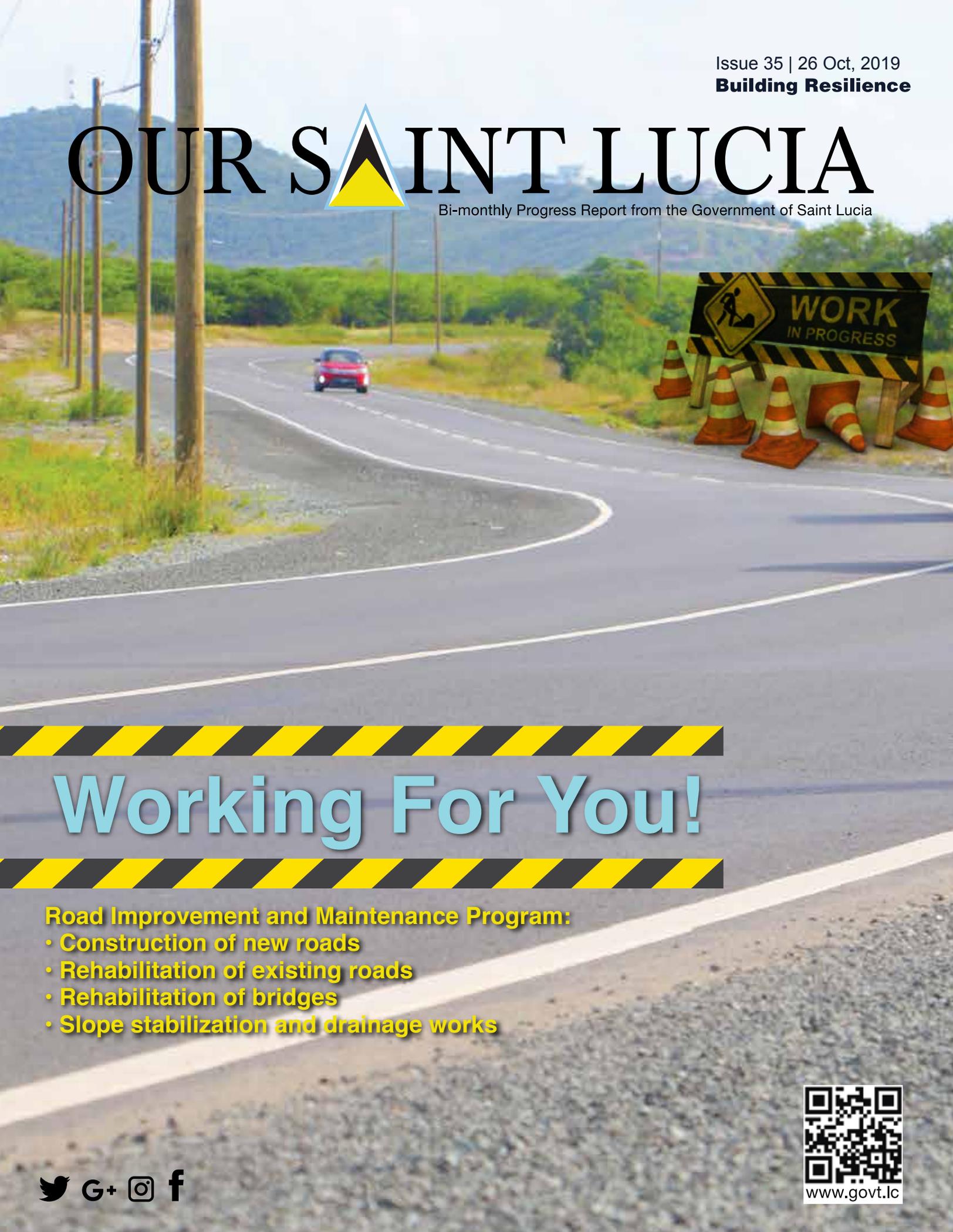


# OUR SAINT LUCIA

Bi-monthly Progress Report from the Government of Saint Lucia



## Working For You!

### Road Improvement and Maintenance Program:

- Construction of new roads
- Rehabilitation of existing roads
- Rehabilitation of bridges
- Slope stabilization and drainage works



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# Roads and Pathways to Progress

