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THE NEW SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEIS PUBLIC HEARING
FOR THE QUEENS ALTERNATIVE
TO THE PROPOSED GREENPOINT CONVERTED
MARINE TRANSFER STATION
HELD AT: 33-31 39th Street
Sunnyside, New York
December 8, 2004, 6:21 p.m.

Reported by:
MARC RUSSO
Job#: 167213

<div>Page 2</div> <div> <p>1</p> <p>2 A p p e a r a n c e s:</p> <p>3</p> <p>4 HARRY SZARPANSKI, P.E., Assistant Commis-</p> <p>5 sioner,</p> <p>6 DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION, 44 Beaver Street,</p> <p>7 12th</p> <p>8 floor, New York, New York 10004</p> <p>9</p> <p>10 WALTER CZWARTACKY, DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION</p> <p>11</p> <p>12 SARAH DOLINAR, DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION</p> <p>13</p> <p>14 ALSO PRESENT: JORGE FREIRE, HOWARD FREIRE,</p> <p>15 Spanish interpreters</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p> </div>	<div>Page 4</div> <div> <p>1</p> <p>2 MR. SZARPANSKI: Good</p> <p>3 evening everyone. My name is Harry</p> <p>4 Szarpanski. I'm the Assistant</p> <p>5 Commissioner for Long Term Export</p> <p>6 at the Department of Sanitation.</p> <p>7 With me tonight are Sarah</p> <p>8 Dolinar and Walter Czwartacky of</p> <p>9 the Department. Also with us, we</p> <p>10 have Susan Raila and Dan Harkins of</p> <p>11 the firm of Henningson, Durham &</p> <p>12 Richardson, HDR. HDR is the firm</p> <p>13 that is responsible for conducting</p> <p>14 the environmental impact statement</p> <p>15 for this project and it's the EIS</p> <p>16 that we're here to talk about</p> <p>17 tonight.</p> <p>18 As you may know, in October</p> <p>19 of 2004, the Department of</p> <p>20 Sanitation issued a New York City</p> <p>21 Comprehensive Solid Waste</p> <p>22 Management Plan for the next 20</p> <p>23 years. As required, the new SWMP,</p> <p>24 as we refer to it, has been</p> <p>25 submitted as a draft to the City</p> </div>
<div>Page 3</div> <div> <p>1</p> <p>2 PUBLIC SPEAKERS: PAGE:</p> <p>3</p> <p>4 Jerel Klue 16</p> <p>5 Joe Conley 21</p> <p>6 Joseph Ruzalski 24</p> <p>7 Dorothy Morehead 27</p> <p>8 Don McCallian 32</p> <p>9 Gertrude McDonald 35</p> <p>10</p> <p>11</p> <p>12</p> <p>13</p> <p>14</p> <p>15</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p> </div>	<div>Page 5</div> <div> <p>1</p> <p>2 Council.</p> <p>3 The new SWMP is proposed to</p> <p>4 replace the current SWMP and must</p> <p>5 be approved by the City Council</p> <p>6 before it can be submitted to the</p> <p>7 New York State Department of</p> <p>8 Environmental Conservation for</p> <p>9 final approval.</p> <p>10 The new SWMP plans for the</p> <p>11 management of all of the solid</p> <p>12 waste generated in the City over</p> <p>13 the next 20 years and is supported</p> <p>14 by a draft environmental impact</p> <p>15 statement, or EIS, on which we will</p> <p>16 take comments this evening.</p> <p>17 My comments tonight will be</p> <p>18 brief. I will make a short power</p> <p>19 point presentation before the</p> <p>20 public portion of the meeting</p> <p>21 begins. Copies of my statement and</p> <p>22 presentation will be available at</p> <p>23 the end of the meeting.</p> <p>24 Should you require the</p> <p>25 assistance of a Spanish</p> </div>

1
2 interpreter, please let the
3 individuals at the front table
4 know.
5 Because the real focus of
6 this public hearing will be your
7 comments, if you plan to make a
8 statement for the record, please
9 take a moment to fill out the
10 speaker sign up sheet and submit it
11 to the individuals at the front
12 table. You will be assigned a
13 number and I will call your name
14 when it is your turn to speak.

