

DONALD S. MUNN

ALBANY COUNTY LEGISLATOR — 33RD DISTRICT
TELEPHONE 438-7364

38 PARKWOOD STREET, WEST
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12203

December 30, 1977

Mr. John Esler
19 Elmwood Street
McKownville
Albany, New York 12203

Dear John:

After receiving your letter I discussed the proposed Western Avenue improvements with Ray Gardeski, Regional Design Engineer. Most of the discussion focused on the concerns you mentioned about no improvements planned between Fuller Road and Church Road. He pointed out that there are improvements planned including: 1) an east bound turning lane for Schoolhouse Road, 2) traffic control signal at Church Road, and 3) a left turn stacking or turning lane at Church Road.

Of course the bridge is also a problem in this area and I understand from Mr. Gardeski that although it is not included in the immediate project by the DOT, that the Thruway Authority has plans to widen the bridge at a later date. He mentioned it would not be practical to include the bridge widening in this project because among other things there would be a problem continuing the flow of traffic if the two projects were done at the same time.

We discussed several other concerns about the entire project and most of the points that were made at the hearings, including the input from your transportation committee. He agreed the Improvement Association Committee made several good points and they are planning to address themselves to the overriding concern for improved safety while maintaining the McKownville environment as an attractive residential hamlet.

I personally think that additional left turn stacking lanes are bound to improve the safety factor for motorists as well as pedestrians. As it is now, some drivers are so impatient that they commence ducking and darting from lane to lane rather than applying the brakes.

Following the holidays I expect to have more information about details of the project in further discussions with the designers.

I will be back in touch with you and in the meantime, best wishes for a Happy New Year (and continued improvements in McKownville!!).

Sincerely,



Donald S. Munn