



Public Engagement Summary

Understanding Formative Issues

February 28 – March 24, 2023

Introduction

As part of developing its Comprehensive Land and Water Use Plan (CLWUP), the Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR) sponsored a series of Town Halls across the three USVI districts, St. Thomas, St. Croix, and St. John, followed by a two-week virtual Town Hall. The purpose of the Town Halls was to understand formative issues that impact quality of life for Virgin Islanders today and future generations. These formative issues along with input from engagement with other stakeholders will inform guiding principles, policies, and strategies of the CLWUP.

The schedule of Town Halls and attendance were as follows:

Location	Date	Attendance (approximate)
St. Thomas		
DPNR Offices/Viya Building, Tutu Park Mall	February 28, 2023	100
DPNR Offices/Viya Building, Tutu Park Mall	March 1, 2023	60
St. John		
Julius E. Sprauve School, Cruz Bay	March 2, 2023	50
Sprung Complex, Coral Bay	March 3, 2023	30
St. Croix		
Great Hall, University of the Virgin Islands	March 7, 2023	200
Great Hall, University of the Virgin Islands	March 8, 2023	120

The virtual Town Hall was open from March 9 to March 26, 2023, with 17 respondents.

For the in-person events, Town Halls were organized around small group discussions. After a brief introductory presentation, groups discussed three questions. These questions were also available on the project website through a virtual open house along with a link to a recording of a live presentation.

1. What is important to protect?
2. What needs to be strengthened?
3. What should be transformed? And what does that transformation look like?

Participants were given broad direction for their responses and were encouraged to include specific locations within their district, Territory-wide efforts, or government programs and policies. It was anticipated that an individual would not be able to talk about all their ideas that night, therefore Participant Worksheets were provided to write down ideas that might not be discussed with the group. Maps of each district were also available for participants to mark areas of importance or interest to them. Worksheets and maps were collected at the end of each evening. For this summary, each response on each worksheet was transcribed and read to identify common themes and formative issues. Scanned copies of all worksheets submitted during the workshops as well as responses to the virtual open house's online survey are available at www.planusvi.com.

How Public Input Informs the CLWUP

The CLWUP is a shared, long-range vision of the USVI's future. It will be a document that guides the way development is reviewed and permitted in the USVI, with a goal of improved balance between development needs and conservation of natural resources. It will provide a roadmap that directs investments and resources in public services and infrastructure, business growth, housing, environmental protection, and other strategies in a way that meets needs today, but also moves the Territory towards its shared vision.

While the plan will guide decisions about development and environmental protection, the CLWUP does not manage the day-to-day workings of the Government of the Virgin Islands (GVI). The plan sets a framework for how these day-to-day decisions are made, including how the GVI will prioritize investments, secure funding, and build capacity. The CLWUP will also not directly change laws and regulations upon its adoption but will provide direction on where changes need to be made in order to realize the future vision set forth in the document.

Conversations at the Town Hall meetings allowed residents to share their personal experiences living and working in the USVI and their desires for its future. Many talked about day-to-day issues, such as filling potholes or putting trash cans at the local park, which will not be addressed directly by the CLWUP. However, understanding these needs can help write a CLWUP that envisions specific outcomes and provides direction for more positive impacts on Virgin Islanders.

Discussion Highlights

Responses to all small group questions covered a wide range of topics and ideas. For this summary, they are organized around the following themes (presented in alphabetical order):

Development, Redevelopment, and Conservation: This theme focuses on government action related to where development happens and what it looks like, including the permitting process and the need for better enforcement. This theme includes discussions around specific places where development or redevelopment are desired as well as areas to conserve and protect from future development. Concerns about land ownership, including lands owned by federal agencies, are also included. Many of these ideas overlap with other themes below.

Economic Opportunities: This theme focuses on greater diversity of businesses and jobs with wages that support the cost of living in the USVI. This includes but is not limited to supporting existing businesses of all sizes, attracting businesses that pay well and hire Virgin Islanders, education and training needs, and other concerns about employing residents and business retention. This theme includes discussions of promoting agriculture and sustainable tourism that has a reduced impact on the natural environment and celebrates cultural identity.