15 Note that elected officials,
16 who may be attending other meetings
17 on behalf of their constituents on
18 any given night, will have the
19 opportunity to speak first.

20 We're interested to make a
21 complete record of your comments so
22 please state your name clearly and
23 slowly for the stenographer.

24 So that everyone here who
25 wants to speak, can speak, we

1
2 The City Council also is
3 planning to hold hearings on the
4 new SWMP in January or February.
5 There are three broad
6 categories in the SWMP. The first
7 one is recycling. Then the SWMP
8 addresses Department of Sanitation
9 managed waste and the commercial
10 waste.

11 With respect to recycling,
12 our goals are to hold down the cost
13 of recycling and expand barge
14 transport of recyclables. Our
15 other goal is to meet a 25 percent
16 recycling goal for the Department
17 Curbside Program by 2007 and by
18 that same date, meet a 35 percent
19 recycling goal for all
20 Department-managed waste.

21 The specific initiatives on
22 recycling include entering into a
23 20-year contract for metal, glass
24 and plastic processing and
25 marketing, and for a new recycling

1
2 normally ask people to limit their
3 statements to three minutes, but
4 seeing that there are not a lot of
5 speakers, we'll dispense with that
6 time frame.

7 If you do not wish to speak
8 but would like to provide us with
9 written comments, please complete a
10 comment card that we've provided
11 for your use.

12 Thank you for coming and
13 I'll now begin my short power point
14 presentation.

15 (Showing slides) As I
16 mentioned, this is a public hearing
17 on the City's DEIS for the draft
18 comprehensive solid waste
19 management plan. Both the SWMP
20 itself and the DEIS were issued by
21 the City Department of Sanitation
22 and are available on our website as
23 listed there. There are also four
24 public repositories in Queens where
25 you can view these documents.

1
2 processing facility at the South
3 Brooklyn Marine Terminal. The
4 company we're looking to contract
5 with is called Hugo Neu.

6 Enhance composting and waste
7 prevention programs are part of the
8 initiative; developing an
9 electronics recycling program and
10 establishing a recycling education
11 center and recycling acceptance
12 facility at the Gansevoort
13 Peninsula in Manhattan or an
14 alternate site in that borough.
15 And the site that we're looking at
16 at Gansevoort is a site that used
17 to be a marine transfer station
18 that the Department ran. It's just
19 below 14th Street on the West Side.

20 Specifically with respect to
21 Queens recycling, in July of 2004,
22 weekly recycling collection started
23 again. Department of Sanitation
24 trucks collecting recyclables will
25 take them to the Long Island City

1
2 acceptance facility and to New
3 Jersey, but eventually when the
4 Brooklyn facility is built, they
5 will barged to that Brooklyn site.

6 And composting began in the
7 fall of 2004 at Idlewild Park and
8 in addition, full funding was given
9 to the Queens Botanical Gardens for
10 composting information programs.

11 With respect to Department
12 of Sanitation managed waste, our
13 goals are to end use of long-haul
14 trucks for waste transport, and
15 export more waste by barge or rail;
16 we're looking to stabilize waste
17 export costs; distribute waste
18 transfer facilities throughout the
19 City and containerize waste to get
20 more transport and disposal
21 options.

22 Specific long term elements
23 of the export program include use
24 of private transfer stations for
25 barge and rail export of

1
2 not going to be converted.
3 On the commercial waste
4 side, we're looking to limit new or
5 expanded transfer stations in
6 communities where they are already
7 concentrated; establish new
8 operational regulations to reduce
9 noise, odor and dust at private
10 waste transfer stations; study how
11 to lessen waste truck transport on
12 truck routes through residential
13 areas; expand barge and rail export
14 of commercial waste from
15 Department-contracted transfer
16 stations; export some commercial
17 waste through the marine transfer
18 stations which we do plan to
19 convert. And offer up the West
20 59th Street Marine Transfer Station
21 for use by the commercial sector to
22 export commercial waste for
23 Manhattan.

24 The draft EIS looked at
25 environmental consequences of sites

1
2 containerized waste from the Bronx
3 and from the Brooklyn and Queens
4 communities once served by the
5 Greenpoint and South Bronx Marine
6 Transfer Stations.

