

"A DREAM COME TRUE," *four lane corridor opens in Montego Bay, St. James*



A section of the newly completed AGS Coombs Highway Highway (Bogue main road). The project boasts improved intersection design, a dualised carriageway and installation of Light Emitting (LED) Diodes street lights.

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... STAFF SOCIAL 2010

Snap-Shots



On December 16, 2010 staff and friends of The National Works Agency came together for the Agency's annual social. The event took place at the Constant Spring Golf Club in St. Andrew. The activities included special appearances by comedians Ity and Fancy Cat as well as Dr. Michael Abrahams who doubled as M.C. Young Tiffany Thaxter also featured in the night's activities with a medley of songs. The occasion was also used to recognise the exemplary efforts of many employees. Several Retirees were also recognised.

In photos, starting from the top row and from left to right:

From left to right: 1. Retiree, Paul Davis (left) receiving a gift from Senior Director, Project Implementation - Mr. Earl Patterson; 2. Retiree, Vincent Small receiving a gift from Mr. Patterson; 3. Rose Strachan-Henderson (left) receives a gift on behalf of Retiree, Howard Humphery from the Director of Human Resource Management and Administration - Dr. Jennifer Henry (looking on is Manager, Personnel and Industrial Relations - Mr. David Knight); 4. David Knight (left) presents a Plaque of Appreciation to NWA, from (JCI) Jamaica Chamber International West Indies, to Chief Executive Officer of the National Works Agency - Mr. Patrick Wong; 5. Ernest Clarke (left) receives 4th Quarter Rewards and Recognition Award from Director, Asset Management - Mr. Wainworth Anderson; 6. Employee of the Year, Jeremiah Gordon receives award from Mr. Patrick Wong; 7. Communications Officer, Havenol Douglas, reads Employee of the Year Citation; 8. Retiree, Sydney Chambers receives a plaque from Dr. Jennifer Henry; 9. Retiree, Erma Hylton receives gift from Dr. Jennifer Henry; 10. Director of Regional Implementation and Special Projects, Mr. George Knight receives award on behalf of Desmond Robe, Senior Clerk of Works, presented by Mr. Patrick Wong; 11. Lodrick Williams, Driver (left) receives CEO's Award from Mr. Patrick Wong; 12. Dave Edwards (left), Corporate Office 4th Quarter Rewards and Recognition Winner receives award from Mr. George Knight; 13. Errol Hunter (left) receives 4th Quarter Rewards and Recognition Awards on behalf of Robert Francis and James Stewart (Central Region 4th Quarter R&R Winners), from Mr. George Knight; 14. Ernest Clarke (left) receives award on behalf of Kiel Brown and himself from Mr. Patrick Wong; Retiree, 15. Lavel Clarke, (left) receives award from Director, Quality Assurance, Mrs Orlene Nembhard-Rowe; 16. Retiree, Keith Whyte (left) receives award from Dr. Jennifer Henry; 17. Jeremiah Gordon (right) receives a retirement gift on behalf of Dasmine Jones from Mrs. Orlene Nembhard-Rowe; 18. Ity and Fancy Cat, 19. Mr. Patrick Wong and Staff, 20. Dr. Michael Abrahams and 21. Tiffany Thaxter.

Photos contd on page 15

"A dream come true," Minister opens four lane corridor in Montego Bay, St. James - Contd. from page 1

"A dream come true," this was the sentiment expressed by George Powell, President of the Bogue Heights Citizens Association at the recently held Opening Ceremony for the \$2.2 billion Segment 1A of the Northern Coastal Highway Improvement Project (NCHIP).

This Segment of the Highway was officially opened on Wednesday, January 19, 2011 by the Minister of Transport and Works, Hon. Mike Henry.

The Bogue road is a critical corridor leading into the bustling resort city of Montego Bay. It is the main point of entry into the city for road users travelling from as far away as St. Elizabeth, Savanna la Mar and Negril, Westmoreland. Overtime, the corridor was simply unable to accommodate the large volumes of vehicular traffic heading into and out of the city. As a result, there was significant congestion along this stretch of roadway.

"This roadway will drive the economic development of not just Montego Bay and western Jamaica, but of the entire island," Mr. Henry pointed out. Similar sentiments were expressed by the mayor of Montego Bay, Charles Sinclair who expressed his delight at the prospect of the economic development which this highway would trigger within the city. Minister Henry noted that the recently completed highway underscores the government's commitment to improve transportation, roadways and the ease and safety with which Jamaicans use the island's road network.

He added that he hoped that the newly constructed roadway would meet the expectations of road users in significantly relieving the inconveniences that the public has experienced during the period of construction and the many years prior to that.

The efforts of the NWA, the contractor and other stakeholders were lauded by the Transport and Works Minister. "This roadway is a credit to us all, and I wish to congratulate, everyone for helping to make this possible," he said.

