

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING CONCERNING THE JAMAICA BAY WATERSHED PROTECTION PLAN

Commissioner Emily Lloyd announced that a fourth public meeting will be convened to discuss the progress of the Jamaica Bay Watershed Protection Plan (JBWPP). 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 the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP) and provide recommendations concerning the JBWPP. In January and February 2006, the NYCDEP and Advisory Committee held two public meetings to provide information to the watershed community about Local Law 71 and the current issues facing Jamaica Bay, and to obtain public scoping comments. A project update was given in June 2006 where NYCDEP provided additional information regarding goal development and potential management strategies of the JBWPP.

The NYCDEP, along with members of the Advisory Committee, will hold a watershed-wide public outreach meeting October 4, 2006. This meeting will provide information on the development of the JBWPP. The meeting will include visual project information and a presentation by the NYCDEP. The meeting will include time to provide members of the public with the opportunity to make comments and recommendations to the NYCDEP related to potential watershed protection, and plan implementation strategies.

The public meeting will be held as follows:

DATE/TIME: Wednesday, October 4, 2006; 6:30 – 9 pm

LOCATION: Floyd Bennett Field, Ryan Visitors Center, Flatbush Avenue South, Brooklyn, New York

DIRECTIONS: Train/Bus: take the 2/5 train to Flatbush Avenue then connect to Q35 MTA bus in front of Lord's Bakery. Ask the driver to let you off in front of the Ryan Center because it is no longer an official stop, or you can get off at the last stop before the toll and walk back towards the center; **Car:** take the Belt Parkway to exit 11 south. Continue on Flatbush Avenue until the last traffic light before the Marine Parkway Gil Hodges Bridge, left onto Floyd Bennett Blvd, the main entrance to the park. Make the first left (Aviation Road), the Visitors Center will be on your left.

If you are unable to attend the scheduled meeting and would like to provide input, please use the contact information below to do so by October 18, 2006.

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, NYCDEP: e-mail: jmclaughlin@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) 595-4458.

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 or call (212) 727-4419.

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/jbwppac/advisorycommittee.html>) websites.