



GUIDELINES
for the Development of a
LONG-RANGE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
for the
United States Virgin Islands

ALEXANDER A. FARRELLY

Governor

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PURPOSE

It is the purpose of these Guidelines to give direction to all departments and agencies of Government in drafting the Comprehensive Plan as required by Title 3, Chapter 22, Section 402, subsection (c), Virgin Islands Code.

All departments and agencies are directed, by Executive Order No. 333-1991, to conduct their programs and operating procedures in conformity with the Guidelines in a manner that will not seriously jeopardize the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan if and when it is enacted into law.



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
GOVERNMENT HOUSE
Charlotte Amalie, V.I. 00802
809-774-0001

May 17, 1991

Honorable Viridin C. Brown
President
Nineteenth Legislature
of the Virgin Islands
Charlotte Amalie
St. Thomas, Virgin Islands 00802

Dear Mr. President:

One of the most far-reaching, advance-planning mandates ever enacted into law in this Territory was contained in the creation of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources by Act No. 5265, the Reorganization Act of 1987. That law (3 VIC 402(c)(d)(e)) instructed that the new Department take the long view and prepare a comprehensive master plan for the coordinated development and preservation of this Territory's physical, social and economic aspects.

Such a broad mandate asked for a larger view than our annual budget. It didn't even limit the vision to the end of a Senate term or the end of any governor's administration. This law said for the Government to prepare a plan for where we want to be and how we expect to get there one, two, three decades from now -- or as far as we can foreseeably predict. The magnitude of this approach requires all of us to realize that our stewardship in office is only a part of a much larger picture. The portrait itself will always reflect the skills of the many painters who work on the canvas.

The purpose of this letter is to share with you, and each member of the Senate, the guidelines I have asked all Department heads to follow in preparing the Comprehensive Plan required by law. Of course, the final Plan must be submitted to the Legislature for its approval before it can be implemented. The law already recognizes that the Comprehensive Plan, once launched, must be in continual process to reflect the changing values and technologies of new generations.

Shortly after this Administration got its feet on the ground and completed reorganization of the departments, the new Department of Planning and Natural Resources began intensive preparation for developing the Plan. In the Spring of 1988, the entire Cabinet met for several days for the exclusive purpose of discussing the goals, objectives, and strategies necessary to outline the big picture for this Territory. In the following year and a half, dozens of meetings, interviews, public hearings, and presentations were conducted in order to obtain the views of hundreds of Virgin Islanders throughout the Territory.

These views were consolidated into the rather lengthy document I enclose with this letter. Remember that this document is only a set of guidelines by which the departments will begin to draft the Comprehensive Plan. You can see, from the volume of the guidelines alone, how extensive and thorough the Plan will be.

My adoption of these Guidelines, and the Executive Order for the Departments to proceed in the drafting of the Plan, represent the commitment and dedication of this Administration in developing the most important planning document ever prepared for these islands. It is a task of inestimable value and requires additional years of hand work. I expect this Administration and the Nineteenth and Twentieth Legislatures will have significant roles in the development of the Comprehensive Plan for the Territory of the Virgin Islands. In that regard, I wanted to share with you the guidelines developed for use in this stage of the process.

The Legislature, as the representatives of the people, will be the ultimate voice for whether the Comprehensive Plan will be the law of the land. And if we succeed, if the Plan is the authority by which the canvas is painted, what might this mean?

- * We will anticipate the housing, employment and education needs of our people and plan for those needs from today through the first decade or more of the next century.
- * We will predict the water, power, health and public safety requirements of the population and map this route for decades ahead.
- * We can identify the cultural and environmental qualities that give life its value and meaning and see that these values are preserved and promoted.

- * We will know how to plan for the disposal of litter, refuse, and economic decay that is as much a part of our journey through life as the rebuilding construction, and creations of new things by each new generation.
- * We can coordinate the planning from each department and agency in all activities so the final plan will be a flexible, integrated whole -- a map with options by which our children may see the routes as we know them and yet contribute their own best efforts to the discovery of new roads for the journey of their own children.

Our job is to put in place that first comprehensive map. It is an exciting and extraordinary challenge. The Guidelines you have before you are instructions for how to draft that map. If you, or any member of the Senate has recommendations, comments, or suggestions for the improvement of the drafting of this first Comprehensive Plan, I would be pleased to hear from you. With a responsibility of such magnitude, I would like to keep the Senate informed and involved in order to enhance your familiarity with the project prior to its presentation to you in final form for your consideration, debate, and I trust, approval.

Cordially,


Alexander A. Farrelly
Governor

cc: Each Senator
Each member of the Cabinet
Members of the Judiciary
All Agency Heads
Members of the Press
Community Organizations



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

GOVERNMENT HOUSE

Charlotte Amalie, V.I. 00802

809-774-0001

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 333-1991

TO ADOPT GUIDELINES AND GIVE DIRECTION
TO CABINET HEADS IN DRAFTING
A LONG-RANGE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR THE
PHYSICAL, SOCIAL, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
OF THE TERRITORY OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

WHEREAS, the Government of the Virgin Islands is charged by law with the creation of a long-range Comprehensive Plan for the physical, economic and social development of the Territory of the Virgin Islands; and

WHEREAS, the Reorganization Act of 1987 (Act No. 5265) created a new Department of Planning and Natural Resources with a Division of Planning that "shall prepare, and upon legislative approval, issue and have in continuous process of revision, the long-range comprehensive plan"; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Planning must base the Plan on "studies, plans, needs and operations of every department, agency and institution of the government"; and

WHEREAS, each Department and Agency is responsible for contributing to a draft Plan that portion which is related to its area of legal responsibility; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Planning is charged by law to coordinate the efforts of all Departments and Agencies in the preparation of the draft Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Departments and Agencies should have guidelines for the preparation of the long-range Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Cabinet met in the Spring of 1988 in intense meetings to discuss the issues and framework necessary for a Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, extensive meetings, interviews, public hearings, and presentations were held by the Planning Division in 1989 and 1990 to obtain the views of hundreds of Virgin Islanders throughout the Territory and a consensus of these views are reflected in the Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, all department and agencies should be in general compliance with these Guidelines in order that a Comprehensive Plan, if and when enacted into law, can be implemented without significant changes in programs or operating procedures;

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the powers vested in me by the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands, as amended, and pursuant to the mandate of Act No. 5265, the Reorganization Act of 1987, it is hereby order as follows:

Section 1. The Guidelines for Development of a Long-range Comprehensive Plan for the United States Virgin Islands (hereinafter "Guidelines"), which are attached hereto and by this reference made a part hereof, are hereby adopted as directives for the development of a draft Comprehensive Plan to be submitted to the Legislature for enactment into law.

Section 2. The head of each department, agency and independent instrumentality shall, within the parameters of these Guidelines, prepare a draft Comprehensive Plan for the areas of activity within the legal responsibility of such department, agency, or independent instrumentality.

Section 3. The Commissioner of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources shall provide written procedures including time-tables, for the orderly development of the drafts to be submitted by the heads of departments, agencies and independent instrumentalities and shall arrange for their assimilation and integration into a single final draft Comprehensive Plan. Such draft Plan shall be presented to the Governor for review before presentation to the Legislature for enactment into law.

