

May 27, 2020

His Excellency
The Minister of Transport, Communication, and Primary Sector
The Hon. Mr. Chris Romero
L.G. Smith Blvd 76
Bestuurskantoor
ALHIER

Shouf Werleman
RECEIVED MAY 27 2020

Ref: AruParking / Mainstreet Traffic

Dear Excellency:

By means of this letter, I would like to request your consideration with the following:

- 1.) Eliminate the Parking Scheme known as AruParking Temporarily (1 year)
- 2.) Open the Mainstreet to vehicular traffic Temporarily (1 year)

We are living in dire times and we need the government to act fast in order to save the business community in downtown Oranjestad. Many business have already closed and more will follow if no action is taken.

Over the past years, the downtown business community has asked for these significant changes however our efforts had fallen on deaf ears. At this moment we can no longer afford to wait for action and we hope that this letter will cause the changes needed.

AruParking to date has failed to improve the business environment in downtown. It has worked as an obstacle to attract potential customers and has encouraged the development of retail outside of the downtown area which continues to date without governmental oversight and restrictions.

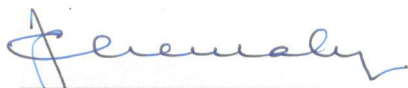
It is not possible to enforce traffic and parking laws in one small area of the island and nowhere else. This creates an unlevel playing field which is then exploited by developers outside of the downtown area.

For many years it was part of Aruban culture to drive down Mainstreet to see your friends, drop off people at different stores, and just take a drive. Ever since Mainstreet was closed to vehicular traffic, the movement of people has slowed. This has had an incredibly negative impact on the businesses located in Caya Betico Croes and hence our request to reopen.

If you have any questions or would like to meet to brainstorm on a long term plan, please let me know. I can set up a committee of business owners to join.

Thank you for accepting this letter and we hope for your cooperation going forward.

Sincerely,



John A. Chemaly Jr.
Managing Director