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THE NEW SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING
FOR THE PROPOSED SOUTHWEST
BROOKLYN CONVERTED MARINE TRANSFER STATION
HELD AT: I.S. 227
Brooklyn, New York
June 17th, 2004, 6:08 p.m.

Reported by: MARC RUSSO
Job#: 161260

1 A p p e a r a n c e s :

2
3 HARRY SZARPANKSI, P.E., Assistant Commis-
sioner,
4 DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION, 44 Beaver Street,
12th
5 floor, New York, New York 10004
6
7 WALTER CZWARTACKY, DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION
8
9 VAUGHAN F. ARNOLD, DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION
10
11 SARAH DOLINAR, DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION

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2 MR. SZARPANSKI: Can everybody
3 hear me? My name is Harry Szarpanski,
4 I'm the assistant commissioner for long
5 term export with the Department of
6 Sanitation. I welcome the opportunity
7 to appear before you and I'm joined by
8 members of my staff, Walter Czwartacky,
9 Sarah Dolinar and Vaughan Arnold.

10 Also Brij Shrivastava is in the
11 audience. And with me from our
12 consulting firm, Henningson, Durham and
13 Richardson are Dan Harkins and Susan
14 Raila. HDR's responsible for the
15 environmental review. We also have
16 people here from E&E and they're
17 helping us organize this meeting
18 tonight.

19 As you know, the Department of
20 Sanitation is preparing a new
21 comprehensive solid waste management
22 plan for the City to replace the plan
23 that will expire at the end of October
24 of this year. The new solid waste
25 management plan, or as we refer to it

1 PUBLIC SPEAKERS:

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3 Adeline Michaels 18
4 Carol Hart 22
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7 Domenic M. Recchia 41

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1
2 as the new SWMP, will plan for the
3 management of all of the solid waste
4 generated in the City over the next 20
5 years.

6 We expect to issue a draft of
7 the new SWMP in September. It will
8 need to be approved by the City Council
9 and by the State. The new SWMP will be
10 supported by the environmental impact
11 statement.

12 The new SWMP will rely on
13 current programs to recycle, compost
14 and prevent or reduce waste. A key
15 component of the new SWMP is the long
16 term export of solid waste managed by
17 the Department of Sanitation through
18 state-of-the-art marine transfer
19 station facilities that are proposed to
20 be built at the City's eight existing
21 marine transfer sites in Brooklyn,
22 Manhattan, Queens and the Bronx.

23 These facilities will
24 containerize waste and transport it by
25 barge for disposal. The Southwest

1
2 Brooklyn converted MTS, would
3 containerize the waste from the same
4 Brooklyn community districts as in the
5 past; these are Brooklyn CD's 11, 12,
6 13 and 15.

7 Staten Island waste will be
8 exported from the facility that is now
9 under construction in Staten Island.
10 This program to build new marine
11 transfer stations is called the MTS
12 conversion program.

13 We are here tonight to hear
14 your comments on the proposed Southwest
15 Brooklyn converted marine transfer
16 station and the proposed actions
17 including the MTS conversion program
18 and alternatives that were outlined in
19 the draft scoping document we issued on
20 May 17th.

21 The draft scoping document was
22 mailed to all elected officials and
23 community boards and to our regulatory
24 -- and to our regulators and was placed
25 on the Department's website and public

1
2 repositories in your community and nine
3 other communities that are proposed
4 sites for the new marine transfer
5 stations or for alternatives.

6 My comments tonight will be
7 brief; I will make a short power point
8 presentation before the public portion
9 of the meeting begins. Copies of my
10 presentation will be available at the
11 end of the meeting.

12 The real focus of this public
13 meeting will be your comments on issues
14 and potential impacts that will be
15 available in the environmental review
16 for the marine transfer station or
17 alternatives.

18 If you plan to make a statement
19 for the record, please make sure that
20 you take a moment to complete a speaker
21 sign up sheet; you will be assigned a
22 number and I'll call your name when
23 it's your turn to speak.

24 Because we're interested in
25 making a complete record of your

1
2 comments, please state your name
3 clearly and spell it for the
4 stenographer.

5 Now typically, I would say that
6 because we want everyone to be heard,
7 we're going to limit comments or
8 statements to three minutes, but since
9 it's not a large crowd, we will allow
10 people to go somewhat over the three
11 minutes so don't abuse the privilege.

