

BIOIMPACT, INC.

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July 9, 2024

Director Marlon Hibbert
Coastal Zone Management Program
4607 Tutu Park Mall
St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands 00802

Re: Request for Pre-Application Meeting for the Turpentine Run and Savan Gut Phase II Improvement Projects

Dear Director Hibbert;

GHD and Bioimpact, Inc. would like to request a pre-application meeting the Turpentine Run and Savan Gut Phase II projects on the island of St. Thomas.

The purpose of the Savan Gut Project is to reduce flood damages to the Jane E. Tuitt Elementary School, the historic Savan neighborhood, and the Central Business District in downtown Charlotte Amalie. The Savan section of Charlotte Amalie has extremely high runoff rates due to the steep slopes in the upper basin. Flash floods from intense thunderstorms are a common anytime of the year. The Savan Gut Project includes a) Construction of a Gabion Channel (328-feet long), b) Debris barrier located at the downstream end of the gabion channel; c) A series of drop structures; d) Catchment basin approximately 240 feet long; e) Trash barrier (rack) at the velocity check dam located at the downstream end of the drop structures before entering into the box culvert; f) Approximately 2,300 foot covered channel (box culvert) from the Jane E. Tuitt Elementary School to St. Thomas Harbor; g) Replacement of three bridges (to maintain traffic flow over proposed box culvert); and h) Mitigation for cultural resources.

The Turpentine Gut Improvement Project is proposed to reduce flooding in Nadir community of St. Thomas and includes a) 460-foot long concrete "U" shape channel that transitions to a trapezoidal, earthen channel (1,385 feet long) lined with rip rap; b) Drop structure and 170-foot long sheet pile wall along the developed side of the channel; c) 260-foot levee along the northern edge of Nadir; d) 1,300-foot long levee starting south of the new Bovoni Road Bridge and ending at the Nadir racetrack with rip rap on the left side of the channel as it flows around the corner of the racetrack; e) Interior drainage conveyance from the existing small concrete channel by a 72-inch underground pipe (length of 1,745 feet) which will run under the levee footprint and racetrack and ultimately discharge into Mangrove Lagoon.

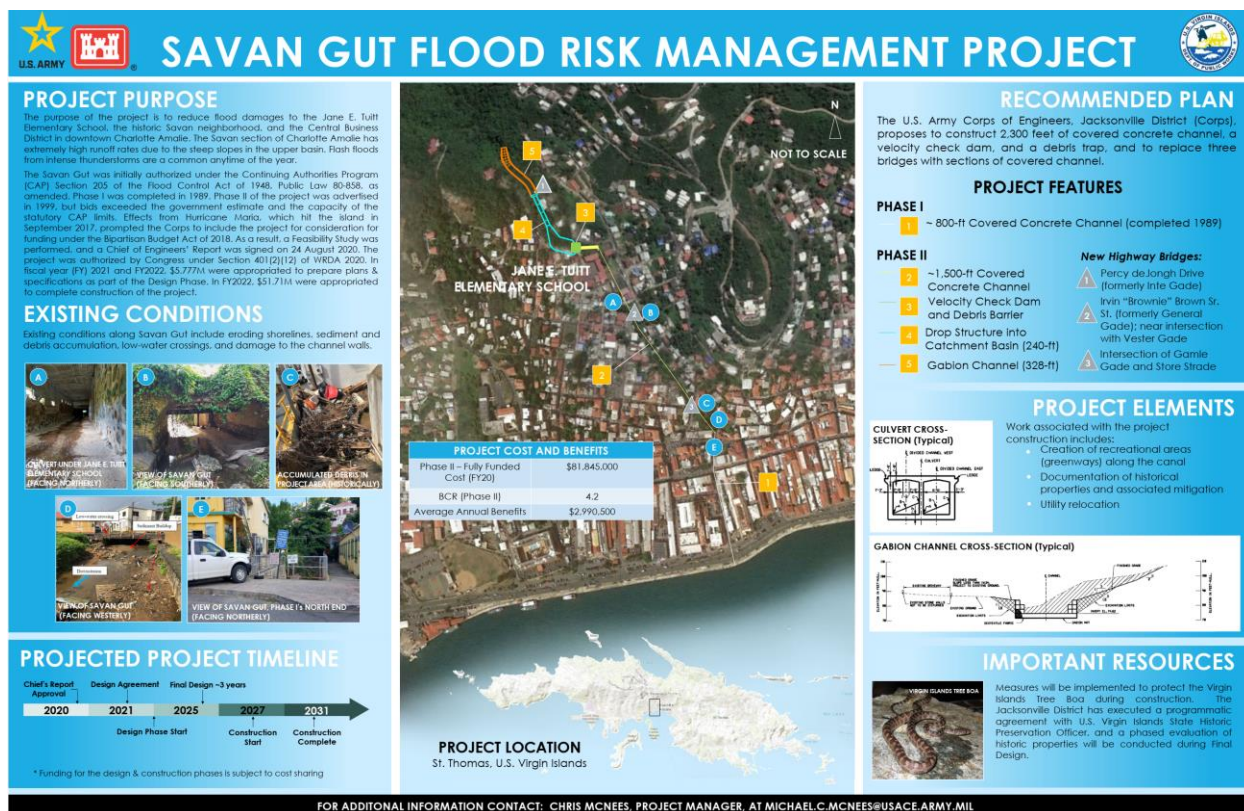
We look forward to meeting with you and your staff to present the proposed projects so that we can present the project and receive guidance on the permits that will be required by Department of Planning and Natural Resources.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any question or concerns at bioimpact@islands.vi.

