

Virgin Islands Public Broadcasting System
ZONING HEARING PRESENTATION

*Submitted by: Tanya-Marie Singh, Chief Executive Officer
August 1, 2025*

GOOD DAY SENATE PRESIDENT MILTON POTTER AND MEMBERS OF THE 36TH LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS. I AM TANYA-MARIE SINGH, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS PUBLIC BROADCASTING SYSTEM. I AM HERE TODAY TO RESPECTFULLY REQUEST YOUR SUPPORT IN AMENDING PLOT NUMBERS 36 AND 37 ESTATE RICHMOND, COMPANY QUARTER, ST. CROIX FROM C (COMMERCIAL) TO B-3 (BUSINESS-SCATTERED). THIS IS THE LOCATION OF THE WTJX ST. CROIX OFFICE, TELEVISION AND RADIO STUDIOS.

IN MAY 2024, WE WERE NOTIFIED THAT GOVERNOR ALBERT BRYAN JR. AWARDED A CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT GRANT FOR WTJX'S PROPOSED PROJECT WHICH PROVIDES FOR FOUR ROOMS WHICH EMPLOYEES WILL UTILIZE TO RIDE OUT STORMS AND ANY OTHER DISASTER SO THAT WE CAN CONTINUOUSLY PROVIDE THE PUBLIC WITH INFORMATION THROUGH OUR STATIONS. THE PROJECT IS FUNDED THROUGH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR — OFFICE OF INSULAR AFFAIRS.

THE ROOMS ALSO SERVE AS A COST SAVINGS FOR VISITING STAFF FROM ST. THOMAS WHO BY AND LARGE WILL OCCUPY THE ROOMS INSTEAD OF HOTELS. THIS BENEFITS OUR OPERATIONS AS OUR SENIOR TECHNICAL PERSONNEL RESIDE ON ST. THOMAS — THE DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING, IT, PRODUCTION MANAGER, AND SENIOR PRODUCER. OFTEN TIMES IT IS A FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE STATION FOR THESE TECHNICAL STAFF TO STAY LONG ENOUGH ON ST. CROIX TO SUPPORT THE BROADCAST OPERATIONS ON THE ISLAND. THE ADDITION OF THESE ROOMS WILL ALLOW FOR BETTER TRAINING OF PERSONNEL AND EVALUATION AND MAINTENANCE OF SYSTEMS.

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THE ROOMS WILL ALSO SERVE AS GREEN ROOMS FOR OUR GUESTS WHO PARTICIPATE IN DEBATES, MAKE APPEARANCES, ETC. ON OUR VARIOUS TELEVISION PROGRAMS. THERE IS ALSO A CENTRAL KITCHEN IN THE PLANS WHICH SERVES AS A LOCATION FOR THE TELEVISION STATION TO PRODUCE COOKING SHOWS.

ADDITIONALLY, ALTHOUGH THE PROPERTY IS ZONED COMMERCIAL, WTJX IS NOT A COMMERCIAL BUSINESS. WTJX IS A GOVERNMENT, NOT-FOR-PROFIT ENTITY. CONSIDERING THE AFOREMENTIONED, WTJX REQUESTS YOUR APPROVAL OF GRANTING THE ZONING CHANGE.

SENATORS, THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION. I LOOK FORWARD TO ADDRESSING YOUR QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS.