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MISSION

As fiduciary trustee of the Commonwealth's public lands held for the benefit of individuals of Northern Marianas Descent, the Department of Public Lands (DPL) is committed to their equitable, transparent, and sustainable management, use, and development. Guided by the Strategic Land Use Plan and in consultation with the Public Lands Advisory Board, DPL administers homesteading, leasing, land claims resolution, and designations to deliver economic, social, and cultural benefits to Northern Marianas Descent beneficiaries, foster balanced growth, generate revenues for the Marianas Public Land Trust, and safeguard the Commonwealth's environmental and heritage resources for present and future generations.



VISION

A Commonwealth where public lands are managed with excellence and integrity, providing lasting economic opportunity, cultural preservation, and environmental stewardship for all individuals of Northern Marianas Descent—today and for generations to come.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

DPL is led by the Secretary, who provides overall fiduciary oversight as trustee of public lands under Article XI of the CNMI Constitution and Public Law 15-2. The Secretary is supported by an Executive Support Team and eight primary divisions and district offices. Following the dissolution of the standalone Accounting and Finance Division, core financial functions have been temporarily integrated into the Office of the Secretary via a Financial Service Team (FST), with full transition planned to the Administrative Services Division following a desk audit.



ADVISORY BOARD


Kodep
Ogunoro-Uludong
Chair


(Vacant)
Vice Chair


(Vacant)
Secretary


Henry
Hofschneider
Member


James
Manglona
Member


Rita
Chong
Member


Richard
Hofschneider
Member

OPERATIONAL STRUCTURE

DIVISIONS AND OFFICES | FY2026

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Executive Support Team
Financial Service Team*

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

REAL ESTATE DIVISION

COMPLIANCE DIVISION
Managaha Rangers

PLANNING DIVISION

HOMESTEAD DIVISION

LAND CLAIMS DIVISION

ROTA DISTRICT OFFICE

TINIAN DISTRICT OFFICE

* Transitional Financial Service Team: Executive Support Team is permanent.



FY2026 DEMOGRAPHICS

65 employees

57 Saipan | 4 Tinian | 4 Rota

 **33**
Women

 **32**
Men

 **8 FTE positions**
pending to be filled.

WE VALUE YOUR FEEDBACK!

The Department of Public Lands welcomes your comments, questions, and suggestions regarding our performance and services. Your feedback helps us improve transparency, accountability, and the management of public lands for the benefit of present and future generations. Connect with us through our website, Facebook page, or email using the QR codes below.



DPL WEBSITE
publiclands.cnmi.gov

SCAN TO CONNECT



FACEBOOK
facebook.com/dplcnmi670

SCAN TO CONNECT



EMAIL DPL
dpl@dpl.gov.mp

SCAN TO CONNECT



**MISSION, VISION,
STRUCTURE AND
DIVISION PROFILES**

SCAN TO VIEW

FY2026 PERFORMANCE AT A GLANCE — SAIPAN

8 SURVEY & MAPPING	9 AS-BUILT SURVEYS	20 DESIGNATIONS	35 TOA-RELATED PLANNING ACTIONS
21 LAND USE REVIEWS	72  ACTIVE COMMERCIAL LEASES	116  ACTIVE TOAs	2,032 PENDING SAIPAN HOMESTEAD APPLICATIONS

FY2026 PERFORMANCE AT A GLANCE — TINIAN

989 PENDING HOMESTEAD APPLICATIONS	242 KASTIYU AG. HOMESTEAD PERMITS PENDING	3 QUITCLAIM DEEDS ISSUED	8 LAND USE REVIEWS
1 LAND DESIGNATION EXECUTED	4 ACTIVE COMMERCIAL LEASES	18 ACTIVE TOAs	5 TEMPORARY AUTHORIZATIONS
11 COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS	11 VIOLATION NOTICES ISSUED	\$633,378.44 TDO FY2026 COLLECTIONS AS OF 9/24/26	0 PENDING LAND CLAIMS

