

UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

DISASTER RECOVERY ACTION PLAN

Amendment 2

SUMMARY

September 3, 2020

Prepared by:

Virgin Islands Housing Finance Authority





Proposed Amendment 2 to Disaster Recovery Action Plan

Overview

The United States Virgin Islands (“U.S. Virgin Islands,” “USVI,” or “Territory”) has been allocated a total of \$1,075,489,444 of Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (“Disaster Recovery,” or “CDBG-DR”) funding from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) to assist in the recovery and rebuilding efforts resulting from Hurricanes Irma and Maria. HUD executes grant agreements with the Virgin Islands Housing Finance Authority (VIHFA), as the grantee, which contain requirements and conditions for the use of the disaster recovery funds.

The U.S. Virgin Islands’ Disaster Recovery Action Plan details how the Territory intends to utilize the HUD grant funds on eligible disaster recovery activities. The current Disaster Recovery Action Plan, which was approved by HUD on March 1, 2019, can be found at: <https://www.vihfa.gov/disaster-recovery/action-plan>.

Any funding change greater than 1% of the total Disaster Recovery allocation or any change in the designated beneficiaries of a program constitutes a substantial amendment and must be made available for review by the public and approved by HUD.

This proposed Disaster Recovery Action Plan Amendment 2 is being published for public comment. The Amendment makes the following modifications:

1. Adds \$53,588,884 to Infrastructure Unmet Needs

Tranche 2A: The January 27, 2020 Federal Register Notice (FR-6182-N-01) allocated \$53,588,884 CDBG-DR funds to the U.S. Virgin Islands for unmet infrastructure need, allowing up to 5% of the funds to be used for administration costs. This Amendment fully allocates \$50,909,440 to infrastructure activity funds for the Local Share “Match” for Federal Disaster Recovery program and \$2,679,444 for administration costs. This additional CDBG-DR funding has been identified as Tranche 2A.

2. Fully Funds Electric Grid Project in Tranche 1

The HUD/USVI CDBG-DR Tranche 2 Grant Agreement includes a special condition that is not included in the CDBG-DR Tranche 1 Grant Agreement. The Tranche 2 special condition requires additional approvals for electric grid projects. This Amendment proposes to fully fund both phases of the Randolph Harley Power Plant (RHPP) New Generation project with Tranche 1 Electrical Power System Enhancement and Improvement program funds.

The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority (WAPA) was awarded \$45,000,000 CDBG-DR Tranche 1 funds to complete Phase 1 of the RHPP project. Phase 1 includes the design of the full project (Phase 1 and Phase 2), and the acquisition and installation of 2 generators. Phase 2 of the RHPP includes the acquisition and installation of up to 2 additional generators and the acquisition and





installation of up to 4 Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) units, which are systems that stores energy using a battery technology, to be used later.

WAPA has selected a design/build firm for the RHPP project through a competitive bid process. With the RHPP project ready to move forward, a total of \$50,903,330 is being reallocated from several programs into the Electrical Power System Enhancement and Improvement program to complete both phases of the RHPP project with Tranche 1 funds. Tranche 2 funds are being reallocated to adjust program allocations to the final proposed funding levels as reflected in Table 2 on page 4.

3. Priority for Housing Activities

Housing continues to be one of the highest needs in the Territory. Program budgets have been realigned to allocate additional Tranche 2 funds into the four housing programs for a total of \$326,703,038. This represents an increase of over 58% above Housing activity funding in the first Action Plan Amendment. The EnVIision Tomorrow Homeowner Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program increased by almost 40%, raising from \$60 million to \$150.2 million. New Housing and Infrastructure Construction increases by \$20,000,000, and Public and Affordable Housing Development receives an additional \$8,500,000.

Table 1: Proposed total funding allocations per program:

Program		TOTAL Allocation
Housing	Homeowner Rehabilitation and Reconstruction	\$150,203,038
	New Housing and Infrastructure Construction (Homeownership)	\$70,000,000
	Rental Reailitation and Reconstruction	\$25,000,000
	Public and Affordable Housing Development	\$81,500,000
Public Services and Public Facilities	Public Services	\$500,000
	Rehabilitation, Reconstruction or New Construction of Facilities	\$37,000,000
Infrastructure	Non-Federal Share (Match) for Federal Disaster Recovery	\$432,750,000
	Infrastructure Repair and Resilience	\$45,750,000
	Electrical Power Systems Enhancement and Improvement	\$95,903,330
Economic Development	Ports and Airports Enhancement	\$38,109,022
	Tourism Industry Support Program	\$10,000,000
	Workforce Development	\$17,000,000
Total Programs		\$1,003,715,390
Planning		\$18,000,000
Administration*		\$53,774,494
TOTAL		\$1,075,489,884

*Administration costs are capped at 5% of the overall allocation

The proposed adjustments to reallocate the funds are reflected in Table 2 on the next page.





Table 2A: Proposed Changes to Funding Allocations by Tranche

Program	Tranche 1			Tranche 2		Tranche 2A	TOTAL of Revised Allocation Tranches 1 and 2, plus Tranche 2A	
	Allocation: Tranche 1	Variance to Tranche 1	Revised Allocation Tranche 1	Allocation: Tranche 2	Variance to Tranche 2	Allocation: Tranche 2A		
	(a)	(b)	(a + b = c) (c)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(a + b + c + d + e)	
Housing	Homeowner Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program	\$10,000,000	\$6,965,433	\$16,965,433	\$50,000,000	\$83,237,605	\$0	\$150,203,038
	New Housing and Infrastructure Construction (Homeownership) ①	\$10,000,000	(\$3,515,000)	\$6,485,000	\$40,000,000	\$23,515,000	\$0	\$70,000,000
	Rental Rehabilitation & Reconstruction	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$20,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$25,000,000
	Public & Affordable Housing Development	\$32,000,000	(\$14,029,500)	\$17,970,500	\$40,000,000	\$23,529,500	\$0	\$81,500,000
Public Services and Public Facilities ②	Public Services ③		\$500,000	\$500,000		\$0	\$0	\$500,000
	Rehabilitation, Reconstruction or New Construction of Public Facilities ④	\$15,000,000	(\$15,000,000)	\$0	\$75,000,000	(\$38,000,000)	\$0	\$37,000,000
Infrastructure	Non-Federal Share (Match) for Federal Disaster Recovery ⑤	\$45,549,800	(\$23,808,463)	\$21,741,337	\$123,256,150	\$236,843,073	\$50,909,440	\$432,750,000
	Infrastructure Repair & Resilience	\$30,000,000	(\$7,015,800)	\$22,984,200	\$275,000,000	(\$252,234,200)	\$0	\$45,750,000
	Electrical Power Systems Enhancement and Improvement	\$45,000,000	\$50,903,330	\$95,903,330	\$90,000,000	(\$90,000,000)	\$0	\$95,903,330
Economic Revitalization	Ports and Airports Enhancement	\$23,000,000	\$0	\$23,000,000	\$17,000,000	(\$1,890,978)	\$0	\$38,109,022
	Tourism Industry Support Program	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$10,000,000
	Workforce Development	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$7,000,000	\$0	\$17,000,000
	Total Programs	\$225,549,800	(\$5,000,000)	\$220,549,800	\$740,256,150	(\$8,000,000)	\$50,909,440	\$1,003,715,390
	Planning	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$0	\$8,000,000		\$18,000,000
	Administration	\$12,134,200		\$12,134,200	\$38,960,850		\$2,679,444	\$53,774,494
	TOTAL	\$242,684,000		\$242,684,000	\$779,217,000		\$53,588,884	\$1,075,489,884

* Administration costs are capped at 5% of the overall allocation

- ① Previously titled, "New Construction for Homeownership Opportunity and First Time Homebuyer Assistance"
- ② New sector previously included in Housing as, "Supportive Housing & Sheltering Programs"
- ③ and ④ New Programs created from the "Supportive Housing & Sheltering Programs"
- ⑤ Previously titled, "Local Non-Federal Match for Federal Disaster Recovery"

Legend: Proposed changes reflected in green represents increased funding amounts; red represents funding reductions. **Black** amounts reflected in current allocations indicate no change; the final proposed allocations for all three Tranches (1, 2, and 2A) are also represented in black.





Table 2B: Alternate View of Same Proposed Changes to Funding Allocations by Tranche

Program		Tranche 1		Tranche 2		Tranche 2A	TOTAL of Revised Allocation Tranches 1 and 2, plus Tranche 2A
		Allocation: Tranche 1	Variance to Tranche 1	Allocation: Tranche 2	Variance to Tranche 2	Allocation: Tranche 2A	
		(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(a + b + c + d + e)
Housing	Homeowner Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program	\$10,000,000	\$6,965,433	\$50,000,000	\$83,237,605	\$0	\$150,203,038
	New Housing and Infrastructure Construction (Homeownership) ①	\$10,000,000	(\$3,515,000)	\$40,000,000	\$23,515,000	\$0	\$70,000,000
	Rental Rehabilitation & Reconstruction	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$20,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$25,000,000
	Public & Affordable Housing Development	\$32,000,000	(\$14,029,500)	\$40,000,000	\$23,529,500	\$0	\$81,500,000
Public Services and Public Facilities ②	Public Services ③		\$500,000		\$0	\$0	\$500,000
	Rehabilitation, Reconstruction or New Construction of Public Facilities ④	\$15,000,000	(\$15,000,000)	\$75,000,000	(\$38,000,000)	\$0	\$37,000,000
Infrastructure	Non-Federal Share (Match) for Federal Disaster Recovery ⑤	\$45,549,800	(\$23,808,463)	\$123,256,150	\$236,843,073	\$50,909,440	\$432,750,000
	Infrastructure Repair & Resilience	\$30,000,000	(\$7,015,800)	\$275,000,000	(\$252,234,200)	\$0	\$45,750,000
	Electrical Power Systems Enhancement and Improvement	\$45,000,000	\$50,903,330	\$90,000,000	(\$90,000,000)	\$0	\$95,903,330
Economic Revitalization	Ports and Airports Enhancement	\$23,000,000	\$0	\$17,000,000	(\$1,890,978)	\$0	\$38,109,022
	Tourism Industry Support Program	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$10,000,000
	Workforce Development	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$7,000,000	\$0	\$17,000,000
	Total Programs	\$225,549,800	(\$5,000,000)	\$740,256,150	(\$8,000,000)	\$50,909,440	\$1,003,715,390
	Planning	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$8,000,000		\$18,000,000
	Administration	\$12,134,200		\$38,960,850		\$2,679,444	\$53,774,494
	TOTAL	\$242,684,000		\$779,217,000		\$53,588,884	\$1,075,489,884

* Administration costs are capped at 5% of the overall allocation

- ① Previously titled, "New Construction for Homeownership Opportunity and First Time Homebuyer Assistance"
- ② New sector previously included in Housing as, "Supportive Housing & Sheltering Programs"
- ③ and ④ New Programs created from the "Supportive Housing & Sheltering Programs"
- ⑤ Previously titled, "Local Non-Federal Match for Federal Disaster Recovery"

Legend: Proposed changes reflected in green represents increased funding amounts; red represents funding reductions. Black amounts reflected in current allocations indicate no change; the final proposed allocations for all three Tranches (1, 2, and 2A) are also represented in black.

