

# Guam Ancestral Lands Commission

## FY 2021 Citizen Centric Report



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Commissioner

### Management

**John T. Burch**  
Executive Director

### ABOUT GALC

The Guam Ancestral Lands Commission (GALC) was created by Public Law 25-45 to serve as the conduit for conveying returned federal excess lands to their original land owners. GALC is known as the Land Claims Facilitator. On October 6, 2011, the Governor of Guam issued Reorganization Advisory No. 5, which was later superseded by Advisory No. 9, whereby the GALC was merged into GovGuam's Department of Land Management (DLM) in 2012. On January 16, 2019, the Governor of Guam issued Executive Order 2019-01 re-establishing the GALC as a separate agency from DLM.



### OUR MISSION

Administer the Guam Ancestral Lands Act in order that ancestral landowners, their heirs and descendants may expeditiously exercise all the fundamental civil rights in the property they own; establish a land bank to provide just compensation for dispossessed ancestral landowners; and when appropriate, assume the role of Claims Facilitator to assist ancestral landowners in pursuit of just remedies. (21GCA §80102)

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## **OUR GOAL**

Increase the number of federal return parcels and provide just compensation to the families who will not benefit from the returns.

## **FY2021 PROGRESS**

May 2021, the GALC moved into its permanent office on the third floor of the ITC Building in Tamuning. The GALC also opened an easement to GALC Crown Property Lot 2481 Radio Barrigada providing access to several returned ancestral properties located in the general area.

By year-end, September 30, 2021, the GALC operated with a board of seven members supported by one classified employee, two unclassified employees and was assisted with two temporary employees from the Department of Labor's Senior Employment Program. All members of the Board of Commissioners and all GALC staff completed the required training in the Ethics in Government Program.

For Fiscal Year 2021, Independent Auditors, Deloitte and Touche issued an unmodified, clean opinion for the Guam Ancestral Lands Commission. The following are the financial highlights of the GALC's financial activities:

- GALC paid the Guam Economic Development Authority (GEDA) \$102,223 in management fees for services provided in Fiscal Year 2021.
- Total assets exceeded total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources by \$14,613,800 as of September 30, 2021 as compared to \$13,875,520 at the end of the prior year.
- Total assets on September 30, 2021 decreased by \$668,979 (or 4%) as compared to September 30, 2020.

## **FY2021 PROGRESS CONT.**

- Total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources on September 30, 2021 decreased by \$1,407,259 (or 66%) as compared to September 30, 2020.
- Total fund balance on September 30, 2021 increased by \$738,280 (or 5%) as compared to September 30, 2020.
- Total revenues of \$1,301,856 for the year ended September 30, 2021 increased by \$402,372 (or 45%) as compared to \$899,484 for the prior year. Total expenditures of \$563,576 for the year ended September 30, 2021 increased by \$69,860 as compared to \$493,716 for the prior year. This resulted in an increase in the fund balance of \$738,280 for the year ended September 30, 2021 as compared to \$405,768 for the prior year. The increase in expenditures was primarily due to roof repairs of the Guam Environmental Protection Agency Operations Building 15-6100 in Tiyan.

### Roof Repair GEPA Building 15-6100 Tiyan

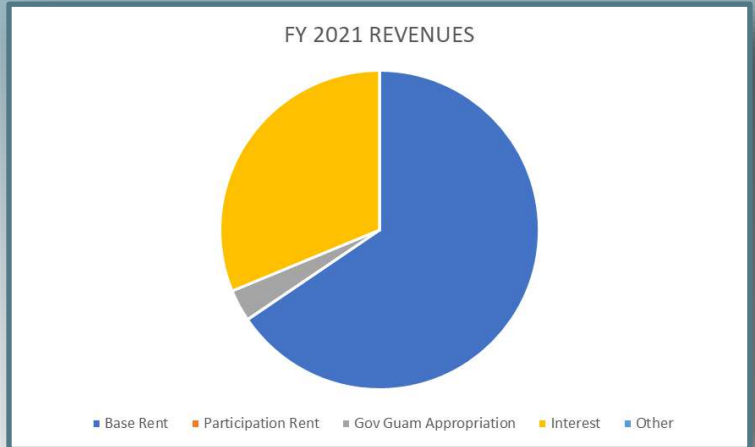


- For Fiscal Year 2021, Independent Auditors, Deloitte and Touche, LLP identified one material weakness pertaining to the potential noncompliance with Public Law 34-108. An audit adjustment was proposed to recognize lease revenues, net of management fees, in the Land Bank Trust Fund resulting in an interfund receivable and payable balance of \$117,955.

