

TO THE RESIDENTS OF MCKOWNVILLE

VOTE NO ON TUESDAY MAY 3rd.

This Tuesday, May 3, from 2:00 PM to 10:00 PM at the McKownville Fire House, you will have the opportunity to vote on the elimination of the McKownville water district. We urge you to vote NO!

The Board members of the McKownville Improvement Association would like you to have the following facts (which were not in the Town of Guilderland newsletter of April 22) before you vote:

1. The McKownville Water Advisory Board was not unanimous in its recommendation to consolidate the two water districts. Mr. John Esler, who was appointed to the Water Advisory Board in 1974 at the request of the McKownville Improvement Association, did not then and would never favor a merger under the terms presently offered by the Town Board;

2. At an Advisory Board meeting in 1974, when Mr. Esler objected to elimination of the McKownville Water District, he was told that: "if you don't merge now, your tax rates will be raised until they are as much as Westmere's". This threatened increase has occurred. Your property tax rates for water service were \$10.97 in 1975, \$15.98 in 1976, and \$20.24 in 1977 per \$1000 assessed valuation. Meanwhile, your house assessments have been increased also, so that your Water District property taxes have jumped from about \$35 per home to about \$80. This is not the result of good government, but is the product of a calculated effort to coerce us into bearing an ever greater share of the increasing indebtedness of the Westmere Water District.

3. We would agree to pay for our fair share of the costs of producing our water, including our share of the costs of the major water mains which come through Westmere, the fair share of the costs of water treatment, and the fair share of the other associated costs including, of course, our own indebtedness for the water mains in McKownville. We will never recommend that we willingly submit to paying for the individual water mains and other services for the Westmere residents. We do demand that we pay our fair share --- AND NOT ONE PENNY MORE.

*Mention doubling the water rates.*

4. We do know that 2.4 acres of the McKownville reservoir were deeded to Niagra Mohawk and to Stuyvesant Plaza for about \$400 an acre, and that the only reason that the Town Board did not transfer another piece of the reservoir was because the Improvement Association members obtained an attorney who insisted that title to the reservoir does not belong to the Town. The reservoir is the only public recreation area in McKownville, and it will be lost if the Water District is eliminated.

The proposal for elimination of the McKownville Water District is not in the interest of McKownville, but for the benefit of the present Westmere District. We urge that you vote no on Tuesday.

VOTE NO TO HIGHER PROPERTY TAXES ON TUESDAY MAY 3rd.