Chief Executive Officer of the NWA, Mr. Patrick Wong, also lauded the commitment of the contractor, his team members at the Agency and other stakeholders to the completion of what he described as a "first class job." He pointed to the cost savings which would accrue to the government, due to the fact that the corridor is fitted with energy efficient Light Emitting Diodes (L.E.D.) technology in the form of the street lights. The rehabilitated stretch is the first in Jamaica to be equipped with LED Street lights and complement the six traffic signals that were also erected on the corridor, as part of the project.

"LED lights were used because they have been proven to use approximately 40% less energy than regular sodium lights. Research has also shown that they last four to five times longer than the earlier sodium models," Mr. Wong said.

The Ministry of Tourism has already earmarked J\$ 50 million to beautify the corridor. This bit of good news was delivered at the opening ceremony by Minister of Tourism, the Hon. Edmund Bartlett.



An aerial view of the Bogue Road

Segment 1A of the NCHIP involved the dualization of a section of the A.G.S. Coombs Highway, popularly referred to as the Bogue road. The project also involved the reconstruction of 1.5 kilometres of roadway from the West Green round-about, along the Fairfield main road and extending to the newly constructed Fairfield Bridge.

Additionally Segment 1A involved the rehabilitation of the approaches and the surfaces of six bridges in the parish of Hanover. These bridges were constructed under an earlier phase of the Northern Coastal Highway Improvement Project. The structures rehabilitated were the Barbican, White Gut, Mosquitto Cove, Lucea East, Davis Cove and Probyn Bridges.

It is against this background, that the government of Jamaica made the decision to upgrade the existing two lane corridor, to a four lane carriageway, with improved intersection designs and significant drainage improvement. The highway project was undertaken by local contractor Surrey Paving and Aggregates over a period of twenty six months.

Speaking at the Official Opening Ceremony in Bogue St. James, Minister Henry expressed his delight in seeing this major project come to fruition. He pointed out that this corridor would radically improve the flow of traffic, travel time, reduce operating costs and generally improve the comfort of all road users who traverse this leg of the Northern Coastal Highway. He also underscored the importance of this roadway in the economic development of the city.

Major Road Improvement Projects underway in East Central St. James

Residents and motorists who traverse the Johns Hall and Irwin main roads have expressed their delight with the buzz of activity along sections of these roadways. These roadways are being rehabilitated under the National Works Agency's Jamaica Development Infrastructure Programme (JDIP).

This is welcome news for many road users who have for several years lamented the poor road conditions in these areas.

THE JOHNS HALL ROADWAY

The Johns Hall main road is a heavily used thoroughfare which serves communities such as Maroon Town, Sunderland, Springfield and Spring Mount. For these communities the roadway is the major link to the city of Montego Bay. For years there has been the perennial problem of extensive land slippage in the vicinity of the Johns Hall Quarry, after successive storm events. This is due to the fact that the adjoining river erodes the base of the roadway whenever it is in spate. The problem along this corridor was exacerbated when in September 2010; the Worchester Bridge was undermined following torrential rainfall in the area.



Excavation of rock formation to facilitate the construction of one of two box culverts which will be constructed in Johns Hall St. James.

For years the NWA struggled with a permanent solution to the problem, opting instead to fill the affected sections as a temporary measure. The NWA was hampered in its efforts due to the unavailability of sufficient funding.

Through the JDIP the NWA is now undertaking a major project to rehabilitate the affected sections of the Johns Hall roadway. The project is being executed by local contractor, Y.P. Seaton. Major Projects Manager at the NWA, Horace Cotterell, says the project involves the construction of two box culverts, construction of a new roadway, between the newly constructed box culverts, construc-

tion of a new bridge, river training, and the rehabilitation of the affected sections of roadway.

"The main objective of this project, apart from constructing a new bridge to replace the Worchester Bridge, is to relocate the roadway away from the river by constructing two box culverts, hence removing the continuous problem of erosion," explained Mr. Cotterell. He added that river training is also a critical component of this project.

THE IRWINDALE MAIN ROAD

The Irwin main road falls along the corridor leading from Barnett to Adelphi in St. James. This roadway is a heavily used one and serves the communities of Irwin, sign and Adelphi and is a major route into Montego Bay. It is used by cane farmers in Wakefield, Long Pond and other farming communities in Trelawny, who transport their produce to the Frome Sugar factory in Westmoreland.

Sections of the Irwin main road have overtime been eroded by the Barnett River which runs parallel to the roadway. In September 2010, the section of the roadway near to the Porto Bello community was reduced to single lane, forcing the NWA to temporarily close that section of the roadway. Motorists were diverted through the neighbouring community of Irwindale.

The corridor is currently being repaired under the NWA's Jamaica Development Infrastructure Programme (JDIP). The project involves extensive river training works, and the reinstatement of the affected section of the roadway. Work on this project is well underway and is expected to be completed by February 2011.



