

The Clarendon Parish Council has come a long way since I became a member in March 1990. I recall those days when every representation or request made would be answered with a loud "no funds available". Whatever little funds came from the Ministry of Local Government would be spent directly by the Superintendent of Roads and Works and so councillors felt neglected and impotent.

All that time we were being told about the REFORM which was coming, which would make Councillors more autonomous. Then came April 1, 1997 when the Parochial Revenue Fund (PRF) was introduced. This made the Councillors feel as if they were now wanted and respected.

The PRF has been working to maintain our roads and drains and rehabilitate some which were thought to be beyond repair. However, a lot of citizens still think that more can be done with regards to the maintenance of our infrastructure in the parish.

I would love to see the day when all our roads and drainage systems will be totally upgraded and all we have to do is maintain them. My vision for our parish for 2030 is to also have all our verges and side-drains properly landscaped and covered with the approved lawn grass, which will prevent the overgrowth of bushes, thorns and other unsightly vegetation. These verges should be punctuated by flowers and fruit trees not only providing shade for our pedestrians, cyclists and travellers, but food for our poor unfortunates in the society.

My vision is to see adequate water supply systems for all our communities with pipelines being placed along the sides of our roadways, so as to prevent damage to our surfaces when making new connections. I would like to see our drains being channelled into huge soak-a-way pits situated around our water pumps and minor water supply sources so that our aquifers can be constantly recharged, which will help us to survive longer during our drought periods.

I could go on and on but will stop here for now. God bless you all and God bless Jamaica, land we love.

I am

Winston L. Maragh O.D.,J.P.
Minority Leader

Councillor, Rocky Point Division