

Carib Cement hands over \$5mn jogging trail to Mona Heights community

Company announces community competition for recreational spaces

(Saturday, October 27, 2018) Caribbean Cement Company Limited today announced that a community could win the prize of a project funded by the company in a competition to be launched in November. This was disclosed by Peter Donkersloot, General Manager of Carib Cement at the handing over ceremony of a jogging trail donated by Carib Cement in the Mona Heights Park in St. Andrew.

The cost of each project will be capped at \$5mn and entrants will be required to submit proposals that will facilitate recreation, exercise as well as spaces for children and the elderly. Examples of projects include: community centres, netball/basketball courts, playgrounds or jogging trails.

"We have made contributions to a number of communities and have seen the need for recreational spaces. We are creating an opportunity for any community across the country to improve its environment, by hosting a competition where citizens can compete for the prize of the development of a project that will allow residents to come together and enjoy the outdoors safely," Mr. Donkersloot said.

The concrete jogging trail which was donated to the Mona Heights community by Carib Cement is 370 metres long, costs just under \$5mn and was completed in September.

Speaking at the handing over ceremony, Fayval Williams, Member of Parliament for St. Andrew Eastern, in whose constituency Mona Heights is located, said the jogging trail project is part of a goal to develop as many green and recreational spaces as possible within the constituency.

"I believe governments have a duty to create and care for parks and other green spaces, not just leave that responsibility for community parks on the shoulders of the residents. That is why I have taken a keen interest in helping to upgrade parks across the constituency of St. Andrew, Easter, one park at a time. My goal is to have a park in every community and if not possible, to have one for each cluster of communities and have them as active parks with walking and running tracks, tennis courts, outdoor table tennis, basketball courts and outdoor gymns where possible," Minister Williams said.

Incorporated within the day's events were aerobics and exercise sessions held under the 'Jamaica Moves' banner and in which Dr. Christopher Tufton, Minister of Health participated. He reminded the audience of the importance of: daily exercise to adults and children, annual medical checkups, reducing consumption of sugar, maintaining healthy and balanced diet and avoiding harmful habits such as smoking cigarettes.

Mrs. Winsome Johns-Gayle, president of the Mona Heights Citizens' Association, expressed said the support of Carib Cement made possible, a goal which the community had been aiming to achieve for many years.

Present at the event were Parris Lyew-Ayee Snr, Chairman of Carib Cement, and Andrew Bellamy, Councilor of the Mona Division.

According to the 2011 Census of Population & Housing – Jamaica, there are 1891 households in Mona Heights.

Carib Cement has over the past three years contributed \$200 million dollars in community outreach initiatives, which have positively impacted more than 200,000 men, women, boys and girls across Jamaica.

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