



## GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

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### DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **DPNR LAUNCHES HURRICANE DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM FOR DAMAGED HISTORIC RESOURCES**

Commissioner Jean-Pierre L. Oriol of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources is pleased to announce the official launch of the Hurricanes Irma and Maria Disaster Recovery Program funded by the Virgin Islands State Historic Preservation Office (VISHPO) Emergency Supplemental Historic Preservation Fund (ESHPPF), with support from the National Park Service.

Funding for this program will allow VISHPO to administer a Historic Recovery Grant Program to assist in the repair of hurricane damaged National Register-listed or eligible sites throughout the Territory. Through (ESHPPF), over \$5 Million will go towards the restoration of 2017 hurricane damaged historic resources. All funded repair work must substantially repair hurricane damages and can also include steps to mitigate future damages.

"In keeping with the Bryan-Roach Administrations' commitment to the people of the Virgin Islands towards rebuilding our communities, DPNR is providing this unprecedented opportunity for owners of impacted historic resources that were occupied and damaged from the hurricanes to apply for funding for repairs and recovery projects," Commissioner Oriol stated.

The Hurricane Disaster Recovery Program will be divided into two steps:

Step 1. **Eligibility:** complete information questionnaire about the historic property to DPNR-VISHPO to verify if a property is eligible to receive grant funds, and

Step 2. **Application:** submit application for funding following a determination of eligibility in Step 1.

For your convenience, applications for Step 1 can be accessed at [dpr.vi.gov/vi-state-historic-preservation](http://dpr.vi.gov/vi-state-historic-preservation). For any additional information, please send an email to [historic.recovery@dpr.vi.gov](mailto:historic.recovery@dpr.vi.gov).