst

Office of the People • Senator Amanda L. Shelton

Legislative Secretary & Chairwoman, Committee on Maritime Transportation, Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens

37th Guam Legislature

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E officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org

 **Appointment of Robert RDC Hofmann Committee Report.pdf**
9375K

Senator Jesse Lujan <senatorlujan@guamlegislature.org>

Wed, Apr 12, 2023 at 1:43 PM

To: "Office of Senator Amanda L. Shelton" <officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org>

Cc: "Speaker Therese M. Terlaje" <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>, "Senator Joe S. San Agustin"

<senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, Senator Roy Quinata <officeofsenatorquinata@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Will Parkinson <senatorparkinson@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Dwayne San Nicolas

<senatorsannicolas@guamlegislature.org>, "Senator Christopher M. Dueñas" <senatorchrisduenas@gmail.com>, "Senator Telo T. Taitague" <senatortelot@gmail.com>

To Do Confirm

Virus-free. www.avg.com

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Si Yu'os Ma'åse',**Senator Jesse A. Lujan***Vice Chair, Committee on Maritime Transportation, Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens***37th Guam Legislature***I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

259 Martyr St. Suite 101A, Calvo-Arriola Building

Hågatña Guam 96910

Office: (671)969-6525**Email:** senatorlujan@guamlegislature.org**Website:** jesselujan.org

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Chris Duenas <senatorchrisduenas@gmail.com>

Wed, Apr 12, 2023 at 2:14 PM

To: Senator Jesse Lujan <senatorlujan@guamlegislature.org>Cc: "Office of Senator Amanda L. Shelton" <officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Dwayne San Nicolas <senatorsannicolas@guamlegislature.org>, "Senator Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, Senator Roy Quinata <officeofsenatorquinata@guamlegislature.org>, "Senator Telo T. Taitague" <senatortelot@gmail.com>, Senator Will Parkinson <senatorparkinson@guamlegislature.org>, "Speaker Therese M. Terlaje" <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>

To do confirm

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**Office of Senator Christopher M. Dueñas***I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

(671) 989-9554 | Suite 101B • 259 Martyr St., Hagåtña

senatorchrisduenas@gmail.com

@senatorduenas

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Joe S. San Agustin <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>

Wed, Apr 12, 2023 at 5:19 PM

To: "Office of Senator Amanda L. Shelton" <officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org>Cc: Senator Jesse Lujan <senatorlujan@guamlegislature.org>, "Speaker Therese M. Terlaje" <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>, Senator Roy Quinata <officeofsenatorquinata@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Will Parkinson <senatorparkinson@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Dwayne San Nicolas <senatorsannicolas@guamlegislature.org>, "Senator Christopher M. Dueñas" <senatorchrisduenas@gmail.com>, "Senator Telo T. Taitague" <senatortelot@gmail.com>

To Do Confirm

The Office of Senator Joe S. San Agustin

Committee on General Government Operations & Appropriations

I Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan

37th Guam Legislature
Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910
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Senator Roy Quinata <officeofsenatorquinata@guamlegislature.org>

Wed, Apr 12, 2023 at 5:31 PM

To: "Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>
Cc: "Office of Senator Amanda L. Shelton" <officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Jesse Lujan <senatorlujan@guamlegislature.org>, "Speaker Therese M. Terlaje" <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>, Senator Will Parkinson <senatorparkinson@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Dwayne San Nicolas <senatorsannicolas@guamlegislature.org>, "Senator Christopher M. Dueñas" <senatorchrisduenas@gmail.com>, "Senator Telo T. Taitague" <senortelot@gmail.com>

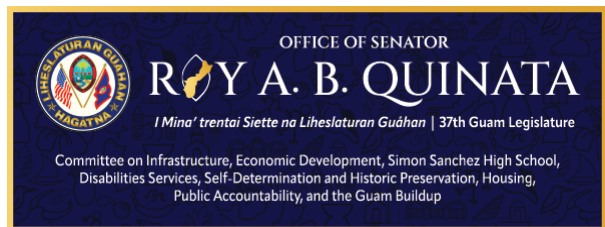
To Do Confirm.


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Si Yu'us Ma'åse',

Roy A. B. Quinata

Senator



 (671)472-4826 (GUAM)



Senator Will Parkinson <senatorparkinson@guamlegislature.org>

Thu, Apr 13, 2023 at 9:08 AM

To: Senator Roy Quinata <officeofsenatorquinata@guamlegislature.org>
Cc: "Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, "Office of Senator Amanda L. Shelton" <officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Jesse Lujan <senatorlujan@guamlegislature.org>, "Speaker Therese M. Terlaje" <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>, Senator Dwayne San Nicolas <senatorsannicolas@guamlegislature.org>, "Senator Christopher M. Dueñas" <senatorchrisduenas@gmail.com>, "Senator Telo T. Taitague" <senortelot@gmail.com>

To Do Confirm

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Respectfully,



Office of Senator William A. Parkinson | 37th Guam Legislature
*Chairperson, Committee on Fire, Agriculture, Power and Energy Utilities,
Public Transit, Unemployment Insurance, and Universal Health Insurance*

—
Suite 905, DNA Building, [238 Archbishop FC Flores St, Hagåtña, 96910, Guam](#)
671-989-1101
senatorparkinson@guamlegislature.org



Office of Senator

AMANDA L. SHELTON

Legislative Secretary & Chairwoman

Committee on Maritime and Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth and Senior Citizens

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 37th Guam Legislature

I. OVERVIEW

The Committee on Maritime & Air Transportation, Tourism, Park, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens convened a public hearing for the appointment of Robert R.D.C. Hofmann on Thursday, April 6, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. at the Public Hearing Room at the Guam Congress Building. The appointment history is as follows:

- Appointment by *I Maga'haga Guahan* on March 20, 2023, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
- Appointment Packet forwarded to *I Liheslatura* on March 23, 2023; and
- Appointment Packet forwarded to this Committee for public consideration on March 27, 2023.