Excavation of rock formation

RIO GRANDE BRIDGE IN PORTLAND TO BE REPLACED

After more than five (5) years in waiting, residents of St. Margaret's Bay in Portland and the greater Portland community converged on the site yard of the proposed new Rio Grande Bridge on January 12, 2011. The event was the official launch and Groundbreaking ceremony of the prominent Portland landmark, a literal link between East and West Portland and one which facilitates continuity in the road network of the parish.

It was on July 7, 2005, during the passage of Hurricane Dennis, that the old Rio Grande Bridge became non-operational as a result of extensive damage to its centre pier, which left Portland residents stranded on both sides. This was because the bridge, due to its instability, was inaccessible to vehicular traffic. The decision was then taken to reinstate an old railway bridge, one that had not been in use since the early 80s but which ran adjacent to the structure, to restore a free flow of traffic through that section of the parish.

Applause greeted the announcement that



The Rio Grande Bridge, Portland

the new structure will be a two-lane one with sidewalks for pedestrians, and many were heartened by the artistic representa-

tion on the banner of a beautifully aligned bridge with aesthetic stonework and vegetation. This was expected as some Portland residents literally feared for their lives when crossing the single-lane rail structure, with its rattling metal panels and looming metal rails, which the inexperienced driver feared running into and which many complained of losing their tires to.

The project which is being funded by the Jamaican Government is being implemented under the Jamaica Development Infrastructure Programme (JDIP), a 5-year programme geared at developing some of Jamaica's more pressing infrastructural issues. It is an eighteen months project which will see the construction of a 210 metres, two lane structure, with 1.2 metres of concrete walkways and a design life of 75 years. The new bridge will connect with the eastern end of the old bridge in a diagonal alignment which will see its other end

Residents have welcomed the Contractors, China Harbour Engineering Company (CHEC) and vowed their support and cooperation for the project and the proposed plans, as they see this new structure as beneficial to the development of their community and parish, in general.



Reverend Father Sedley Gooden of the St. Stephen's Anglican Church (second left is seen her blessing the ground. He is accompanied by; from left: Mr. Patrick Wong - Chief Executive Officer of the National Works Agency; Councillor Floyd Patterson Mayor, Port Antonio; Daryl Vaz, Member of Parliament, Western Portland; and The Hon. L. Micheal Henry, Minister of Transport and Works.

ORANGE STREET GETTING WELL NEEDED REPAIRS

Orange Street is one of many corridors which link the Central Business District of downtown Kingston to Cross Roads in lower St. Andrew.

This is one of the most heavily trafficked roadways in the Kingston Metropolitan Region. Between the morning peak hours of 8:00 a.m. the corridor carries over 1,200 vehicles. During the afternoon peak period (4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.) over 1,600 vehicles use the corridor. With considerable pavement defects, missing manhole covers and damaged sidewalks it was in need of urgent repairs.

The rehabilitation of Orange Street and Parade is part of the ongoing redevelopment and restoration of Downtown, Kingston. Since late November 2010, sections of the corridor have been closed at intervals for these needed repairs. The project covers the area of Orange Street between Harbour Street and Slipe Road. Activities are undertaken at nights to minimize delays and inconvenience to business operators and commuters.

With Orange Street being one of the busy corridors, the NWA took the decision to undertake works at nights. This was in order to minimize delays and inconvenience to customers. The works were undertaken between the hours of 7 p.m. and 5 a.m. Repair works include milling of deteriorated sections, repaving, drain cleaning and restoration of damaged sidewalks and curbs.

This effort by the National Works Agency to upgrade roadways is the periodic maintenance component of the recently launched Jamaica Development Infrastructure Programme being implemented island-wide at a cost of over half a billion dollars.



Work in progress on Orange Street

NEWPORT WEST ROADWAYS REHABILITATION UNDERWAY

After years of planning, countless meetings, postponements and disappointments the highly anticipated rehabilitation of Newport West roadways is now underway.

Preliminary works began on November 15 2010. This included establishment of a site office, cleaning of drains and installation of safety signs. The Agency also undertook a public awareness campaign to advise, inform and sensitise stakeholders about this project. The sensitization strategy included meetings with stakeholders in small groups, through Community Meetings and 'Walk Through's'.

A special meeting was held on December 9 with vendors who ply their trade amidst the buzz of activity in Newport West. As with other groups, the vendors were informed about the project, scope of works and discussed their role and responsibilities in ensuring its successful implementation.

Since then, the Kingston and St. Andrew Corporation (KSAC) in collaboration with the Shipping Association have embarked on a programme to relocate these vendors to suitable locations. This achieved two objectives. It prevented vending activity from impeding on the progress of the project and also met the requirement of the new drainage plan and lay-out of reconstructed roads.

