

Caymanese Government selects Route B3 for East-West Arterial

August 13, 2024



The Cayman Islands Government has announced the selection of Route B3 as the preferred alignment for the East-West Arterial (EWA) project. The decision follows a comprehensive evaluation of four potential routes, with Route B3 demonstrating the optimal balance between infrastructure development and environmental protection.

A rigorous analysis, including a detailed Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA) and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), informed the government's decision. Key factors influencing the selection of Route B3 included:

- **Alignment with Long-Term Planning:** Route B3 aligns closely with the Cayman Islands' strategic infrastructure vision.
- **Environmental Responsibility:** The route minimizes impact on environmentally sensitive areas, including lands owned by the National Trust and critical parrot habitats.
- **Constructability:** Route B3 offers favorable conditions for construction, reducing project costs and timelines.
- **Lower Greenhouse Gas Emissions:** Despite being slightly longer, Route B3 results in lower greenhouse gas emissions per trip compared to Route B2.

Johany "Jay" Ebanks, Minister for Planning, Agriculture, Housing, Infrastructure, Transport, and Development, emphasized the significance of this decision: "The selection of Route B3 for the East-West Arterial project is a testament to our unwavering commitment to developing sustainable and efficient infrastructure. This choice reflects a careful balance between development, cost-effectiveness, and environmental responsibility. Route B3 not only aligns with our strategic goals but also ensures the

preservation of vital natural resources for future generations.”

The East-West Arterial project is a significant infrastructure investment aimed at improving transportation and quality of life in the Cayman Islands. The government remains committed to transparency and stakeholder engagement throughout the project’s development.

About the East-West Arterial Project

The East-West Arterial project is a major infrastructure initiative designed to improve connectivity and reduce traffic congestion in the Cayman Islands. The project will include the construction of a new road to connect the eastern and western districts of the island.

About the Ministry of Planning, Agriculture, Housing, Infrastructure, Transport & Development

The Ministry of Planning, Agriculture, Housing, Infrastructure, Transport, and Development is responsible for planning and implementing policies and programs related to the sustainable development of the Cayman Islands.