Section 4. To the maximum extent feasible, consistent with sound managerial practices, the budgets for each department and agency shall be compatible with the Guidelines pending the enactment of the Comprehensive Plan. No head of any department or agency shall, through the budget process or otherwise, conduct his department or agency or any program thereof in such a way that substantially violates the Guidelines prior to the enactment of a Comprehensive Plan.


Section 5. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall review the annual budget proposal of each department and agency and shall have oversight responsibility to insure that the budget submissions of each are generally in compliance with the Guidelines. The Director shall, in consultation with the Commissioner of Planning and Natural Resources, develop a written procedure for compliance with the Guidelines and a process for the resolution of inconsistencies.

Section 6. It is the express purpose of this Executive Order that all departments and agencies shall, in addition to submitting their respective draft proposals for the Comprehensive Plan, conduct their departments and agencies in compliance with the Guidelines. It is directed that all departments and agencies prepare for the coordinated execution of a Comprehensive Plan as anticipated by 3 VIC 402 (c), (d) and (e) and conduct their programs and operating procedures in a manner that will not seriously jeopardize the implementation of such a Plan if and when it is enacted into law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Government of the Virgin Islands of the United States to be affixed at Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, this 17 day of May, A.D., 1991.


ALEXANDER A. FARRELLY
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:


DEREK M. HODGE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of these Guidelines, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the following definitions apply:

GOAL: An object or end that one strives to attain

OBJECTIVE: The incremental activity that leads to attainment of the goal

STRATEGY: The specific approach to achieve the targeted activity; also, the planning and directing of large-scale operations required to achieve the goal

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AGRICULTURE

GOAL: Achieve a higher degree of agricultural self-sufficiency in the Virgin Islands.

OBJECTIVE A

Preserve and manage land suitable for long-term agricultural use.

STRATEGIES

1. Establish an inter-agency approach to agricultural development and protect prime agricultural areas from urbanization.
2. Strengthen and support the soil management program administered by the Soil Conservation District.
3. Determine how much land is needed for agriculture under various agricultural scenarios.
4. Require environmental impact statements for applications to rezone agricultural land to non-agriculture uses and prohibit non-agricultural uses having significant negative environmental impacts.
5. Preserve areas that are suitable for agriculture even if not presently under cultivation.

OBJECTIVE B

Assure a sufficient supply of labor, capital and support services to strengthen entrepreneurship in agriculture.

STRATEGIES

1. Encourage the use of appropriate technology to maximize food production.
2. Develop an inter-agency agricultural training process involving the Departments of Economic Development and Agriculture, Education, Labor, and the University of the Virgin Islands, and the Department of Planning and Natural Resources.

3. Develop cost efficient water sources for irrigation by constructing dams, reservoirs, and holding ponds by using wastewater to recharge ground water supplies if feasible.
4. Expedite the leasing of agriculturally suitable government land to aspiring and established farmers.
5. Encourage prospective farmers to utilize small business counselling services to take advantage of opportunities available to small businesses.

OBJECTIVE C

Increase agricultural production in areas where the Virgin Islands has a comparative advantage.

STRATEGIES

1. Direct agricultural incentives, including tax exemptions, to encourage selective substitution of locally grown products for those now imported.
2. Encourage wider application of techniques found successful in actual operations and research in agriculture.
3. Ensure the introduction of proven and environmentally sound technologies and approaches to agriculture and aquaculture.
4. Encourage joint USVI and Eastern Caribbean efforts in agricultural production, marketing, and distribution.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

GOAL: Identify, acquire, preserve, enhance and provide access to the historical and cultural materials, traditions and values of the Virgin Islands and provide for the informational needs of all Virgin Islanders.

OBJECTIVE A

Enhance and develop the Territorial Libraries and Archives as the primary repository of the historical and cultural materials of the Virgin Islands.

STRATEGIES

1. Support the Virgin Islands Library Network (VILINET) in developing a centralized information data base through the computer resources of the Territorial Library.
2. Implement the Virgin Islands Documents Depository Law to strengthen research collections of Virgin Islands materials and to ensure preservation of Territorial Government documents.
3. Support the Territorial Library Advisory Council and the Archives Board to ensure community input into the functioning of the libraries and archives.
4. Promote the establishment and expansion of the Virgin Islands Archives as the primary depository of the historical records of the Government of the Virgin Islands.
5. Promote the Photo-duplication Lab as the unit within the Territorial Libraries and Archives that provides and sets the standards for microfilming support services for the Government.
6. Promote the development of the Von Scholten Collection as the primary repository of the personal papers of significant Virgin Islanders through the provision of adequate housing and display materials for these papers.

OBJECTIVE B

Enhance the development of public library services.

STRATEGIES

1. Provide adequate and safe facilities for public libraries throughout the Territory.
2. Provide access to public library services for the elderly, handicapped, and institutionalized population.
3. Provide adequate collections to support information, research and recreational needs of the Virgin Islands.

OBJECTIVE C

Acquire, preserve and display the tangible artifacts of the Virgin Islands in well maintained historic structures.

STRATEGIES

1. Support the restoration and maintenance of museum facilities.
2. Provide for core technical staff as well as specially-trained maintenance crews.
3. Provide for in-service training for museum staff through workshop and conference participation and opportunities for upgrading skills.
4. Establish and support an association of local museums and a network for Caribbean museums.
5. Preserve the integrity of the museums and their surroundings areas.

OBJECTIVE D

Identify, preserve, restore and make available to the public heritage resources of archaeological and historical value.

STRATEGIES

1. Continue to identify buildings and sites of social, cultural, historical and architectural significance and provide interpretation and exposure for the general public.

2. Encourage the design of new buildings to complement historic buildings and the design of new construction to be compatible with traditional styles.
3. Support and encourage the restoration, renovation, and preservation of historic structures existing in the Territory, particularly those in use.
4. Encourage local participation and hiring in private and public sector archaeological and historical research projects.
5. Encourage Virgin Islanders, especially our youth, through internships and scholarship programs to enter the fields of historic preservation, museum curatorship, library sciences, cultural education and archaeology.

OBJECTIVE E

Insure that the role of the arts in the life of our community will continue to grow.

STRATEGIES

1. Encourage the study and preservation of the performing and fine arts, and public interest and participation therein.
2. Support exhibitions of arts, music, dance, food, crafts, and literature.
3. Provide incentives to strengthen arts organizations in the promotion of Virgin Islands arts.
4. Provide facilities for, and support the development of, cultural expression.
5. Encourage and support programs which allow residents, especially the elderly, to participate in community school, and social activities of sharing customs, arts, and folklore.
6. Encourage audio-visual documentation of cultural forms, especially those that are endangered and orally transmitted.
7. Promote a cultural festival during the summer for the youth to include cultural exchanges with other Caribbean islands.

OBJECTIVE F

Preserve and maintain the unique cultural qualities that contribute to the distinctiveness of the Virgin Islands.

STRATEGIES

1. Utilize the educational system to enhance cultural identity and maintain the cultural heritage.
2. Encourage and provide for distribution of information about local customs, beliefs, and values, through publicly sponsored documents and programs, and through media coverage of cultural events.
3. Strive to influence federal programs and policies in order to achieve greater compatibility with the unique cultural system of the Virgin Islands.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND HAZARD MITIGATION

GOAL: Develop and maintain a Territorial disaster response, emergency management and mitigation system that will provide immediate and effective response to disasters and ensure a timely return to a stable economic, social and physical environment.