Projects that are eligible for programs where funds were reallocated into housing or Non-Federal Share (Match) for Disaster Recovery may be eligible for funding under CDBG-Mitigation (CDBG-MIT). The CDBG-MIT Action Plan/Amendment will be released separately.





4. Updates Unmet Needs

While recovery efforts are underway many disaster-related impacts remain unaddressed due to the profound extent and breadth of the damages to housing, infrastructure, and the economy; the unique conditions and vulnerabilities of U.S. Virgin Islands residents and businesses; and the limitations of available funding assistance. An unmet need assessment, included in both the Action Plan and Amendment 1, has been updated throughout this Action Plan Amendment using the most recent data available to provide essential information to better understand the extent of unmet needs and funding available throughout the Territory.

Recognizing there still exist areas of need in the Territory related to the 2017 hurricanes, VIHFA conducted a survey of the non-profit service providers to assess how CDBG-DR funds could be used to meet the demands. Budgets were adjusted based on the information gathered in the survey.

5. Creates the Public Services and Facilities Sector

Public facilities are defined as publicly owned facilities or buildings owned by non-profits or agencies that are open to the public or serve persons with special needs. Examples of publicly owned facilities are libraries, recreational facilities, parks or playgrounds. Examples of buildings owned by non-profits or agencies are homeless or domestic violence shelters, nursing or group homes, or health clinics.

Public Services are activities undertaken to provide employment training, childcare, health services, substance abuse treatment and counseling, educational programs, fair housing counseling, services for senior citizens and others.

These activities were previously included under the Housing sector of CDBG-DR. This Amendment creates a **Public Services and Public Facilities** sector that will include a program for public services and one for public facilities, which will include emergency shelter development.

Full details about the Public Services and Public Facilities programs are found in the full Amendment. A brief description of these programs can be found in 7. Method of Distribution Program Modifications below.

6. Low- and Moderate-Income Data Waiver Request

The Federal Register Notices awarding CDBG-DR recovery funds to the U.S. Virgin Islands requires that no less than 70% of the aggregate program funds be used to support activities benefitting low- and moderate-income persons. HUD sets area median incomes (AMI) and income limits (adjusted for household size) for program grantees based on data from the American Community Survey (ACS), a data collection survey conducted on an ongoing basis by the U.S. Census Bureau. Unfortunately, the





ACS is not conducted in the Virgin Islands; HUD relies on the most recent census data, which is the 2010 data.

The use of the outdated 2010 census data for establishing income levels for CDBG-DR beneficiaries within the Territory does not fully represent the discrepancies between wages and the high costs of living in the U.S. Virgin Islands (including the fair market rents that do not align with the wages, higher construction costs, and the costs of electricity in mid-2019 being three times higher than average power costs in all 50 states).

Since the data HUD used to determine the U.S. Virgin Islands low- and moderate-income limits is over a decade old, VIHFA submitted a waiver request to HUD to use household income data collected after the 2017 hurricanes by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through the Individual Assistance program to establish low- and moderate-income limits.

HUD establishes income levels for each of the three major U.S. Virgin Islands (St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. John). The waiver additionally requests the use of the St. John income levels throughout the Territory. Details about the request are in the Amendment document. The waiver request was submitted to HUD in January 2020.

Upon HUD approval of the low- and moderate-income data waiver, a larger and more representative number of U.S. Virgin Islands households will be identified as low- and moderate-income. The benefits of the CDBG-DR funds and disaster recovery activities will be vastly expanded as much needed projects become eligible with the low- and moderate-income area national objective, either on an island-specific or Territory-wide basis.

7. Method of Distribution Program Modifications

A new sector of activities has been created to fund public services targeting low- and moderate-income populations, especially those HUD presumes to be LMI, such as the homeless, elderly, at-risk youth, victims of domestic violence and others. These activities were previously included in the Housing sector as (a) Supportive Housing for Vulnerable Populations and (b) Emergency Shelter Development programs.

The **Public Services and Facilities** sector includes two (2) programs:

- **Services for Vulnerable Populations:** This is a new program that will provide assistance to public and private non- and for-profit social services organizations that provide services to vulnerable populations such as homeless, elderly, at-risk youth, and the other groups HUD identifies as presumed to be low- and moderate-income that have a tie to the disaster with a social, economic or physical impact.
- **Rehabilitation, Reconstruction or New Construction of Public Facilities:** This program will fund the rehabilitation or creation of care facilities, such as long-term care homes for the elderly or vulnerable populations. Facilities for persons with special needs such as facilities for the homeless or domestic violence shelters, nursing homes, or group homes





for the disabled are all public facilities, not permanent housing units. Multi-purpose facilities that include emergency sheltering capacity, as well as other public facilities that provide public services such as employment training, health services, education, recreation, nutrition, shelter, day care, temporary housing, and fire protection are eligible public facility activities.

8. CDBG-DR Funded Projects

To obtain a commitment of CDBG-DR funding to a specific project, subrecipients (public or governmental entities, or nonprofit or community-based development organizations) must submit a project application to VIHFA. The project application identifies the CDBG-DR program, activity and national objective to be met, along with the description, scope, budget and timeline for project completion. Upon approval of the eligibility requirements and project details, VIHFA will develop a Project Agreement which is an addendum to the CDBG-DR Subrecipient Agreement.

VIHFA also enters into agreements with non-subrecipients. For profit developers may also submit applications for consideration for some activities. The contractual agreement between VIHFA and non-subrecipient applicants is based on the type of entity (for profit developer, for instance), the terms of the assistance (loan or grant), project description, activity and end-use beneficiaries.

Although many projects are conceptualized, planned, discussed, and may have an application submitted to VIHFA, CDBG-DR funding is only committed to a project with the execution of a Project Agreement addendum to the CDBG-DR Subrecipient Agreement, or a loan agreement, whichever is appropriate.

Table 3 provides details about projects with an executed Project Agreement between VIHFA and the agency, authority or developer to carry out the activities. The Table also includes descriptions of projects that have been submitted to VIHFA as of June 30, 2020, but the review or approval has not been completed or the Project Agreement has not yet been executed.

VIHFA will carry out some activity and develop projects directly. VIHFA will enter an agreement with the developer, contractor or provider, based on the project and activity. Table 3 includes descriptions of these projects.





Table 3: CDBG-DR Projects effective June 30, 2020

HOUSING PROGRAMS		
HOMEOWNER REHABILITATION AND RECONSTRUCTION (EnVIsion Tomorrow) PROGRAM		
Total Program Funding: \$150,203,038		
Subrecipient Name	None: VIHFA will implement this program	
<p>The EnVIsion Tomorrow Program allows low- and moderate-income homeowners to apply for assistance to repair or rebuild their storm-damaged principle residence. Each application, along with supporting documentation, is reviewed for household and property eligibility, including a site inspection to determine the extent of damage.</p> <p>Once the scope of the work and budget are developed, a contractor is selected from the pre-approved pool. Once the Grant Agreement and construction contract have been signed a Notice to Proceed is issued for the construction work to begin.</p>		
<p>The EnVIsion Tomorrow program has received almost 1,600 applications for Homeowner Rehabilitation and Reconstruction assistance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,045 applications are in various stages of program eligibility, site inspections, and duplication of benefit review • Approximately 550 applicants either withdrew their application or were determined to be ineligible based on the household’s income, property ownership, primary residence status or other program eligibility criteria 		
NEW HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE (HOMEOWNERSHIP) PROGRAM		
Total Program Funding: \$70,000,000		
Subrecipient Name	None: VIHFA will implement these projects	
Subrecipient Agreement and Project Agreement	None: VIHFA will contract with developers and contractors to carry out the construction of infrastructure and new construction of housing units	
VIHFA Project No. 1	Estate Solitude	CDBG-DR: \$4,000,000
Infrastructure and new construction of 20 new single-family residential units for homeownership opportunity for low- and moderate-income households (earning less than 80% area median income)		
VIHFA Project No. 2	Mt. Pleasant	CDBG-DR: \$1,500,000
Infrastructure and new construction of 6 new single-family residential units for homeownership opportunity for low- and moderate-income households (earning less than 80% area median income)		
VIHFA Project No. 3	Estate Fortuna	CDBG-DR: \$4,000,000
Infrastructure and new construction of 12 new single-family residential units for homeownership opportunity for low- and moderate-income households (earning less than 80% area median income)		





**RENTAL REHABILITATION AND RECONSTRUCTION (EnVIsion Tomorrow)
PROGRAM**

Total Program Funding: \$25,000,000

Subrecipient Name	None: VIHFA will implement the program
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EnVIsion Tomorrow’s rental program offers owners of rental properties with 2 to 20 units assistance to repair or rebuild their storm-damaged rental units. Each application, along with supporting documentation, is reviewed for program and property eligibility, including a site inspection to determine the extent of damage.

Once the scope of the work and budget are developed, a contractor is selected from the pre-approved pool. Once the Loan Agreement, Affordability Agreement and construction contract are signed a Notice to Proceed is issued for the construction work to begin.

Rental units repaired or rebuilt with EnVIsion Tomorrow program funds must be long term rentals (are prohibited from being short term or vacation rentals, such as Airbnb, VRBO, etc.).

EnVIsion Tomorrow - Rental Rehabilitation and Reconstruction has received applications from owners of over 340 rental units:

- 226 units are being reviewed for program eligibility, having site inspections conducted and a duplication of benefits review completed
- 115 determined to be ineligible or withdrawn

PUBLIC AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Total Program Funding: \$81,500,000

Subrecipient Name	None: VIHFA will implement the project
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Subrecipient Agreement and Project Agreement	None: VIHFA will contract with a developer and contractors to carry out the construction of the project
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VIHFA Project No. 1	Ross Taarneberg	CDBG-DR: \$2,970,500
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The mixed-use building will be constructed to provide eight (8) housing units on the 3rd floor, with office space for Virgin Islands Housing Finance Authority on the first and second floors. Five (5) of the 8 housing units will be affordable and made available to households earning no more than 80% of the area median income.

Developer Name	JDC-Magens Junction Associates 2, LLP
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Project Specific Award Agreement	Agreement Execution Date	March 30, 2020
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Project Name	Magens Junction - Phase 2	CDBG-DR: \$3,500,000
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JDC-Magen’s Junction Associates 2, LLLP will develop 30 one-bedroom and 30 two-bedroom new apartment units contained in a nine-story building with ground floor amenity space located on St. Thomas at Remainder Parcel 7-1 Estate Joseph and Rosendahl and Parcel 3A Estate Lovenlund. The building will be served by two high efficiency elevators.

Six (6) units will be reserved for households earning less than thirty percent (30%) of the area median income; the remaining fifty-four (54) units will be occupied by households earning less than sixty percent (60%) of the area median income.





