

ASSOCIATION OF OLD FOREST HILLS
 AUBURNDALE IMPROVEMENT ASSOC.
 BAYSIDE CLEAR SPRING COUNCIL
 BAYSIDE HILLS CIVIC ASSOC.
 BAYSWATER CIVIC ASSOCIATION
 BAYSIDE CIVIC DATABASE
 BAYSIDE CLEAR SPRING COUNCIL
 BAY TERRACE COMMUNITY ALLIANCE
 BELLAIRE BELL VILL CIVIC ASSOC.
 BELLE HARBOR PROPERTY OWNERS
 BELLEROSE-COMMONWEALTH CIVIC ASSOC.
 BELLEROSE-HILLSIDE CIVIC ASSOC.
 BELL PARK MANOR-TERRACE COMMUNITY ASSOC.
 BOWNE PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION
 BRIARWOOD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
 CAMBRIA HEIGHTS CIVIC ASSOCIATION
 COMET
 CONCERNED CITIZENS OF LAURELTON
 CORNUCOPIA SOCIETY
 CREEDMOOR CIVIC ASSOC.
 DEERFIELD AREA ASSOC.
 DOUG-BAY MANOR ASSOC.
 DOUGLSTON CIVIC ASSOC.
 DOUGLAS MANOR ASSOCIATION
 DUTCH KILLS CIVIC ASSOC.
 EAST FLUSHING CIVIC ASSOC.
 FEDERATED BLOCK ASSOC. OF LAURELTON
 FLORAL PARK COMMUNITY COUNCIL
 FLUSHING HEIGHTS CIVIC ASSOC.
 FLUSHING ON THE HILL
 FOREST HILLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
 FOREST HILLS CRESCENTS ASSOC.
 FOREST HILLS - VAN COURT ASSOC.
 FRESH MEADOWS HOMEOWNERS ASSOC.
 GEORGETOWN MEWS
 GLENDALE CIVIC ASSOCIATION OF QUEENS
 GLEN OAKS VILLAGE OWNERS
 GREATER ASTORIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 GREATER WHITESTONE TAXPAYERS CIVIC ASSOC.
 HARDING HEIGHTS CIVIC ASSOC.
 HILLCREST ESTATES CIVIC ASSOCIATION
 HILLTOP VILLAGE CO-OP #1 #2 #3 #4
 HOLLIS 11423 BLOCK ASSOC.
 HOLLIS HILLS CIVIC ASSOC.
 HOLLISWOOD CIVIC ASSOC.
 HOLLIS PARK GARDENS CIVIC ASSOC.
 HOLLY CIVIC
 HYDE PARK GARDENS OWNERS
 JACKSON HEIGHTS BEAUTIFICATION GROUP
 JAMAICA ESTATES CIVIC ASSOC.
 JAMAICA HILL COMMUNITY ASSOC.
 JUNIPER PARK CIVIC ASSOC.
 KEW GARDENS CIVIC ASSOCIATION
 KEW GARDENS HILLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION
 KEW GARDENS IMPROVEMENT ASSOC.
 KISSENA PARK CIVIC ASSOC.
 LITTLE NECK BAY CIVIC ASSOCIATION
 LITTLE NECK COMMUNITY ASSOC.
 LITTLE NECK PINES ASSOC.
 LONG ISLAND CITY ALLIANCE
 MALBA CIVIC ASSOC.
 MEADOW LARK GARDENS OWNERS
 MIDDLE VILLAGE PROPERTY OWNERS
 MITCHELL-LINDEN CIVIC ASSOC.
 NEPONSET PROPERTY OWNER'S ASSOC.
 NEWTOWN CIVIC ASSOC.
 NORTH BELLEROSE CIVIC ASSOCIATION
 NORTH FLUSHING CIVIC ASSOC.
 NORTH HILLS ESTATES CIVIC ASSOC.
 NORTHWEST CLEARVIEW HOMEOWNERS
 NORWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOC.
 OAKLAND TERRACE/GARDENS COUNCIL
 OFF BROADWAY HOMEOWNERS
 OUR NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT ASSOC.
 OUR NEIGHBORS CIVIC ASSOC. OF OZONE PARK
 PARKWAY VILLAGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 QUEENSBORO HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOC.
 QUEENS COLONY CIVIC ASSOCIATION
 QUEENS COMMUNITY CIVIC CORP.
 QUEENS VILLAGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION
 RAMBLERSVILLE-HAWTREE CIVIC ASSOC.
 RICHMOND HILL HISTORIC SOC.
 RIDGEWOOD PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOC.
 ROCKAWAY PARK HOMEOWNERS/RESIDENTS
 ROCKY HILL CIVIC ASSOC.
 ROSEDALE CIVIC ASSOC.
 ROYAL RANCH ASSOC.
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 SPRINGFIELD ROSEDALE COMMUNITY ACTION ASSOC.
 STATION ROAD CIVIC ASSOC. OF AUBURNDALE
 SUNNYSIDE GARDENS HARRISON PLACE
 SURREY ESTATES HOMEOWNERS ASSOC.
 THE FEDERATION OF CIVIC ASSOC. OF S E QUEENS
 UNION TURNPIKE MERCHANTS ASSOC.
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 UNITED VETERANS MUTUAL HOUSING
 UTOPIA ESTATES CIVIC ASSOC.
 WALDHEIM NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOC.
 WAYANDA CIVIC ASSOCIATION
 WEST CUNNINGHAM PARK CIVIC ASSOC.
 WESTMORELAND ASSOC.
 WOODSIDE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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May 18, 2009

**New York State Assembly
 Legislative Office Building
 Albany, New York 12248**

Dear Assemblymember:

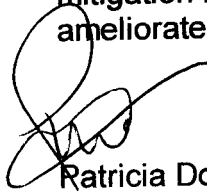
The Queens Civic Congress supports Assemblyman Lancman's A.1255/S.1735, which will provide a tax credit to offset the cost of a sewer check valve. Assemblyman Lancman's legislation will provide badly needed relief to the residents of Queens. As an organization that represents more than one hundred Queens civic groups, we believe that now is the time for the state to act on behalf of our friends and neighbors by enacting Assemblyman Lancman's bill.

In recent years, Queens communities have been regularly subjected to devastating summer floods that fill basements with raw sewage and cause serious property damage. Sewer check devices are one of the few means available for Queens homeowners to protect their property from the scourge of summer flooding. During rainstorms or other instances that might cause drainage issues, these devices help prevent backflows from flooding out from the overwhelmed sewer systems in the properties where they are installed. Since the threat posed by periodic sewage overflows is a danger to public health and safety it is in the public interest to make sewer check valves available those who need them.

Assemblyman Lancman's bill would help bring down the costs of sewer line check valve devices for homeowners and non-profits by providing them with a property tax abatement to help defray the cost of the device. Under Assemblyman Lancman's legislation, homeowners and nonprofit institutions in New York City will receive an abatement of up to fifty percent (up to two thousand dollars) towards the cost of installing a sewer line check valve to control sewage backflow. For homeowners this relief will come in the form a credit against their property tax, while for nonprofit organizations the abatement will be a credit against their sewer and water bill.

Ultimately, it is vital that the necessary upgrades be made to

sewer lines in Queens so that problem of summer flooding is permanently put to an end. In the meantime, it is essential that residents are given all possible relief. Until New York City makes the serious infrastructure improvements necessary to solve this problem, homeowners can prevent raw sewage backflow by installing a sewer line check valve. Assemblyman Lancman's legislation will put this vital mitigation measure within reach of middle class families and help ameliorate the problems caused by seasonal flooding.



Patricia Dolan
Executive Vice President
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