

**NEXT CHAPTER**

# **BUILD JAMAICA**

**READY STEADY GO**



**WORKS**



**Robert Nesta Morgan, MP**  
Minister without portfolio with  
responsibility for WORKS

**SECTORAL DEBATE**

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**SECTORAL DEBATE**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2025**

**Madam Speaker,**

**J**ust over a year ago, I stood in this Honourable House as the newly appointed Minister with responsibility for Works. I knew then what I know now — this was not a Ministry about concrete and contracts. It's about connection. It's about credibility. It's about commitment.

The journey has not been smooth. But we have persevered. And today, we can say with confidence that the roads of Jamaica are in better shape than we found them.

I extend my gratitude to the Prime Minister, Dr. the Most Honourable Andrew Holness, for entrusting me with this critical portfolio. A portfolio that touches and concerns every single Jamaican, even the unborn! I also thank my colleague, brother, and friend, Everald Warmington, whose wisdom and counsel continue to guide me. To all my colleagues on both sides of this House, thank you for your engagement, support, and advice.

**Madam Speaker,** I also wish to acknowledge the Permanent Secretary, Mrs. Arlene Williams, and her team from the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation, as well as the agencies that fall under my purview. It is through their commitment that we have made significant achievements to date, with even more to be realised.

And to the people of North Central Clarendon, your confidence in me fuels my dedication. Together, we are rising, building, and transforming our beloved constituency into one already admired by many.

Today, I rise not just to report, but to reaffirm our commitment to Jamaica's **NEXT CHAPTER** — a nation that is resilient, efficient, and future-ready.

Over the past 12 months, we have acted with urgency and discipline. Programmes like SPARK, SCHIP, REACH and REACH Emergency have become cornerstones of transformation, delivering results from emergency interventions to long-term capital development.

We have acted with integrity, ensuring public confidence in the Government's ability to deliver. These acronyms represent more than programmes — they represent prosperity, hope, and transformation.

But this moment is more than a recap, **Madam Speaker.** It is a recommitment. A declaration that the **NEXT CHAPTER** in our national infrastructure story is not just being written, it is being paved, kilometre by kilometre, pillar by pillar, by a government that understands the weight of responsibility and the power of delivery.

So today, I invite the nation to walk with us — not just on the roads we have repaired, but on the road to a better Jamaica.

**READY.....STEADY.....GO:** The Strategic Framework



This framework is more than a slogan—it is a mindset. A structured, phased, and people-first approach to national infrastructure development:

**READY** means we are planning with purpose. Our projects are climate-resilient, data-driven, and future-proof.

**STEADY** means we are investing in people. Engineers, students, apprentices — Jamaicans gaining skills, not just roads.

**GO** means decisive, visible, urgent action. We patch, we pave, we build — because Jamaicans deserve no less.

Let me give you one example for each:

Under **READY**, our Comprehensive Drainage Study in Montego Bay will safeguard the city for the next 50 years.

We will conduct a drainage study for Spanish Town to enhance business and improve the ease of use of the roads there for the next several decades.

Under **STEADY**, 20 interns will be engaged with the SPARK Programme. This complements our partnership with HEART Trust to certify and train young Jamaicans working on the perimeter road. (Steel Worker certified by HEART NSTA working on Perimeter Road)



Steel Worker certified by HEART/NSTA Trust working on Perimeter Road

Under **GO**, we had REACH Emergency and REACH, and shortly, we will have the quarterly patching programme. We will also be rehabbing several town centres with tactile sidewalks for the disabled, as well as improved sidewalks and railings.

This is how we work — with clarity, with competence, and with care.

**Madam Speaker**, I will today seek to expound on some of the Government's strategic infrastructure undertakings that the Most Honourable Prime Minister would have mentioned in the Budget Debate. I will demonstrate in very tangible ways that indeed we are a Government that delivers on its promises — one that is seized of the varied needs of our people and is taking decisive action to meet them. Through strategic investment, integrated planning, and efficient execution, we are transforming the nation's highways, urban and rural roads, water systems, and essential public services.

### TRANSFORMING CONNECTIVITY – SCHIP and MBPR

**Madam Speaker**, we are now at the tail end of the over US\$575 million **Southern Coastal Highway Improvement Project (SCHIP) Project**. This project, which has transformed sections of Clarendon, Manchester, St. Andrew, St. Thomas and Portland is another testament to our commitment to infrastructure development. The project is 96% complete, with two major components — Part A (May Pen to Williamsfield Toll Road Extension) and Part B(ii) (Harbour View to Yallahs Bridge, covering 17.4 km of a four-lane highway) — already open to the public.



SCHIP Road Works In Progress

Works are progressing on the Yallahs to Port Antonio and Morant Bay to Cedar Valley legs, which span 123.65km of two-lane roadway and are divided into three tranches. Tranches 1 and 2 are substantially complete, with only minor outstanding works remaining. Tranche 3 is now 70% complete. The corridors being reconstructed under this tranche are:

- Prospect to Arcadia, St. Thomas;
- Arcadia District to Amity Hall, St. Thomas;
- Amity Hall to Hordley, St. Thomas;
- Long Road to Manchioneal, Portland; and
- Fair Prospect to Boston, Portland.

**Madam Speaker**, we anticipate substantial completion of this phase of SCHIP by June 2025.



**Aerial View of the Montego Bay Perimeter Road**

We are fully aware of some of the weaknesses that exist along sections of the corridor from Yallahs to Port Antonio. These weaknesses, **Madam Speaker**, especially in St. Thomas, include areas that are prone to flash flooding and those susceptible to landslides. The engineers on the project have considered varying parameters in the design. An area such as Port Morant, which is highly prone to flooding, has received special attention. Through the project, we will mitigate the incidence of flooding in the space. I issue a word of caution though, **Madam Speaker**, as depending on the intensity of the rainfall, we may yet still see flooding in the space, owing to things like rainfall intensity, such as a one in 100 or 200 years return rainfall; improper waste disposal or simply that some persons are occupying spaces that are natural drainage points that lend themselves to flooding.

In the western part of the island **Madam Speaker**, the National Road Operating and Constructing Company Limited (NROCC), through the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation (MEGJC), entered a design-and-build construction contract with China Harbour Engineering Company Limited (CHEC) (also known as “the Contractor”) for the execution of the Montego Bay Perimeter Road Project (MBPRP). Valued at over US\$350 million, the scope of works includes:

- Montego Bay Bypass Road;
- Barnett Street dualisation;
- West Green Avenue dualisation;
- Long Hill Bypass to reduce road traffic congestion; and
- Comprehensive Drainage Study of the Montego Bay Bypass area.

