

VIRGIN ISLANDS HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAM

I. Program Overview - Federal Fiscal year 2005

The Virgin Islands Highway Safety program is a combination of traffic safety projects that are funded with federal safety funds with the overall goal of reducing the number and severity of traffic crash deaths and injuries. The program is driven each year by the Highway Safety Plan, published and administered by the Virgin Islands Office of Highway Safety. Funding sources from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Title 23, Section 402 Highway Safety Program, and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program. The Office of Highway Safety received a total of \$1,478,093.39 in federal funds, of which an estimated amount of \$806,877.25 was expended, and approximately \$671,216.14 carried forward into FY-2006.

During fiscal year 2005 (October 1, 2004 to September 30, 2005) VIOHS administered funds for the following:

- Planning and Administration
- Police Traffic Services
- Occupant Protection Enforcement
- Child Passenger Safety
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Programs
- Traffic Records Systems
- Alcohol Safety Programs
- Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program

F I S C A L R E V I E W

By Program Areas

Project	OBLIGATED		402 Funds Claimed	Reprogrammed	Revised Obligation	Project Balance
	402	Local				
Planning and Administration PA-2005-00-00	\$ 24,723.26	\$196,459.00	\$24,723.26	\$ 8,408.31	\$ 24,723.26	-0-
Alcohol Involvement AL-2005-00-00	54,670.73	-0-	54,670.73	67,832.77	54,670.73	-0-
Occupant Protection OP-2005-00-00	103,837.00	-0-	103,837.00	7,489.98	103,837.00	-0-
Pedestrian Safety PS-2005-00-00	13,771.78	-0-	13,771.78	44,562.90	13,771.78	-0-
Police Traffic Services PT-2005-00-00	115,332.08	-0-	115,332.08	170,258.33	115,332.08	-0-
Traffic Records	50,000.00	-0-	50,000.00	-0-	50,000.00	-0-
Total NHTSA 402	361,844.87	-0-	361,844.87	298,552.29	361,844.87	-0-
Total J2-405	70,849.12	-0-	70,849.12	156,810.59	70,849.12	-0-
TOTAL J9- 411	3,073.45	-0-	3,073.45	-0-	3,073.45	-0-
GRAND TOTAL	435,767.44	-0-	435,767.44	455,362.88	435,767.44	-0-

II. 2005 STATEWIDE ANALYSIS

This section addresses statewide progress towards achieving 2005 Highway Safety Plan performance goals. The Virgin Islands met most performance goals as set forth in the 2005 HSP. The following is an overview of the program results:

PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION

Goals

To provide management, supervision and support services necessary to operate the highway safety program in the U. S. Virgin Islands. These activities include, but are not limited to the following:

- To develop and maintain a coordinated Highway Safety Plan (HSP) by August 1, 2005.
- To develop, coordinate, monitor and administratively evaluate traffic safety projects identified in the HSP.
- To conduct an active public awareness campaign during the fiscal year 2005.
- To promote traffic safety legislation in the Virgin Islands Legislature.
- To hire an accountant to ensure that the grant funds are expended and accounted for according to OMB and the VI Department of Finance guidelines.

Accomplishments

- The Virgin Islands Office of Highway Safety provided funding for the management, supervision, support and operating services necessary to conduct the Virgin Islands Highway Safety program during fiscal year 2005. During that fiscal year 15 onsite visits were conducted.
- VIOHS worked with the program coordinators in the implementation of their programs, assisting with public information and education campaigns, seat belts surveys, and necessary funding.
- The process to hire the accountant was not finalized until the end of the fiscal year, therefore, the position will be filled in FY 2006.
- Draft legislations were submitted to the Police Department's Office of legal Counsel for review.
 - The legislations were for an amendment to Title 20 section 466, the child passenger safety law to include a provision for the mandatory use of Booster Seats and mandate that all rear seat passenger wear seatbelts;
 - amendment to Title 20 chapter 43 section 493d, to prohibit the consumption and/or possession of alcoholic beverages while operating a vehicle.
 - Two other amendments are currently in the review stages to be submitted to Legal Counsel, they are Distracted Driving Legislation, to prohibit the use of cell phones or other devices and/or objects while driving;
 - the other is a Graduated Licensing Statute that will mandate that teenage drivers be issued a temporary license and are re-evaluated before giving a permanent drivers license at age 18.

