

## PRESS RELEASE

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## **UPDATE: New Completion Date for Morant Bay Urban Centre**

The Morant Bay Urban Centre (MBUC) in St. Thomas is projected to be completed by December 2024.

Chairman of Factories Corporation of Jamaica Limited (FCJ), the Hon. Lyttleton 'Tanny' Shirley, made the disclosure during the Boundbrook Urban Centre Groundbreaking Ceremony in Portland on August 14, 2024.

The MBUC, which was initially scheduled for completion by September 2024, has been pushed back by 3 months.

"We experienced an issue with the impending relocation of the Jamaica Public Service (JPS) substation, which is located on the site. This caused the delay in construction activities," he explained.

Despite the delay, Mr. Shirley advised that the MBUC project is 70% complete and expressed enthusiasm about applying the lessons learnt to the Boundbrook Urban Centre.

"The Morant Bay Urban Centre project is the blueprint for what is happening here today...it has been very fulfilling to see where we started and where we are now, a project nearing completion."

The project is oversubscribed with 154% expressed interest. FCJ received applications from 108 small, medium and large businesses amounting to a demand of approximately 600,000 square feet. FCJ continues to accept applications for space to ensure that visitors to the Centre are provided with the total shopping experience.

The MBUC is a 28 acres development with a budget of \$6 billion. The 436,000 square feet project will accommodate over 50 public and private sector entities, setting a new standard for urban development across the island.

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