7 We're also looking to
8 complete the Staten Island Transfer
9 Station construction and begin
10 exporting Staten Island waste by
11 rail. We're looking to enter into
12 a long term contract for disposal
13 of a portion of Manhattan's waste
14 at the Essex County Resource
15 Facility in Newark, New Jersey and
16 we're looking to build four new
17 marine transfer stations at
18 existing MTS sites and those sites
19 are: At East 91st Street in
20 Manhattan, at the North Shore in
21 Queens, Hamilton Avenue at the
22 Southwest Brooklyn site and just to
23 point out that the Greenpoint
24 Marine Transfer Station where waste
25 from this wasteshed used to go, is

1
2 and facilities that are, or may be
3 part of the proposed new SWMP, as
4 well as alternative sites and
5 facilities that are not part of the
6 recommended sites.

7 It identifies things that
8 the City would do to avoid
9 potential significant adverse
10 impacts and it also meets the City
11 and State environmental review
12 requirements.

13 This map shows the location
14 of the various marine transfer
15 stations that we are going to
16 convert and the private existing
17 transfer stations where we're
18 looking to contract for export of
19 the waste services.

20 Specifically for this area
21 we're looking to enter into a long
22 term contract with a private waste
23 company for truck-to-rail or
24 truck-to-barge disposal of Queens
25 waste that used to go to the

1
2 Greenpoint Marine Transfer Station
3 in Brooklyn. The facility is Waste
4 Management's facility at 38-50
5 Review Avenue in Queens and the
6 Long Island Railroad Maspeth Rail
7 Yard.

8 There's a proposed expansion
9 of the waste processing capacity.
10 The proposed expansion is going to
11 be offset by reducing processing
12 capacity in the region; it requires
13 modification of waste transported
14 by barge, and a truck-to-rail
15 operation with truck containers to
16 the Maspeth Rail Yard.

17 This map shows the various
18 Queens wastesheds. The one we're
19 discussing or we're talking about
20 tonight is the one in blue and it
21 shows the location of the existing
22 Review Avenue Transfer Station that
23 we're looking to contract with.

24 The findings of the draft
25 environmental impacts with respect

1
2 comments tonight by filling out a
3 speaker card and speaking, or you
4 can fill out a comment sheet and
5 submit it to us or you can give us
6 written comments, either tonight or
7 you can mail those written comments
8 to us. And we ask that you send
9 those comments by January 24, 2005.

10 I will now turn it over to
11 comments by the public.

12 And our first speaker is
13 Jerel Klue representing Council
14 Member Eric Gioia.

15 MR. JEREL KLUE: My name is
16 Jerel Klue, J-E-R-E-L, last name
17 Klue, K-L-U-E again, representing
18 Council Member Eric Gioia's office.

19 First and foremost, let me
20 pass on from the Council Member and
21 his family, a very happy holiday.
22 I hope that everyone is doing well
23 and has a great holiday.

24 And I would like to read
25 this letter into the record.

1
2 to this facility, traffic and air
3 quality, there's no significant
4 off-site impacts for traffic or
5 mobile air. We evaluated the
6 trucking of full containers of
7 waste and return of empties between
8 Review Avenue and the Maspeth Rail
9 Yard.

10 With respect to odor and
11 noise, again, no significant
12 adverse impacts. The Maspeth Rail
13 Yard is permitted to receive waste
14 in sealed containers and off-site
15 noise analysis showed no
16 significant impacts.

17 With respect to traffic, air
18 quality, odor and noise, no
19 significant adverse traffic, air
20 quality or noise impacts were shown
21 through the environmental impact
22 analyses.

23 These are the various ways
24 in which you can comment on this
25 draft EIS. You can provide

1
2 "Dear Mr. Doherty: I'd like
3 to thank you for coming to
4 Sunnyside and speaking to the
5 concerned citizens of our
6 neighborhood. Your hard work and
7 efforts are appreciated.

8 Tonight, I want to take this
9 opportunity to discuss a few
10 concerns that residents have raised
11 regarding the New York City
12 Department of Sanitation's draft
13 comprehensive solid waste
14 management plan.