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# C O N T E N T S

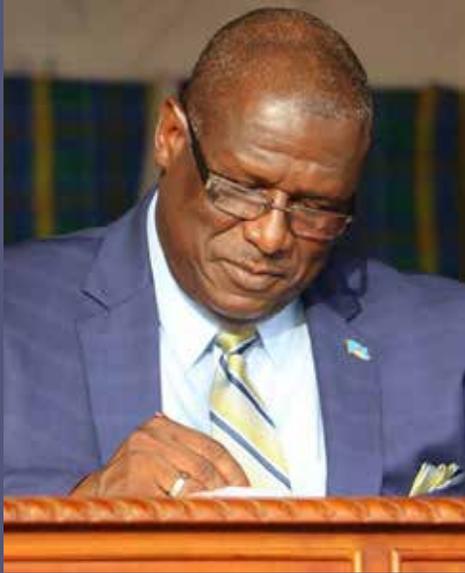
According to an article on the World Bank's Let's Talk Development Blog; "roads are the arteries through which the economy pulses. By linking producers to markets, workers to jobs, students to school, and the sick to hospitals, roads are vital to any development agenda." Simply put, roads are an important necessity for development and helps chart the progress of a country. Roads link communities to each other, people to each other, facilitates trade with the movement of goods and services inland, and the list goes on and on. As another writer puts it "roads are the conduit of life's activities." The Government of Saint Lucia has made the rehabilitation of roads and bridges, the construction of new roads and potholing, the construction of footpaths and pathways, a major priority over the last three years. The Ministry of Infrastructure, Ports, Energy and Labour is the Ministry spearheading the efforts, recently unveiling The Road Improvement and Maintenance Program (RIMP IV).

The Government has also pursued a number of other road interventions through the Disaster Vulnerability Reduction Project (DVRP) and the Constituency Development Program (CDP). The idea is to improve the overall road network in Saint Lucia, with design and concepts that would address resilience in the face of climate change.

In this issue of Our Saint Lucia, we focus on the work program of the Ministry of Infrastructure, including recently finished road works, ongoing road-works and upcoming projects.

In addition to creating employment, these projects when complete, will provide access to employment, stimulate economic activity, spur social development and other amenities. It is for these reasons and so much more, that road infrastructure is seen by the Government of Saint Lucia as one of the most important of all public assets.

Editor Toni Nicholas



# Policy Statement on Infrastructure

**T**he Minister of Infrastructure, Ports, Energy and Labour is Hon. Stephenson King. During the debate on the estimates of revenue and expenditure for 2019/2020, he presented a policy paper, that among other things, outlined plans for improving the island's road infrastructure.

Hon. Stephenson King indicated that targets identified for his Ministry include the improvement of approximately 99 kilometres of roads and doubling airport capacity.

"...it is common knowledge that key to national development is a country's infrastructure and so Government has invested heavily in our country's infrastructural development," Hon. Stephenson King said adding; "cognizant of this, and to give impetus to this drive, government has begun extensive works on our primary and secondary roads."

"The public Infrastructure in Saint Lucia has also been compromised over the years by the effects of climate change. The Transport Infrastructure in particular, roads, bridges, crossings and even rivers and water courses have faced the wrath of adverse weather," Minister King noted. For this fiscal year, under public infrastructure, he said, the following interventions will be undertaken:

\*Road Improvement and Maintenance Program- Phase (IV) with funding from the Republic of China Taiwan through its construction company OECC with the assistance of local contractors.

\* Government will inject some significant capital into maintenance over the next 3 years. For this year \$27 million has been allocated for designs and implementation of works.

\*According to the Minister, currently data from the Road Maintenance Management System (RMMS) indicates the following:

- On average 27% of the road network is in "GOOD" condition,
- 26% - "FAIR"
- 31% - "POOR"
- 16% - "VERY POOR"

Upon completion of this project, it is anticipated that:

- 45% of the road network will be in "Good" condition
- 23% "Fair"
- 17% "Poor"
- The roads in very poor condition will be addressed under other programmes.

## The Millennium Highway and West Coast Road Initiative

"The Millennium Highway and West Coast Road in their present condition have exceeded their operational life. The road as it stands is not only a hazard but a significant liability to the Government of Saint Lucia who has had to continuously undertake temporary works. The objective of this initiative is to improve the condition of the Millennium Highway (6.2km) and reduce the high recurrent cost of maintenance," King stated.

It was also revealed that, 24.6 km of the West Coast Road (along the Primary Road Network) from Anse La Raye to Colombette is expected to receive some much needed intervention along with the replacement of the existing Bailey bridge at Anse la Raye with a new bridge.

## Reconstruction of Bridge – Cul-de-Sac

"The Japanese Government through its JICA programme will be providing a \$40 million grant to the people of Saint Lucia to be expended on the reconstruction of the Cul-de-Sac Bridge," Minister King said.

