

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Hospital Ground Redesign Charrette Begins Wednesday; Public Participation Encouraged

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ST. THOMAS -- The community is invited to share their ideas, suggestions and concerns as plans are laid to improve one of St. Thomas' most historic neighborhoods, Hospital Ground.

Discussions will begin at 9 a.m. Wednesday, following brief remarks from Governor Kenneth Mapp, who has pledged to cleanup and redevelop the Hospital Ground area. The governor has urged residents to take an active role in this week's design workshops as important decisions will be made in regard to renovating Lionel Roberts Stadium, developing a permanent site for Carnival celebrations, creating fish and farmers' markets, rehabilitating Winston Raymo Recreation Center and generally revitalizing the

surrounding neighborhood, according to a Government House release issued late Monday.

The design workshops will be held at the Strive Center in the Department of Human Services Complex behind Lionel Roberts Stadium. All sessions are open to the public and a light lunch will be served to participants.

The schedule calls for a tour of the area following the governor's remarks on Wednesday, returning to the Strive Center for the first of three design sessions at 1 p.m. The day's progress will be reviewed at between 6 and 7:30 p.m. for those unable to participate during regular working hours.

Design workshops continue on Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon and the afternoon session will run from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Ideas from community members will be compiled into a final presentation at 10 a.m. on Friday, November 18.

The Hospital Ground charrette is being hosted by the Virgin Islands Public Finance Authority in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Sports, Parks & Recreation, according to the release.