



GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

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**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
St. Thomas/St. John Historic Preservation Committee**

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February 20, 2015

Senator Jeanette Millin-Young  
Chairman of the Committee on Economic Development Agriculture and  
Planning  
Legislature of the Virgin Islands  
St. Thomas USVI 00802

Dear Senator Millin-Young:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the newly revised Zoning and Subdivision codes for the Virgin Islands submitted by the Department of Planning and Natural Resources. The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) is in support of the newly proposed revision. The planning committee is to consist of commissioners of various governmental departments; the only area of concern is the omission of the Chairman of the HPC or a designee which should be an integral part of the processed comprehensive committee. As the proposed legislation currently stands the HPC is not represented. I am sure that this is an oversight in the draft legislation. According to title 29 sub chapter 3 the HPC has regulatory review for each island district.

It is current practice of the HPC to conduct a regulatory review of projects within the historic and architectural control districts and the Virgin Islands registry sites. The Commission has instituted prior to this revision the practice of Form Based Coding for review of projects before it. Relying on the districts rich architectural past, we use its historic Danish heritage in influencing new construction. We advocate for the adoption of these new codes. The revisions of these codes can also be applied in other areas of the island not only the Historic District. As long as regulatory review is maintained and the Form based code is applied, the HPC sees no conflict with the revised codes implementation.

Sincerely Yours,-

Felipe Ayala, II