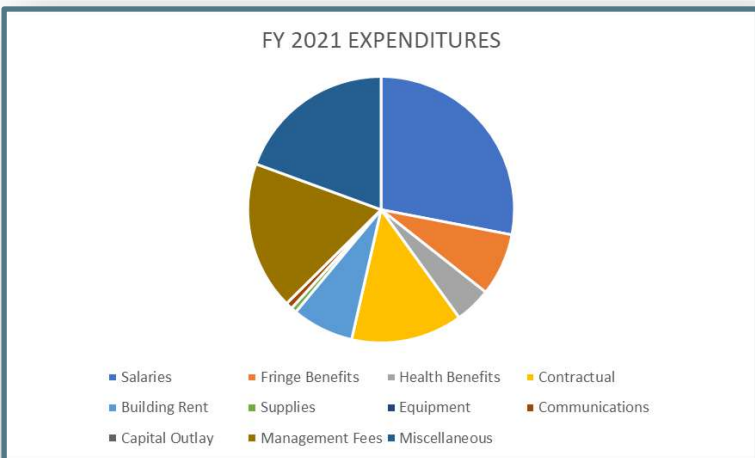
GALC agreed with the recommendation to resolve the audit finding. The \$117,955 recommended transfer is a cumulative net (monthly lease payment less GEDA management fees) total from October 2020 to February 2021. All payments received in the subsequent months of FY2021 were deposited into GALC's Land Bank Trust Fund.

# FY 2021 Finances

| <b>Revenues:</b>      | <b>2021</b>         | <b>2020</b>       |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Base Rent             | \$ 850,507          | \$ 749,420        |
| Part. Rent            | 312                 | 104               |
| GovGuam Appro.        | 41,887              | 73,975            |
| Interest              | 409,150             | 75,755            |
| Other                 | -0-                 | 230               |
| <b>Total Revenues</b> | <b>\$ 1,301,856</b> | <b>\$ 899,484</b> |



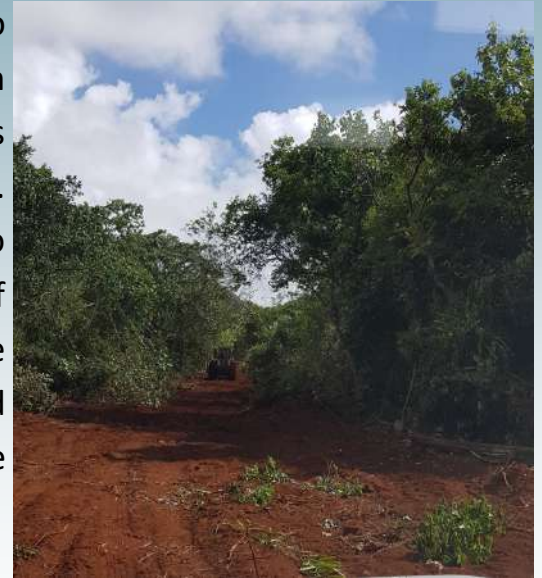
| <b>Expenditures:</b>      | <b>2021</b>       | <b>2020</b>       |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Salaries                  | \$ 156,855        | \$ 171,209        |
| Fringe Benefits           | 43,236            | 42,670            |
| Health Benefits           | 24,768            | 16,460            |
| Contractual               | 76,320            | 69,001            |
| Building Rent             | 42,266            | 20,367            |
| Supplies                  | 3,814             | 2,180             |
| Equipment                 | -0-               | 27,676            |
| Communications            | 4,668             | 3,715             |
| Capital Outlay            | -0-               | 37,470            |
| Management Fee            | 102,223           | 98,370            |
| Miscellaneous             | 109,426           | 4,598             |
| <b>Total Expenditures</b> | <b>\$ 563,576</b> | <b>\$ 493,716</b> |



