

McKownville Improvement Association

Dear McKownville Resident:

June 1, 2002

Over the past five months, 34 of your neighbors, the Planning Group of the McKownville Improvement Association, have worked to create a proposal on the future of Western Avenue. Our proposal is being distributed with this announcement. The proposal was deemed necessary after a plan by the New York State Department of Transportation was brought to our attention. Yet once again, the portion of Western Avenue that runs through our neighborhood could be changed to encourage yet more automobile traffic at the expense of our front lawns and our pedestrians.

Our hope is that you will take a few moments to read our proposal. It does two things: first it lays out concise guidelines for changes to Western Avenue that will make it safer for pedestrians as it passes through our unique neighborhood; secondly, it calls for sidewalks, curbs, trees and wider greenstrips on both sides of Western Avenue along with others changes such as better pedestrian cross lights, and, to quote the document: "If it is not possible to provide more and wider green strips, more and improved sidewalks and more trees along Western Avenue without taking more lawn area, as proposed, then we prefer that Western Avenue remain as it is."

In a few days a neighbor will come to your door and ask that you sign a petition which states that you have read the **Western Avenue Proposal** and generally agree and support its content. The Western Avenue Proposal and the signatures will be sent to the Town officers and the State officials to inform them of our interest in making McKownville a neighborhood that is more welcoming for pedestrians and residents. Our voices are heard more loudly at all levels of government when more sing the same song.

Residents of McKownville, both long-term and new, know that we have a special place to call home. Please take the time to become an informed resident of McKownville. If you wish an additional copy, we have posted the Western Avenue Proposal on the following web sites:

www.atmos.albany.edu/mckownville
www.capitol.net/~force
dreeb@albany.edu

Also, the **Needs Survey** was distributed to your home a few weeks ago. If you have not filled yours out and returned it, would you please do so? It will be requested when your neighbor returns to gain your signature on the Western Avenue Proposal.

The Needs Survey. After each question indicate Y for Yes, N for No, or X for I Don't Know/ I Don't Care/I Have No Opinion. Use as much space as you need for your answers.

Do you want:

1. a branch public library to be located in McKownville Y N X
 2. a senior citizen's outpost/branch to be located in McKownville Y N X
 3. sidewalks and curbs along the four more important cross streets
- | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|---|---|---|------------|---|---|---|-----------------|
| Church | Y | N | X | Both sides | Y | N | X | Which Side_____ |
| Schoolhouse | Y | N | X | Both sides | Y | N | X | Which Side_____ |
| Fuller | Y | N | X | Both sides | Y | N | X | Which Side_____ |

McKown Y N X Both sides Y N X Which Side_____

4. a Town park/playground for the residents of Providence/Warren/Mercer streets (because it is the one area that is cut off from both Able Park and the university, which is often used as a park) Y N X

5. CDTA to provide express nonstop buses from Stuyvesant Plaza to and from downtown during rush hour Y N X

6. the reinstatement by CDTA of the four mall bus Y N X

7. In addition to improvements along Western Avenue do you want

A. better drains for road drainage at the following locations_____

B. trees to be planted by the Town along these streets _____

C. more street lights installed along these streets _____

D. stop signs at the these intersections _____

8. available walking paths to be improved and clearly marked Y N X

9. the McKownville pond at Stuyvesant to be made into an attractive park for strolling, picnicking and winter ice skating and necessary changes made to reduce the flooding of Western Avenue Y N X

10. more trees and shrubbery to be planted along the Northway, Thruway, and University drives to reduce traffic noise Y N X

11. the Town to investigate violations in zoning and building regulations at these addresses _____

12. a walking path created along our stream in McKownville (the stream runs from the pond near Stuyvesant southeast behind Burger King and becomes an open stream behind the Holiday Inn and then passes under McKown Road near Short Street and is at the end of Brookwood, Arcadia and Hillcrest and near Ayre Drive and Dillenbeck) Y N X

13. walking paths to be created from Highland/Country/Oak/Shady to Able Park (without having to use Schoolhouse Road), from Mercer/Providence/Warren to Stuyvesant (without having to use Fuller Road) and from McKown Road to Highland/Country/Oak/Shady (without having to use Western) Y N X

14. the Association to work with the owners of historic buildings in McKownville to highlight their significance Y N X

15. the McKownville Improvement Association to sponsor additional activities such as _____

Please give the name of the street you reside on _____

Use additional pages for more suggested improvements in McKownville.

McKownville Improvement Association

Officers and Members of the Board of Directors

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|--|--|--|--|
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