F I S C A L R E V I E W

By Projects

Project	OBLIGATED		402 Funds Claimed	Reprogrammed	Revised Obligation	Project Balance
	402	Local				
Planning and Administration						
Project No. PA-05-000	\$ 33,131.57	\$196,459.00	\$ 24,723.26	\$8,408.31	\$ 24,723.26	-0-
TOTAL	\$ 33,131.57	\$196,459.00	\$ 24,723.26	\$8,408.31	\$ 24,723.26	-0-

POLICE TRAFFIC SERVICES

Goals

- To reduce traffic injuries and fatalities by 15% in the year 2005
- To reduce by 10% the number of traffic crashes in FY 2005
- To hire a Coordinator to work with the Police Department to maximize resources, ensure the accurate use of resources and to coordinate enforcement efforts
- To provide Basic and Advanced Traffic Investigation training to officers so that they can efficiently perform their duties, thus aid in the prosecution of offenders.

Accomplishments

- Traffic Fatalities were decreased by 30 percent.
- Traffic injuries increased by 20 percent
- The number of traffic crashes increased by 14%
- Funding was provided to train officers in Basic and Advance Traffic Investigation
- The Coordinator's position was not approved until the end of the fiscal year, however, the position will be filled in FY 2006

By Projects

Project	OBLIGATED		402 Funds Claimed	Reprogrammed	Revised Obligation	Project Balance
	402	Local				
Police Traffic Services						
Project No. PT-05-000	\$285,590.41		\$115,332.08	\$170,258.33	\$115,332.08	-0-
TOTAL	\$285,590.41		\$115,332.08	\$170,258.33	\$115,332.08	-0-

OCCUPANT PROTECTION ENFORCEMENT

Occupant Protection

Goal

- To increase seatbelt compliance from 86 % to 92%, by September 30, 2005

Accomplishments:

- The Virgin Islands achieved an 89% seat belt usage rate.
- Virgin Islands police conducted 14 occupant protection checkpoints.
- In FY 2005 6031 seatbelt citations were issued compared to 3,091 seat belt citations issued in FY 2004.

By Projects

Project	OBLIGATED		402 Funds Claimed	Reprogrammed	Revised Obligation	Project Balance
	402	Local				
OP Enforcement						
Project No. J2-05-405	\$227,659.71		\$ 70,849.12	\$156,810.59	\$ 70,849.12	-0-
TOTAL	\$227,659.71		\$ 70,849.12	\$ 156,810.59	\$ 70,849.12	-0-

CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY

Goal:

- To increase car seat compliance and usage rate in the territory.
- To provide certification training for additional technicians and to recertify existing technicians
- To provide instructor training for two certified technicians
- To establish two fitting stations on the island of St. Thomas
- To conduct 10 safety seat clinics in the territory, and to distribute at least 200 car seats through the donor program.

Accomplishments:

- 10 Child Safety Seat Clinics and outreach fairs were conducted at childcare centers.
- Buckle Up presentations were given at 5 summer camps and 13 day care centers in the territory
- Participated in other territorial activities such as the week of the young child, World Health Day celebration, National Night Out Against Crime and Drugs, Child Passenger Safety Week, and Buckle Up America Week
- Child safety seat compliance rate is undetermined, a mechanism for determining compliance must be put in place
- Two fitting stations were identified, on St. Thomas
- 180 convertible seats and 12 booster seats were distributed through the donor program
- The "Using It Right", Kids in the Car, and Buckle Up Don't Mash Up brochures were distributed locally
- 15 new technicians were certified through the National Safe Kids certification program

- One instructor candidate was certified through the National Safe Kids instructor certification program
- 54 citations for nonuse of child restraint seats were issued during FY 2005

F I S C A L R E V I E W

By Projects

Project	OBLIGATED		402 Funds Claimed	Reprogrammed	Revised Obligation	Project Balance
	402	Local				
Occupant Protection						
Project No. OP-05-000	\$110,837.00		\$103,837.00	\$ 7,489.98	\$103,837.00	-0-
TOTAL	\$110,837.00		\$103,837.00	\$ 7,489.98	\$103,837.00	-0-

PEDESTRIAN/BICYCLE/SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

Goal

- To reduce the number of pedestrians killed from 5 in 2004 to 2 by the

year 2005 and 0 by the year 2006.