**To view the GALC financial audit, go to the Office of Public Accountability website: [opaguam.org](http://opaguam.org)**

## Future Challenges

At year-end September 30, 2021, GALC was unable to finalize the Land Bank Rules and Regulations. As a result, the GALC was unable to compensate original landowners who will not benefit from the return of their lands. Furthermore, the GALC continues to struggle with providing easements to returned property. This is attributed to the reluctance of property owners to dedicate a small portion of their property and the lack of authority to utilize financial resources to provide easements to returned property. In FY 2021, the GALC did not return any property, and the Commission's aggregate amount of land returned remains at 2,643.12 acres.



Easement Opening - GALC Crown Property Lot 2481 Radio Barrigada



GALC's Landowner's Recovery Fund was created for the purpose of granting loans, guarantees of loans to aid landowners to defer costs or fees of professional services. Unfortunately, the GALC has been unable to begin such activities because of the lack of staff and a committed funding source.

The GALC's Commissioners and Executive Director acknowledge the difficulty the GALC has with the fulfillment of its mandates due to limited funds and personnel. It has been determined that in order to best fulfill these mandates, it is imperative to recruit much needed personnel. Along with this recruitment, GALC will need additional funds for drug testing, computers, supplies and training.

# Outlook

The GALC Commissioners and Executive Director will continue dialogue with the Administration and the Guam Legislature to finalize the Land Bank Rules and Regulations. Furthermore, the GALC management will continue to work with the financial resources available to recruit much needed personnel.



**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU**

*Did you find this report informative? Do you think we need more information added? Please contact our office at (671) 473-5263*

*or email us at [admin@galc.guam.gov](mailto:admin@galc.guam.gov)*

Thomas Eladio Battung <[tbattung@guamopa.com](mailto:tbattung@guamopa.com)>

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**Fwd: FY2021 Citizens Centric Report**

1 message

**Benjamin Cruz** <[bjcruz@guamopa.com](mailto:bjcruz@guamopa.com)>

Mon, May 9, 2022 at 2:34 PM

To: Vincent Duenas <[vduenas@guamopa.com](mailto:vduenas@guamopa.com)>, Jerrick Hernandez <[jhernandez@guamopa.com](mailto:jhernandez@guamopa.com)>, Thyrza Bagana <[tbagana@guamopa.com](mailto:tbagana@guamopa.com)>, Frederick Jones <[fjones@guamopa.com](mailto:fjones@guamopa.com)>, Thomas Eladio Battung <[tbattung@guamopa.com](mailto:tbattung@guamopa.com)>, Johanna Pangelinan <[jpangelinan@guamopa.com](mailto:jpangelinan@guamopa.com)>, Mariella Cruz <[mcruz@guamopa.com](mailto:mcruz@guamopa.com)>, Ren Jalandoni <[rjalandoni@guamopa.com](mailto:rjalandoni@guamopa.com)>, Selina Onedera-Salas <[sonederasalas@guamopa.com](mailto:sonederasalas@guamopa.com)>, Kayleen Concepcion <[kconcepcion@guamopa.com](mailto:kconcepcion@guamopa.com)>, Kyle Bungubung <[kbungubung@guamopa.com](mailto:kbungubung@guamopa.com)>, Thomas Quichocho <[tquichocho@guamopa.com](mailto:tquichocho@guamopa.com)>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cathi Blas** <[cathi.blas@galc.guam.gov](mailto:cathi.blas@galc.guam.gov)>

Date: Mon, May 9, 2022 at 1:37 PM

Subject: FY2021 Citizens Centric Report

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**Hafa Adai Speaker Terlaje and Public Auditor Cruz,**

In accordance with Title 1 Guam Code Annotated Chapter 19 §1922(a), please find attached Guam Ancestral Lands Commission's FY 2021 Citizen Centric Report

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me or Mr. John Burch at 671 473-LAND (5263) or email us at [john.burch@galc.guam.gov](mailto:john.burch@galc.guam.gov) or [cathi.blas@galc.guam.gov](mailto:cathi.blas@galc.guam.gov).

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Benjamin J. F. Cruz

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