

September 18, 2007

Smithtown Councilman Wehrheim
Smithtown Town Council
99 West Main Street
Smithtown, NY 11787

Dear Councilman Wehrheim,

The Kings Park Civic Association has received a number of calls criticizing the condition of the Kings Park downtown shopping area. Main Street is one of the most important areas of our community as it defines our hamlet's historical and cultural past. Maintaining and improving its vibrancy, cleanliness and charm is extremely important to the morale and pride of our residents. Unfortunately, there have been a number of complaints about trash on the roadway and sidewalks, unkempt storefronts, overflowing dumpsters and unsafe walking and parking conditions.

On a recent Sunday afternoon, Kings Park Civic Association President Mike Rosato and I walked the area with a concerned citizen and we witnessed the following:

- Overflowing dumpsters behind stores on both Main Street and the Key Food shopping center
- Trash in front of storefronts along Main Street and Pulaski Road
- Residents walking between cars to cross Main Street because there are no marked crosswalks and proper "Yield To Pedestrian" signage
- Lack of available parking

Councilman, I'm sure you are already aware of the inadequate and dangerous parking conditions that currently exist on Main Street. On any given weeknight, parents are stopping their cars in the flow of traffic to drop off their children at karate or dance school due to the absence of sufficient parking spaces. It is just a matter of time before something tragic happens unless we address the problem. The Kings Park Civic Association also believes the Town Board needs to do more to help encourage and support investment and redevelopment of our downtown business area.

We are recommending the Town Board consider the following to help improve the appearance, safety and economic vitality of this area:

- Proper code enforcement with regards to overflowing dumpsters
- Proper code enforcement with regards to unkempt storefronts
- Periodic checks for code violations with regard to buildings, signage and residential apartments along Main Street
- Proper fines levied against those who dump garbage along our roadways and in vacant lots
- No dumping signs where needed (railroad tracks & back of buildings)
- Creation of new crosswalks with "Yield To Pedestrian" signs
- Purchase the empty lot on the north side of Main Street between dance studio and laundromat for the construction of additional parking spaces
- Implement an "Adopt A Road" program along Main Street and Pulaski Road to help keep the roads litter free
- Support Kings Park Downtown Revitalization Program to help improve aesthetics and to attract investment and redevelopment of the area

We are hopeful that you will expedite solutions to these problems by working with our various town departments and our local Chamber of Commerce and civic organizations. Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,

Sean Lehmann
1st V.P. Kings Park Civic Association