

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING: FEBRUARY 9, 2006 IN QUEENS CONCERNING JAMAICA BAY WATERSHED PROTECTION PLAN

Commissioner Emily Lloyd and the Jamaica Bay Watershed Protection Plan Advisory Committee announced that two public meetings will be convened to discuss the progress of the Jamaica Bay Watershed Protection Plan. In July 2005, Mayor Bloomberg signed Local Law 71 into effect. Its purpose is to create a plan to restore and maintain the water quality and ecological integrity of Jamaica Bay. The law also established the Advisory Committee to advise DEP and provide recommendations concerning the plan.

The first of two public meetings was held on January 11, 2006 at Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn. The Advisory Committee and DEP will jointly hold a second public outreach meeting – in Queens – to describe the implementation of Local Law 71, including the process of developing the watershed protection plan for Jamaica Bay, and to receive public input. The February meeting will start with an open house with visual project information, followed by brief presentations by the Advisory Committee and DEP. The meeting will be devoted to providing members of the public and other interested persons with the opportunity to make comments and recommendations to the Advisory Committee and DEP related to current Bay conditions and potential protection strategies.

The next scheduled meeting will be held in Queens as follows:

DATE/TIME: Thursday, February 9, 2006; 6 - 8:30 pm

LOCATION: Performing Arts Center, York College, 94-20 Guy R. Brewer Boulevard, Jamaica, New York

DIRECTIONS: (**Subway:** take E, J or Z to Jamaica Center—Parsons/Archer; **Train:** LIRR to Jamaica Station & Archer Ave; **Bus:** Q4, Q5, Q6, Q8, Q9, Q17, Q24/34, Q30, Q31, Q41, Q42, Q43, Q44, Q54, Q56, Q65, Q83, Q84, Q85, Q111, Q112, or Q113; **Car:** take the Van Wyck Exwy/I-678, Exit 4 toward Liberty Ave., turn left onto Liberty Ave., turn left onto Guy R. Brewer Blvd., and the parking lot entrance will be on your right.)

CONTACT INFORMATION:

For additional information concerning the public meetings and the development of the Jamaica Bay Watershed Protection Plan, please use the following contact information.

For DEP: John McLaughlin, Ecological Services, NYC DEP: e-mail: Johnm@dep.nyc.gov. 59-17 Junction Blvd., Flushing, NY 11373. Please also check the DEP website at www.nyc.gov/DEP or contact DEP's Community Outreach Office at (718) 595-3504.

For the Advisory Committee: Brad Sewell, Advisory Committee Co-chair, c/o Megan Lew, Natural Resources Defense Council: e-mail: mlew@nrdc.org. Natural Resources Defense Council, 40 West 20th Street, New York, NY 10011.

Information regarding the project and public meetings is also listed on the DEP (<http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/news/cac-jb.html>) and the Jamaica Bay Research and Management Information Network (<http://nbii-nin.ciesin.columbia.edu/jamaicabay/>) websites.