

Fook, Alana Kimlin

From: Alwin Hales <ahales@mtw.gov.jm>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 1:46 PM
To: IDBJamaica
Cc: Fook, Alana Kimlin; Persaud, Christopher; Janine Dawkins
Subject: Continued Interest in Accessing Grant Funding through the IDB

Dear Mrs. Turner-Jones:

I am writing further to a letter dated December 14, [2018](#) from the Financial Secretary to you, in which grant funding was sought to assist with the updating of the National Transport Policy and the development and execution of a feasibility study for the use of Electric Vehicles (EVs) in the public transportation fleet and for general use.

Please be advised that the Ministry has made some progress in the review of the National Transport Policy, and we are therefore still interested in accessing the funding previously requested. It should, however, be noted that it would instead be used to:

1. Fund a Travel Demand Study which would be an input to the revised National Transport Policy and other data driven policy decisions; and
2. Create the enabling environment for electronic enforcement with a view to improving road safety with the use of technology.

Given the nature of the technical assistance, our preference is that the IDB execute the project and procure the necessary consultancy and technical expertise on our behalf. The Ministry would actively work with the IDB and the Consultant to ensure that the deliverables are in line with our expectations and needs.

Regards

Alwin L. Hales, PhD, JP
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Transport and Mining
138H Maxfield Avenue
Kingston 10



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* Ethics and Integrity * Professionalism * Team Work * Accountability * Customer
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Telephone No. 92-28600-16
Website: <http://www.mof.gov.jm>
Email: info@mof.gov.jm

MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE
30 NATIONAL HEROES CIRCLE
P.O. BOX 512
KINGSTON
JAMAICA

December 14, 2018

Mrs. Therese Turner-Jones
General Manager
Country Department, Caribbean Group
Inter-American Development Bank
6 Montrose Road
Kingston 6

Dear Mrs. Turner-Jones,

**Re: Request for Support from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) Support to
Promote a More Sustainable Transportation Sector in Jamaica**

Currently, approximately thirty (30%) of Jamaica's fossil fuel imports is consumed by the Transportation Sector, the highest of any other sector in Jamaica. This makes the Transportation Sector an ideal target for intervention to lower Jamaica's dependence on imported fossil fuels, reduce the associated macroeconomic impacts of price fluctuations, save additional foreign exchange and reduce Green House Gas (GHG) emissions contributed by the Sector.

The Jamaica Vision 2030 Transport Sector Plan (2009-2030) has identified the development of a sustainable transportation system, capable of moving people, goods and information in ways that reduce the impact on the environment, the economy and society. For the Ministry of Transport and Mining (MTM) to achieve this objective a number of complementary and co-ordinated efforts would need to be undertaken, such as promoting more energy-efficient transport modes, improving the availability and attractiveness of public transportation options, using cleaner fuels and technologies and utilizing information and communication technologies with an emphasis on spatial planning to reduce the need for physical travel.

As the number of vehicles on Jamaica's roadways continues to grow, citizens' mobility and convenience are enhanced, but the economic and environmental costs of importing, maintaining, and fuelling this growing fleet of vehicles pose long term challenges to sustainability, whilst also exacerbating the already grave and widespread problem of congestion in urban areas. As such, a sound, accessible, affordable and efficient public transportation system that uses cleaner fuel more efficiently must be a key pillar in the development of Jamaica's road transportation system if it is to be sustainable over the long term.

Following the meeting held in October 2018 at the offices of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) on the topic of "Aligning Jamaica with the Future of Electric Mobility: Driving the Transition to Sustainable Energy and Transport", the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service (MOFPS) on behalf of the Government of Jamaica (GOJ) is requesting Technical Cooperation (TC) funding in the amount of **Two Hundred and Fifty-Thousand United States Dollars (US\$250,000)** from the IDB to:

- (i) Update the 2007 National Transport Policy to improve the sustainability of the overall land transportation system as well as address a number of its main challenges, including traffic management, road safety and improved use of information for planning, among others; and

- (ii) Scope, design and implement a detailed study to assess the feasibility of using electric vehicles (EVs) in Jamaica's public transit bus system as well as to develop a national plan to accommodate EVs more generally. This will build on work already started by the GOJ (through the Ministries with responsibilities for Transport, Energy and Climate Change) in collaboration with other development partners such as the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) by way of the Caribbean Clean Energy Program (CARCEP) and other private sector actors. Additionally, by collecting data on the performance, operating costs and requirements of EVs in the public transportation system usage case, it will allow the state owned public transportation company, the Jamaica Urban Transit Company (JUTC) to make informed decisions on fleet replacement investments in the coming years.

The IDB has already contributed to efforts to understand and evaluate opportunities to diversify Jamaica's fuel mix, most recently through a TC to the Ministry of Science, Energy and Technology/Petroleum Corporation of Jamaica (MSET/PCJ) to study the feasibility of switching from diesel to gas based fuels for JUTC buses and support to MSET for energy planning and coordination.

In light of the above and the benefits to be derived by Jamaica's Transportation Sector, the GOJ stands ready to collaborate with the Bank on this critical initiative and anticipates the Bank's positive consideration of this request for TC assistance.

Yours sincerely,



Trevor Anderson (Mr.)
for Financial Secretary