**Madam Speaker**, with the completion of this significant infrastructure development investment for our citizens, Montego Bay’s central business district will benefit from reduced congestion and a boost in economic growth. The Long Hill Bypass component of the project is a four-lane highway that will connect the **Montego Bay Perimeter Road** with the western end of the Phase 2B corridor of the East-West Highway.

I recently toured the project and am pleased to report that the Montego River bridge is 99% complete. The work on the project is advancing, with 60% completion, and are on track to be completed by May 2026. **Madam Speaker**, the **READY** framework is evident in the long-term planning and designs for climate change adaptation for this project. The Comprehensive Drainage Study will assess all major gullies that drain into the city and prepare detailed designs for implementation.



Montego Bay Perimeter Road Aggregate Testing Lab

Additionally, this project is developing skills for the infrastructure sector, aligning with our **STEADY** pillar within our Framework. **Madam Speaker**, we are building roads and highways not just for the commuting public, but also to provide an enabling environment that fosters capacity building among our youth and communities, thereby leading to empowerment and sustainable growth.



Montego Bay Perimeter Road Tour, May 8, 2025

## Special CAPEX Programme: Urban Renewal and Future-Proofing Infrastructure

**Madam Speaker**, this Government is investing some \$16 billion in improving urban transportation in the Kingston Metropolitan Region (Kingston, St. Andrew and St. Catherine). This programme of works will benefit some 1.2 million Jamaicans. Through the **Special Capital Expenditure (CAPEX) Programme**, roads, drainage, water, sewerage, and traffic management upgrades, as well as ensuring future broadband connectivity, are significant deliverables. The **READY** pillar of our framework ensures that infrastructure projects are being built on strong foundations – literally and figuratively.

**Madam Speaker**, the **Grange Lane** upgrade, valued at \$925 million, is now 98% complete.

I speak to the people of the parish of Portmore. More is coming! The **Braeton Road and Hellshire Main Road** dualisation project is set to commence shortly. **Madam Speaker**, this is a \$2.4-billion investment for the benefit of the people of Portmore!



CAPEX Tour Grange Lane

Other CAPEX projects, including the **East King's House Road/Lady Musgrave Road dualisation**, the expanded **Arthur Wint Drive dualisation**, **Sandy Gully Bridge** widening, and the **New Entrance to Portmore** project, have completed feasibility studies and are in the final stages of the Public Investment Management System (PIMS) process.

**Madam Speaker**, this Government is **READY**, not just about building for today, we are also about resilience and long-term planning for the next 10 to 50 years. It is in this vein that the Arthur Wint Drive project, originally a smaller-scale dualisation, has now been expanded. We have expanded the project

scope from Arthur Wint Drive to Tom Redcam, including Camp Road. The Camp Road section has been added, as it makes strategic sense to do so at this time. The institutional coordination within our **READY** framework has led to this expansion, incorporating sewerage and additional waterline infrastructure, which ensures more significant benefits for residents, businesses, and developers. The remaining CAPEX projects will commence in the third quarter of this 2025/26 Financial Year, with careful scheduling to minimise disruptions.

## **BRIDGE PROGRAMME: Strengthening National Resilience**

**Madam Speaker**, Jamaica has more than 800 bridges, many of which are ageing and require urgent repairs or replacement. To accelerate the modernisation of the country's bridge infrastructure, the Government has launched two key initiatives: the Priority Bridge Programme and the Accelerated Bridge Renewal Project. The Priority Bridge Programme, funded through a combination of Recurrent and Capital budgets, will be implemented over an extended period. Meanwhile, the Accelerated Bridge Renewal Project, designed for completion within three years, will be financed through a loan from UK Export Finance (UKEF), ensuring a faster and more targeted approach to bridge rehabilitation.

**Madam Speaker**, the **Priority Bridge Programme**, valued at approximately \$1.5 billion, will be addressing critical bridge infrastructure needs across the island.

- The **Troy Bridge in Trelawny**, valued at \$230 million, is 60% complete, with completion expected before the end of this summer.
- The **Spring Village Bridge in St. Catherine**, valued at \$250 million, is at 10% progress, with pile-driving work underway.
- The **Craigmill Bridge in Portland**, valued at \$170 million, is currently at the procurement stage for the vehicular component (\$140 million), with the contract for the pedestrian component (\$30 million) already awarded.
- The feasibility studies have been completed for **Southwood in Clarendon**, **Barham in Westmoreland**, and **Guanaboa Vale in St. Catherine**. These structures are now moving into the PIMS appraisal phase.
- The **Mahogany Vale Bridge in St. Thomas** is being repackaged and retendered to facilitate completion.
- We are about to start work on the **Alley Bridge**, a nearly \$30 million intervention that precedes the total rehabilitation.

**Madam Speaker**, I would like to expound a little on the **Craigmill bridge** and that at **Mahogany Vale**. I visited Craigmill in the company of the Member of Parliament, the Minister of Local Government and Community Development and technical officers from the National Works Agency. On my part, I spoke to many residents who expressed frustrations at not having a reliable structure, especially when it rains. Although it is true that we have not abandoned the area, given the presence of a ford built before the

bridge's collapse, this facility has faced multiple washouts due to flooding. This has caused residents, including young children, to risk their lives to cross the river.

That will no longer be the case, **Madam Speaker!** We are not only building a bridge for motor vehicles, but also one dedicated to those who walk! This is a rural constituency like mine, and I know what it means to walk and do so safely. We are making it safe to cross that river, whether you walk or drive. Our government is ready to implement **resilient, efficient, and accountable development for all.**

**Madam Speaker**, the Mahogany Vale Bridge was tendered before, and a contract was awarded. This contract was not executed due to the contractor's difficulties accessing the site. The breakaway along Gordon Town Road is a direct impact on the contractor mobilising to get to Mahogany Vale. We fixed this massive breakaway, but further up in St. Andrew, there was another breakaway that we have subsequently fixed, which also impacted the bridge project.

Given the amount of time that had elapsed and the implications for the project's cost, we entered into negotiations with the contractor, who formally indicated that he could no longer continue with the contract after such a prolonged period. He officially wrote to the NWA, and we decided not to pursue a contract variation, but rather to have the project re-tendered. This is more appropriate in the circumstances, based on the procurement rules.

