



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Office of the Governor  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Effective immediately, the Department of Public Lands (DPL), advises the general public and existing DPL Permittees of the newly enacted Public Law 20-52, which grants the Department of Public Works (DPW) exclusive authority to promulgate Rules & Regulations pertaining to all rights-of-way (ROW) in all Senatorial districts in the CNMI. This is inclusive of DPW's authority to establish fees and civil fines/penalties.

As a result of this enactment, DPL will no longer accept and process new requests or applications for any activities on areas within the public ROW. DPL will not renew Current Temporary Occupancy Agreement (TOA) Permittees, upon expiration, Permittees shall inquire with DPW regarding activities and use of the Public ROW.

Public rights-of-way (ROW) is defined as: *"A public right-of-way available for Commonwealth roads, streets, and other rights of way for the purposes of, laying or erecting pipelines, sewers, wires, cables, poles, ditches, drains, railways, for public purpose, under an existing agreement or permit."*

Patricia S. Rasa  
Acting Secretary, Department of Public Lands

Date