

WHAT WOULD IT MEAN FOR MCKOWNVILLE TO BECOME A VILLAGE?

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1. Town taxes would be reduced--- Village taxes would be increased. Whether the result would be a tax decrease or an increase for Village residential and other property owners is not yet known.
2. Villages receive not only property taxes; they also receive financial aids from the federal, state, and local governments. These include:
 - Mortgage tax receipts
 - Sales tax receipts
 - State per capita aid
 - ~~Village road (Donovan) aid~~
 - Federal revenue sharing
 - Other categorical aids
3. The Village of McKownville would have control of its Zoning, Planning, Budget, property tax assessment, and other functions that it deems important (park, police, etc.).
4. The McKownville area is approximately one mile square, with some 700 families, 2800 people, and some \$31 million in taxable property (about \$45000 per family).
5. There are about 560 villages in New York; they range in population size from Dering Harbor (24 people) to Valley Stream (40,413 people). The average village has a population of 3300. There are but 30 villages with populations over 10,000. Nearby villages include Castleton, Nassau, Delanson, Esperance, Corinth, Galway, Round Lake, South Glens Falls, Schuylerville, Stillwater, Waterford, Valley Falls, Schaghticoke, and Hoosick Falls. The six villages in Albany County are Menands (3449), Green Island (3297), Altamont (1561), Colonie (8701), Ravena (2797), and Voorheesville (2826). The population figures are in parenthesis: McKownville would rank approximately in the middle.
6. Villages are formed under supervision of the State and the Town. Petitions asking for incorporation are circulated, filed with the Town, along with \$1000 (to pay for the costs of the election), and the election is held if at least 20 percent of eligible voters in the village area have signed the petition. The election is held on the incorporation. If a majority of those in the village area who vote have cast their ballots for incorporation, the village is incorporated. From the time the petition is filed until the election on the incorporation and the formation of the village requires 70 days.
7. Village status may enable us to stop Crossgates through re-zoning; but if Crossgates is not stopped, then we may need village status to protect McKownville from even more commercialization. It is up to us to decide whether we want to continue to rely upon the Town for protection from further commercialization of Western Avenue, McKown Road, Fuller Road and Schoolhouse Road, or whether we want to accept the responsibility for governing ourselves.