

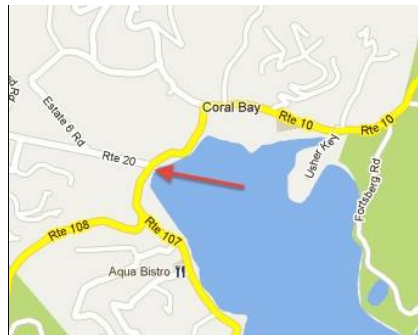
In The News Reading #2: St. John Farm Wants to Develop Eco-Resort

Newspaper Article:

Kossler, Bill. "St. John Farm Wants to Develop Eco-Resort." *St. Croix Source*. Christiansted: St. Croix. 11 March 2013. Newspaper.

Project Pictures:

Barnako, Frank. "Plans for Coral Bay eco-resort, new park." *News of St. John*. 18 October 2012. Website.



On the tiny island of St. John in the US Virgin Islands a local farmer and nursery man wants to convert his property to an eco-resort campground. It is currently designated as an A-2 zoned property and he wants to change that to a B-3 Business Scattered. Concerned neighbors spoke out at a commission meeting about size and density of the operation. Therefore some restrictions were placed on the owner, Hugo Roller. That no more than 5 campsites would be placed per acre, that at least 40 percent of the site must be used for non-permanent structures, and that no person could occupy a camp site for more than 90 consecutive days.

Comment:

I agree that a resort camp ground experience of this kind will be less harsh on the more than 90 percent of the islands National Park Lands. There are already similar accommodations on the island that could be modeled after. My only concern is that is this zoning change really a change for something of a more substantial impact to the area. Does the island really need another campground? Probably not, but once the zoning changes then that opens the doors for other development types.