## WAPA Announces Upcoming Hannah's Rest Electrical Underground Project

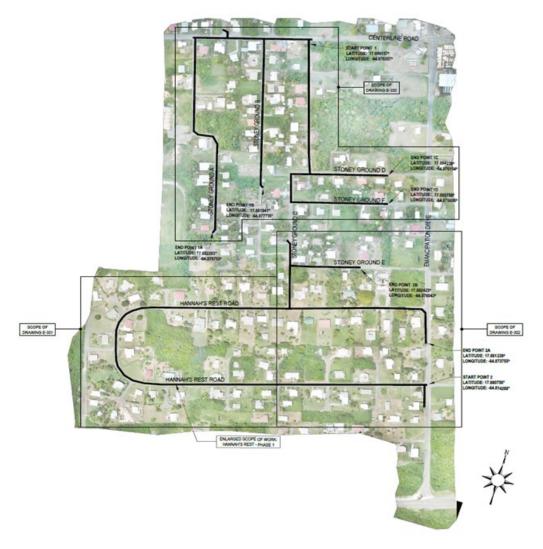


Fig. 1: Map of Hannah's Rest, Phase 1 Underground Electrical Project on St. Croix

ST. CROIX, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS (March 27, 2025) – The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority ("WAPA" or the "Authority") announces the Hannah's Rest Electrical Underground Project, scheduled to begin on Monday, April 7, 2025. Funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), this project will strengthen infrastructure resilience for the Hannah's Rest community by converting the area's electrical system from overhead to underground.

J. Benton Construction, the awarded contractor, will begin staging and preparation on April 7, with construction starting shortly after. The project is expected to reach substantial completion by December 2025.

During the project, customers may experience temporary electrical service disruptions, with advance notice provided through <u>WAPA alerts</u>. Minimal traffic adjustments may occur, with public notices issued as needed. Motorists should drive cautiously and follow posted signs and instructions from traffic management personnel.

The Authority is dedicated to keeping the public informed throughout this crucial project. Updates will be shared via WAPA's website, local media outlets, and WAPA alerts.

WAPA thanks the community for their patience and support as we undertake this project, one of many efforts to strengthen the island's electrical infrastructure for greater reliability and resilience.

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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