OBJECTIVE A

Establish and maintain preparedness and mitigation systems to effectively manage and/or reduce the effects of natural and man-made disasters, including major accidents, war and other catastrophic events which may effect the Territory.

STRATEGIES

1. Continually update emergency operation plans of all Territorial government departments to mitigate the impact of disasters and raise the level of preparedness and emergency management.
2. Maintain and impose inter-department/agency coordination and, where appropriate, reactivate memoranda of understanding for disaster planning mitigation.
3. Ensure that all building codes and earth change regulations comply with Federal and Territorial law in order to reduce the number of preventable accidents and disasters.
4. Establish systems that will allow for the monitoring of adherence to the Uniform Building Code Guidelines for Hurricane and Seismic design and construction mitigation factors.
5. Maximize and expand training opportunities for emergency services personnel working on both direct and support services.
6. Establish, train, equip and maintain a multi-island territorial response team for responding to hazardous materials, chemical and oil spill incidents.
7. Design, test and maintain a multi-purpose information alert and warning system.

8. Upgrade current procedures for monitoring flash flood warning and alert systems.
9. Design, implement and maintain a seismic/geologic information monitoring program that will allow for the development and implementation of a comprehensive earthquake preparedness and mitigation program.
10. Raise the levels of public awareness through increased public information about types of disasters and emergency conditions that can effect the Territory.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

GOAL: Achieve a stable, diversified and well-balanced Territorial economy.

OBJECTIVE A

Stimulate local control and participation in the commerce and manufacturing sections.

STRATEGIES

1. Utilize the government regulation system to give preference to local businesses and manufactures.
2. Assist economically and socially disadvantaged individuals in their efforts to participate in and benefit from economic development.
3. Insure a higher degree of local participation in Territorial incentive programs designed to increase economic investment in the local economy.
4. Design and implement training programs with emphasis on resources and occupations, such as the marine and high-tech industries, which will provide increased employment opportunities.
5. Support and expand academic programs on all levels of education to promote better understanding of, and fuller participation in, economic development and commerce.
6. Take full advantage of federal programs to stimulate the Territory's economic development.
7. Condition all Virgin Islands Government benefits and tax incentives granted to businesses on specific and enforceable requirements to hire, train and promote Virgin Islands residents.
8. Provide greater assistance to minority-owned Virgin Islands businesses.
9. Enable local contractors to obtain performance bonds through MSBDA indemnification of bonding companies.
10. Ensure that an established percentage of procurement needs of the government and those private companies benefitting from the tax incentive programs is set aside for minority-owned businesses.

11. Encourage farmers and fishermen to utilize MSBDA and other small business counselling services in order to supply local markets more efficiently and profitably.

OBJECTIVE B

Assure that economic growth is sensitive to social and environmental quality objectives.

STRATEGIES

1. Utilize community opportunities to influence and regulate commercial development.
2. Strive to attract diversified, small scale, non-polluting business to the Virgin Islands.
3. Maintain development complementary to employment needs and physical infrastructure capabilities.
4. Give priority to long term social and environmental consequences and cumulative effect of resource development over short term economic considerations.
5. Select sites for commercial development that are supportive of community functions or act as a catalyst in designated growth areas.

EDUCATION

GOAL: Provide for the education and training of the people of the Territory through a system of early childhood, elementary, secondary, and higher education in the arts, sciences and related subject areas.

OBJECTIVE A

Ensure that educational programs are relevant to the needs of the individual and the community.

STRATEGIES

1. Support early childhood education so that young children begin school with adequate social and academic readiness.
2. Support and expand special education for handicapped youth and adults to maximize their potential for independent living.
3. Increase support and assistance for the Adult Basic Education and GED programs as well as for those who teach and learn in them.
4. Support the University of the Virgin Islands in providing higher education designed to meet the needs of the Territory.
5. Support programs for limited English proficient students and non-English proficient students.
6. Include family life education and substance abuse courses as curriculum requirements.

OBJECTIVE B

Ensure that curricula and instruction in the territory's schools are up-to-date and appropriate to the culture, basic intellectual exposure, the needed skills, the job market and plans for the future development of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

STRATEGIES

1. Develop a culturally relevant curriculum which draws on the richness of our Virgin Islands experience so that learning will be meaningful to all of our students.

2. Continue to fund media libraries and curriculum centers which provide and develop materials to augment instructional programs and teacher training.
3. Give high priority to achieving and maintaining accreditation of the schools.
4. Continue ongoing revision of the curriculum to increase the effectiveness of instruction.

OBJECTIVE C

Provide sufficient opportunities for all students to learn vocational skills.

STRATEGIES

1. Strengthen and expand vocational-technical education programs to meet the manpower needs of the community.
2. Emphasize vocational education with a concentration on preparing young people for careers generated by our economy.
3. Improve coordination of planning which leads to apprenticeships and immediate job placement for vocational students.
4. Involve local business people in expanding career education to provide all students with exposure to careers available in the Territory.
5. Enforce CZM and building permit conditions requiring contractors to provide training programs for Virgin Island youth.
6. Continue to inform the students, parents and community at large of the accomplishments of vocational-technical graduates.

OBJECTIVE D

Strive to reduce student dropouts.

STRATEGIES

1. Increase early identification of high risk students and work with parents and guardians of students who are under-achieving.

2. Support and fund programs and services designed to reduce the numbers of dropouts.
3. Increase efforts to maintain contact with dropouts so that they are not lost from the education and manpower systems.
4. Expand in-school alternate education programs so that all potential participants can benefit from the programs.
5. Arrange flexible class schedules for upper grade students to allow opportunity for day-time work experience.

OBJECTIVE E

Ensure a high quality teaching and administrative staff.

STRATEGIES

1. Maintain a corps of well-trained, experienced teachers and educational program administrators.
2. Improve the teacher evaluation and testing processes.
3. Continue to encourage professional improvement workshop and assistance for teachers.
4. Call upon teachers and their unions to assist in developing professional standards.
5. Establish career ladders to retain good teachers in the classroom.
6. Compensate teachers to reflect the responsibility and importance of their profession.
7. Provide cultural sensitization courses for teachers recruited off-island.
8. Expand scholarships for teacher training, especially in the sciences, at the University of the Virgin Islands.

OBJECTIVE F

Provide adequate, well maintained, accessible and appropriately designed facilities.

STRATEGIES

1. Promote the design and construction of smaller-scale schools to strengthen the school-community relationship, using technologies and design that are energy efficient and appropriate for this climate.
2. Discourage construction of "temporary" additions which only serve to become maintenance problems.
3. Reserve open space within existing and planned residential neighborhoods for future school facilities.
4. Provide adequate funding and inspection to ensure that new construction and renovations meet building standards and do not have built-in maintenance problems.
5. Institute and adequately fund maintenance programs for all educational facilities.

OBJECTIVE G

Promote parental involvement and community commitment to improve the public schools.

STRATEGIES

1. Promote opportunities for community members to serve as volunteers throughout the school system.
2. Encourage school visitation, with security considerations, by concerned citizens.
3. Encourage activist parent-teacher lobbies to improve the public schools.
4. Keep the community informed of positive developments within the schools as well as the needs of individual schools.
5. Promote opportunities for student volunteerism through linkages with civic organizations.

ENERGY

GOAL: Secure a sound and affordable energy future for the Territory.

