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*** Statutes current through Act 7727 of the 2014 Regular and Special Session ***

TITLE TWENTY Highways and Motor Vehicles

PART I. HIGHWAYS

Chapter 1. Highways Generally

20 V.I.C. § 1 (2014)

§ 1. Control, construction, and maintenance of public highways

- (a) The duty of keeping the public highways, bridges, courses, breastwalls, handrails, and private roads dedicated to public use, in good serviceable condition is incumbent upon the government of the United States Virgin Islands.
- (b) Supervision and control of the public highways shall be exercised by the Commissioner of Public Works. Under his supervision and control, all public highways shall be constructed, reconstructed, repaired, and maintained by the Department of Public Works.
- (c) All public highways, streets, bridges and guard rails shall, to the maximum extent possible, be constructed and maintained in accordance with the standards, specifications, and safety requirements promulgated by the Bureau of Public Roads of the United States Department of Transportation. However, the Commissioner shall establish the standards, specifications, and safety requirements for public highways, streets, bridges and guardrails that are a part of the public road system of the Territorial Government and not maintained by federal funds. The Commissioner shall establish a schedule of fees and fines for any individual, company, corporation that causes a local road to be damaged or fails to comply with the standards, established under this subsection.
- (d) All road hazards, such as narrow bridges, poles and other obstructions on or dangerously near public highways, and all road hazard signs, shall be painted or covered with a luminous paint or material of a type and color deemed appropriate by the Police Commissioner of Public Works in consultation with the Commissioner. Such hazards and warning signs shall be maintained in a clearly visible condition in such manner, at all times, by the Department of Public Works. The Commissioner shall mark the pavement adjacent to each roadway intersection with prominent arrows in contrasting colors indicating the direction in which the traffic must flow. Additional arrows must be marked on the pavement to ensure that an arrow appears at intervals of one quarter mile or less.
- (e) The Commissioner of Public Works shall undertake and be responsible for a public information sign erection program upon the public streets and highways of the Virgin Islands, the purpose of which shall be to better identify the names of streets and public places and the locations of points of interest in the Virgin Islands and their distances from given points.
- (f) The Commissioner of Public Works shall, when erecting any sign pursuant to the provisions of this section, ensure that such sign will not unreasonably interfere with the ability of blind persons, as defined in section 160 of chapter 9 of Title 10, Virgin Islands Code, to move about in a safe manner; Provided, however, That nothing in this subsection shall require the Commissioner of Public Works to erect any sign in violation of applicable United States law or regulations.

HISTORY: --Amended Mar. 6, 1970, No. 2655, § 2, Sess. L. 1970, p. 40; July 17, 1972, No. 3258, Sess. L. 1972, p. 191; Dec. 7, 1982, No. 4767, § 4, Sess. L. 1982, p. 236. June 15, 1984, No. 4964, § 1(b), Sess. L. 1984, p. 177; May 2, 2001, No. 6403, § 4(a), Sess. L. 2001, p. 21; Mar. 8, 2010, No. 7149, § 11, Sess. L. 2009, p. 413.