FY2026 PERFORMANCE AT A GLANCE — ROTA

1,471 PENDING HOMESTEAD APPLICATIONS	733 PENDING VILLAGE HOMESTEAD APPLICATIONS	738 PENDING AGRICULTURAL HOMESTEAD APPLICATIONS	419 ACTIVE HOMESTEAD PERMITS TO DATE
5 AGRICULTURAL HOMESTEAD PERMITS ISSUED	5 AGRICULTURAL QUITCLAIM DEEDS ISSUED	4 REPORTED COMMERCIAL LEASES	15 REPORTED TOAs



1 PLANNING

The Geographic Information System (GIS) is updated daily to maintain accurate, current land information and support the identification, evaluation, and planning of public lands for availability and appropriate use.

Following Super Typhoons Sinlaku and Bavi, Planning Division staff were redirected to support DPL's emergency response and recovery efforts. Staff assisted with damage assessments and site inspections at DPL properties and participated in ongoing coordination and weekly meetings with FEMA to support or public assistance and disaster recovery activities.





2 REAL ESTATE

Managaha Island Master Concession Temporary Occupancy Agreement (TOA) No. 26-0323 was fully executed on December 23, 2025, establishing the framework for the transition of concession operations. S.A.I. CNMI officially assumed operations on February 15, 2026, marking the commencement of services under the new Master Concession Operator agreement.






3 COMPLIANCE

The Compliance Division continued active monitoring and enforcement of DPL agreements throughout FY2026, conducting **78 inspections** and recording **5 violations, 4 defaults, 43 compliance actions, 3 terminations, 3 cancellations, and 1 mutual cancellation pending.**

Managaha Island Operations
During FY2026, Managaha Island recorded **45,916 tourist arrivals**, generating **\$459,160.00 in landing fee collections**, reflecting the island's continued importance as a key tourism and public land asset of the CNMI.

45,916
TOURIST ARRIVALS
FY2026

\$459,160.00
LANDING FEE
COLLECTIONS
FY2026






4 HOMESTEADS & LAND CLAIMS

FY2027 Homestead Priorities
Key priorities for FY2027 include advancing Mape Heights Phase II and completing the issuance of 483(a) Agricultural Homestead permits, supporting DPL's continued efforts to expand access to public land and advance homestead opportunities for eligible residents.

Land Claims Obligations
DPL estimates that approximately **\$60 million**, including accrued interest, will be required to fully resolve outstanding land claims for Saipan and Rota. Of this amount, approximately **\$11.31 million** represents obligations associated with old land judgments and settlement agreements, underscoring the significant financial commitment required to address outstanding land claims.