Approximately 2.7 kilometres of roadways have been approved for repairs while another 1.5 kilometres is presently under design consideration. These roads include Newport Boulevard, First Street, Second Street and Eight Avenue. Link roads, parking bays, gate-

ways and entrances are also included.

Sub-base material is presently being laid along First and Second Streets. Drainage improvement works have commenced on Seventh Avenue and Newport Boulevard. An effort has been made to reduce the level of inconvenience to Trailer Operators and industries in the southern sector of Newport West. A programme has been implemented to carry out activities at nights and on weekends when business activities at the port is at a minimum. This multi-million dollar project is being implemented under the Jamaica Development Infrastructure Programme and is expected to be completed within twelve months.



Workmen assisting with the Excavation work along one of the streets to be rehabilitated in Newport West, Kingston

Mocho to Springfield Main Road being repaired at last

Rehabilitation works have started on the Mocho to Springfield main road in North Western St. Elizabeth. This road serves farming districts such as Mocho, Springfield, Claremont, Nightingale Grove and Brighton among others. The road was in a state of disrepair for several years leading to several demonstrations from commuters. Member of Parliament Mr. J.C. Hutchinson, who spoke at a recent ceremony in the area, was elated at the work that is currently underway.

I have been fighting for this work to be undertaken for many years." "I am happy at what I am seeing now", he said.



Protective barriers around a manhole on the Springfield road



Workmen setting the levels in preparation for the construction of a V-shaped drain.

This 7.7 Kilometre road is projected to cost over 100 million dollars. The project, which is one of several to be undertaken in St. Elizabeth as part of year one of the Jamaica Development Infrastructure Programme (JDIP) commenced in November 2010. It is expected to be completed by the end of March 2011.

At the end of January, the project was over 55% complete. Work completed included bushing, clearing of earth drains, construction of U and V drains, construction of curbs, and retaining walls. Other tasks to be completed include the laying of culverts, Prime Coat and Double Surface Dressing.

MICRO-SURFACING IN NORTHERN MANCHESTER

WHATS IS MICRO-SUFACING?

Micro-Surfacing is a polymer modified cold-mix paving system that can remedy a broad range of problems on today's streets, highways, and airfields. As the island grapples with bad road conditions and finding economic and viable solutions, the National Works Agency (NWA) continues to look to technology for assistance. One such technological solution is the use of Micro-Surfacing on selected roads.

Like its parent product, slurry seal, Micro-Surfacing begins as a mixture of dense-graded aggregate, asphalt emulsion, water, and mineral fillers. While conventional slurry seal is used around the world as an economical treatment for sealing and extending the service of both urban and rural roads, Micro-Surfacing has many added capabilities, thanks to the use of high-quality, carefully monitored materials, including advanced polymers and other modern additives

Micro surfacing is a proven problem solver. Micro surfacing can increase skid resistance, color contrast, surface restoration and service life to high speed roadways. Such projects are often reopened to traffic within an hour. Micro surfacing does not alter drainage, there is no loss of curb reveal, prevent water penetration, sub base failure and deterioration caused by ultraviolet light. It can be applied in a broad range of temperature and weather conditions, it is environmentally safe, emitting no pollutants and esthetically pleasing.

The central parish of Manchester has benefitted from the use of this technologically advanced method of road repair. Through the JDIP two corridors will be getting the micro-surfacing treatment.

Work has started in along the Skull Point to Devon Road and the corridor from Dump to Highgate Hall. Over 120 million dollars will be spent to rehabilitate both stretches and will include the construction of retaining walls and drains. These works will complement efforts undertaken in 2007 and 2008 on other corridors in the parish.



Excavation for Retaining Wall, Cane shop to Skull Point



Construction of retaining wall, Cane shop to Skull Point

In 2008, works were undertaken along the Caines Shop to High gate Hall via the town of Christiana, while the Shooters Hill to

Walderston made road was rehabilitated in 2007.

Goubourne Road West Rural St. Andrew

Closed for repairs

Many communities in west rural St. Andrew felt the fury of Tropical Storm Gustav in August 2008, as torrential rainfall associated with its passage lashed the island for several days.

Lawrence Tavern was one of the affected communities. A massive breakaway occurred along Goubourne Road, the main thoroughfare connecting the community to the town centre. This breakaway which occurred approximately one and a half miles outside the town centre, virtually reduced the roadway to single lane, restricting the movement of vehicular traffic. It also threatened the movement and safety of pedestrians.

The condition of Goubourne Road deteriorated further, following the passage of Tropical Storm Nicole in late September last year and the eminent threat to life and property posed by the rapidly deteriorating roadway forced its closure. This development necessitated the commencement date of a project to construct a retaining wall being brought forward.

Consequently the roadway was temporarily



Work in Progress on Goubourne Road, West Rural St. Andrew

ly closed in mid December 2010 and construction work got underway. These works include excavation at the breakaway, casting of the foundation, backfilling the area with granular material and reinstatement of the area of roadway close to the breakaway.

