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The City of New York
Borough of Queens
Community Board 8

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District Manager, Marie Adam-Ovide

June 27, 2008

Emily Lloyd, Commissioner
Department of Environmental Protection
59-17 Junction Blvd.
Corona, NY 11373

Re: **Flooding Issues in Community District 8, Queens**

Dear Commissioner Lloyd:

I am writing again regarding the ongoing problem with flooding in the Fresh Meadows area and in Community District 8, as my previous May 2008 letter has not been answered. As you may be aware, on Saturday, June 14, 2008, the area bordered by Utopia Parkway to 181st Street and 67th Avenue to 64th Avenue were flooded. The intersection of Union Turnpike and Francis Lewis Boulevard was flooded, and traffic was at a standstill. The Hillcrest Jewish Center was flooded along with many other areas (see attached list).

This is the third time within a year that the residents of Community Board 8 had to deal with flooding, raw sewage back up, property damage and loss with no real resolution in sight. The problem with flooding in our area is not new. Our records date back to more than two decades. The work performed under contracts SE-743 and SEQ-002276, to address flooding on Utopia Parkway, did not produce the desired results. At a meeting held at the Queens Borough President's office on March 15, 2000 to address Utopia Parkway flooding, my predecessor, Diane Cohen, noted that there would be no sewer installed on Utopia Parkway. The Department of Environmental Protection needs to revisit this issue and make it a top priority. In addition, other areas in Community District 8 need sewers: Hillside Avenue, Kew Gardens Hills, Holliswood.

I understand that "further study is needed before making a funding decision" for our requests for catch basins and sewers thorough the district. When will these studies take place? How long will hardworking residents/taxpayers have to come home to a lake in their basements or have their cars float onto their lawns? These homeowners will be paying a 14% water and sewer charge tax hike; however, their sewers are inadequate with no timeframe for rehabilitation.

Community Board 8 Queens (Reported) Flooded Areas Due to 6-14-08 Storm

Date Reported	Address	Complainant's Name	Issue	Comments
June 16, 2008	69-14 Utopia Parkway	Shirline Higgins	Flooding from storm.	She had the same problem last year.
June 16, 2008	67-01 180 Street	Maryann Mayda	Flooding from Storm	67 Avenue from Utopia Parkway to 181 Street also flooded
June 16, 2008	Parsons Educational Complex	Marc A. Haken	Flooded. The Beacon has lost items such as T-shirts and items used in the store. Lost Internet and printer connections. 3 offices smell like mildew and are extremely hot and humid.	Experienced a series of blackouts, lost computers, air and phone service.
June 17, 2008	75-12 199 Street	Mrs. Seid	2" of water in the basement	This is the second time in 10 months or so. Reported to 311 on 6-14-08 @ 8:40 pm. Ref. # 1914448
June 17, 2008	75-11 197 Street	LapWan Yan	Basement flooded	
June 17, 2008	All of Meadowlark Gardens	Tammy Osheroov	Flooded due to storm	
June 17, 2008	195-45 Keno Ave	Beata Lu	Flooded basement due to storm	
June 17, 2008	171-11 69 Avenue	Ms. Vilinsky	Flooded basement due to storm	This is the second time within 10 months.

