



The Honorable
Marvin A. Blyden
Senator

Legislature of the Virgin Islands

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Housing, Transportation &
Telecommunications

VICE CHAIR
Budget, Appropriations & Finance

MEMBER
Economic Development &
Agriculture

Culture, Youth, Aging & Parks

Health, Hospitals, & Human Services

Committee Report

Committee on Housing, Transportation, & Telecommunications

The Committee on Housing, Transportation & Telecommunications convened on Wednesday, April 8, 2026, at 9:37 a.m. in the Fritz E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room on St. Croix to receive testimony from various Governmental Agencies regarding the USVI Telecommunications update. As well as the consideration of Bill No. 36-0109 and Bill No. 36-0074.

The Committee convened to receive its annual update on telecommunications issues from providers, regulators, infrastructure owners, and policymakers, with a focus on evaluating system resilience, redundancy, affordability and reliability of service. This discussion informed legislative efforts to strengthen infrastructure planning, disaster preparedness, and public safety communications, while also assessing technical standards and the deployment of emerging technologies in the Virgin Islands. The committee also heard testimony regarding compliance with ADA mandates requiring website accessibility for people with disabilities.

Consideration of Bill No. 36-0109: An act amending title 33 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 111 to establish the Inspection and Safety on Public Highways Fund; amending title 20 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 39, section 435 relating to the collection of fees, amending title 20 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 41, section 461 relating to equipment and inspection of vehicle requirements, and title 20 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 38, section 416 relating to motor vehicle restrictions for the car rental industry. Proposed by: Senator Angel L. Bolques, Jr.

Legislative Voting on Bill No. 36-0109 (HELD in Committee)

Committee Members	Y/N
Senator Marvin A. Blyden, Chair	Y
Senator Clifford A. Joseph, Sr.	Y
Senator Ray Fonseca	Y
Senator Dwayne M. DeGraff	N
Senator Marise C. James	Absent
Senator Carla Joseph	Y
Senator Kurt A. Vialet	Y

Consideration of Bill No. 36-0074: An Act amending title 20 Virgin Islands Code, part I by adding a chapter 3 establishing the “Virgin Islands Roadside Property Maintenance and Vegetation Act” to require property owners to maintain roadside vegetation, prevent obstruction of public roads and utility lines, provide for enforcement, penalties, and exceptions, and for other related purposes. Proposed by: Senator Kenneth L. Gittens and Senator Avery L. Lewis

Legislative Voting on Bill No. 36-0074 (HELD in Committee)

Committee Members	Y/N
Senator Marvin A. Blyden, Chair	Y
Senator Clifford A. Joseph, Sr.	Absent
Senator Ray Fonseca	N
Senator Dwayne M. DeGraff	N
Senator Marise C. James	Absent
Senator Carla Joseph	N
Senator Kurt A. Vialet	Y

Legislative Attendance

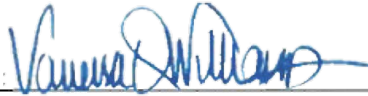
Committee Members Present	Non-Committee Members Present
Senator Marvin A. Blyden, Chair	Senator Novelle E. Francis
Senator Clifford A. Joseph, Sr.	Senator Angel L. Bolques
Senator Ray Fonseca	Senator Kenneth L. Gittens
Senator Dwayne M. DeGraff	
Senator Marise C. James	
Senator Carla Joseph	
Senator Kurt A. Vialet	

Invited Testifiers

The Honorable Kevin McCurdy, Commissioner, Department of Finance	The Honorable Jean-Pierre Oriol, Commissioner, Department of Planning & Natural Resources
The Honorable Mario M. Brooks, Commissioner, Virgin Islands Police Department	Ms. Barbara McIntosh, Director, Virgin Islands Bureau of Motor Vehicles
The Honorable Tregenza A. Roach, Esq, Lt. Governor of the V.I.,	The Honorable Derek Gabriel, Commissioner, Department of Public Works
Mr. Karl Knight, Executive Director & CEO, Water & Power Authority	Mr. Hannibal "Mike" Ware, Executive Director, Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority
Dr. Gregory Guannel, Director, Caribbean Green Technology Center	Mr. Stephan Adams, Chief Executive Officer, V.I. Next Generation Network
Ms. Siobhan James-Alexander, Chief Executive Officer, One Communications	Mr. Clay Jones, Principal/Arborist, Heritage Tree Care, LLC.
Ms. Ileann Canellas Correa, Esq, Country Manager, T-Mobile PR/VI	Mr. Ravindra Maywahlall, Country Manager, Liberty USVI

The Honorable Dionne Wells-Hedrington, Commissioner, Department of Education	Mr. Julio Rhymer, Director, Office of Management and Budget
Mr. Rupert Ross, Director, Bureau of Information Technology	Mr. Dwayne Alexander, Executive Director, Virgin Islands Housing Authority

The Committee on Housing, Transportation & Telecommunications adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Prepared by: 
Vanessa Ortiz Williams
Chief Legislative Researcher