



# **KUMISIÓN I NA'AN LUGÁT (GUAM PLACE NAMES COMMISSION)**

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I KumisiÓN i Fino' CHamoru yan i Fina'ná'guen i Historia yan i Lina'la' i Taotao Tano'

# Law on Guam Place Names

## 5 GCA GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

### CH. 88. THE COMMISSION ON CHAMORU LANGUAGE AND THE TEACHING OF THE HISTORY AND CULTURE OF THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE OF GUAM

#### CHAPTER 88

### THE COMMISSION ON CHAMORU LANGUAGE AND THE TEACHING OF THE HISTORY AND CULTURE OF THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE OF GUAM

(l) serve as the *Kumision I Nâ'an Lugât* (Guam Place Name Commission) to develop, implement, and advise interested parties on a coherent, culturally sound and historically accurate set of criteria for selecting place names, and coordinate with the Guam Land Use Commission, the CHamoru Land Trust Commission, the Department of Education, the University of Guam, the Guam Community College, the village Mayors, *Dipâttementon I Kaohao Guinahan CHamoru*, and with other civil and religious organizations interested in providing appropriate place names for Guam and consistency in signage. The Guam Land Use Commission, the CHamoru Land Trust Commission, the Department of Education, the University of Guam, the Guam Community College, the village Mayors, and *Dipâttementon I Kaohao Guinahan CHamoru* shall seek advice from *Kumision I Nâ'an Lugât* (Guam Place Name Commission) and shall keep records thereof;

(m) study ancient CHamoru terminology and pronunciation of place names, and restore aforementioned pronunciation with the current CHamoru orthography; and

(n) perform general reviews and evaluations as imposed by the government of Guam.

**We have no formal role in deciding the following.**



**School Names**



**Boundaries**



**Roads/Pathways**

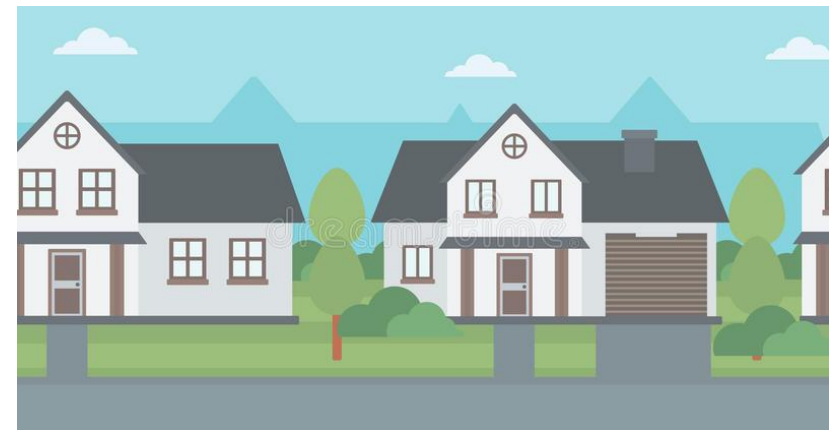
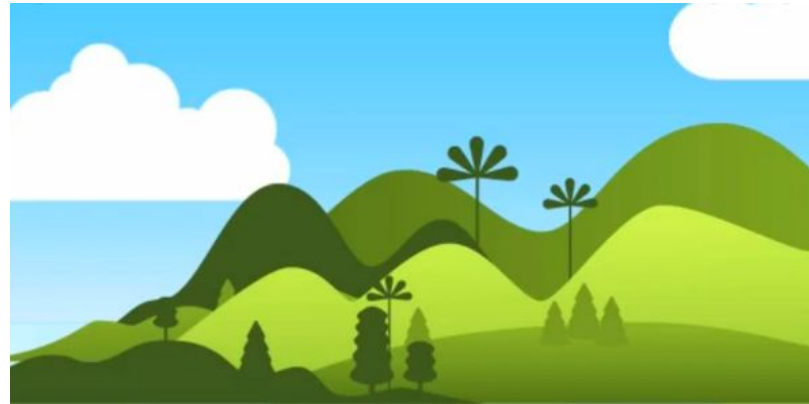


**Village Names**

## **We have jurisdiction over place names.**

Place Names include names for geographical points.

- rivers and streams
- summits
- area/locale
- springs/water basins
- beaches
- bays
- valleys
- capes/point
- planned unit developments
- commonly-used names





# MISSION: RESTORATION

- Honoring our ancestors
- Aligning place names with updated CHamoru orthography
- Researching the meaning of indigenous place names
- Understanding the history of place



# Kumisión Approval Plan

## Phase 1: Address Village/Municipality/District Names

- **southern (approved)** - Malesso', Inalåhan, Humåtak, Talo'fo'fo', Sânta Rita-Sumai, Hågat
- **central** - Yo'ña, CHålan Pågu-Otdot, Piti, Assan, Agana Heights-Tutuhan?, Sinahånña, Hagåtña
- **northern** - Tamuneng-Tomhom?, Mongmong-To'to-Maite', Barigåda, Mangilao, Dédidu, Yigu

## **Phase 2: Review of place names *within* each village**

- Total: ~1,321 place names
- Ongoing collaborative interviews and research with village informants and interested public