

For Official Release  
PR 001-05192021  
Office of the Governor  
Utulei, American Samoa  
May 19, 2021



## “Lieutenant Governor Leads Assessment of Manu’a.”

*“Attracting teachers to Manu'a has always been very difficult; reclassifying teachers' salaries is one way that would hopefully address this problem.”*

*“New ASPA water tank will provide a sufficient amount of water to families as the strategic water reserve is now in its advanced stages.”*



Lieutenant Governor Talauega E. V Ale led a delegation that arrived in Manu'a on May 18, 2021. Its purpose was to follow up on the progress of various work development and service projects. Also, to identify possible areas for future projects earmarked to develop Fitiuta, Tau, Faleasao, Ofu, and Olosega.

At the outset of the visit, Lt. Governor Talauega, on behalf of the Honorable Lemanu P. S. Mauga, affirmed their priority for Manu'a was to ensure that essential services and major areas of development that include maintenance, operations, and administration were progressing.

The tour started with an inspection of the Fitiuta Airport facilities. Lt. Governor learned about the targeted

projects in development and the need for a new compressor for the fire truck in case of emergency.

In education, there is a need to provide more teachers for elementary levels that will serve Manu'a. According to Lt. Governor Talauega, "attracting teachers to Manu'a has always been very difficult; reclassifying teacher's salaries is one way that would hopefully address this problem." The Lt. Governor added, "there is also the possibility of combining schools to ease the burden of a teacher shortage."

In the area of public works, roads and transportation to serve the villages are a priority. Several road projects have begun, most notably the Matasaua Rd development. The improved road system will make it easier for village members and tourists to access historical sites, such as the famous Ala i Saua, Taeao Muamua o Samoa, or Taeao na Saua. According to locals, this was the first place in Samoa that an ava ceremony took place.

One of the problems faced by the village of Fitiuta for many years has been a short water supply due to outdated infrastructure. LT Governor added that the recent installation of the new ASPA water tank will provide a sufficient amount of water to families as the strategic water reserve is now in its advanced stages.

Finally, the Lt Governor held a meeting with ASG staff to discuss the recent challenges and concerns. The Lt. Governor addressed their concerns, saying that all ASG employees located in Manu'a must work closely together to share information and resources. The employees also identified the need for technical assistance, professional development, and access to more training programs available.

The Lt. Governor and his contingent will travel to Ofu on Wednesday, May 19, 2021, and then Olosega on Thursday, May 20, 2021.



###