The McKownville Improvement Association

September 26, 1978

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE TOWN BOARD.

The McKownville Improvement Association has for over 20 years been interested in cooperating with the Town of Guilderland in providing recreational facilities in the McKownville area. This year we forged an agreement with the Town to use the McKownville reservoir for ice-skating. And this year we saw the Fort Hunter area get expanded recreational facilities also.

Recreational facilities are needed in addition to Tawansentha and the Guilderland school facilities. This-is not to deny that these facilities are both needed and very much used. And as you may know, the McKownville Improvement Association was pleased to cooperate with the Westmere School in building its innovative playground.

Butt all of these recreational areas are not adequate in terms of size for all of Guilderland, nor in terms of location for the 3500 people of McKownville. We need a recreational facility that is closer to us.

It is of course true that tax dollars are limited. And while the the Town of Guilderland does not have the highest tax rate in the capital district, I would not anxiously await yet another tax increase. But as California has recently discovered, the money received from fees can substitute for tax monies. And I belive that will provide part of the needed revenue to operate a park in McKownville. Fees together with federal and state grants and some local taxes should be able to finance our much needed park.

And of course, while everyone knows that tax dollars are not unlimited, neither are gasoline or automobile dollars. The recreational facility is needed in McKownville partly because it is cheaper to walk than to ride, even if after you get there you have to pay an admission price to the swimming pool.

Therefore, I hope that it will be possible to have a Guilderland Town Park in McKownville. The people of McKownville have asked me to petition the Town Board for this and I do so now.

Sincerely,

Donald J. Reeb
President