



**PROGRAMME FOR  
UPGRADING ROADS  
EFFICIENCY  
PROJECT OUTCOMES AND  
RESEARCH REPORT**



**BRIDGE B1/1 FREEPORT  
TODD'S ROAD**





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# BRIDGE B1/1 FREEPORT TODD'S ROAD

Bridge B1/1 Freeport Todd's Road is located in close proximity to the Freeport Todd's Road and Freeport Mission Road intersection in Freeport, Central Trinidad as shown in Figure 1 below. It is frequently traversed by residents, visitors and commuters since Todd's Road is the primary thoroughfare to and from the area. The previous bridge collapsed over 8 years ago due to major structural defects and a Bailey bridge was placed over the collapsed structure. However, the single lane bridge created safety issues and caused traffic especially during times when two nearby private schools are in session, causing a major inconvenience to road users. Additionally, the Bailey bridge had no provisions for pedestrian access creating a safety concern particularly for the students of the nearby schools.

To address these issues, the Ministry of Works and Transport, PURE Unit was mandated to perform rehabilitative works which comprised of the removal of the existing Bailey bridge, construction a new reinforced concrete structure, and drainage works. The project commenced in 2018 and was completed in July 2019. To ascertain the overall outcome and whether objectives were met, the Outcomes and Research Team of PURE administered surveys to and conducted interviews of residents and commuters, the results of which are presented below.

Figure 1. Project Location



Figure 2. Completed Works on Freeport Todd's Road Bridge



Figure 3. The Bailey bridge before the Construction of the Bridge B1/1 Freeport Todd's Road.



Figure 4. Bridge B1/1 Freeport Todd's Road during Construction.



Figure 5. Bridge B1/1 Freeport Todd's Road after Construction.



The objectives of Bridge B1/1 Freeport Todd's Road project were:

- To construct a new reinforced concrete structure
- To decrease traffic congestion within the Freeport Todd's Road area.
- To provide a safe passage way for pedestrians
- To contribute to the overall upgrade of the nation's infrastructure.

Figure 6. Aerial view Bridge B1/1 Freeport Todd's Road after Construction.





## PROJECT OUTCOMES AND RESEARCH

The Outcomes and Research Department of the PURE Unit conducted surveys with residents, visitors and business owners within the community after project completion. A total of eighty-one (81) individuals were surveyed with regards to this project.

The objectives of this survey were:

- to determine whether the project met its intended purpose
- to measure the overall customer satisfaction of the project
- to highlight the responses and/or views of the residents, visitors and business owners within the specified location
- to identify any residual issues

## EVALUATION OF RESULTS

A survey was conducted after the construction phase of the project using randomly selected pedestrians and commuters within the project limits. The Outcomes and Research Team found that 86% of the participants were not satisfied with the condition of the previous bridge before construction and as such, 99% of the participants agreed that the rehabilitation of the bridge was necessary. As illustrated in Figures 8 to 10, 47% expressed that rehabilitative works were necessary because the Bailey bridge only accommodated one way traffic flow; 41% conveyed that the bridge was in a dilapidated condition; and the remaining 12% stated that they felt unsafe crossing the bridge. However, after the completion of the B1/1 Freeport Todd's Road Bridge, a total of 95% of the participants conveyed that they strongly agree or agree that they feel safe crossing the reconstructed bridge as shown in Figure 10 below.