15 Our neighborhood is a
16 special place with easy access to
17 public transportation, an amazing
18 array of cultural institutions and
19 hardworking people who care about
20 their schools, streets and each
21 other. This neighborhood is
22 already a great place to live, work
23 and raise and family, and because
24 of its people, it also has more
25 potential than perhaps anywhere

1
 2 else in the entire world. However,
 3 before we reach this potential, we
 4 must first ensure that the quality
 5 of life for our residents is safe
 6 and secure.
 7 Constituents contact my
 8 office on a daily basis about
 9 traffic problems on our streets.
 10 From increased noise and air
 11 pollution, to potholes and traffic
 12 jams, our streets are experiencing
 13 the effects of a system overwhelmed
 14 by cars and trucks. In fact, our
 15 streets are more crowded than they've
 16 ever been.

17 The draft plan will add even
 18 more traffic to the stressed system
 19 with garbage trucks bearing waste
 20 from across the borough barreling
 21 down our streets, barreling through
 22 our streets.

23 My office has written
 24 several letters to ensure that
 25 trucks stick to their prescribed

1
 2 routes on main roads, but with
 3 traffic-jammed streets, commercial
 4 traffic is often diverted down less
 5 traveled, residential blocks.
 6 Quality of life is a top priority
 7 for me, so I ask that for the sake
 8 of our residents, please take the
 9 time to closely analyze the effects
 10 of more car and truck traffic on
 11 our roads before enacting your
 12 final plan.

13 Furthermore, my vision for
 14 the area is that one day soon,
 15 people will come from near and far
 16 to enjoy our waterfront, from
 17 Newtown Creek to the Triborough
 18 Bridge. Filled with parks,
 19 libraries, and good schools, the
 20 waterfront should be a place for
 21 people to bike, jog or simply relax
 22 and enjoy the view.

23 The plan allows for the
 24 possibility of trash barges
 25 floating down Newtown Creek, the

1
 2 site of the largest oil spill in
 3 the history of North America. I'm
 4 currently in the process of suing
 5 Exxon Mobil to compel them to take
 6 responsibility for the
 7 environmental degradation they have
 8 caused. Until Newtown Creek is
 9 restored, we must be sure to
 10 nurture this area back to health.

11 At the public hearing this
 12 evening, you and your staff must
 13 carefully consider the ideas, the
 14 opinions and feelings of all our
 15 neighborhood residents. Waste
 16 management is an integral part of
 17 our quality of life and our
 18 residents know its effects
 19 first-hand. Their input must be
 20 taken into account not only
 21 tonight, but on a consistent basis.
 22 They know their neighborhood best
 23 and their input is invaluable.

24 That you for your time and
 25 attention. Should you have any

1
 2 questions or concerns, or if I can
 3 be of any assistance, please do not
 4 hesitate to call me at
 5 718-383-9566. Sincerely yours,
 6 Eric Gioia."

7 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you
 8 very much.

9 Our next speaker is Joe
 10 Conley, Chairperson of Queens
 11 Community Board Two.

12 MR. JOE CONLEY: Good
 13 evening and good evening to
 14 everybody. Thank you for taking
 15 the time to come out.

16 It's like deja vu all again,
 17 here we go again. This is the
 18 third time now the Department of
 19 Sanitation's come in to our
 20 neighborhood trying to do
 21 something.

22 We had the waste transfer
 23 station, it was going to be on 21st
 24 Street and Jackson Avenue. They
 25 wanted to do something at the

1
 2 former Phelps Dodge site. So we're
 3 asking the Department of Sanitation
 4 to please pull this plan. And
 5 despite what you said earlier Harry
 6 about the no impact of truck
 7 traffic in the neighborhood, I
 8 invite you to come to 48th Street
 9 any night you want, you see the
 10 truck traffic that's there tonight,
 11 tomorrow tonight, next week, from
 12 all the Sanitation and garbage
 13 trucks that go along 48th Street.
 14 I'll invite you to come
 15 right to my front yard and listen
 16 to the trucks, it's incredible.
 17 And so we've been pleading
 18 for years about this. We get zero
 19 cooperation about the truck routes
 20 so we know that with this increased
 21 truck traffic coming into the area,
 22 there's no such thing as negligible
 23 or no impact. This cannot happen
 24 and we're asking the Department of
 25 Sanitation to rethink their plan.