PUBLIC NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

Public Hearing notices were disseminated via email to all Senators and all main media broadcasting outlets on March 30, 2023, and again on April 4, 2023, fulfilling the 5-Day Notice and 48-Hour Notice of the Open Government Law requirements respectively.

SENATORS PRESENT

Senator Amanda L. Shelton, *Chairwoman*

Senator Jesse A. Lujan, *Vice Chairman*

Senator Roy A.B. Quinata, *Member*

Senator Telo T. Taitague, *Member*

Senator Chris M. Duenas

Senator Thomas J. Fisher

ATTENDEES

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann, *Appointee*

Written Testimony Submitted By

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann, *Appointee*

Angel R. Sablan, *Executive Director, Mayor's Council of Guam*

II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY AND DISCUSSION

The public hearing was Called-to-Order at 8:31 a.m.

Chairwoman Amanda L. Shelton:

Buenas and Hafa Adai, everyone. This public hearing by the Committee on Maritime & Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens is hereby called to order. Today is Thursday, April 6, 2023, and the time now is 8:31 a.m. For the record and in accordance with open government law, notices for this hearing were sent on March 30th and again on April 4th. In addition, this hearing was noticed on the Guam Legislature's website and the Guam Public Notice Website.

Joining me here this morning. I'd like to thank committee members Vice Chair Jesse Lujan, Committee Member Telo Taitague, Senator Tom Fisher. Si yu'us ma'ase colleagues.

Before we proceed with the discussion, I'd like first to provide some general rules of conduct for those in attendance. The conduct of this hearing shall be as follows: Written testimonies shall be submitted to the committee. Please provide my Legislative staff with your written testimony for photocopying. Testimony may be read, and lengthy testimony should be summarized to about five (5) minutes. Those testifying will be allowed to present written or oral testimony. Once you are done, please remain in the room for questions or additional testimony as may be desired by the members of the Committee. Questions and testimony shall be confined to the nature of the agenda. The agenda is the Appointment of Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann to serve as the mayor's Council of Guam Member of the Guam Visitors Bureau, Board of Directors. The Chair will invite individuals who have signed up to testify. Before speaking, individuals testifying shall first be recognized and shall state their name for record purposes. The order of questioning will begin with the panel of senators who shall complete their lines of questioning for this appointment hearing. Personal inference about the character or motive of any Senator or individual testifying is not permitted. Any violations of this general rule of conduct will result in the removal from the public hearing room from this proceeding. Individuals who fail to maintain proper form and decorum may be restricted from providing oral testimony and or may be asked to leave or be escorted and removed from the room. Proper form and decorum shall be practiced by all present in the public hearing room.

The mission of the Guam Visitors Bureau is to efficiently and effectively promote and develop Guam as a safe and satisfying destination for visitors and to derive maximum benefits for the people of Guam. Guam's tourism industry is considered to be the top economic contributor to Guam's economy. GVB is a critical bridge linking the government, the tourism

industry, visitors, and the local community. It aims to contribute successfully to a good quality of life for residents through tourism. The Board of Directors is responsible for promoting visitor satisfaction, facilitating the orderly growth and maintenance of the visitor industry, and encouraging and supporting local activities programs and development to enhance Guam as an attractive tourist destination.

At this time, I'd like to call upon those who signed up to testify. We have the President of the Mayor's Council of Guam, Mayor Jesse Alig. We have the president, CEO of GVB, President Carl Gutierrez. Mayor Anthony Chargaluaf, Mayor June Blas, and Vice Mayor Jesse Bautista. If you'd like to provide oral testimony, you can join us at the table now.

Oh, okay, so those who would like to provide any oral testimony, please join us at the table, all right? If not, Mayor Hofmann, you're up.

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

Hafa Adai. [Written testimony presented orally]

Chairwoman Amanda L. Shelton:

Thank you very much, Mayor. And for the record, everyone who signed in for the hearing today is here in support of your nomination. Thank you, we'll begin with questions from the Vice Chair, Senator Lujan.

Vice Chairman Jesse A. Lujan:

Thank you, madam chair. Good morning. How are you doing this morning?

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

I'm doing well, thank you.

Vice Chairman Jesse A. Lujan:

And congratulations on your nomination.

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

Thank you.

Vice Chairman Jesse A. Lujan:

I've known you for years, your family for years. Actually, your old store is right across the street in your music store quite a musician that you are as well. But again, congratulations on your nomination. Let me just ask you a few things. As the appointee from the Mayor's Council and you being a mayor as well, we all know that the Mayors I think of every village now are recipients of tremendous support from the Guam Visitors Bureau in regards



to you know the village-centric either festivities or whatever, it may be. And I've got to say you've got a visionary team in the Guam Visitors Bureau. Because I'm reading what's happening in the Hawaii Visitors Bureau when they're ready to dissolve the bureau. That's ready to be dissolved. I think it's going to be more urged, and the bill now is going to both houses. They have, you know, a bicameral legislature over there, and it looks like it's ready to pass because what's happened in the past is that they were so tourist-centric and they were, you know, they're getting 10 million tourists a year. And what's happening, the communities were crying out for help because, you know, they had all these tourists coming into their communities, and their counties were not being helped and enhanced. To enhance the tourist experience now, we see, I mean, I wish it was millions and millions of people coming into Guam, but what is happening in GVB is the leadership in the Guam Visitors Bureau is ahead of that. Because that's what Hawaii wants to do right now. I think they're dissolving their tourism agency into what is called Destination Management Agency, and so that being said that we don't have the millions of people and all that, but do you agree and the vision that GVB management has in regards to enhancing villages and their uniqueness and all that? Because, again, this is ahead of what Hawaii is doing at this point. So your input on that.

