



Office of the Speaker **THERESE M. TERLAJE**

I Mina'trentai Sais na Liheslaturan Guåhan | 36th Guam Legislature
Committee on Health, Land, Justice and Culture

April 5, 2021

John F. Reyes, Chairperson
CHamoru Land Trust Commission
cltccommissioner.reyes@cltc.guam.gov>

All Commissioners
CHamoru Land Trust Commission

SUBJECT: Follow-up on Executive Session and Findings of the Commission

Hafa Adai CLTC Chairperson Reyes and Commissioners:

As you are all aware, in light of numerous allegations that have surfaced from our community and during public proceedings, I sent a letter on March 24, 2021 requesting the official findings regarding the concerns raised by a land agent at the Trust, who advised the Commission that recommendations submitted under her name were altered by the Director and requesting a status on any actions the Commission will take to address the concern.

The Commission classified this matter as a personnel issue and has denied disclosure of a report to the public based on this justification. However, I urge a reevaluation of this decision as the allegation of alteration raised by the land agent is essentially a matter of great public interest to beneficiaries as to how applications are processed.

Additionally, given that no reason was disclosed during the motion to go into the March 18, 2021 Executive Session, which Chairperson Reyes advised was pursuant to 5 GCA § 8111(a), I requested information on the particular allegations as to the Director's altering recommendations of the land agent, nature of the Executive Session, an official report of the findings and resolution, and a copy of the final report of the staff interviews conducted with the Trust. § 8111 (a) of 5 GCA requires that while a public agency may exclude from any public or private meeting, during the examination of a witness, any or all other witnesses in the matter being investigated by the agency, it may not exclude a party, complainant or the subject of an adverse action.

I am deeply concerned that an acceptable response to my request has yet to be received. I concur with members of the public who have expressed that the conclusion of the Chairman following the Executive Session was inadequate.

I reiterate my determination to seek transparency on these serious matters that jeopardize public trust and the mission of the CHamoru Land Trust Commission. I also want to reemphasize that it is the Commissions sole authority to hire the Director of the Trust and lay out his/her responsibilities pursuant to 21 GCA § 75102 (b), should the Commission share concern for the actions of the Director and the outcome of the Executive Session.

Additionally, I would like to request a status update from the Commission on the following:

- Status of Commission actions to address issues of internal controls and compliance outlined in the FY2020 CLTC Financial Audit findings conducted by the Office of Public Accountability.
- Status and copy of any annual evaluation of the Director's performance conducted or to be conducted, and any update on the Director's 2019 CLTC List of Priorities issued in June of 2019.

I kindly ask that this information be provided at your earliest convenience. Please note that an oversight hearing on these matters and others may be forthcoming if unresolved. My office will send the details once confirmed. I look forward to the response of the Commission and thank you for your efforts to protect and progress the mission of the CHamoru Land Trust for the prosperity of our people.

Si Yu'os ma'åse',



Therese M. Terlaje