Despite the vagaries of the weather, it is expected that this project will be completed within four months. It is being undertaken through the Jamaica Development Infrastructure Programme.

The Horse Savannah Bridge - A Gift of over 70 years

Residents of St. Thomas received a gift last Christmas (2010) when the Horse Savannah Bridge, along the Pleasant Hill to Hector's River main road in the parish, was replaced just in time for the festive season. The old bridge, which was approximately forty-five years old, needed to be replaced as it had significantly deteriorated. As such, it was replaced in Phase Three (3) of the R.A. Murray Bridge Programme with a steel girder, reinforced concrete deck structure. This new structure is sixteen (16) metres long and has a lifespan of 75 years.

The works, which began in late July 2010, included the construction of reinforced concrete abutments, steel girders; a reinforced concrete deck with permanent steel formwork; concrete parapet walls with metal rails and concrete sidewalks. Also, as this bridge is found in one of Jamaica's parishes most prone to severe flooding, scour protection was necessary. This was done with the construction of reno mattresses and gabion works upstream the Horse Savannah River. Approach roads were also constructed. All of this was preceded by the launching of a Bailey Bridge in early 2010, which formed part of the alternate route during the construction period.

The new bridge was welcomed by residents of Hector's River in Portland and Amity Hall in St. Thomas, as not only did it provide employment but is much safer to use. One bus driver described how in times past it was a bumpy ride over the old bridge which he said was slightly lower than the road. When asked how he felt about the new bridge his response was, "A full time."



The Completed Horse Savannah Bridge, St. Thomas

Relief coming for Christiana



Works being carried out in Christiana

The bustling town of Christiana, Manchester home of two of Jamaica's prized assets, including the Gourie State Park with its rich endowment of Candlewood, Pine Mahogany and Mahoe, as well as the entrance of Jamaica's longest cave system is set to get much needed relief.

Christiana, is ranked as having one of the fastest commercial growth rates in Manchester, but has remained a typical one-main-road town, which has over the years created traffic chaos, especially in the vicinity of the town's busy market. The town hosts many shoppers, not just from the parish, but also from the yam producing communities in nearby southern Trelawny.

The Government of Jamaica, through the Ministry of Transport and Works and the National Works Agency, recently broke ground for a new road which will serve to not only reduce congestion in the town, but also to spawn developments in and around the area. The project is being undertaken as part of the multi-billion dollar Jamaica Development Infrastructure Programme (JDIP). The works are being undertaken by Chinese firm China Harbour Engineering Company Limited (CHEC).

The New Christiana Development Road: SCOPE OF WORKS

The new road will span just over one kilometre (1km) in length, running west of the existing town centre. "This new road will ease congestions in the town and will act as a collector road for several off-shoot corridors," Chief Executive Officer of the NWA, Patrick Wong told scores of residents at a recent ceremony.

Minister of Transport and Works, Mike Henry, who officially signaled the start of the project gave details of the project. He said the new Christiana Development Road will be a two lane urban carriageway complete with:

- 1.8-metre wide hard shoulders - on both sides;
- Underpasses;
- Culverts and other requisite drainage infrastructure;
- Electronic traffic signals to facilitate the safe and more efficient movement of pedestrians and motorists within and around the town centre.

Minister Henry said that he was enthused about the project as "it is designed with the expectation to improve the development of the town of Christiana which, according to the 2008 environmental study is projected to see a population growth to (close to) 63,000 people in 2011 and just over 86,000 in 10 years from now."

PROTECTIVE WALL FOR BLACK RIVER HOSPITAL

After being in a state of disrepair for over two decades and being ravaged by weather systems including Hurricanes Gilbert and Ivan, as well as Tropical Storm Gustav work has commenced on a protective wall in the vicinity of the Black River Hospital in St. Elizabeth. The wall which is being built on the sea-side of the hospital, comes against the background of significant damage by wave action, resulting in the parish's premier health facility being threatened.

The project which is being undertaken through the Jamaica Development Infrastructure Programme (JDIP) is currently some 60 per cent complete and is expected to be completed in the last quarter of this year, at a cost of over 20 million dollars.



REHABILITATION OF HALSEHALL ROAD IN CLARENDON

The National Works Agency (NWA) in collaboration with JAMALCO has started the rehabilitation of the Halse Hall main road in Southern Clarendon. This project, which is funded by the bauxite company at a cost \$31 million, is being undertaken by the Agency. The project aims to improve the safety of motorists and pedestrians who use the road in the vicinity of the plant.

The scope of work includes milling of the roadway, laying of culvert pipes, installation of traffic lights, preparation of sub base and base course, priming and overlay with asphaltic concrete. This project also includes the construction of sidewalks and bus sheds.



