



# THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER & POWER AUTHORITY CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS NEWS RELEASE

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## Upcoming Road Closures on Queen Mary Highway for WAPA Undergrounding Project



Image: Map of upcoming Queen Mary Highway road closures for undergrounding work.

St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands (September 4, 2025) — The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority (“WAPA” or “the Authority”) is advising the public of two upcoming road closures to allow underground electrical work to be continued on Queen Mary Highway commonly known as Centerline Road. The work will be performed by WAPA’s contractor, J. Benton Construction.

The road closure is scheduled for September 8–12, 2025, during which Route 707 (Aureo Diaz Heights entrance/Virgin Islands Super Court) will be closed, with no access permitted from Queen Mary Highway. A lane closure will follow from September 15–October 20, 2025, when the eastbound lane of Queen Mary Highway/Centerline Road will be closed between Route 663 (Eddie Ortiz Drive near St. Croix Central High School) and Route 707 (Aureo Diaz Heights

entrance/Virgin Islands Superior Court). During this period, motorists requiring access to Dirth Road, Herbert Grigg Home for the Elderly, Upper Bethlehem, and the U.S. Virgin Islands Superior Court are advised to approach these locations from the east.

These closures are necessary to ensure the safe and efficient completion of undergrounding electrical work that will strengthen the reliability of the grid and improve resilience in nearby communities.

WAPA thanks the public for its patience and cooperation as this important work is carried out by J. Benton Construction. Motorists are encouraged to plan ahead, allow extra travel time, and exercise caution when traveling in the affected areas.

*The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority Communication's department is committed to reaching, informing, and connecting with the youngest members of the community to the eldest, through meaningful, transparent and effective communication.*

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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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