Government Responsibility and Capacity: This theme focuses on increased capacity of the GVI to provide services effectively and efficiently, including but not limited to roadway design and maintenance, wastewater treatment, trash management, drinking water, and public safety. This theme also touches on the need for more government transparency and public engagement.

Culture and Heritage: This theme focuses on the culture and heritage of the USVI and individual districts, including but not limited to preservation and enhancement of historic and cultural buildings and places and public education to Virgin Islanders and visitors about these resources. It also includes coastal and upland natural areas as cultural resources and part of the ancestral way of life.

Housing Needs and Affordability: This theme focuses on the need for more appropriate housing types and affordable housing options Virgin Islanders of all ages and incomes, such as lower income residents, middle-income residents, young adults, families, and seniors. This theme also touches on options for better housing design, the best locations for new housing, and resources for property owners to reinvest in their homes.

Mobility and Connectivity: This theme focuses on improving options for getting around the USVI, including pedestrian and bicycle connections between residential neighborhoods, schools, and shopping areas; more frequent and reliable transit options; and improved street connectivity where needed.

Protecting Coastal and Upland Natural Resources: This theme focuses on the need to protect the natural resources of the USVI, both coastal and upland, from activities and development. This includes but is not limited to mangroves, coral reefs, cays, inner harbors, and beaches (including public access to beaches). This also includes protection of forests and other upland resources, and how their loss impacts resources downstream.

Quality of Life: This theme focuses on services provided by the GVI as well as nonprofits that support quality of life for Virgin Islanders. This includes but is not limited to education, health care, recreation and parks, accessibility for people with disabilities, and opportunities that build civic responsibility and community pride.

Resilience to Storms and Climate Change: This theme focuses on flooding, erosion, sedimentation, and recovering from hurricanes and other severe storms, how these events are exacerbated by climate change, including but not limited to sea level rise, more frequent and intense storms, and drought, and their impacts on the overall quality of life for Virgin Islanders.

Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship: This theme focuses on doing a better job at reducing the impact of residents, businesses, tourists and the GVI on the overall natural environment. This includes but is not limited to drinking water management and conservation, trash and waste management, recycling, composting, renewable energy, and overall public information and education on these issues.

What We Heard in Each District

The following section summarizes ideas and issues that were brought up most frequently during small discussions and does not include the full range of issues detailed above that were raised by individuals. Please refer to the detailed worksheets of participants here: <https://www.planusvi.com/participant-worksheets-formative-issues>.

1. What is important to protect?

While each district is unique, a common thread through each was protecting the way of life and culture of Virgin Islanders, including preservation of homes and neighborhoods, places of work, and the natural resources of the USVI.

St. Croix

Most common ideas and issues: coastal and inland natural resources, places associated with the island's and USVI's culture and heritage, and agriculture.

Culture and Heritage

Protecting the culture and identity of St. Croix and the USVI was critical. Specifics included:

- Historic structures and buildings of Christiansted and Frederiksted, including Fort Frederik, Customs House, Steeple Building, Bonne Esperance Great House, and Whim Plantation as well as homes and commercial buildings.
- Historic places such as sugar mills, plantations, and other historic ruins, specifically the Creque Dam.
- Pre-Columbian sites.
- Native-owned (legacy) historic land.
- Protecting names of estates and communities.

Protecting Coastal and Upland Natural Resources

The diverse coastal and upland natural resources of St. Croix are important to protect. Specifics included:

- Coastal and nearshore resources, such as bays, salt ponds, mangroves, and coral reefs, specifically Annaly Bay, Cane Bay, Great Pond, Point Udall, and Altona Lagoon.
- Areas with important natural resources, or cultural significance, specifically Maroon Ridge, Grassy Point, Long Point, Buck Island, and the Salt River Bay Watershed.
- Ensuring the protection of public access to beaches and the shoreline.
- Preserving large, historic trees, lignum vitae, and the overall tree canopy.
- Steep slopes.
- Rainforest.
- Aquifers and protection from contamination for use as drinking water and ensuring replenishment.
- Gut systems, specifically those of Estate La Grange, Estate Cane, and Williams Delight.