## Operating and Maintenance

For this fiscal year 2019/2020, \$11,659,002 will be used to continue the Ministry's operating and maintenance programme. The following are some of the works planned for this financial year:

- Routine road maintenance (pot-holing programme);
- Caretakers programme of the primary road network;
- General road maintenance;
- Desilting of rivers and water courses; and
- Pre-hurricane river-works such as cleaning and re-digging of drains and clearing of culverts and other potential obstructions to water flow;

## ROAD SAFETY

It is our burning desire to make our roads safer and to reduce the carnage on our roads...we have lost too many of our loved ones needlessly to motor vehicle accidents," King said.

"During this fiscal year, we will push forward with these efforts and continue to install guardrails and road markings and other road furniture," he went on to say.

## Medium to Long-term Infrastructure Development Strategy

Under the Minister of Finance Medium Term Development Strategy, identifying six priority sectors, the Ministry of Infrastructure will undertake the following:

1. Rehabilitation and reconstruction of secondary and collector roads;
2. Development of the North South Link Road;
3. Redevelopment of Cargo & Container Terminal at Cul de Sac & Upgrade of Port Castries;
4. Development of Vieux Fort Cruise Port;
5. Road Safety Awareness Programme and
6. Traffic Flow Improvements along the Castries - Gros Islet Highway.

## ROAD AND INFRASTRUCTURE POLICY

Issues such as spillage of concrete, spoil and other materials and tracking of pneumatic and or heavy equipment including excavators and overloaded trucks to be addressed. Inadequate road and drainage infrastructure by developers and poorly constructed accesses to homes that enables water ingress on road pavements will also be addressed.

A Road and Infrastructure Policy and Strategy to inform the necessary changes to the archaic Road and Works Act, will bring about modern legislation to protect our investments in road infrastructure and contribute to road safety," Hon. Stephenson King said.

# Road Improvement and Maintenance Program



Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Infrastructure Mr. Ivor Daniel unveiling Road Improvement and maintenance program at a recent press conference

**T**he Department of Infrastructure has activated the delivery mechanism for successful implementation of its US\$42 million Road Improvement and Maintenance Program (RIMP IV).

This RIMP IV is the largest single investment in roads being made by a Government here in Saint Lucia and will rehabilitate approximately 81km of roads in various communities.

So far under the program, the Saltibus Road Reconstruction Project has begun and is now in full swing employing scores of skilled residents. In the coming days many other projects will breathe new life in various communities throughout the island. The Cas En Bas Road Rehabilitation Project commenced on Monday 23 September, 2019.

Permanent Secretary in the Department of Infrastructure, Mr. Ivor Daniel, says the Road Improvement and Maintenance Program (RIMP IV) aims to deliver complete reconstruction of several deplorable roads for the benefit of citizens island-wide.

Here is the full list of roads which are identified to receive attention under the Road Improvement and Maintenance Program (RIMP IV):

- Piat Road (Grand Riviere)
- Marisule / Grande Riviere / Union
- Cas en Bas Road
- Lower and Upper New Development Roads (Soufriere)
- Desrammeaux to La Bourne Junction
- Blanchard Road and Spring Road (Micoud)
- Bor Lo bel (Denney Village)
- La Retraite (Monchy)
- Cacao to Girard
- Paix Bouche Gap to Morne Citon via La Guerre
- Paix Bouche to Morne Citon via Plateau
- Sanvanne A Hoe
- Blackstone, Jacmel
- Tete Chemin to Vanard

- Marc Road
- Soufriere Fond St. Jacques
- Esperance/Diamond Road through to Soufriere
- La Panse/ Morne Du Don
- Green Mountain Road (Ring Road)
- High Street to Morne Gerald Ring Road (Hospital Road)
- Ti Colon to Barre St. Joseph
- Road at the back of Morne Bakery (Before Old Kentucky Road)
- Link Road from Mon Repos Highway to Patience Combined School
- Patience Lombard
- Grass Street Mon Repos
- Main Roads – Micoud Village
- St. Marie Road (Micoud)
- Flamboyant Way, Golf Park, Cap Estate
- Chausee Road
- St. Judes Highway
- Marchand Road/Waterworks Road
- Pierrot-Belle Vue (Zabo to Belle Vue)
- Augier/St. Judes
- Norbert Road (Gros Islet)
- Norbert – Careffe
- Careffe – CGRI
- La Feuille – Careffe
- Old Military Road #2
- Beausejour
- Bella Rosa
- Bonne Terre Access Road
- Union Roundabout

The Road Improvement and Maintenance Program (RIMP IV) is being executed through a loan valued at US\$42 million from the Government of Republic of China, Taiwan (ROCT).

The ROCT and GOSL have engaged Overseas Engineering & Construction Cooperation (OECC) to undertake design and construction of the roads. They will be engaging local sub-designers and sub-contractors to carry out the design.