12 So, thank for you coming
13 tonight and I'll begin with a short
14 presentation. Can everybody see the
15 power point?

16 (Showing slides) the use of
17 this plan's initiatives include several
18 components, the long term export of
19 waste is one of them. New recycling
20 facilities and commercial waste will
21 also be addressed in that plan. In
22 order to receive your comments on the
23 scoping document, there are several
24 ways you can do that. We can receive
25 verbal comments tonight, you can fill

1
2 out a comment sheet and if you submit a
3 written statement or you can mail
4 comments to me at the address above and
5 you'll have that in the handout, you
6 don't have to take notes right now if
7 you don't want to or you can send it to
8 our consultant, Ecology and Environment
9 Incorporated.

10 The proposed action of the
11 marine transfer station conversion
12 program, and there are several
13 alternatives that are also being
14 evaluated in this EIS, those are: Rail
15 or barge export of waste from private
16 transfer stations in three boroughs at
17 specific areas, one in the Bronx, one
18 in Brooklyn and one in Queens.

19 Rehabilitate existing marine
20 transfer stations to barge waste to an
21 out-of-city and loading/unloading
22 facility and deliver waste through
23 collection vehicles or barges to an
24 out-of-city waste disposal facility.

25 This is just a map showing the

1
 2 location of all of the existing marine
 3 transfer stations including, there's a,
 4 let me see where it is, on the right
 5 there's an existing barge staging area
 6 that helps service the existing marine
 7 transfer stations and the map also
 8 shows the location of alternate
 9 locations being considered that are
 10 privately operated.

11 There are three marine transfer
 12 stations in Manhattan, three in
 13 Brooklyn, one in Queens, one in the
 14 Bronx, and as I mentioned, we're
 15 looking also in conjunction with those
 16 marine transfer stations,
 17 containerizing; we'll be looking to
 18 rehabilitate the 52nd Street Barge
 19 staging area in Brooklyn.

20 The objectives of the program
 21 are to export waste by barge and/or
 22 rail, reduce the in-city transfer
 23 trailer traffic, utilize more economic
 24 disposal capacity and provide more
 25 transport and disposal options.

1
 2 This is just a map showing the
 3 various Brooklyn wastesheds; if you
 4 look towards the bottom, you see in
 5 that yellowish, gold color, the
 6 Southwest Brooklyn wasteshed which is
 7 the same as used to be before, the MTS
 8 was -- ceased operations.

9 Some key features of the
 10 converted MTSs, there's going to be
 11 advanced odor control system, there's
 12 going to be more on-site space for
 13 truck queuing and I'll go through these
 14 in a little more detail, and it will
 15 have containerization of the waste as
 16 opposed to the previous method of just
 17 dumping raw waste into open barges.

18 This is a cross-section of a
 19 typical marine transfer station after
 20 it's converted. If you look on the
 21 right, you can see trucks will arrive
 22 at this level, the tipping floor level
 23 by coming up the facility on the ramp.
 24 The trucks will then back up and tip
 25 waste onto the next level which is the

1
 2 loading floor. Waste will then be
 3 pushed using front-end loaders into
 4 openings of the floor; they're going to
 5 be four such openings. And right under
 6 those openings will be containers that
 7 are sitting there, and waste will be
 8 loaded directly into those containers.

9 Once the waste is loaded, the
 10 lidding operation will take place. The
 11 container will be moved across to the
 12 next area, still inside the building
 13 and a lid will be placed on each of
 14 those containers.

15 Once the lid is placed and the
 16 container is sealed, the containers
 17 will travel out of the building through
 18 some roll-up doors and they will be
 19 lifted using a Gantry crane and placed
 20 onto a barge that sits right at the
 21 bulkhead.

22 Just to summarize, all waste
 23 processing will be within the closed
 24 building. The unloading of the
 25 vehicles, the loading of container and

1
 2 the lidding of containers, all
 3 enclosed.

4 On the odor control system,
 5 they'll be a ventilation system that
 6 will prevent air from escaping the
 7 building when the doors are open.
 8 They'll be also rapid roll-up doors
 9 which will remain open less, for less
 10 time.

11 They'll be an interior water
 12 misting system inside the building to
 13 reduce the dust and the exhaust air,
 14 and the odor control system will be a
 15 state-of-the-art system which is a
 16 neutralizing system, not adding a
 17 masking agent to the exhaust air. And
 18 outside of the building, once you go to
 19 the nearest sensitive detectors --
 20 sensitive receptors, they'll be no odor
 21 detected.

