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Hi everyone

The next public meeting of the McKownville Improvement Association will be at the Holiday Inn on Western Avenue on Thursday March 27, 2008 from 7 pm until 9 pm. All McKownville residents are invited along with other interested persons.

The first item on the agenda will be Albany County's planned redevelopment of Fuller Road. Michael Franchini, director of the public works department for the County of Albany, will be the featured speaker.

Other topics will be discussed including whatever it is that is of interest to the audience.

Please make sure to mark your calendar.

Because of the efforts of our elected officials, especially our County legislator, Frank Commisso, Fuller Road will be repaved and sidewalks constructed, from Western Avenue through to Central Avenue.

Mike Franchini will tell us about the preliminary plans, answer our questions and listen to our suggestions about Fuller Road.

Fuller Road is one of the five access roads for McKownville--Western Avenue, McKown Road, Schoolhouse Road, Fuller Road and the Northway. Each carry traffic into and out of McKownville. As such, Fuller Road is terribly important but it also is a barrier between the homes on Providence Street and Warrren and Mercer to those on Elmwood, Parkwood etc and the University

It is therefore important that it be safe for pedestrians for walking along Fuller as well as for those crossing it.

McKownville recently has seen the construction of a bus shelter at McKown Road, the construction of one portion of the sidewalk along Western Avenue (south side), the construction of the McKown Road sidewalk, and the construction of a bus shelter on Western near Elmwood.

During the past six or so years McKownville has benefited from the destruction of the decrepit Blue House on Western Avenue and the halting of the Thruway Flyover (now there was a battle we will not soon forget). We also benefited greatly from the development of the Western Avenue Corridor Study, the development of the proposal for the rezoning of several properties along Western Avenue in McKownville and planning grants

for the elimination of the flooding of Western Avenue near Stuyvesant and for changing the McKownville Reservoir into a park. And do not forget about our lovely farmer's market

These and the numerous other improvements in McKownville were possible only by the leadership of our Town Supervisor Ken Runion and the Town Board members and our Assemblyman Jack McEneny and our Senator Neil Breslin and our County Legislators Frank Commisso and Mary Lou Connolly.

These improvements have been in response to requests made by residents at our public meetings.

Do come to the March 27 meeting--we do not get many opportunities to significantly influence a major public improvement.

PS: recently I was asked what are the boundaries of McKownville--well the Improvement Association boundaries are identical to those for the McKownville Fire Department. Approximately, think of the Northway as the western boundary, the City line (at Sutter's) as the eastern boundary, the campus as the northern boundary and the thruway as it curves around Woodscape as the southern boundary. I will bring maps to the March meeting for those interested in seeing a more precise answer to the question.

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