



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Tina Sablan
House of Representatives
16th Commonwealth Legislature

August 7, 2009

Ms. Thelma Inos, Director
Division of Energy
Department of Public Works
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Ms. Inos:

As a member of the 16th CNMI House of Representatives, and as Chair of the Public Utilities & Infrastructure Committee for the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation, I wish to convey my wholehearted support of the Saipan Zoning Office's grant proposal with regard to the U.S. Department of Energy's "Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant." The Saipan Zoning Office proposes to develop a "Beach Road Corridor Improvement Plan." With six villages and the majority of our hotels situated along the western shoreline of Saipan, the importance of improving Beach Road cannot be overstated. I urge you to give serious consideration to this proposal.

The Zoning Office proposes to develop a master plan that would provide the foundations for significant enhancement and revitalization of Beach Road, a vital thoroughfare of Saipan. Especially exciting is the Zoning Office's intent to incorporate energy efficient transportation options into the plan. On an island almost wholly dependent upon foreign oil for its energy needs, any effort to improve mobility and reduce car usage over time is most welcome, and would benefit residents and visitors alike.

I share in Zoning Administrator, Victor Barrett's view that future efforts to enhance mobility and reduce emissions and trip duration require a comprehensive plan that supports long-term community growth. The Beach Road Corridor is especially well suited as a starting point for master planning and energy efficient zoning improvements. The successful development and implementation of the Beach Road Corridor Improvement Plan would enhance and beautify Beach Road from Garapan to San Antonio, and promote continual efforts to improve the quality of life of the community overall through thoughtful planning.

Thank you very much for your attention to this matter. I hope to be able to work with you and the Zoning Office on the Beach Road Corridor Improvement Plan for Saipan's greater economic development.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tina Sablan".

Rep. Tina Sablan