1
 2 Also, that this an area that
 3 we're trying to build up and for
 4 years it's about recapturing the
 5 waterfront, recapturing wasted
 6 industrial land for revitalization
 7 and we seem right on the cusp.
 8 Long Island City is enjoying
 9 a very big growth in housing, it's
 10 enjoying a very large population
 11 growth for new development and
 12 projects like this are going to
 13 stymie it, it's going to slow it.
 14 It's not going to encourage it.
 15 So we think this is an
 16 ill-conceived plan, it's not
 17 addressing the needs of the City,
 18 it's not addressing the needs of
 19 the community. We ask you to go
 20 back and rethink about this.
 21 There will be a letter
 22 coming from the Community Board but
 23 we did have this as a vote. The
 24 Community Board voted against it
 25 after careful analysis and it's due

1
 2 to the quality of life and the
 3 impact from truck traffic that does
 4 and will continue and will increase
 5 with this transfer station at this
 6 site.
 7 So Community Board Two
 8 respectfully asks the Department of
 9 Sanitation not to place this at
 10 this site.
 11 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you
 12 for your comments.
 13 Our next speaker is Joseph
 14 Ruzalski.
 15 MR. JOSEPH RUZALSKI: My
 16 name is Joseph Ruzalski, I'm with
 17 the United '40s Civic Association.
 18 I'm representing Community Board
 19 Five, Tony Anunciata and his
 20 environmental over there, and I'm
 21 gonna ask to speak for the
 22 Blissville people.
 23 Now, I've been down there on
 24 Review Avenue viewing this and it's
 25 pure hell down there, it's a damn

1
 2 mess. Right down there they're
 3 trying to do their best. I don't
 4 understand how you gonna take all
 5 the garbage trucks that are coming
 6 down and then -- first of all, I
 7 understand it's going be from a
 8 hell of a lot of districts it's
 9 going down there on Review Avenue
 10 now, causing traffic jams.
 11 7:00 in the morning, 8:00 in
 12 the morning up until 1:00, the
 13 traffic jam on Greenpoint Avenue,
 14 which is off the truck route, of
 15 truck route, it's supposed to be
 16 Van Dam Street to Borden Avenue,
 17 make a right. Then go up right up
 18 Greenpoint Avenue. And the same
 19 thing with Maspeth. You're going
 20 down towards Grand Avenue, down
 21 Grand Avenue, where there's kids,
 22 there's schools over there.
 23 You know, I don't understand
 24 what the people are trying to do.
 25 You're trying to jam up Maspeth.

1
2 Now you got the MTA down there on
3 Grand Avenue, they're building and
4 you're gonna have this rail station
5 down there you want and we can't
6 have it. It's causing too much
7 havoc as it is now.

8 Right now we go down along
9 Review Avenue, we get down to the
10 river that we check along the
11 Newtown Creek, you have rats down
12 there. I mean, the rats are nice,
13 if you like rats, you got rats, but
14 who the hell wants it, we don't
15 want them. And the stench. Now,
16 when you're in the cemetery you can
17 smell it.

18 Now with the new housing
19 coming up in Long Island City on
20 the tip down there, what is this
21 going to do to them people down
22 there? We do not need it.

23 So I advise, not advise, I
24 would say listen, come down and see
25 what's going on itself. I mean,

1
2 I'm Dorothy Morehead, I chair the
3 Environmental Committee of
4 Community Board Two. I'm on the
5 Queens Solid Waste Advisory Board
6 and I'm on the Newtown, member of
7 the Newtown Creek Alliance but here
8 as a, with the community board and
9 as a resident of the area.

10 We have had a lot of
11 problems with trucks, a lot of
12 problems with traffic in our area.
13 Our air quality is very poor. We
14 -- since I've been on the community
15 board, which is now about 11 or 12
16 years, from the very beginning
17 we've been asking for air
18 monitoring for our community. We
19 finally got temporary air monitors
20 for six months in the summer about
21 five years ago, and it proved all
22 of our worst fears that Long Island
23 City is one of the most, has one of
24 the worst air pollution problems in
25 the City.

