Community Economic Development
in the US Virgin Islands

You're kidding, right?

WAPA must be properly reformed and Municipal Corporations (legal towns and cities) must be permitted, in bills enacted by the Legislature, signed into law by the Governor, and implemented with the help of the Delegate to Congress and all affected parties in the Territory, before community economic development is a viable undertaking.

Real community economic development only occurs in legal municipalities with:

A) Jurisdictional boundaries with elected governing bodies; and,

B) Established legal and consistent clear and uniformly-enforced planning, zoning and development entitlement ordinances and rules and regulations that reflect community design and land use standards; and,

C) Local jurisdictional decision-making at the staff, approval, appeal, and governing body decision stages; and,

D) Time is of-the-essence strict enforcement of submission, review, decision and appeal processes and timing:

E) That the owner, developer, consultants, contractors and financiers of every project can *trust and rely* on;

F) *throughout all submission, review, approval, inspections and issuance of certificates of occupancy approvals.*

This is essential for attracting legitimate, experienced developers with financeable projects.

These conditions do not exist in the US Virgin Islands.

The USVI does not have municipal governments that can credibly process sustainable community economic development activities, given it's current colonial monopolistic territorial government and utility structures.

Developers and especially their financiers demand demonstrable consistency and accountability before investing time and resources in community economic development projects. They are not speculators spending their own money.

They demand availability of suitable public and utility infrastructure to support their projects and credible enforceable commitments by the local authorities responsible for providing such infrastructure.

No jurisdiction exists in the USVI to provide such infrastructure or credible enforceable commitments.

Establishment of municipalities under a Municipal Corporations Act and member-owned and operated community rural electric and utility cooperatives is germane under the 1954 Revised Organic Act.

COMMON SENSE USVI 2026 is just such a plan, developed and proposed by the Christiansted Revitalization Planning Task Force and presented to the public as a non-partisan grassroots policy initiative by BottomUpGovernment.org or BUG.vip, a pop-up citizens advocacy network enterprise.