



Legislature of the Virgin Islands

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POST AUDIT DIVISION

June 14, 2016

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE FISCAL YEAR 2017 BUDGET HEARING

UVI RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY PARK

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

The University of the Virgin Islands Research and Technology Park (RT Park), The Park, or UVI Tech Park) was established in accordance with Act No. 6502 which was signed into law on February 21, 2002. Title 17 Chapters 34 and 43 of the Virgin Islands Code declared the RT Park and the Research and Technology Park Protected Cell Corporations (owned by the RT Park, as public corporations and autonomous governmental instrumentalities of the Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands, collectively administered under the RT Park.

Act No. 6726 amended Act No. 6502 to clarify the status of the Protected Cell Corporation in 2005.

The RT Park was established to:

- Foster the information of a technology community that would enhance the economic development of the Territory.
- Provide facilities for the development or “incubation” of new knowledge-based business.
- Partner with the University of the Virgin Islands to develop research and technology education, training and internships for students and other residents of the Territory.

The RT Park is a community of economic development, operating under a legislative mandate from the Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands and policy direction from UVI:

- To develop a technology sector in the Territory.
- Attract and operate technology and knowledge-based businesses.
- Create jobs for residents of the Virgin Islands.
- Broaden the tax base of the Territory.
- Generate financial support for the University of the Virgin Islands.

The premise behind the RT Park’s business plan is the leveraging of economic assets in the Territory to create an environment that will afford technology, knowledge-based and e-commerce

businesses the opportunity to locate operations in a near shore setting while remaining within the United States of America.

MISSION AND VISION

RTPark's "marching orders," in partnership with UVI, the USVI government, the business sector and the community are to:

- Serve as the hub for a unique public-private-academic partnership;
- Lead the creation and growth of an innovation ecosystem that can, on a sustainable basis, contribute to social and economic development of the US Virgin Islands;
- Facilitate inward private sector investment to the USVI;
- Lead capacity building in a specialist area of economic development, that is by providing an enabling environment for firms that are innovation and technology focused and pursue global networked strategies;
- Serve as a beacon for the Territory's technology community and a bridge for its linkage with the international community;
- Provide critical mass for technology infrastructure initiatives;
- Leverage the Territory's massive subsea fiber systems of Level 3/Global Crossing and AT&T for the Benefit of the USVI; and
- Foster workforce development and career options for USVI citizens and residents.

FISCAL YEAR 2017 PROJECTED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

As of June 14, 2016, the UVI Research and Technology Park has not submitted, to the Post Audit Division, its Fiscal Year 2017 budget information in a timely fashion to meet established deadlines for this analysis.

Below are quotes of the standard budgetary request letter that was sent to the RT Park. As of June 14, 2016 none of the information was submitted to the Post Audit division by the required deadline.

“In preparation for budget hearings to discuss the Technology Park's Fiscal Year 2017 budget priorities, I am requesting that you submit to the Post Audit Division of the Legislature the following information by May 6, 2016.

1. Using the format in Statements I and 2 (attached), provide the detail of actual expenses by funds and prime accounts for Fiscal Year which ended September 30, 2015; the year to date spending for the current Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2016; and the projected estimated spending for Fiscal Year 2017.
2. A detailed listing of any charges listed in the "All Other" category in Statements 1 and 2. Dollar value of detailed listing must agree with values of "All Other" on Statements 1 and 2.
3. A current listing of all personnel employed by the Technology Park. Included should be each employee's name, position, salary, division and/or activity center, classified or unclassified, retirement system status, all vacant positions and those for which NOPAs are pending. If a position is partially federally funded, it should indicate the applicable percentage.
4. A listing of all VI Government grants and contributions received and disbursed through the Technology Park. If disbursed, the List should include the amount of the disbursement, the name of the recipient and whether the recipient has submitted the required financial reports for previous grant funds. This requirement applies to any funding you may administer from the miscellaneous section of the budget.
5. A listing of all federal funds received by the Technology Park. This list should include the name of the grantor agency, type of grant, amount, and, if allocations were made to sub-grantees please provide the name of the sub-grantees and amounts allocated
6. A listing of all vehicles assigned to the Technology Park to include the year, make and model of the vehicle (complete description), gas usage and maintenance cost for Fiscal Year 2015 to date. Please list the employee, activity, district and division to which the vehicle is assigned, and if the vehicle was purchased or leased with federal or local funds and the condition of the vehicle if known. (Vehicle Form enclosed)

7. A detailed listing of all bank accounts held by the Technology Park to include the beginning balance in each account on October 1, 2015 and a listing of all deposits and expenditures from such account between October 1, 2015 to date.
8. A listing of all professional services contracts for Fiscal Year 2016 and those proposed for Fiscal Year 2017 to include those executed between October 1, 2015 to date. This list should include vendor, type of service, annual payment and terms of contract. Include payments made from October 1, 2015 to present.
9. A listing of all outstanding vendor payments owed by the Technology Park by Fiscal Year to include vendor, outstanding balance, and arranged payment plan, if any.
10. All information in the Technology Park's role as lessor and/or lessee:
 - a. *A listing of all real property being rented or leased by the Technology Park (Government of the VI is the Lessee). Be sure to include the physical address, name of landlord, square footage, annual rent, lease terms (including options), and the termination date.*
 - b. *In all cases where the Technology Park is the lessor, please provide a complete listing of all identical information in 10a above with regard to all leases as well as a complete listing of all delinquencies, amounts and the status of any eviction proceeding, if applicable.*
11. Any other supporting documentation for budgetary purposes the Technology Park feels is important to explain their spending goals and objectives for Fiscal Year 2017.”



Jose L. George
Post Auditor