1
2 it's a pain, I go down there, I try
3 to do my best. I got Gus driving
4 me all over the damn neighborhood.
5 I can hardly see anymore, I can
6 hardly walk, but I'm fighting, I'll
7 be fighting till I fall on the
8 ground and I'll be there.

9 Now, the people of
10 Greenpoint have the same problem,
11 you're going to bring everything
12 over there, over here, or here,
13 over there, we don't need it.

14 Right now when you go down
15 alongside the railroad tracks,
16 cross over underneath the bridge,
17 you got the Waste Management down
18 there now. It's a damn mess. So
19 please, we're all against it.

20 Thank you. Have a nice
21 holiday.

22 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you.

23 Our next speaker is Dorothy
24 Morehead.

25 MS. DOROTHY MOREHEAD: Hi,

1
2 The area where we live is
3 called asthma alley mostly because
4 of either power plants or the
5 traffic. We are crisscrossed by
6 major roads. We have the entrance
7 to the Brooklyn/Queens, the Midtown
8 Tunnel, we have the Brooklyn Queens
9 Expressway, we've got Queens
10 Boulevard and the Long Island
11 Expressway that cross our
12 community.

13 They are, they don't call
14 the Long Island Expressway the
15 world's longest parking lot for
16 nothing. Traffic is dead stopped
17 there.

18 What happens with truckers,
19 though they're supposed to stay on
20 truck routes, they don't, they will
21 find, I don't know if the
22 Sanitation guys are any different
23 maybe 'cause they get paid by the
24 hour, but they all find other ways
25 to get out of the traffic jams and

1
2 they all go on public -- on the
3 regular streets without -- that are
4 not designated for truck traffic.

5 At our board meeting, we did
6 not cover this at our environmental
7 committee meeting, I brought it up
8 to the entire board last Thursday
9 night and we had almost a unanimous
10 vote against this. It's not a good
11 site for it.

12 I've been to many waste
13 transfer stations both for the
14 recyclables which I'm, by the way,
15 very much in favor of, that's the
16 good part of your project to do the
17 recyclables, I applaud that. I
18 applaud the fact that now we can,
19 some of the Cities' household waste
20 can be removed by using the
21 machines, forget what they're
22 called now the, in the sinks, the
23 insinkerator type of garbage
24 disposals. And certainly the
25 recycling of the compostable

1
2 downwind of a transfer station even
3 though they are enclosed and I'm
4 sure the technology is improving it
5 still, when the trucks come in,
6 they always queue and those -- the
7 trucks don't smell good. So to try
8 and put this in an area where
9 you're transporting so much waste
10 through major, very highly densely
11 inhabited communities is really a
12 disaster and we hope it's all --
13 you can rethink this project.

14 Thank you.

15 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you
16 for your comments.

17 Our next speaker is, we have
18 Don McCallian.

19 MR. DON MCCALLIAN: My name
20 is Don McCallian, I reside at 48-30
21 40th Street, Sunnyside, which is
22 sort of right in the middle of the
23 spots that we talked about tonight
24 to you already.

25 And I am a member of the

1
2 materials, I think those are
3 laudable.

4 The siting of this is
5 disastrous for our community. To
6 bring all of this garbage on our
7 City streets from six community
8 boards is really excessive and we
9 will do whatever we can to convince
10 you to number one, transport by
11 rail, and because there are major
12 initiatives to improve Newtown
13 Creek, not the least of which, I
14 mean, a major thing would be the
15 Olympic village if we ever got
16 that, imagine what the impact of
17 this would have.

18 I'm sorry to tell you,
19 garbage stinks. I've been to a lot
20 of dumps, a lot of the transfer
21 stations, I've been to the
22 self-help centers, both out in
23 College Point and the one at
24 Greenpoint Avenue, many times. It
25 is not pleasant to be anywhere near

1
2 United '40s Group which has already
3 been well-represented. I'm also a
4 member of the 108th Precinct
5 Council and many other groups
6 connected with St. Teresa's Parish
7 which is on 44th and 50th Avenues.