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

Sure, thank you for the question. I do believe in that. I think ever since I was there, I've served under the general managers of Tony Lamorena. I want to say I was there with Gerry Perez, Joanne Camacho, Mary Torres, Carl Pangelinan, and that's something that I, when I was there, I was always talking about community development. That's the investment we want to see. Hawaii situation is the exact same way they're getting people who are leaving the hotel zones and going into communities to hike. And to track and they're considering even an impact fee almost like a surcharge, and you know that's something that I don't think we could do because we have that balance. We've seen that investment in our communities over the past 10, 15 years and that I would love to be at born when even when Senator Taitague was there she was always helpful to kind of help the villages whether it be through the fiesta grants and the small projects within our villages kind of helping grow that but there is that balance. I think of the total collected revenue of the tourism attraction fund. A portion goes to satisfy the bond and then the rest kind of goes gets to GVB then the rest kind of goes to these other things. The Mayor's Council has been a recipient of tourist attraction fund. That's what actually funds our beautification and our cleanup. And so we see that. I've seen destinations where they're fed up with tourism because they don't see the benefits. So you have places in Italy in Venice and in France that say tourists go home leave us alone we want our peaceful

community. I think our people embrace that. The idea that as long as they see the investment in their villages they'll continue to embrace the tourism industry to say yeah you can come here and they can see that. You know that's it's always been a challenge to kind of find that balance. You know we always say a dollar with the Mayor's Council goes a lot farther than a dollar anywhere else because that mayor will make sure that dollar figures its way out into the community whether it be you know painting. There's a ton of projects that still need to be handled, overlooks, vistas, even things like water but they require regular maintenance. It's not just this one-time water blast and paint then walk away. And a lot of the times it fell on the Mayors to do. The Mayors don't have the responsibility for some of these major tourism sites, but we're looked at when the trash doesn't get picked up at Inalahan pools they turn to the Mayor of Inalahan saying what's going on. And we're like oh that's a DPR thing and but then the mayor ends up having to do it because we care about our communities. And the same thing goes for every other park and every other area including here in Hagatna. And so I do like seeing that GVB has taken a greater investment in those villages and I think that's that's a step in the right direction and the discussions of what we can do to help grow tourism in each of the villages uniquely is welcomed by all of us. Because I think we all have something unique to offer and I'm more than just a bathroom stop for most tourists on their way to golf in Leo Palace and you know but when I see and I do see tourists I love it. And so my village is actively engaged in student exchange programs. And that's one way to really showcase who we are as a people, is inviting younger people to our communities and our high schools to say Hey you know come merge with our kids. And so Bishop Baumgartner has a huge Korean exchange program that they're there for months and that stirs the economy quite well. And so yes, villages do benefit greatly and I would support that.

Vice Chairman Jesse A. Lujan:

No in support of that and I knew that you were going to respond that way. Anyway, but how do you balance, I mean are you in favor of you know you already answered that one question in regards to the village enhancement, in regards to GVB. But how do you balance that again in the need and monies that need to go to the marketing side to bring you know because we don't have the Hawaii problem in the sense that we have millions, 10 million a year of tourists coming in. And likewise so we need to try to get you know at least almost 2 million back here at this point. And so there's been critics that will say well you're taking you're giving to the village and you're taken away from this. And there are critics that are saying you know how come you're taken away from this and doing to that but you feel there's a balance, that there could be a balance, and there is a balance in doing as such.

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

Yes, because I think of the total GVB budget, from what I recall, I think 60 percent goes to marketing and then the rest go to some destination management, some goes to specific projects and tasks that they're kind of taken up either the grass cutting and stuff like this. And then so in those markets itself, it also does investment like the community outreach, the cultural heritage and community outreach committee, they make investments. And in terms, of when I served on that committee, it's building the capacity like investing in all the Pa'as all the Gumas. And you know for those, it's building capacity within the dance academies because that's what we want. We want to promote that authenticity. So there were some ways in the marketing budget that actually flowed into some of the destination management issues. But I think when I was last there, the destination management needed I think upwards of almost a billion dollars if we were to do like everything that we really wanted and we wish we did from cameras to street lights to roads to you know just really fixing up all the vistas and everything. Because those you know the tour operators constantly kind of came back and visit their satisfaction and all those reports that was something is this is a nice place but you have a junk car here. And then it's look to us saying who removes that junk car. Or this is a nice place but these are the fall hazards and the risks. We don't want tourists getting hurt here so I think an investment could be a, more investment could be made either directly or indirectly. A big portion of the TAF money also went to settle things at GMH, Customs, Parks and Recs, and all the other agencies as well. Big money kind of went there and they have a great purpose. It's just was the correct funding source to use? I don't know. I don't think so. I could have think they could have found a different way to do it but at the time it was the most available cash in those years. So we constantly saw these items where money kind of left out and tourism isn't just that the TAF isn't just only for GVB and that's been known. It belongs to the people and the people should benefit from it. And this is one way they're going to benefit from it.

