

Long Island Unleashed

The 7-Pillar Progressive Blueprint

Our Island. Our Vision. Our Time.

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A Message to Every Long Islander

This document is not for the outside world. It is for us. It is for the families who have built this island, for those who have left to find opportunity, and for the children who deserve to build their future right here at home.

This blueprint did not come from a boardroom. It was not written behind closed doors. Over the last four years, I have sat with you — in your living rooms, at your kitchen tables, on your docks, and at your church yards. I have listened to our fishermen who know the sea better than any textbook. I have spoken with our farmers who understand this soil. I have called our young people studying off at college — at Embry-Riddle, at the College of The Bahamas, at universities across the United States and beyond — and asked them one question: “What would bring you home?”

I have heard from our elders who remember when Long Island fed itself, when our spongers were the pride of The Bahamas, and when our salt was known across the

world. I have listened to our mothers who worry about healthcare, to our fathers who want better roads, and to our young families who dream of building a life right here.

Every idea in this blueprint carries the fingerprint of a Long Islander. Your voices, your frustrations, your dreams, and your brilliance are woven into every page. I am the author of this document, but you are its architects. This is not my vision alone — it is our collective vision, born from hundreds of conversations with the people who know this island best: you.

— **Reneika D. Knowles**

The Numbers That Demand Action

Before the vision, the facts. These are the numbers that define where Long Island stands today — and why this blueprint exists.

Fact	Detail
1 ATM on Long Island right now	Long Islanders still drive hours to access their own money. Two additional ATMs will be installed in the first year.
Under 3,000 people remain	Down from 4,564 in 1943. This blueprint targets 10,000 within 10 years.
0 hospitals on Long Island	The nearest full hospital is in Nassau — a flight away. This blueprint builds a 15-bed mini hospital with trauma centre, doctor scheduling, and a Mobile Health Unit.
500+ new careers mapped	Every career has a job description and training pathway. Not promises — plans.
45+ product ideas for entrepreneurs	From pink salt to craft rum — each is an idea Long Islanders can create and sell through the island market hub.
4 years of on-the-ground research	Reneika walked every settlement, sat in every living room, and listened. This blueprint is the result.

The 10-Year Milestone Roadmap

This is not a wish list. It is a phased, realistic roadmap showing exactly what gets built and when. Each milestone builds on the last. Nothing is promised that cannot be delivered.

Years 1–2: Immediate Priorities

What Long Islanders need right now.

These are the first actions, starting from Day 1. Before the big facilities — before the 10-year vision — there are things Long Islanders need immediately.

Priority	Description
2 Additional ATMs	Expanding banking access island-wide — so every community has access to basic banking services.
Mobile Health Unit	A fully equipped medical van serving every settlement weekly — blood pressure checks, diabetes management, prescription refills, and telemedicine consultations. Healthcare comes to your door.
Hospital Phase 1	Primary care, 24/7 emergency services, and telemedicine connections to Nassau specialists. No more medical evacuations for basic care.
Resident Radiologist	Full-time radiologist on-island from Year 1 — no more flying to Nassau for X-rays. X-ray, ultrasound, and CT scanning on-site.
Steady Internet & Backup Power	Reliable high-speed internet for every settlement, with solar-powered backup systems.
Homecoming Initiative	Formal outreach to diaspora Long Islanders — housing assistance, job placement, community reintegration.
Airport Runway & Terminal	Runway upgrade completed July 2026. Modern terminal with duty-free, customs, and international capacity completed winter 2026.
Trade School Launch	First cohort of 50 students in welding, electrical, plumbing, carpentry, marine mechanics, and hospitality.
Population Target	Stabilises at approximately 3,200.

Healthcare from Day 1: The Mobile Health Unit is the lifeline for elderly, stroke survivors, and accident-injury patients who cannot travel. It visits every settlement on a weekly schedule. The 15-bed mini hospital opens with primary care, emergency services, and a full-time radiologist — so no Long Islander has to fly to Nassau for an X-ray ever again.