22 This map shows the location of
 23 the facility with respect to the
 24 nearest sensitive receptors, it also
 25 shows in red the New York DOT

1
 2 designated truck routes.
 3 The facility will be designed
 4 in such a way that there will be no
 5 queuing on the street. The access
 6 ramps themselves are going to be longer
 7 and the ramps will be designed to
 8 support actual queuing of trucks; the
 9 previous marine transfer stations, the
 10 ramps were not designed so that the
 11 trucks could queue on them which meant
 12 there were more likely occasions where
 13 trucks would be backed up.
 14 There are 35 collection
 15 vehicles that can queue on the site at
 16 this location. The tipping bay itself,
 17 once the trucks go in the building,
 18 accommodates six trucks tipping within
 19 the building to move, move the process
 20 along quickly.
 21 This is an overhead view of
 22 where the existing marine transfer
 23 station was on the left. And you see
 24 where the proposed new marine transfer
 25 station is and it's actually on the

1
 2 these cranes and mechanism that
 3 actually grabs the containers and lifts
 4 them from the ground here onto the
 5 barges.
 6 The DEIS for this particular
 7 site here will evaluate the following
 8 alternatives: The alternative will be
 9 to rehabilitate the existing MTS to
 10 barge/raised to an out-of-city
 11 unloading facility.
 12 This is a rough or estimated
 13 time line for the public review public
 14 participation process. The scoping
 15 meeting that we're having here today is
 16 the second of ten meetings; we started
 17 yesterday and we're going to be
 18 finished with all ten on July 1st.
 19 The comments on the draft
 20 scoping document are due by July 9th if
 21 you're going to mail them or if you
 22 want to fax them to my office by July
 23 11th.
 24 We're going to plan to issue
 25 the final scoping document on July

1
 2 site where the existing incinerator is
 3 now being demolished. And just to give
 4 you a quick update on what's happening
 5 with that, the first phase of the work
 6 was completed and that was the
 7 decontamination of any harmful
 8 substances inside the incinerator;
 9 those have all been removed and taken
 10 off site.
 11 The demolition itself has
 12 begun; the part of the building facing
 13 the water that you can't really see, is
 14 starting to come down and we think that
 15 some time in July the last portion,
 16 which is the stacks, will come down
 17 also.
 18 The containerization process
 19 itself will use specially-designed
 20 intermodal containers, they are
 21 leak-proof, they are lidded inside the
 22 building and loaded onto the flat bed
 23 barges, and as I mentioned, no exposed
 24 waste will be outside of the building.
 25 This is a photograph of one of

1
 2 14th. The draft EIS is anticipated to
 3 be out on August 6th and then the DEC
 4 will hold what it calls its Part 360
 5 solid waste permit hearings and they'll
 6 be combined with the draft EIS hearings
 7 and that's anticipated to occur between
 8 September 16th and September 28th.
 9 We anticipate that the City
 10 Council will hold hearings on the draft
 11 solid waste management plan some time
 12 in September. Comments on the draft
 13 EIS are going to be received between
 14 August 6th and October 8th and October
 15 8th being the close date of those
 16 comment periods, those comment periods.
 17 The publication of the final
 18 EIS is anticipated to be December 9th.
 19 And just to mention, we also have a hot
 20 line we've established, it's a
 21 toll-free number and hopefully it's
 22 easy to remember, it's 888-NYC-SWMP.
 23 We also have the documents
 24 pertaining to each of the proposed
 25 projects and the alternatives for

1
2 review at various public repositories
3 and there are at least two for each of
4 the areas.

5 With that, I'm going to turn it
6 to you to provide us with any comments
7 you have, and since we're having
8 problems with one of the mics, with the
9 other microphone, I'll pass this
10 microphone to the speaker.

11 So, the first speaker that
12 signed up is Adeline Michaels.

13 **MS. ADELINE MICHAELS:**

14 (Applause) my name is Adeline Michaels,
15 I'm chair of the Concerned Citizens of
16 Bensonhurst and a strong advocate
17 against the retrofitting of the marine
18 transfer station.

