



Website: www.suntci.com

Email: sun@suntci.com

Tel: (649) 348-6838 Instagram - @suntci

www.facebook.com/tcisun

PDM SAYS PNP IS 'CLUELESS' ABOUT STOPPING ILLEGAL BOATS

Opposition Leader Edwin Astwood says the Progressive National Party (PNP) government seems "clueless" about stopping illegal boats, drugs and guns from coming into Turks and Caicos Islands

In a strongly-worded press statement, Astwood, the leader of the People's Democratic Movement (PDM) said that protecting the borders from the illegal movement of weapons, drugs, contraband, and people, while promoting lawful entry and exit, "is essential to our country, the Turks and Caicos Islands', security, economic prosperity, and national sovereignty".

He added: "The PNP government of the day seems to be clueless about how to tackle this problem. In the two years that they had come for the work, the country has seen no new plans, strategies, or methods for addressing the illegal movement of people, weapons, drugs, and contraband. On the contrary, we have seen an increase in illegal activities within our territorial waters."

Astwood said the PDM has been working on a very ambitious strategic plan for "Stopping the Sloops". This plan, he said, has a clearly defined vision and mission, with achievable objectives, adding that the strategy was developed with a new and innovative way of stopping and detecting illegal entry into the Turks and Caicos Islands. It employs a multisectoral multiagency approach using new and very promising tactics.

Continued on page - 2



Opposition Leader Edwin Astwood



New public beach access



Developers of the project, Fio Firat Mayil and John 'Brother Will' Williams.

ULTRA-MODERN PUBLIC BEACH ACCESS OPENS IN GRACE BAY

By Todeline Defralien

Beach-goers in Turks and Caicos Islands are now able to enjoy the best public beach access in the country.

The ultra-modern \$750,000 facility located between The Mansions and the Regent Grand in Grace Bay is now open and ready for public use.

The facility consists of an information office, public showers, accessible ramps for disabled, bicycle racks, public showers, restrooms for men and women and the disabled, foot wash station, a security booth, garbage disposals, extended seating on the deck and public parking.

Developers of the project, Fio Firat Mayil and John 'Brother Will' Williams, are elated that this project is completed.

In an interview with **The SUN**, Williams said this was a promised made and a promised kept.

"When we did this ground breaking we said that this would be one of the best beach accesses in the Caribbean and if there is anyone that has seen anything better than this public beach access then we're up for the challenge. This beach access is something

that was long overdue to the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands. We have a lot of beach accesses, but none of them is properly developed as this one. We are in modern days so we need modern things. Let's look at this as a statement going forward to any developer who wants to come and develop in our country and want to use our beach access. This is what we want to see be done, precisely just like this one," he said.

He added: "This is something that I orchestrated when we came to an agreement with Crown Land (department) to get a portion of their land to do our development which is 106 rooms that is going to be next door. I told them that we've been burnt so many times with developers saying that they're going to do this and do that and they never do it, and after they get what they want to achieve done, they never do it. I told them what we're going to do, which is building this beach access first before we would build our development which is the development next door which is going to be 106 room hotel/condos."

Williams said they are ready to hand over this beach access so the public can use it.

"This beach access consists of

one main room which is going to be used for an information office and soft drinks.

There are three restrooms, one for disability and one male and female restroom. We have ten parking slots, ten bicycle racks, two foot-wash stations, and extended seating on the deck where you can come and bring your kids for a family picnic. It is very nice and tidy and you can sit down and enjoy your beach in your country for the first time without having to go through any hassle."

Williams emphasized that this public beach access is for everyone to visit and enjoy.

"We want the public to know that this is for you. You can come down here and you can use it. Let me clarify that this is for everyone who lives or come to visit the Turks and Caicos Islands, not only for those who reside in this area. If you live in Five Cays, Grand Turk, North Caicos or wherever, you are more than welcome. This is for everybody. All that I ask is for us as visitors; residents please keep this beach clean because cleanliness is next to godliness," he said.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony for this project took place on Thursday, February 24th, 2022.