Doctor & Specialist Scheduling: Every settlement will have access to a structured rotation of healthcare professionals:

Specialist	Frequency	Services
General Physician	Daily	Primary care and walk-ins
Dentist	2× per week	Cleanings, fillings, extractions
Optometrist	Weekly	Eye exams and prescriptions
Physical Therapist	3× per week	Stroke recovery, injury rehab
Obstetrician	2× per week	Prenatal and maternity care
Radiologist	Daily (Year 1)	X-ray, ultrasound, CT
Mental Health Counselor	Weekly	Counseling and therapy
Pharmacist	Daily	On-site dispensary

Years 3–4: Building Core Infrastructure

Turning community priorities into working facilities.

Milestone	Description
Road & Waterworks Expansion	Extending the \$20 million infrastructure project across the island.
Solar Farm Phase 1	Installation and grid connection — clean, affordable energy for all new industries.
Hurricane Resilience Centre	Community shelter, early warning systems, and disaster preparedness hub.
Seafood Cold Storage & Processing	The Tropic of Cancer Seafood Processing Plant becomes operational — flash-freezing, filleting, vacuum-sealing, QR traceability.
Fibre-Optic Internet	High-speed connectivity reaches all settlements.
Dry Dock & Marine Repair	Travel lift, haul-out, fiberglass repair, engine workshop, paint shop, and marine supply store.
Salt Works	Salt harvesting and packing house operational — “Tropic of Cancer Salt” enters the gourmet market.
Digital Hub	Co-working spaces, training programs, and the Digital Nomad Programme launches.
Trade School Graduates	150+ skilled workers trained and placed in blueprint facilities.
Population Target	Reaches approximately 3,500.

Years 5–6: Growing the Economy

The industries Long Islanders said they wanted to see.

Milestone	Description
LIIMES Phase 1	The Long Island Institute of Marine & Environmental Studies opens — first university partnerships for semester-abroad programs.
Night Market	Pilot season in Deadman’s Cay — local food, crafts, music, and community gathering.
Hospital Phase 2	Surgery suite, maternity ward, and specialist clinics added to the 15-bed mini hospital.
Tropic of Cancer Seafood Exports	The brand enters Miami, New York, and international markets with QR-traceable premium seafood.
Craft Distillery	First commercial production of Tropic of Cancer Rum and Island Moon Moonshine.
Eco-Lodge Network	3 eco-lodges operational across the island.
Sponge Cooperative	Sponge farm cooperative and aquaculture systems established — reviving the heritage industry.
Marina Expansion	Yacht services, fishing charters, and seaplane terminal operational.
Population Target	Reaches approximately 4,000.

Years 7–8: Scaling & Diversification

Expanding what the community built together.

Milestone	Description
Food Processing & Abattoir	At full capacity — value-added agricultural products for local consumption and export.
Blue Carbon Credits	Revenue from conservation — Long Island’s seagrass meadows and mangroves generating income.
Full Renewable Energy Grid	Solar farms plus battery storage powering the entire island.
LIIMES Phase 2	Full marine research campus — international researchers, gap-year students, and academic partnerships.
Wellness Retreat	Tropic of Cancer Wellness Retreat opens — halotherapy, spa treatments, dark sky mindfulness, blue mind therapy.
Observatory	Tropic of Cancer Astronomical Observatory and astro-tourism programme launches.
Artist Residency	International artists, writers, and musicians creating work inspired by Long Island.
Tropic of Cancer Brand	Recognised internationally across seafood, salt, sponge, honey, spirits, and wellness products.
Population Target	Reaches approximately 5,000.

Years 9–10: A Thriving Island

The Long Island our grandchildren will inherit.

