



MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT & RURAL DEVELOPMENT

61 HAGLEY PARK ROAD, KINGSTON 10, JAMAICA

Telephone: (876)618-7360-9

Email : permanentsecretaryoffice@mlgcd.gov.jm

Web site : www.localgovjamaica.gov.jm

Ref.: ATI/009/2020/DR

December 17, 2020

Sophia Bryan
Research Officer
Jamaica Accountability Meter Portal
7 Lady Musgrave Road
Kingston 5
Jamaica

Dear Ms. Bryan,

Re: Access to Information Request (Access Granted)

Thank you for your application via email.

I am pleased to inform you that access have **been granted** in accordance with section 6(1) of the Access to Information Act and is attached for your perusal.

If we can be of any further assistance, please feel free to contact me at the above address or telephone number or via email bhaynes@mlgcd.gov.jm

Respectfully,

Barrington Haynes

Director, Documentation Information and Access Services

For Permanent Secretary

Response to Questions from Jamaica Accountability Meter Portal

	Questions - Steps taken to:	Responses
1.	Develop strategic plans as required by the Government's Corporate Governance and Accountability Framework and compliant with Section 4(1) of the Local Government (Financing and Financial Management) Act, 2016 to ensure that the Strategic Plan and Budget are reflective of the needs of the general citizenry and in keeping with the National Development Plan, Vision 2030, which states that a durable road network is essential to the productivity and the general welfare of citizens	The Corporation had prepared a Strategic Plan; however, it was in the draft phase. We are presently updating it for the period 2021-2025 and is aiming to meet the deadline of October 31, 2020.
2.	Develop an inventory system that would assist in providing an up-to-date list of parochial roads which includes their status to better guide the prioritization of resources for the appropriate rehabilitation activity – routine, preventative and emergency repairs, to facilitate the delivery of an acceptable physical road infrastructure, consistent with needs	The Corporation has a list of roads which was last updated in 1975. We have started to do some research, as all the roads in the parish were not handed over to the Corporation by developers. The process of handing over is done when the developer pays the Corporation two (2) years of maintenance fees for the maintenance and management of the roadways. The roads and open spaces are then transferred in the name of the Corporation and these roads would then be gazetted and placed on the listing for the Corporation to maintain. The process to check each subdivision file has started to ascertain the status of the subdivisions that were approved by the Corporation, whether these subdivisions have been completed; and if the developers have made the payment for handing over to take place.
3.	Design a process of selecting and engaging contractors that is transparent and in full compliance with the Procurement Handbook and Procurement Act.	The Corporation follows the guidelines, as stated in the Procurement Handbook and Procurement Act. The Corporation has received two posts to deal with Procurement namely, the Public Procurement Officer and the Director of Public Procurement. The posts have been advertised by the Local Government Services Commission; however, no suitable candidates were identified. The Corporation has since written to the Commission requesting the advancement of the Public Procurement Officer. We await a response.
4.	Establish internal controls to reduce the risk of misstatement or inaccurate financial records so as to ensure that the financial information provides/presents a true and fair view of its financial activities	The Corporation does have internal controls to reduce risk of misstatement or inaccurate financial records. Funds are allocated from the Parochial Revenue Fund to each Parish Council division. There are times when the funds which are allocated are not used all at once because of the nature of road repairs or rehabilitation which is being done. Therefore, it may be misconstrued that there is much money available, but these funds are actually already committed to complete works that would have already been started. The Corporation also has an Audit Department with an acting Senior Internal Auditor, with responsibility to conduct random audits to ensure that all funds are used as intended by the Government.