Main road been scarified



Excavated Spoils being removed from the site

New Bridges for Queensborough and Cassia Park in St. Andrew

Construction of bridges to replace the Queensborough and Cassia Park Fords in St. Andrew should start shortly. Over the years, both locations have been the scene of dramatic rescues or tragic and gruesome loss of life. Flood rains from the hills of upper St. Andrew invariably pass through both Fords in an unrestrained flow.

When it rains, driving becomes difficult and traversing flooded roadways is challenging. This is even more true of fords, locations that should be avoided during flood rains.

Motorists are constantly warned to avoid the use of fords during flood rains as these facilities pose grave danger to life and property when flooded.

Despite warnings, on many occasions, even if there is moderate flooding, motorists take their chances. Many have been washed away and perished, while others had to be rescued. These experiences have forced rethinking and the



Residents and stake holders of Cassia Park and surrounding communities, at a recent Town Meeting held for their sensitization of the Agency's Plans.

National Works Agency has decided to construct bridges where these fords pose a danger to motorists and pedestrians.

The numbers of repeated incidents at both fords have also resulted in calls from several residents for the construction of bridges, at Queensborough and Cassia Park.

Having recognized the need to provide safe passage along these fords the NWA has set in train a programme of activities to construct these bridges. Successful com-

munity meetings have been held to inform and sensitize residents about these projects. The bridges to be constructed are two-lane composite, with sidewalks, built on piles with concrete deck and concrete abutments.

Preparatory works are underway. These include construction of a detour road, launch of a Bailey Bridge and relocation of utilities at

Queensborough after which construction of the 36 metre long bridge will commence. At the Cassia Park Ford where a 38 metre long bridge will be constructed, the preparatory works include patching of the alternative route and relocation of utilities.

These projects are being implemented under the Jamaica Development Infrastructure Programme and are scheduled to be completed within twelve months.

Dealing with People

A good deed is never lost: he who sows courtesy reaps friendship; and he who plants kindness gathers love.

.....Basil

A man's own good breeding is the best security against other people's ill manners.

.....Lord Chesterfield

The secret of many a man's success in the world resides in his insight into the moods of men and his tact in dealing with them.J. G. Holland

To rejoice in another's prosperity, is to give content to your own lot: to mitigate another's grief, is to alleviate or dispel your own.Thomas Edwards

Look to be treated by others as you have treated others.

.....Publius Syrus

Success in life, in anything, depends upon the number of persons that one can make himself agreeable to.

.....Thomas Carlyle

Never part without loving words to think of during your absence. It may be that you will not meet again in this life.Jean Paul Richter

Fern Gully Phase II to Begin Shortly

Phase two and three of the Fern Gully rehabilitation works is scheduled to begin in mid February 2011. The five kilometre long Fern Gully 'Gully Road' is a well known and a popular tourist attraction. It connects the community of Colegate located at the 'entrance' to Fern Gully to the coastal tourist resort town of Ocho Rios.



A section of the Fern Gully main road.

This main road is located between forest clad hills of fern and is walled on both sides by limestone rocks covered with moss. Phase one of the rehabilitation works is complete. During this Phase the first 4.6 kilometres of the roadway located between Colgate and Hines Gully was resurfaced using Asphaltic Concrete. Minor infrastructure and drainage repairs were also carried out.

Repaving of the next 1.6 metres of the roadway with concrete is scheduled to begin. The concrete pavement will be similar to that done to sections of the Bog Walk Gorge. Paving will be carried out between Hines Gully and Harrison Town.

Drainage along the main road is a major concern and contributes to continuous deterioration of the roadway. Consequently major drainage works will be done as part of phase three. Over one kilometre of U drain is to be constructed.

Both projects are expected to be completed at a cost of over 500 million dollars.

Big Up! TEAM NWA



Any reply or subsequent reference to this communication should be addressed to the Contractor-General and the following reference applied:

REF: NWA/QCA/RPT-08/01

TELEPHONE No.: 929-8560/6466

FAX No.: 929-7335

E-Mail: jamur@ocg.gov.jm

January 17, 2011

The Principal/Accounting Officer
National Works Agency
140 Maxfield Avenue
Kingston 10

Attention: Mr. Patrick Wong, Chief Executive Director

Letter of Commendation after Analysis of Procurement Practices between July 2010 and September 2010

The Quarterly Contract Awards Report, last revised on November 20, 2008, discloses particulars of contracts awarded by Procuring Public Bodies which are within the value band of J\$275,001 and J\$10,000,000.

The Contractor-General's letter of May 16, 2008, which was directed to the Cabinet Secretary and all Accounting and/or Principal Officers, of Public Bodies, advised of the commencement, *inter alia*, of the 2nd phase of the Quarterly Contract Awards (QCA) Report Regime.