Developer Name		Croixville Preservation Associates L.P.	
Project Specific Award Agreement		Agreement Execution Date	Agreement Under Development
Project Name		Croixville	CDBG-DR: \$6,930,000
Rehabilitation of 80 two- and three-bedroom apartments located on St. Croix. Forty-one of the units will be available to households earning no more than 80% of the area median income.			
Subrecipient Name		Virgin Islands Housing Authority	
VIHA Project No. 1		Walter I.M. Hodge	CDBG-DR: \$5,000,000
Project Agreement Number		H-PAHD-VIHA WIM HODGE REHAB	Project Agreement Execution Date June 19, 2020
The rehabilitation of approximately 71 multi-family rental housing units that sustained severe wind, rain and flood damage as result of Hurricane Maria. Rehabilitation will include but may not be limited to new plumbing, kitchen cabinets and fixtures, bathroom fixtures, electrical wiring, ceilings and interior paint, and some of the units will have non-friable asbestos abatement completed, if identified in the floor tiles and popcorn ceiling coverings. The Walter I.M. Hodge complex is located on St. Croix.			
VIHA Project No. 2		William's Delight Villas	CDBG-DR: \$5,000,000
Project Agreement Number		Agreement Under Development	Project Agreement Execution Date N/A
Rehabilitation of 100 existing single-family units with improvements to allow conversion to homeownership sales (through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's 5H Homeownership Plan). The William's Delight Villas are located on St. Croix.			
VIHA Project No. 3		Ralph de Chabert Phase 1	CDBG-DR: \$10,000,000
Project Agreement Number		Agreement Under Development	Project Agreement Execution Date N/A
New construction of 100 new single- and multi-family housing units for low- and extremely low-income households located on St. Croix. Low-income households are those earning less than of the area median income, and extremely low-income households earn less than of the area median income. The project will include Low Income Housing Tax Credits.			
VIHA Project No. 4		Donoe Redevelopment Phase 1	CDBG-DR: \$10,000,000
Project Agreement Number		Agreement Under Development	Project Agreement Execution Date N/A
New construction of 84-unit rental community with one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments homes, including new walkways and roads, community building and rental office located on St. Thomas. Sixty (60) of the units will be set aside for households earning up to 30% of the area			





median income and twenty-four (24) will be affordable for households earning up to 60% of the area median income.

PUBLIC SERVICES AND PUBLIC FACILITIES PROGRAMS

PUBLIC SERVICES

Total Program Funding: \$500,000

Public services can address a wide range of individual needs, are an integral part of comprehensive community development and can increase the impacts of the CDBG-DR dollars by complementing other activities. In addition, the cost of operating and maintaining the portion of a facility in which the CDBG-DR funded public service is located and the lease of furnishings, equipment or other personal property needed for the delivery of the service. Paying for the operational and maintenance of the entire facility that is only partly used for CDBG-DR assisted services is not permitted.

VIHFA will release a Notice of Funding Availability for providers of public services for a wide range of public services including, but not limited to childcare, health care, job training, recreation programs, education programs, and many others.

REHABILITATION, RECONSTRUCTION OR NEW CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES

Total Program Funding: \$37,000,000

Subrecipient Name	University of the Virgin Islands		
Project Name	Multi-purpose Complex	CDBG-DR: \$5,000,000	
Project Agreement Number	Agreement Under Development	Project Agreement Execution Date	N/A

In partnership with VIHFA, the University of the Virgin Islands will develop a 72,800 square foot multi-purpose complex located on the UVI Albert A. Sheen campus on St. Croix. The complex, developed to FEMA safe room standards, will be able to accommodate almost 800 people on either a short- or long-term basis during an emergency, increasing the well-being and quality of life for the residents and visitors of St. Croix. The complex will also provide storage space for supplies to be used if a disaster or emergency occurs, and the parking lots will be used as staging areas and to accommodate busses that will transport people with no other way to get to the location, along with providing parking for residents that arrive in their own vehicles.

The facility will allow the crucial resource agencies and non-profits to coordinate services throughout the lifecycle of an event, from preparation through the impact and immediate aftermath of a disaster. Office space and meeting rooms designated for the resource agencies and non-profits will be included in the complex. This funding is for design; an amended application will be submitted for construction costs once the final budget is completed.

The American Red Cross, United Way, and local non-profit providers typically coordinate and respond to disasters, along with the Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Agency (VITEMA), the Virgin Islands National Guard and other Government of the Virgin Islands (GVI) agencies or departments. Agreements for providing space and services within the facility will be developed and executed along with the design of the physical architectural and engineering design.





During non-emergency time, the multi-purpose complex will be available for conventions, large community meetings, public information fairs, emergency management trainings, exercises, and services to predominately low- and moderate-income individuals.

Subrecipient Name	Virgin Islands Department of Human Services		
VIDHS Project No. 1	Herbert Grigg Complex	CDBG-DR: \$7,500,000	
Project Agreement Number	Agreement Under Development	Project Agreement Execution Date	N/A

The rehabilitation or reconstruction of the Herbert Grigg complex located on St. Croix that houses the Herbert Grigg Home for the Aged, a skilled nursing care facility, and a structure that houses a large array of public services, predominately for low- and moderate-income households, including Head Start and Adult Protective Services, along with the Homemakers, Family Caregivers Support, Foster Grandparent, Retired Senior Volunteer, Senior Community Service Employment, Socio-Recreation for seniors 60 or older, Nutrition (hot lunches to seniors daily), Information and Referral, Senior ID, Pharmaceutical Assistance, and the Nutrition for the Elderly (Meals on Wheels) Programs. The complex sustained damages during the storms.

The project is currently being funded for the design phase; once the full scope of the project and final budget have been established, a revised application will be submitted to include construction costs. FEMA funding will be included in the project; a full duplication of benefits will be conducted once the final design and budget have been completed.

Subrecipient Name	Virgin Islands Department of Human Services		
VIDHS Project No. 2	Queen Louise Home for the Aged	CDBG-DR: \$7,500,000	
Project Agreement Number	Agreement Under Development	Project Agreement Execution Date	N/A

The rehabilitation or reconstruction of the skilled nursing care facility located on St. Thomas that was damaged in the storms. The residents of the Home for the Aged are seniors, a limited clientele beneficiary group under HUD National Objective criteria.

The project is currently being funded for the design phase; once the full scope of the project and final budget have been established, a revised application will be submitted to include construction costs. FEMA funding will be included in the project; a full duplication of benefits will be conducted once the final design and budget have been completed.

Subrecipient Name	None: VIHFA will implement the project		
Subrecipient Agreement and Project Agreement	None: VIHFA will contract with a developer and contractors to carry out the construction of the project		
VIHFA Project No. 1	Kronegade Inn	CDBG-DR: \$2,400,000	

The rehabilitation of 18 units in Christiansted St. Croix that will be converted to emergency housing. Emergency housing provides temporary housing for victims of domestic violence, natural disaster, catastrophic incidents and financial hardships.





INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMS

NON-FEDERAL SHARE (MATCH) FOR FEDERAL DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM

Total Program Funding: \$432,750,000

Subrecipient Name	Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency		
Project Name	Cost share	CDBG-DR: \$5,658,923	
Project Agreement Number	Agreement Under Development	Project Agreement Execution Date	None

Non-federal share for FEMA projects throughout the Territory. Project work (PW) project numbers:

- PW60 - replacement of power poles damaged in the Hurricanes
- PW58 – repair of the Water Islands electric distribution system

INFRASTRUCTURE REPAIR AND RESILIENCE PROGRAM

Total Program Funding: \$45,750,000

Subrecipient Name	Virgin Islands Department of Public Works		
DPW Project No. 1	Donoe Bypass Improvement	CDBG-DR: \$2,450,000	
Project Agreement Number	I-IRR-DPW-DONOE BYPASS	Project Agreement Execution Date	April 23, 2020

Design and environmental review of the Donoe Bypass Improvement project, which will be the repair and replacement of a heavily used 2-mile (estimated 11,100 linear feet) stretch of roadway through the center of St. Thomas that connects residents from the northern to southern and eastern parts of St. Thomas. As a continuation of Skyline Drive, Donoe Bypass serves as a primary conduit for east-west travel on the island and provides access to key economic hubs and critical facilities, as well as to neighborhoods along the corridor, including Anna’s Retreat and the Grandview, predominantly low- and moderate-income areas.

DPW Project No. 2	Northside Highway Improvement	CDBG-DR: \$3,100,000	
Project Agreement Number	I-IRR-DPW-NORTHSIDE	Project Agreement Execution Date	April 23, 2020

Design and environmental review of the Northside Highway, an approximately 6.5 mile-long (34,300 linear feet) roadway that serves as the designated tsunami evacuation route for the island of St. Croix. Northside Highway is the main arterial road to places of employment, business and access to critical services and serves as the main route for residents in Christiansted and neighborhoods along the Northside corridor to the main healthcare facilities on St. Croix: Harwood Clinic, Juan F. Luis Hospital and Plessen Healthcare.

Subrecipient Name	Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority		
WAPA Project No. 1	Smith Bay and Frydendahl Waterline Expansion	CDBG-DR: \$7,970,000	





Project Agreement Number	Agreement Under Development	Project Agreement Execution Date	N/A
Provide potable water to the approximately 250 households in the Smith Bay and Frydendahl communities, eliminating the risk of not having access to water during extended power outages caused by hurricanes, other feeder interruptions or droughts, and avoiding the possibility of water supplies being reduced or contaminated if the water collection system (room and gutters) are damaged.			
WAPA Project No. 2	Anna's Retreat Waterline Extension	CDBG-DR: \$5,760,850	
Project Agreement Number	Agreement Under Development	Project Agreement Execution Date	N/A
Provide potable water to the approximately 320 households in the Smith Bay and Frydendahl communities, eliminating the risk of not having access to water during extended power outages caused by hurricanes, other feeder interruptions or droughts, and avoiding the possibility of water supplies being reduced or contaminated if the water collection system (room and gutters) are damaged.			
ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEMS ENHANCEMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM			
Total Program Funding: \$95,903,330			
Subrecipient Name	Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority		
WAPA Project No. 1	Randolph Harley Power Plant (RHPP) Expansion	CDBG-DR: \$95,903,330	
Project Agreement Number	WAPA-001-2019	Project Agreement Execution Date	August 8, 2019
The RHPP project will enhance the U.S. Virgin Islands' St. Thomas/St. John District of the electrical power system infrastructure by purchasing and installing efficient power generators with 9-10 megawatts (MW) capacity, not to exceed 40 MW. The generators will have dual fuel capabilities and will operate on liquified petroleum gas (LPG) as the first fuel source and ultra-low sulfur diesel (ULSD) as its secondary fuel. Additionally, a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) will be purchased and installed. These additional power generators and BESS will increase and optimize the type of electrical generation.			
ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION PROGRAMS			
PORTS AND AIRPORTS PROGRAM			
Total Program Funding: \$38,109,022			
Subrecipient Name	Virgin Islands Ports Authority		
VIPA Project No. 1	Charlotte Amalie Harbor and Harbor Dredging	CDBG-DR: \$23,675,937	
Project Agreement Number	Agreement Under Development	Project Agreement Execution Date	N/A





The project will dredge approximately 255,118 cubic yards of material from the Charlotte Amalie Harbor, the entrance channel and West India Company (WICO) berth, providing additional keel to sea floor clearance in the channel, turning basin and alongside the berthing dock. Dredging will provide a control depth of the channel of 40 feet below mean lowest low water level, 38 feet below for the turning basin and a depth of 36 feet for the berth.

