



ADMINISTRATION CENTRE
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SOUTH TERMINAL
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REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

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May 15th 2018

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## Public Stakeholder Consultations will continue for the construction of

## **New Terminal at ANR Robinson International Airport**

On Monday May 14<sup>th</sup> 2018, the Tobago House of Assembly held a Public Consultation at the Rovanel's Resort in Tobago for stakeholders who may be affected by the land acquisition process to facilitate the construction of a new terminal and associated infrastructure at the ANR Robinson International Airport. The consultation provided a forum to inform land / property owners of the details of the plans for acquisition and construction and to begin the formal process for the registration of owners of land, residential or commercial properties in the identified area.

Representative for the Canaan/ Bon Accord Area and Secretary of Settlements, Urban Renewal and Public Utilities, Assemblyman Clarence Jacobs, in his opening remarks, pledged his commitment to ensuring that the process was "pressure cooked" to the satisfaction of all residents and stakeholders in the best interest of the advancement of Tobago.

A presentation was made by Mr. Patrick Drakes, project Consultant, showing the demarcation of the parcel of land that has been earmarked for acquisition. The land spans the area south of the Store Bay Local Road between Gaskin Bay Road on the east and Store Bay Feeder Road on the west. Mr. Drakes spoke of the need for the ANR Robinson International Airport to be fully compliant with International Civil Aviation Organization standards and recommended practices to facilitate large aircraft and the intention to provide modern airport facilities such as jet bridges and suitable spaces for concessionaires and passenger accommodation.

In his response to questions on the use of the current Terminal building, Mr Hayden Newton, General Manager of Airports Authority of Trinidad and Tobago ("the Authority"), indicated that the present facility would be used as the West Terminal Building, which will be repurposed to serve as an Executive Jet Centre for general aviation services and a space for expanded air cargo facilities. He spoke of the need to follow the pattern of other nations in the Caribbean region such as St Vincent and the Grenadines where the newly constructed Argyle International Airport is a major driver of their tourism thrust. Mr Newton believes that the development of a new terminal at the ANR Robinson International Airport can contribute to an increase in air service to Tobago; increased attractiveness to hotel investors; increased visitor arrivals; increased capacity of flights to and from Tobago and increased employment in the tourism sector.

Consultations will continue throughout this week for segmented groups of stakeholders. Members of the public would have the opportunity to ask questions to representatives from the Tobago House of Assembly and the Authority. Data collectors will be there to continue the formal registration process for land / property owners .

Meetings will continue for various categories of land / property owners and the schedule is as follows:-

LAND ONLY - Tuesday 15th May, 2018

RESIDENTIAL ONLY – Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2018

COMMERCIAL AND FARMING - Thursday 17th May, 2018

RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL - Friday 18th May, 2018

A telephone hotline has also been established for persons needing more information. One can contact customer service representative **Ms. Kia Greig at 635-2525** from Mondays to Fridays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or email questions to the email address <a href="mailto:newtobagoairport@gov.tt">newtobagoairport@gov.tt</a>.

The Authority is pleased to support the Tobago House of Assembly as it leads the land acquisition and public consultation process. The Authority continues to be dedicated to the enhancement of all airport facilities and committed to providing excellence in customer service for the benefit of all our valued customers, airport users, visitors and stakeholders.

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