Milestone	Description
All 42+ Facilities Operational	Every facility in this blueprint fully operational and community-governed.
Heritage Museum	The Museum of Long Island Heritage opens — preserving centuries of history.
Population Target: 10,000	More than doubling the 1943 historic peak of 4,564 — a thriving, self-sustaining community.
Full Export Capacity	Seafood, salt, sponge, honey, spirits, and 47+ product lines reaching international markets.
Tourism Sector	50,000+ annual visitors — eco-tourism, heritage tourism, astro-tourism, wellness tourism.
Model for Out Island Development	Long Island recognised as the blueprint for how Family Islands can thrive.
Generational Wealth	Cooperative ownership ensures wealth stays in Long Island hands.
Next Generation Leading	Young Long Islanders running their own enterprises, trained by the Trade School and LIIMES.
Every Settlement Connected	From Seymour’s in the north to Gordon’s in the south — thriving and self-sustaining.

Population Growth Projection

The blueprint is designed to more than triple Long Island’s population over a decade — not through outside settlement, but by bringing Long Islanders home and creating the conditions for families to stay.

Period	Population	Driver
Today	Under 3,000	Current residents
Year 3	4,500	Homecoming Initiative, first jobs from blueprint facilities
Year 5	6,500	Blueprint facilities operational, economy growing
Year 7	8,000	Full economic engine running
Year 10	10,000	Target population reached — a thriving island

What the Airport Means for Long Island

The runway upgrade completes **July 2026**. The modern terminal opens **winter 2026**. For the first time, Long Island will have direct international access — and that changes everything.

Before the Airport vs. After:

Metric	Today	With the Airport (Year 10)
Annual visitors	5,000	50,000+
Direct international flights	0	Daily
Same-day export capacity	None	Air freight active
Diaspora return trips/year	200	5,000+

The airport unlocks three transformative outcomes:

Tourism Unlocked: Direct charter flights from Florida and Caribbean hubs. Eco-tourism, blue-hole diving, bonefishing packages. Night Market, Wellness Retreat, and Observatory draw overnight stays. Every visitor dollar circulates through local businesses.

Diaspora Return Flights: Affordable direct flights — no more 3-leg journeys via Nassau. The Homecoming Initiative paired with real jobs and housing. Families visit

more often — weekends, not week-long trips. Retirees return knowing healthcare and banking are in place.

Cargo & Export Gateway: Fresh seafood reaches Miami markets same-day by air. Pink Salt, honey, hot sauce, rum — premium export pricing. Cold-chain logistics for lobster, conch, and snapper. The Tropic of Cancer brand goes international.

The airport is not just a runway — it is the front door to Long Island’s new economy.

The Unifying Brand: Tropic of Cancer, Long Island

Our identity is our most powerful asset. We are one of the few places on Earth where the Tropic of Cancer meets the sea, creating a unique duality: the rugged, powerful Atlantic to the north and the calm, gentle Caribbean to the south. This is more than a line on a map; it is our global brand. Every product we create, every experience we offer, will be unified under this powerful identity, telling the world that Long Island is a place of unique quality and unparalleled natural beauty.

This approach is not without precedent. Jamaica transformed “Jamaican Jerk” from a local cooking method into a globally protected Geographical Indication (GI) in 2015, followed by “Jamaican Rum” in 2016. Research shows that GI-protected products command price premiums of up to 40% over generic equivalents. [11] Saint Lucia registered its first GI in March 2025. [12] The Association of Caribbean States is actively promoting GIs as economic opportunities for the entire region. We will be next — and we will do it under the most powerful geographic brand in the Caribbean: Tropic of Cancer.

The Tropic of Cancer Brand Family:

Brand	Target Global Market	Market Value
Tropic of Cancer Seafood	Premium seafood export	Multi-billion dollar global seafood trade
Tropic of Cancer Salt	Gourmet, spa, medicinal, halotherapy	\$3.3 billion gourmet salt market [6]
Bahamian Blue Sponges	Luxury cosmetics, baby care, wellness	\$1.2 billion natural sponge market [3]
Tropic of Cancer Honey	Artisanal honey, wellness products	Growing premium honey market
Tropic of Cancer Rum & Spirits	Craft spirits, island moonshine, fruit wines	Premium Caribbean spirits market
Tropic of Cancer Wellness	Health tourism, retreats	\$6.8 trillion global wellness economy [9]
Tropic of Cancer Experience	Heritage, astro, eco-tourism	Record 12.5 million Bahamas visitors (2025)

QR Traceability — Every Product Tells a Story: Every Tropic of Cancer product carries a QR code that a customer in Miami, New York, or London can scan to see exactly which Long Island producer made their product, when, and where. This is the future of food: transparent, traceable, and premium.