OBJECTIVE A

Develop plans and implement activities that foster maximum energy self-sufficiency.

STRATEGIES

1. Develop programs designed for maximum utilization of renewable fuel sources.
2. Establish energy efficient appliance standards.
3. Educate the general public on energy efficient procurement practices.
4. Utilize co-generation options in manufacturing and government institutions while encouraging its use throughout the private sector.
5. Promote public and private programs in applied energy research.
6. Provide incentives to developers and builders to utilize solar and wind power in new buildings.
7. Provide incentives for owners of existing buildings to retrofit their energy systems for use of solar and wind power.
8. Promote conservation by both public and private consumers of energy through the use of incentive programs.
9. Expand public education in the conservation of energy.

OBJECTIVE B

Provide for the efficient and reliable generation, transmission and distribution of energy resources.

STRATEGIES

1. Ensure a reliable, cost-effective source of petroleum or petroleum substitutes.

2. Regularly monitor the performance of energy systems to identify inefficiency of material and equipment in need of repair or replacement.

OBJECTIVE C

Develop systems for Territorial energy management.

STRATEGIES

1. Develop an energy planning program with sufficient staff and funding.
2. Establish an energy systems database appropriate for analysis.
3. Develop a Caribbean Energy Resource and Information Network.
4. Apply land development practices and architectural design techniques which provide for energy efficiency in siting and design of structures.
5. Expand energy conservation programs through the schools and mass media.
6. Improve public transportation services, traffic routing, and driving efficiencies in order to decrease the dependence on the automobile.
7. Inventory all public buildings and continually update with current energy-saving techniques.

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

GOAL: Achieve reliable, efficient and cost effective provision of community services and management of the public domain.

OBJECTIVE A

Improve the management of the Territorial Government.

STRATEGIES

1. Where practical, privatize government services or borrow, adopt and apply effective private sector management techniques to local government.
2. Continue to support in-service training programs for all levels of government employees.
3. Encourage and enforce the standardization of job titles, responsibilities and salaries for employees performing similar work.
4. Develop leadership and dedication in public service through internships and mentoring.
5. Establish criteria for the selection of board members that are based on expertise, experience, education and understanding of the long range policy goals of the Virgin Islands.

OBJECTIVE B

Improve the delivery of services to the community.

STRATEGIES

1. Utilize the comprehensive planning process as a mechanism for government action.
2. Reduce the government work force in areas where services are redundant or not cost effective.
3. The Territory's regulations should be available in writing, communicated with respect to the developers prior to the permitting process and be consistently applied throughout each project.

OBJECTIVE C

Provide effective stewardship over the public domain.

STRATEGIES

1. Ensure that government services are of sufficiently high quality to guarantee the health, safety and welfare of the public.
2. Seek to achieve maximum community benefits when allocating the Territory's natural resources.
3. Ensure that agencies develop and implement effective routine maintenance programs for all public facilities under their jurisdiction.
4. Ensure that legislative appropriation include sufficient funds for maintenance of facilities and equipment.
5. Ensure adequate enforcement for compliance with health, safety, and environmental protection regulations.
6. Use the permitting system regulating physical development to achieve social and infrastructure benefits as well as environmental protection.
7. Monitor all government activities affecting the physical environment to insure strict compliance with health, safety and environmental protection laws and regulations.
8. Set prices for government services commensurate with operation and amortization of plant and equipment.
9. Improve the administration of federal funds so that monies are allocated and disbursed promptly and not returned to the federal government.
10. Provide an example of conservation practices to the general public by instituting programs within the Territorial Government's own offices.

OBJECTIVE D

Establish a centralized management information system to provide heads of departments and agencies a database for better decision making.

STRATEGIES

1. Establish a database which will allow users to better

communicate with each other.

2. Reduce proliferation and diversity of computer systems.

HEALTH

GOAL: Achieve optimal health levels for all residents in the Virgin Islands through an efficient, cost-sensitive health care delivery system and effective environmental protection services.

OBJECTIVE A

Achieve stabilization of the existing health care delivery system.

STRATEGIES

1. Improve the quality of health care services by upgrading program planning and administrative skills.
2. Improve the quality of health care services by upgrading the technical skills of all the service delivery staffs.
3. Establish management information capabilities.
4. Increase revenue-generating capabilities.

OBJECTIVE B

Enhance the health care delivery system's capabilities by protecting, maintaining and upgrading all facilities and all equipment.

STRATEGIES

1. Ensure the proper maintenance and timely replacement of physical plants and equipment.
2. Complete a master capital plan for long term development and building projects for health facilities.

OBJECTIVE C

Ensure cost containment while expanding the current services to include the missing primary care specialities, more preventive health promotion and environmental health protection services.

STRATEGIES

1. Recruit staff, increase facilities and services that increase community awareness and practice of effective health and environmental protection measures.
2. Strengthen enforcement capabilities to ensure compliance with health and environmental laws.
3. Obtain adequate funds for enforcement of environmental health laws and regulations.
4. Encourage cooperation and communication between the various local and federal agencies with environmental health responsibilities.
5. Increase capability for territorial care of the handicapped and mentally ill.

OBJECTIVE D

Improve access to all of the health care delivery system.

STRATEGIES

1. Promote public awareness of quality health care, thus raising the expectation and demand for quality health care.
2. Establish and maintain a well-organized community health care system which is understood and accessible to the majority of Virgin Islands residents.
3. Minimize structural, language and opportunity barriers that hinder access to the health delivery system.
4. Establish the Virgin Islands Health Plan Coordinating Council which provides for broad consumer participation in the planning and evaluation of the entire health care delivery system.

OBJECTIVE E

Implement a market strategy for the health delivery system in the Virgin Islands.

STRATEGIES

1. Increase the marketing and promotion of health care services through improved public and guest relations programs.
2. Improve consumer and public perceptions and confidence in the health services of the Territory.

OBJECTIVE F

Strive to supply physicians, nurses and other health care providers from the local population and continue to strengthen their levels of expertise.

STRATEGIES

1. Expand medicine and health care scholarship and loan programs.
2. Set competitive salary levels.
3. Establish professional partnerships with medical schools and training hospitals.
4. Provide continuing education for physicians, nurses and other health care providers.

HOUSING

GOAL: Provide the opportunity for residents of the Virgin Islands to secure decent, livable, sound and affordable housing.

OBJECTIVE A

Develop a territorial housing policy to guide the sound development of this sector.

STRATEGIES

1. Identify a single agency with responsibility for planning to meet the housing needs of the territory.
2. Develop and maintain a housing data and information system.
3. Establish an interagency housing task force to conduct an annual review of housing data and the status of housing issues.

OBJECTIVE B

Encourage the creation of well designed communities with a variety of housing types.

STRATEGIES

1. Locate public facilities and services to support community development.
2. Support more compact housing development.
3. Encourage the construction of mixed density and mixed income communities.
4. Develop prototype model communities and make designs available to housing developers wishing to use them.
5. Assess and project low and middle income rental housing stocks and needs.
6. New public and private residential development should include land reserved for customary and associated public facilities and community-use needs, including recreation.

OBJECTIVE C

Improve the quality of new and existing housing in the Virgin Islands.

