



News Release

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VIPA Seeking Contractor to Fill Notch and Install Mooring Dolphin at Crown Bay Pier

The Virgin Islands Port Authority Executive Director Carlton Dowe wishes to notify the public that the Port Authority is seeking a contractor to modify the cruise ship pier at the Austin “Babe” Monsanto Marine Terminal in Crown Bay, St. Thomas. VIPA issued an invitation to bid last week seeking a contractor to construct a sheet pile bulkhead and fill in the notch at the end of the pier; install a mooring dolphin with two 200-ton bollards on each side; and modify the existing drainage and utilities.

Dowe said that the installation of the new dolphin and the pier extension were requested by the cruise lines that are bringing larger ships to St. Thomas. The existing notch in the Crown Bay pier leaves a portion of the larger ships exposed to wave action. “Filling in the notch at the end of the pier will result in more stability for the ships and less damage to the pier. It will also provide additional space to open another gangway for passengers to disembark the ship while in port” he said. Dowe said the pier extension

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and mooring installation project will be funded by a portion of the marine revenue bonds that the Port Authority floated in 2014.

Bidders may obtain contract drawings and specifications at a cost of \$100 from VIPA's engineering office. A pre-bid conference will be held on **August 11 at 10 a.m.** in the VIPA Administrative Building conference room on St. Thomas. Bids will be accepted until **September 2 at 2 p.m.**, at which time they will be publicly opened. For more information, the public may contact VIPA's engineering office at (340) 774-1629.

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The notch at the end of the cruise ship pier at the Austin Babe Monsanto Marine Terminal in Crown Bay, St. Thomas will be filled in to provide more stability for the ships berthed at the pier and less damage to the pier.