

McKownville Improvement Association
Thursday, March 9, 2006, 7-9pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

will soon be the second Thursday of the month and time for yet another McKownville Improvement Association meeting. This is also the month for the Tree Committee flyer to be distributed. We all know that there are places in McKownville that need a tree—a street tree, a front yard tree, a back yard tree. Trees are good for the soul and good for the environment. Plant a tree and make a wish about the future. **SO PLEASE READ THE BACK OF THIS FLYER**

What has been happening? The Thruway is holding a public meeting on March 14 at St. Sophia at 7pm—the Thruway will be installing sound barriers behind Woodscape and McKown and Strawberry Lane but McKownville needs a good turnout to ask that sound barriers be extended to include the area near Country, Oak and Shady also. Secondly, the Harriman campus had a meeting on February 28 to describe its tentative plans. And the CESTM/NanoTech campus requested the Association appoint several members to a review panel. More about these at the meeting.

McKownville has been waiting since 1924 for some improvements—like sidewalks on both sides of Western Avenue. Implementation of portions of the McKownville Corridor Study, construction of a sidewalk in front of 1450 Western Avenue, construction of a sidewalk along the western side of McKown Road, reconstruction of Fuller Road and of Schoolhouse Road, and construction of a bus shelter at McKown Road are in process and it is vital that as contracts are prepared we add in the little changes we want—for example, decorative street lights along Western Avenue. These little add ins help create McKownville's future and its VISION. At the February meeting we discussed the Vision our neighbors want for McKownville. We are still seeking more ideas—like parking along part Fuller and/or Western. So the agenda for Thursday is both a review of what construction is in store and what your neighbors(and you) have said that might be added.

Finally, the Washington Avenue Corridor, from Brevator Street to Rt. 155 and from Western to Washington, has more than 20,000 jobs and will be gaining more. The area includes medical offices at Great Oaks and along Washington Avenue, Stuyvesant and SUNYA and CESTM/NanoTech and Harriman and Crossgates and Crossgates Commons. As a major employment area for the Capital District it is surrounded by neighborhoods, McKownville, Westmere, two in the City (Upper Washington Avenue and Eagle Hill/Tudor Road), and several more in Colonie and Guilderland. Combined development impacts from Harriman, SUNYA, CESTM and office buildings on these neighborhoods have not been studied because some of the neighborhoods are in the City, some in Colonie and some in Guilderland. The impacts, from traffic, for example, flow into all the neighborhoods. Neighborhood needs, like storm water runoff management and public transit needs can better be solved jointly. Access to the Pinebush and Lake Rensselaer is needed by all of these neighborhoods, for example. The joint study of the Washington Avenue Corridor (requested by County Legislator Frank Commisso) will help McKownville get long overdue improvements.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood Street, 489-3909
Bill Meehan, Vice President, 7 Country Road, 456-4564
David Knight, Secretary, 11 Mercer Street, 438-9269
Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Road, 456-9557

Members of the Board

Sue Brown
6 Westlyn Place
482-2355

Doug Smith
5 McKown Road
482-6081

Alice Tordia
2 Knowles Terrace
489-3613

Martha Haraus
1445 Western Avenue
489-3855

Laura Whalen
12 Providence St.
482-2531

Jim White
8 Brookwood St
459-9176

Marty Gnack
15 Elmwood St.
438-9160

Steve Berg
7 Elmwood St.
438-6795

Joe Trapasso
25 Parkwood St
438-0870