Economic Opportunities

Preserving land that can be used for agriculture and promoting agriculture to build resilience to climate change and establish food security.

St. John

Most common ideas and issues: coastal and inland natural resources and places associated with St. John's culture and heritage.

Culture and Heritage

Protecting the culture and identity of St. John and the USVI was critical. Specifics included:

- St. John families and culture and island way of life, including access to fisheries for fishermen.
- Protecting private property ownership, particularly on federal lands.
- Cultural structures and historic places, such as Fortsberg, East End, and Hansen Bay/Round Bay.

Protecting Coastal and Upland Natural Resources

The diverse coastal and upland natural resources of St. John are important to protect. Specifics included:

- Coastal and nearshore resources, including salt ponds, wetlands, mangroves, coral reefs, and beaches, specifically Coral Bay and Harbor, Round Bay, Hurricane Hole, Calvary Bay, and Hansen Bay/Round Bay.
- Access to beaches and shoreline.
- Native and endangered species, wildlife, lignum vitae.
- Smaller ecosystems, like those of guts, upstream and downstream.

- Outer cays.

St. Thomas

Top ideas and issues: coastal and inland natural resources and places associated with St. Thomas' culture and heritage.

Culture and Heritage

Protecting the culture and identity of St. Thomas and the USVI was critical. Specifics included:

- Historic and cultural sites, including ruins, sugar mills, and windmills, specifically Hassel Island, Fort Christian, the fort on Water Island, Estate Hoffman, and Frenchtown.
- Charlotte Amalie Historic District, including Charlotte Amalie Harbor, the Steps, and the three quarters: Kongens (King's) Quarter, Dronningens (Queen's) Quarter, and Kronprindsens (Crown Prince's) Quarter.
- Marine cultural resources that contribute to local culture, including marine archaeological resources and shipwrecks.
- Indigenous archaeological sites.

Protecting Coastal and Upland Natural Resources

The diverse coastal and upland natural resources of St. Thomas are important to protect. Specifics included:

- Diversity of native plants and animals, including native fruit trees.
- Coastal and nearshore resources, including mangroves, coral reefs, seagrass, and lagoons, specifically Vessup Bay, Magen's Bay, Brewer's Bay, Brenner Bay, Hull Bay, Lindquist Beach, Secret Harbor, Perseverance Bay, Frenchman's Bay Beach, Mandahl Bay, Fortuna Bay, Neltjeberg Bay, Jersey Bay, and Red Hook Salt Pond.
- Inland natural resources, such as forest areas, specifically mahogany trees, as well as Great St. James and Little St. James, Sandy Point, and St. Thomas East End Reserves (STEER).
- Outer cays and islands, specifically Thatch Cay, Hans Lollik Island, Outer Brass Island, Cass Cay, Lovango Cay, and Hassal Island.
- Beaches, shoreline, and public access to these places, including access for fishermen.
- Aquifers for drinking water.

Quality of Life

Ideas and concerns that impacted quality of life were also commonly discussed in St. Thomas. Specifics included:

- Protecting local parks.
- Protecting residential areas and neighborhoods from being impacted by development.

2. What needs to be strengthened?

Common themes were the Territory's transportation network, including walking, biking, and public transportation, strengthening land use and water regulations to limit rezoning and variances, better

enforcement of environmental regulations, better waste management, and reestablishing coastal and nearshore environments.

St. Croix

Most common issues and ideas: regulations and policies that guide development, investing in historic and cultural resources, improving transportation options, and more work to protect coastal and inland natural resources.

