



## VITAL News - Updates from Virgin Islands Trail Alliance, Inc.



### WE ARE VITAL

The VI Trail Alliance was created in 2016 with a mission to plan and develop a system of bike trails, multi-use pathways, parks, and pedestrian infrastructure throughout the USVI, starting on St. Croix.

Enjoy this first issue of **VITAL News** and learn how our work supports a safer and healthier community, which is more important now than ever!

VITAL is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Visit [vitrails.com/donate](http://vitrails.com/donate) to make a donation. Or go directly to PayPal by scanning the QR code to the right. All donations are tax-deductible and...

**Your support is appreciated!**



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### COMPLETE STREETS LEGISLATION

In October 2020, VITAL took part in a VI Senate hearing to support Complete Streets Legislation for the construction and repair of roadways throughout the Territory.



Complete Streets are designed to enable safe access for pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and transit riders of all ages and abilities. Working with AARP in the Virgin Islands, the VI Department of Public Works, and the USVI Walkability Institute, this Bill will make our streets more pedestrian and bike-friendly and safer for all.

## CHRISTIANSTED BYPASS BIKE LANE

VITAL engineers are near completion of bike lane plans in partnership with the VI Department of Public Works to meet Department Of Transportation Safety Standards. Once the plan is approved by the DOT, bike lane striping and signage can be applied to roads throughout the Territory. Learn more about this project by visiting our website, and clicking "Our Projects." <https://vitrails.org/projects/>



## SPRING GUT VALLEY

After the devastation of Hurricane Maria in 2017, VITAL was awarded FEMA Hazard Mitigation assistance for the Spring Gut Valley just east of Christiansted.

Stormwater runoff from this watershed is a source of chronic damage in Gallows Bay, impacting residential properties, local businesses, and roadways.

Land acquisition with stormwater reduction features in the Spring Gut Valley will reduce erosion and create green space for hiking and biking. A complete Hydrologic and Hydraulic Study of the watershed is complete and the next step is to acquire land through the FEMA reimbursement process.

***Your financial help in the form of a donation or loan is critical to this project. Please contact us to schedule a meeting and discuss the options.***



## SPREAD THE WORD!

Please share **VITAL News** with anyone interested in environmental preservation and community development in the USVI through trails, parks, and pathways. Find us on Twitter, Facebook, or [www.vitrails.org](http://www.vitrails.org).



In gratitude,  
The VITAL Board of Directors