The Complete Product Catalogue

47 export-ready product lines across 8 categories — each one an opportunity for a Long Island entrepreneur.

Ocean Products

Product	Description
Tropic of Cancer Seafood	Premium branded seafood — conch, lobster, snapper, grouper
Natural Sea Sponges	Luxury cosmetics, baby care, spa, and wellness
Conch Pearl Jewelry	Rare, handcrafted jewelry from Long Island waters
Sea Moss Wellness	Nutrient-rich sea moss for health and beauty
Lobster Bisque & Sauces	Value-added gourmet seafood products
Smoked Fish Fillets	Premium smoked snapper, grouper, and wahoo
Conch Fritter Mix	Ready-to-cook Bahamian classic
Sea Vegetable Crisps	Healthy snack from ocean vegetables

Land Products

Product	Description
Long Island Pink Salt	Heritage salt from the \$3.3 billion gourmet market
Tropic of Cancer Meats	Processed, branded meats from the modern abattoir
Long Island Wild Pork	Free-range heritage pork
Island Preserves & Jams	Tropical fruit preserves
Coconut Products	Oil, water, flour, and beauty products
Farm Fresh Produce	Year-round greenhouse and field crops
Mutton Sausage	Traditional Bahamian sausage
Goat Milk Products	Cheese, soap, and dairy
Aloe Vera Collection	Skincare and wellness
Tropic of Cancer Hot Sauce	Goat pepper hot sauce
Coffee & Cocoa	Island-grown specialty beverages
Tropic of Cancer Honey	Artisanal honey and honeycomb
Cassava Bread	Traditional Bahamian staple
Goat Pepper Jelly	Gourmet condiment
Tropical Dried Fruits	Mango, papaya, pineapple
Moringa Superfood Powder	Nutrient-dense health supplement

Heritage Products

Product	Description
Strawwork Collection	Traditional Bahamian craft
Bush Tea Collection	Medicinal herbal teas
Heritage Spice Collection	Traditional island spice blends
Bush Medicine Heritage	Traditional remedies and knowledge
Bush Tea Apothecary	Curated medicinal tea sets
Junkanoo Craft Collection	Festival-inspired crafts
Sisal Rope & Twine	Traditional natural fibre products
Shell & Coral Jewelry	Handcrafted island jewelry

Spirits

Product	Description
Tropic of Cancer Rum	Premium craft rum
Island Moon Moonshine	Small-batch island spirit
Island Fruit Wines	Tropical fruit wines

Wellness Products

Product	Description
Bath & Spa Salts	Pink salt wellness products
Dark Sky Candles	Astro-tourism themed candles
Honey Wellness Collection	Honey-based health products
Coconut Oil Soap Bars	Natural handmade soaps
Pink Salt Body Scrub	Luxury body care
Noni Fruit Juice	Traditional health tonic

Tourism & Education

Product	Description
Tourism Gift Collection	Branded souvenirs and gifts
Island Experience Packages	Curated tourism experiences
Long Island Photo Books	Coffee table photography books
Marine Discovery Kits	Educational ocean science kits
Island STEM Kits	Science and technology education
Heritage Workbooks	Cultural education materials

PILLAR I: THE FOUNDATION — A Thriving Community

Before we can build our economy, we must invest in our people. A strong community is the bedrock of a prosperous future. This pillar ensures that every Long Islander has the essential services and infrastructure needed to live a healthy, connected, and dignified life.