The additional clearance from the keel of existing and new generation cruise ships and the sea floor will reduce the amount of sediment drawn into sea to sea cooling intake valves. Accommodating the larger cruise vessels will ensure that the USVI retains port of calls in 2021 and into the future, with a directly associated benefit to business who rely substantially on cruise passenger traffic.

TOURISM INDUSTRY SUPPORT PROGRAM

Total Program Funding: \$10,000,000

Subrecipient Name	Virgin Islands Department of Tourism		
Project Name	Tourism Marketing Campaign	CDBG-DR: \$5,000,000	
Project Agreement Number	Agreement Under Development	Project Agreement Execution Date	N/A

The U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Tourism will administer a multi-pronged strategy to support small businesses and entrepreneurs in the tourism industry as well as establish a robust marketing campaign to showcase the U.S. Virgin Islands vast tourist assets as they come back online. Marketing initiatives to ensure maximal efficacy and impact, will target specific travel and tourism niches in which the U.S. Virgin Islands are known to be competitive, especially among U.S. mainland residents. These niches include sports and adventure; meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions; romance market (destination weddings, honeymoons, and vow renewals); and yachting. The marketing campaign and product development technical assistance will be will include: branding; marketing (public relations, advertising, social media); public relations (media relations, paid broadcast and niche events); purpose travel (voluntourism to support recovery efforts); film (marketing, training, scouts, film trade events); and visitor experience.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Total Funding: \$17,000,000

Subrecipient Name	Virgin Islands Department of Labor		
DOL Project 1	Skills for Tomorrow	CDBG-DR: \$5,000,000	
Project Agreement Number	Agreement Under Development	Project Agreement Execution Date	N/A

This project seeks to train 500 individuals over a fifteen-month period. Through a rigorous training schedule, cohorts of 100 (50 each district) will begin training every twelve weeks. Participants will be recruited by media advertisement, and through the VI Department of Labor and VI Department of Human Services job seeker data bases. All participants will be screened by the VI Department of Labor. Successful candidates will start with job readiness workshops and continue through to completion of occupational skills training.



Components include:

- Job readiness skills workshops that cover preparing for employment, dressing for the job, getting along with supervisors and peers, observing time and attendance;
- Comprehensive academic and aptitude assessments;
- Introduction to the Construction Industry course using the NCCER Core Curriculum with Certification;
- Entry level Occupational Skills training (student’s choice of focus) in plumbing, electrical, masonry and carpentry; and
- Job Preparation and Referral – Resume preparation and interviewing techniques

The job-readiness workshops and academic/aptitude assessments will be conducted by the VI Department of Labor. Multiple training service providers will be available in each district to conduct the NCCER Core Curriculum and Occupational Skills training courses. Participants will have an opportunity to visit actual construction sites and engage in “light hands-on” activity during that time. Participants will return to the VI Department of Labor to develop resumes, learn interviewing techniques and engage in job search activities. Job fairs will be held to assist with employment as needed.

It is expected that the individuals trained in this targeted effort will be employed by the contractors/sub-contractors of the VI Housing Finance Authority and other sub-recipients of the CDBG-DR grant who require local construction workers.

DOL Project 2	On the Job Training	CDBG-DR: \$5,000,000	
Project Agreement Number	Agreement Under Development	Project Agreement Execution Date	N/A

This project seeks to form partnerships with local businesses to conduct customized training and work-based training opportunities in the construction, manufacturing, transportation and hospitality industries. Work-based training activities include on-the-job training and industry-recognized apprenticeship training.

Participants will:

- spend twenty weeks (5 months) in a paid work experience learning a specific skill;
- receive classroom training to ensure subject matter knowledge;
- receive hands-on instruction from employer;
- be paired with a mentor in the industry;
- be responsible for completing an “assignment” from the employer that signifies knowledge of theory and mastery of skill

In total, the project seeks to train 300 individuals over a twelve-month period. Cohorts of 100 individuals (30 per district) will be placed every three months. Participants for work-based training opportunities will be recruited from the individuals who have successfully completed training in phase one, from enrollments in other programs for low to moderate income individuals and from the VI Department of Labor and Department of Human Services database of job seekers. All participants will be screened by the VI Department of Labor.





All interested employers will be asked to register with the VI Department of Labor and will also be able to screen participants prior to hiring them. Employers will be reimbursed for on-the-job training at 100% for the duration of this program.

PLANNING			
Total Funding: \$18,000,000			
Subrecipient Name	Virgin Islands Economic Development Authority		
Project Name	Vision 2040 Plan (Vision 2040)	CDBG-DR: \$319,000	
Project Agreement Number	P-Planning-EDA-2040VisionPlan	Project Agreement Execution Date	December 16, 2019
<p>Vision 2040 is a long-term strategic economic recovery and development plan with economic growth, job creation, and wealth generation as measurable deliverables of Vision 2040, with a focus on improved quality of life for the people of the U.S. Virgin Islands. The development of the plan will primarily be dedicated to assessing, compiling, and analyzing feedback from Virgin Islanders locally and in the diaspora on the economic future of the Territory, with a technological analysis of the data collected. The scope of this portion of the project is limited to the activities required to gather data, draft, and deliver the Vision 2040 Plan document.</p>			

9. Updates the Citizen Participation Plan to Allow Alternative Outreach Methods

The Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) outbreak was declared a global pandemic on March 12, 2020 by the World Health Organization. The Honorable Albert Bryan Jr., as Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands, officially declared a state of emergency on March 13, 2020 in preparation of the likely spread of COVID-19 to the Territory. For the protection of the citizens of the Virgin Islands, this state of emergency included a restriction of large gatherings until further notice.

On March 14, 2020, the President issued a Proclamation on Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak, which states the COVID-19 outbreak is a national public health emergency. The United States Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control (CDC) issued guidance on March 15, 2020, that for the next 8 weeks, organizers throughout the United States should cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more. Governor Bryan announced a tightening of the local response to include a limit of gatherings to 10 or less people. Consequently, Governor Bryan’s restrictions, along with the CDC’s guidance, eliminates the ability to safely conduct the appropriate level of public engagement required for the use of the CDBG-DR funds.

Circumstances such as the COVID-19 Outbreak National Emergency may restrict the number of citizens that can congregate, eliminating the ability to hold public hearings. VIHFA remains committed to providing meaningful participation opportunities for the residents of the Territory.





The Citizen Participation Plan has been amended to include alternative outreach methods to ensure the public engagement requirements are carried out and a continuity plan for the programs to be implemented during difficult times. Details about the alternative outreach methods can be found in the Action Plan Amendment.

10. Updates Projections of Expenditures and Outcomes

FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS

Methodology

As the designated Grantee of Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds for the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI or Territory), the Virgin Islands Housing Finance Authority (VIHFA) tracks the projections and expenditures of activities identified in the Action Plan, as well as allowable administration and planning costs. The VIHFA incorporates projections from each program manager and/or subrecipient agency of CDBG-DR funds to confirm each program's financial and performance projections by quarter through the life of the program.

The VIHFA has adjusted projections going forward to reflect the actual expenditures to date, as reported in the most recent Quarterly Performance Report (QPR) approved by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), October 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019. Expenditures are projected starting the quarter that the funds are available, which is Q4-FY18. Expenditures were incurred primarily for staff salaries and reported in quarters prior to allocation of the grant funds for specific CDBG-DR projects. All costs including activity delivery costs (or ADCs) are factored into the average costs.

The VIHFA proposes to make reclasses to programs and projects reflective of actual activity delivery costs incurred but drawn from Administration category in the foreseeable future.

Assumptions

Categories for grouping expenditures in the charts are defined by HUD in the Explanatory Guidance for Grantee Projections of Expenditures and Outcomes. VIHFA has included a list of programs for each graph included in the financial projections as aggregated to meet the HUD-required categories. The quarters as noted in the tables represent the VIHFA fiscal year, which runs from October 1 through September 30 of the following year. For instance, Q3-FY20 is April 2020 through June 2020.

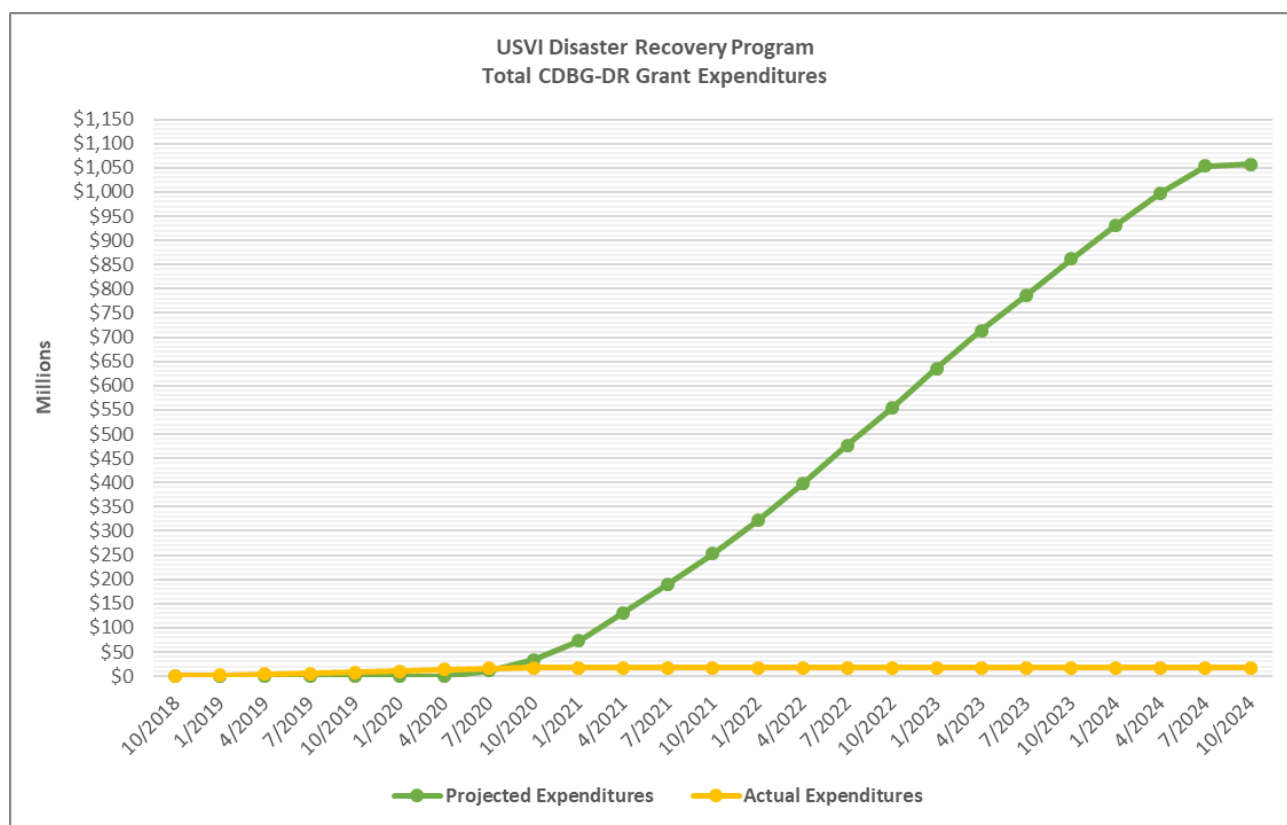
The program forecasts that are reflected in the charts are inclusive of direct project costs and activity delivery costs, which include necessary environmental and historic clearances, title reviews, Uniform Relocation Assistance (URA), program management and reporting. Activity delivery costs are generally 5 percent for non-housing and 40 percent for housing of total program funds, respectively.

