



**GOVERNMENT OF  
THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES**

**VIRGIN ISLANDS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

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November 9, 2022

The Honorable Jean-Pierre L. Oriol  
Commissioner  
Department of Planning and Natural Resources  
Charles W. Turnbull Regional Library  
St. Thomas, USVI 00801

RE: Virgin Islands Department of Health (VIDOH) Request for Coastal Consistency Determination for the Germfree Modular Public Health Laboratory & EMS Relocation

Dear Commissioner Oriol:

The Virgin Islands Department of Health (VIDOH) respectfully requests a review and decision on the Coastal Consistency required for the Germfree Modular Public Health Laboratory & EMS Relocation project. The VIDOH is proposing a relocation of the Public Health laboratory and the EMS Modular facility and ancillary support and storage buildings as our medium-term plan for continuity of operations during the rebuild of the Charles Harwood memorial Complex. The Virgin Islands Housing Authority has agreed to allow the use of their property to relocate the Department of Health's Public Health modular laboratory and the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Regulatory Division modular which supports ongoing operations during the Demolition of our existing facility. These modular units are to be transferred to an unimproved portion of the remainder of Plot No. 11-E F Penitentiary Land, Company Quarter. The assigned portion of land will consist of 2.10 acres on Plot No. 11-F Penitentiary Land, Company Quarter.

We at VI DOH have begun the process of planning the FEMA funded demolition of the Charles Harwood Complex buildings that were damaged in the 2017 hurricanes. At this time, we are currently awaiting the executed contract to proceed with the abatement & demolition services required ahead of the rebuild. We are subsequently, requesting your approval to proceed with the work described within this application to relocate the Public Health modular laboratory and EMS modular currently installed on the Charles Harwood complex as an interim measure.

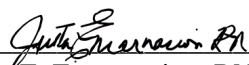
Since the VI Department of Health provides public health services to the entire population and critical clinical services targeting our vulnerable population, we have established a plan to ensure the continuation of services to the people of St. Croix. The goal is to reestablish the very convenient and efficient one stop public health facility by the demolition and rebuilding of a more modern, energy efficient, technologically advance and sustainable building. We anticipate this duration lasting approximately three to five years at total project estimate cost of approximately \$300 Million.

Preliminary information about the project was reviewed during the CZM Pre-application Meeting held on December 3rd, 2021 for the overarching replacement project. The proposed Public Health laboratory & EMS Relocation project is a critical component of the overarching replacement project and is essential for restoring comprehensive public health services for St. Croix and the broader territory.

Virgin Islands Department of Health (VIDOH) Request for Coastal Consistency Determination for the Germfree Modular Laboratory & EMS Relocation

Please find attached a project summary and additional materials demonstrating the project's progression and compliance with the U.S. Virgin Islands Coastal Zone. Thank you for your consideration of this request. Your approval and support of this matter would have a significant positive impact on the timeline of this critical infrastructure project and be appreciated. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Assistant Commissioner of Health Reuben Molloy, MBA/HCM LSSBB at 340-626-5686 or [reuben.molloy@doh.vi.gov](mailto:reuben.molloy@doh.vi.gov).

Sincerely,

  
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Justa E. Encarnacion, RN, BSN, MBA/HCM  
Health Commissioner and Chief Public Health Officer  
Virgin Islands Department of Health

Date: 11/15/2022  
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