STRATEGIES

1. Adopt the Uniform Building Codes for uniformity, inclusion of energy saving technologies and consistency with existing laws and regulations.
2. Encourage housing rehabilitation and redevelopment in older neighborhoods that will retain the character of the neighborhood without displacing traditional uses.
3. Encourage increased tenant responsibilities in management and maintenance of public housing.
4. Encourage rehabilitation and privatization through tenant ownership of public housing.
5. Require mandatory architectural design reviews to ensure that urban development blends into the area architectural design.
6. Provide the highest level of public services necessary to prevent deterioration of neighborhood vitality.
7. Review designs for quality of landscape design, access to, and provision of, amenities and services.
8. Ensure solar, wind, and scenic access through inclusion of provisions in the Uniform Building Codes.

OBJECTIVE D

Increase housing opportunities for low, moderate and middle income residents as well as for the elderly, physically challenged, and those in need of supervised housing.

STRATEGIES

1. Encourage the use of public land for a variety of income levels.
2. Provide incentives for builders to make available a certain proportion of units at moderate cost for moderate income families.
3. Permit expansion of single family homes to include rental units where there is infrastructure capacity to

absorb the increase in population.

4. Develop a housing land inventory to identify the properties assigned for housing development.
5. Use government deposits as leverage to negotiate improved housing loan programs for Virgin Islands veterans and low to moderate income residents.
6. Assist those in need of moderate income housing in the preparation and filing of loan applications through the banks.

HUMAN SERVICES

GOAL: Assist the poor, disabled, elderly, children and families, and veterans to become self-sufficient, contributing members of the community.

OBJECTIVE A

Develop a cost effective, responsive and efficient human services delivery system to meet the needs of the poor, disabled, children and families, and elderly in the Territory.

STRATEGIES

1. Consolidate program delivery through six divisions: Children, Youth and Families; Financial Programs; Volunteer and Special Programs; Senior Citizen Affairs; Disabilities and Rehabilitation Services; and Adult Services.
2. Provide increased auditing, fraud protection, management evaluation and analysis, and quality assurance to reduce waste, fraud and mismanagement.
3. Consolidate federal grants wherever possible for greater flexibility and reduced paperwork.
4. Ensure a trained and committed staff, through career counselling, competitive salaries, continuing education, and opportunities for upward mobility.
5. Develop and implement a human services delivery system that is efficient, responsive to client need, and innovative.
6. Develop short and long term plans to meet human service needs in the Territory.
7. Consolidate all physical operations of the Department into government-owned property.
8. Evaluate programs and delivery systems in terms of responsiveness to the needs of the client population and community.

OBJECTIVE B

Break the cycle of poverty and/or dependency by providing corrective, preventive and enrichment human service programs.

STRATEGIES

1. Develop and implement corrective programs to address the major problems and needs facing the client population in the Territory.
2. Develop and implement preventive and enrichment programs to end the cycle of poverty and dependency as well as to increase motivation and potential.

OBJECTIVE C

Provide strong advocacy on behalf of the poor, disabled, children and families, elderly and veterans.

STRATEGIES

1. Develop and maintain linkages with private, civic, special interest groups to address existing or potential needs of the client population.
2. Educate government officials, planners and service providers about human service needs and the best ways to address these needs.
3. Provide training to the client population about their rights as citizens and ways they may become involved in decision-making processes that affect their lives.
4. Provide advocacy regularly for individuals and families in need who are unable to advocate for themselves.

OBJECTIVE D

Provide services to veterans and their families, ensuring that they receive adequate care, support and recognition.

STRATEGIES

1. Provide assistance for the filing and prosecuting of all veteran claims, as well as the claims of their dependents.

2. Cooperate with all departments and agencies of the United States Government and the Government of the Virgin Islands in regards to veterans' benefits, including housing, welfare, education, hospitalization, and rehabilitation.
3. Provide assistance in the employment and re-employment of all veterans honorably discharged from the Armed Forces of the United States and their auxiliaries.
4. Maintain information and dissemination centers to transmit information from veterans organizations to veterans, as well as to the public.
5. Compile a record of the burial places within the U. S. Virgin Islands of deceased servicemen and servicewomen inclusive of their name, rank, division, length of service and location of gravesite.

LAND AND WATER USE

GOAL: Achieve a quality living environment through a well-planned mix of compatible land and water uses, while preserving the integrity of the natural environment.

OBJECTIVE A

Establish a system for the effective management and utilization of land resources.

STRATEGIES

1. Develop a comprehensive land and water use plan.
2. Permit granting and regulatory decisions for land and water development projects should be consistent with the Territory's land use goals and objectives.
3. All development shall be monitored for conformance to applicable environmental land and water use laws, which shall be consistently applied to all projects.
4. Proposed development projects, public and private, requiring environmental impact statements, shall be reviewed with cumulative effects taken into consideration.
5. Publicly owned land should be managed in accordance with standards for disposition, development and use consistent with the long range land use goals and objectives of the Territory.
6. The regulations for development projects must be published, and all projects consistently inspected to ensure compliance with, as well as enforcement of, public regulations.

OBJECTIVE B

Preserve and conserve land resources for economic, social and community uses.

STRATEGIES

1. Emphasize consideration of future as well as current land use needs when making zoning change decisions.

2. Base government acquisition of land upon a prioritized program designed to meet the current as well as future needs of Virgin Islands society.
3. Prioritize and reserve coastal areas for water dependent uses, where possible including aquaculture and agriculture.
4. Protect and preserve areas with visual quality, historic, recreational and wildlife significance.

OBJECTIVE C

Achieve a pattern and intensity of development which best utilizes land resources.

STRATEGIES

1. New physical developments should use energy efficient design and technologies, and be aesthetically and culturally sensitive to their surroundings.
2. New public and private residential developments should include land reserved for customary and associated public facilities and community-use needs.
3. New public and private residential developments should include consideration for traditional community use needs.
4. Planned developments should allow for variable densities for a mix of uses which are compatible in residential areas.
5. Promote the dedication or acquisition of frequently flooded areas to be used as open space.
6. Determine development types and mix that are most suitable to the ideal density for the area.
7. Cluster housing and planned area development techniques should be used to conserve open space and protect environmentally sensitive areas.
8. New development and renewal projects should utilize energy efficient design and technologies.
9. Develop guidelines for layout of sub-divisions for placement of access roads, ground-cover, trees and other vegetation.

10. Establish control for density and design of subdivisions.
11. Achieve a pattern of development that mitigates erosion and seismic hazards.
12. Major private projects outside existing communities must provide a share of the cost for infrastructure improvements and expansion which includes roads, power, water, waste disposal and other public facilities.

OBJECTIVE D

Achieve, through preservation, conservation and redevelopment practices, an enhancement of the positive qualities and character of established communities in the Virgin Islands.

STRATEGIES

1. New developments or alterations to existing structures shall continue to conserve and enhance neighborhood quality, historic integrity, and cultural sensitivity.
2. Run-down areas should be designated as target areas for concentrated public action and joint public/private investments to improve physical conditions while preserving existing uses as much as possible.
3. Historic preservation of physical areas and structures should be encouraged through the creative use of zoning, tax and other public incentive programs.
4. Long term planning for land and water resources should be for the advantage and positive growth of all Virgin Islanders and not just a few.
5. Expand the historic district boundaries to include Cruz Bay, St. John, Frederiksted, St. Croix, and a greater portion of Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas.

MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT

GOAL: Improve employment and upward mobility of the resident labor force through expanded training and employment services.