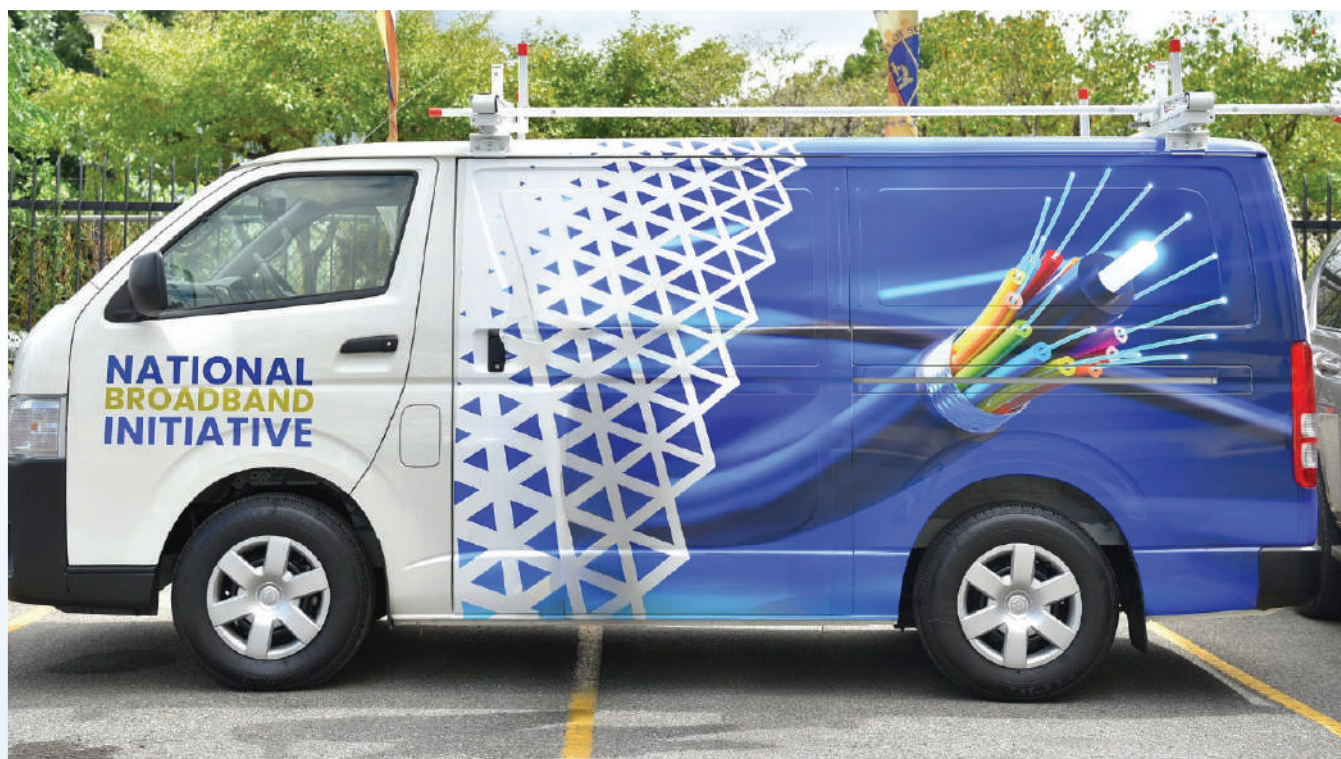


Craigmill Bridge

For the **Accelerated Bridge Renewal Programme**, **Madam Speaker**, key outcomes of this **READY** initiative include improved public safety and the creation of a safer, more resilient transportation network, reduced travel times, enhanced commerce and other economic activities, and increased resilience against natural disasters. This Government intends to fast-track the replacement, repair, and upgrading of bridges across the country.

**Madam Speaker**, the programme includes the construction and rehabilitation of 55 bridges. The parent Ministry will oversee the projects, while the NWA manages implementation. Key projects such as the **Shooting River Bridge in St. Thomas**, the **Pedro River Bridge in Clarendon**, and the **Black River Bridge in St. Elizabeth**, will significantly improve connectivity. By investing in critical infrastructure, the Government reaffirms its commitment to national development, economic expansion, and the long-term well-being of communities across the island.

## STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS



**Madam Speaker**, the Government of Jamaica's expansive infrastructure agenda for the 2025/2026 Financial Year reflects a forward-looking approach that embraces modern technology to drive national development and improve quality of life. Among the cornerstone initiatives are the **National Broadband Initiative (NBI)** and the **Intelligent Transport System (ITS)**, both of which are already in progress and will continue to unfold throughout the year, with implementation extending beyond this fiscal cycle.

The NBI is a critical component of Jamaica's digital transformation, as it involves embedding fibre-optic infrastructure into all NWA road construction projects. This not only strengthens the foundation for nationwide broadband access, but also enhances the delivery of digital Government services, positioning

the country for a more connected and efficient Public Sector. Parallel to this, the ITS expansion will leverage innovative technologies to optimise traffic flow, monitor road conditions, and improve overall transportation safety, marking a significant step toward building a more intelligent and responsive road network. These projects embody the long-term planning, strategic coordination and resilience tenets of the **READY** framework to drive sustainable growth.

In addition to these digital advancements, physical infrastructure improvements are also being prioritised through the development of several key Bypass road projects. While projects in **Port Maria, Santa Cruz, Lucea, Annotto Bay, and Hopewell/Sandy Bay** remain in the planning and design stages, the Port Antonio Bypass is set to move into implementation this month.

**Madam Speaker**, the Government is prioritising the US\$81-million **Port Antonio Bypass** project to improve travel efficiency, reduce congestion, and support regional economic growth. We are working with the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service to secure funding, with commencement targeted for the second quarter of the current financial year.

This project, **Madam Speaker**, which is expected to relieve traffic congestion and encourage economic activity in inland areas, will be executed in two (2) phases. Phase one (1), which spans approximately seven (7) kilometres from Norwich to Turtle Harbour, is targeted for construction in the near term, supported by the completion of a feasibility study. Phase two (2), extending another 11 kilometres from Turtle Harbour to Boston Bay, will be rolled out once appropriate financing is secured.

The Bypass, with a four-lane design, will provide an alternative route to ease congestion in Port Antonio's town centre. Each lane will be 3.5 metres wide, with 1.2-metre shoulders and a 1.8-metre-wide median Jersey barrier. Additionally, the project includes two-lane link roads to improve access between central and western Port Antonio.

**Madam Speaker**, Port Antonio is a critical hub for tourism and agriculture, yet it suffers from chronic traffic congestion, unsafe pedestrian conditions, and limited connectivity. By unlocking economic potential and enhancing mobility, this project will play a key role in regional development.