19 The present waste haulers under
20 the guidance of Commission Doherty,
21 removes our waste out of town via rail
22 barge and truck, presently called the
23 interim plan. While we wait for the
24 City Council and the advisors to study
25 the best way for the City to move its

1
2 garbage, costing the taxpayers 300
3 million year, with the intention to
4 increase the amount considerably by
5 upgrading our marine transfer stations
6 at a cost of 50 million each for eight
7 or maybe more stations.

8 Waste haulers are very pleased
9 with the delays, their money is in the
10 bag while Mayor Bloomberg awards the
11 Beck Company funding to conduct another
12 waste study. Waste haulers do not have
13 to sign contracts, the delays and
14 studies alone are the contracts.

15 There are activists against
16 gasification and will fight to the
17 death to keep it out of the City. They
18 want composting which also emits gases
19 into the air; our landfills pollutes
20 the water in the air with methane and
21 other toxic fumes in the decomposing
22 and after settling, which occurs some
23 20 years later, in comes the liners and
24 then expensive covering along with the
25 plans of nature walks and beautiful

1
2 landscaping, need I go on?
3 Advanced gasification has
4 investors pouring their money into this
5 Solena Group which I have been an
6 advocate, for which prevents the
7 landfills and the toxic gases to leach
8 into our waters polluting our wildlife,
9 producing needed energy from the
10 mountains of garbage the City produces.

11 Solena Group is the only
12 gasification in the world that is
13 supported and funded by four of the
14 top-ten utilities in the world, DTE
15 Hydro Quebec, INEL and OPG. That is
16 credibility that no other gasification
17 company has.

18 They have two plants in Spain,
19 operational late in 2005, also have a
20 pilot plant under construction in
21 Puerto Rico at the Plasma R&D Center at
22 the Ana G. Mendez University, which is
23 a partner along with Price.

24 This plant is being built at
25 the request of the cruise line industry

1
2 which will be operational in the fall.
3 The Solena Group has been
4 notified by the City of Toronto, Canada
5 that the Solena Group is the only
6 gasification company selected by the
7 City as qualified to respond to an RFP
8 for a demonstration plant to be built
9 in the city of Toronto.

10 Other gasification systems were
11 unqualified; Solena Group were one of
12 four out of 200 technologies selected.
13 What does that tell you, investors are
14 wrong? They had to show evidence of
15 success to have so much money from
16 investors to promote the system.

17 They offered the City a good
18 deal with willingness to build plants,
19 produce megawatts of power at a very
20 low cost benefiting the taxpayer. And
21 just think, no more landfills or
22 polluted air, no rail or barges outside
23 of our City limits, if necessary, to
24 eliminate trucks.

25 From the technology is slag,

1
2 which is made into construction
3 material, bricks or aggregate, etc.
4 You, the taxpayer decide, our City
5 Council along with our Mayor has chosen
6 to force us to pay tipping fees to the
7 greedy haulers who do not need
8 contracts only continuance of
9 unnecessary studies.

10 Please do not forget the most
11 hazardous waste from medical to
12 industrial, even radioactive is
13 destroyed with this phenomenal
14 technology so desperately needed in
15 this polluted environment. Thank you
16 for your time (applause.)

17 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you.
18 Our next speaker is Carol Hart.

19 MS. CAROL HART: Good evening,
20 my name is Carol Hart, I'm a member of
21 the Brooklyn Solid Waste Advisory Board
22 and former cochair of the City-Wide
23 Recycling Advisory Board.

24 I am proud to say that I'm a
25 life-long resident of Bensonhurst.

1
2 Tonight I'll be speaking just on my
3 behalf. And I want to welcome you
4 here, those of you who are not
5 fortunate enough to be born or raised
6 in Bensonhurst which is a very, very
7 fine community.

8 The policy of the Brooklyn SWAB
9 and the CRAB has always been to endorse
10 these marine transfer stations as an
11 alternative to truck transported waste.

12 Regarding the Southwest
13 Brooklyn site, I do have a few
14 questions, some of which have already
15 been ably-answered by Mr. Szarpanski.
16 But I'll read them anyway since I don't
17 see a lot of people knocking down the
18 doors to talk tonight.

19 I asked whether the existing
20 smokestacks would be torn down and that
21 was answered. In this neighborhood
22 they are a symbol of that dreaded word
23 incineration.

24 The second question was also
25 answered, where will garbage come from,

1
2 only Brooklyn or from other areas to
3 the City and that was ably-answered.