CELEBRATING PILLARS OF EDUCATION EVERY MONTH

GRAB YOUR CALENDAR WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!

Available at our customer service centers and third party payment centers.

FORTIS TCI ENERGY FOR GOOD™

www.fortistci.com | 649-946-4313

LOCAL NEWS

\$250million luxury resort The Strand, Turks and Caicos reporting strong sales

By Todeline Defralien

The owners and developers of private residential resort, The Strand Turks and Caicos are reporting strong sales during the present construction phase

During a developer open house cocktail reception on Wednesday January 25th, 2023, at their Sales Office in Cooper Jack Bay, Managing Director, Developer & Project Manager John Fair told **The SUN** their first house will be completed in April/May this year.

"I think everything is going great, our sales have been strong, the construction is very smooth and we have a wonderful construction partner," Fair said. "Covid probably slowed us down a little bit on the entitlements but otherwise everything has been great and going very smoothly. Our first house will be done in April/May but the project won't be fully operational for about... close 18 months from now. The entire project won't be done for 2.5 to 3 years," he said.

The Strand, which is being developed to compete with the finest ultra luxury residential resorts in North America, broke ground on Friday, March 25th, 2022.

He added: "This is a large project, The Strand is about \$225million to \$250million project and we have about half of it under construction right now, including most of the amenities which are under construction or starting right now. The Strand is what I call a residential resort and there are going to be 41 pieces of real-estate that go from \$2.5million to over \$12million and then all of the amenities of a five star resort. We have tennis, pickleball, spa, fitness and more."

In addition, Fair said there will also be a multi-million-dollar man-made beach that will be accessible to the public, along with a marina for the residents which will operate like a five star resort.

"We will rent the units and villas but it's just a little more residential feeling than the typical resort and it's more of a planned community, so it's a little unique in Turks and Caicos," he said.

Located along the southern shoreline of Providenciales, where the natural elevation offers beautiful views of Cooper Jack Bay and the Caicos Banks, The Strand is a private residential resort community unlike any other.

The unique essence of The Strand's lifestyle and culture will

be an unrivaled home-away-from-home community experience.

The Strand has also pivoted its residential design concepts to introduce three-bedroom managed villas, appealing to the needs of today's buyers striving for flexibility and relaxed, resort-style living for their families.

Priced at \$3 million and situated directly on the water, these three-bedroom residences also increase rental opportunities for owners, solidifying The Strand as one of the best villa rental accommodations on the Island.

An exclusive, sophisticated hideaway in a relaxed coastal setting, The Strand is the first of its kind on the Island with a limited collection of 46 luxury beachfront villas, custom residences, and homesites, alongside access to vibrant community programming and full resort amenities and services.

The Beach Club flows into the centerpiece resort-style swimming pool, surrounded by native limestone, and the dramatic water's edge restaurant and bar.

Amenities will include access to The Strand's own Club Boats with a private captain, catamarans, kayaks, and paddleboards, as well as a tennis

court, two pickle ball courts, and a state-of-the-art fitness center with a secluded yoga deck.

Additionally, a la carte club services will include in-home spa services, housekeeping, pre-arrival shopping, private chef and catering, airport transportation, landscape maintenance, an artist in residence program and security. In addition to the beachfront setting, the site offers 1,400 feet of canal and marina frontage, with a full marina and slips for owners, as well as several community yachts slips.

John Fair is the visionary developer behind internationally renowned resorts in North America and the Caribbean, including Turks and Caicos' legendary Grace Bay Club and the Esperanza Resort in Cabo San Lucas. Over the past three and a half decades, he has also invested in, developed and managed more than 1,000 residential units, thousands of acres of land development, three million square feet of industrial space, and multiple master planned communities. The common theme throughout his career and varied types of real estate development is creating value through creative vision, hands on execution, and a passion for excellence.



LOCAL NEWS



LOCAL NEWS



LOCAL NEWS