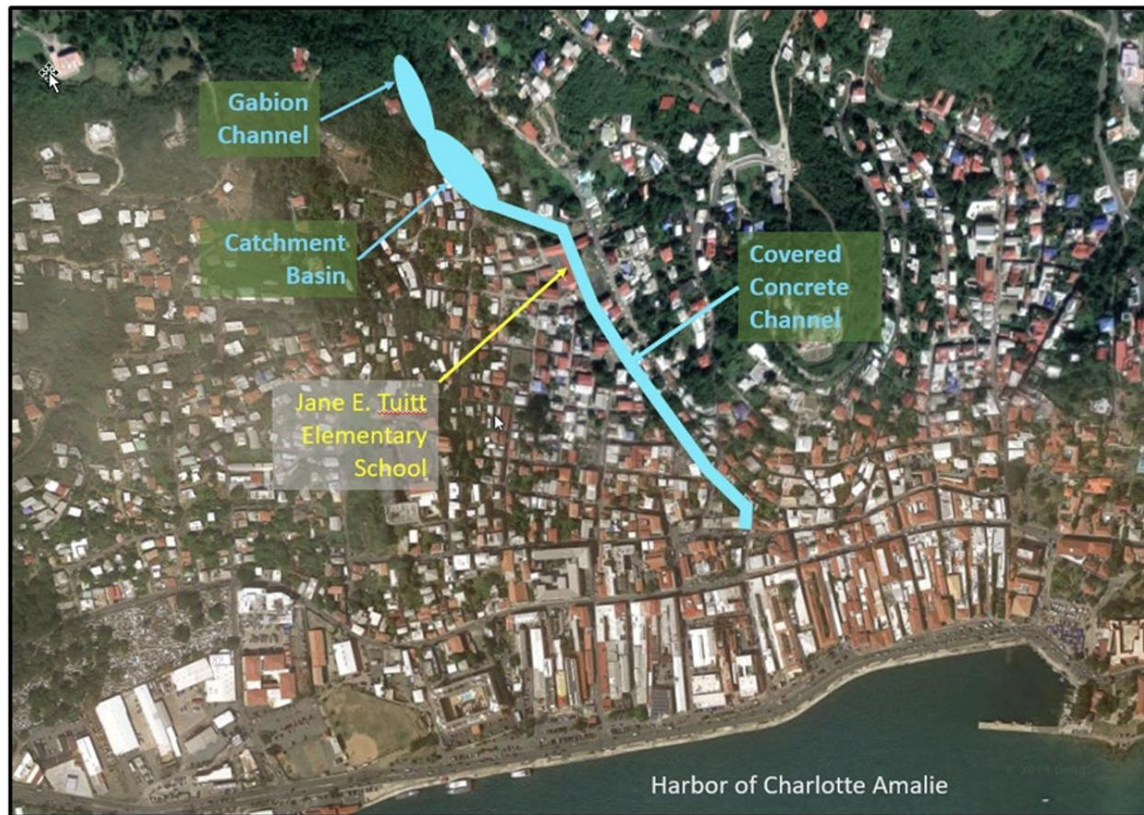
Respectfully submitted,

Amy Claire Dempsey, M.A.
President, Bioimpact, Inc.

SAVAN GUT







TURPENTINE RUN GUT







Figure 3. Recommended Plan features.
(SOURCE: Corps 2018)