4 Approximately how many trucks
5 will visit the site everyday and what
6 will the hours of operation be of the
7 facility? Is this number more or less
8 than the number of trucks that visited
9 the site when they used to transport
10 waste to the Freshkills Landfill?

11 If more trucks will visit the
12 site than in the past, has any thought
13 been given to air quality concerns and
14 I see by your chart outside that there
15 is quality of life concerns, noise,
16 odor impact on the neighborhood will be
17 addressed which is, makes me feel
18 really good.

19 Where will the containerized
20 waste ultimately go, Upstate New York
21 or out of state? Are there any
22 provisions that will be made for the
23 host communities to receive some kind
24 of benefits for accepting our trash?
25 Since this site is 23-plus

1
2 acres, is there any plan to expand,
3 expand the facility, and with that
4 expansion, to accept more waste than
5 1300 tons per day currently proposed.
6 That's a worry.

7 And finally, given the size of
8 the site, I believe it will be an ideal
9 place to build a facility that would
10 utilize emerging and proven
11 technologies in waste process. The
12 Southwest Brooklyn site could
13 conceivably be the first in the City to
14 pioneer those technologies and open the
15 door to methods which will not only be
16 environmentally-friendly, but will be
17 cost effective as well.

18 And in the end, I'd like to
19 mention three words, zero waste policy.
20 Today there was a wonderful news
21 conference early this morning which was
22 attended by members of the DOS as well
23 as others that worked very, very hard
24 on this.

25 As far as the solid waste, the

1
 2 comprehensive plan is concerned, solid
 3 waste management plan, zero waste
 4 consideration must be included, must be
 5 included and everyone I'm sure will
 6 receive a copy of this, if they have
 7 not already, of the booklet that
 8 outlines this zero waste policy.

9 Thank you for allowing me this
 10 opportunity to speak and please come
 11 see us again (applause.)

12 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Our next
 13 speaker is Mark Treyger representing
 14 Assemblyman William Colton.

15 **MR. MARK TREYGER:** Thank you,
 16 good evening. Let me just begin by
 17 saying that I am disappointed that this
 18 meeting was scheduled at Shallow
 19 Intermediate School which is a
 20 considerable distance from the
 21 Southwest Brooklyn site, but I do
 22 understand that Cavallaro was
 23 contacted, they didn't return the
 24 message from your office, but there was
 25 also a site located on Avenue P and

1
 2 naturally cause an increase congestion
 3 that will hinder the quality of life of
 4 the adjacent neighborhoods. I
 5 understand that prior, the truck routes
 6 used Shore Parkway; I hope that they
 7 don't land on our residential streets
 8 which will cause a lot of quality of
 9 life problems.

10 Also I have here, my review of
 11 the proposed new comprehensive solid
 12 waste management plan indicates cranes
 13 will be used in conjunction with the
 14 containerization if it's going to be
 15 built and the transporting of solid
 16 waste by either barge or rail, rather
 17 than trucking, which is diesel fuel,
 18 that, in my view, is a positive step.

19 It is also my understanding
 20 that the garbage capacity for transfer
 21 station, for many transfer stations is
 22 at 4,000 tons. However, the Southwest
 23 transfer station's operating at a
 24 thousand tons, will that number remain
 25 the same? Again, with any increased

1
 2 West 10th, West 11th Street which is
 3 considerably closer, closer to the
 4 immediately-affected community.

5 But I do applaud the Department
 6 of Sanitation for fulfilling its
 7 obligations to have a public forum,
 8 unfortunately, not many people caught
 9 the word for this very urgent,
 10 important meeting.

11 And here are the following
 12 questions and concerns that we have
 13 from the assembly office: What will be
 14 the projected number of truck loads
 15 headed to the transfer station in
 16 relation to the number of truck loads
 17 or truck garbage prior to closing the
 18 Freshkills? And I believe Commissioner
 19 Szarpanski addressed that, only
 20 community boards, I believe it was 10,
 21 11, 13, 15 and any additional boards be
 22 added to that list, it's a serious
 23 concern.

24 And another question is, is
 25 that any additional loads will

1
 2 truckloads into the transfer station,
 3 there are serious side effects
 4 aforementioned, such as congestion,
 5 which I mentioned before, possible
 6 dangerous odors and increased levels of
 7 noise. There is also a marina located
 8 by the transfer station, will that be
 9 affected? There was talk about
 10 building a possible seawall to protect
 11 that, that must be addressed.

