



News Release

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New Exit Lane Opens at King Airport Today

Motorists leaving the Cyril E. King Airport Terminal on St. Thomas can expect an ease in the flow of traffic as of today. The Virgin Islands Port Authority has completed the construction of a third lane to exit the airport parking lot, announced VIPA Executive Director Carlton Dowe. “The first lane on the far left is designated for the VI Taxi Association drivers who have an operations agreement at CEKA. It will alleviate some of the traffic congestion and improve the customer experience at our airport,” he said. In addition to the new exit lane, VIPA has placed all three parking lot attendant booths on generator power and landscaped the area.

Although traffic should be somewhat alleviated, Dowe reminded the public that there may still be times when traffic at the airport might be backed up. “All the major jets arrive between noon and 5 pm in order to make their turn around to the mainland. The public can expect to have more vehicular traffic at CEKA around that time.” He added that the airport may still be congested at times since CEKA is handling more than double the capacity it was constructed to accommodate when it was built in 1990. It was built to handle 300,000 passengers, but last year over 720,000 passengers arrived at the King Airport, Dowe said. He thanked the public for their patience as the Port Authority works to improve its facilities to accommodate the changing needs of our community and our visitors.

Construction work to expand the exit lanes began in September 2014. VIPA hired Neon Construction Enterprises, Inc. to perform the \$247,000 project, which was funded by the Authority via its FY 2014 budget. For more information about Port Authority projects, please contact, VIPA’s Public Information Officer, Monifa Brathwaite, at (340) 774-1629 or visit www.viport.com.

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(Photo caption) A motorist and private taxi utilize the two main exit lanes at the Cyril E. King Airport. The first lane on the far left is designated for the VI Taxi Association drivers who have an operations agreement at CEKA.