Healthcare for Every Long Islander

No Long Islander should have to leave the island for basic medical care. The centrepiece is the **Long Island 15-Bed Mini Hospital** — a right-sized facility that serves under 3,000 people today and grows to serve 10,000 tomorrow. It includes:

- A **Community Health Centre** for primary care and walk-ins
- A **24/7 Emergency Room** with trauma-ready capability
- A **Surgical Suite** for procedures that currently require evacuation to Nassau
- A **Maternity Ward** so mothers can give birth on their own island
- A **Pharmacy** with on-site dispensary
- A **Radiology Department** with X-ray, ultrasound, and CT — staffed by a full-time resident radiologist from Year 1

The **Mobile Health Unit** is equally critical — a fully equipped medical van visiting every settlement on a weekly schedule. It is the lifeline for elderly residents, stroke survivors, and accident-injury patients who cannot travel. The Mobile Health Unit also includes an **Elderly Home Visit Programme**, bringing healthcare directly to the doorsteps of those who need it most.

“We don’t need a grand hospital that sits half-empty. We need a right-sized facility that serves under 3,000 people today and grows to serve 10,000 tomorrow.”

Stronger Communities, Better Facilities

A stronger, more connected community will be fostered by investing in first-class facilities:

- **Multi-Purpose Recreation Centre** — athletics, community events, and public gatherings
- **Gymnasium & Courts** — modern sports facilities for all ages
- **Special Needs Resource Centre** — accessible services for residents with disabilities

Modern Infrastructure: Airport, Roads, Water, Internet

- **Deadman's Cay International Airport** — runway upgrade (July 2026), modern terminal with duty-free shopping, proper customs, and international capacity (winter 2026)
- **Road & Waterworks Expansion** — extending the \$20 million infrastructure project
- **Fibre-Optic Internet** — high-speed connectivity for every settlement
- **Solar-Powered Backup Systems** — so connectivity and power don't die during storms

The Homecoming Initiative

A formal programme to attract diaspora Long Islanders back home — housing assistance, job placement in blueprint facilities, and community reintegration support. Our greatest export has been our people; it is time to bring them home.

PILLAR II: THE OCEAN ECONOMY — Our Greatest Asset

The ocean is our economy. From world-class bonefishing to deep-sea charters, premium seafood exports, sustainable sponging, and marine science — Long Island's waters hold the wealth of generations.

The Tropic of Cancer Seafood Brand

A modern, IoT-monitored **Cold Storage and Flash-Freezing Facility** transforms our fishing industry. Today, fishermen sell their catch at whatever price the market offers because they have no way to store it. With cold storage, they sell when the price is right, not when the fish will spoil.

The **Value-Added Processing Hub** transforms raw catch into premium, export-ready products — cleaned, filleted, vacuum-sealed, and branded with **QR Code Traceability** so a customer anywhere in the world can scan the package and see exactly which Long Island fisherman caught their dinner.

Facilities:

- Tropic of Cancer Seafood Processing Plant (processing floor, fish market)
- Long Island Fishing Marina & Harbour
- Dry Dock & Marine Repair Centre (travel lift, fiberglass repair, engine workshop, paint shop, marine supply)
- Seaplane Terminal

The Sponging Revival

The Bahamas was once the sponge capital of the Western Hemisphere. In 1917, over 6,000 Bahamians worked in sponging, operating more than 600 vessels and exporting over 1 million pounds annually — representing 25% of the global supply. [1] [16] A devastating fungal blight in 1938 wiped out 99% of sponge beds. But the sponges have recovered, and so will we.

The **Long Island Sponge Cooperative** will ensure our spongers own the value chain. We will create a “Bahamian Blue” Geographical Indication for our five commercial species, targeting luxury cosmetics, premium baby care, spa and wellness, and the emerging pharmaceutical sector.