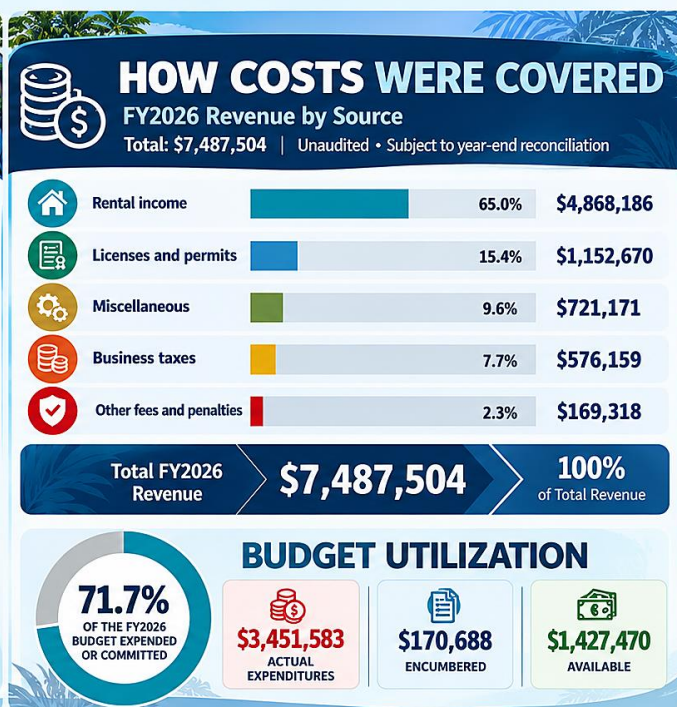
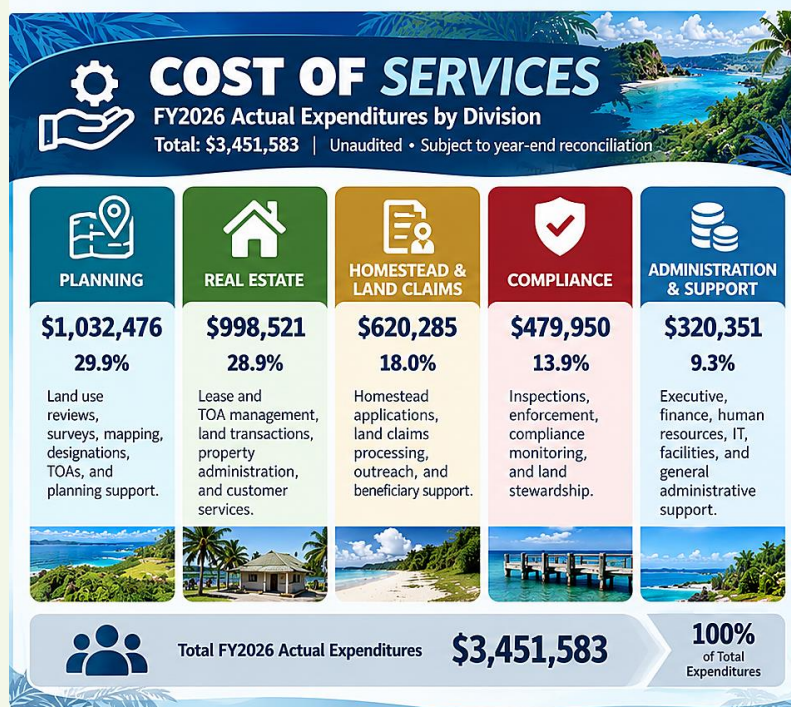



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2025-006

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY & MPLT REMITTANCES

Signed and promulgated on November 26, 2025, Executive Order No. 2025-006 requires DPL to remit at least \$1 million annually to the Marianas Public Land Trust (MPLT), transfer excess public-land revenues quarterly, maintain authorized operating balances and designated accounts, and submit quarterly financial and lease-status reports to strengthen transparency and accountability.

SCAN TO VIEW EXECUTIVE ORDER



WHAT'S NEXT?

FY2027 Challenges, Outlook & Priorities

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OUR CHALLENGES



Fiscal & Workforce Pressures

Ongoing economic and fiscal constraints, reduced work schedules, limited staffing capacity, and aging equipment continue to impact operational efficiency and DPL's ability to meet growing service demands.

Lease Management & Compliance

Expired leases, holdover occupancy, delinquent accounts, and unresolved compliance matters highlight the need for stronger monitoring, timely enforcement, and more efficient processing of Lease and Temporary Occupancy Agreement transactions.

Survey & Technical Capacity

Limited surveys, outdated, and technical resources—public land surveys, Title and grantor comparisons, and lengthy review and approval processes continue to affect the timely and efficient advancement of land use projects.

Land Claims Resolution

Historical land claims remain unresolved, requiring significant collaboration, legal analysis, and adjudication. Increased claim volumes and complex ancestral settlement expectations, and litigation tied to legacy land matters continue to place pressure on resources, and the need for a clear and transparent process is more critical than ever.

CNMI Land Use Plan Update

Progress on the CNMI Land Use Plan Update remains a substantial but necessary undertaking. Finalization of the updated plan is essential to guide sustainable, coordinated, and the availability of adequate funding and resources.

