



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER & POWER AUTHORITY
CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS
NEWS RELEASE

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**CRUZ BAY ELECTRICAL UNDERGROUND PROJECT MOVES TO
ST. JOHN NORTHSHORE ROAD NEXT WEEK**

DOWNTOWN CRUZ BAY TRAFFIC WILL BE AFFECTED

The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority advises the motoring public on St. John that work on the Cruz Bay Electrical Underground Project will continue along Northshore Road beginning on Monday, September 13, 2021.

As a result of the work, traffic flow will be adversely impacted, specifically in the downtown Cruz Bay area. Flaggers will be on site to assist with traffic control and motorists traversing through the work area are asked to proceed with caution.

The project, to be done in three phases, replaces existing overhead electrical lines and equipment with underground facilities to lessen damage from future hurricanes and windstorms and ensure more efficient service restoration in the aftermath of a natural disaster.

The initial work on the project featured trenching and conduit installation within the Frank Bay area near WAPA's existing electrical substation. This work will continue towards Grande Bay while a second trenching and conduit installation project gets underway from Mongoose Junction towards downtown Cruz Bay.

The project is funded jointly by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The contractor is Haugland Energy Group with project management provided by FX Bonnes Associates. The \$11.9 million first phase of the project is expected to be completed at the end of March 2022.

Similar electrical undergrounding projects are slated for St. Thomas and St. Croix as part of a larger strategic transformation of the territory's electrical and water utility.

WAPA thanks the public for its patience and cooperation as we build a brighter future, together.

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About WAPA: The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority is an autonomous agency of the Virgin Islands Government which produces and distributes electricity and drinking water to residential and commercial customers in the territory. WAPA was created by the Fifth Legislature of the Virgin Islands in 1964 through Act No. 1248. Today, WAPA generates electrical power at production plants on St. Thomas and St. Croix and distributes electrical service through smart grids to customers on St. Thomas, St. Croix, St. John, Hassel Island, and Water Island. Potable water is distributed to almost 13,000 customers through water lines and standpipes. WAPA also has the responsibility of installing and maintaining streetlights.

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