Aquaculture & Blue Carbon

- **Aquaculture & Mariculture Farm** — land-based recirculating systems for grouper and snapper
- **Blue Carbon Credits** — monetizing our seagrass meadows and mangrove forests through voluntary carbon markets

PILLAR III: THE LAND ECONOMY — Food Sovereignty & Heritage Industries

Food Security

The **Modern Abattoir & Meat Processing** facility and **Central Farmers Market & Cold Storage** allow our farmers and livestock producers to process, package, and create value-added goods. The Prince Edward Island food model in Canada shows that a

strong animal production sector can create over 1,800 jobs and contribute over \$124 million to the local economy. [5]

The **Smart Greenhouse & AgriTech Centre** deploys solar-powered drip irrigation, hydroponics, and precision agriculture using drones and in-ground sensors.

Heritage Industries

- **Long Island Salt Works** — heritage salt harvesting transformed into a high-value enterprise under the “Tropic of Cancer Salt” brand for the \$3.3 billion gourmet salt market [6]
- **Coconut Processing Facility** — oil, water, flour, and beauty products
- **Long Island Apiary & Honey House** — artisanal honey under the “Tropic of Cancer Honey” brand
- **Bush Medicine Garden & Lab** — preserving traditional knowledge and creating modern wellness products

Cooperatives: Strength in Unity

Fishermen, farmers, and producers will form **Producer Cooperatives** — pooling resources, sharing equipment, securing better prices, and accessing financing. This model increases the income of small producers by 20–30%. [7]

PILLAR IV: THE KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY — An Island of Innovation

LIIMES — Long Island Institute of Marine & Environmental Studies

A world-class research and education hub modeled on the successful Forfar Field Station in Andros, which has served over 50,000 students since 1970. [18] At a conservative estimate, a similar facility on Long Island could generate over \$1.7 million in annual revenue.

Long Island has something no other location on Earth can replicate. In 2018, Mission Blue declared Long Island a “Hope Spot”, recognizing its extraordinary marine

biodiversity across a proposed 257,000-acre Marine Management Area. [17]

LIIMES Facilities:

- Coral Research Lab
- Dive Training Pool
- Underwater Observatory
- Marine Hatchery
- Blue Carbon Lab
- Visitor Education Centre

Research Opportunities:

Research Area	Long Island Asset	Potential Partners
Extremophile & Astrobiology	Dean’s Blue Hole	Texas A&M, NASA Ames
Endangered Species Conservation	7 Nassau Grouper Spawning Aggregations	Scripps, REEF
Freediving & Sports Science	Vertical Blue Competition Venue	University of Windsor
Climate & Solar Research	Tropic of Cancer Ocean Intersection	University of Bath, ANL
Archaeology & Anthropology	Hamilton’s Cave (Lucayan site)	George Mason University

The Tropic of Cancer Astronomical Observatory

A research-grade observatory on the Tropic of Cancer line — optimal viewing conditions for both Northern and Southern Hemisphere celestial objects. Dual purpose: international astronomical research and astro-tourism. The global Dark Sky Stargazing Tours market was valued at \$1 billion in 2025 and is growing at 15% annually. [8]

The Long Island Trade School & Vocational Academy

A vocational institution focused on modern, in-demand skills that directly serve the industries in this blueprint:

Workshop	Skills Taught
Welding Workshop	Metal fabrication, structural welding
Electrical Lab	Installation, maintenance, solar technology
Plumbing & Water Systems	Water infrastructure, conservation
Carpentry & Woodwork	Construction, furniture, restoration
Marine Mechanics Bay	Engine repair, boat maintenance
Hospitality Training Kitchen	Culinary arts, tourism management

The Young Aviators Club & Aviation Academy

Already operational in Gray's Settlement with an FAA-certified BATD Gleim Virtual Flight Simulator. Results speak for themselves: Kaiden Shearer completed his first solo flight in May 2025 and is now attending Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. Antonique Greenslade earned her A&P License from Embry-Riddle. Kadron Rahming earned his Private Pilot License in February 2025. [19]

With the airport expansion to a 6,500-foot runway, Long Island will not only train pilots — it will be a destination for flight training.

PILLAR V: THE DESTINATION — Sharing Our Story with the World

The Tropic of Cancer Experience

A beautiful, artful National Landmark on the Tropic of Cancer line — a must-see destination for cultural tourists, photographers, and astronomy enthusiasts. The anchor of our entire tourism strategy.