**Madam Speaker**, it is not just in Portland that we are seeking to undertake this kind of game-changing road development. We have instructed the NWA to conduct feasibility studies and have the relevant documents made available to us, allowing us to proceed with the PIMC process.

There are 13 corridors that we have deemed to be very important to the immediate, medium and long-term plans to continue on the people's prosperity journey. **Madam Speaker**, the implementation of these projects aligns with our **READY, STEADY, GO** Framework, ensuring resilience in the infrastructure works (**READY**), applying innovative techniques and bolstering sustainability for human capital development (**STEADY**) and rapid execution (**GO**). The roads that are now on this list include:



REACH Programme - Russell Heights Road Assessment



Tour of Maroon Town, Southern St. James with MP Homer Davis

Name of Project	Parish
<b>Palisadoes Airport Round-A-Bout to the bottom of Mountain View Avenue</b>	Kingston
<b>Palisadoes Airport Round-A-Bout to Port Royal</b>	Kingston
<b>Spanish Town Road (Six Miles to Darling Street)</b>	Kingston
<b>Washington Boulevard (Six Miles to Molyne's Road)</b>	Kingston
<b>Dunrobin Avenue Extension to East Kings House Road (Overpass of Constant Spring Road)</b>	Kingston
<b>Red Hills Road (Dunrobin Avenue to Perkins Boulevard)</b>	Kingston
<b>Molyne's Road (Eastwood Park Road to Washington Boulevard)</b>	St. Andrew
<b>Old Hope Road</b>	St. Andrew
<b>Braeton Parkway</b>	St. Catherine
<b>Annotto Bay Bypass</b>	St. Mary
<b>Port Maria Bypass</b>	St. Mary
<b>Lucea Bypass</b>	Hanover
<b>Hopewell/Sandy Bay Bypass</b>	Hanover

These planned developments form part of a comprehensive infrastructure pipeline aimed at creating more efficient transportation routes, supporting urban renewal, and building climate-resilient infrastructure.

Together, these initiatives reflect the Government's unwavering commitment to modernising Jamaica's infrastructure while embracing digital innovation. At the same time, **Madam Speaker**, they underscore the importance of long-term planning and inclusive growth. As these projects progress, they are expected to enhance connectivity, stimulate local investment, and enhance the everyday experiences of Jamaicans across the island.

## Government's Relief Emergency Assistance and Community Help (REACH) Programme: Addressing Road Deterioration

**Madam Speaker**, the impact of Beryl and the subsequent rain events are known throughout Jamaica. Every member of this House would have heard cries for help with the deteriorating conditions. I, myself, cried out for help for the people of North Central Clarendon. To demonstrate that we are a caring and ready government, a steady government that listens to and feels the pains of the people, while ensuring the go in our implementation, not just one, not two, not three, but four different programmes of work were undertaken over nine months. This was to make travelling across the country that much easier.

**Madam Speaker**, there is no member in this House whose constituency was not REACHed! As every constituency was given \$20 million, that's almost \$ 1.5 billion assigned directly to the constituency.

The **REACH Road Repair Programme** is a \$3-billion initiative. Having assessed the situations being faced by the people, a second commenced in January this year.

**Madam Speaker**, all told, we are spending some \$4.7 billion on emergency island-wide road patching. The emergency patching programme is 80% complete, while the broader \$3-billion repair initiative is progressing steadily, with Phase 1 constituency-based works at 72% completion. Both phases are on track to be completed by June 2025.



REACH Programme - Shortwood Road Road Assessment



REACH Programme - Hope Road, Road Assessment



REACH Programme - Washington Boulevard Asphalt Laying



## DISASTER MITIGATION

**Madam Speaker**, the Government of Jamaica is intensifying its focus on flood management through a series of strategic interventions designed to reduce the devastating impacts of flooding and land erosion. For this current Financial Year, some \$825 million has been allocated across various activities. These include:

- **River training works to redirect and stabilise water flow;**
- **Rehabilitation of heavily eroded gullies; and**
- **Critical upgrades to the country's drainage systems.**

**Madam Speaker**, together, these measures aim to safeguard communities, protect critical infrastructure, and significantly minimise the economic disruptions caused by extreme weather events. Significantly, these efforts form a part of our **READY** mandate, strengthening Jamaica's long-term resilience to climate change whilst helping the nation better withstand the growing frequency and intensity of storms.

**Madam Speaker**, as part of this commitment, the Government has earmarked approximately \$2 billion for comprehensive repairs and enhancements to the national gully network. A significant portion of these funds will be directed toward works on the **Sandy Gully and its tributaries** in the Corporate Area, as

well as the **North Gully and South Gully in St. James**. These improvements are not only critical for flood control, but also for public health and urban development, ensuring that vulnerable communities are better protected and more sustainably integrated into the country's broader climate adaptation strategy.



Damage to Retaining Wall for Construction



Completed Retaining Wall repair, Suttons, North Central Clarendon

## ROAD SAFETY

**Madam Speaker**, the Government of Jamaica continues to prioritise road safety as a fundamental aspect of national development. To this end, we have significantly increased our investment in traffic management and safety measures. We are now spending nearly \$1 billion on these efforts. This enhanced funding supports a broad range of initiatives aimed at making roadways safer for all users. These include the installation of critical safety features, such as lane markings, rumble strips, and cat's eyes, as well as other features that help guide motorists, particularly in low-visibility conditions. A significant portion of this investment is also being allocated to the rehabilitation of deteriorated street lighting infrastructure along 11 strategic corridors, with the intent of transferring these assets to the Jamaica Public Service Company (JPSCo.) for ongoing maintenance and operation.

**Madam Speaker**, as the caring and **ready** government that we are, our objective is to create a safer, more navigable road environment, reduce accidents, and support overall public safety. Thus far, streetlights along **Elegant Corridor (Phase 1)** and **Bogue Road in St. James** have been rehabilitated.



REACH Programme, St. James

As I said earlier, **Madam Speaker**, we are a caring Government. On this matter of safety, we are looking to partner with each and every Jamaican who uses our roads. The Government remains **STEADY** in its commitment to funding and implementing improvements for safety. Road safety, however, cannot rest on the Government alone. This **Madam Speaker**, I firmly believe, is a shared responsibility that requires the active participation of every road user — drivers, pedestrians, cyclists, and public transport operators alike. Safe road behaviour, adherence to traffic laws, and a collective commitment to vigilance are all essential in complementing infrastructure investments and achieving lasting results.