12 There's also an issue of Nelly
 13 Bly which is a children's amusement
 14 park which is located right by the
 15 incinerator site. There's hundreds and
 16 thousands of kids that go there every
 17 summer and the concern is, is their
 18 safety addressed okay.

19 And there's of course, you know
 20 the issue of Patella (phonetic) Towers
 21 and many residential high-rises up in
 22 the area, will their safety be
 23 addressed? Will this be
 24 environmentally-friendly to the
 25 adjacent community?

1
2 The quality of life is at stake
3 for all of the above-mentioned issues
4 and all these issues deserve serious
5 attention before you move forward.
6 Thank you (applause.)

7 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you very
8 much for your comments.

9 Our next speaker is Nancy
10 Walby.

11 MS. NANCY WALBY: Good evening,
12 my name is Nancy Walby, co-chair of the
13 Brooklyn Solid Waste Advisory Board,
14 but my comments tonight will be my own,
15 however, the Brooklyn SWAB will submit
16 more detailed comments in writing after
17 we have more thoroughly reviewed the
18 draft scoping document for the SWMP
19 EIS.

20 Most of the issues that affect
21 Brooklyn's communities and which make
22 it vitally important that the draft EIS
23 be thoughtfully crafted, can be put
24 into one of three of the following
25 categories: One, negative impacts due

1
2 to truck traffic, such as excessive
3 truck traffic due to the City's export
4 contracts with waste haulers; damage to
5 roadbeds and infrastructure due to
6 excessive truck traffic and notable
7 emissions, dust, odors and noise from
8 trucks traveling through the streets
9 and sitting in queues at transfer
10 stations, which I noticed you addressed
11 at -- in your presentation.

12 Secondly, negative -- there are
13 impacts, negative impacts from improper
14 or poor siting in operation of transfer
15 stations as evidenced by the over
16 concentration of transfer stations in a
17 few neighborhoods, notably Greenpoint,
18 Williamsburg, Red Hook, Sunset Park and
19 East New York. And also odors, noise,
20 dust and other emissions emanating from
21 transfer stations in violation of
22 existing regulations.

23 And thirdly, negative impacts
24 due to inadequate or lack of
25 enforcement regulations such as the

1
2 operating and traffic regulations by
3 the New York City Department of
4 Sanitation, the New York City
5 Department of Transportation and the
6 Trade Waste Commission; also the truck
7 route regulations by DOT and the New
8 York City Police Department.

9 It is, to go on, it is the
10 Brooklyn SWAB's belief that the main
11 purpose of these hearings is to gather
12 information that will help the
13 Department of Sanitation write a new,
14 complete, comprehensive and flexible
15 solid waste management plan the City
16 can work with for, I think the next 20
17 years at least.

18 Keeping this in mind, I have
19 some questions about the information in
20 only the very small section of the
21 draft scoping document that deals with
22 traffic and transportation.

23 Some parts of that section
24 concerned me greatly and I summarized
25 those parts very briefly. One section

1
2 said the detailed traffic analysis may
3 not be done if the proposed action and
4 specific to this Southwest Brooklyn
5 MTS, is projected to generate 50 or
6 fewer peak hour of vehicular trip ends,
7 and I'm -- I really don't know what a
8 trip end is, I'm assuming it's a truck
9 trip or you know.

10 Also in that section, there is
11 a table, table 2.2-4, and on that table
12 it says only 19 collection vehicle trip
13 ends are projected for the Southwest
14 Brooklyn converted MTS during the
15 projected peak hour which is assumed to
16 be between 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

17 Also, in that section and part
18 of this is a quote, "No weekend
19 analysis, and I assume that means
20 traffic analysis, will be conducted
21 because one, the facilities would not
22 operate on Sundays and that makes sense
23 but two, the Saturday background
24 traffic and converted MTS traffic are
25 lower than on the weekday traffic."

