

The McKownville Improvement Association

May 18, 1978

Peter A. A. Berle, Commissioner
NYS-DEC
50 Wolf Road
Albany, N.Y. 12233

Re: Route 20 Widening Project
Guilderland, N.Y.

Dear Commissioner:

The New York State Department of Transportation is presently designing a project for the widening of Route 20 from the Albany City-line to Route 155 in the Town of Guilderland. This project, if constructed as proposed, will seriously impact the area in which we reside, namely, the hamlet of McKownville. The following are some of the adverse environmental effects of the project:

1. There will be removal of some trees and an extremely severe trimming of virtually all the shade trees on the north side of the project.
2. There will exist a wide, high-speed barrier to pedestrians who desire to cross the roadway, presenting an extreme division of one sector of our neighborhood from the other.
3. The resulting project will unalterably destroy the residential character of the hamlet, thereby causing a devaluation of residences and induce the rapid commercialization of the project area.

At this time, we ask for your intersession, in accordance with the provisions of the State Environmental Quality Review Act, to require the preparation of an environmental impact statement for the project so that the concerns of our hamlet can be properly evaluated, and the design modified to prevent an undue destruction of our environment.

We are not certain whether or not this project has been considered as an "excluded action" by virtue of the filing of an application for funding prior to September 1, 1977. However, if such is the case, we hereby request that you initiate action under Section 617.12 (d) to require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement without further delay.

Yours Truly,

Donald J. Reeb, President
McKownville Improvement Association, Inc

cc. William Hennessey, Commissioner, MYS-DOT