

## **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

## DPNR'S HISTORIC RECOVERY PROGRAM AWARDS \$1.8 MILLION IN SUBGRANTS

Commissioner Jean-Pierre L. Oriol, of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR) is pleased to announce the Virgin Islands State Historic Preservation Office's (VISHPO) second round of subgrant awards for qualified and approved 2017 Hurricanes Irma and Maria damaged National Register Historic Sites and contributing properties in the territory.

Funding for this historic reimbursement grant program was funded through the United States Department of the Interior National Park Service's Emergency Supplemental Historic Preservation Fund. The second-round subgrant recipients are listed below.

1. Queen Street, 49A 49B, & 50 (Apothecary Hall)	Frederiksted	\$200,000.00
2. King Street 58B	Frederiksted	\$26,000.00
3. Estate LaGrange 242	Frederiksted	\$199,642.68
4. King Street 3	Frederiksted	\$15,000.00
5. Hospital Street 1	Christiansted	\$200,000.00
6. Strand Street 25-26	Christiansted	\$197,060.00
7. Queen Street, 20AB	Christiansted	\$133,488.00
8. Norre Gade 14	Charlotte Amalie	\$169,160.00
9. General Gade 5	Charlotte Amalie	\$169,240.00
10. Kongens Gade 3B	Charlotte Amalie	\$57,700.00
11. Bjerge Gade 2A	Charlotte Amalie	\$11,971.07
12. Silke Gade 1BBA	Charlotte Amalie	\$127,000.00
13. Bjerge Gade 12A	Charlotte Amalie	\$96,550.00
14. Norre Gade 13B	Charlotte Amalie	\$150,020.00
15. St. Thomas Hebrew Congregation/Synagogue	Charlotte Amalie	\$89,650.00

"These historic recovery projects represent just under \$2 million dollars invested in our historic towns to preserve and restore our architectural heritage. DPNR extends special thanks to the Office of Disaster Recovery (ODR) and the Virgin Islands Public Finance Authority (PFA) for partnering with the VISHPO-Disaster Recovery Program," said Commissioner Oriol.

ODR and PFA provided the gap financing advances for some projects to begin, and/or complete their 2017 Hurricanes Irma and Maria recovery repairs. "Without this partnership, Subgrantees would not have been able to begin, as the Historic Building Recovery Program is a Reimbursement

Grant; and many individuals do not have the upfront funding to hire contractors", said Kim Blackett, Program Manager.

Specials thanks and appreciation is also extended to the Department of Property and Procurement Vendor Management Division for the support provided to DPNR/VISHPO Historic Recovery Program's Subgrantees with SAM registrations.

"DPNR remains committed to working with the community, non-profit organizations, and agencies to restore and preserve our historic towns, sites, and cultural resources", concluded Commissioner Oriol.

The third and final round of grant recipients will be announced in the coming weeks.