

REPORT OF COMMITTEE
concerning
CONFERENCE WITH McKNOWNVILLE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Compiled by Walter C. Handy
with approval of committee
and advice of counsel.

June 29, 1964

At a conference held in the Guilderland Town Hall, at which the McKownville Improvement Association was represented by President Jerry Hamme and Vice President Charles Maneri, and the Guilderland Planning Board by Messrs. Carl Walters and Walter Handy, the McKownville Improvement Association was quoted as being genuinely concerned regarding the following items:

1. Fencing, by use of a green "shield" along the common property line of McKownville and State property.
2. Zoning along Western Avenue.
3. Play areas.
4. Town water.
5. Sidewalks, specifically along the north side of Western Avenue between the Albany City line and Fuller Road.
6. Industrial areas in the Town of Guilderland.

Item #1.

President Hamme stated that a representative of the State of New York had promised the planting of a green "shield" of sufficient height to prevent students, pedestrians and other traffic from passing from the State property into McKownville except via normal entrances and exits on to State and/or Town roads.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

While we feel this is a good suggestion, in view of the fact that this is an area over which the Town has no control, there is no basis for positive action.

Item #2.

Mr. Hamme stated the Association's concern regarding the type of commercial enterprises that would be

permitted along Western Avenue, and particularly voiced objections to high-rise apartments. He felt garden type apartments might be satisfactory.

COMMITTEE OPINION

Within their jurisdiction the Planning and Zoning Boards would, in their normal functions, allow only such local businesses as would be desirable throughout the Town. Each establishment would be given individual consideration insofar as possible.

Apartments must, of necessity, be given individual study, and conclusions based on merits of each. Provision of proper facilities, such as water, sewage, etc. could conceivably make any type of apartment building feasible and fill a community need.

Item #3.

The Association proposed the area back of Stuyvesant Plaza as a play area and suggested consideration of others throughout the Town.

COMMITTEE OPINION

The area referred to is already under consideration as a potential apartment area, and a Town-wide study of recreational locations is now in progress.

Item #4. TOWN WATER

The subject of Town water is progressing as expeditiously as reasonable handling will permit. Presently the various sources of water supply are being explored. Further progress is dependent upon how the problem of source is resolved.

Item #5. SIDEWALKS IN McKOWNVILLE.

Inasmuch as sidewalks on the north side of Western Avenue as previously described are primarily for the use and benefit of the residents of that particular vicinity, the cost should be the obligation of such residents.

The installation and maintenance of sidewalks is traditionally a local concern, thus a program of sidewalk construction or renovation in the McKownville area should be undertaken at the expense of the benefited property owners.

Item #6

Concern was expressed regarding the Town's inclusion of Industrial Areas.

They were assured that such areas were included in the Town's overall planning and that presently property between the Thruway and Lidius Street, the Army Depot (if closed), and Old State Road parallel to West Shore Railroad were designated as such areas.

In the Committee's opinion the Association at this conference was concerned primarily with general planning since in only two of the above items did they offer specific suggestions or recommendations, namely, the green "shield," and sidewalks, items #1 and #5.

Respectfully submitted,

Hollie C. Hardy
Secretary