OBJECTIVE A

Improve the collection, analysis and dissemination of employment-related information to match resident labor supply with job demand.

STRATEGIES

1. Support the implementation of the State Occupational Information Coordinating Center with adequate funding, timely reporting and open communication.
2. Disseminate findings of studies and research about local manpower issues and encourage students to use manpower issues as topics for academic research.
3. Improve methods of reaching school dropouts to draw them into training programs and the active labor force.
4. Forecast long-range labor requirements in order to bring manpower supply in concert with demand.

OBJECTIVE B

Improve the effectiveness of vocational and technical education, job training, and retraining programs so that the youth and the long-term resident labor force can take advantage of employment opportunities in the Territory.

STRATEGIES

1. Increase the support for the Division of Vocational - Technical Education in the V.I. Department of Education.
2. Support the Job Training Partnership Act Single State Service Delivery Plan.
3. Develop, support and maintain on-the-job training and exposure through internship and apprenticeship programs.

4. Coordinate efforts to integrate returning Virgin Islands veterans into the workforce.
5. Establish a comprehensive workfare program.
6. Achieve effective use of manpower within the incarcerated population.
7. Encourage the University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) to expand career-specific courses and post-graduate courses for professionals.

OBJECTIVE C

Enforce affirmative action planning in the private sector to hire and train long-term residents, with special emphasis on youth.

STRATEGIES

1. Strengthen the capacity of the Territorial Government to monitor businesses for compliance with equal employment legislation.
2. Improve public/private cooperative efforts to expand comprehensive career education, pre-employment training, and on-the-job training opportunities.
3. Encourage an adopt-a-youth program on the part of the private sector to foster long-term one-on-one relationships between people in business and the hard-to-employ youth.
4. Encourage the University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) to expand career-specific courses and post-graduate courses for professionals.

OBJECTIVE D

Ensure that necessary support services are developed to facilitate the utilization of the local labor force.

STRATEGIES

1. Provide training, day care, encouragement, and motivational activities to enable full participation of the labor force in the job market.
2. Ensure that public transportation is affordable and well routed to allow workers to travel to their places of employment within a reasonable time.

3. Continue to make case management services and counselling available to workers who received such services while unemployed.
4. Strive to remove architectural barriers from places of work.
5. Provide a safe, attractive and comfortable workplace.

NATURAL RESOURCES

GOAL: Protect, preserve, and restore the natural environment of the Virgin Islands.

OBJECTIVE A

Ensure the protection and wise use of the natural resources of the Virgin Islands.

STRATEGIES

1. Strictly enforce the Territorial and federal laws protecting natural resources.
2. Consider long-term social, economic and environmental consequences of developing coastal and other natural resources must have priority over short-term economic and profit considerations.
3. Greater accessibility and prudent use of the territory's natural areas for public recreation must be encouraged and protected.
4. Perpendicular access from public roadways to the shoreline should be required at frequent intervals.
5. Public awareness of the cultural, economic and ecological value of the resources of the Virgin Islands is an important factor in natural resource conservation, and must be enhanced.
6. Encourage and promote an understanding of the important relationship between the economy, culture and natural environment.

OBJECTIVE B

Conserve and protect the natural environment from human-induced degradations.

STRATEGIES

1. Restrict and control development in such a way as to prevent further degradation to environments which are particularly vulnerable to human activities, such as wetlands, extreme slopes, and natural guts.
2. Establish controls for density to protect sensitive environments.
3. Enforce earth change requirements for disturbance of soil and replacement of vegetation.
4. Assure that existing air and water quality standards are understood and stringently enforced and that the standards are continually upgraded to incorporate new technology.
5. Establish a high priority for the enforcement of anti-litter laws.

OBJECTIVE C

Conserve areas significant for their contribution to aesthetic enjoyment, productivity, and value as habitats for rare and endangered species.

STRATEGIES

1. Employ a full range of environmental protection measures, including acquisition, dedication, conservation easements, access agreements and regulations to conserve the unique ecosystem of the Virgin Islands.
2. Encourage the scientific study and educational use of areas identified as being significant natural resources.
3. Restrict the use of renewable resources to replacement levels.

OBJECTIVE D

Conserve, protect, and utilize most carefully the surface, marine and ground waters of the Virgin Islands.

STRATEGIES

1. Prohibit the use of coastal ponds and natural courses as drainage ditches and lagoons for sewage.

2. Prohibit the use of prime groundwater recharge areas as parking lots, motorpool bases, industrial activity sites, sewage disposal areas, or other uses that can interfere with recharge or contaminate groundwater supplies.

OBJECTIVE E

Develop greater public use, awareness, and appreciation of the Virgin Islands' natural resources.

STRATEGIES

1. Promote public awareness of the interrelationships among historical and traditional uses and economic and ecological worth of natural areas.
2. Traditional uses of local food sources, building materials, and recreational activities should be fostered through educational programs and activities.
3. Promote ecologically responsible use and enjoyment by residents of the natural resources of the islands.
4. Encourage a greater youth exposure and interaction with the marine environment.
5. Ensure that development will not interfere with the public's right of access from public roadways to the sea where such access has been enjoyed through customary use, dedication or acquisition.

POPULATION

GOAL: Achieve a population size and geographic distribution which is consistent with social, economic and physical capabilities of the Territory, and reflects the desired qualities of life.

OBJECTIVE A

Achieve a high degree of understanding of the Territory's carrying capacity as it relates to population growth.

STRATEGIES

1. Support continuous research and dissemination of information on the physical and economic limitations of population growth.
2. Increase education in population dynamics and resource conservation.
3. Assure access to family planning information and services.

OBJECTIVES B

Achieve efficient and socially acceptable long range geographic distribution and stability of the Virgin Islands population.

STRATEGIES

1. Provide community support facilities and services only to areas where residential growth is suitable and desirable.
2. Require community development plans for large subdivisions initiated by private or public developers.
3. Provide land and other incentives for physical development activities which support long range distributional stability.
4. Determine limitations on control of immigration and migration and pursue avenues to strengthen controls.

OBJECTIVE C

Work to create a better balance between economic growth and the Territory's ability to provide resident manpower.

STRATEGIES

1. Forecast the development of large scale socially and environmentally sensitive physical projects in order to provide pertinent jobs and specific training for residents.
2. Encourage a high degree of public/private cooperation in the planning of economic development activities and meeting manpower needs.
3. Improve public/private cooperative efforts to expand pre-employment and on-job training opportunities.
4. Strengthen the capacity of the Territorial Government to monitor public and private sectors for compliance with preference laws for hiring residents.
5. Initiate jobs and industry creation research in areas such as high technology and energy management.

PUBLIC SAFETY

GOAL: Protect life and property of all residents, businesses and visitors of the Virgin Islands.

OBJECTIVE A

Achieve more effective, efficient and responsive law enforcement operations.

STRATEGIES

1. Provide adequate funding and staffing for the Police Department and other law enforcement agencies so as to retain qualified and an adequate amount of personnel.
2. Continue efforts to upgrade administrative practices.
3. Civilians should be trained and hired to perform desk and office duties so that police officers can focus on police work and effectively enforce all laws.
4. Continue improvements to the processing and analysis of crime data.
5. Continue efforts to upgrade police communication and transportation systems.
6. Provide for marine and air patrol of the Territory's coastlines.
7. Provide continuous training to improve police capabilities to deal properly with special populations, including tourists, other victims, the mentally ill and substance abusers.
8. Continue to review, and revise if needed, the criminal code to ensure that the laws are relevant, practical, and enforceable.
9. Give high priority to the strict enforcement of all drug-related laws.
10. Coordinate the law enforcement components of the various offices and agencies mandated to deal with law enforcement.
11. Provide adequate funding for protective equipment to safeguard law enforcement officers.