1
 2 That might be true for some areas, I
 3 don't agree that that is true for the
 4 Southwest Brooklyn MTS.
 5 And based on those comments
 6 I've just, or summaries, I have some
 7 questions: One, does this mean then
 8 that no traffic analysis will be done
 9 for the Southwest Brooklyn converted
 10 MTS? And two, how will the projected
 11 collection vehicle trip ends be
 12 determined and how accurate does the
 13 Department of Sanitation believe these
 14 projections to be?
 15 Thirdly, I think it would be a
 16 mistake not to do a traffic analysis
 17 for the Southwest Brooklyn MTS because
 18 any increase in truck traffic in this
 19 area will have an impact.
 20 At the present time, and for
 21 the foreseeable future, every vehicle
 22 that travels to the Southwest Brooklyn
 23 MTS has to negotiate the intersection
 24 of Bay Parkway and Shore Road which is
 25 a very short distance from the MTS.

1
 2 The traffic congestion at this
 3 intersection is already a nightmare it
 4 seems, most hours of the day for -- and
 5 this is my own opinion, for several
 6 reasons, one, it is the only entrance
 7 to a shopping center called Caesar's
 8 Bay and two, the size of that
 9 intersection is restricted by the
 10 presence of an overpass for the Belt
 11 Parkway. I'm not sure if there's any
 12 way to increase that intersection
 13 without reconfiguring the overpass.
 14 Also, I believe it would be a
 15 mistake not to do weekend analysis,
 16 specifically on Saturday, because the
 17 Saturday background traffic is very
 18 lightly not lower than the weekday
 19 traffic.
 20 There is a lot of traffic on
 21 Saturdays because shoppers are visiting
 22 Caesar's Bay Bazaar, the Home Depot,
 23 and the many other commercial
 24 establishments along Shore Road and
 25 also, there is a park adjacent to

1
 2 Caesar's Bay which is visited by, I
 3 don't have a count, but I know many
 4 people driving into the area on the
 5 weekends, I'm not sure there's a lot of
 6 bus service, or even if there is bus
 7 service.
 8 I do not have specific
 9 knowledge of the route the Sanitation
 10 pack of trucks may be taking to the
 11 converted MTS, I didn't see that in the
 12 scoping document. But I assume that
 13 they're gong to use that intersection.
 14 However, I would suggest avoiding that
 15 intersection of Bay Parkway and Shore
 16 Road if at all possible. I noticed
 17 there are intersections and I don't
 18 know if the property is large enough to
 19 maybe use one of the other roads in
 20 that area, I really don't.
 21 As I stated before, the
 22 Brooklyn Solid Waste Advisory Board
 23 will be submitting more detailed
 24 comments in writing in the near future.
 25 This concludes my comments. Thank you

1
 2 very much (applause.)
 3 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you. I
 4 see we have one more speaker, Domenic
 5 Recchia. Thank you. Councilman...
 6 **MR. DOMENIC M. RECCHIA:** First,
 7 I want to thank you for having this.
 8 Perhaps you should, I agree with my
 9 counterpart, something he said, this is
 10 definitely not the proper venue to have
 11 this hearing. There's Cavallaro, a
 12 middle school which is literally five
 13 minutes from where this site is. And I
 14 think the community that this really
 15 affects cannot come here tonight, where
 16 if we had it at Cavallaro, it's in
 17 walking distance, number one, and
 18 number two, I think the next time we
 19 have something like this, you have to
 20 give a better outreach to the
 21 community. So this is just the future,
 22 but let's talk about a few issues here.
 23 Number one, I'm still taking
 24 input from the Department of
 25 Sanitation, from the community, my

1
 2 office; I have someone on, an
 3 environmental person working on this
 4 whole issue, but the most important
 5 thing here that we always have to
 6 remember is that the City Council has
 7 its representative from the Department
 8 of Sanitation, Carmen, right here
 9 (indicating) who's advising me and at
 10 the hearings and working with my
 11 counterpart, Mike McMahon who is
 12 chairman.

13 We have no opinion about this.
 14 Our opinion right now is let's hear
 15 what you have to say, let's hear what
 16 the community has to say and see how we
 17 could do what's best for the people of
 18 our wonderful City.

19 But the previous speakers spoke
 20 about the intersection of Bay Parkway.
 21 It's a nightmare, we all know this is a
 22 nightmare to have trucks coming down;
 23 will they be coming down certain hours?
 24 What times? Because if they're coming
 25 down at 2:00 on Saturday afternoon,

1
 2 start some time next year, hopefully
 3 this time next year we can start the
 4 construction on that project.

5 But again, it's a timing of
 6 these trucks, what time, 'cause if we
 7 can have them come certain hours,
 8 they'll definitely alleviate some of
 9 the traffic in the community. But then
 10 again, there should be a study done not
 11 only on the -- on Saturdays, during the
 12 week, but also different times of the
 13 year.

