

# Sephardic Rabbinical Council

OF THE SYRIAN & NEAR EASTERN JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN AMERICA  
2030 OCEAN PARKWAY BROOKLYN, NY 11223

April 25, 2003

## TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SEPHARDIC COMMUNITY IN BROOKLYN:

Sabbath observance is the foundation of Jewish belief, practice, continuity and redemption. Concerned and capable rabbinic and lay leadership for thousands of years have acted to achieve Erubin in Jewish communities throughout the world to reduce hardship to observant families, the elderly, and the infirm as well as helping to remove Sabbath desecration by the less observant. Our Sephardic Rabbinical Council members are unanimous in their decision to embark upon this holy project for our community.

With great joy and gratitude to Hashem, after almost 6 years of research, planning and implementation, we are pleased to announce that we have completed a new **Mehisot Erub** in our Brooklyn neighborhoods for the members of our Syrian, Egyptian, Lebanese and other Sephardic communities in southern Brooklyn.

The **Mehisot Erub** has been constructed under rabbinic supervision of experts in the field of Erubin. We have consulted with former and current Sephardic chief rabbis in Israel, and have received their blessings and Halachic approval of our efforts. We have taken steps to establish this **Mehisot Erub** with Halachic enhancements including that the vast majority of the perimeter is made up of actual walls, and with gates added. Erubin experts who have studied our **Mehisot Erub** have declared it to be a "**Bet Yosef Mehisot Erub**", in which carrying is permitted even for our strict and G-d fearing members.

We have been granted the Erub domain from the city and communal matzos have been designated as prescribed in the laws of Erubin. We have engaged erubin experts for weekly checking of the erub and contracted for its required maintenance. Each Friday you should check that the erub is up before carrying on Shabbat. An **Erub hotline number 718-375-ERUB (718-375-3782)** has been established for members to call and confirm that the Erub is in force and a **Website ([www.erub.org](http://www.erub.org))** where you can register to receive a weekly erub status email and see more details about the Erub.

It is our fervent prayer that the Al-mighty bless this holy endeavor with success and that it be a source of great blessing to our community and K'lal Yisrael.

With Torah Blessings,



Rabbi Saul J. Kassin  
Chief Rabbi

PS. Please note that carrying is only permitted within the map borders as outlined in the official Erub map. The Erub does not make it permissible to engage in outdoor activities that violate the spirit of Shabbat. See our Erub Guidelines for what items are allowed to carry and which are not. Always check that the Erub is up before carrying.