12. Investigate all reports of corruption, substance abuse, and incompetence on the part of law enforcement officers, and report the findings to the public.

OBJECTIVE B

Achieve a high level of public involvement in the fight against crime.

STRATEGIES

1. Adequately fund the Crime Prevention/Community Relations Bureau to be able to work with single clients, multiple clients and policy makers.
2. Support the Youth Component of the Crime Prevention/Community Relations Bureau.
3. Continue to utilize the media to encourage people to report suspicious persons or activities and provide general crime prevention information.
4. Revise the Building Code to incorporate crime proofing measures in the design of new structures and community facilities.
5. Improve participation of the public in setting, evaluating and achieving the goals of public safety.
6. Adequately fund an effective victim/witness assistance program.
7. Improve protection of the rights of victims and witnesses.

OBJECTIVE C

Improve programs and facilities for offenders.

STRATEGIES

1. Increase the capacity, flexibility and range of facilities and services for offenders.
2. Improve services to offenders by increasing community involvement and inter-agency cooperation.
3. Achieve effective use of manpower within the incarcerated population.

4. Expand in-service training for all staff of the Division of Children, Youth and Families.
5. Expand alternatives to incarceration.
6. Review existing practices to determine compliance with the provisions of the Correctional Code.

OBJECTIVE D

Reduce loss from fire through an efficient fire prevention and fire fighting system.

STRATEGIES

1. Provide adequate facilities for administration, fire prevention staff, and fire fighting personnel and equipment.
2. Coordinate efforts with other emergency services and utilities to properly identify all roads and plots in the Territory.
3. Maintain inter-agency coordination of efforts to prevent and suppress fires in urban, country and marine areas.
4. Provide continuous staff training and development.
5. Ensure that construction and earth change practices are in accordance with the lessened likelihood of preventable accidents and disasters.

RECREATION

GOAL: Provide opportunities for a wide variety of leisure time activities.

OBJECTIVE A

Provide recreation services to help improve the mental and physical health of the people of the Virgin Islands.

STRATEGIES

1. Provide recreational facilities, programs and activities to serve the entire population.
2. Involve all sectors of the community in recreation planning to ensure that the issues, management strategies and recommendations set forth in the Territorial Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan reflect the concerns of diverse users of recreational programs.
3. Promote a wide-range of leisure, recreational and cultural activities by establishing mutually desirable partnerships and coalitions with public, private and independent recreation service providers to enhance the quality and delivery of recreation opportunities.
4. Improve recreation opportunities for the disabled by involving disabled individuals in the planning and decision-making processes of recreation providers and eliminating architectural and attitudinal barriers.
5. Increase the variety and amount of after-school and weekend recreation activities for young children and adolescents to reduce the opportunities for drug abuse, delinquency and dropping out of school.
6. Expand recreational opportunities for the elderly in order to maintain physical fitness and mental acuity.
7. Provide funding for the installation and maintenance of recreational facilities and equipment at public housing communities.
8. Encourage self-help maintenance and repair of public recreational facilities and equipment by providing funds to public housing tenants associations and other concerned civic groups.

OBJECTIVE B

Assure the preservation of recreational, natural and historical resources and promote appreciation of these resources through programs that increase knowledge and understanding of their importance.

STRATEGIES

1. Intensify efforts to make the natural heritage data better known and accessible to potential users including regional planning agencies, engineers, developers, government agencies, and travel and tourism businesses.
2. Conduct heritage resource inventories of government and private lands.
3. Conduct an aggressive land acquisition program to help preserve the remnants of the natural heritage of the Virgin Islands.
4. Implement the Parks/Marine Training Program to provide hands-on environmental education experiences for young people.

OBJECTIVE C

Inform residents and visitors about recreational activities.

STRATEGIES

1. Publish a directory of territorial nature preserves, beaches and parks open to the public.
2. Publish a monthly program of recreational activities conducted by government and private organizations in the Territory.

OBJECTIVE D

Support programs that will help foster private recreation enterprises and volunteer efforts in order to enhance the contribution of recreation services to the Territory's economy and quality of life.

STRATEGIES

1. Lease government-owned property to non-profit organizations so that they can provide specific recreational services for the entire community.

2. Make government parks and other facilities available to private organizations conducting sports and other recreational activities.
3. Assist private organizations in obtaining supplemental funds for operations so that they can provide recreational services to the general public.
4. Improve facilities at public schools and make such facilities fully available to students during and after school, and to the general public whenever feasible.

OBJECTIVE E

Develop a Territorial Park System to safeguard and enhance the land and marine environment of the Virgin Islands.

STRATEGIES

1. Enlist the cooperation of the National Park Service in developing the Territorial Park System.
2. Train Virgin Islanders in parks administration, maintenance, resource management, protection and interpretation.
3. Establish an associates degree program in recreation at the University of the Virgin Islands.
4. Collaborate with public and private property owners owners to beautify common walkways and roadways in order to promote pedestrian safety and physical fitness and provide for the enjoyment of all.

SOLID AND LIQUID WASTE

GOAL: Achieve a sound system of waste disposal to support basic public health and environmental standards.

OBJECTIVE A

Establish a trash reduction program.

STRATEGIES

1. Restrict the importation of unnecessary packaging, non-biodegradable materials in general, toxic and hazardous chemicals, lead-containing products, pesticides and herbicides that present a potential for soil and/or water pollution.
2. Educate the public regarding the safe uses and methods of disposal of household and garden products that contain potentially harmful products.

OBJECTIVE B

Develop, maintain and regulate effective solid, liquid and hazardous waste collection and disposal systems.

STRATEGIES

1. Ensure that sites of appropriate location and adequate size are reserved for solid waste disposal.
2. Encourage the development and utilization of alternate methods of collection and waste disposal.
3. Allow the widest possible private sector participation in solid waste collection and waste disposal.
4. Upgrade and maintain the Territory's solid waste disposal sites to meet EPA sanitary landfill standards.
5. Make available the requisite financial and manpower resources to adequately address the waste disposal problems.
6. Strengthen and enforce anti-litter laws.
7. Establish a resource recovery or recycling system.

8. Ensure stringent regulation of waste oil and other hazardous waste generation, transportation, treatment and storage activities.

OBJECTIVE C

Utilize sound planning in the siting, maintenance and regulation of wastewater treatment systems.

STRATEGIES

1. Ensure that sites of appropriate location and adequate size are reserved for solid waste disposal.
2. Encourage the development and utilization of alternate methods of collection and waste disposal.
3. Allow the widest possible private sector participation in solid waste collection and disposal.
4. Utilize the USDA Soil Survey of the Virgin Islands as a guide in permitting the location and the capacity of sewage systems.
5. Upgrade and maintain the Territory's liquid waste disposal facilities to meet EPA standards.

TOURISM

GOAL: Develop and maintain a strong, well-planned and monitored quality tourism industry which harmoniously interacts with the culture, traditions and heritage in which it operates to create a mutually satisfying economic, social and physical environment.

