



MINISTRY PAPER NO .105 | 2021

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

**The August Town Community Zone  
Social Intervention**

**December 10, 2021**

**Office of the Prime Minister**

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

## Social Intervention Report

(as at December 10, 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 ferce 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 –October 7, 2021 – December 10, 2021

1. **Social Intervention Committee** – The Social Intervention Committee (SIC) of the August Town ZOSO convened one meeting during the review period. This meeting was held on November 11, 2021. The key developments highlighted in the meeting was the rollout of the soft projects around entrepreneurship and community safety. The committee was also given an update on the status of the planned infrastructure projects, with the NWA committing to assisting with a few the formulations, which will allow for those to move into procurement. The other committee members provided update on their engagements in the space.
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

The project has not commenced implementation arising from the need for further capacity support and stakeholder engagement. Through the SIC there is ongoing dialogue to manage the issues at the community level that has stymie the project implementation.

3. **School Rehabilitation** – The final designs for the Hope Valley Experimental and the August Town Primary Schools designs completed and approved. The projects are currently under review for procurement. It is expected that the projects will be contracted and implemented over the next 12 months.

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 completed, and will commence procurement within the next 30 days.
5. **Civil Registration** – Support to parents needing Birth Certificates is ongoing, following the signing of an agreement between JSIF and the RGD. Due to the protocols related to the COVID-19, the process has shifted to virtual signups. To date, thirty-three (33) birth certificates have been distributed.
6. **Enterprise Development**  
Cycle II of the enterprise development grant initiative start disbursement, with 32 micro entrepreneurs approved for support to the value of J\$5.8M. The entrepreneurs commenced procuring their equipment, and it is expected all entrepreneurs selected will fully equipped by end of December 2021.
7. **Parenting Support Development:**  
The National Parent Support Commission (NPSC) has commenced assessments in the community to determine the nature of parenting support needed in the community. They will be implementing a J\$13M support project which will include August Town, and the other ZOSOs up until March 2022.

**UPCOMING INTERVENTIONS IN THE ZONE**

ACTIVITIES	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
Road Improvement Works	1.5 km of roads to be rehabilitated, including drainage	Project on track to be approved for tender by the JSIF Board of Directors. Procurement should commence by 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	Project on track to be approved for tender by the JSIF Board of Directors. Procurement should commence by end of December 2021.
Operation Certification (civil documentation)	Provision of birth certificates and TRNs to 260 persons	33 persons received new birth certificates to date under the project.
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	All wardens remain 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.	<p>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.</p> <p>Works are however not started, as there is ongoing dialogue with the SIC and the stakeholders, towards consensus on some areas of concern prior to the start of actual works. It is expected that there should be a start up within the next 30 days.</p>

**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. The 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**

**December 10, 2021**