8 And I would just like to
9 record maybe on behalf of the Ardly
10 Tenants Association, which is a
11 building right smack in the middle
12 of the traffic area that you're
13 talking about. I'd like to just
14 tell you a little bit how people
15 feel about this coming into the
16 area. And as Joe Conley mentioned
17 before from Community Board 2,
18 they're dead against it.

19 Now, if you wish to go to
20 Joe's house some night, maybe you
21 can come over by me any day of the
22 week and you'll see the truck
23 traffic that's already coming into
24 the area and through the area.

25 You add the tunnel which is

1
2 a big discussed item at the moment,
3 you add your project to what it
4 already is a mess and the people
5 just can't stand it anymore. Not
6 only do you have full trucks, you
7 have empty trucks going back in the
8 other direction which people don't
9 seem to want to talk about,
10 particularly with the cross-tunnel
11 issue there, containers going out,
12 they're going to be coming back
13 either empty trailer or empty boxes
14 on the truck.

15 So I would just start to
16 relate to you on behalf of all the
17 people of this area, that 48th
18 Street, 43rd Street, 39th Street,
19 Review Avenue, cannot take
20 additional traffic without
21 seriously injuring the area.
22 Business-wise, real estate-wise and
23 people-wise and as I say, I'm on
24 40th Street and Greenpoint Avenue,
25 I'm sort of between all of these

1
2 areas, but I have many friends in
3 the area that have been here for 40
4 years and I haven't met one person
5 on the street that will say they're
6 for this project.

7 So I would add to Joe's
8 comments and just say, please
9 reconsider the proposal you have on
10 paper now.

11 Thank you, and have a good
12 holiday.

13 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you
14 for your comments.

15 Is there anyone else here
16 who signed up to speak and I didn't
17 call on?

18 Is there anyone else here
19 who didn't sign up to speak and
20 still wants to speak?

21 Please step up. If you can
22 come to the microphone, please and
23 please state your name

24 MS. GERTRUDE MCDONALD: My
25 name is Gertrude McDonald, I'm a

1
2 homeowner in the area and I'm on
3 the Public Safety Committee on
4 Community Board Two.
5 We had many complaints about
6 the trucks going through
7 residential streets because most of
8 the truckers don't know where the
9 truck route is in the first place.
10 And we wrote letters and I have a
11 letter at home that states that our
12 streets are not paved to withstand
13 heavy trucking. And now you're
14 asking us to accept more than what
15 we already have which really is
16 more than we can stand.

17 And in your statement here,
18 it says they'll be no impacts from
19 traffic and noise? Where we going
20 to get those quiet Sanitation
21 trucks? Does anybody listen to the
22 noise that they create?

23 So a lot of things have to
24 be considered here. We are
25 overloaded with trucks and the

1
2 streets cannot withstand any more
3 heavy trucking.

4 And when the pipes break in
5 the streets, the homeowner is
6 responsible. So is the City paying
7 any attention to those problems or
8 we waiting until they happen?

9 What happened, can you
10 answer me?

11 MR. SZARPANSKI: The forum
12 tonight is for us to accept
13 comments and any questions you ask
14 will all be answered in written
15 form.

16 MS. GERTRUDE MCDONALD:
17 Good. But I hope you give that a
18 lot of consideration 'cause the
19 whole community is against it.

20
21 (Continued on following
22 page.)
23
24
25

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2 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you
3 for your comments.
4 Is there anybody else here
5 who would like to speak? If not,
6 thank you all for coming, have a
7 good holiday.
8 (Time noted: 6:52 p.m.)
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1
2 C E R T I F I C A T E
3 STATE OF NEW YORK)
4 : ss.
5 COUNTY OF NEW YORK)
6
7 I Marc Russo a Notary Public within
8 and for the State of New York do hereby
9 certify that the within is a true and
10 accurate transcript of the proceedings
11 taken on December 8th 2004. I further
12 certify that I am not related to any of
13 the parties to this action by blood or
14 marriage and that I am in no way
15 interested in the outcome of this
16 matter.
17 IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my
18 hand this 3rd day of January 2005.
19
20
21 _____
22 MARC RUSSO
23
24
25