


Chuuk road project breaks ground

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PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSMIS) — Amid balloons, dust and the blazing sun, a crowd gathered outside the FSM Post Office in Chuuk to witness the groundbreaking ceremony for the Phase 1 of Weno Road Project last week. 

In a short ceremony, with speeches from Weno Mayor Jesse Florentino, FSM Vice President Alik Alik, and Chuuk Gov. Wesley Simina, the largest infrastructure project in FSM history was inaugurated.

All of the speeches focused on the collaborative effort of the FSM and Chuuk governments and the people of Weno to make this project possible.

Everyone was thankful to Pacific International Inc. and its owner, Jerry Kramer, who was also present at the ceremony, for bidding on this project and committing to its completion.

Kramer spoke after the ceremony to some of the dignitaries and stressed the fact that with an estimated 500 containers worth of supplies coming, and 200 to 300 local jobs created for this project, Chuuk will not only benefit from a new road, water and sewer lines, but also from the income generated through taxes and income that Chuuk and its citizens will receive for working on this project.

The manager of the FSM Program Management Unit, Jack Yakana, was also present to represent the PMU group of the national government that did all of the pre-work and contracting for this project to move forward.

He looked on as the dignitaries wore hard hats and hoisted dirt with shovels to provide the “groundbreaking.”

According to Bobby Muller, the project manager, the first set of equipment should arrive in Chuuk in June of this year.

They have secured their staging ground at the old rock crushing site across from the Kurassa Hotel and will use some space in a building nearby to house their workers and offices.

PII now has a physical presence on island and they are looking forward to the beginning of Phase I of the Weno Road Project in Chuuk.