

McKownville Improvement Association, Public Meeting
Thursday April 3, 2014—7 pm-9 pm
Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The April meeting of the McKownville Improvement Association will feature **University at Albany Associate Vice President for Finance and Business John Giarrusso.**

We have invited Mr Giarrusso to our meeting because it is important for us to remain informed about University activities for many reasons. They are our neighbor with a significant portion of the campus is in McKownville.. Students at the University are volunteers with the McKownville Fire Department and student organizations regularly benefit our community by doing litter collections along Western Avenue. Many McKownville residents use the campus for recreation, and, as a reminder, their library is available to all.

Current items that are of interest to us are: a parking garage, an ETEK building (incubator for new businesses), a football stadium addition and other construction. Additionally, reconstruction of dorms are in the discussion stage for the campus. While not all of these changes will be in Guilderland, they will impact our neighborhood in various ways and so we welcome hearing form the Vice President.

Other topics of interest that are open for discussion, are:

- The informational meeting that was held concerning a private dorm that might be built on Western Ave near Tudor Road.
- NanoTech’s construction of a building and a plan to build a second
- The Harriman campus may be constructing a large science building, Wadsworth Labs, this season
- Apartments are planned on Schoolhouse Rd, opposite Oak and Shady Streets, they are not just approved
- Crossgates is planning an additions, despite ongoing traffic concerns on the Northway ramp
- The former grade school building owned by St. Margaret Mary’s is available for lease
- A developer is proposing 220 new apartments to be constructed near Patricia Lane and Westmere School.

Earlier this year Gordon Associates met with Board members to describe its plans for a **strip mall** on the Christ Lutheran property, approximately across the street from the entrance to Stuyvesant Plaza. The Board was not able to encourage this project because we believe that it would cause horrible traffic problems. Traffic consideration on Western Ave, as well as East Highland, would make this use of this property unacceptable. The nearby entrances and exits for Stuyvesant Plaza and the dentist’s offices on Western already have the area saturated with ingress and egress needs. In addition, the Board questioned what impact this project would have on flooding in the immediate area.

A sidewalk update; Geoff Wood and Steve Taylor, of the New York State Department of Transportation, Region 1, informed us that they are not quite ready to “go to contract” on the **Western Avenue sidewalk**. Tentatively, the final plans will be ready to discuss with the neighborhood at the Association Meeting in May.

Ice cream sundaes will be served at the Association meeting—come early—have dessert before the meeting with a friend or neighbor.

Officers

Don Reeb, President, 5 Norwood St. 489-3909
 Doug Smith, Vice President, 5 McKown Rd. 482-6081
 Martha Harausz, Secretary, 1445 Western, 489-3855
 Paul Haldeman, Treasurer, 5 Country Rd. 456-9557

Members of the Board

Debra Trees 8 Ayre Drive 489-1519	Janet Reilly 18 Norwood 446-1766	Laura Barry 3 Waverly 813-9694
Bill Meehan 7 Country Rd. 456-4564	Jim White 8 Brookwood 459-9176	Angie Parsons 136 Arcadia 944-7311
Alice Torda 2 Knowles Terrace 489-3613	Ellen Manning 3 Norwood 482-3779	David Shub 3 Parkwood 438-1547