

First of all, the request that we had to provide a tour for the monitoring committee and elected officials and we would be happy to do that, so we should pick a date for that. And (Asst. Commissioner) Eric (Landau) will arrange with you the time.

The other thing I want to say is that we've had a lot of conversations going back to when I was with the DEP years ago about security and you know this is something we worry about a lot. I know that many of you are skeptical about our security concerns and that they're exaggerated so now that the plant is up and operating, and we know that we're moving towards the time when the Delaware Aqueduct would shut down when we wanted to supply probably 30% of the water to the city from maybe 2020.

We're going to ask the New York Police Department counter-terrorism bureau to take a look at this in light of the security context in today's world, which is very different than it was at 9/11, not necessarily better, but different, to look and to make recommendations to us about where we are in terms of security, should we be doing more security? Many of you say you don't want us here, but right there you're right next to the reservoir. I have to say frankly, that worries me in some cases, so I think we want them to take a real look at it because going back to 2008 we worried about it in principal, but it hasn't really been in operation. So we've asked them and they said they will do that. I don't know the exact timetable, but over the next few months they will be working on that.

Going to your comments about the task force recommendations (to study implementing the JPR access pilot program), as we wind down the Croton-related construction – thank goodness – I think it is time that we can undertake the pilot program that is recommended here (in the 2011 Report and Recommendations of the Jerome Park Reservoir Access Working Group) and we've been talking about it and there's a lot of language in here about safety and all kind of things like that. Some of the roadways inside are fairly broken up. There are some things that are not in ideal condition, but there's also language in here that sort of provides for that. And I think that we would be able to put together, working with you, these sort of open house kind of events. Specifically we thought that it would be very nice to start with tours, walking tours. We thought we could pick a day and do maybe four walking tours for a reasonable-sized group, maybe 25 people in each and have the tour be a guided tour where we talk about the history and try to make it interesting for people as well as letting everyone have a look at what is inside.

The second thing was a pilot program for a two-hour period of time for people to walk, jog the perimeter and we thought that that was something we could do another day. We would actually like to do those maybe the same weekend because if we clean out the construction debris and put it aside and the maintenance equipment and stuff, it's frankly easier for us if we do it once rather than several times. Eric can look into some dates. We thought – Eric interjects: we looked at some dates in the middle of September that don't conflict with the Jewish holidays. We don't have to decide that tonight, but we've been looking at the fall.

And then the third thing that was mentioned was some kind of educational program and actually we've sort of expanded that idea a little bit, just thinking about it, and Eric's office has been putting together a curriculum that we could use with some of the nearby schools with the idea that we could work with the teachers in the classroom with the curriculum in the fall and then perhaps have an on-sight visit in the spring after they've done some studying.

So those are the outlines of what we've been thinking, as I said, now that the construction is winding down. You all know that at some point in the future we have some other projects that we're going to need to do, other Jerome Park operations and maintenance work, but that's not going to start right away so we thought that this would be a good time to do this and all learn from it and see what we can learn from doing it together. Our operations people have a lot of anxiety about it, of course, as we do about all of our water facilities but the only way to start to figure out what works and what doesn't work is to do this as we've proposed. So the idea of getting a group together and making these plans specific is a great idea.