Culture and Heritage

Popular ideas and issues focused on resources that help address blighted or dilapidated structures, build pride and interest in cultural resources and the heritage of the Virgin Islands to Virgin Islanders, and promote the Territory's history and culture through tourism in a sustainable and respectful way. Specifics included:

- Promote the culture and heritage of the Virgin Islands and its interpretation within the Territory and through tourism.
- Invest in protecting the historic and cultural structures in Frederiksted, including the Downtown and the Pier. Develop a walking plan, promote investment in dilapidated structures. Be careful investments do not lead to gentrification.
- Invest in protecting the historic and cultural structures in Christiansted.
- Build capacity of GVI for historic preservation and enforcement:
 - Support investment in dilapidated historic structures (in historic districts, ruins, sugar mills, graveyards, etc.) and repurpose through technical support, guidance and best management practices, and financial resources. This might include revolving low interest loans, grants, etc.
 - Support maintenance once investments are made.
 - Build GVI capacity with staffing and resources to support preservation efforts.
- Encourage more local businesses that highlight Virgin Island traditions and customs, showcasing local foods, trades, farming, architecture.
- Build the link with ecotourism and natural resources that are culturally significant.

Development, Redevelopment, and Conservation

Popular ideas and issues focused on revisiting rules and regulations, incentives for better development outcomes, and better enforcement. Specifics included:

- Promote more redevelopment of dilapidated properties through incentives.
- Reinvest in existing shopping centers as mixed use, to add housing opportunities with access to public transportation and water and sewer lines.
- Require better development design that reduces its impact on the environment, such as buffers between development and waterways and limiting land clearing and prohibiting clear cutting to bare soil.
- Require underground infrastructure/utilities for new subdivisions.
- Strengthen zoning laws to limit or make it difficult to allow "spot zoning" or rezoning to protect existing residential areas and neighborhoods from incompatible development.
- Too many gas stations, no more heavy industrial corridors.
- Protect land zoned for agriculture.
- Improve probate process to open opportunities for families to reinvest in their properties.

- Improve overall environmental regulation enforcement, including penalties and fines and requiring clean up, specifically at marina pump outs.

Mobility and Connectivity

Popular ideas and issues related to making St. Croix more walkable and bikeable, improving roadway design, and investing more into VITRAN, the Virgin Islands Transit Authority. Specifics included:

- Making areas more walkable by improving and maintaining existing sidewalks and adding new sidewalks. Also finding opportunities to make walking connections with trails and paths.
- Focus on town (busy) areas, around schools, and shopping centers.
- Better roadway design: reduce flooding; increase lighting, trees, and green space; improve signage.
- Invest in VITRAN to reduce the number of cars on the road. Find ways to provide better access to bus service in the island's more isolated areas and consider a mid-island transfer station to reduce route lengths. La Reine was suggested for a station.
- Consider how a ride sharing program can support mobility, including the Safari taxis.

Protecting Coastal and Upland Natural Resources

Most ideas and issues focused on restoring the island's coastal and upland natural resources and strengthening protection to improve health and quality. Specific included:

- Strengthen restoration of nearshore coastal resources, including wetlands, specifically at the container port and Krause Lagoon channel, and address damage to coral reefs.
- Invest in proper management of the West End Salt Pond.
- Strengthen the Open Shorelines Act that protects public beach access.
- Maintain watersheds as whole systems, specifically guts, channels, and catchments to ensure they function properly and maintain water quality.
- Promote water conservation, water retention, and water collection.
- Support policies that sustain local fisheries.
- Address invasive species, including boas and lionfish.
- Promote tree preservation (particularly Mahogany trees along roadways, rainforest) and reforestation through maintenance and replacement with the use of native trees.

St. John

Popular issues and ideas: regulations and policies that guide development, improving transportation options, and addressing issues that affect quality of life on the island.

Development, Redevelopment, and Conservation

Improving development regulations, the process of how development is approved, and enforcement of environmental regulations, all to protect important natural resources and quality of life on St. John.

- Strengthen environmental regulation enforcement, specifically for bays and land outside of National Parkland, illegal moorings and anchoring, and pump outs of vessels in these waters.
- Better enforcement of environmental regulations within National Parkland, specifically parking requirements and harmful sunscreen ban. Consistent signage is needed.
- Establish a DPNR office with staff on St. John to support enforcement.

