



# Parliament of Sint Maarten

## Staten van Sint Maarten

To the Hon. Minister of Education, Culture, Youth and Sports  
Mr. A.M.R. Irion  
Administration Building  
Clem Labega Square  
**Philipsburg**

UV/131/2019-2020

Philipsburg, December 3, 2019

Re: Suggestions from MP A.E. Richardson regarding traffic congestion situation Cannegieter Street and Schoolsteeg

Hon. Minister Irion,

Herewith I submit to you suggestions as submitted by Member of Parliament, Ms. A.E. Richardson regarding the traffic congestion situation Cannegieter Street and Schoolsteeg.

The letter is self-explanatory.

Yours truly,

W.V. Marlin  
Chairman of Parliament



Anna E. Richardson

Member of the Parliament of  
Sint Maarten

November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019

STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN	
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Volgnr.	15136/1920
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To:  
The Chairman of Parliament of Sint Maarten  
Mr. William Marlin  
Wilhelminasteeg 1  
Philipsburg  
Sint Maarten

**Re: Protection of our children while alleviating traffic**

Dear Mr. Chairman,

Your cooperation to forward the following letters to the Minister of Education, Culture, Youth and Sports (ECYS), the Honorable Minister Ardwell Irion and to the Minister of Public Housing, Environment, Spatial Development and Infrastructure (VROMI) the Honorable Minister Christopher Wever.

Briefly, these letters contain suggestions as it relates to the traffic congestion situation that develops daily at the intersection of C.A. Cannegieter Street and Schoolsteeg (known locally as the road behind the now demolished GEBE building) between the hours of 12:00PM and 1:30PM

Thanking you in advance for assistance as requested

Sincerely,

  
Anna E. Richardson  
Member of Parliament



Anna E. Richardson

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Member of the Parliament of  
Sint Maarten

November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019

To:  
Honorable Minister Ardwel Irion  
Ministry of Education, Culture, Youth and Sports (ECYS)  
Soualiga Road #1  
Philipsburg, Sint Maarten

Re: **Protection of our children while alleviating traffic**

Dear Honorable Minister,

I would like to kindly call your attention to a traffic congestion situation that develops daily at the intersection of C.A. Cannegieter Street and Schoolsteeg (known locally as the road behind the now demolished GEBE building) between the hours of 12:00PM and 1:30PM, when school lets out. Every week day, the parked school buses take up a large part of the road which causes motorists heading into the city center to enter the oncoming traffic lane to bypass the buses. I have personally witnessed numerous cases of motorist road rage and face offs when oncoming traffic won't allow cars to pass. Left unattended the circumstances could quickly become combative and especially dangerous for children.

In an effort to firstly protect our primary school children and remain in accordance with Article 18, paragraph 1 of our Constitution which states;

*The government's constant concern is directed at the protection of children and young people and the promotion of their right to education, welfare, cultural development and leisure activities*

And secondly, to alleviate the congestion caused by where the school buses currently park, on an already narrow part of C.A. Cannegieter Street considering Article 9, paragraph 2;

*The exercise of this right outside buildings and enclosed places may be restricted by national ordinance for the protection of health, in the interests of traffic and to combat or prevent disorders,*

I am hereby presenting the following suggestions for your consideration:

1. I am not certain what the time frame is to construct the new GEBE building, but in the interim, would it not be possible to remove the barricades between the hours of 12pm and 2pm on weekdays and allow the buses to park on the GEBE lot as they wait for the students to board?

Wilhelminastraat # 1, Philipsburg, Sint Maarten  
Tel: + (1-721) 542-0812 / 542-0635 | Fax: + (1-721) 542-0306  
Email: silveria.jacobs@sxmparliament.org | www.sxmparliament.org

2. Have the buses park on the sandbank across Walter Nisbeth Rd. (Pondfill Road) and assign more crossing guards to the area in order to assist the children with crossing the busy streets. The crossing guards will control the traffic with "STOP" and "GO" signs to assist the children with crossing from Back Street (as is the case now) to Cannegieter Street and then over to the Ring Road where the buses will be parked and awaiting their arrival.

I would also suggest for proper signage to be placed reminding motorists to be aware of the high volume of pupils during this time and to remain vigilant of children at all times.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my suggestions and/or to come up with other positive solutions. I do hope to see immediate action taken,

Sincerely,



Anna E. Richardson  
Member of Parliament



Anna E. Richardson

## Member of the Parliament of Sint Maarten

November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019

To:  
Honorable Minister Christopher Wever  
Ministry of Public Housing, Environment, Spatial Development and Infrastructure (VROMI)  
Soualiga Road #1  
Philipsburg, Sint Maarten

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Anna Richardson  
Member of Parliament