



DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENT  
CAYMAN ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Denis Thibeault, Assistant Director, National Roads Authority  
**From:** Director, Department of Environment  
**Date:** 18 December 2019

---

**Subject: Gazette Plan for the Connector of the East-West Arterial Road Extension to Woodland Estates**

---

On 2 December 2019, the National Roads Authority sought clarification on whether the gazettal of a connector road (the Savannah By-pass) would form part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the overall East-West Arterial Road Extension. The East-West Arterial Road Extension was previously subject to an EIA Screening in October 2016 and formally considered EIA development under the National Conservation Law 2013, but was recommended for an EIA as far back as 2005.

The latest iteration of the East-West Arterial Extension was the subject of a Scoping Opinion issued on 19 November 2019. On 24 September 2019, it had been agreed that an EIA was to be undertaken for the part of the extension which was located in primary habitat and would potentially have significant adverse impacts on flooding and drainage. It was also agreed that a section from Hirst Road to Woodlands Estates would not require an EIA because of the limited environmental impact and limited scope for realignment due to the surrounding development. The section which does not require an EIA is shown in blue in Figure 1 below.

The NRA has sought clarification as to whether the Savannah By-Pass (shown in purple in Figure 1) would form part of the EIA for the extension. The Department of Environment (DoE) has reviewed the proposals for the Savannah By-Pass and does not consider that the connector must form part of the EIA. It was not considered to form part of the EIA because:

- The proposed route and adjacent area is man-modified and of low ecological value; and
- The proposed route is aligned as close to the existing development as possible, thereby limiting the expansion of urban area (although it is noted that NRA is aware of development plans for Block 31A 164 and 16).

However, there may be adverse impacts on flooding due to the construction of the Savannah By-Pass.

**We strongly recommend that the road should be informed by an appropriate engineering design which ensures that the road does not flood properties within the existing Frank Hall Homes subdivision immediately west of the proposed road corridor.**

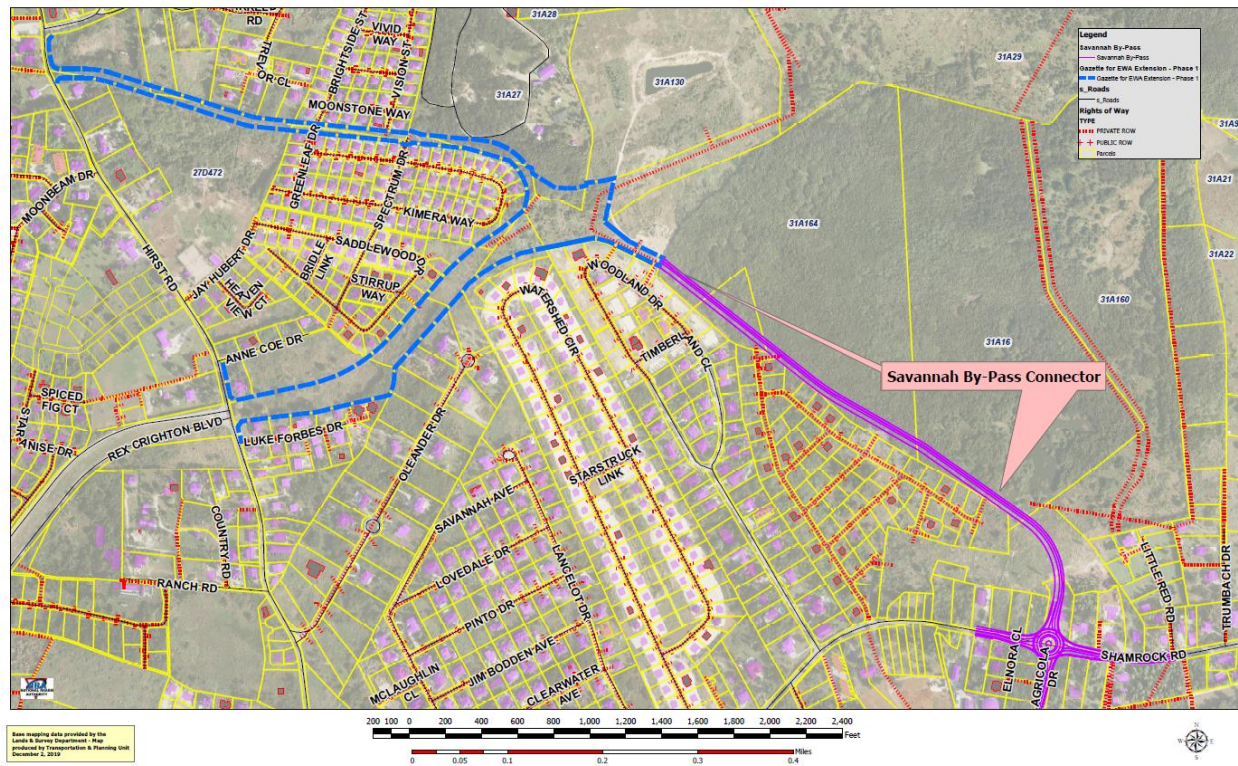


Figure 1. Gazette plan provided by the NRA showing the East-West Arterial Extension from Hirst Road to Woodlands Estate (blue) with a Savannah By-pass (purple).

Please do not hesitate to contact the Department should you require further assistance.

---

**Director of Environment**  
**Under Delegated Authority of the National Conservation Council**