Mobility and Connectivity

Walkability, cross-island connections, and transportation costs for St. Johnians.

- Improve the safety of walking and biking for both St. John residents and visitors, particularly in Cruz Bay. Areas need to be safer around the school for students. These improvements can be tied to tourism and economic development.
- Strengthen and improve road access to connect Cruz Bay and Coral Bay, which includes roads that travel through National Parkland.
- Road closures through National Parkland limit access to resources and properties.
- Improve affordability of transportation for St. Johnians. Fuel is expensive on the island and many commuters, including students, take the ferry daily.

Quality of Life

Public education, government services, and access to health care and other social needs.

- Strengthen public education on St. John with a school for K-12, consider vocational programs to train youth in the trades and build a local workforce.
- Strengthen partnerships with nonprofits to invest in more social services to help address health care needs, including mental health, homelessness, and the needs of seniors.
- Strengthen public safety and the 911 system, which routes calls to St. Thomas before dispatching on St. John.
- Invest in better public services in Coral Bay, including police, fire, EMS, education, and a library.

St. Thomas

Top issues and ideas: regulations and policies that guide development, expanding transportation options, and improving waste management.

Development, Redevelopment, and Conservation

Most ideas and issues focused on improving development regulations, the process of how development is approved, and enforcement of environmental regulations, all to protect important natural resources and quality of life on St. Thomas. Specifics included:

- Strengthen zoning laws to limit or prohibit inappropriate rezoning, or issuing variances that are harmful to communities and neighborhoods.
- Strengthen regulations to account for development impacts on adjacent properties and roadways, as well as environments downstream, specifically controlling or limiting land clearing.
- Strengthen incentives to reinvest in Downtown Charlotte Amalie to create housing and promote a mix of uses.
- Invest in abandoned commercial buildings or underutilized buildings for housing.
- Better enforcement of environmental regulations.
- Improve probate laws and the court system to help keep families in their homes and give them the ability to reinvest in and maintain them.

Mobility and Connectivity

Many discussed ideas and issues to strengthen transportation options on St. Thomas. Specifics included:

- Strengthen VITRAN with a transfer system and more bus routes. Find ways to promote it more. Add bus stop amenities like shelters and shade.
- Improve roadway connections throughout the island, including access to the West End with a secondary road and more transportation options to Magen's Bay.
- Improve walkability and biking safety with sidewalks, walking and biking paths, and bike lanes.
- Strengthen inter-island connections with other Caribbean islands.
- Increase other ways to travel throughout the island, including opportunities for a local ride share program. Strengthen connection with Safari system to meet demand of locals.

Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship

Most popular ideas and issues focused on strengthening waste management on St. Thomas. Specifics included:

- Improve how waste is collected and managed, including more convenience centers on St. Thomas with more flexible schedules.
- Strengthen the waste management program by increasing the types of materials recycled and opportunities for composting.
- Increase public education on recycling, composting, reuse, and other ways to create less trash.
- Strengthen the enforcement of illegal dumping, abandoned vehicles, boats, etc.

3. What should be transformed?

Across the three districts, common themes around transformation focused on how waste is managed; how people walk, bike, drive, and use public transportation; rewriting land and water use regulations; and increasing the use of renewable energy sources. More specifics by district are provided below.

St. Croix

Top issues and ideas: More responsible land development and land use decisions, investing in agriculture, government accountability, expanding walking and biking, and improving quality of life.

