

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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From Left to Right: VIWAPA Power Systems Director of Project Management Chavante Marsh, DPW Commissioner Derek Gabriel, ODR Director Adrienne L. Williams-Octalien and VIWAPA Water Systems Manager of Design and Construction Kimberly Slodden

Recovery in Focus Kicks Off its Fourth Season with a Special on Utility Coordination

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS – As part of the fourth season of *Recovery in Focus*, the Office of Disaster Recovery (ODR) - in collaboration with the V.I. Housing Finance Authority and WTJX-TV Channel 12 - will air its first episode featuring the Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority (VIWAPA) and the Department of Public Works (DPW) on Thursday, August 31 at 8 p.m. on WTJX-TV Channel 12 and online at <u>Facebook.com/WTJX</u>.

The August 2023 episode includes detailed updates on a wide range of high-level coordination projects between the Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority and the Department of Public Works. Water Systems Manager of Design and Construction Kimberly Slodden and Power Systems Director of Project Management Chavante Marsh, share behind-the-scenes details of completed and upcoming waterline replacement, expansion, and undergrounding projects throughout the territory. At the same time, Commissioner Derek Gabriel of the Department of Public Works provides an update on critical road projects and shares his perspective as the agency spearheading utility coordination efforts. Host ODR Director Adrienne L. Williams-Octalien leads this dynamic conversation, highlighting the collective efforts between DPW, VIWAPA, Liberty VI, and other government agencies to ensure the success of major utility coordination projects.

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WTJX will also share this month's broadcast on their <u>website</u> and the PBS app, which can be viewed via TV streaming devices such as Roku, Apple TV, Amazon Firestick, etc., and on smart devices. Recovery in Focus' premiered in March 2020 and has aired over thirty episodes, providing current news and status updates on recovery-related projects and topics throughout the Territory.

The Office of Disaster Recovery "Building a Legacy of Resilience"

For news on this and other disaster recovery projects and initiatives, visit <u>http://www.usviodr.com</u>. ####

The Bryan-Roach Administration is committed to transparency, stabilizing the economy, restoring trust in the government, and ensuring that recovery projects are completed as quickly as possible. Visit transparency.vi.gov.