**Madam Speaker**, we have lost too many lives on our roads, just because of poor driver habits, improperly walking on the roads or simply just being too careless with our own lives. Every one of us has a duty to protect the ultimate gift to mankind – our life.

## GO: Town Centre Transformation Underway

**Madam Speaker**, we have launched the revitalisation of our town centres under the GO initiative beginning in Barbican and Half-Way Tree, with 10 more town centres scheduled for upgrade this year. These improvements include:

- Paving and resurfacing of key areas;
- Repaired and accessible sidewalks;
- Installation of safety barriers;
- Road markings and lighting, and
- Beautification and landscaping.



Half-Way Tree Transformation



Barbican Corridor Transformation



And now, we have gone a step further **Madam Speaker**. We have reached an agreement with the Jamaica Fire Brigade and National Solid Waste Management Authority (NSWMA) to carry out regular washing and cleaning of our town centres, ensuring they stay clean, safe, and welcoming for all. This is about restoring pride in our public spaces and delivering real improvements that citizens can feel.

**This is GO.** This is the NEXT CHAPTER. **#NestaWorks #GOingPlace**

### **SPARK: A \$45-Billion Game-Changer**



**SPARK - Orange Grove, St Andrew**



**REACH Programme - Beverly Hills, Road Repair**



Everest Drive, SPARK Launch

**Madam Speaker**, the **Shared Prosperity through Accelerated Improvement to Our Road Network (SPARK) Programme** is the single largest infrastructure investment in Jamaica's history.

With a \$45 billion commitment, we have issued four work orders to date, spanning 168 roads across all 63 constituencies. As of today, work has commenced on 78 of those roads. But SPARK is not about patching — it is about comprehensive, lasting upgrades.

SPARK covers main roads, community roads, retaining walls, sidewalks, drains, and water lines. Over \$5 billion is being spent on water pipeline upgrades alone, ensuring we coordinate infrastructure and minimise disruption.



**SPARK - Orange Grove Drainage Development**

SPARK will be organised under two (2) categories of Works, namely:

- a) Part A (Local and Community Roads Component), which focuses on straightforward road works, including road rehabilitation and reconstruction, repairs to longitudinal drains, and road markings. These activities primarily address surface distress, pavement strengthening in eroded areas, and reducing surface roughness. Additionally, reconstruction of inadequate drainage facilities and retaining walls, utilising standard designs, will be undertaken. Limited water infrastructure improvements may also be included in these works.
- b) Part B (NWA Main Roads Component) involves intricate tasks that encompass major road repairs, rehabilitation, and reconstruction. These tasks necessitate enhancements to geometrical and structural features, alongside the installation of drainage systems, water infrastructure improvements, fibre optic ducts, and road markings & signage. This will see approximately 65 main roads being repaired.

We are also laying the groundwork for Jamaica's digital transformation. Fibre optic ducts are being embedded alongside some roadworks. That's long-term vision — that's **READY**.

SPARK is revolutionising our infrastructure **Madam Speaker**, modernising road networks to enhance road safety, reducing travel times, and lowering vehicle operating costs. This initiative will enhance economic efficiency, enhance Jamaica's tourism appeal, and create employment opportunities.

It is projected to generate 13,000 direct jobs during construction while delivering an estimated US\$1.3 billion in savings from vehicle cost reductions, enhanced service accessibility, and strengthened community connectivity.

**Madam Speaker**, I want to quickly indicate that investment in capacity building to prepare the next generation of engineers, planners and project managers is being made possible through programmes such as SPARK. Apprenticeships, site exposure, and technical skill development are part of this package.

This is how we build a nation. This is the **STEADY** approach to our development. Jamaicans are allowed to gain hands-on experience in the construction and planning sectors. During this Financial Year, I will be working with the NWA and NROCC to enhance programmes geared at contributing to the sustainable development of our youth and, where possible, providing paid internships and apprenticeships in infrastructure-related fields. We are striving for innovative approaches, as we move into an ICT-driven era.

SPARK is making a tangible impact on real lives — residents are seeing, feeling, and benefiting from this investment in their daily lives.

**Madam Speaker**, this integrated approach to roadway rehabilitation is one that this Government has supported on all major road projects that it has undertaken to date. It is an approach that is taking us closer to strengthened infrastructure across the country. This type of development, done through road rehabilitation projects, will ensure that all sections of the island are equipped with the necessary infrastructure to support island-wide interconnectivity and access to utilities, information and communication technology.

Package No.	No. of Roads	Construction Commenced (April 15 <sup>th</sup> )	Construction Commenced (April 22 <sup>th</sup> )	Construction Commenced (April 28 <sup>th</sup> )	Construction Commenced (May 27 <sup>th</sup> )	New Construction
1	46	8	9	12	21	9
2	45	14	16	16	26	10
3	40	2	3	4	13	9
4	37	0	4	6	18	12
Total	168	24	32	38	78	40