All this work will be done with Grant Funding from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) – United Kingdom Caribbean Infrastructure Partnership Fund (UKCIF).

Work is expected to begin in earnest in 2020 on the \$115-million Millennium Highway and West Coast Roads Upgrading Project and Infrastructure Minister, Hon. Stephenson King, said there will be a reduction of accidents after the road, which has been dubbed ‘The Roller Coaster Road,’ is finished.

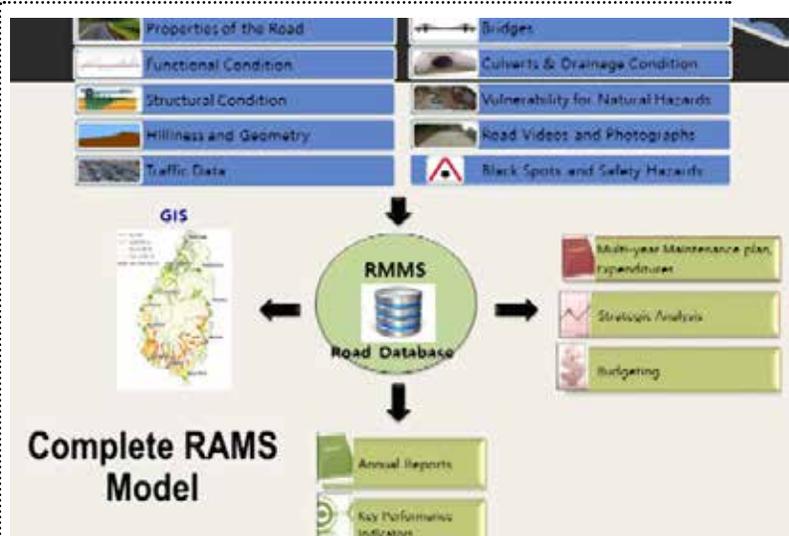
The project will be administered by the Caribbean Development Bank and is being funded by a UK Caribbean infrastructure partnership fund through a technical assistance grant.

## Millennium Highway and West Coast Roads Project in 2020!

Earlier this year, the Department of Infrastructure officially signed the consultancy agreement/contract for designs for the “Millennium Highway and West Coast Roads Upgrading Project”.

The project is expected to deliver;

1. Complete rehabilitation of the Millennium Highway.
2. Reconstruction of the West Coast roads from Cul De Sac all the way to Soufriere.
3. Design for construction of the new Anse La Raye Bridge.
4. A Robust Island wide Roads Safety Programme.



## Saint Lucia Implements Road Asset Management System

The Ministry of Infrastructure, Ports, Energy and Labour (MIPEL) of Saint Lucia is responsible for maintenance of over 1 000 km of roads. Before implementation of the Road Asset Management System (RAMS) the maintenance philosophy was ad-hoc and reactive.

The implementation of the RAMS will see a shift from reactive to preventive maintenance.

The biggest task in the establishment of the RAMS was the extensive data collection. Data collection included GPS data on the road centerlines, calibrated International Roughness Index of the whole road network, orthophotos and 360-degree images, photography, traffic counting as well as pavement distress and road inventory based on the collected digital imagery. Besides roads, inventory and condition data was collected on all the bridges.

The Ministry of Infrastructure, Ports, Energy and Labour with consultants Sirway Limited of Finalnd, has developed the Road Maintenance Management System and Road Assets Management System in an effort to improve the island’s ageing road assets and save state resources.

# CONSULTING THE PEOPLE

The Ministry of Infrastructure has been consulting with stakeholders as well as residents in communities islandwide, ahead of the commencement of road projects in Saint Lucia. The department has also been utilizing the local media as a way of sensitizing the general public on upcoming and ongoing road works.

## Bus Drivers Consultation

**M**inibus owners and operators have welcomed news of government's US\$42 million Road Improvement and Maintenance Program (RIMP IV). The RIMP (IV) spans approximately 101km of roads to be completely reconstructed around the island.



To promote greater public accountability and transparency, the Department of Infrastructure hosted the northern membership of the National Council on Public Transportation (NCOPT) along with non-affiliates at a special consultation on Tuesday October 15, 2019, to discuss the ongoing roads program.

A similar consultation will be hosted with NCOPT members and non-affiliates in the Southern Districts of the island.

Permanent Secretary Mr. Ivor Daniel said the Consultation presented an opportunity to have frank and open



discussions with the Minibus Sector, recognizing that they are important drivers of national development.

A number of recommendations made by the minibus sector has received the green light from the Ministry of Infrastructure and will be implemented as part of the RIMP (IV). These include installation of lay-bys and additional bus stops along the east coast and improved road signage island-wide.

