



# Parliament of Sint Maarten

## Staten van Sint Maarten

To the Hon. Minister of Housing, Spatial Planning,  
Environment and Infrastructure  
Mr. A. Meyers  
p/a Council of Ministers  
**Philipsburg**

UV/195/2015-2016

Philipsburg, March 15, 2016

Re: Questions posed by MP Sarah A. Wescot-Williams

Hon. Minister Meyers,

Herewith I submit to you two letters containing questions posed by Member of Parliament, Mrs. Sarah A. Wescot- Williams pursuant to article 62 of the Constitution and article 69 of the Rules of Order of the Parliament of Sint Maarten.

The letter is self explanatory.



S.A. Wescot-Williams  
President of Parliament



# Parliament of Sint Maarten

## Staten van Sint Maarten

To Chairperson of Parliament  
Wilhelminastraat #1  
Philipsburg

STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN			
Ingek. 14 MAK 2016			
Volgnr. 151508/15-16			
Par.	W	W	

Philipsburg, March 9, 2016

Dear Chairperson,

Kindly find enclosed questions directed to the Minister of VROMI regarding the Drainage Masterplan for St. Maarten and the Zoning Projects.

Please forward these to the Minister concerned with the usual expediency.

Respectfully yours,

MP Sarah Wescot-Williams



# Parliament of Sint Maarten

## Staten van Sint Maarten

To Minister of VROMI  
The Honorable Angel Meyers  
Government Administration Building  
**Philipsburg**

Philipsburg, March 9, 2016

Dear Minister Meyers,

Please see my attached letter. These areas remain concern for me and I kindly ask that you address these questions as soon as possible. For good order sake, I formulate these below:

- The drainage Masterplan for St. Maarten, that addresses mitigating policies against flooding, etc.
- Amendment to the zoning ordinance to regulate the issuance permits for (infrastructural) works.
- Zoning projects.
- What are the priorities for government in the area of infrastructural works and specifically those that regard the drainage plans for the island?

Looking forward to your speedy reply,

Respectfully yours,

  
MP Sarah Wescot-Williams



# Parliament of Sint Maarten

## Staten van Sint Maarten

To the Chairman of Parliament  
The Honorable Dr. L. Richardson

STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN			
Ingek. 07 SEP 2015			
Volgnr. 15/1070/14-15			
Par.	21	AQ	

September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015

Dear Chairperson,

Kindly find enclosed questions directed to the Minister of VROMI regarding the Drainage Masterplan for St. Maarten and the Zoning Projects.

Please forward these to the Minister concerned with the usual expediency.

Respectfully,

  
Sarah A. Wescot-Williams  
Member of Parliament (DP)



# Parliament of Sint Maarten

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## Staten van Sint Maarten

To:

The Minister of VROMI, a.i.

The Honorable Marcel F. Gumbs

Government Administration Building

Philipsburg.

ST. MAARTEN

September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015

Honorable Minister,

In these times of seasonal as well as unpredictable weather patterns, I kindly request you to update me on the following:

- . The drainage Masterplan for St. Maarten, that addresses mitigating policies against flooding etc.
- . Amendment to the zoning ordinance to regulate the issuance permits for (infrastructural) works.
- . Zoning Projects.
- . What are the priorities for government in the area of infrastructural works and specifically those that regard the drainage plans for this island?

Looking forward to your speedy reply,

I remain,

  
Sarah A. Wescot- Williams  
Member of Parliament (DP)



# Parliament of Sint Maarten

## Staten van Sint Maarten

To Chairperson of Parliament  
Wilhelminastraat #1  
Philipsburg

STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN			
Ingek. 14 MAR 2016			
Volgnr. 151509/1576			
Par.			

Philipsburg, March 9, 2016

Dear Chairperson,

Kindly find enclosed questions directed to the Minister of VROMI regarding the Colebay and Ring Road projects and the compliance of Rockland Estate Rain Forest Adventure Park.

Please forward these to the Minister concerned with the usual expediency.

Respectfully yours,

  
MP Sarah Wescot-Williams



# Parliament of Sint Maarten

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## Staten van Sint Maarten

To Minister of VROMI  
The Honorable Angel Meyers  
Government Administration Building  
Philipsburg

Philipsburg, March 9, 2016

Dear Minister Meyers,

Kindly see attached response I received from a(the) former Minister of VROMI, a.i. On the basis hereof, kindly provide the following information, based on current circumstances:

- What are the prospects for the Colebay projects, viz. the Union Road, Orange Grove road and Well road?
- Same question as it relates to the Ring road?

