

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Bryan Sends Bill to Senate Seeking \$20 Million for Road Projects Territory-Wide

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Large potholes in Gallows Bay

Government House said Friday that Governor Albert Bryan has submitted legislation to the V.I. Legislature proposing to use approximately \$20 million to pave, resurface and install proper drainage to more than two dozen roads throughout the territory.

Governor Bryan's proposal, forwarded to the Legislature Thursday, provides \$9.6 million to address 13 road projects on St. Croix, and \$8.35 million to address 14 road projects in the St. Thomas-St. John District, according to Gov't House.

“With the dozens of road and other capital projects already underway, the Department of Public Works is maintaining the momentum by looking ahead to the next batch of road projects to get shovel-ready,” Mr. Bryan said, according to Gov't House. “I’m asking my colleagues in the 34th Legislature to earmark which projects to prioritize so DPW can continue its excellent job and start the next stages of our Territory’s recovery.

The governor is said to be requesting an appropriation of \$19.6 million of excess funds in the Debt Service Reserve Fund to be used for a list of urgently needed capital road projects, and he is asking the Senate to determine and earmark funds for the specific projects that have been prioritized by the Department of Public Works (DPW).

According to the release, the list of projects also contains a proposal for replacing the boat ramp and parking lot at Hull Bay on St. Thomas and a request from the Virgin Islands Port Authority for funds to complete the fendering that is almost complete along Veterans Drive Waterfront on St. Thomas.

Among the numerous road projects on DPW’s prioritized list are re-milling and paving Queen Mary Highway and drainage and repaving on roads in Strawberry Hill, Upper Love, Union & Mount Washington, Whim, Estate St. John, Estate Richmond, Mount Pleasant and Calquohoun on St. Croix.

In the St. Thomas-St. John District, DPW priorities include drainage improvement and repaving in Estates Misgunst & Lerkenlund, Estate Hope, Estate Pearl, Frenchman’s Bay, Estate St. Peter, Lilliendal and Marienhøj, Estate Mandahl and Smith Bay, as well as portions of Lionel Berry Scenic Drive, on St. Thomas, and drainage improvement and repaving to portions of Route 10 (Centerline Road) in Cruz Bay, portions of Route 10 in Estate Carolina (East End Road) and portions of Route 107 in Coral Bay, according to Government House.