Vice Chairman Jesse A. Lujan:

Now let me ask this question again because I think if I'm not taken it was in one of the news outlets, I'm not going to mention which one it was because I don't remember if it was but there was an individual, a prominent individual, that kind of criticized GVB and its efforts. That GVB has not been doing a well enough job and for some of the things that you mentioned. Roads and parks and things of that nature. That was a front page of a publication. I think it was a few days ago. Now let me ask this because just last week we were entertaining a bill and the Department of Administration pretty much wrote off tourism in regards to the sustainability and the funds

that come in. And years pass, first and foremost is you know tourist tourist tourist and now *leche, taya'*. Not one iota of a mention of and tourism and sustainability and the numbers and what they mean and we need to get this and we're moving towards this and I was baffled by that. It was merely dependent on military buildup, Section 30, EITC, and things of that nature. Now I got to give it to the folks the mayors and your village enhancement and the Guam Visitors Bureau for the numbers we're getting and from what I'm seeing is that the projected numbers are surpassing the projected numbers but we're still by not there. There's still a lot of work to be done. That being said it's kind of a downtime for us at this point you know in trying to enhance. Now, do you agree that in this downtime, in this downtime that maybe a little more effort from the Guam Visitors Bureau to go into enhancing the Villages for that experience? In that downtime, it's kind of like the hotels that is there down time they renovate and things of that nature right? And so taking advantage of that downtime maybe GVB can enhance the villages a little more. A little more to help you guys out. I mean because we know that your budget cannot sustain all that is desired of any village. And so that being said are you in agreement or do you foresee that in this downtime that or you would be an advocate in this downtime that more attention in village enhancement for that I guess destination management would be enhanced? So your thoughts on that?

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

I'm in full support of that. I think every destination did that. During the whole two years that COVID was on, you saw places do that. You saw places reworked and it also gave the chance for the environment to relax. Most of these beaches and these reefs kind of needed that time to kind of breathe. And you know the waters turned blue in Venice and so that was the first time in how many years. But yes here I think the hotels had a great opportunity also to make that significant investment in themselves. I think it's just you know we don't need to kind of rework anything because what we need to do is already there in the satisfaction surveys. In the star reports. And the tourism plans and saying this is what the investment needs and the industries kind of said hey do you think we can focus some of this money to just fixing some of these eyesores. So yes I fully support that. I kind of want to see the other agencies step up and get involved in it as well. Because everybody kind of always just turns to GVB because they think it's the richest of them all. But you know there's airport issues. You know the lines at immigration were an issue. The exiting the airport the bathroom conditions of the airport were an issue. But they were issues that fell on GVB then and we have no authority at the time to go into there and tell the airport hey can you kind of spruce this up or fix this up. But you know there are areas that do need kind of a little bit more tenderness and love. And it sometimes it's

just not paint or water blasting. It's going to require more investment. And you know it's putting call boxes in some areas that are deemed unsafe, where tourists can without any cell reception in those dead areas that they can call for safety. It's you know how do we figure that out and balance it up. Mayors kind of have an idea. It's the same like the schools. We know what's in our villages. We know what needs to get done. If someone just asked us and you know it's how do we propose that and pitch that idea? But you know what we also want to see is that GVB does a great job of this but they also don't own the property and the facilities. And one of the main things I know from writing grants and everything I've done is ownership of it and control of it is major because it's nice to make that investment and then some turns around says I'm not going to open it for tourists because it's too nice now I don't want to be done. What can GVB say sure and so there you know and our people want that. Our people love seeing things get done and seeing those investments. I think that gives them that peace of mind that it's all worth it. So yes use this downtime to do what we can put that injection of money. I know the mayors are making headway with what they can with the funds they got. But you know it's those other things, like the student exchange, like sports exchanges. We're all for that. I think as mayors we really enjoyed when we had Philippine baseball teams come in here and challenge us and we challenge them and we do that kind of exchange. That's one way to grow tourism. When we used to have those cruise ships with all those tourists. Many of you remember this because they would park and then we would have 500 kids down Ypao, 500 kids down at Adelup. And you know we've had that student exchange for Saint Francis and all the other schools and the public schools would go in. These I think give people a different perspective and we kind of use our opportunity. So I think when during that hearing when you're talking about why tourism wasn't mentioned because I know it's very fluid and there's real no one way to you know we're at the where are the beck and call it mercy of the airlines and that's kind of the difficult part. If they decide oh we're gonna maybe decrease airline's capacity or change the kind of plane then there's it's hard for us. So us and the Marianas have a difficult time. We're at the mercy of that so GVB needs what it can to kind of also incentivize and get some of those airlines to say hey can you can you bring tourists here. But you know our people surprisingly have helped save some of the restaurants here because they're eating out more and they enjoy it more. It's hard to get a place on a Friday night now. And that's a great feeling. And to see all these other places kind of reopen that's a testament to the last two years of leadership at GVB. They've really ramped up what they could where they can and it's going after those new markets. It's going after some of the existing markets and making some investments. But the new markets are also key because these are people that haven't been to Guam. That are excited to learn about us.

Vice Chairman Jesse A. Lujan:

So again from what I'm hearing are you are you in an agreement then in the direction where team GVB is headed and what they're doing in regards to cultural exchanges and things like that? And I know quite a few of the Mayors have been a part of a delegation in regards to exchange programs and everything like that. So are you are you in agreement in that direction and in that enhancement and that part of GVB in their management and what they're trying to do for Destination as well?