## Ti Morne Community Meeting

Ti Morne Residents showed keen interest in Community Development during a community town hall meeting in September.

On Thursday September 26, a team from the Ministry of Infrastructure held a very important Community Meeting in Ti Morne, to discuss the ongoing Road Rehabilitation Project.



During the meeting, residents complained about the bad conditions of their roads, which according to them had not been fixed in 25 years.



Following the successful community meeting, Technical Staff from the Department of Infrastructure, joined residents on a preliminary assessment of an area of road which needs urgent attention.

### Saltibus Community Consultation

In September, the Department of Infrastructure held a stakeholders consultation with residents of Saltibus and environs for the Saltibus Road Project.

Following the consultation, the Government of Saint Lucia awarded contracts to more than thirty sub-contractors for concrete works, as part of the project.



The sub-contractors will be responsible for constructing about 7000 meters of drainage and retaining walls.

Parliamentary Rep for Choiseul/Saltibus Bradley Felix, said that over 100 persons from the constituency will benefit from direct employment during the execution of the project.

### Islandwide Road Improvement Project receives blessing of the Chamber of Commerce.



The Saint Lucia Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture was well represented on October 16, 2019, during a special sit down with the Department of Infrastructure, to discuss the Government of Saint Lucia's US\$42 million Road Improvement and Maintenance Program (RIMP IV).



It was an opportunity for the business community to receive an official update on the plan, share their suggestions and experience while directing pertinent questions on matters which needed clarification.

Speaking after the Consultation, President of the Chamber, Karen Peter said her membership was generally pleased to have been involved in discussions for this significant capital investment.

The business owners also support the Road Improvement and Maintenance Program (RIMP IV) which will ultimately drive productivity levels by getting goods, services and people to their intended destinations with fewer delays.

Chief Engineer Mr. Albert Jn. Baptiste assured the Chamber Membership that the Department of Infrastructure will maintain the requisite oversight to ensure maximum return on the investment.

As such, attention is on incorporating climate resilience in the project designs and execution phases. Deputy Permanent Secretary Mr. Calvin Lee says the aim is to "build better" infrastructure to withstand Climate Change.

### Emergency Services Consultation held on Tuesday October 22. The Department of Infrastructure consulted with the Emergency Services and Public Utility & Telecommunication providers.

# MAJOR ROAD ENHANCEMENTS TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW ALONG CASTRIES-GROS ISLET HIGHWAY

The Department of Infrastructure along with the Department of Transport and Royal Saint Lucia Police Force in May of this year, activated the second phase of the Traffic Flow Improvement Programme (TFIP), to further improve the travel time along Castries-Gros Islet Highway.

As a result, engineers along with other technical experts are finalizing arrangements for constructions of a proposed roundabout and forth lane,



intended to reduce congestion and travel delays while improving road safety.

These interventions will further improve the traffic experience for more than 27,000 average daily commuters.

The public is further informed that "NO ENTRY" into the Windward Island Gases road, remains in effect during weekday morning peak hours of 7:00 am to 9:00 am. Following public consultation, residents of Corinth and other affected communities have been issued with special access passes.

Motorists are encouraged to monitor and follow the various traffic signs, abide by the instructions given by the authorities and extend your full cooperation.

# COMPLETED ISLAND-WIDE ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS



Newly constructed La Ressource Road

Over the last three years, there have been considerable investments towards improving the island's road network, with attention being given to major roads, feeder roads as well as bridges and pathways.

The Government of Saint Lucia has duly noted the importance of a good road network to all sectors of the society and has been working assiduously to improving roads and bridges all over the island.

Some of these have included the construction and opening of the Canaries and the Ravine Poison Bridges.

There has also been major road works in Micoud South, among them being the opening of the major road highway, connecting the communities in 2018 - a road network which was in a deplorable condition for many years.

More recently, the Government embarked on the Micoud South Road Rehabilitation project which saw approximately 6.5 kilometres of road being reconstructed.

In Vieux Fort South, the La Ressource Road Project is paving the way for new opportunities in the south, having positively transformed the landscape in the area with the construction of 1.6 kilometers of road, which included site clearance, general excavation, dual carriageway construction, construction of drainage systems and utility transfer work.

Road improvement has also been ongoing in Roseau, Varnard and Millet and in October 2019, improvement works in the community of Venus was completed.

In Castries South-East, more specifically Foresttierre, road works continue to include improved drainage. Over the years the area has been battered by severe weather patterns and land-slides.

A number of these projects were undertaken by the Ministry of Infrastructure, while others fall under the Constituency Development Program (CDP) or the Disaster Vulnerability Reduction Project.



