

# Frederiksted Today

MARCH, 2019

The town of Frederiksted, St. Croix, US Virgin Islands has long held the status of point of entry for all cruise ship passenger arrivals to the island of St. Croix.

In 2007 Phase I of the Frederiksted Economic Revitalization Project was completed, and the Frederiksted Waterfront Promenade was unveiled for the enjoyment of residents and visitors of our Island home. We were proud. Our welcoming point of entry to our Island was pristine—revitalized reflecting Crucian and Virgin Islander pride and progress.

Additional Phases of the Frederiksted Economic Revitalization project were yet to be completed, but we were on the right path.







Today













Verne L. Richards Veterans Park....**2007** 





Verne L. Richards Veterans Park.... TODAY





2007

Today.

## Oscar E. Henry Customs House



2007

Today.

*"Frederiksted boasts some of the richest culture, tradition and history of any location in the Caribbean."* 



#### Historic Aldershville Home – Circa 1880



## ALDERSHVILLE HOME

Since its construction in the 1880s, this cluster of four, row-house type buildings has served as a nome and social center for the poor and elderly. Renovated and partially restored in 1979. Little altered and in good condition.

Placed by St. Croix Historic Preservation Commission-2006





Historic Frederiksted Hospital

## Circa 1803

The Historic Town of Frederiksted was designated a Historic and Architectural Control District by Act No. 5554, Bill No. 18-0191, May 22, 1990.



### The Historic Town of Frederiksted was designated an Enterprise Zone, July 13, 1999.













"To attract visitors and private investment, our house must be in order. Let us display our Crucian and Virgin Islands pride and the warmth and friendship of our people."













Frederiksted was once touted as one of the most beautiful Ports of Entry in all of the Caribbean.

We can no longer claim that status.

Due to years of:

- Governmental and Private Sector neglect
- Lack of appropriate maintenance of our infrastructure
- Failure to task property owners (VI Government & Private) with the importance of upkeep and the necessity to maintain street front facades,
- Failure of the VIG to follow through on Phase II of the Frederiksted Economic Revitalization Project

The above combined with the ravage that came from two Category V Hurricanes 18 months ago have brought us to our current state of absolute disrepair, and embarrassment.

Granted, we have all been overwhelmed with the restoration and rebuilding of our Territory. Frederiksted has been all but totally overlooked in that restoration process. The infrastructure of the Waterfront Promenade, Verne L Richards Veterans Park, electrical infrastructure of the park, and replacement, repair and/or restoration of park amenities have not been addressed to date.

The photos included in this document represent only a small portion of the Waterfront neglect and the derelict properties in our town. The photos shown herein encompass only a **sampling** of what exists in a small three-square-block area. However, the same three square blocks represented are the footprint of what our guests arriving via cruise ship are subjected to, in addition to the most frequented areas of town that are visited by our overnight guests.

Is this what we want for *them*? Is this what we want for *us*?

Frederiksted must receive immediate attention and remediation to its current dismal status. Once accomplished, we can then focus forward on implementing Phase II of the Frederiksted Economic Revitalization Project.

It is time. We are better than this.