Based on program status, there is an expectation that expenditures will go beyond calendar year 2024 and an extension may be requested. The VIHFA will continue to evaluate as quarterly forecasts are updated.



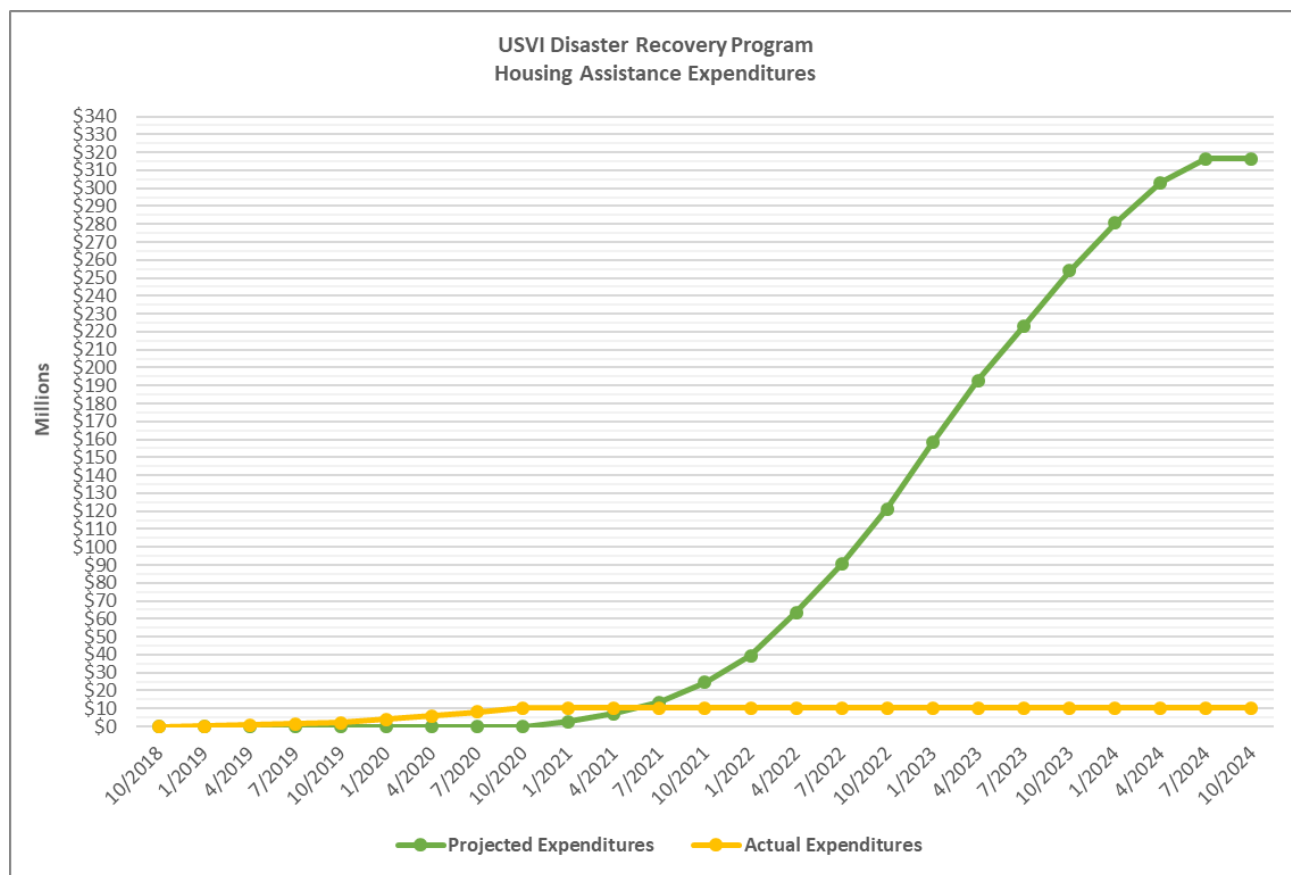
The **Total CDBG-DR Grant Expenditures** chart demonstrates the timeline for expenditures, which includes the CDBG-DR grant funds approved by HUD as of the March 1, 2019 Action Plan in the amount of \$1,021,901,000. The January 27, 2020 Federal Register Notice (FR-6182-N-01) allocated \$53,588,884 CDBG-DR funds to the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI or Territory) for unmet infrastructure need, allowing up to 5 percent of the funds to be used for administration costs.

Action Plan Amendment II allocates \$50,909,440 to infrastructure activity funds for the Local Share “Match” of Federal Disaster Recovery programs and \$2,679,444 for administration costs. Note: amounts may differ when compared to previous Action Plan Amendment. As a part of the requirements for disaster recovery funds, VIHFA will provide the proposed amendment for public review and comment, then approval. The programs included in the allocation are described in detail in the Territory’s approved Action Plan and ensuing Amendments. Assistance is provided to programs in hurricane-impacted sectors such as housing, public services and facilities, infrastructure, and economic development.

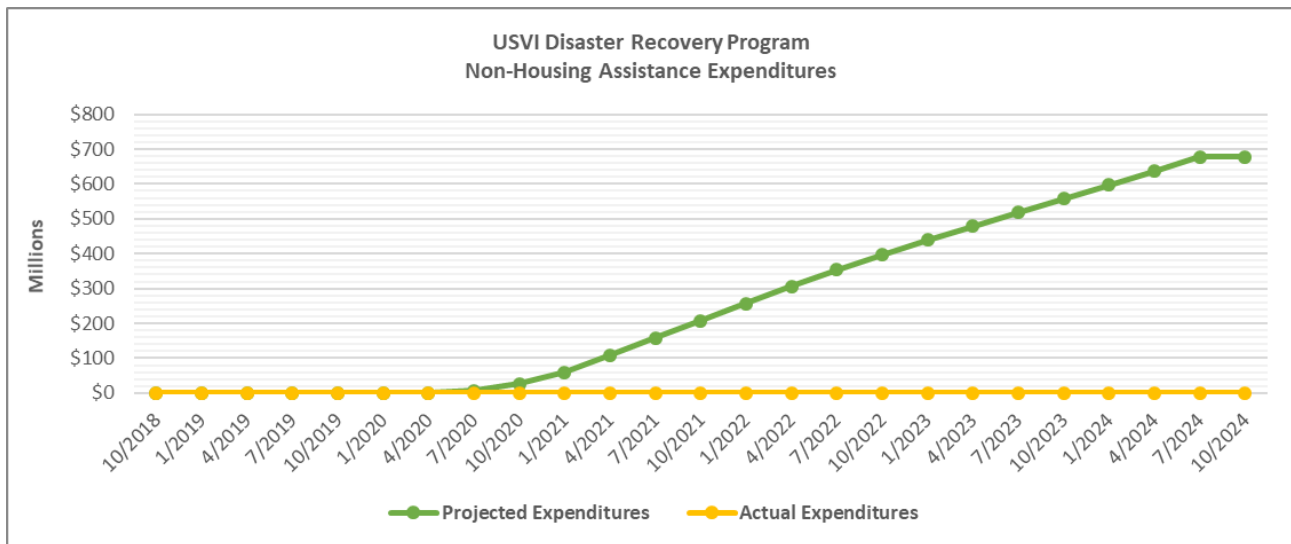


The **Housing Assistance Expenditures** chart demonstrates the funds that are in programs targeted to provide recovery assistance in the housing sector. Programs for housing assistance are comprised of the homeowner and rental assistance programs. Q3-FY18 through Q4-FY20 represent actual expenditures. Q1-FY21 and beyond represent projected expenditures. The programs include Homeowner Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program (HRRP); New Housing and Infrastructure Construction Program (Homeownership) (NHIC); Rental Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program (RRRP); and Public and Affordable Housing Development (PAHD).

As of April 30, 2020, the Territory has disbursed \$1,214,064.25 through HRRP and RRRP directly to benefit homeowners, rental property owners and communities continuing to recover and building resiliency against the impact of future storms. The Territory continues to prioritize assistance to low-and-moderate income (LMI) households and to those areas identified as most severely impacted by the 2017 Hurricanes Irma and Maria.



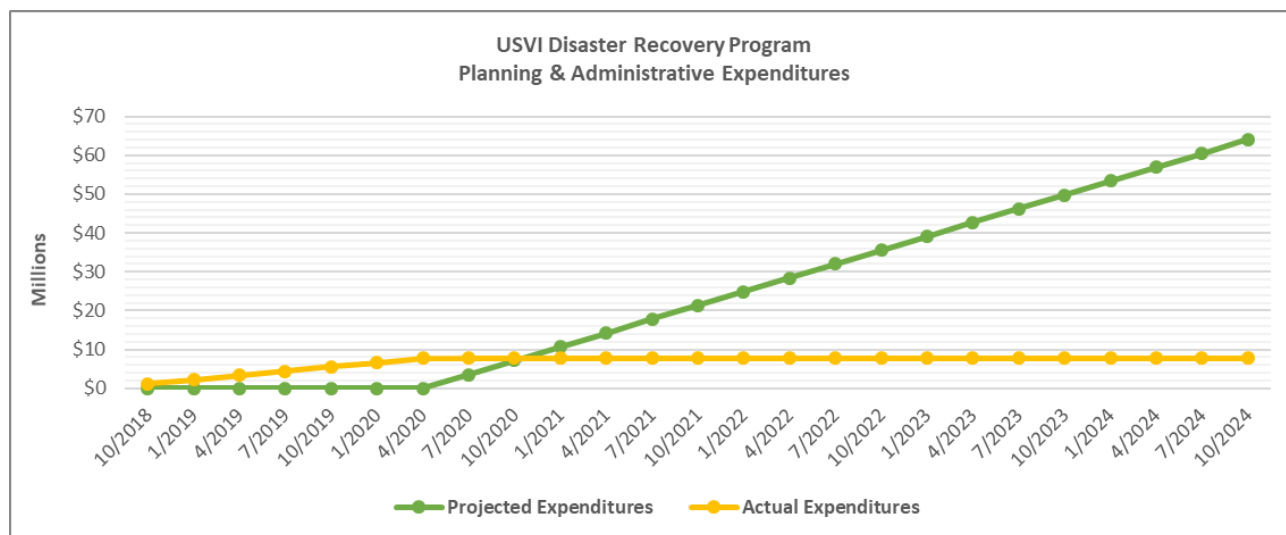
The **Non-Housing Assistance Expenditures** chart demonstrates expenditures in the recovery programs considered to be non-housing, including those under Public Services and Facilities, Infrastructure, and Economic Revitalization. Public Services and Facilities is a new sector of activities which has been created to fund public services targeting low- and moderate-income populations, especially those HUD presumes to be LMI, such as the homeless, elderly, at-risk youth, victims of domestic violence and others. These activities were previously included in the Housing sector as the Supportive Housing for Vulnerable Populations and Emergency Shelter Development programs. Infrastructure programs include Non-Federal Share (Match) for Disaster Recovery, Infrastructure Repair and Resilience, and Electrical Power Systems Enhancement and Improvement. Economic Revitalization programs include Ports and Airports Enhancement, Tourism Industry Support, and Workforce Development.