**Since last month : 40 roads have started**

**Constituency Total: 63/63**

**Until May 19<sup>th</sup>:**

**78 roads had started**

**ALL 63 constituencies has active construction.**

## 2.0 Status of Package 1



Package	Parish	Constituency	MP	Road	Sub Contractor	Work Order	Start Date	Completion Date	Comment
1	Kingston	Kingston East and Port Royal	Phillip Paulwell	Everest Drive	OHEC	1	29/Dec/24	12/Feb/25	
1	St.Andrew	St.Andrew North Central	Karl Samuda	Orange Grove Road	OHEC	1	25/Feb/25	11/Apr/25	
1	St.Andrew	St.Andrew North Eastern	Delroy Chuck	Richings Avenue	OHEC	1	27/Feb/25	13/Apr/25	
1	Kingston	Kingston Western	Desmond McKenzie	New North Street, from Kings Street to Crab Ground	OZARO	1	04/Mar/25	18/Apr/25	
1	St.Andrew	St.Andrew Eastern	Fayval Williams	Doherty Drive	OHEC	1	04/Mar/25	18/Apr/25	
1	Kingston	Kingston East and Port Royal	Phillip Paulwell	Bellevue Avenue	OZARO	1	13/Apr/25	28/May/25	
1	St.Andrew	St.Andrew East Rural	Juliet Holness	Bayview Retreat Drive	OHEC	1	22/Apr/25	06/Jun/25	
1	St. Andrew	St. Andrew Western	Anthony Hylton	Mansfield Avenue, Washington Gardens	OHEC	2	22/Apr/25	06/Jun/25	
1	St. Andrew	St. Andrew Southern	Mark Golding	Torrington Park	OHEC	2	24/Apr/25	08/Jun/25	
1	Kingston	Kingston Western	Desmond McKenzie	Bustamante Highway	OZARO	1	28/Apr/25	12/Jun/25	
1	St.Andrew	St.Andrew East Rural	Juliet Holness	Passion Gardens (Toby Gully) both left and right return off	ROADLINK Construction	1	28/Apr/25	12/Jun/25	
1	St.Andrew	St.Andrew North Central	Karl Samuda	Upper Aries	Gibraltar Construction	1	28/Apr/25	12/Jun/25	
1	Kingston	Kingston Central	Donovan Williams	Lincoln Terrace	OZARO	2	28/Apr/25	12/Jun/25	
1	St. Thomas	St. Thomas Eastern	Michelle Charles	Phillips Field Road New Pera	OHEC	3	30/Apr/25	14/Jun/25	Awaiting updated design.
1	St. Thomas	St. Thomas Western	James Robertson	Ridge to White Hall (Pipeline Installation Required)	OHEC	3	12/May/25	26/Jun/25	Awaiting pipeline design
1	St. Andrew	St. Andrew West Rural	Juliet Cuthbert - Flynn	Blue Mountain Road	OZARO	2	12/May/25	26/Jun/25	
1	St. Andrew	St. Andrew East Central	Peter Phillips	East Road	OHEC	2	12/May/25	26/Jun/25	
1	St. Andrew	St. Andrew South Western	Angela Brown Burke	Harvey Road	OHEC	2	13/May/25	27/Jun/25	
1	St. Andrew	St. Andrew South Eastern	Julian Robinson	Cleveden	OZARO	2	13/May/25	27/Jun/25	
1	St.Andrew	St.Andrew East Rural	Juliet Holness	Middleton (Settlement)	OZARO	4	15/May/25	29/Jun/25	Awaiting updated design.
1	St. Andrew	St. Andrew Western Central	Andrew Holness	Woodpecker Avenue	OHEC	3	19/May/25	30/Jun/25	
1	St. Andrew	St. Andrew North Western	Duane Smith	Addington Drive	OZARO	3	19/May/25	30/Jun/25	No Sketch Plan

**Construction Commenced (21/22)**  
**Percentage of Constituencies (17/17)**

**Ongoing follow up on Middleton's design (the 3rd road in the constituency)**

## 2.0 Status of Package 3



Package	Parish	Constituency	MP	Road	Sub Contractor	Work Order	Start Date	Completion Date
3	St.Elizabeth	St.Elizabeth South Western	Floyd Green	School House to Dillingent (Pipeline Installation Required)	OHEC	1	28/Mar/25	12/May/25
3	St.Elizabeth	St.Elizabeth North Western	William James Hutchinson	Holland Village (Pipeline Installation Required)	OHEC	1	14/Apr/25	29/May/25
3	St.Elizabeth	St.Elizabeth South Eastern	Franklin Witter	Gayle Town	OHEC	1	22/Apr/25	06/Jun/25
3	St.Elizabeth	St.Elizabeth North Eastern	Delroy Slowley	Brighton	OHEC	1	23/Apr/25	07/Jun/25
3	Manchester	Manchester North Western	Mikael Phillips	Evergreen	OHEC	1	28/Apr/25	12/Jun/25
3	Manchester	Manchester Central	Rhoda Crawford	Barnstaple	OHEC	1	30/Apr/25	14/Jun/25
3	Manchester	Manchester North Eastern	Audley Shaw	Lyn's Avenue	OHEC	2	07/May/25	21/Jun/25
3	Hanover	Hanover Western	Tamika Davis	Malcolm Heights	RHESHAN	2	12/May/25	26/Jun/25
3	Manchester	Manchester Southern	Robert Chin	Smithfield Road	OHEC	2	12/May/25	26/Jun/25
3	Westmoreland	Westmoreland Central	George Wright	Welcome to Maxfield	RHESHAN	2	15/May/25	29/Jun/25
3	Hanover	Hanover Eastern	Dave Brown	Top Hill	SMITH Asphalt	2	15/May/25	29/Jun/25
3	Westmoreland	Westmoreland Eastern	Luther Buchanan	Gordon Road to Congress (Whitehouse Division)	RHESHAN	3	19/May/25	30/Jun/25
3	Westmoreland	Westmoreland Western	Morland Wilson	Blackness	RHESHAN	2	19/May/25	30/Jun/25