Heritage Economy

The **Long Island Heritage Pass** provides access to a world-class trail connecting Dean’s Blue Hole, Hamilton’s Cave, and the Heritage Museum. Historic sites across the island will be preserved through the **Long Island Heritage Trust**:

Historic Site	Significance	Preservation Action
Adderley’s Plantation Ruins	1790s cotton plantation, 7 buildings remain	Interpretive walking trail, heritage tourism anchor
St. Mary The Virgin Anglican Church	Believed to be oldest church in The Bahamas	Full restoration, UNESCO tentative list nomination
St. Peter & St. Paul’s Catholic Church	Designed by Father Jerome, completed 1947	Ongoing maintenance, architectural heritage designation
Dunmore Plantation Ruins	Former slave plantation with wall drawings	Interpretive centre telling the full story
Hamilton’s Cave	Lucayan Indian artifacts, prehistoric drawings	3D laser scanning, controlled access, university partnerships
Columbus Monument	15-foot stone obelisk, northernmost tip	Enhanced interpretive signage

The Tropic of Cancer Wellness Retreat

A premier wellness destination combining halotherapy (salt), spa treatments (sponges), mindfulness (dark skies), and blue mind therapy (ocean). Wellness tourists spend 53% more than average tourists. [9]

Eco-Lodge Network

Three eco-lodges across the island — sustainable, low-impact accommodations that immerse visitors in Long Island’s natural beauty.

Long Island Welcome Centre

The first point of contact for every visitor — orientation, booking, heritage trail information, and the gateway to the Tropic of Cancer Experience.

PILLAR VI: THE CREATIVE ECONOMY — Culture as Commerce

The Digital Nomad Programme

With high-speed internet, Long Island launches a Digital Nomad Visa Programme — attracting remote workers who stay longer, spend more, and integrate into the community. Barbados's Welcome Stamp program has proven the success of this model. [10]

The Tropic of Cancer Artist Residency

An international artist residency program inviting artists, writers, and musicians to create work inspired by Long Island's unique environment — generating global cultural capital and a vibrant creative scene.

The Culinary Trail

A farm-to-table and sea-to-table culinary trail connecting farms, fishing docks, and local restaurants. Visitors experience the authentic taste of Long Island — from conch salad on the dock to goat pepper jelly in the bush.

Traditional Boatbuilding Workshop

Preserving the art of Bahamian boatbuilding — a living workshop where master builders teach the next generation and visitors watch traditional sloops take shape.

Long Island Radio Station & E-Commerce Hub

A community radio station connecting every settlement, and an e-commerce fulfilment hub that puts Long Island products online for the world to buy.

PILLAR VII: THE RESILIENT ISLAND — A Model for the Future

Clean Energy & The Smart Grid

Large-scale solar farms connected to a Smart Grid with modern battery storage — clean, affordable energy for all new industries. The national government has committed \$1 billion to clean energy investment; Long Island's solar farms will be a flagship project.

Hurricane Resilience Centre

A community shelter and disaster preparedness hub — early warning systems, community-based preparedness programs, and resilient infrastructure designed to withstand Category 5 hurricanes.

A Community for All Ages

- **Retirement Village** — modern elder care in a beautiful environment, creating jobs in healthcare and hospitality
 - **Youth Empowerment Centre** — programmes, mentorship, and resources for the next generation of Long Island leaders
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The Interconnected Vision: How It All Works Together

This blueprint is not a collection of isolated projects. It is an interconnected system where each pillar reinforces the others.