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

Yes, we recently hosted the Taiwan indigenous group here and I would love that some of our senior citizens go there and work on that. Because that's that kind of exchange because their specific culture to learn. So yes those exchanges are valuable. The return on investment sometimes can't be pinpointed immediately because it's it's they go back and tell their friends and it's that one picture that one post that one video that they do that makes waves there. But it's not captured because you know they're they're not taking out ads or you know buying this press time. But those 200, 300 people that see that kind of have that indication I may want to travel here. When I was fortunate enough to go to Malaysia a lot of them didn't know that it's visa-free to come to Guam and they were excited about it. And you know one of the things they kept asking was about the food. Do we have halal food? And I was like maybe that's something we need to work on here. But that interest and the fact is that you know one in every four Malaysians travel, that's big. And their travel shows are huge. And I've been fortunate to go to Jada and see that as well and we're up against some very stiff competition. But what's really unique about us is our song, is our dance. It's what people know about us and about the world is our language, our song, our dance. They may not know us personally but if they hear a Johnny Sablan song or a Jesse and Ruby song they'll be like I heard that song at T-Galleria and that's something they'll connect. Or they see us you know as we talk in our very unique language and our very old and ancient culture. I think you know our four-thousand-year-old culture is something we really gotta showcase out there. So which is why those shows that are either in even in California and in Texas and Washington and stuff like that, those are very important and vital. Because you have 150,000 CHamorros living there and they have this passion and love for Guam that I've never seen. That we don't have here we don't put you know Guam stickers and all these Guam brands. And we don't pay, you know, they pay for these goodie boxes to fly over there to get lemon powder that we take for granted that we can go to

the mom and pop store to get. And so that's an appreciation they have. I would love to see that they have an opportunity to come home but at a cheaper rate. That's always my thing is you know they always say that mayor I would love to come home and visit but it's a commitment to come to Guam. You know you got to take a loan out. So that's one issue there on that side but I know how you feel about that. I'm in support of that as well. I think competition helps lower the prices. And we've seen

Vice Chairman Jesse A. Lujan:

That's for another hearing.

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

But I've seen it happen with the Marianas. Whenever there's competition the price goes down and people at Mariana is going to say yeah.

Vice Chairman Jesse A. Lujan:

Sure, I'm hoping this will be my last question but with that earlier, you had mentioned all the different administrations you served under and the different general managers, and now I think it's president it's called. And those were of course pre-pandemic times. Now post pandemic you're going in there with a different perspective you also had previously served. Now, what perspective would you bring in there now that is different from maybe I don't know if it's the old way of thinking? Do we have to think a new way? What would you bring in now that is maybe different that we have to that GVB has to do or the Board will have to do different now post-pandemic?

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

One of the things I'd like to focus on is something that I think is really unique about our culture is our respect for our elders. And we see that in the Asian culture. There's specific areas and priority seating. There's priority lines. And I think that's something to do with these travelers in the Asia Pacific area. They value their elders as well. But when they we come to Guam, we talk about our love for our manamko. we value them but there's no priority lane for them at some of our retailers or even at the airport or any of the buses or the seatings. And I think that's a perspective as I got older, that's true. I'm like you know what it's true. Because my parents got older and I don't want my dad to stand for several hours at a time having to clear you know a a line. I think you know if we really are truly a culture of our seniors and that we respect them, we should take that upon ourselves. Immediately respect our elders and then that will kind of flow out that way. And the perspective I have too is how can we you know how can we take care of our people and those workers. The workers are the ones that I worry about a lot it's the ones

who come home. Those bellhops. I used to always say I have no I have no interest in business in tourism. The only interest I have is people when they come home those bellhops, those service industry, those waiters and waitresses, they're my friends. They're my pares and malis. And when we sit down, and we eat, and we talk about it, they talk about how they feel about the industry. They wish they either had health care or they wish they had, you know, other things that you know better benefits. And so it's slowly meeting them, but some of them have really been in the industry for 30-40 years. I'm like, why it's amazing that you've worked at the same job for this, and you know they're encouraged by it, but I think the industry could do more to encourage more locals to even kind of get trained in that and really be more be more hands-on in those trainings.

Vice Chairman Jesse A. Lujan:

Well let me ask you that. And I'm glad you said that. Would you be in favor then of something similar to what they have in in the Philippines, where their senior citizens, all senior citizens, registered of course with their prospective villages or barangays right at this point? And they get wherever it is, food, medicine, and things like that I think it's 10 15, or 20 percent off with their senior citizen cards. Because we have our senior citizen cards but you know I just saw it. But would you be in support of something like that for entities? Again you're saying to support that and again the respect for the elders. Would you support something like that?

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

And yes I would support that. And I don't think it just should be a certain day either. Because some businesses here only on a certain day right? If we really respect our elders give that to them and extend that discount to all Asian cultures. They're saving their money and what we've noticed is we call them the silver market is they're the repeat visitor. They love the fine wines and the good food. They're the good shoppers. They're the ones who want that experience. They're not going to go off-roading. They're not the ones who are going to damage our ecosystems. So you're right in that manner. And I think seniors you know and we saw that I think that when we first went to the Philippines and to find that in Makati they even give them a cake on their birthday every senior of that area. And I was like wow this is good but they have to be a registered voter too. I was like Ah that's the catch. That's how you kind of get them. But it was and you know just you know that's a culture that's a social closely associated with ours but I'd like to see that a priority and making health and safety a priority. If these workers, my friends, my pares and malis, they would need to feel safe also in what they're doing, in their jobs. And they didn't feel supported and if that kind of

happens in their end in getting that training where they're free to express themselves, free to talk about their culture, free to say hafa adai and you know we used to say learn at least 10 words. So then they can do that.

