



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-5200

May 23, 2025

The Honorable Steve Womack
Chair

Subcommittee on THUD & Related Agencies
2358-A Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable James E. Clyburn
Ranking Member

Subcommittee on THUD & Related Agencies
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Womack and Ranking Member Clyburn,

As you write the FY2026 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill, please include funding for American Samoa Port Administration's Sea Port Infrastructure Development Projects.

The Governor of American Samoa is requesting for \$5,000,000 for this project. The entity to receive funding for this project is the American Samoa Department of Port Administration, located at 639 Airport Road, Pago Pago, American Samoa, 96799.

The modernization of American Samoa's sea ports - encompassing the Pago Pago Seaport, Tau Small Boat Harbor, Ofu Small Boat Harbor, and Aunu'u wharf - are essential and prioritized infrastructure projects for American Samoa. These ports serve as the primary gateways for commerce, travel, and the movement of goods in American Samoa. All Port facilities are outdated, in significant disrepair, and unable to meet modern safety, efficiency, and capacity standards. The project we are seeking funding for through this opportunity is the Port of Pago Pago Reconstruction Initiative. Currently, the pavement at the Pago Pago Seaport exhibits numerous cracks and potholes, leading to significant damage to equipment. The last resurfacing of the Pago Pago Seaport took place in the early 2000s. Typically, the lifespan of pavement in container yards is around 20 years, indicating the need for upgrades to the concrete slabs. Moreover, the Pago Pago Seaport is experiencing sinking, evident in the noticeable difference in elevation between the New Wharf and the Container Yard. Furthermore, the existing drainage system is no longer functional. It is hypothesized that the damaged concrete and sinking yard have likely compromised the drainage system, resulting in water and oil waste pooling on the surface. These issues have created a hazardous working environment for employees and pose challenges to operations within the yard.

The project aims to address these challenges by implementing necessary improvements to the Pago Pago Seaport. This includes the installation of new concrete pavement and an upgraded drainage system, ultimately fostering a safer port environment and enhancing operational efficiency. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will serve the logistical and transportation needs of the American Samoa people and those who visit these islands.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 46 U.S.C. 54301.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, nor does anyone in my immediate family.

Thank you for your consideration of this project and your leadership on the Appropriations Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Aumua Amata". The signature is stylized with a cursive, flowing script. The first name "Aumua" is written in a larger, more prominent hand, and the last name "Amata" follows in a similar style. The ink is a deep blue color.

Aumua Amata Coleman Radewagen
Member of Congress