Investment	Enables	Which Creates
Airport expansion (6,500 ft runway)	Larger aircraft, direct flights	Tourism access, seafood export capacity
Fibre-optic internet	Digital nomad programme, e-commerce	Year-round economic activity, global market access
Solar farms on Tropic of Cancer	Clean, affordable energy	Power for all processing facilities, lower costs
Cold storage & processing hub	“Tropic of Cancer Seafood” brand	Direct export revenue, higher fishermen income
Food processing plant & abattoir	Value-added agricultural products	Food sovereignty, reduced imports, new jobs
Sponger’s cooperative	“Bahamian Blue” brand	Premium market access, heritage revival
Salt packing house	“Tropic of Cancer Salt” brand	Gourmet, spa, and halotherapy revenue
LIIMES research institute	University partnerships, student revenue	\$1.7M+ annual revenue, global prestige
Heritage Pass & landmark	Unified tourism product	Visitor spending across all sites
Wellness retreat	High-spending wellness tourists	Combines salt, sponge, dark sky, ocean
Trade school	Skilled workforce	Local talent for every new industry
Cooperatives	Collective bargaining power	20–30% higher producer incomes
Blue carbon credits	Revenue from conservation	Environmental stewardship that pays
Aviation academy	Pilot training, aviation careers	Flight training destination
Heritage Trust & restoration	Preserved sites, UNESCO recognition	Heritage tourism revenue, cultural pride

Investment	Enables	Which Creates
Homecoming Initiative	Diaspora return, investment	Population growth, new businesses

A reliable water supply enables modern farming. Modern farming feeds the food processing plant. The food processing plant supplies the culinary trail. The culinary trail attracts tourists. The airport brings the tourists. Solar energy powers it all. The research institute trains the workforce. The workforce runs every new industry.

Settlement-by-Settlement Development

Every settlement on Long Island has a role in this blueprint. No community is left behind.

Settlement	Region	Key Feature	Anchor Facilities
Seymour's	North	Marine Research & Wellness Tourism	LIIMES, Wellness Retreat
Stella Maris	North	Seaplane Hub & Eco-Tourism	Seaplane Terminal, Eco-Lodge
Burnt Ground	North	Eco-Lodge Network	Eco-Lodge
Simms	Central	Agricultural Hub & Trade School	Recreation Centre, Marina, Abattoir, Farmers Market, Trade School, Youth Centre
Hamilton's	Central	Dark Sky Observatory	Astronomical Observatory
Deadman's Cay	Central	Commercial Centre & Medical Hub	Hospital, Airport, Seafood Processing, Welcome Centre, Distillery, Night Market, Radio Station, E-Commerce Hub, Resilience Centre, Manufacturing, Aviation Academy
Buckley's	Central	Honey Production	Apiary & Honey House
Salt Pond	Central	Salt Works & Long Island Regatta	Dry Dock, Salt Works
Petty's	Central	Bush Medicine Heritage	Bush Medicine Garden & Lab
Scrub Hill	Central	Renewable Energy Hub	Solar Farm
Mangrove Bush	South	Sponge Cooperative & Boatbuilding	Sponge Cooperative, Boatbuilding Workshop
Clarence Town	South	Heritage & Cultural Capital	Health Centre, Heritage Museum, Digital Hub, Cooking School, Artist Residency, Retirement Village

Settlement	Region	Key Feature	Anchor Facilities
Roses	South	Coconut Processing	Coconut Processing Facility
Grays	South	Aquaculture & Mariculture	Aquaculture Farm
Gordon's	South	Southern Eco-Tourism	Eco-Lodge

Our Time Is Now

This blueprint is ambitious, but it is achievable. Every major initiative in this document is grounded in a real-world success story: the IDB's sponging revival in Andros, Jamaica's Jerk GI, Tarpon Springs' heritage tourism, Prince Edward Island's food economy, Barbados's digital nomad programme, Zanzibar's sponge farming, and the Long Island Young Aviators Club that is already sending our children to Embry-Riddle. These are not theories — they are proven models that we will adapt and surpass. And some of them are already happening right here on our island.

This is a plan that honors our past, empowers our present, and secures our future. It is a vision of a Long Island where our children can build their dreams right here at home, where our culture is celebrated as a global brand, and where our economy is as resilient and powerful as the Atlantic tides.

This is more than a plan; it is a promise. A promise to every Long Islander that our best days are not behind us — they are ahead of us.

Let's build it together.

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