**Construction Commenced (13/13)**  
**Percentage of Constituencies (13/13)**

## 2.0 Status of Package 2



Package	Parish	Constituency	MP	Road	Sub Contractor	Work Order	Start Date	Completion Date
2	St.Catherine	St.Catherine South Eastern	Robert Miller	Mahoe Drive-Bridgeview	ALCAR Construction	1	07/Mar/25	21/Apr/25
2	St.Catherine	St.Catherine South Eastern	Robert Miller	Susan Ave -Edgewater	C-Link Construction Limited	1	07/Mar/25	21/Apr/25
2	St.Catherine	St.Catherine East Central	Allando Terrelonge	Ransford Close	OHEC	1	07/Mar/25	21/Apr/25
2	St.Catherine	St.Catherine East Central	Allando Terrelonge	Jasmine Close	OHEC	1	07/Mar/25	21/Apr/25
2	St.Catherine	St.Catherine South Central	Andrew Wheatley	Willowdene Drive (delayed by pipeline installation)	OHEC	1	07/Mar/25	21/Apr/25
2	St.Catherine	St.Catherine South Central	Andrew Wheatley	Arlington Road (Delayed by pipeline installation)	OHEC	1	07/Mar/25	21/Apr/25
2	St.Catherine	St.Catherine South Western	Clifford Warmington	Bullet Tree	OHEC	2	02/Apr/25	17/May/25
2	St.Catherine	St.Catherine Southern	Fitz Jackson	NE 15th Street 6E Greater Portmore	OHEC	2	02/Apr/25	17/May/25
2	St.Catherine	St.Catherine Southern	Fitz Jackson	NE 14th Street 6E Greater Portmore	ALCAR Construction	2	02/Apr/25	17/May/25
2	St.Catherine	St.Catherine South Western	Clifford Warmington	South Street	OHEC	2	03/Apr/25	18/May/25
2	St.Catherine	St. Catherine North Eastern	Kerensia Morrison	Lodge (Top Mountain)	MJS CONSTRUCTION PROJECT SERVICES & TRADING	2	06/Apr/25	21/May/25
2	St.Catherine	St. Catherine North Eastern	Kerensia Morrison	Mountain Pass	MATCON CONSTRUCTION SYSTEMS LIMITED	2	06/Apr/25	21/May/25
2	St.Catherine	St.Catherine Eastern	Joyce Daley	New Nursery	OHEC	1	07/Apr/25	22/May/25
2	St.Catherine	St.Catherine Eastern	Joyce Daley	Jones Avenue	OHEC	1	07/Apr/25	22/May/25
2	Clarendon	Clarendon Northern	Dwight Sibbles	Dann Road	SB&G Road Surfacing Materials Ltd.	2	15/Apr/25	30/May/25
2	Clarendon	Clarendon North Central	Robert Morgan	Stewarton	OHEC	2	17/Apr/25	01/Jun/25
2	Clarendon	Clarendon North Central	Robert Morgan	Gold Ring Hill	OHEC	2	05/May/25	19/Jun/25
2	Clarendon	Clarendon Northern	Dwight Sibbles	Mosquito Road	OHEC	2	05/May/25	19/Jun/25
2	Clarendon	Clarendon North Western	Phillip Henriques	Orange Hill Road	SB&G Road Surfacing Materials Ltd.	3	12/May/25	26/Jun/25
2	Clarendon	Clarendon Central	Lester Henry	Inglewood Drive (Pipeline Installation Required)	SB&G Road Surfacing Materials Ltd.	3	15/May/25	26/Jun/25
2	St.Catherine	St.Catherine North Central	Natalie Naita	Benneth Lane to Cedar Valley	OHEC	3	15/May/25	29/Jun/25
2	St.Catherine	St.Catherine Central	Olivia Grange	Prince Avenue (Pipeline Installation Required)	OHEC	3	16/May/25	30/Jun/25
2	St.Catherine	St.Catherine North Western	Hugh Graham	Tucker Road (Pipeline Installation Required)	OHEC	3	19/May/25	30/Jun/25
2	Clarendon	Clarendon South Western	Lothan Cousins	York Circle	SB&G Road Surfacing Materials Ltd.	3	19/May/25	30/Jun/25
2	St.Catherine	St.Catherine West Central	Christopher Tufton	Mount Pleasant Road (Pipeline Installation Required)	OHEC	3	19/May/25	30/Jun/25
2	Clarendon	Clarendon South Eastern	Pearnel Charles Jr.	Bottom Halse Hall to Top Halse Hall	SB&G Road Surfacing Materials Ltd.	2	19/May/25	30/Jun/25

Construction Commenced (26/26)

Percentage of Constituencies(17/17)

## 2.0 Status of Package 4



Package	Parish	Constituency	MP	Road	Sub Contractor	Work Order	Start Date	Completion Date
4	St.Mary	St.Mary Central	Morais Guy	Kilancholy (Pipeline Installation Required)	OHEC	1	22/Apr/25	06/Jun/25
4	St. Mary	St. Mary Western	Robert Montaque	Jacks River to Eden Hill	OHEC	2	22/Apr/25	06/Jun/25
4	St. James	St. James North Western	Horace Chang	Legs Lane (Off Seaview)	OHEC	3	22/Apr/25	06/Jun/25
4	St. James	St. James North Western	Horace Chang	Kodac Street	OHEC	3	24/Apr/25	08/Jun/25
4	Portland	Portland Western	Daryl Vaz	Caenwood Road	High Rolla Trucking Limited	1	28/Apr/25	12/Jun/25
4	Portland	Portland Western	Daryl Vaz	Black Hill-Rodney Hall-White Gate	High Rolla Trucking Limited	1	28/Apr/25	12/Jun/25
4	Trelawny	Trelawny Northern	Tova Hamilton	Church Street to Gravel Hill	DW Construction	1	05/May/25	19/Jun/25
4	Trelawny	Trelawny Southern	Marisa Dalrymple - Philibert	Penn Road to Stettin	DW Construction	1	05/May/25	19/Jun/25
4	St. James	St. James Western Central	Mariene Malahoo Forte	Riverside Drive, Phase 2, Retirement	OHEC	3	05/May/25	19/Jun/25
4	Portland	Portland Eastern	Ann-Marie Vaz	Islington Road	High Rolla Trucking Limited	1	05/May/25	19/Jun/25
4	St. James	St. James East Central	Edmund Bartlett	Greenwood Avenue	OHEC	3	09/May/25	23/Jun/25
4	St. James	St. James Central	Heroy Clarke	Unity Crescent	OHEC	3	09/May/25	23/Jun/25
4	St. Ann	St. Ann South Western	Zavia Mayne	Clarksonville to Cedar Valley	OHEC	3	09/May/25	23/Jun/25
4	St. Ann	St. Ann North Western	Krystal Lee	Addison Park to Kensington	OHEC	3	09/May/25	23/Jun/25
4	St. Mary	St. Mary South Eastern	Norman Dunn	Belfield Pen Road	OHEC	2	13/May/25	27/Jun/25
4	St. James	St. James Southern	Homer Davis	Brissett Road, Cambridge	OHEC	3	15/May/25	29/Jun/25
4	St. Ann	St. Ann South Eastern	Lisa Hanna	Cottage to Woodfield	OHEC	3	19/May/25	30/Jun/25
4	St. Ann	St. Ann North Eastern	Matthew Samuda	Paradise Street	OHEC	3	19/May/25	30/Jun/25

Construction Commenced (18/18)

Percentage of Constituencies (16/16)

## Supporting Local Contractors and Subcontractors: Building Capacity and Ownership

Under the SPARK programme alone, **23 local subcontractors** have already been engaged across more than 20 constituencies. From **ALCAR Construction** in St. Catherine to **High Rolla Trucking** in Portland and **RHESHAN** in Hanover, these companies represent Jamaican skill, talent, and reliability.

**Madam Speaker**, these firms are delivering work on critical road corridors such as:

- **Mahoe Drive – Bridgeview** and Susan Avenue – Edgewater in St. Catherine
- **Passion Gardens** – Toby Gully in St. Andrew East Rural
- **Church Street to Gravel Hill** in Trelawny Northern
- **Bellevue Road** in Eastern Portland
- **Orange Hill Road** and **Bottom Halse Hall – Top Halse Hall** in Clarendon
- **Welcome to Maxfield** in Westmoreland

Each contractor, graded and approved by the Public Procurement Commission, is playing a vital role in executing projects efficiently and professionally.

