

Notes of Meeting at St. Sophia's Church  
Sponsored by Thruway Authority - Feb 16, 2005

The meeting consisted of about a dozen and a half speakers with the following comments:

we do not believe you when you say that you have made no decisions yet--especially when you say it about the toll booths and the flyovers;

there will be terrible noise, fumes, dust and dirt during and after the destruction and construction phases and you seem to be willing to deny that these will impact nearby properties;

you seem to nearly completely ignore the negative impacts from the daily dirt that is made airborne by traffic and is deposited on our homes and in our homes and gardens--what are you going to do about this now and how are you going to alleviate it during the destruction and construction periods;

the Thruway needs to consider bike and walking trail impacts in its plans and make sure that Thruway construction does not impede later development of bike and walking trails;

sound barriers are badly needed and have been needed for years;

the Pinebush environment is larger than the Pinebush Preserve and it needs to be carefully protected from Thruway construction;

the area around the new Kelton middle school and the streets near Exit 23 need more consideration in the plans of the Thruway--children will be playing in school areas that are literally next to the Thruway;

the Thruway plans are wrong--there are more than a few senior citizen housing sites near the Thruway and they need be given careful consideration in your plans;

the truck traffic on the Thruway is physically damaging structures near the Thruway--St. Sophie's for example--as well as making life more difficult because of traffic noise, dust, and air pollution;

the Thruway not only has an impact on buildings and family lives but also on other traffic systems--like county highways, DOT highways and Town highways and City streets--and yet the Thruway seems to going along as if Thruway decisions did not impact anything but persons using the Thruway;

the EIS needs to be revised since you are proposing making irreversible changes in land uses--adding lanes--this should bring forth a much more intense EIS evaluation;

the McKownville Improvement Association submitted suggestions to you about redesigning the flyover and putting into place round trip fare collection procedures which would reduce time wasted waiting to pay tolls, reduce air pollution and accidents but none of those suggestions appear to be included in your handouts tonight or on your webpage;

your webpage did not contain information about this meeting until well after notices had gone out for this meeting.

Don Reeb