The **Planning and Administrative Expenditures** chart demonstrates the expenditures for planning activities, as well as those expenditures related to administration, management oversight, reporting, and monitoring of programs funded by the CDBG-DR funds. The maximum planning cap is 15 percent and administrative cap is 5 percent, for a total of 20 percent of grant funds.

As of April 30, 2020, the Territory has disbursed \$1,940,438.40 for planning activities and \$5,822,859.11 for administrative cost for a grand total of \$7,763,297.51 in cumulative planning and administrative costs. Planning and Administrative costs disbursed were allocated across the quarters starting Q1-FY18 through Q3-FY20.



PERFORMANCE PROJECTIONS

The HUD Template for Grantee Projections prescribes the categories in which the performance projections are reported. The projected outcomes are often drawn from across several programs.

Methodology

The VIHFA Program Managers and subrecipients reported anticipated completion of performance goals for each quarter until all program funds are expended. While there are many performance measures, the represented charts reflect the performance measure groupings specified by HUD in the guidance for projections. The Territory has adjusted projections going forward to reflect the actuals-to-date, as reported in the most recent Quarterly Performance Report (QPR) approved by HUD, October 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019.

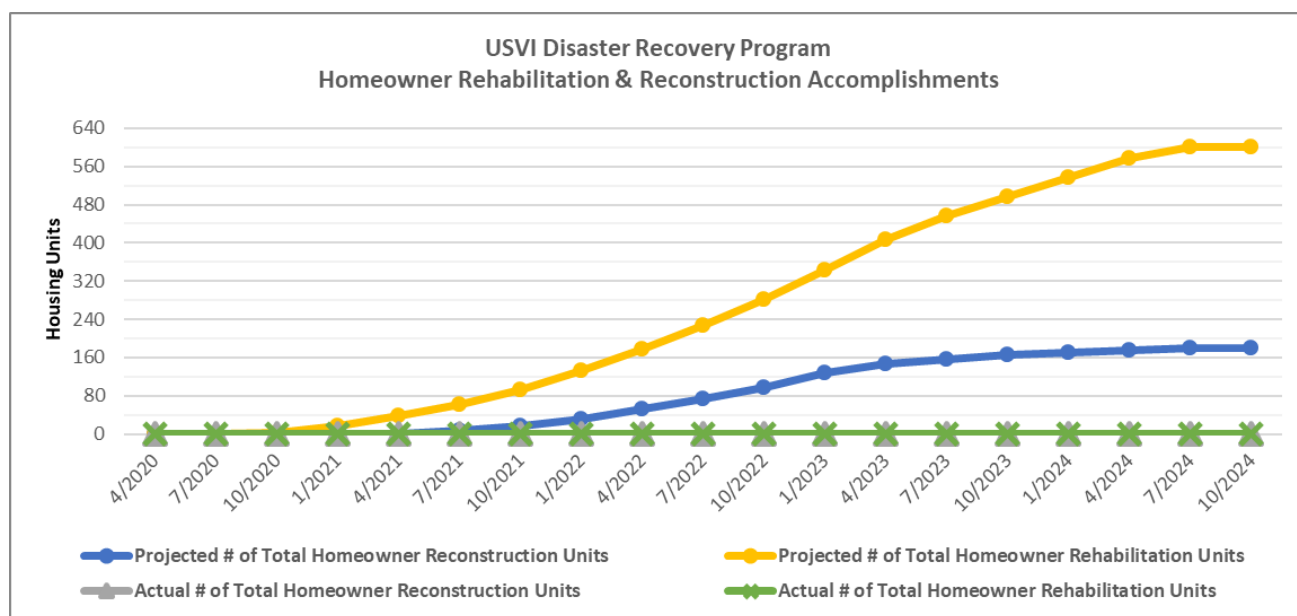
Assumptions

Categories for rolling up performance indicators were defined by HUD and cut across programs. The VIHFA has included a list of programs for each graphical representation included in the performance projections as aggregated to meet the HUD-prescribed categories.



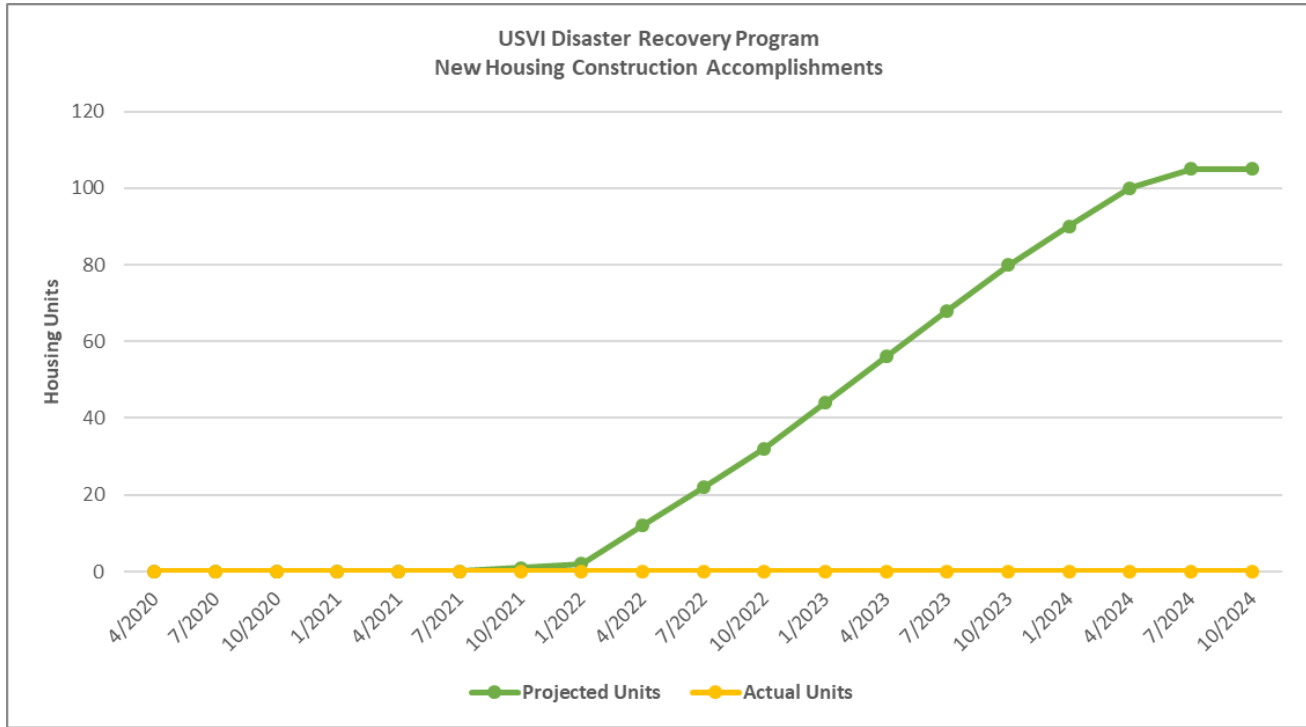
Performance is linked to the financial projections; but, in line with HUD requirements, the performance results are only noted once completed and the national objective attained. The performance projections reflect the date at which the objective is considered met. For instance, new housing units under the HRRP are counted only when tenant occupancy is completed, although the financial projections would reflect funds spent on construction. Similarly, housing rebuilding and infrastructure construction may show funds expended, but the performance measure is only achieved and recorded upon completion.

The **Homeowner Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program (HRRP) Accomplishments** chart demonstrates the projected number of housing units that will benefit from the recovery programs for rehabilitation and reconstruction of existing homes.

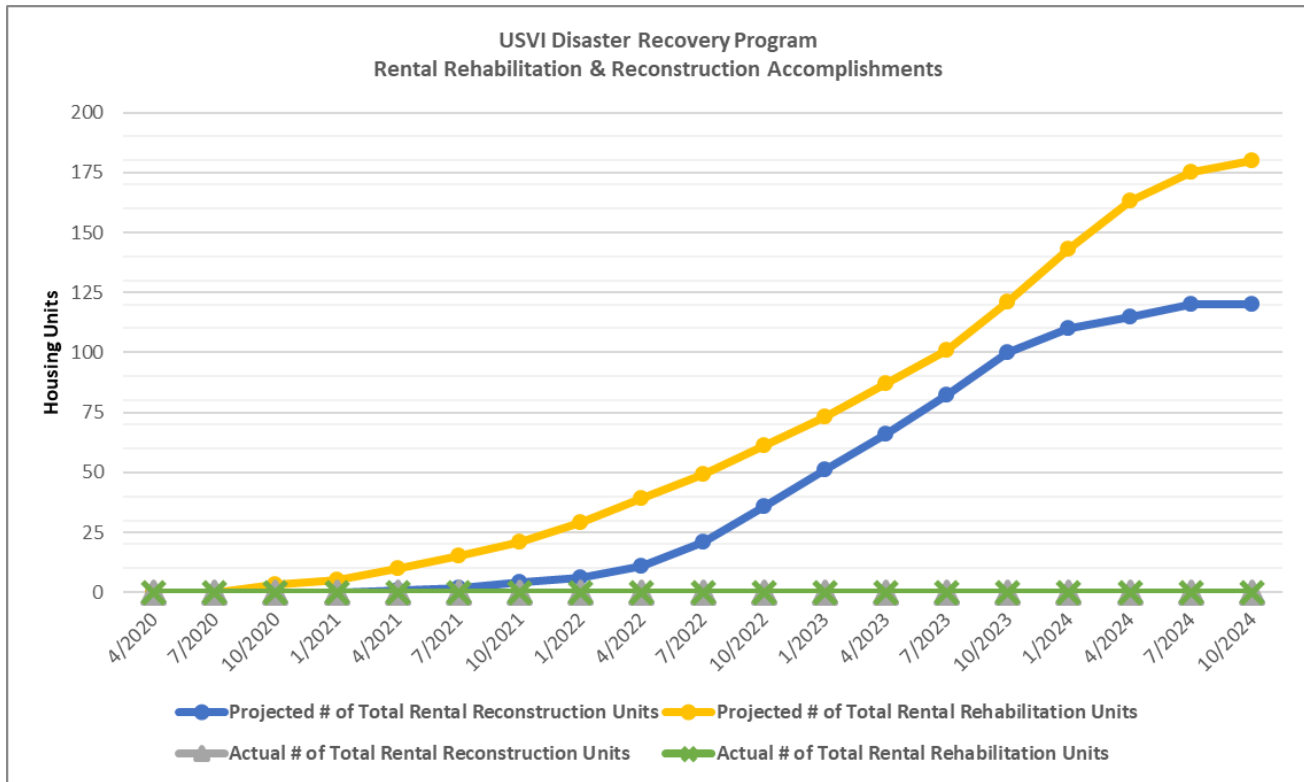




The **New Housing and Infrastructure Construction Program Accomplishments** chart demonstrates the number of new housing units to be constructed and offered to low- and moderate-income households as homeownership opportunities.

