



Background for the Public Meeting September 16, 2010

These are items you might wish to think about. We have a meeting with Ken Runion at the McKownville firehouse Thursday September 9, then a general meeting the following Thursday, September 16 at the Holiday Inn, then a regularly scheduled board meeting Thursday September 23, again at the firehouse— 7pm is the starting time for each meeting.

1. **# 1 Elmwood**—a garage was placed in the carriageway—repeated efforts by me and a neighbor to # 1 Elmwood has resulted in the Town asking the neighbor for a plot map to establish the boundary lines. This seems to me inadequate effort by the Town.
2. **Carriageways**— Supervisor Ken Runion suggested that the Town take ownership—the abutting property owners presently own them.
3. **Zoning changes**—McKownville wrote a zoning report at the Town's request that was never implemented. The more recent zoning report seems to be a disaster for McKownville.
4. **Zoning enforcement**—Rodger Stone has been quite willing to enforce zoning regulations such as getting property owners to trim bushes overhanging sidewalks but obviously has been prevented from other zoning enforcement such as getting commercial trucks from being stored at residential sites.
5. **McKownville Park**—it is uncertain whether we can prevent Stuyvesant from cutting trees on the parkland, get Stuyvesant off the Park land that it has occupied for years, get it to stop taking water from the stream, get Stuyvesant to pay rent for the Park land and water it has used and continues to use and get a park pond, gazebo, benches and so forth.
6. **NanoTech**—even though NanoTech is dumping water into McKownville neither the County nor any other local government or the State University has been active in getting it halted.
7. **Storm water**—the Town has received a \$500,000 MultiModal grant for storm water repairs in McKownville—the report will soon be released.
8. **Fuller Road**—the Town Safety Committee is to meet about reducing the speed limit. I have also requested that it consider adding at least one grassy area in the turning lane to help slow down traffic and provide a safer spot for pedestrians.
9. **Sidewalks**—there has been progress on Fuller, Schoolhouse, McKown and Western but much work yet needs to be done on Western. It is terribly important that when sidewalks are built on the north side that the width of the roadway be narrowed (and the green area widened) so that McKownville is not again threatened with making the roadway wider and reducing the value of the 38 residential dwellings along Western, thereby making them susceptible for business development, something that the State and possibly the Town has sought for many years..

There are background papers available on some of these topics—they have been distributed but new Board members may not have received them.

McKownville has accomplished much, but only because Ken Runion has been willing to help. With Ken Runion's help more has been done for McKownville in the past ten years since he became the Town Supervisor than was done for McKownville in the previous 60 years. See the accompanying list.

McKownville Improvement Association Accomplishments Since 2000

(As of September 2009)

1. McKownville Corridor Study completed, 2003
2. Flyover proposed by the New York State Thruway was stopped
3. McKownville Zoning Study completed
4. Storm water engineering study underway
5. New park under construction at the former McKownville Reservoir next to Stuyvesant Plaza
6. 1257 "Blue House" on Western torn down and land leased to McKownville Fire Department
7. Cooperation on the annual Halloween parties held with the McKownville Fire Department
8. Cooperation with the McKownville Fire Department for neighborhood events, like that honoring long term McKownville residents
9. Formed an Association committee to sell and plant street trees
10. Completed a survey of sidewalk needs and preferences
11. Survey completed on future needs of McKownville
12. Sidewalk completed along the west side of McKown Road from Western Avenue to the entrance of Woodscape
13. Sidewalk completed along Western Avenue from Schoolhouse Road to McKown Road
14. Sidewalk completed on Schoolhouse Road from Western Avenue to the entrance to Abele Park
15. Sidewalk construction to begin along both sides of Fuller Road
16. "Blue House" at 1257 Western has five storm drains on or near the property that were clogged and prevented storm water from crossing under Western to the Krumkill—these were reopened by the Town highway department
17. Bus patron shelter installed at 1450 Western near Parkwood Street
18. Bus patron shelter installed at McKown Road and Western Avenue
19. Pedestrian crosswalk lights installed at Parkwood Street and Western Avenue
20. Pedestrian crosswalk lights installed at McKown Road, Norwood Street and Western Avenue
21. Improved traffic signals installed at Fuller Road and Western Avenue
22. Improved traffic signal lights installed at Parkwood Street and Western Avenue
23. Snow plowing improved along Western, McKown Road and Fuller Road
24. Trash receptacles obtained for the two new bus patron shelters
25. Improved traffic signal lights installed at McKown Road, Norwood Street and Western Avenue
26. Western Avenue stripping changed to provide a turning lane for west bound Burger King patrons
27. "Don't block the Side Road" signs installed along Fuller Road
28. Cooperation with Eagle Hill neighborhood association in Albany on opposing the proposed site of the 550 student University dormitory
29. Reconstruction of storm sewers near Fuller Road and Western Avenue is in process to reduce Western Avenue flooding
30. "Don't drive on the shoulder" signs along the south side of Western Avenue installed
31. Lighting district extended along Providence Street
32. Carriageway behind Norwood/Waverly streets cleared of brush

33. New storm sewers installed along Westlyn Place to accommodate new and older homes nearby
34. A new sidewalk installed by Stuyvesant Plaza from Western Avenue into the Plaza
35. Agreement reached with the University at Albany to stop the construction of a faculty-student building at 1257 Western
36. Reconstruction of the old Capital Lodge motel and its rebirth as a “Days Inn”
37. The construction of a Starbucks across from the University entrance was transferred to the old Taco Pronto site
38. A farm stand operated by Jim and Cindy Barber, first located in Stuyvesant and now behind Passonno’s on McKown Road, was accomplished
39. The painting and reuse of the old McKownville Reservoir pump house near Stuyvesant Plaza and its reuse as a Town record storage site
40. Former Tusang-Barhydt property, 1424 Western Avenue, was refurbished into two businesses and an apartment
41. Former Hannon drugstore site refurbished
42. Awards given to two local businesses, Holiday Inn Express and Passonno Paints, for being “good neighbors”
43. Several businesses stopped piling snow on the sidewalks after they were reported and ticketed
44. Various abandoned cars reported to the Town and hauled away
45. Got information out to neighbors about a burglar and neighbors spied another break-in and they called the police that led to the capture of the burglar
46. Town Highway department repaired storm sewer cave-ins near several homes on Knowles Terrace
47. Reached agreement with The University at Albany and the NanoTech College to provide financing for a sidewalk along Fuller and to maintain it even in the winter
48. Town Highway department cleaned storm sewers near Glenwood Street and near Norwood Street
49. Town authorized household storm sewer survey was completed and tabulated
50. Association cooperated with Save the PineBush to try and stop the expansion of the Albany City landfill in the PineBush
51. Association reached out to representatives from Town government, County government, State Assembly and State Senate, Harriman campus, Nano campus, Stuyvesant Plaza, library, school board, and University at Albany, to make presentations at general monthly meetings
52. Sound barriers approved by the New York State Thruway for property near McKown Road
53. Got sidewalks cleared of overgrowth along Western Avenue
54. New sidewalks along Western Avenue, at Germano’s and Days Inn, were installed
55. Sign post on McKown Road for Abele Park erected and path cleared and improved
56. New storm sewer on Providence Street constructed
57. Reached out to Laughlin Street residents and included them in the Association flyer distribution
58. Met with representatives from NanoTech campus concerning its impact on McKownville
59. Stop signs on Valley Lane installed
60. Got National Grid to repair holes at the intersection of Highland and Western Avenue
61. Met with representatives from the Harriman campus concerning its impact on McKownville