La Ressource Road-another angle



Micoud South Road rehabilitation complete



New Micoud Derriseux road



Canaries Bridge



New Canaries Bridge allows better river flow



MP Dominic Fedee tours improved Venus road



Vanard Millet Road Rehabilitation



Forrestiere road upgrade

# Ongoing Projects



Cas en bas road project ongoing

## Sandals To Choc Roundabout Road

The Department of Infrastructure, Ports and Energy embarked on the Sandals to Choc Roundabout Road Widening Project in September 2019.

The Sandals to Choc Roundabout Road Widening Project seeks to reduce traffic congestion and travel delays while improving road safety. The project entails the construction of a fourth lane along the highway, which is part of ongoing deliverables in the mission to build a new Saint Lucia," Minister for Infrastructure, Hon. Stephenson King, said.

The project is expected to be completed in November, 2019



Muddy roads will soon be a thing of the past in Cas en bas

## Cas En Bas Road Project

The Department of Infrastructure, Ports and Energy in collaboration with the Office of the Parliamentary Representative for Gros Islet, Lenard Spider Montoute, in September, held a community stakeholders meeting to discuss the reconstruction of the Cas en Bas Road.

Work on the road commenced thereafter, much to the delight of residents who have been clamouring for repairs to be undertaken on their roads for many years now.



Sandals Choc road project soon to be completed

## Saltibus (Choiseul) Road Project

In September, residents of Saltibus saw the commencement of road works in their community. The project is expected to include resurfacing of the main road as well as drainage works and retaining walls.

Over 100 persons from the constituency will benefit from direct employment during the execution of the project.

## Ti Morne Road Reconstruction Project

The residents of Ti Morne have welcomed the start of work on the reconstruction of their roads. This community like many others have been without proper access roads for many, many years. Work commenced in September of this year and is progressing smoothly.



Sandals Choc road to include additional lane



Works in Saltibus ongoing



Ti Morne residents look forward to completion of roads



Drainage works in Saltibus



MP Leohard Montoute in friendly exchange with a motorist at Cas en Bas

# MAKING OUR ROADS SAFER



Road safety has been of major concern to the Ministry of Infrastructure. To this end the department has been liaising with a number of stakeholders to embark on various campaigns to ensure that there is a reduction in the number of accidents and road fatalities on our roads. The campaign over the next few years, is also expected to include public awareness and education.

## GUARDRAILS

One of the measures that the Ministry of Infrastructure has embarked on, is the installation of more guardrails in several areas around the island. This included vehicular guardrails along the Dennery roadway.

“This project was seen as part of our priority agenda to implement road safety measures, in risky areas around the island,” Hon. Stephenson King, Minister for Infrastructure says.

“When drivers make mistakes we want them to feel safe knowing that various measures are in place to protect and save life,” he added.

“I am also pleased that we have successfully installed vehicular guardrails along the west coast, in the area where we lost the late 2004 Calypso Queen, Jany Williams. This project was long over-due,” King stated.

In the City of Castries, Guard rails have been placed along the Castries -Waterfront and in the Bananes area near the Castries Harbor.

Mayor Peterson Francis lauded the efforts of the Ministry of Infrastructure to improve road safety in Castries.

“It’s fantastic to see how committed the Ministry of Infrastructure is to ensuring public safety to help make the city’s roads safer. For eons motorists clamored and made such suggestions which had fallen on deaf ears. No one saw it fit to install those guardrails. No one saw the

need to provide such a level of safety to pedestrians and drivers,” Mayor Francis said.

To date 365 meters of guardrails have been installed around the island.

## ROAD SIGNS AND MARKING

As part of the Ministry’s Road Safety Programme, Road Markings and Signs are key.



“As Minister for Infrastructure, I am happy to report significant progress with our Road Safety Programme, as the government strives to make Saint Lucia’s roads safer than ever,” Hon. Stephenson King said earlier this year. “We have implemented a public recommendation for increased road signs islandwide and

work to enhance road markings along all major roads is ongoing. These soft traffic measures are vital to keep our roads safe for all commuters, and minimize accident risks,” he went on to say.

During the first quarter of this year, road marking was undertaken in the north of the island along the Castries/Gros Islet highway.



The Minister for Infrastructure said that the initiative will enhance all edge and center lines, all lane and directional arrows, all hatch lines and pedestrian crossings, as we continue to endeavor to make Saint Lucia better.

“The aim is to improve road safety for all commuters, cognizant that road markings give important information and instructions to motorists and drivers about vehicle positioning, road alignment and other vital road information.”

The Ministry of Infrastructure has also been working on improving road signage along the major roadways.