14 The spring, the summer, it's
 15 very busy there. You have Nelly Bly
 16 and it's the entourage, the entrance
 17 way to the greatest amusement place in
 18 New York City, Coney Island. And if
 19 you have trucks coming, the Cyclones
 20 have a home game, people going to Home
 21 Depot, deliveries going to Home Depot,
 22 the people from Patella Towers are
 23 going to be devastated. And this is
 24 something we all have to look at as a
 25 traffic trend; do you intend to do a

1
 2 it's going to be devastating to the
 3 community.

4 Just to set the record clear:
 5 Just yesterday in City Council, I
 6 passed, a bill was passed to redo the
 7 intersection of Bay Parkway/Belt
 8 Parkway intersection. Assemblymen
 9 Colton, Peter Abbate and Assembly
 10 Member Adele Cohen, are up in Albany,
 11 they are, I believe Assemblyman Bill
 12 Colton's leading this with the funding
 13 for this project. And they're all
 14 putting in funding, I was told to redo
 15 the whole intersection. I think that's
 16 something that you should definitely
 17 take a look at.

18 I met with DOT before the
 19 hearing yesterday, they had to just
 20 clear up some issues about parklands,
 21 some parklands are going to be taken
 22 away, and I think that's very important
 23 to this project.

24 So yes, the intersection there
 25 will be re-done, the project is to

1
 2 traffic study?

3 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Yes.

4 **MR. DOMENIC M. RECCHIA:**

5 Because I think that's a very, very big
 6 issue here and we have to really look
 7 at, not only the times of traffic
 8 studies, but the different times of the
 9 year because the summer and the spring
 10 is very, very busy.

11 In addition, the environmental
 12 issues are very important to me.
 13 Number one, I'm worried about the
 14 habitat around that; in the water there
 15 are certain fish there, how is that
 16 going to affect it? Are they going to
 17 be disrupted all around the water? But
 18 right next to this area, right next to
 19 the marina, at one time there were
 20 supposed to be condominiums build.
 21 That land, several developers have
 22 spoken to me, some day the developers
 23 are planning to build that up, whether
 24 it be condos, houses, whatever it's
 25 going to built, and I think we also

1
2 have to take into consideration that
3 there's going to be a development there
4 some day. And if you don't know what
5 I'm talking about, I'll be more than
6 glad to show you on a map, the area
7 that I'm talking, it's right next to
8 Housman Park (phonetic). But, and
9 then there's the marina of course.
10 Now, if we have these big
11 barges coming in, what effect is that
12 going to have on the environment and
13 the waterways? And I would like to
14 speak to you on that and get and meet
15 with you about this; I'd like to speak
16 to my environmental people about the
17 different habitats that are in the
18 waterway right now and how it's going
19 to affect, especially Coney Island
20 Creek. So these are the things that we
21 have to look into. I mean, let me just
22 look over my list here.
23 That's about it, and I'll be,
24 my office is open to everyone who's
25 here today, to work with you to hear

1
2 what you have to say, but these are
3 issues that must be addressed.
4 I wanted to make my position
5 very clear: I have no position on
6 this, I have an open-door, open mind
7 and I'm here to work with everyone
8 here. Thank you very much (applause.)
9 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you very
10 much councilman. Is there anyone else
11 here who would like to make a
12 statement?
13 **THE AUDIENCE:** I have one
14 question.
15
16 (Continued on following page.)
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1
2 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Hold on a
3 second. The formal process here is
4 that we're here to hear your concerns;
5 if, after the meeting, after we adjourn
6 the formal part of the meeting, if you
7 want to speak to us about any specific
8 issues, I'll be glad to hang around.
9 So is there anyone else here
10 who wants to make any formal statements
11 for the record? If not, thank you very
12 much. And the meeting's closed.
13
14 (Time noted 6:53 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
8 within and for the State of New York,
9 do hereby certify that the within is a
10 true and accurate transcript of the
11 proceedings taken on June 17th, 2004
12 I further certify that I am not related to
13 any of the parties to this action by
14 blood or marriage and that I am in no
15 way interested in the outcome of this
16 matter.
17 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my
18 hand this 21st day of June, 2004.
19
20 _____
21 Marc Russo
22
23
24
25

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