

Talking Points

- Effective immediately, I am instructing officials in the Planning Department to promote the use of oil fuel to all developers who come to us with proposals for residential projects.
- Oil is a viable and longtime fuel for heating residences. Advances in heating technologies have made furnaces and boilers more efficient in their consumption of oil, while minimizing harmful emissions from burning oil.
- It's important to note that oil is a good alternative for developers because Mount Vernon has its own oil port that is just minutes away from any part of the City.
- Effective immediately, I am instructing officials in the Building Department to work with developers on how the City can streamline the permitting process for installing fuel tanks in residential projects.
- As part of a renewed focus on fuel, I am instructing officials in the Planning Department to give developers tours of our port facilities and to introduce the developers to the management of the oil companies that operate there.
- The canals in Mount Vernon's Canal Village connect to the Eastchester Creek and to the Long Island Sound. According to the Army Corps of Engineers, 425,000 tons of cargo is transported through this channel annually.
- The Corps of Engineers has stated that Eastchester Creek supports combined petroleum storage facilities of 39 steel storage tanks with the capacity to store 217,550 barrels of petroleum.
- It's also important to note that our port is resistant to catastrophic storms. In the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, our port was one of the only ones in the region that remained open.
- Although I'm pivoting Mount Vernon to the use of oil in new development, I recognize that natural gas is an efficient and cleaner fuel for home heating. I will continue to advocate for compromise when it comes to siting the essential natural gas pipelines that Mount Vernon and Westchester County need to grow.