# WELCOME TO CASTRIES NORTH VISION 2020/ HIGHWAY 2020”

**T**he Urban City Communities within Castries North are earmarked for significant transformational activity in the coming weeks and months, as part of the Castries North Vision 2020/ Highway 2020 Development Plan.

This is the brainchild of Hon. Stephenson King, Minister for Infrastructure, Energy, Ports Services and Labour and MP for Castries North. The vision encompasses the enhancement of sports facilities, establishment of recreation spaces, infrastructure upgrades and social development programs.

The aim is to bring about human development, social upliftment and community empowerment. It is also intended to bring to fruition several incomplete, ongoing and new initiatives throughout Castries North that will further bolster the Constituency towards attaining the full status of municipality.

The projects being undertaken include;

1. Bisee Multi-Purpose Court, Community Centre and the restoration of the Bisee Walk Children’s Play Ground.
2. Carielle Park and Multi-Purpose Sports Facility, to include a Community Training Swimming Pool, Children’s Playground and other amenities.
3. Agard Recreational Ground Upgrading Project, to include a further upgrade of the lighting system, fencing and retaining structures to secure and protect the facility.
4. La Clery Playing Field upgrading project (Phase 2) which will include completion of fencing, a new lighting system, resurfacing of the field and changing rooms.
5. Bois Patat Multi-Purpose Court and Recreational Ground upgrade, to include reinstatement of lighting,



Ms. Patricia James after whom the Vide Boutielle Secondary School is now named and Hon. Stephenson King



Students of the Patricia James Secondary School in their newly designed uniforms



Malabar Beach Park Design

6. secured fencing and amenities.
6. Sunbilt HRDC and Multi-Purpose Sports Facility
7. Almondale Children’s playground.
8. La Clery Children’s playground.
9. La Clery Suburban Business Centre and Special Development Areas, to ignite economic activity and urban renewal.
10. Vigie – Choc Beach Facilities Management Plan, to manage the Vigie Beach Facilities, redevelop and expand the old rundown Malabar Beach Facilities near Rendezvous, the establishment of an outdoor gym, the beautification, landscaping, management and regulation of the Vigie to Choc Beach, to include beach replenishment/reclamation to preserve, conserve and protect that beach as a national recreational facility. The plan will also explore the possibility of establishing the Vigie area as an Historic District for special development.
11. Vide Boutielle Secondary School, refurbished and renamed.
12. Castries North Music and Arts Project, will be housed at the Chase Gardens Human Resource Development Centre, to provide tuition in the field of music and the arts, to young people in the Castries North Constituency and beyond, with the vision of establishing a full fledge Music and Arts Academy.
13. Castries North Skills Development Program; for which funds have already been allocated, for the provision of training to the youth in selected vocations in preparation for the workforce.

All of these initiatives are being funded by both public and private sector agencies.

The policies articulated by the Prime Minister and Finance Minister in the 2019/2020 budget, will further compliment “Vison 2020”, by stimulating positive social and economic activity throughout Castries North.

# News Bites

## CLARIFICATION OF GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT IN RACETRACK



Saint Lucia is getting set to have the regional and international spotlight on our beautiful island once again when we make our debut into the Equine Industry with The Pitons Cup scheduled for Friday December 13th; our island's national day. For the first time ever our island will debut an international race track located in Vieux Fort and built by the Desert Star Holdings Company. So far the track employs over 50 groomsmen and that is not counting the number employed in the construction phase.

The investor has also trained several young Saint Lucians to work at the track under the Winston Trim Training Programme.

- The Government of Saint Lucia has not purchased or facilitated the purchase of any horses for the race. Meaning that no millions of dollars was spent by the Government of Saint Lucia to purchase horses for this project.
- The construction of the race track has been fully funded by the investor.
- The Government of Saint Lucia has not funded the construction of the race track or any other aspect of the project.

## SAINT LUCIA RECORDS BEST AUGUST EVER

The latest performance report for Saint Lucia is in and the record breaking streak in visitor arrivals to the acclaimed



destination continues. According to the Saint Lucia Tourism Authority (SLTA), the island can now boast that seven out of the eight months thus far have recorded unprecedented growth in visitor arrivals. An impressive total of 36,342 stay-over arrivals was recorded in August 2019, marking the largest number of arrivals ever recorded for that particular month. Double-digit Increases were recorded in three main markets – US (13%), UK (12%) and Canada (17%), resulting in an overall increase of 6.4% from the figures recorded in August 2018.

## MAKE IT HAPPEN TOUCHES EVEN MORE LIVES IN 2019

The Make It Happen Foundation, founded by Mrs Raquel Du Boulay-Chastanet, wife of Prime Minister Hon. Allen Chastanet, has been devoted to helping police officers and fire fighters by upgrading their work spaces, providing basic equipment needs and thereby making them more comfortable and improving morale.



