



# Sarah A. Wescot-Williams

## Member of Parliament of Sint Maarten

STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN			
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To  
The Parliament of St. Maarten  
Wilhelminastraat # 1  
Philipsburg  
Sint Maarten.

Via E-mail

Philipsburg, September 15, 2019

Ref: Interpellation Request – PJIA /US Pre-Clearance.

Based on the Constitution of St. Maarten, article 63, sub 2 as further expounded on in the Rules of Order, article 68, sub 1, the undersigned, Sarah A. Wescot-Williams, Member of Parliament hereby requests Parliament's approval to invite the Prime Minister, the Minister of Tourism, Economic Affairs, Telecommunication and Transportation, and the Minister of Finance to Parliament within the shortest possible time.

The reconstruction of the Princess Juliana International Airport is a matter of ongoing debate and concern. Statements by different ministers have unfortunately not contributed to putting to rest the prevailing sentiment that the plans to reconstruct the airport, the airport's financing and the US preclearance plans, are not synchronized between the airport companies and their shareholders. In other words, we don't seem to have our act together. That several international partners are in one way or another involved in one or more of the abovementioned aspects, and the apparent lack of one vision from local authorities and stakeholders in my view place St. Maarten in a negative light and weakens the country's position.

I hereby also wish to put forward the questions, I would like the abovementioned Ministers to provide Parliament with the answers to, if my proposal to call the Ministers to appear in Parliament is supported by Parliament:

1. Is there a firm agreement between government, PJIA and all other involved stakeholders on the WB/TF financing proposal for the reconstruction of the airport? If yes, please list name, function and date of approval.
2. And again if so, what is the delay in proceeding in accordance with this agreement?
3. Is the airport still desirous of seeking other financial options?
4. If so, what are the terms and conditions for other potential financiers?
5. Is the airport still engaged with potential financiers it had approached in the earlier stage of its reconstruction efforts? Are the interested organizations and or firms on hold or have these talks been terminated?
6. Is it permissible under the WB/TF agreement to simultaneously pursue other options for financing?
7. What is the current financial position of the PJIA(E)?
8. What is the precise (re)construction plan or layout for the airport?
9. Must or can a US pre-clearance facility be included in the plans at this time?
10. Do we already know what is required, financially feasible, and economically beneficial of the envisaged preclearance?

Respectfully Submitted,



Sarah A. Wescot-Williams  
Member of Parliament