- Increase pedestrian and bicycle safety knowledge and awareness for children and adults
- Hire a Coordinator to develop appropriate programs, and PSA, and to carryout program activities

Accomplishments

- One pedestrian/bicycle presentation was conducted for the Head Start program by the traffic Division on St. Croix
- There was one pedestrian fatality this year
- The Coordinator's position was not approved until the end of the fiscal year, however, the position will be filled in FY 2006
- The Office participated in several community events and public health activities, to include World Health Day, the Association of Commissioner of Police Conference, the Week of the Young Child, Public Health Week, Child passenger Safety Week and 3D Month activities in December.

F I S C A L R E V I E W

By Projects

	OBLIGATED				
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Project	402	Local	402 Funds Claimed	Reprogrammed	Revised Obligation	Project Balance
Pedestrian Safety						
Project No. PS-05-000	\$ 58,334.68		\$ 13,771.78	\$ 44,562.90	\$ 13,771.78	-0-
TOTAL	\$ 58,334.68		\$ 13,771.78	\$ 44,562.90	\$ 13,771.78	-0-

TRAFFIC RECORDS

Goal

- To fully automate traffic records in order to allow data sharing and linkage between systems used by various local agencies
- To fully automate traffic records in order to develop a system that is reliable and accessible for problem identification, program development and countermeasure evaluation.

Accomplishments:

- The system between the islands is fully operational via DSL
- The data entry software is 99% complete, with minimal fixes needed so that the patrol level officers to include traffic can utilize the software to generate all traffic related reports
- Correspondences have been generated to convene a coordinated traffic records committee, to fulfill the national requirements and for local problem identification, program development, and evaluation

F I S C A L R E V I E W

By Projects

	OBLIGATED				
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Project	402	Local	402 Funds Claimed	Reprogrammed	Revised Obligation	Project Balance
J9-411-Data Project No. TR-05-000	\$50,000.00		\$ 35,391.00	\$ 14,609.00	\$ 35,391.00	-0-
TOTAL	\$50,000.00		\$ 35,391.00	\$ 14,609.00	\$ 35,391.00	-0-

ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

Alcohol and Other Drugs

- Goal: To increase the number of DUI arrest by 20% in 2005 and by 30 percent in the year 2006.
- To provide DUI offenders with behavior modification training aimed at assisting offenders to be more accountable for their actions; make them aware of the societal consequences of their actions, thereby reducing the number of incidents relating to driving under the influence of alcohol.

Accomplishments:

During FY-2005 the Virgin Islands efforts regarding DUI were not as vigorous as anticipated. The following is a list of accomplishments:

- Training was held in the region to provide the necessary information for the states to establish a DUI Court. Attorney King and Judge Reece Hodge attended the training along with VIOHS Administrator
- There were 50 DUI arrest in the territory. 44 in the St. Croix district and 6 in the St. Thomas/St. John District.
- The point system instituted in the Virgin Islands that assign points to persons arrested for DUI, is not being utilized as intended.
- There are identified gaps in the Justice System that must be addressed. Coordination among the responsible agencies will be addressed in FY 2006, when the Traffic Records Committee is formed

F I S C A L R E V I E W

By Projects

	OBLIGATED				
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Project	402	Local	402 Funds Claimed	Reprogrammed	Revised Obligation	Project Balance
Alcohol Involvement						
Project No. AL-05-000	\$122,503.50		\$54,670.73	\$67,832.77	\$54,670.73	-0-
TOTAL	\$122,503.50		\$54,670.73	\$67,832.77	\$54,670.73	-0-

MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

GOALS

- To create a Motor Carrier Assistance Safety Program Unit,

- within the Police Department
- To work with the legislature and the trucking industry to amend Title 20, VI Code, to enact the Commercial Motor vehicle Inspection Act
 - Provide funding for inspector training
 - Utilize ASPEN software to conduct inspections and generate reports

Accomplishments

- The Motor Carrier Safety assistance unit was formed under the Office of the Chief. An SOP was developed by the supervisor and submitted to the Chief for review, approval and submission to the Police Commissioner
- The Bill to create the CMV Inspection Act is in the VI Legislature, awaiting further action
- Funding for inspector training was provided, however, no training was conducted to date
- Aspen is being utilize by the inspectors to conduct inspection and to generate reports. The reports are uploaded to ASPEN once completed.

F I S C A L R E V I E W

By Projects

Project	OBLIGATED		Funds Claimed	Reprogrammed	Revised Obligation	Project Balance
		Local				
Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program	\$586,963.07		\$385,718.81	\$201,244.47	\$385,718.81	-0-
	\$586,963.07		\$385,718.81	\$201,244.47	\$385,718.81	-0-
TOTAL						