



Office of the Mayor
Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan

Joey P. San Nicolas
Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
STATEMENT FROM THE MAYOR OF TINIAN AND AGUIGUAN
WEEK 2 UPDATE: November 8, 2018

Buenas yan Hafa Adai:

In our second week removed from Super Typhoon Yutu, the island of Tinian and its many partners in recovery again made significant progress in bringing the island back to its normal state. More businesses are coming back online, water is flowing back to our residents, and residents continue to avail of public services made available by local, state and federal resources. Still, almost all members of our community face the immense challenge of rebuilding their homes – many, from scratch. It is my administration's highest priority in this time to provide as many services to our community as is needed for each and every resident to achieve a full recovery from Super Typhoon Yutu.

STATUS OF RECOVERY EFFORT

Power. All feeders on Tinian remain offline as of Tuesday, November 6, however power is online at the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation's (CUC) Tinian facility from 6:00AM to 6:00PM. CUC's partial power assessment reports damage to 797 downed power poles, 105 transformers and 507,015 linear feet of conductors. Power restoration is forthcoming, however. On November 7, Executive Director Gary Camacho and a representative from Primary Source Electric paid a visit to the Tinian Mayor's Office on Thursday to discuss the logistics of Tinian's power restoration efforts. I and the people of Tinian look forward to committing our resources to the restoration of power in each and every home on our island.

Gas. As of today only one (1) gas station, Tinian Fuel Services, is open to the general public. From November 6 to November 30, Mobil Oil Marianas will be offering a special discounted price on unleaded fuel to the island of Tinian via its two (2) gas stations – from \$5.70 per gallon to \$5.20 per gallon. This special discount would not have been made possible without the efforts of Tinian Municipal Vice Chairman Phillip Mendiola-Long and Mobil Oil Marianas. *Un Dangkulu na Si Yu'us Ma'ase* Mobil Oil Marianas and Vice Chairman Long for your generosity and understanding in this time of great need. It is our hope that this temporary discount will help ease the burden of recovery for all Tinian residents.

Water. City water distribution began on Saturday, November 3 thanks to the efforts of the US Army Corps of Engineers and CUC. I am happy to report that 98% of Tinian residents now have access to running water.

Business Community. Most businesses on island have resumed regular operations as of the end of this week including supermarkets, transportation services, and shipping companies. Hotel rooms and laundromats are slowly coming back online, while local restaurants operate on a limited basis. Both local banks – the Bank of Guam and the Bank of Saipan – are now operating on a regular schedule.

STATUS OF COMMUNITY RELIEF EFFORT

Public Services. With water and gas almost fully restored to the island, public services have stabilized and we are slowly transitioning from immediate relief towards long-term community restoration. As such, the Municipality felt it was appropriate to discontinue our shuttle services and pull back on public portable toilets.

Ongoing services include the following programs:

- *Food and Water Distribution:* The Tinian Gymnasium distribution center continues to provide hot meals, humanitarian daily rations (HDRs) and bottled water to our residents on a daily basis. The American Red Cross offers hot meals for lunch and dinner, which are supplemented by HDRs provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Non-potable water is also available at the center 24 hours a day.
- *Potable Water Distribution:* Potable water remains available to the public in various locations on island on a daily basis: from 8:00AM to 5:00PM at the Jones Beach reverse osmosis system and 2:00PM to 5:00PM at the Maui Well Pump Station.
- *Municipal Debris Removal:* I am pleased to report that this week, we began our curbside debris removal program. Using municipal resources, our teams will dispose of lumber, tin and green waste for residents who have properly sorted and placed their waste along public easements. Debris removal instructions are available to the general public via the Tinian Mayor's Office Facebook page and the weekly Gasetan Taotao Tinian: Recovery Edition.
- *Shelters.* Two (2) shelters remain open on the island of Tinian: the Tinian Elementary School and the Natibu Park Amphitheatre.

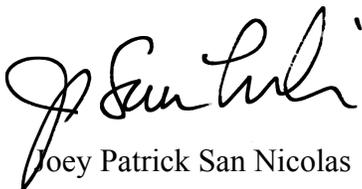
FEMA. FEMA continues to offer their services to Tinian residents on a daily basis at the Tinian Department of Commerce from 10:00AM to 3:00PM. FEMA staff are available to process new applications for Individual Assistance and provide updates to current applicants. The Small Business Administration is also available at this facility, however they have yet to establish a set schedule of operations.

CNMI Tenting Program. This week also saw the implementation of the CNMI Tenting Program on Tinian. As of this morning over eighty (80) tents have been raised by the efforts of our military partners and municipal staff. The tenting operation is expected to continue through next week.

FINAL THOUGHTS

Week two post-typhoon showed a steady stream of activity built on the momentum from our immediate response to Super Typhoon Yutu. We aim to continue this trend in the coming weeks as we transition into the long-term restoration of our infrastructure, our homes, and our community.

I and the people of Tinian are fully aware that our recovery would not be possible without the assistance we have received from our many partners. On behalf of the Tinian community I would like thank President Donald Trump for his quick response to the CNMI's request for a disaster declaration; CNMI Governor Ralph DLG Torres and the CNMI Government for their support in our recovery; Guam Governor Eddie B. Calvo and GovGuam; our federal partners: Federal Emergency Management Agency (Deputy Administrator Bill Roche, Bern Ruiz, Tomas Kaselioins (Kash) and the rest of the FEMA representatives both in the CNMI and at Region 9); Joint Region Marianas (Rear Admiral Shoshana Chatfield, Colonel Brodie, Lt. Colonels Johnson and Cheng); non-profits such as the American Red Cross, the Ayuda Foundation, One Marianas Initiative, the Haya Foundation, and other individuals and non-profits throughout the United States and the Marianas; and our countless families and friends throughout the world. Thank you all for your support in this time of need, and we look forward to continue working with you all to achieve a fully-recovered Tinian. *Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Oloomway, and Salamat Po!*



Joey Patrick San Nicolas
Mayor of Tinian and Aguiguan