GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

PRESS RELEASE

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Demolition Works To Commence At Estate House No. 2

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The Virgin Islands Recovery and Development Agency (RDA), in support of the Office of the Deputy Governor, has executed a contract for demolition services at Estate House No. 2, formerly the Chief Minister's residence, marking a key milestone in the ongoing revitalisation of the Government's public estate.

The project represents a deliberate and strategic step towards improving Government infrastructure while creating opportunities for future development. Demolition works are scheduled to begin on 23 February, 2026. The contractor will fully demolish the single-storey reinforced concrete structure, including its foundation, and ensure the safe removal and disposal of all building components.

The works will result in a safe, stable, construction-ready, and environmentally responsible site, enhanced to support future development. This phase prepares the property for the next stage—the construction of a new, modern facility designed to meet current building standards and the evolving needs of the Government's public estate.

Deputy Governor Mr. David D. Archer Jr. described the project as both symbolic and forward-looking.

"This demolition represents hope and aspiration for the future of the Government's public estate," the Deputy Governor stated. "While we recognise the historical significance of the former Chief Minister's residence, we also recognise the need to grow as an estate. In doing so the demolition is the start of what a future home would look like in that area."

The Deputy Governor further noted that the works form part of a wider vision to enhance residential infrastructure for senior public officials while supporting long-term planning for the Territory's governance needs.

Speaking at the contract signing, Chief Executive Officer of the RDA, Mr. Anthony McMaster, emphasised the Agency's role in supporting Government's development agenda.

“The RDA takes pride in working alongside the Government of the Virgin Islands to advance its priorities. This project reflects a collaborative effort to responsibly manage and revitalise the public estate, ensuring that it continues to meet the evolving needs of the Territory,” Mr. McMaster said.

Mr. McMaster noted that the demolition of Estate House No. 2 is part of a broader programme of works being advanced in partnership with the Office of the Deputy Governor, with support from the Ministry of Finance, to progressively rebuild and modernise Government assets.

The demolition works will be carried out by **No Limit Construction**, the successful contractor, under the project management oversight of the RDA. Mr. Rajah Smith, owner of No Limit Construction in his remarks said, “This is something we can do in a heartbeat. I’ve worked with the Office of the Deputy Governor before, including on demolition works at the former Post Office and the installation of weather stations across almost every island in the Virgin Islands. We have a proven track record of working with the Deputy Governor’s Office, and I look forward to continuing to do good work together.”

Deputy Secretary in the Office of the Deputy Governor Mrs. Aisha Hill-Massicote speaking on behalf of the Permanent Secretary Mrs. Sharleen DaBreo-Lettsome described the signing as an important step in the careful and deliberate evolution of the public estate.

“Today, we take another step forward toward responsible stewardship of our public assets. This action demonstrates our commitment to making informed decisions about how Government property is managed, maintained and where necessary, redeveloped. It also signals our intention to modernise our public estate in a manner that is thoughtful, transparent and aligned with the needs of present and future generations.”

The RDA will coordinate implementation to ensure the works are executed safely, efficiently, and in accordance with established standards.

Established in 2018, the RDA is a purpose-built specialist agency responsible for implementing priority recovery and development projects on behalf of the

Government of the Virgin Islands. As the Agency transitions toward its expanded development-focused mandate, it continues to support initiatives that strengthen public infrastructure and promote sustainable national growth.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

Highlights from the 29 January, 2026 Contract Signing for Demolition Services for Estate House #2.

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