Reference is also made to the Office of the Contractor-General's (OCG) subsequent letter of September 14, 2009, in which Public Bodies were formally advised of the adjustments to the assessment process commencing with all 2009 4th Quarter QCA Reports. The adjustments were primarily as a result of varying concerns raised in letters received from a number of Public Bodies.

The QCA Reports, which have been submitted by Procuring Public Bodies, were reviewed for completeness and were generally deemed to be satisfactorily completed. The said reports were also assessed by a comprehensive suite of computer-aided assessment criteria that are informed by the Government of Jamaica Procurement Procedures. Public Bodies were placed in one of the following four levels of assessment, depending upon the level of their compliance with the Government of Jamaica Procurement Procedures:

Level 1

An assessment result of between 96% and 100% indicates an acceptable level of compliance.

Level 2

An assessment result of between 70% and 95% indicates an intermediary compliance level with areas identified for improvement.

Level 3

An assessment result of between 60% and 69% is indicative of an unacceptable level of procedural breaches.

Level 4

An assessment result of below 60% indicates evidence of a fundamental, critical and /or substantial failure of the affected public body to comply with the Government of Jamaica Procurement Procedures.

The Office of the Contractor-General (OCG) now provides the assessment results for National Works Agency. The results of the assessment being communicated include contracts reported in the 3rd Quarter 2010.

National Works Agency has obtained a compliance assessment score of 100.00% and has therefore been placed in Level 1.

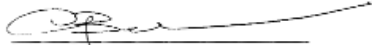
The OCG commends the distinct efforts of you and your Procurement Officers and support staff, in attaining an acceptable level of compliance for the assessed period. Your commendable performance is noted and the OCG anticipates a continued sustained high level of compliance from your agency.

Please note the additional information which is provided in the assessment summary which is included herewith.

The OCG commits its support to Public Bodies, as it strives to achieve greater compliance, on the part of Public Bodies, with the Government of Jamaica Procurement Procedures.

Should you require any clarification or additional information, please refer to the Government of Jamaica (GOJ) Procurement Procedures, November 2008, or contact Tanya Wright at 929-8560.

Yours sincerely,

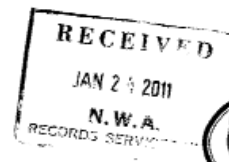


Craig Beresford
Senior Director Monitoring Operations,
Corporate Communications and Special Projects
for and on behalf of the Contractor-General

Copy: Dr. Alwin Hales, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Transport and Works

Encl.

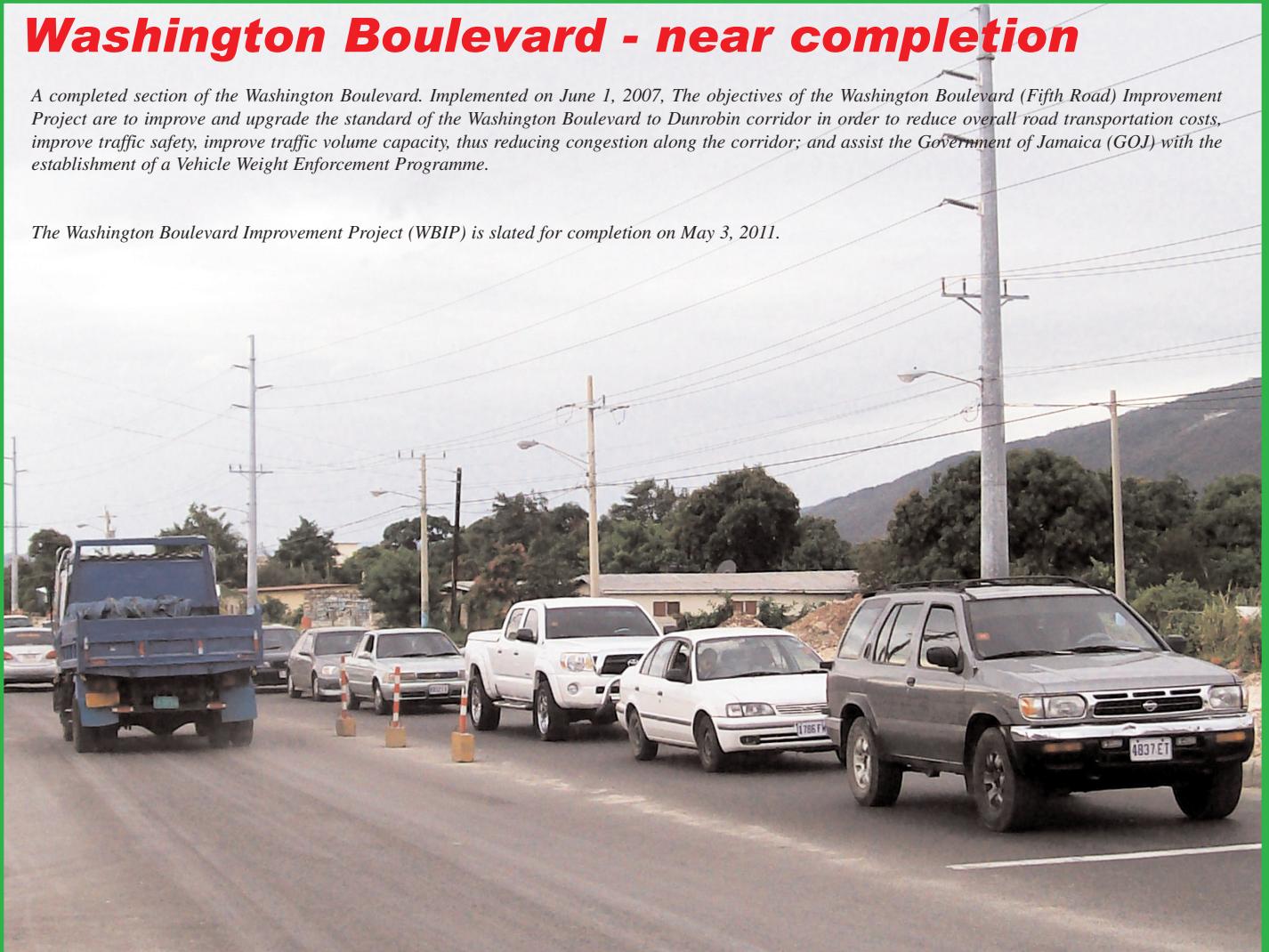
OFFICE OF THE CONTRACTOR-GENERAL
PIOJ BUILDING, 16 OXFORD ROAD
P.O. BOX 540
KINGSTON 5
JAMAICA, W.I.