FY2027 ANTICIPATED ECONOMIC OUTLOOK & STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



As the CNMI enters FY2027, our road fiscal constraints, an uncertain tourism recovery timeline Super Typhoon Sinlaku, and limited on island resources are expected to present ongoing challenges to service capacity, public land development, and government revenues. DPL remains focused on fiscal conservation, timely and fair revenue collections, staffing, and attainable balance and resources.

In response, the Department will take a multi-faceted approach to strengthen financial accountability, optimize revenue collection, and implement streamlined, customer-focused improvements to land transaction processes—particularly Lease and Temporary Occupancy Agreement transactions. These efforts will be key to improving efficiency, enhancing service delivery, and ensuring the responsible and sustainable use of public lands for the benefit of present and future generation.

DPL will also prioritize the responsible and productive use of public land assets and continue work with key stakeholders to maximize opportunities for economic benefits to support government services and infrastructure. This approach will advance the digitalization and preservation of land records, maps, surveys, and historical documents—protecting DPL's institutional knowledge, and strengthen the accuracy and accessibility of information for current and future users.

Continued emphasis will be placed on strengthening technical and operational support for Tinian and Rota, while advancing homestead and land claims services throughout the Commonwealth.

Despite a challenging economic landscape, DPL remains committed to transparency, fiscal sustainability, and its fiduciary duty—ensuring that public lands are managed and preserved to provide lasting economic, social, and cultural benefits for all individuals of Northern Marianas Descent.

FY2027 STRATEGIC GOALS

PEOPLE | PUBLIC LANDS | STRONGER CNMI

In FY2027, DPL will focus on strengthening financial sustainability, improving accountability, and maximizing the responsible and productive use of CNMI public lands. Through the following strategic goals, we will manage public lands more efficiently, transparently, and strategically for the long-term benefit of the people of the CNMI.

1 REVENUE OPTIMIZATION	2 LEASE & TOA MANAGEMENT	3 COMPLIANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY	4 DATA MANAGEMENT & NEIGHBOR-ISLAND SUPPORT	5 DIGITAL MODERNIZATION	6 HOMESTEAD, LAND CLAIMS & DISASTER RECOVERY
Enhance revenue collection and financial controls, and implement consistent quarterly Basic Rent payments to improve cash flow, accountability, and revenue predictability.	Resolve expired leases and holdover accounts, improve Lease and TOA tracking, and streamline processes to reduce backlogs and ensure timely processing of land transactions.	Strengthen compliance monitoring and enforcement, and promote the productive and responsible use of vacant or underutilized public lands.	Improve the accuracy, accessibility, and integration of revenue and land-use data, and strengthen technical and operational support for Tinian and Rota.	Digitize, preserve, and improve access to land records, maps, surveys, data, and historical documentation, while modernizing GIS and surveying technologies.	Advance homestead development, continue land claims resolution efforts, and support disaster recovery initiatives to build stronger, more resilient communities.
PROTECT PUBLIC RESOURCES	IMPROVE EFFICIENCY	ENSURE RESPONSIBLE USE	INFORM BETTER DECISIONS	MODERNIZE FOR THE FUTURE	SUPPORT STRONGER COMMUNITIES



HEALTHY COMMUNITIES



PRODUCTIVE PUBLIC LANDS



A STRONGER CNMI

CONTACT US

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS



SAIPAN MAIN OFFICE



P.O. Box 500380
Saipan, MP 96950



(670) 234-3751 / 3752 / 3753 / 3754



(670) 234-3755



TINIAN DISTRICT OFFICE



San Jose Village, Tinian



(670) 433-9245



(670) 433-0599



ROTA DISTRICT OFFICE



P.O. Box 813
Rota, MP 96951



(670) 532-9431



(670) 532-9430



publiclands.cnmi.gov



DPL@dpl.gov.mp