



PORT OF SPAIN CORPORATION

CITY MANAGEMENT

WHO WE ARE

- ❖ A local government organisation
- ❖ One of 14 Municipal Corporations
- ❖ Governed by the Municipal Corporations Act 2504 of 1990 which identifies the functions and/or responsibilities
- ❖ **Summary Statement of Functions:**

We are mandated to provide goods and services to improve the quality of life of burgesses or residents and visitors to the city.

OUR FUNCTIONS

- ❖ Sanitation
- ❖ Public Health
- ❖ Infrastructure development and maintenance
- ❖ Operation of markets (Central Market and St. James Market), abattoir, cemeteries (Woodbrook, Western and Lapeyrouse) and cinerary
- ❖ Collection of taxes. House Rates and Land Rents. House Rates discontinued since 2010

OUR FUNCTIONS

- ❖ Processing of administrative matters. * Leases, Consents, Change of ownership – cemetery plots
- ❖ Building Development/Management (Approvals, monitoring of consultation)
- ❖ Policing
- ❖ Disaster Management Unit

FACTS ABOUT PORT OF SPAIN

- ❖ Capital city of the twin island Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
- ❖ Size – Approximately 4 square miles or 10.4 km²
- ❖ Declining residential population (approximate figures):
1990 – 59,000; 2000 – 49,000; - and 2010 – 37,000
- ❖ Largest Transient Population – approximately 250,000 persons daily

FACTS ABOUT PORT OF SPAIN

- ❖ Administrative Boundaries: **East** – encompassing Belmont, Gonzales, East Dry River, and Sea Lots; **West** –from the Western Main Road at Cocorite Terrace into Long Circular Road around Queen’s Park Savannah in the north to the Lady Young Road to a point below the Trinidad Hilton; **North** – foothills of the northern range; and **South** – the Gulf of Paria

OUR CHALLENGES

- ❖ Sanitation
- ❖ Security and Safety
- ❖ Traffic
- ❖ Green Spaces
- ❖ Flooding
- ❖ Illegal Vending

SANITATION

- ❖ Disposal of garbage by burgesses receiving a house to house pick up outside of the collection time leads to the homeless or dogs bursting bags
- ❖ Indiscriminate dumping of garbage, white waste and building material
- ❖ Littering of public spaces – streets, parks and squares

SANITATION

- ❖ Homeless doing their bodily functions on some streets
- ❖ Illegal street vending leaves the city streets in a mess after the activity
- ❖ Accumulation of white waste and or building material on private premises leading to breeding of mosquitoes and harbouring of rodents

SECURITY AND SAFETY

- ❖ Crime in East Port of Spain impacting the delivery of goods and services by employees and contractors of the Port of Spain Corporation
- ❖ Need for a serious response to Disaster Prevention, especially flooding
- ❖ Uneven and broken or cracked sidewalk surfaces resulting in high incidences of public liability claims

SECURITY AND SAFETY

- ❖ Narrow sidewalks cluttered with light and telephone poles, fire hydrants, trees in some areas and illegal vendors create a barrier to the disabled.
- ❖ Sidewalks without the gradient to allow for access by the physically and visually impaired on and off pavements
- ❖ Inaccessible and unfriendly spaces in public buildings and facilities for the physically and visually impaired

TRAFFIC CONGESTION

- ❖ Impacted by large transient population (workers and visitors)
- ❖ Vehicular parking especially on narrow streets reduces lanes and/or may impede the flow of traffic
- ❖ Impacted by street vending which reduces lanes or results in slowing the flow of traffic by persons stopping to purchase items from vendors

GREEN SPACES

- ❖ Need for beautification of parks and squares
- ❖ Littering
- ❖ Invasion by the homeless
- ❖ Vandalism
- ❖ Lack of security

MANAGING THE CHALLENGES

SANITATION

- ❖ An education campaign to address the issues of littering and indiscriminate dumping and the specific issue of adhering to the collection of garbage schedules (Miking and involvement of members of council in East Port of Spain)
- ❖ Enforcement through increased patrols by Litter Prevention Wardens on the city's streets and dumping sites, in addition to the installation of cameras in the vicinity of dump site.
- ❖ To look at approaches used in other cities experiencing a similar challenge to determine applicability and get stakeholder buy-in.

MANAGING THE CHALLENGES

SANITATION

- ❖ Placement of bins at strategic positions
- ❖ Daily washing disinfecting of streets due the prevalence of the homeless
- ❖ Regularisation of street vendors would result in contracts being issued with condition included for cleaning and consequences attached
- ❖ Ensure continuous monitoring for source reduction of mosquitoes and rodents on private premises

MANAGING THE CHALLENGES

SECURITY AND SAFETY

- ❖ A consultation hosted by the Corporation involving TTPS, community groups, Village Councils and other agencies operating in East Port of Spain to develop an approach to provide goods and services to burgesses
- ❖ To provide safe and secure working conditions for divisions located in high risk areas (East Port of Spain)

MANAGING THE CHALLENGES

SECURITY AND SAFETY

- ❖ A seminar hosted by the Corporation in collaboration with a recognised educational institution targeting organisations, associations and schools in the city on disaster prevention measures, including the egress plan.
- ❖ Recognition for organisations, associations, and schools based on set criteria

MANAGING THE CHALLENGES

TRAFFIC CONGESTION

- ❖ Implementation of a Park and Ride system to reduce the number of vehicles coming into the Central Business District
- ❖ Implementation of a Paid Parking system on the city's streets (Bye-laws have been drafted)
- ❖ Continued regularising of street vending in the city would control the number of street vendors and reduce purchases made from vehicles

MANAGING THE CHALLENGES

GREEN SPACES

- ❖ Develop a plan for beautification and/or landscaping of the city's green spaces and engage private sector organisations to fund the project in exchange for advertising
- ❖ Implement a system of park wardens to reduce invasion by the homeless and to address the issue of littering
- ❖ Implement a system of continuous cleaning

MANAGING THE CHALLENGES

HOMELESSNESS

- ❖ Although not a local government function, the Corporation will facilitate the discussion among stakeholders for the desired solution
- ❖ A representative from the Ministry of the People and Social Development to attend the Regional Coordinating Committee, which focuses on issues in the city under the purview of other agencies.

MANAGING THE CHALLENGES

BARRIERS TO THE DISABLED

- ❖ Using a participatory approach, develop a plan for the city's sidewalks and streets to accommodate access to the city by the disabled
- ❖ In the short term, to take corrective action to mitigate irritants and reduce the danger posed to the disabled and abled
 - utilities liaison and coordination with agencies with various utilities for restoration of City sidewalks

SUMMARY

- ❖ The Port of Spain Corporation remains committed to improving the quality of life and experience of burgesses and visitors to the city.
- ❖ This is dependent on adequate funding to undertake the activities to address the challenges facing the city.
- ❖ It also requires having the right amount and quality of human resources to be able to lead and manage the change.

THE END



ANY QUESTIONS