Development, Redevelopment, and Conservation

Most ideas and issues focused on the transformation of the refinery, as well as focusing on redevelopment versus new construction. Specifics included:

- Invest in the redevelopment of all sized properties and types, specifically vacant commercial properties and shopping centers.
- Require "green" or sustainable development or redevelopment that has a smaller environmental footprint, for example, water usage and energy consumption, particularly for hotels and resorts.
- Limit the construction of new gas stations.
- Specific places in need of transformation included the following:
 - Altona Lagoon Park into a marine park.
 - Frederiksted and Dock – (also see Protect) create a place where people want to live, a waterfront that is walkable.
 - Move WAPA to a more industrial area.
 - Many want to see the refinery something other than heavy industry, including the following:

- Sustainable industries, green or renewable energy industries (solar, wind production)
- Green open space, park space, and recreation opportunities with public access
- Environmental restoration (Krause Lagoon, mangroves)
- Deep water shipping port
- Using public/private partnerships for investments

Economic Opportunities

Transforming agriculture on St. Croix was a common theme to ensure that agricultural land is protected for food security and resources are available for local farmers. Specifics included:

- Build the Agricultural Department with the capacity to support farmers with technical assistance and ways to access financial resources.
- Ensure sustainable farming practices that minimize the impact on the environment, such as water consumption, pesticide and herbicide use, types of crops planted, and soil management.

Government Responsibility and Capacity

Many focused on the need for more government capacity to provide existing services and were cautious about adding responsibilities. Government transparency was also a common theme. Specifics included:

- Ensure capacity for long-range planning, including staffing and technical needs of DPNR.
- Build stronger relationships and communications between GVI departments to ensure efficiencies.
- Develop better ways to relay information to the public to keep government accountable.
- Transform the process that holds individuals responsible for permit and regulation violations.
- Transform the Territory's drinking water collection and distribution system, including more public education on water conservation.
- Transform power generation and distribution to be more efficient and reliable. Increase the use of renewable sources (including offshore opportunities), put infrastructure underground, and consider out-of-the-box alternatives, such as energy from waste.

Mobility and Connectivity

Many wanted the district's transportation structure to be transformed to increase other ways of getting around the island besides individual cars and reduce the need for parking. Specifics included:

- Make communities more walkable and bikeable with adequate sidewalks, bike lanes, and walking and biking paths that connect neighborhoods.
- Transform VITRAN and public transportation services to expand service, efficiency, and reliability.

Quality of Life

Many wanted to transform services that impact quality of life on St. Croix, including public education, parks and recreation, and resources for seniors, among others. Specifics included the following:

- Transform recreational opportunities and invest in a Territory park system that is accessible to everyone. Consider multipurpose facilities.
- Transform public education and investments in youth, such as training and certifications for trades to allow employment after graduation, financial literacy, etc.
- Transform delivery of services for seniors and opportunities for seniors in the community, such as homes designed for people with disabilities.

- Design public spaces to ensure they are ADA accessible (buildings, parks, sidewalks, etc.).
- Build public facilities as multi-use structures, such as a building that serves a community or senior center, but also equipped as a shelter during hurricanes.
- Reform probate laws and the court system to help keep families in their homes and give them the ability to reinvest in and maintain them.
- Increase land ownership opportunities for young people.

St. John

Most common issues and ideas: More responsible land development and land use decisions, government accountability, more efficient and safer transportation options, and improving quality of life.

Development, Redevelopment, and Conservation

Most wanted to stop inappropriate rezoning, increase regulation enforcement, and promote better designed development. Specifics included:

- Transform development regulations to make it difficult to allow inappropriate rezoning.
- Limit the development of new gas stations.
- Transform Cruz Bay to make it more walkable with more opportunities for year-round housing.
- Increase businesses and industries that serve residents.
- Mandate dedicated green space with development that is open to the public.
- Limit short term rentals in neighborhoods.

Government Responsibility and Capacity

Make sure St. John has better representation in government and the increase the capacity of the GVI to provide services on St. John. Specifics included:

- Better public engagement of St. Johnians, for example hold meetings about St. John issues on St. John and not on St. Thomas, which requires added transportation costs to get to these meetings.
- Give more power to the districts with local administrators.
- Increase communication and coordination with National Park Service over access, enforcement, and resource management.
- Increase government transparency for more accountability.
- Improve enforcement of environmental regulations with representation of DPNR on St. John.
- Increase resiliency of WAPA, considering underground infrastructure and power lines, microgrids, and renewable energy sources.

