



MINISTRY PAPER NO 70/2021

**The Law Reform (Zones of Special Operations) (Special Security
and Community Development Measures)**

**The August Town Community Zone
Social Intervention**

October 8, 2021

Office of the Prime Minister

The Law Reform (Zones of Special Operations) Special Security and Community Development Measures

Social Intervention Report

(as at October 8, 2021)

This Honourable House is being requested to note that after the enactment of the Law Reform (Zones of Special Operations) (Special Security and Community Development Measures) Act, the Prime Minister on the advice of the National Security Council, declared the August Town Community in Eastern St. Andrew as the fourth Zone of Special Operations (ZOSO) on July 8, 2020.

The Zones of Special Operations (ZOSO) combine a robust security approach led by the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF) and Jamaica Defence Force (JDF), and Social Intervention Component (SIC) that coordinate and implement social development measures by the various agencies, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and the private sector. The ZOSO is built around the approach of Clear, Hold and Build. The latter is where long term institutions are developed within the community.

The Social Intervention support, which is coordinated by the gazetted Social Intervention Committee puts in place social programmes that focus on two key strategies: Crime Prevention Through Social Development (CPTSD) and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).

A key objective of the interventions and programmes is to ensure that the community is reconnected to the key agencies of government that deliver each programme thus engendering sustainability and credibility among the citizens that their government is the legitimate provider of support services.

The Social Intervention Committee (SIC) is guided by SIC framework comprising of seven development areas:

- Physical Environment.
- Land Tenure,
- Community Safety.
- Human and Community Development and Employment.
- Business and Economic Development.
- Spiritual and Faith Based Intervention; and
- Leadership.

August Town is considered urban with a population of approximately 10,000 residents. The community is among the list of communities identified by the PIOJ Community Renewal Project given its high score with relation to its volatility and vulnerability. It is currently one of the communities under the Government of Jamaica Integrated Community Development II project which will see the community benefiting, along with a further six communities from a three-year (J\$1.9 billion) project that will support the following:

1. Improvement in road infrastructure
2. Zinc fence substitution

3. Electricity regularization
4. Safe Passages (Special programme to enhance access along major pathways to students and the disabled)
5. Livelihood and Skills Training programmes
6. Economic Development programmes
7. Governance and Capacity building
8. Community safety programmes

In addition to the ICDP II that the GOJ is implementing in the community, through the regular functions of state agencies, NGOs and the private sector, the community will receive a further suite of interventions in keeping with the seven-pillar framework approved by Cabinet that is grounded in the theoretical construct of Crime Prevention Through Social Development (CPTSD) and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).

RESULTS –July 16, 2021 – October 7, 2021

1. **Social Intervention Committee** – The Social Intervention Committee (SIC) of the August Town ZOSO convened one meeting during the review period. The meetings’ continued focus of the committee deliberations were on the improvements to the physical infrastructure, including the programme to address the roads, the safe passage initiative, and the skill development programmes by Heart NSTA.
2. **Parks and Green Spaces** – This project is being managed by the August Town CDC, with the Community contract signed, and preliminary activities in execution. The GOJs ICDP II is funding the programme. The scope of works will include:
 - Enhancement of the aesthetics from the stretch from Hermitage to August Town main Road
 - Landscaping to include installation of decorative blocks.
 - Construction of gazebo
 - Installation of solid waste metal enclosure
3. **School Rehabilitation** – The final designs for the Hope Valley Experimental and the August Town Primary Schools are being reviewed following which procurement will be initiated. Once completed, the overall improvement at both schools should see better pathways for the students using the “Safe Passages” model and general improvement in the physical plant.
4. **Safe Passages** - The safe passages are an innovative programme that center around creating safe spaces for children to get to and from school, and while they are within the school environment. It identifies and includes implementing both physical changes as well as training. The process to improve the physical pathway for pedestrians, has been advanced with the design phase now approximately 90 per cent completed. Once completed, the process for procurement using the Community Based Contracting modality will commence.

5. **Civil Registration** – Support to parents needing Birth Certificates is ongoing, following the signing of agreement between JSIF and the RGD. Wardens remain engaged doing house to house collection of information for applications.

6. **Enterprise Development**

Cycle II of the enterprise development grants commenced. A total of 100 micro entrepreneur applicants were shortlisted for final selection to access funding of up to \$250,000 from a pool of J\$5.8 million in grant funds in order to procure equipment to expand their enterprises.

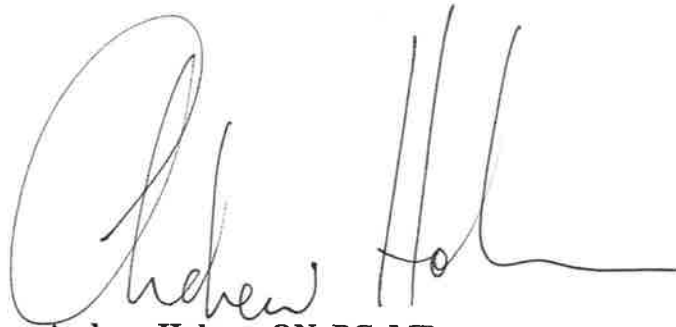
UPCOMING INTERVENTIONS IN THE ZONE

ACTIVITIES	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
Road Improvement Works	1.5 km of roads to be rehabilitated, including drainage	Process to contract design consultant in the procurement phase. Projected contracting period is end of December 2021.
Zinc Fence Removal	Removal and substitution of 1,300 meters of zinc fence	Design and Formulation activities still ongoing.
Safe Passages	School route to be improved for students. Formulation for works to be funded through the ICDP II	Design and Formulation at final review by the JSIG Standards unit. Once approved they will be sent to the municipal planning authority.
Operation Certification (civil documentation)	Provision of birth certificates and TRNs to 260 persons	Thirty applications already processed for new birth certificates. Programme remains open and can be accessed over the next 24 months by residents.
Training of curfew monitors	A total of 21 curfew monitors deployed.	21 curfew monitors remain engaged supporting the Joint forces; they are volunteers from the community completed training and equipped to support the police with ensuring children under 18 years old are off the street at a determined period nightly.
Environmental wardens	Deployment of eleven (11) environmental wardens in the community	30 wardens have been employed and are assisting the NSWMA and the community with solid waste management and other mitigation activities.

Parks and Green Spaces	Through the ICDP II project, the community will benefit from Parks and Green Spaces.	A community implemented contract which will address both parks and green spaces is currently being implemented with funding from the GOJ through the August Town CDC. The value of the contract is J\$16.5 million.
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NEXT STEPS

The SIC continues to work with the Joint Force and the August Town CDC to ensure close coordination of activities, and importantly, effective communication. Over ten (10) distinct interventions are currently going through design and approval, and will result in both physical transformation, and human development. The SIC will continue to have frequent meetings to ensure the interventions are completed within the stated time and scope.



**Andrew Holness ON, PC, MP
Prime Minister**

October 8, 2021

