



GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

-----0-----

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

4611 Tutu Park Mall
Suite 300, 2nd Floor
St. Thomas, VI 00802
(340) 774-3320

45 Mars Hill, Frederiksted
St. Croix, VI 00840
(340) 773-1082
dpnr.vi.gov



Office of the Commissioner

CONTACT: Jamal Nielsen, Media Relations Coordinator
jamal.nielsen@dpnr.vi.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, June 14, 2024

DPNR CONTINUES PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT FOR COMPREHENSIVE LAND & WATER USE PLAN

INVITES PUBLIC TO LAST TOWN HALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Jean-Pierre L. Oriol of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR) announces another step toward drafting the VI Comprehensive Land and Water Use Plan (CLWUP).

“We will be presenting the heart of the VI Comprehensive Land and Water Use Plan during the upcoming series of Town Halls, in which we seek feedback from the community,” Commissioner Oriol explained. Before finalizing the plan, DPNR is hosting the fourth and final round of Town Halls to consider and include public comment in the creation of the CLWUP. Commissioner Oriol stressed, “This will be the last series of in-person town halls before the final VI Comprehensive Land and Water Use Plan is submitted to the Legislature for adoption.”

Commissioner Oriol also expressed, “With feedback on our big picture goals and policy directions, we have developed a draft implementation plan of final strategies for the Territory as a whole and the three major islands. They represent a ‘to do’ list for the Government, stakeholders, and the community over the next 10 to 20 years.” The Commissioner added, “These strategies will guide the USVI in updating its zoning and other land and water use laws and processes but will not change those laws in and of itself. This plan is not a regulatory document, but a framework for how we make decisions.”

Town Hall Meetings

A series of Town Halls are scheduled to allow the public to review the strategies and provide feedback.

St. John

Monday, June 24, 2024
5:30-7:30 PM
Julius E. Sprauve School
Cafeteria

St. Thomas

Tuesday, June 25,
2024
5:30-7:30 PM
Victor’s Hide Out

St. Croix

Thursday, June 27, 2024
5:30-7:30 PM
UVI Great Hall Room

Light refreshments will be available.

The Town Hall will feature a formal presentation followed by a breakout session on four key topics:

- Making Better Land Use Decisions
- Protecting Our Natural Resources
- Preparing for a Sustainable Future
- Living and Thriving Together
-

*Strategies specific to the three major islands will also be discussed.

Although the allotted two-hour time won't be enough to cover every strategy in the plan, attendees will gain a solid understanding of the material. Further review of additional portions of the plan is and will be available online. Everyone is encouraged to provide more detailed feedback through the online survey at www.PlanUSVI.com, which will remain open through July 26, 2024.

For more information and to join the email list, go to www.PlanUSVI.com. Videos and summaries of prior Town Halls are available on the website and Facebook, www.facebook.com/planusvi.

##