Vice Chairman Jesse A. Lujan:

Well it's something again I applaud you that and I'll ask the chair. Maybe we can jointly work on something like that for our seniors but thank you very much.

Chairwoman Amanda L. Shelton:

Thank you very much. Senator Taitague.

Senator Telo T. Taitague:

Thank you madam chair. Our good co-chair had a lot of good information you know and talking about what you plan to do, what you have done in the past. I do have to ask though, Mayor Hofmann and by the way, you know, I've worked with you before when I was the deputy general manager at the Guam Visitors Bureau and I saw the work that you did. I have no complaints there at all. You know we could have done more but like everything we can always do more. that you know I have to ask you. You were sitting in this position from 2005 to 2010. That's five years. And then there was a break. About a three-year break and or two-year break. So who was sitting in that position?

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

Mayor Carl Tayama

Senator Telo T. Taitague:

Okay and then you came back in 2013 all the way to 2020. And then there was a little bit of break again. You know of course Mayo Paco has resigned. He was sitting there for about three years and then you're back again. There are 19 village mayors out there you know and you've been sitting on there for quite a long time. So I'm just curious how do the mayors choose who is to sit on the board?

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

There's different ways. The way it reads is the President of the Mayor's Council or his designee. That's how the law reads. And so it was never sometimes it was chosen by at body or sometimes it was just chosen whoever the president kind of designated. And depends

Senator Telo T. Taitague:

The President of the Mayor's Council? So it's up to the President of the Mayor's Council to decide who sits on this

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

Or his designee, yes.

Senator Telo T. Taitague:

Or his designee, okay?

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

Just like that I believe that is the way it's written

Senator Telo T. Taitague:

It's written in the law that way. Which law? Guam Code Annotated?

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

Where each of the seats. The same goes for the Commission of Self-Determination and a few others. It says the President of the Mayor's Council or their designee and it doesn't say how it's chosen.

Senator Telo T. Taitague:

So is there any been ever a opportunity for other are Mayors to like you know they decide to vote who sits on this? Because you know we talked about destination management and it's not just Tumon, it's Humatak, it's Inalahan, and it's Talofof. It's all the villages on this island that need to be showcased and I know that the sitting president is very keen on that. Showcasing each of our villages. I mean we know shopping is in tumon you know and there's been a lot of assistance in the last two decades focused in on Tumon but nothing on the outside. So you know other villages, other mayors can bring different perspectives. You've been sitting there for almost seven eight nine ten eleven twelve years in this position. You know I'm just wondering why you know

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

I've also been elected five times with no opponent at 99.7 percent of the vote.

Senator Telo T. Taitague:

Yeah I do understand but don't you think it's time to allow another mayor to sit in this position? To provide a different perspective. Not that you're not doing a good job or when you were sitting there. You were doing a great job

but it's a new era you know it's new ideas you know. We're talking about now technology.

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

A lot of what we've worked on since 2005 has still been issues there. I've been before this body in budget hearings. I've been before this body asking for that money for those villages. I've been before this community. I've been asking for certain things for that. I don't think you know I've served in different capacities and other boards I've been on Guma' Mami board for 18 years. No one's asked me should you give it up. It's if I think I serve where I can and I kind of bring that institutional knowledge. I think seniority and bringing that kind of perspective has value and it's shown time and time again. Many other positions you rely on your elders to do that on that. The perspectives I have and never once have I said it's only Sinajana where I have a directed money or transferred money or benefited from it directly. It was always constantly push this out push this out. When I organized the Miss Guam tourism pageants, we pushed it out we pushed it out. When we organized fiesta tours, we pushed out the money. When we organized fiesta grants so we organize mini grants. These were all things we did to push out the money there. So whether it was me or somebody else. I pushed out the money the same way anybody else did. It's that's not where I said it's only me. I don't sit there. It takes a lot of work to go there. It's two meetings a month sometimes plus the committee meetings you've seen that.

Senator Telo T. Taitague:

Especially when you're sitting on other boards -

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

But at the same time I'm committed to do that because I've seen what else needs to be done.

Senator Telo T. Taitague:

Don't get me wrong Mayor Hofmann. I know that you're very willing to serve on this board. You're capable and and everything like that. I just think that you know we well don't you think that it should be like one four years another mayor and the next time? You know different villages to serve in them.

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

Was in the law that you have term limits then we can do it and do the same for yourself.

Senator Telo T. Taitague:

That's what I was going to ask you.

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

Do the same for yourself.

Senator Telo T. Taitague:

Oh well this is a board. There's a difference between an elected by the people of Guam versus you know one person electing someone to sit on a board. Now what we should change is that rule saying that the president has the authority to elect one person. Maybe it could be all the mayors combined together vote on who should take this board. Maybe that's an idea.

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

It could be just a mayor and it could rotate as long as the position. Just like the CSD, just like certain other things as long as there's a rep from that and not a specific person that has to go through confirmation hearing. Because not everybody goes through confirmation hearings.

Senator Telo T. Taitague:

I totally agree Mayor Hofmann. I think everyone should go to a confirmation hearing and that sits on this board. And I think everyone should have financials also to be reported not only you because I know that you have to put your financials but I think those that are elected by memberships of the board don't have to provide their financials. And that's very unfair you know for anyone. So that's something I've already worked on Mayor Hofmann. I hope I get your support on that. I have a bill that's out that will actually require that you know to have the financials for everyone. Just moving on because I know you know we have another hearing going on. But are you familiar that the bylaws and the laws of the enabling legislation is contradictive to each other. Have you heard the issues that's going on there? And how are you going to address?