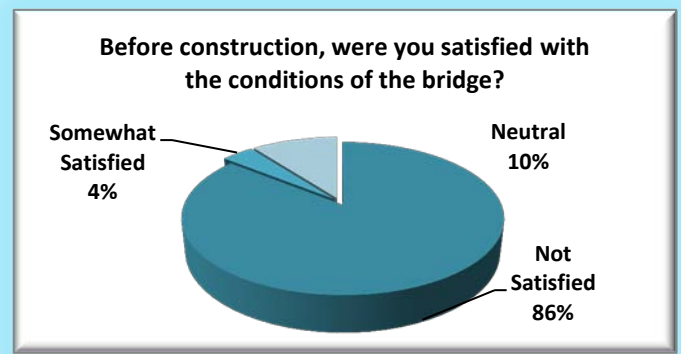


Figure 7. Satisfaction Level before Construction

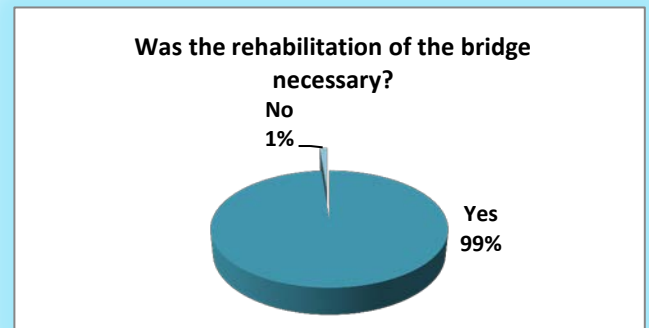


Figure 8. Necessity of Rehabilitation of the Bridge

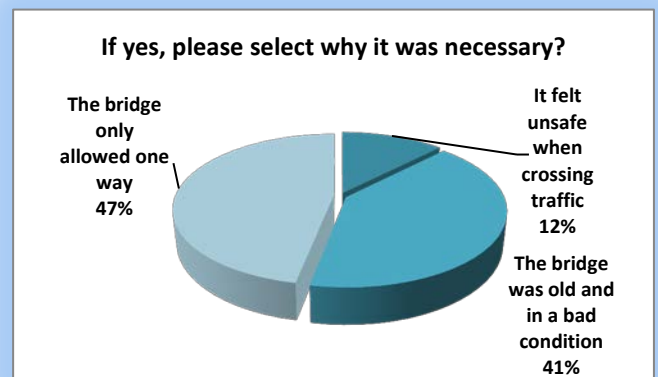


Figure 9. Reasons for Construction

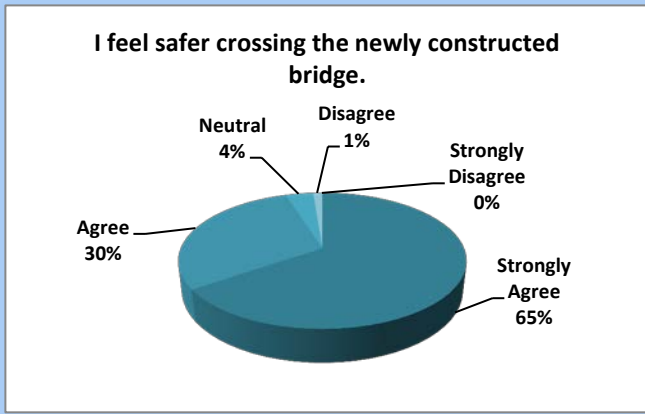


Figure 10. Safety of Bridge



Figure 11. Quality of Works

Also, as shown in Figure 11, a total of eighty-seven percent (87%) of the participants were either satisfied, mostly satisfied or somewhat satisfied with the quality of works done on the reconstructed bridge. The Outcomes and Research Team also questioned the participants whether or not they believed that the project benefitted the community, and the responses as shown in Figure 12 conveyed that 96% of respondents believed that it did benefit the community. As shown in Figure 13, the respondents indicated that the reconstructed bridge made it easier for them to arrive at their destinations, they now felt safer traversing as well as the reconstructed bridge accommodated dual lane traffic.

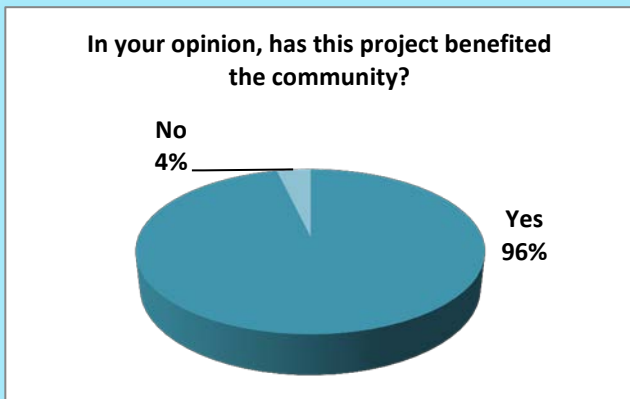


Figure 13. Community Benefits

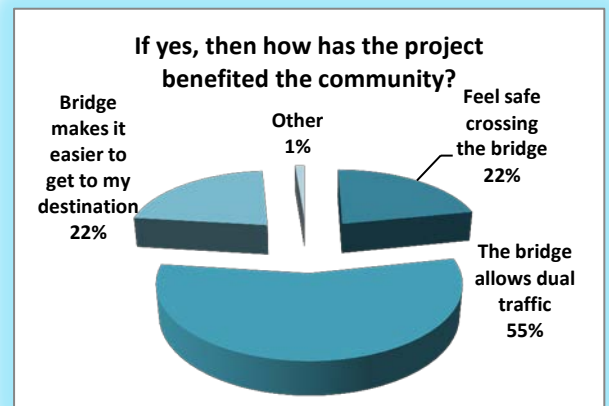


Figure 12. Reasons Why the Project Benefited the Community

The participants expressed that the old bridge only accommodated one-way traffic which resulted in extreme traffic congestion when traversing in and out of the area making their journey more time consuming. Therefore, this project benefited the community because it eliminated the aforementioned issue.

## CONCLUSION

In relation to the Freeport Todd's Bridge project, the project objectives mentioned in the onset of this report were met. The new reinforced concrete structure was constructed, traffic congestion within the Freeport Todd's Road area has decreased as the bridge now allows for dual way traffic, also pedestrians expressed that they feel safer traversing along the bridge. Moreover, the overall bridge rehabilitation project was a substantial development to the area, which in turn contributes to the overall upgrade of the nation's infrastructure.

The Freeport Todd's Bridge project aids in achieving the goals and vision of the Ministry of Works and Transport and at large the government of Trinidad and Tobago. According to the **Public Sector Investment Programme 2018 Report**, the government's aim is to "improve access, relieve traffic, open up economic spaces and provide ease of entry and egress for citizens within their communities." As such, the Freeport Todd's Bridge act as a gateway to achieve all of the above aforementioned. The Freeport Todd's Bridge not only contributes to this but it also aids in allowing the government of Trinidad and Tobago to make a step in the right direction in achieving its goal of improving productivity by providing quality infrastructure and transportation.