

McKownville Improvement Association

Public Meeting

Holiday Inn

Thursday, January 22, 2004

7 to 9pm

As we discussed at our most recent (November) meeting, the New York State Thruway Authority is developing an Albany Corridor Study. It involves changes in the design of thruway exits and the number of highway lanes from exit 21A to 25A. It may also involve the construction of a "flyover" or overpass, flying over Western Avenue near the McKownville Methodist Church. The overpass would connect the Thruway to the Northway directly, but only for EZPass users. If constructed the flyover would add to the noise (especially from truck traffic) for McKownville residents in three areas of McKownville: those living on and near Country Road, those on and near Providence Street, and those in and near Woodscape. Together these may impact a majority of the 900+ homes in McKownville. The Thruway's Draft Summary of the Access Improvement Concepts(about 60 pages) is now available. Only **one** of their six alternatives seems to not involve the construction of a Western Avenue flyover. Frank Comisso, Albany County legislator for a portion of McKownville, serves on the Advisory Panel for the Thruway's Albany Corridor Study. The Panel is meeting on Tuesday, January 20 and Frank will be the featured speaker at our meeting on Thursday, January 22 to help us understand the Thruway's plans.

It is very important that every McKownville resident inform the Thruway Authority that the flyover must not be built (remember the "Crossgates rumble strips"?). Also, you should ask to be notified of the exact time and place of the next Thruway Authority public meeting on the Albany Corridor Study (tentative date February 24). You can use the web address for the Authority, www.thruway.state.ny.us/studies/index.html, its post office address which is New York State Thruway Authority, 200 Southern Boulevard-P.O.Box 189, Albany, New York 12201, or its telephone number which is, 436-2700 (Thruway Public Information Office) to register your opposition. We need everyone's help to stop the construction of the flyover.

Additionally, the work of the Association's committees (Sidewalks, Speed Limits, Park and Pond, Western Avenue, Trees and Treasurer) will be discussed. Come. Bring a friend. Make your opinion about your neighborhood count.

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Please send your email address to dreeb@albany.edu Keep informed. Stay involved in your community.