With respect to point 6 of aforementioned letter, how compliant has the developer of the Rockland Estate Rain Forest Adventure Park been, specifically with respect to the cooperation with the organizations mentioned?

Looking forward to your speedy reply.

Respectfully yours,

MP Sarah Wescot-Williams



**Ministerie van Volkshuisvesting,  
Ruimtelijke Ordening, Milieu en  
Infrastructuur**

Ministry of Public Housing, Spatial Planning,  
Environment and Infrastructure

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The President of the Parliament of  
Sint Maarten

Hon. L.J. Richardson MD  
Wilhelminastraat #1  
Philipsburg, Sint Maarten

STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN	
Ingek.	02 JUL 2015
Volgnr.	15/898/14-15
Par.	AG

Philipsburg, JUL 02 2015

**Department:** VROMI/nw  
**Reference No.:** 4059  
**Subject:** Requests: MP Sarah A. Wescot-Williams and Leona M. Marlin-Romeo  
**Appendices:**

Honorable President of Parliament,

Pursuant to your correspondences to my person of respectively April 24<sup>th</sup> (ref. UV/254/2014-2015) and May 11<sup>th</sup> 2015 (ref. UV/265/2014-2015), in connection with the requests for information from the members of Parliament Mrs. Sarah A. Wescot-Williams and Mrs. Leona M. Marlin-Romeo, please be informed of the following. The aforementioned members of Parliament have requested for an update on the status of the following projects:

- Upgrade Union/Orange Grove/Well Road;
- Waste Water Treatment Plant Cole Bay;
- Dutch Quarter Co-financing 10th EDF;
- Beautification Cay Hill;
- Ring Road Project;

In addition, the member of Parliament Mrs. Leona M. Marlin Romeo has also requested information on:

- the Rockland Estate Rain Forest Adventure Park;
- the enhancements/beautification of the various districts on the island.

Following are updates and information pertaining to the mentioned items.

**1. Upgrade Union/Orange Grove/Well Road**

The assignments for the design and preparation of the tender documents were commissioned and finalized for tender of the works for the upgrading of the mentioned roads. The design works



involved the sewage and drainage works for various roads within the Cole Bay district, including the aforementioned roads. The total estimated cost involved with these works amount to approximately NAF 24 million. However, due to financial constraints in the form of limited capital investment budget from Country Budget of Sint Maarten, the project execution is presently on hold. The estimated amounts for realization of specifically the roads mentioned in your letter, per project segment are as follows:

- Union Road NAF 9 million;
- Orange Grove Road NAF 6 million;
- Well Road NAF 3 million.

The Government has proposed to use the financing proposed under the 11<sup>th</sup> EDF for funding of the sewage network in Cole Bay. The amount indicated as being available through this fund is approximately EURO 7 million. In the planning for the execution of the project for the Cole Bay sewage network within the 11<sup>th</sup> EDF, it will be considered how, albeit through co-financing, some of these other upgrading projects as regard drainage and road improvements can also be incorporated.

## **2. The Waste Water Treatment Plant Cole Bay**

A technology study and location feasibility study for this project was completed in 2014, which identified a location in the Cole Bay area commonly referred to as 'Cape Bay' as suitable for a sewage treatment facility. However, after completion of the study, discussions with the French Side authorities have centered around a possible location closer to the border with the French Side in Cole Bay to realize a sewage treatment plant. Within this context, through financing made available by the European Union for cross border cooperation projects with the French Side, financing may be made available to partially support the respective Governments of both sides of the island in a joint project for the realization of the sewage treatment plant. Based on an evaluation conducted by EU consultants, an extension to the feasibility study has recently been commissioned to assess the feasibility of a proposed new location, and to advise on the aspects that need to be taken into consideration in the design to suit the new intended location, including the associated cost consequences.

