



# *Sophia Housing*

# *Development Programme*

Another Government of Guyana Initiative

Government has developed a \$1.5B programme for the regularization of occupancy, as well as, the provision of infrastructure for the entire Sophia area and will now be accelerating the pace of development. These areas are as follows:

Block X Liliendaal (Section A), Section B Pattensen, Section C Turkeyen, Section D Turkeyen, Section E Cummings Lodge (Cummings Park), Block E Sophia (Farmers Group), Bocks AA and BB Sophia Plum Park, Block F Sophia (North Sophia) and Area R North Sophia. The nine areas together comprise a total of 4,700 house lots with an estimated population of 25,000.

These areas are within Greater Georgetown and is the largest Squatter Settlement in the country.

### *Infrastructure development programme roads, drainage, drainage structures and bridges*

- For the following three areas Block X Liliendaal (Section A), Section B Pattensen and Section C Pattensen/Turkeyen the infrastructure works programme include: 36 miles of main and intermediate roads with DBST/SBST surface finish; 53 miles of primary and secondary drainage; 79 HDPE culverts and four concrete bridges.  
Works will commence last quarter 2004.
- For Section D Pattensen/Turkeyen and Section E Cummings Lodgs (Cummings Park) the programme of infrastructure works will include all roads, drainage and drainage structures and bridges.  
Work will commence first quarter of 2005
- For Blocks AA and BB (Plum Park) and Block E (Farmers group) additional works on roads, drainage and drainage structures are to be completed 2004/2005.
- For Block F (North Sophia) roads, drainage and drainage structures and bridges will commence by the end of 2004 and continue in 2005.
- For Block R (North Sophia), basic infrastructural works have been completed and upgrading works will be done in 2005.
- Block R Extension will be regularized to be included in the programme.

## *Electrification Programme*

Government will be implementing the Unserved Areas Electrification Programme by first quarter 2005 and the entire Sophia Housing Area will be provided with electricity in Phase 1 of the programme:

- Under this programme the residents will be required to pay a Beneficiary Contribution of G\$10,000 (exclusive of wiring of houses) and the remaining cost will be borne by the Government.
- To benefit from this programme, residents will be required to regularize their occupancy and complete payment for their lots.

## *Water Supply Improvement*

A programme for the improvement of water supply will be implemented and all areas will benefit from a complete water distribution network. Work will commence last quarter of 2004 and will include:

- Laying of approximately 6.9km of PVC pipelines.
- The installation of a main transmission line from the Eastern Highway to improve the supply and pressure of water.
- The construction of a water treatment plant in Sophia to ensure the supply of safe and treated potable water.

## *Education, Health and Institutional Facilities*

Government has been providing educational, social and institutional facilities for the benefit of residents of Sophia some of which are completed and others will commence later this year.

- Construction of a primary school at a cost of \$110M (Completed).

- Construction of a Police Station will commence in Section D Turkeyen by the Ministry of Home Affairs in 2004.
- The site for a Market Place has been identified at Section B Pattensen and works will commence in 2004
- Land for the construction of a GT&T Exchange has been provided by the Ministry of Housing and Water. This facility will enhance and improve telephone services to residents in the area.
- Construction of a Nursery School by the Ministry of Education will commence in 2004.
- A large playground to provide sports, social and recreational activities for the youths of Sophia has been developed.
- Construction of a Health Centre and Vocational Centre for the Disabled is nearing completion at Section B Pattensen and will be administered by the Ministry of Health.

## *Regularization Programme*

The regularization of the Sophia Housing Area is far advanced with thousands of occupants receiving letters of allocation for their house lots while hundreds of titles have already been issued providing security of tenure to the residents.



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