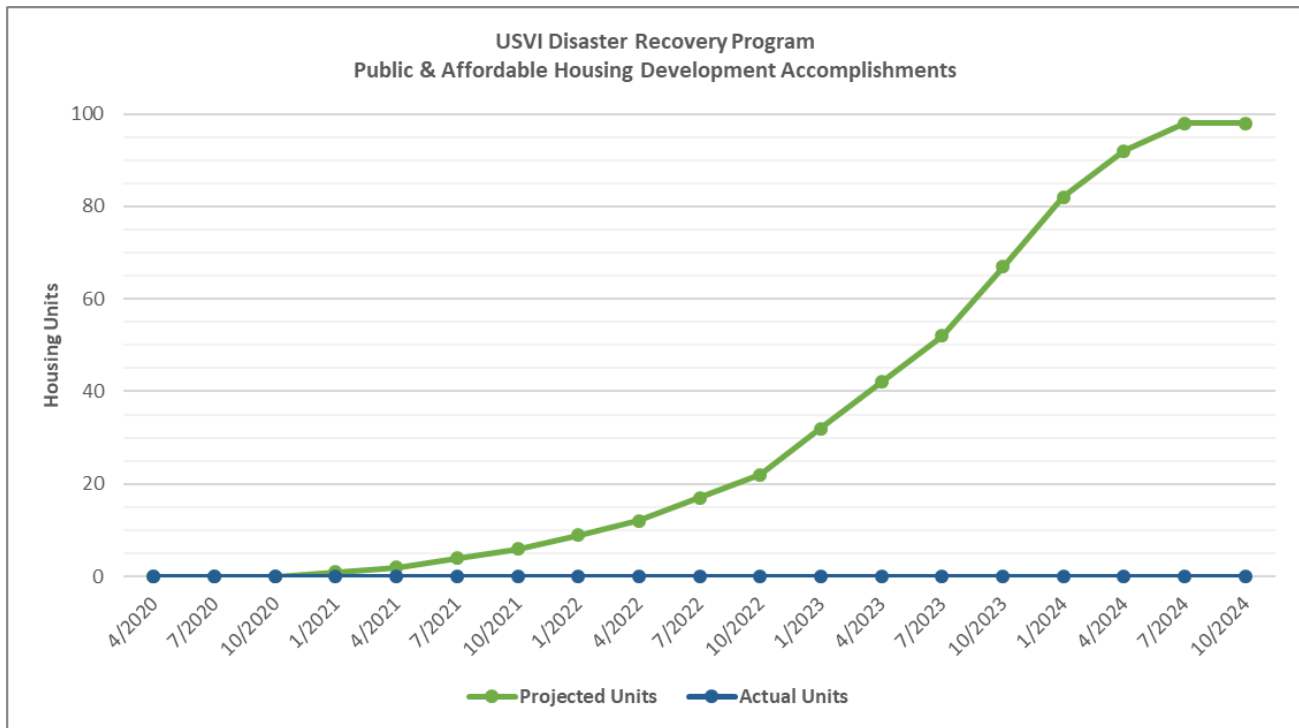


The **Rental Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program (RRRP) Accomplishments** chart demonstrates the number of units that will benefit from the recovery programs for rehabilitation and reconstruction of existing rental properties.

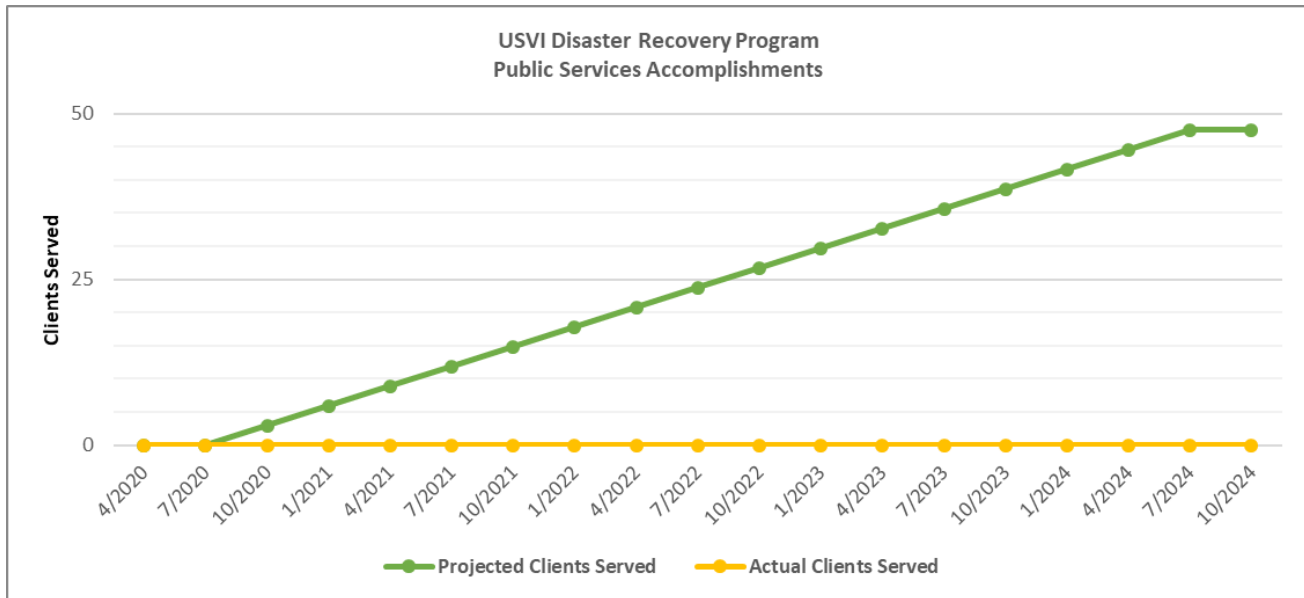




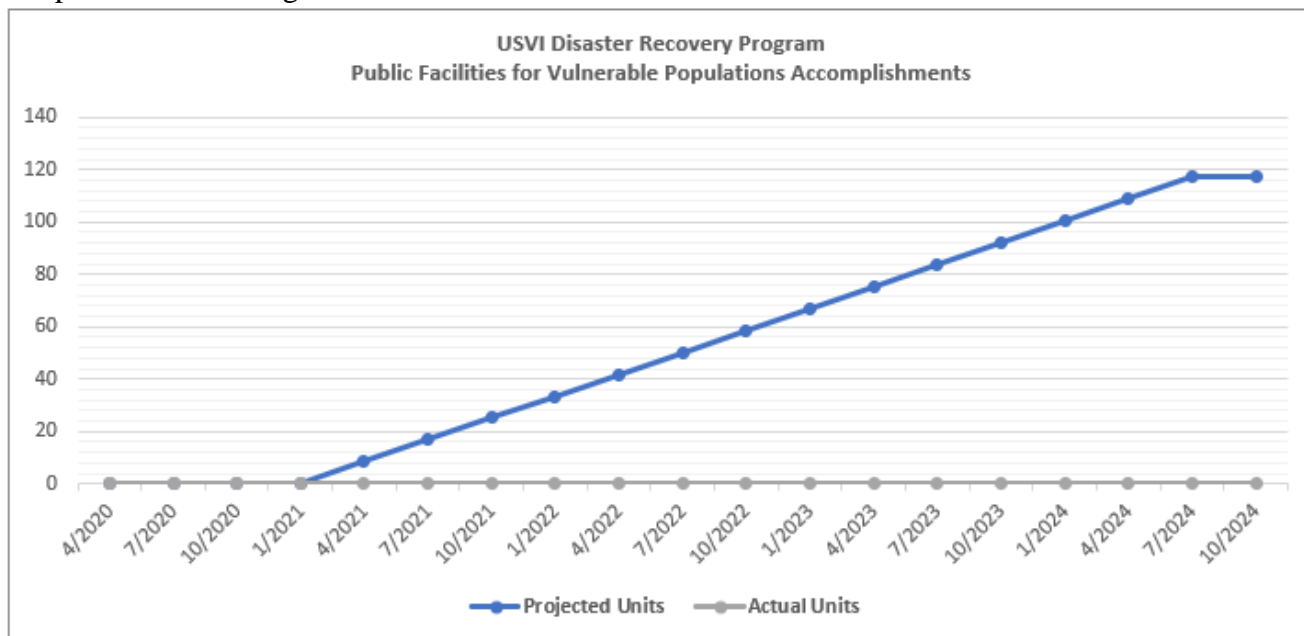
The **Public and Affordable Housing Development Accomplishments** chart demonstrates the number of public and affordable units that will result in new construction and rehabilitation of existing public and affordable properties. The VIHFA will partner with developers and the Virgin Islands Housing Authority to construct, rebuild or rehabilitate public housing units.



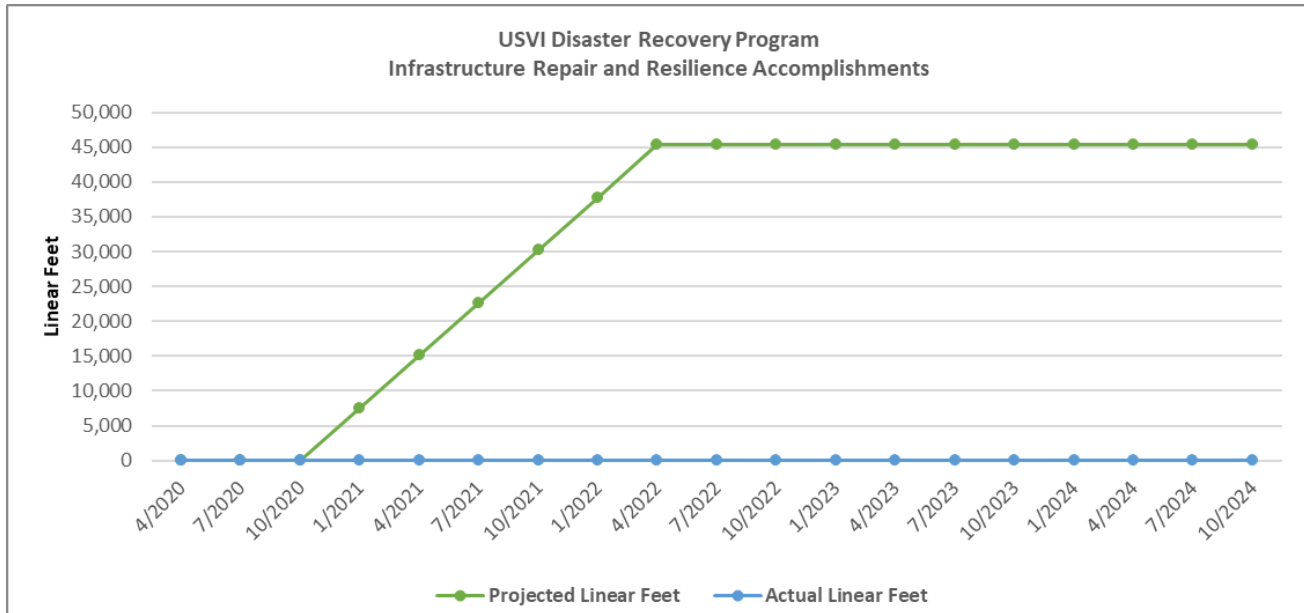
The **Public Services Accomplishments** chart represents clients served -within vulnerable populations. This is a new program which assists public and private non- and for-profit social services organizations that provide services to vulnerable populations, such as homeless, elderly, at-risk youth, and other groups HUD identifies as presumed to be low- and moderate income.