## **3. Dutch Quarter Co-financing 10<sup>th</sup> EDF**

The 10th EDF Project, consisting upgrading of the Dutch Quarter area, is a co-financing project between the European Union (EDF) for an amount of EURO 4.8 million and the Government of St. Maarten for an amount of EURO 1.3 million. The contribution of Sint Maarten will focus on the Dutch Quarter main road ( A.T. Illidge road) from the descending section of the Mount William Hill to the Roundabout. The initial project included resurfacing of the main road, implementation of a sewer network system with gravity line and pressure line and a new Pump station. The contribution from the EU (10th EDF) will focus on upgrading the major side roads with new infrastructure,(drainage, sewerage, utility upgrade, road resurfacing and sidewalks).

The tender dossier for the project is almost complete and the Ministry of VROMI has made a final design review, whereby the engaged consultants are in the process of making final changes. The final draft for the tender dossier will be completed ultimately in July 2015 and submitted to the European Commission (EC) representative in Guyana for approval.

In addition, the process for the selection of consultants for the project supervision for the 10<sup>th</sup> EDF project has started and thus far 11 prospective consultants showed interest in the first round to be eligible for the works; the final reporting has been submitted to the EC Representative in Guyana for approval. The tendering for the supervision of works is foreseen to be held in September-October 2015.

As regards the Sint Maarten component of the project, due to budgetary constraints on the overall budget provided by the Government of St. Maarten, most projects had to be re-adjusted to fit the available budget. The Main Road project has been scaled back to approximately NAf 4 million in cost from the originally tendered amount of approximately NAf 9 million, as a result of which only the most essential part of the works can be executed for now. The project engineers are currently re-adjusting the engineering design and works to be executed to fit the available budget, which should also be completed ultimately in July 2015. The capital investment budget for these works are reserved on the Country Budget 2015 and are pending the securing of the financing through loans to execute the project, after the preparation works are complete.

#### **4. Beautification Cay Hill**

This project entails the installation of sewage collection lines and general upgrade of the infrastructure in the Cay Hill area at an estimated budget of NAf 10 million. There is currently no progress in the preparation of this project due to unavailability of the financial means to execute the project at this time.

#### **5. Ring Road Project**

The Ring Road project is an important project to improve the traffic circulation around Philipsburg, as well as a general beautification of the perimeter of the Great Salt Pond. The current state of the project is that pursuant to a public tender held for the preparation of the design and specifications of the project in the form of a tender dossier, it is the intention to commission the design works for a first phase of the project in 2015. Due to financial constraints in the form of funds for capital investments, it is not considered prudent at this time to prepare the detailed design for the entire projected Ring Road if the funds for the realization are not available. Within the prioritization of capital funds from future Country Budgets, it will be considered to what extent it may be feasible to realize the project in phases

#### **6. The Rockland Estate Rain Forest Adventure Park**

The Rockland Estate Rainforest Adventure Park is a private initiative that has the support of the Government because it promises to create a diversification of the tourism product Sint Maarten has to offer, to create employment on the island, and offers an opportunity to develop the estate in question in such manner that it becomes an attraction for residents of Sint Maarten to experience the cultural historical significance as well as the significance to nature of the site in question. A development agreement has been signed with the developers with the premise that the property will be issued in long lease for the development. The development agreement requires the developer to cooperate with the Sint Maarten Nature Foundation, the Emilio Wilson Estate Culture Park Foundation, and The SIMARC Foundation, to promote the aforementioned interests.

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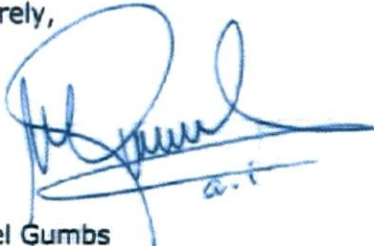
At present, the project is in the phase of finalization of the designs of the facility, including the traffic plan for access to the property and expected to start realization in 2015.

**7. The enhancements/beautification of the various districts on the island**

At present, there are discussions initiated by the Ministry of VROMI with the various community councils of the various districts and neighborhoods on the island, aimed at identifying the needs of the councils within the neighborhoods in terms of operational maintenance of the areas, but also in terms of beautification wishes. Upon completion of these consultations, some common points can be summarized for improvement of all areas, while consideration can also be given to certain specific requests of the councils. It will depend on the availability of financial resources to determine what will be possible, however the extent of the needs and wishes will first be inventoried in order to plan based on specific information.

I trust that the preceding information gives sufficient insight as response to the questions posed and requests for updates made by the respective members of Parliament. I am of course prepared to give further elucidation as may be necessary.

Sincerely,



Marcel Gumbs  
Minister of VROMI