Mobility and Connectivity

Many wanted the district's transportation structure to be transformed to increase walking and biking opportunities island-wide, address parking issues in Cruz Bay, and improve ferry options. Specifics included:

- Increase safer areas to walk, including adding sidewalks and boardwalks, and increasing ADA accessibility.
- Rethink ferry service for cargo and whether barges and passengers can be combined on a vessel.
- Prioritize parking opportunities in Cruz Bay for residents over tourists.

Quality of Life

Many wanted to transform services that impact quality of life on St. John, specifically investment in civic and social services. Specifics included:

- More investment in civic and social resources, such as a community or senior center and a library.
- Better access to health services, including mental health care and services for the homeless.
- More efficient public safety services on St. John that provide more direct response that does not dispatch through St. Thomas.
- Better equipped for emergency events/storms with shelters, provisions on St. John.
- More investment in schools and public education, such as internships for youth.

Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship

Most called for a transformation of how waste is collected and managed, including investing in new technology, diversifying recycling, and composting. Public education would be a big component of this transformation.

St. Thomas

Most common issues and ideas: More responsible land development and land use decisions, government accountability, more efficient and safer transportation options, and waste management.

Development, Redevelopment, and Conservation

Most issues and ideas focused on transforming development regulations and focusing on specific locations on St. Thomas, such as Bovoni landfill and Charlotte Amalie. Specifics included:

- No development of new gas stations.
- Add more mixed use development that has flexibility in creating residential units.
- Transform development regulations to make it difficult to allow spot zoning or rezoning.
- Maintain farmland in areas zoned for agriculture, specifically Red Hook, Tutue, Daphne Hill, and Bovoni.
- Expand and strengthen the Territory park system through conservation, including cays, linking inland areas with trails.
- Use incentives for conserving land, such as setting aside a percentage of the transfer tax as an “acquisition fund” to purchase parkland, green space, or environmentally sensitive areas in need of protection.
- Revisit the 2-tier permitting system (coastal versus inland).
- Specific places in need of transformation included the following:
 - Bovoni landfill
 - Find opportunities for green space and trails along the coastline and connecting to nearby resources.
 - Increase vegetative buffers.
 - Charlotte Amalie
 - Continue investment in historic preservation (see Preserve).
 - Focus on mixed use development.
 - Make more walkable and accessible.
 - Better parking management.
 - More housing options and consider abandoned buildings.
 - Provide assistance to help fix up dilapidated buildings (see Strengthen).
 - Revitalize Back Street area.

- Smith Bay: needs more enforcement, replace industrial uses.
- Revitalize Market Square and the Rothschild Francis Square Corridor.
- Make Hassel Island into a park with ferry service from the Charlotte Amalie waterfront.
- Reinvest in the Savan neighborhood.
- Hull Bay: add a boat ramp, trailer parking, fisherman facility, Cultural Heritage Museum.

Government Responsibility and Capacity

Many focused on the need for more government capacity to provide existing services and were cautious about adding responsibilities. Government transparency was also a common theme. Specifics included:

- Ensure the capacity of DPNR, including staffing and training to do assignments, make a commitment to hire planners to implement CLWUP.
- More local representation in land use decisions.
- Increase transparency in the enforcement of regulations and inspections.

Mobility and Connectivity

Many wanted the district's transportation structure to be transformed to increase other ways of getting around the island besides individual cars and reduce the need for parking. Specifics included:

- Build a culture of walking by adding infrastructure for safety, including lighting, public education, and connections between places.
- Transform public transportation to make it more accessible, efficient, and reliable.
- Develop road design standards to include landscaping and vegetation management and reduce flooding.

Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship

Most called for a transformation of how waste is collected and managed, including increasing and diversifying recycling. Specifics included:

- More composting, encouraging residents to compost on their own properties.
- Reuse of products/recycled items: opportunities for secondary and tertiary markets for recycling/reusing items.
- Address abandoned vehicles.
- Increase public awareness and education about recycling, and other ways to reduce trash.