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

I'm not familiar with it but I've known that it's changed twice I think while I was there. I don't know what's changed since so I'm not familiar with it.

Senator Telo T. Taitague:

Well let me tell you there's a lot of contradictions you know moving on. So you might want to look in that if you're voted in to definitely look at that issue. Also since you were being appointed and the law requires that the.

Okay, we talked about financials, thank you for bringing that up. Because that was one of my questions and you do believe that every board member should have to file their financials. Thank you so much for that. I feel the same way. How do you feel about pushing markets toward China during this time? You know with the U.S tension and coming on and I kind of heard if their area last year Mayor Hofmann I kind of heard one board or he wasn't really a board at the time. At least he wasn't legally at the time. Try to take money away from Taiwan and put it all to China. How do you feel about that considering the the environment that we're in right now with China?

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

In my view, we should go after places that have access to Guam. That have Visa entry requirements and it can meet all that. I think that's always a good way to do business. Because you're investing in somebody that there's almost a guarantee that hey they can freely come here. I know at a time when we had Russia Visa waiver was very good. People enjoyed that we saw Russians who stayed here for 14 days at a time. And they were the ones at the beaches and shopping and they were buying.

Senator Telo T. Taitague:

Considering the environment right now.

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

But now that there's no more Visa waiver there for them, I don't think we should invest money in those areas. I think they should go back to some of our main markets which were Japan, Korea, that's kind of.

Senator Telo T. Taitague:

Taiwan

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

and the Philippines and Taiwan yes.

Senator Telo T. Taitague:

Even U.S. is coming into play.

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

We saw that bump in the U.S and we started to see numbers trickle in. And it's hard to make an impact immediately and sometimes people think it's a waste of money. you know one year two years of investing in a marketing area but it'll eventually grow. You have to plant that seed to kind of get the word out that we are open for business and that we're ready to do business

with you and to come have that leisure. I think we have very similar cultures with Taiwan. I think we have very similar values. And you know my mom went to school there for three years for music school and so she always tells me how well she enjoyed herself there.

Senator Telo T. Taitague:

I love your mom, your mom is amazing

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

Yeah, she loves Taiwan so thank you.

Senator Telo T. Taitague:

I'm a big fan of your mother's by the way and please give her my very best. Are you familiar with Public Law 36-107 which is the FY 23 budget for this year. Are you you're familiar that there's a section in that area, section 9113. It gives the authority to the CEO to oversee financials. This is in Fiscal Year 2023 the authority and responsibility found in section 9113 B and 9110 regarding employment. By the way 9113 is about offense appropriated to the Guam Visitors Bureau by the government of Guam shall be considered grants and aid. No disbursement of funds of the bureau shall be made unless the same has been approved authorized and ordered by the board. But actually what has happened in the budget bill, we have the CEO or the president or the GM there's like three categories here I think the bylaws still recognized as a GM so I'll just say that. The GM has full authority on all appropriations by him. Are you familiar with that?

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

I'm not familiar with it.

Senator Telo T. Taitague:

Okay you might want to look at that. It's on page 146 section 35 of the budget bill. You might want a familiarize yourself with that. It also covers department rules and regs as well. So sitting there as a board member I think you should familiarize yourself with the budget bill of FY 23.

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

If I'm a board member then yes.

Senator Telo T. Taitague:

Okay and I think that's all I have. Okay thank you that's all I have. Thank you Madam Chair.

Chairwoman Amanda L. Shelton:

Thank you. I'd also like to recognize Senator Duenas and Senator Quinata for joining us this morning and move on to Senator Fisher for any questions.

Senator Thomas J. Fisher:

Thank you very much, Madam Chair. I have no questions.

Chairwoman Amanda L. Shelton:

Thank you, Senator Fisher. Senator Duenas.

Senator Christopher M. Duenas:

Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Madam Chair. Biba Afame. You know mayor I know that if the village tours go to Afame I know that our guests coming down Spring Lane will have no problem because it's nice and clean. You do a good job and if they want to visit the wild pigs that are running around there they'll be happy because there'll be plenty cultural things to see. You obviously have a wealth of experience and knowledge and so I'm certainly supportive of your nomination. The one question I wanted to ask is you know as you mentioned the village things that are happening you know Guma has been a big part of that. To build you know local village businesses small businesses and the likes. I think that you know we're well on our way with that. One of the things that's been suffering has been the issue with regard to you know optional tours. So I just wanted to get your you know thought process on advocating for continued support from LEAP and programs like that to you know keep those long-standing businesses that have been here that are not part of hotels and part of that infrastructure, but have put their lives work, savings, and energy into optional tours which are really a mainstay as well that need to come back. Particularly for some of our other markets. And I just wanted to have you share some of your thoughts.