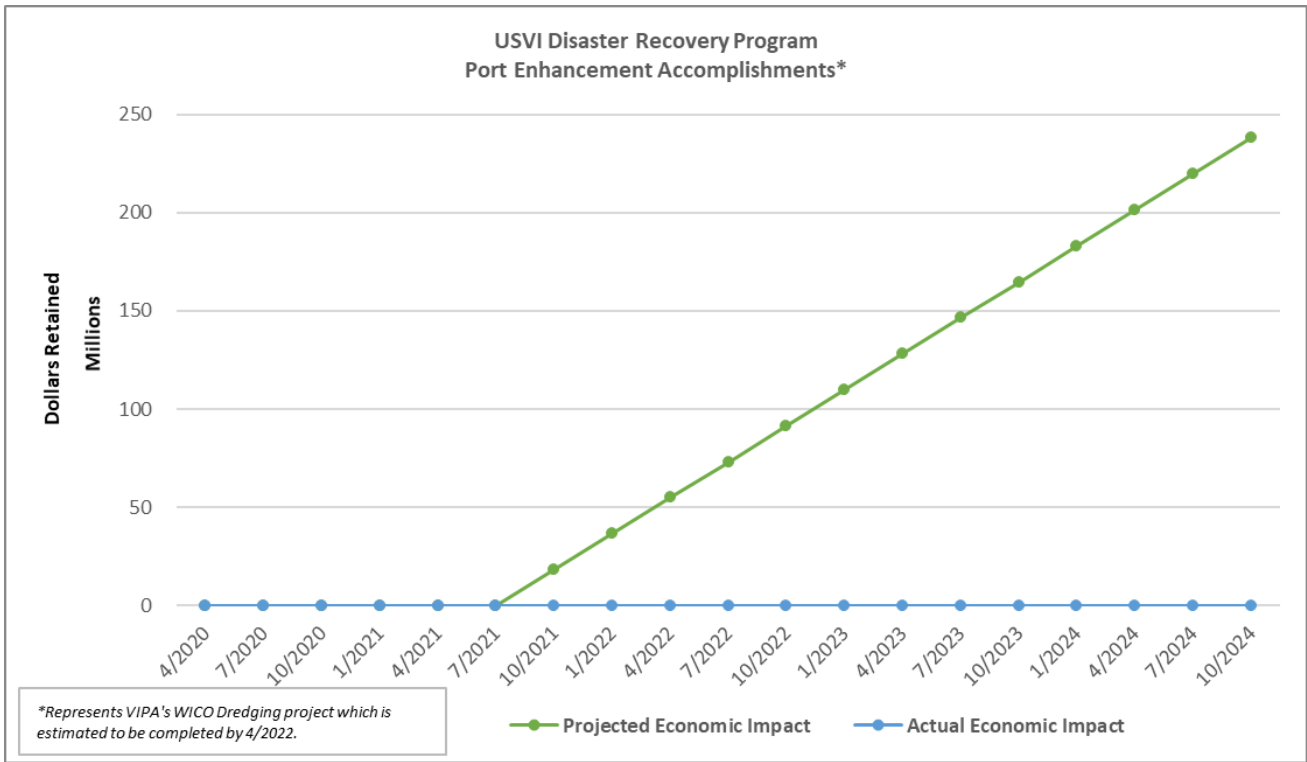
The **Public Facilities for Vulnerable Populations Accomplishments** chart represents rehabilitation or creation of care facilities, such as long-term care homes for the elderly. Facilities for the homeless or domestic violence shelters, nursing homes, or group homes for the disabled are all public facilities, not permanent housing units.



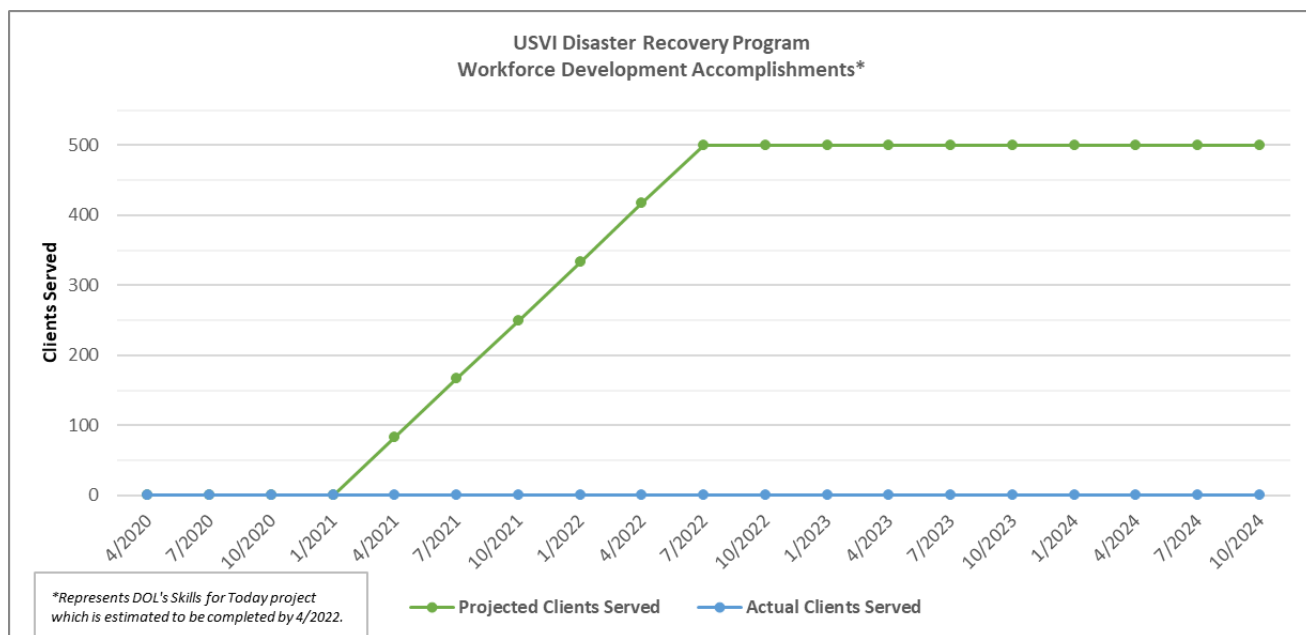
The **Infrastructure Repair and Resilience Accomplishments** chart represents linear feet. The linear feet metric is used to measure investment in roadside improvement projects. This program works with, and in some cases goes beyond, the scope of other federal funding sources, to improve roads serving residential areas, areas between economic hubs, waste and wastewater improvements, and other utilities improvements to help return accessibility and long-term redundancy of systems to improve the quality of life for the Territory’s residents.



The **Port Enhancement Accomplishments** chart represents dollars retained and projected economic impact for the U.S. Virgin Islands Port Authority’s West Indian Company Dredging project, which is estimated to be completed by April 2022. The Ports and Airports Enhancement program modernizes the Territory’s most critical access points for tourists, as well as import/export commerce. This allows Virgin Islands' businesses to remain competitive in the Caribbean marketplace and helps to generate job growth/retention.



The **Workforce Development Accomplishments** chart represents clients served for the U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Labor (DOL) Skills for Today project, which is estimated to be completed by April 2022. The Workforce Development program provides direct support to individuals and businesses to develop lifelong workplace skills for the Territory’s most economically vulnerable residents.



11. Public Comments

As a part of the requirements for disaster recovery funds, VIHFA must provide for public review and comment. Public outreach for the Action Plan Amendment Number 2 include:

Radio announcements

60 second ads will run **September 3** through **September 26, 2020** to announce the virtual meetings. Station information for each market includes:

St. Croix

- WJKC Communications (Isle 95, 95.1 FM; Sunny 99.5 FM; Caribbean Country, 93.5 FM; Rumba 98.3 FM)
- The Reef Broadcasting (103.5 FM; 1620 AM)
- Caledonia Communications (WSTX AM 970; 100.3 FM)

St. Thomas

- Da Vybe 107.9 FM



- Ackley Media Group (Hot 105.3 FM; AM 1000)
- Lucky 13 Radio (WSTA AM 1340)

Print announcements

VIHFA published announcements of the virtual meetings to solicit public comment and recommendations on **September 5** and **September 14, 2020** in the Virgin Islands Daily News and the St. Croix Avis newspapers.

Online announcements

Between **September 3** through **October 3, 2020** announcements of the virtual meetings and solicitation of public comment and recommendations were posted on the Virgin Islands Consortium, the Virgin Islands Source (the Virgin Islands Source has 3 sites; St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. John Source) websites.

VIHFA will hold a **virtual public meeting** to give all U.S. Virgin Islands residents an opportunity to voice opinions on the U.S. Virgin Islands Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Action Plan Amendment 2 for Hurricanes Irma and Maria disaster recovery. Residents are invited to speak about the Action Plan Amendment 2 via the Zoom **virtual public meeting**.

The dates and times of the Zoom public meeting will be announced in the Action Plan Amendment 2 public outreach campaign through radio, print and online announcements outlined above.

The comment period on the proposed CDBG-DR Action Plan Amendment 2 is open as of September 3, 2020. Comments must be received no later than October 3, 2020 at 11:59pm (EST). The proposed CDBG-DR Action Plan Amendment 2 and the public commenting forms are available on the VIHFA website at www.vihfa.gov/disaster-recovery/action-plan.

The CDBG-DR Action Plan Amendment 2 and the currently approved Action Plan are available for individuals to read in English and Spanish.

Paper copies of the Action Plan Amendment 2, including in large print format (18pt. font size), are available from VIHFA in both English and Spanish. Please call Ms. Keva Muller at (340) 772-4432.

Radio announcements

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At the end of the comment period, all comments will be reviewed and all VIHFA responses will be incorporated into a Responses to Public Comments document which will be submitted to HUD for approval as part of the CDBG-DR Action Plan Amendment 2. The revised Action Plan Amendment 2 and any public comments and responses will be posted on the VIHFA's CDBG-DR website at <https://www.vihfa.gov/disaster-recovery/action-plan>.

Daryl Griffith
Executive Director
Virgin Islands Housing Finance Authority

Keva Muller
Communications Manager
Virgin Islands Housing Finance Authority

Date: September 3, 2020

