



Congressman  
**Eliot L. Engel**

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**Committees**

**Energy and Commerce  
Committee**

Health Subcommittee  
Telecommunications and  
the Internet Subcommittee

**International Relations  
Committee**

Chair, Western  
Hemisphere Subcommittee

Europe Subcommittee  
Middle East and South  
Asia Subcommittee

Co-Chair, House Oil and  
National Security Caucus



December 2007

Dear Friend:

I am writing to update you on some of my recent actions as your Member of Congress.

**Voting to Override the Veto of the Water Resources Bill**

On November 6th I joined 360 other members of the House of Representatives in voting to override the veto of the Water Resources Development Act.

Flooding at Sunnyside Brook in Irvington is addressed in one of the Act's provisions. Sunnyside Brook flows through residential neighborhoods, a park, the 19th-century estate of Washington Irving and under Metro-North railroad tracks to the Hudson River.

To protect residents and the area around the Brook from the flooding, a new culvert must be installed and a sewage pump station replaced. This legislation provides needed federal funding to make the repairs.

The US Senate joined the House of Representatives in voting to override the veto on November 8th. The Water Resources Development Act with the funds for Sunnyside Brook is now law.

**Working for America's Children**

The Children's Defense Fund recently named me as one of the "Best Representatives for Children" based on my Congressional voting record.

Children's Defense Fund President Marian Wright Edelman said of me, "He voted to make the health and well-being of children his priority. He is a dedicated advocate for children and has truly earned the distinction of being one of the best Representatives for Children."

**100% Environmental Voting Record**

My voting record received a 100% rating from the League of Conservation Voters in their most recent Environmental Scorecard. This included votes on clean water and food safety.

**Stopping "Spoofing," the Use of Fake Caller IDs**

The Truth in Caller ID Act I wrote was recently passed by the House of Representatives. The legislation would stop the use of fraudulent caller IDs by criminals trying to con people out of their personal information.

Criminals are using "spoofing" technology to falsify the name and phone number appearing on Caller ID. For example, a 'spoofed' can pretend to be calling from a bank to persuade people to give their Social Security or credit card numbers and other personal information. This information is then used for identity theft.

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Technology can be misused by the unscrupulous to scam the unsuspecting. It is important that you never provide personal information over the phone.

### **Improving the C.O.P.S. Program**

Legislation that I am co-sponsoring to put 50,000 more police officers on our nation's streets, including an estimated 3,000 new officers for our Congressional District, has passed the House of Representatives.

The Community Oriented Police Services (C.O.P.S.) program has been an unqualified success. Westchester has received millions of dollars in federal grants to combat crime and terrorism and to hire additional law enforcement officers.

The new C.O.P.S. legislation will mean more police for Westchester's communities and will give law enforcement the equipment it needs to fight crime, including bulletproof vests and mobile computers.

### **Opposing New York City's Congestion Pricing Plan**

While it is a fact that something must be done about traffic into Manhattan, New York City's congestion pricing plan as now proposed is not the answer.

Public transportation is inadequate. Trains from Westchester to Manhattan cannot handle the dramatic increase expected in commuting if the pricing plan is implemented.

A first step in alleviating congestion would be to improve mass transit, including increasing the number of trains and other mass transit throughout the day from Westchester. Improving mass transit means more people will use it and not their cars.

As always, if my office can be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact any of my three District Offices or my Congressional Office in Washington, DC.

Sincerely,



Eliot L. Engel,  
Member of Congress

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**E-MAIL UPDATES:** You can receive special e-mail issue updates from Congressman Eliot Engel. Just go to Congressman Engel's website at [www.house.gov/engel](http://www.house.gov/engel) and click on "Sign up for Eliot's E-mail Updates" and complete the form. You can also contact any of his offices to request the e-mail updates.