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MC KOWNVILLE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

October 14, 1963

Mr. William S. Hults
Commissioner of Motor Vehicles
504 Central Ave.
Albany 1, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

The fine courteous and informative reply (of September 23rd) to the letter of Mr. Guy J. Rising of Norwood Street, McKownville, has been turned over by him to the Board of Directors of the McKownville Improvement Association and we should like to take this opportunity to amplify further the ideas presented by Mr. Rising.

It is the feeling of the Board that there are several important factors which should be pointed out that might not necessarily show up in a regular investigation of the traffic volume if instituted at this time of year. Some of these points are as follows:

1. On McKown Road, a short distance in from Route 20, there is a large public swimming pool and picnic area. During the summer months there are many people, most of them youngsters, who come to this area by the public transportation. They alight from the bus on the north side of Route 20 and cross to the south side to reach this area. At the same time there is a great increase in the amount of vehicular traffic attempting to make left turns into McKown Road and an equally large number of vehicles trying to enter the east-bound and westbound lanes of traffic leaving McKown Road. In the late afternoon of any warm summer day it is almost impossible to accomplish any of these objectives. While this problem is most acute in the summer months, it exists to a great extent all year round due to the fact that this area is used for many types of outings. Since all of this congestion takes place at the intersection of Route 20, Norwood Street and McKown Road, this would appear to be the logical place for an additional traffic signal.

2. There is an increased amount of resident pedestrian traffic using the public transportation which must cross from one side of Route 20 morning or evening. The increased traffic from the Tom Sawyer Motor Inn, the Stuyvesant Plaza Shopping Center, the Thruway and the Northway, coupled with the glare from the morning and evening bright sunlight makes it almost impossible to cross this main artery with any degree of safety.

While we readily appreciate the desire of the Traffic Commission to keep the traffic moving as smoothly as possible on this main highway, in view of the aforementioned problems, we respectfully recommend to the Commissioner that a traffic signal be installed at this intersection. We do feel, however, that it could be the type signal which would be in operation from approximately 7:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. and at all other times would revert to a simple type of caution light.

We sincerely hope that this additional information which a regular investigation might not reveal will help all of the agencies concerned to come to the conclusion that a traffic signal is necessary to protect the lives of the residents of McKownville and the lives of the many young people who come into the area to use the recreational facilities.

Sincerely yours,

G. W. HAMME, President

*c/c Secretary,
Town Board*