OBJECTIVE A

Strengthen the ties between tourism and other sectors of the economy.

STRATEGIES

1. Encourage the development of new and existing support industries which produce and/or supply tourism industry needs.
2. Give preference to tourism industry developments which encourage and depend upon other economic sector participation.
3. Evaluate and balance the overall effect to the Virgin Islands of the cruise ship industry's use of our ports as a destination and homeport.

OBJECTIVE B

Improve the level of local participation in all aspects of the tourism industry.

STRATEGIES

1. Design and support educational and promotional programs to increase public awareness of the economic benefits and opportunities in the tourism industry.
2. Give preference, training and financial support to locally owned and tourism businesses.
3. The approval of tourism industry developments should be conditioned to hire and train natives and long-term residents in all aspects of project construction and operation.
4. Job security and benefit measures in the tourism industry should be encouraged to attract a high degree of local participation in the tourism workforce.

OBJECTIVE C

Create a more balanced distribution of the benefits of the tourism market.

STRATEGIES

1. Promote the unique character and highlight the variety of tourist opportunities on each island.
2. Recognize and provide infrastructural support for the varying needs of the different tourism sectors on each island.
3. Increase efforts to balance the segments of the tourism economy among St. Thomas, St. John and St. Croix.
4. Encourage examination of expanding the boating infrastructure on all three islands without destroying our coastal resources.
5. Encourage the increase in cruise ship visits to St. Croix.
6. Utilize marketing and advertising that promotes and reflects the character and people of the Virgin Islands.

OBJECTIVE D

Increase the attractiveness of the islands as a tourist destination.

STRATEGIES

1. Recognize that protection of the environment is essential to the long-term success of tourism in the Virgin Islands, and continue to place special emphasis on its preservation and enhancement through public and private sector cooperation.
2. Strengthen the environmental monitoring and enforcement operations and powers of the government to ensure that tourism industry activities do not significantly endanger the environmental quality of the islands.
3. Encourage the establishment of quality places of entertainment, cultural activities, planned open spaces and general accommodations to serve the tourist.
4. Design and support promotional campaigns and incentive measures to increase public involvement in maintaining the beauty of the islands.

OBJECTIVE E

Create a steady year round tourism economy

STRATEGIES

1. Continue to develop special markets for the Virgin Islands to attract the upscale market.
2. Undertake extensive market research of quality selected new market areas for potential expansion.
3. Intensify efforts to promote the Virgin Islands as a tourism destination during the traditional off-season.

OBJECTIVE F

Develop a tourism plan based on a realistic understanding of the limits to growth.

STRATEGIES

1. Design and implement a plan for the long range management and expansion of the tourism industry based upon a strongly-defined sense of social and environmental carrying capacity.
2. Enforce environmental protection measures to ensure the long-term success of tourism in the Virgin Islands.
3. Encourage quality rather than quantity-oriented tourism development programs.

OBJECTIVE G

Reduce the negative impacts of tourism on the cultural and social fabric of the Virgin Islands.

STRATEGIES

1. Ensure that tourist facilities and destination areas are carefully planned and sensitive to the scale and character of neighborhoods.
2. Require tourism industry investors to share in the social costs of development.
3. Encourage broader distribution to visitors of Virgin Islands cultural and historical information and invite tourist participation in those on-going activities.

4. Expand tourism industry and sensitivity to participation of local cultural affairs.
5. Encourage hotels to expand local food use and presentation of Caribbean forms of entertainment performed by local artists.
6. Encourage a greater participation of local artists in providing tourism industry entertainment, decoration and utilitarian needs.

TRANSPORTATION

GOAL: Achieve a reliable transportation system that promotes safe, energy efficient, convenient, affordable and efficient movement of people and goods.

OBJECTIVE A

Maintain, improve, and expand air, sea, and land transportation infrastructure facilities to effectively accommodate persons, businesses, and goods.

STRATEGIES

1. Clearly establish maintenance schedules and priorities for the roads of the Territory.
2. Coordinate all additions to the land, air, and water transportation system.
3. Upgrade the transshipment capacity of the Territory and market this service in the region.

OBJECTIVE B

Reduce the need for, and the use of, the private automobile.

STRATEGIES

1. Adequately fund or provide incentives for the provision of mass-transit services as an alternative to the use of private vehicles, especially in urbanized areas and during rush hours.
2. Establish fringe park and shuttle ride services on all three islands to alleviate congestion in the major areas.
3. Develop incentives to expand the use of existing private mass transportation carriers, taxis, shuttles, safaris, church and business motor pools and vans.
4. Apply land use measures which will result in land development patterns being transit efficient.
5. Extend the public transit service area to include as many island residents as practical.

6. Maintain limits on the number of rental and taxi vehicles.
7. Increase road taxes, registration fees, etc., especially for each vehicle over the first per family.
8. Reduce air pollution, congestion, and traffic in the central business areas through the use of increased public transit service and improved traffic management.
9. Increase transportation to those persons who because of age (young and old), physical, economic or other reasons cannot utilize available transportation services.

OBJECTIVE C

Develop an accessible, well routed transportation system which is responsive to the needs of the community and in harmony with the natural environment.

STRATEGIES

1. Develop a land use plan that provides for the rational location of activities in terms of the availability of transportation and the kinds of transportation demand which exists between and within land uses.
2. Establish a local transportation authority responsible for transportation planning, regulation, implementation and policing, with board members from the private and public sectors.
3. Reduce air pollution, congestion, and traffic in the central business areas through the use of increased public transit services and improved traffic management.
4. Use the safest and most economical means of transporting students.
5. Enforce laws regarding safe operation of motor vehicles and pedestrian circulation to reduce traffic congestion and dangerous practices of motor vehicle operators and pedestrians.

WATER RESOURCES

GOAL: Achieve fulfillment of both water quality and quantity needs in the Virgin Islands.

OBJECTIVE A

Develop efficient, cost effective and equitable water supply, storage and distribution systems for all water usage classifications in the Territory.

STRATEGIES

1. The public water supply should be allocated for use by public domestic, private domestic, agriculture, commerce and industry.
2. Fully utilize all available techniques to decrease the reliance on the potable water system.
3. Improve and enhance managerial efficiency in the public potable water system.
4. Encourage advanced wastewater reclamation to produce water for agricultural, industrial and other uses.
5. Utilize energy efficient desalination technologies.
6. Establish permanent baseline databases on physical, chemical and biological data on all sources of Virgin Islands waters.
7. Consider and promote all new appropriate technology that may have potential in better management of all of the water of the Virgin Islands.
8. Meet with agencies and committees which can provide review and analysis of technologies.

OBJECTIVE B

Ensure high quality drinking water.

STRATEGIES

1. Support a program for routine inspection, disinfection and recoating of public water storage facilities.

2. Ensure the immediate public notification and provide assistance in disinfection, when drinking water exceeds the maximum allowable contamination levels.
3. Regularly inspect and repair sea water and sewer pipelines to avoid contamination of potable water.
4. Develop and support a water-quality monitoring network for ground water systems.

OBJECTIVE C

Achieve a high level of water conservation and a more enlightened public awareness of the cost and availability of water.

STRATEGIES

1. Encourage and promote water conservation education programs which will increase public awareness of the issues surrounding the production and use of water.
2. Achieve a user-paid water consumption system.