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Governor Albert Bryan Announces Partnership for 200 New Recreational Moorings in V.I.

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Governor Albert Bryan announced on Thursday a groundbreaking public-private partnership between the V.I. Department of Planning and Natural Resources and the V.I. Professional Charter Association for the installation of 200 recreational moorings across the territory.

The governor stated that the collaboration has already produced exceptional results, marking a significant milestone in promoting responsible tourism and protecting the region's coral reefs.

The project was funded by a \$562,000 grant from the U.S. Economic Development Authority. In addition to the grant, DPNR provided essential in-kind support and regulatory guidance. After securing the required permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and V.I. Coastal Zone Management, a range of sites for the moorings were meticulously selected. Mr. Bryan reported

that over half of the moorings have already been installed.

This initiative aims to welcome a diverse range of vessels, including monohulls, multihulls, and mega yachts, to the territory's bays. The installation of these moorings offers a safer and more convenient alternative to anchoring, which has the potential to damage coral reefs, the governor said. Both residents and visitors are expected to benefit from this development.

"I take great pride in the progress we have achieved thus far and eagerly anticipate future collaborations that will continue to benefit our community and preserve our precious natural resources," Mr. Bryan stated.

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