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

Sure one of the things that I was a part of membership for a while and one of the things that I always advocated for is how do we take the data that the statistics division puts together and how do we give that to the small business to figure out. Because the membership is made up of people who kind of already know the industry. But these optional tours are not part of, these you know, a big bulk of these small business options are not part of it because they don't see the benefit of becoming a GVB member per se. And so you know we thought of the ideas. How do we take this data, break it down, and give it to the small business saying this is how you read this this is how you can forecast and change and figure out what's there. And so I think that's something that needs to be done. Is in that membership part of it is

share that data but with them. The arrivals data, the reports of whatever comes out for these optional tours. So they can kind of better plan their businesses. Optional tours are at added value I think. That's what people kind of go for. Is whether it be the parasailing, fishing, a lot of the things that kind of were disruptors were kind of the advent of these almost it's not like Airbnb but these experiences. People want to visit a goat farm. People want to become a mayor for a day you know. You see places all over the world that are doing this. They're doing a chef experience you know. They can go and or you know these different things. And those are the things that we can kind of look at and capitalize on because they're unique experiences specifically for Guam. But there was always that disconnect between the small business and what you consider with a big businesses that supported the you know the industry. And how do we kind of trickle it down there to say they deserve a seat at the table as well. And so how we divide and break it up and translate that I would either let the either in the bylaws or here in the body itself.

Senator Christopher M. Duenas:

Yeah mayor I'm just glad to hear it. Because you know I'm not saying that the support isn't there now but I'm just saying that it has to constantly be on the front burner you know. because these businesses are long time businesses and their employees fortunately that were supported a lot of them through the issues of federal pandemic relief funds you know. I meet a lot of them because you know I come from that industry. that's my mainstay before being in public service. So I still a lot of friends a lot of people that that are just struggling trying to survive. LEAP has helped them very much but those employees have run out of a lot of those resources that were subsidizing their paychecks for a while. They really need that industry to crank up you know faster so please continue to be an advocate for things such as the LEAP program and and you know encourage the board members to support it and I think Jesse made a good choice. Mr. President I don't know if that will continue to be your authority but you obviously have you know a lot of wonderful mayors here to support you Mayor. And I think experience is needed at this time so you certainly have my support for your nomination. That's all I have Madam Chair. Thank you.

Chairwoman Amanda L. Shelton:

Thank you, Senator Duenas. Senator Quinata.

Senator Roy A.B. Quinata:

Good morning, ñot.

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

Bless you. He's actually my stepdad but my dad who raised me, Quin, that's his grandma's the sister.

Senator Roy A.B. Quinata:

I just had to point it out because you know I don't want to get questioned for anything unethical or supporting you. But I definitely support you. I'm very happy to see some of your colleagues joining me today. That shows that your leadership has very much a lot of support. Especially the President of GVB here as well and you're President of your own Council. So I don't think there's really any challenge you cannot face. You've been a Mayor for Sinajana for quite some time and I think the people of Sinajana have echoed that your leadership speaks volumes for your service. So continue to keep up the good work. Let us know what we can do and God bless you. I'm sure the family supports you in any way.

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

Thank you I appreciate it.

Senator Roy A.B. Quinata:

And have a good day.

Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann:

Thank you, thank you so much. And Senators I do want to say that you know I offer classes twice a year for grant writing. It's one of the things that I really enjoy doing. And I really appreciate my colleagues are here because a lot of what I do, I share. It's the sharing of best practices is what's going to make us better as an island. I don't hoard money to myself. I've never have forward money to myself. A lot of things I do, it always kind of goes, and one of the things that I've advocated always for was even in building the Central Community Arts Hall, I didn't call it the Sinajana Community Arts Hall. I called it the Central Community Arts Hall because I want to build a Northern Community Arts Hall and a Southern one. Because it's going to take all those villages to come together to really put these together. So a lot of the things that we've been doing are very tri-village, quad-village based. Because we help each other. I enjoy helping them because when their residents and their people succeed there, we all succeed. Because there's that satisfaction. You know we a long time ago used to joke that you know the stray dogs are not from Sinajana, they come from Agana Heights. Or that you know the people that are sacking Sinajana they're from Mangilao or something. It's like no, it's never that way. We love each other. We respect each other. And I support them and I'm here to do anything. They have my

commitment to anything that happens. I will inform them. I will keep them updated. And I will fight for them.

Chairwoman Amanda L. Shelton:

Thank you very much mayor. I think yes, a rising tide lifts all boats. So glad to hear you share that and we hope that you'll continue to bring your spirit of generosity and sharing not just your knowledge but your resources to your role on the GVB Board. So we look forward to that. And I'll just read the excerpt from the enabling legislation on how you are chosen as a board appointee. So five directors refer to as appointed director shall be members and shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Legislature. One of the appointed directors shall be a commissioner or assistant commissioner selected by the Commissioner's Council. So we know commissioners now are mayors. And that is how. So thank you very much mayor. I also want to mention for the record that we received testimony, a written testimony, from the Executive Director of the Mayor's Council of Guam, Mr. Angel Sablan in support of your appointment to the Board. And I'd like to thank my colleagues who have been here this morning for this confirmation hearing and if there's anyone who would like to provide further testimony we will continue to receive testimony to our office at officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org or it can be delivered here to the Guam Congress Building. And we would want to thank everyone for providing their testimony and feedback. And mayor we look forward to pushing out your appointment into the next session. So in advance with the support of my colleagues congratulations to you. The date again is April 6th. The time now is 9:23 a.m and this confirmation hearing is adjourned. Si Yu'os Ma'ase everyone.

III. FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

All discussions and testimonies presented to and received by the Committee affirm support for the appointment of Mayor Robert R.D.C. Hofmann by Maga'håga Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero to serve as the Mayor's Council of Guam Member of the Board of Directors of the Guam Visitors Bureau.

The Committee on Maritime & Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens hereby reports on the appointment of Robert R.D.C. Hofmann to serve as a member of the guam Viitors Bureau with the recommendation of TO DO CONFIRM.