Washington Boulevard - near completion

A completed section of the Washington Boulevard. Implemented on June 1, 2007, The objectives of the Washington Boulevard (Fifth Road) Improvement Project are to improve and upgrade the standard of the Washington Boulevard to Dunrobin corridor in order to reduce overall road transportation costs, improve traffic safety, improve traffic volume capacity, thus reducing congestion along the corridor; and assist the Government of Jamaica (GOJ) with the establishment of a Vehicle Weight Enforcement Programme.

The Washington Boulevard Improvement Project (WBIP) is slated for completion on May 3, 2011.



Turbidity Barriers



Turbidity Barriers along the Harbour side of Palisadoes Road. The barriers form part of the effort at maintaining a safe and clean environment, as the US\$65 million dollar Palisadoes Shoreline Rehabilitation and Protective Project takes shape. The project involves protective work on both the Caribbean Sea and Harbour side of the roadway, lifting of the carriageway and construction of a Boardwalk.

Snap-Shots ... STAFF SOCIAL 2010



INTERESTING NEW YEAR TRADITIONS AROUND THE WORLD

The year 2011 is here and in general, we greet everyone we see with a warm smile by saying "Wishing you a very happy New Year," but different countries have different traditions or customs when it comes to New Year. How about taking a look at some of these unusual and interesting New Year traditions around the world:-

DOLLS AND COINS – BOLIVIA:

Bolivians have various unique and interesting traditions; these include:

1. Hanging dolls made of straw and wood outside their house; they believe this will bring good luck.
2. Coins will be placed inside sweets and whoever finds this coin will be prosperous for the entire year.
3. Leaving three stones outside the house signifies health, wealth and love.

WISHING ANIMALS – BELGIUM:

On New Year's Day, farmers of Belgium wish their animals blessings for the forthcoming year. Greeting animals: Isn't this an interesting New Year tradition? They also exchange gifts and celebrate the day as St. Sylvester Eve.

BREAKING OF OLD DISHES – DENMARK:

This is an unusual and interesting New Year tradition of the people of Denmark. They save old dishes all through the year and break them at the doors of their friends or neighbors. The more broken dishes mean the more friends you have.



Breaking of old dishes – Denmark:

EATING GRAPES – ECUADOR:

There are four interesting New Year traditions in Ecuador; they include:

1. Burning of effigy of political characters or leaders whom they have disagreed with on the last day of the year.
2. Eating 12 grapes, making one wish with each grape.
3. Wearing yellow underwear as this symbolizes attracting positive energies.
4. Walking around with a suitcase as they believe that this will fulfill the dreams of the person.

FIRST FOOTING – ENGLAND:

People of England have an interesting New Year tradition. They follow a custom called first footing. The first visitor must be a male, must enter the house after midnight and should be carrying some presents like money, bread or coal. The significance of these presents is that the family will not run out these needs in the coming year. The visitor should enter through the front door, but must exit through the back door. The person entering the home first should not be a woman, a blond or red-haired, and should not be empty-handed as these signify bad luck.



New Year's Resolution:



Team NWA
let your voice be heard!

We welcome your articles,
poems, inspirations,
quotes, etc

send to: susanwebb@nwa.gov.jm