In 2019 alone, the Foundation has assisted in upgrades to several police stations and institutions including schools and the Bordelais Correctional Facility. After two and a half years without hot water, the officers at the Marchand Police Station were thrilled last week to receive a Water Heating System.

The Make it Happen Foundation has also given a facelift to the Rodney Bay Sub-Station by repainting it inside and out and built a new kitchen as well as extended the station facility to include a new recreational area where officers can sit together when not on active duty. Chesterfield Police Headquarters received an AC unit and a financial contribution of

six thousand dollars (\$6,000) was made to the Fire Service Benevolent Fund to benefit a family from Canaries who lost their home in a fire. Six washers and dryers have also been distributed to various police and fire stations all over the island.

The Foundation was also able to provide twenty thousand dollars' worth of recreational and sporting equipment towards the Bordelais Correctional Facility.

## INVEST SAINT LUCIA HOSTS WORKSHOP

In its continuing efforts to launch its Business Incubator and Accelerator Programme, Invest Saint Lucia (ISL), undertook a three-day workshop from Oct. 8 to 10, targeted at agencies providing business support services to the local business community.

Invest Saint Lucia's Project Coordinator, Dave Headley, said the workshop was held to inform stakeholders.

The three-day training delivered key basic knowledge and skills on how to effectively manage business incubators, accelerators and co-working spaces.

Invest Saint Lucia is well on its way to launching the Business Incubator and Accelerator Programme during the first quarter of 2020.

## TAIWAN DONATES SUPPLIES TO THE MINISTRY OF EQUITY

The Embassy of the Republic of China (Taiwan) has once again demonstrated its nation's support by donating an assortment of humanitarian supplies, through the Simply Help Foundation to the Government and people of Saint Lucia.



The handing over ceremony took place on Tuesday October 15th, 2019 at the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO) grounds, Bisee. The items include shoes kitchen wear, clothes, toys, baby supplies, suit cases and stationery.

Minister for Equity, Social justice, Local Government and Empowerment Hon. Leonard Montoute expressed his gratitude to the Taiwanese Government for providing the much needed supplies.

# Connect with US!



## Office of the Prime Minister

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[www.instagram.com/opmsaintlucia](https://www.instagram.com/opmsaintlucia)

## Government of Saint Lucia

[www.facebook.com/saintluciagovernment](https://www.facebook.com/saintluciagovernment)



### Dominic Fedee

[www.facebook.com/dominicfedee](https://www.facebook.com/dominicfedee)

October 17

Today was an extremely proud day for me as Parliamentary Representative for Anse la Raye as we opened the latest addition to Saint Lucia's Tourism product in the very constituency that I have the honor to serve. The newly established "Glittering Sands" Beach Park located at Trou Lounjé, is owned and operated by Saint Lucians and employs some 20 plus persons from the constituency of Anse la Raye/Canaries.



### Allen Chastanet

[www.facebook.com/allenmchastanet](https://www.facebook.com/allenmchastanet)  
[www.twitter.com/allenmchastanet](https://www.twitter.com/allenmchastanet)

October 10

We are pleased to inform the Saint Lucian public that a new Visa Application Centre for Canada has opened in Saint Lucia. The centre is open to provide visa services and biometric collection for persons who require a visa or work/student permit for Canada. It means travellers no longer have to go to Barbados or Trinidad to have the process done.



### Edmund Estephane

[www.facebook.com/edmundestephane758](https://www.facebook.com/edmundestephane758)

October 15

Congratulations to Johnson Charles on an amazing CPL 2019 season!



### Bradly Felix

[www.facebook.com/bradlyfelix758](https://www.facebook.com/bradlyfelix758)

October 25

Do you remember the first creole day in Choiseul? Feel free to share your memories with me! Choiseul's culture will be on display, amazing food, great people, great music! I am extending an invitation to the entire island to come to Choiseul.



### Ezechiel Joseph

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### Stephenson King

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### Sarah Flood Beaubrun

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### Guy Joseph

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### Mary Isaac

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### Lenard "Spider" Montoute

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FOLK  
RESEARCH  
CENTRE



CULTURAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
FOUNDATION



EVENTS  
SAINT LUCIA

**FLOW**

# **GWAN FET** **JOUNEN KWÉYÒL**

**Beausejour Promenade, Gros Islet**

**Beanfield, Vieux Fort**

**La Fargue Playing Field, Choiseul**

**October 27th**  
**2019**

**Communities Uniting:**  
**Monchy, Babonneau,**  
**Grand Riviere,**  
**Marisule Gros Islet**