Constituency	MP	Road	Proposed Sub Contractor	PPC Grade
St.Catherine South Eastern	Robert Miller	Mahoe Drive-Bridgeview	ALCAR Construction	1
St.Catherine South Eastern	Robert Miller	Susan Ave.-Edgewater	C-Link Construction Limited	2
St.Catherine Southern	Fitz Jackson	NE 14th Street 6E Greater Portmore	ALCAR Construction	1
St. Catherine North Eastern	Kerensia Morrison	Lodge (Top Mountain)	M.J'S CONSTRUCTION PROJECT SERVICES & TRADING	3
St. Catherine North Eastern	Kerensia Morrison	Mountain Pass	MATCON CONSTRUCTION SYSTEMS LIMITED	1
Clarendon Northern	Dwight Sibbles	Damn Road	S&G Road Surfacing Materials Ltd.	1
St.Andrew East Rural	Juliet Holness	Passion Gardens(Toby Gully)both left and right return off	ROADLINK Construction	2
St.Andrew North Central	Karl Samuda	Upper Aries	Gibraltar Construction	2
Portland Western	Daryl Vaz	Caenwood Road	High Rolla Trucking Limited	3
Portland Western	Daryl Vaz	Black Hill-Rodney Hall-White Gate	High Rolla Trucking Limited	3
Trelawny Northern	Tova Hamilton	Church Street to Gravel Hill	OW Construction	2
Trelawny Southern	Marisa Dairymple - Philibert	Penn Road to Stettin	OW Construction	2
Portland Eastern	Ann-Marie Vaz	Islington Road	High Rolla Trucking Limited	3
Clarendon North Western	Phillip Henriques	Orange Hill Road	S&G Road Surfacing Materials Ltd.	1
Hanover Western	Tamika Davis	Malcolm Heights	RHESHAN	1
Clarendon Central	Lester Henry	Inglewood Drive	S&G Road Surfacing Materials Ltd.	1
Westmoreland Central	George Wright	Welcome to Maxfield	RHESHAN	1
Hanover Eastern	Dave Brown	Top Hill	RHESHAN	1
Clarendon South Western	Lothan Cousins	York Circle	S&G Road Surfacing Materials Ltd.	1
Westmoreland Eastern	Luther Buchanan	Gordon Road to Congress (Whitehouse Division)	RHESHAN	1
Westmoreland Western	Morland Wilson	Blackness	RHESHAN	1
Clarendon South Eastern	Pearnel Charles Jr.	Bottom Halse Hall to Top Halse Hall	S&G Road Surfacing Materials Ltd.	1
Portland Eastern	Ann-Marie Vaz	Bellevue Road	High Rolla Trucking Limited	3

• **23 Local Sub-Contractors engaged to date.**

**Madam Speaker**, it is now one year since I was given the responsibility as Minister with Responsibility for Work.

Since March of 2024 to March 2025, this government has spent J\$8.7 billion on local contractors, including:

- J\$900 million on pre-Beryl preparation
- J\$1.5 billion on immediate Beryl recovery

- J\$3 billion on REACH Road Repair
- J\$2 billion on Reach Emergency

Recently awarded contracts to local contractors include:

- J\$90.7 million for the rehabilitation works to be carried out span approximately 6 km along a critical arterial corridor in St. Ann, which connects communities such as Battersea, John Reid, and the surrounding rural farming settlements.
- Contract for the construction of a retaining wall in Halls Delight (Breakaway 3), St. Andrew for J\$95.1 million.
- Contract by the NWA for J\$110.9 million for the construction of a retaining wall in Halls Delight (Breakaway 2), St. Andrew.
- J\$2.4 billion for the dualisation of Braeton to part of Hellshire Main Road (Naggo Head to Greater Portmore turnoff) in Portmore, St. Catherine.

**Madam Speaker**, this is a small number of contracts that have been recently allocated to local contractors.

Additionally, over the last 18-month period (October 1, 2023, to March 31, 2025), which spans the 2023 - 2024 and 2024 - 2025 Financial Years, contracts totalling \$12.9 billion for recurrent expenditure have been awarded. Of that amount, J\$11 billion has been paid out to date.

No transformation is complete unless it builds our people and supports our businesses, **Madam Speaker**. That is why we have made it a priority to ensure that **local subcontractors** are actively engaged in all our significant programmes — SPARK, REACH, and our broader infrastructure investments.

From Portland to Westmoreland, from Clarendon to St. James, we have engaged dozens of Jamaican subcontractors — small and medium enterprises that employ Jamaicans, circulate income locally, and build grassroots expertise.

**Madam Speaker**, this is how we build local capacity. This is how we nurture the next generation of engineers, masons, equipment operators, and entrepreneurs. A young contractor from North St. Catherine recently said to me, "Minister, this is the first time my company got a Government contract — and we're proving we can deliver." That, **Madam Speaker**, is what inclusion and empowerment looks like.

This Government believes in shared prosperity — not just in words, but in contracts, in cash flow, and in concrete.

## CONCLUSION

**Madam Speaker,**

This Government does not merely build roads — we build the resolve of a nation.  
 We are not here to patch over the past. We are here to pave the future.  
 Every mile of asphalt we lay is a mile of ambition made real.  
 Every bridge we build is a bond of trust restored between the government and the people.  
 We don't just cross rivers — we build bridges to prosperity.  
 We don't just pour concrete — we pour hope into the veins of forgotten communities.  
 We are not in the business of delay or denial — we are in the business of delivery.

From the SPARK that ignites progress, to the REACH that extends help to every corner of this island, we are writing Jamaica's **NEXT Chapter** with purpose, precision, pride and integrity.

From Negril to Morant Bay...

From Ocho Rios to Portland Cottage

We are transforming not only where Jamaicans walk and drive, but also how Jamaicans live, move, and dream.

Let the naysayers focus on problems. We focus on progress.

Let them point fingers — we point forward.

Let them doubt — while we deliver.

We have faced hurricanes, floods, landslides, and the weight of decades of neglect—but still, we build.  
 Not with excuses. Not with delay.

But with courage, capital, competence — and commitment.

Because when we say **READY**, we are not testing the waters — we are mobilising.

When we say **STEADY**, we are not standing still — we are setting our foundation.

And when we say **GO**, we go together — boldly, bravely, and without apology.

This is not just infrastructure.

This is not just policy.

This is a movement to modernise Jamaica.

To connect every parish. To include every citizen. To leave no community behind.

**Madam Speaker,**

We stand here with steel in our backbone, plans in our hand, and people in our hearts.

We will not retreat. We will not waver. We will not stop until the Jamaica we know is possible becomes the Jamaica we live in.

This is the mission. This is the movement. This is the moment.

This is **READY**. This is **STEADY**. This is a **GO**.

**Thank you, Madam Speaker.**

