

**LOCAL WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION STRATEGY
TOWNS CLIFTON AND FINE, NEW YORK
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN**

The public participation plan has been developed to encourage community participation in the local waterfront revitalization strategy in the Towns of Clifton and Fine. The plan identifies the course of action and various outreach mechanisms the Wildlife Conservation Society, in cooperation with the Towns of Clifton and Fine, will employ to involve all stakeholders in the development and preparation of a local waterfront strategy in the Towns of Clifton and Fine. WCS will attempt to involve all stakeholders at every stage of the process and will depend on a core group of residents and leaders to provide input and sustain local support for the project.

ELEMENTS:

- I. Project Steering Committee meetings
- II. Waterfront Advisory Committee meetings
- III. Community Visioning Workshops and Outreach
- IV. Ongoing Consultation with the Towns of Clifton and Fine
- V. Ongoing consultation with NYS DOS
- VI. Public Hearings

PARTNERS:

Project Team:

Zoë Smith, Wildlife Conservation Society, Saranac Lake, 518-891-8872, zsmith@wcs.org

Ray Curran, Adirondack Information Group, Wilmington, 518-964-2445, rcurran@adkig.com

Leslie Karasin, Wildlife Conservation Society, Saranac Lake, 518-891-8872, lkarasin@wcs.org

Other Agencies and Partners:

Town of Clifton

Town of Fine

Clifton-Fine Economic Development Corporation (CFEDC)

Adirondack Park Agency (APA)

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 6 (DEC)

St. Lawrence County (for example: Planning Office)

The New York State Department of State Division of Coastal Resources (NYS DOS)

Tourism related businesses (for example: Inns and Restaurants, retail shops, guide services)

I. PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE

Purpose:

WCS, the Towns of Clifton and Fine, and the CFEDC shall establish a Project Steering Committee to oversee the preparation of the waterfront revitalization strategy from a regional perspective. The Steering Committee will guide the overall process and ensure regional support. The Steering Committee shall include representation from the Towns of Clifton and Fine, CFEDC, Adirondack Park Agency, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, NYS Department of State, regional tourism organizations, county government, and other regional organizations.

Membership:

NAME

AFFILIATION

Bob Snider

Supervisor Town of Clifton

Ron Frank	Supervisor, Town of Fine
Chris Westbrook	CFEDC
JR Risely	Town of Inlet Supervisor
Bill Thomas	Town of Johnsburg Supervisor
Keith Zimmerman	St. Lawrence County Planning Office
Steve Erman	Adirondack Park Agency
Karen St. Hilare	St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce
Sandy LaBarron	NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Region 6
Dawn Howard	St. Lawrence Country Soil and Water Conservation District
Andy LaBruzzo	NYS Dept. of State
Zoë Smith	Wildlife Conservation Society, Saranac Lake
Ray Curran,	Adirondack Information Group, Wilmington
Leslie Karasin,	Wildlife Conservation Society

Schedule:

As needed to monitor progress and review interim and final documents

Public Participation:

All meetings are open to the public.

Notification:

E-mail or phone call from WCS.

II. WATERFRONT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Purpose:

WCS, the Towns of Clifton and Fine, and the CFEDC shall establish a Waterfront Advisory Committee (WAC) to oversee all aspects of the waterfront revitalization strategy. The WAC is the primary group guiding the preparation of the plan. The WAC will articulate local issues, review and accept products from WCS, be a liaison to the public about the project, and sponsor public outreach efforts. The WAC shall be representative of local residents and leaders, business owners, shoreline owners, schools and colleges, community-based organizations, and those with an interest in tourism, historic preservation, environmental issues, local planning, recreation, and other stakeholders.

Membership:

Last	City	
Susan Sweeney-Smith	Cranberry Lake	confirmed
Hal Brown	Cranberry Lake	confirmed
Sherm Craig	Wanakena	confirmed
Terri Smith	Cranberry Lake	confirmed
Jeanne Reynolds	Cranberry Lake	invited
Scott Fraser	Star Lake	invited
Max Watson	Star Lake	confirmed

Dave Ziemba	Wanakena	confirmed
Clint Farnsworth	Cranberry Lake	confirmed
Chuck and Debbie Yartz	Cranberry Lake	invited
Dick Laurin	Star Lake	confirmed
Emily Popham	Cranberry Lake	invited
Will Benzel	Wanakena	invited
Hank Moshano	Star Lake	confirmed
High Mitchell	Cranberry Lake	confirmed
Louise and Roger Johnson	Cranberry Lake	invited
Jamie Savage	Piercefield	confirmed
Michael Looney	Oswegatchie	confirmed
Paul Alioto	Star Lake	confirmed
Bob Meredith	Newton Falls	confirmed

Schedule:

Every 6 weeks or as needed.

Public Participation: All meetings are open to the public. Meeting minutes will be posted on project website, sent though email, and/or sent via Postal Service.

Notification: Meeting schedule will be posted on project website and sent to WAC members via E-mail, direct mail, or a phone call from WCS.

Identified Agencies/Other Interest Groups

- Town Clerks, Boards and Supervisors
- Local Planning Boards, Zoning Administrators
- St Lawrence County Planning, Economic Development, and Recreation Agencies
- Chambers of Commerce and related business associations
- Tourism organizations
- Regional recreation and trail groups
- Heritage Areas/Historic Preservation Organizations: public and private
- Environmental Organizations: non-profit
- Regional offices of NYS agencies (DEC, DOT, APA etc.)

III. COMMUNITY VISIONING WORKSHOPS AND OUTREACH

Purpose:

WCS will facilitate three community visioning workshops to obtain community input on the elements and content of the local waterfront revitalization strategy. The Project Team will use a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) analysis to collect community input. WCS will also gather additional community input as needed through individual conversations or interviews. This input will be shared with the Advisory Committee.

Schedule:

Community Visioning Workshop I

The first Community Visioning Workshop will be conducted to help participants reveal ways in which they use and value their waterfront resources and the municipalities, and identify important issues and opportunities and potential obstacles to revitalization efforts. Meeting one will be held in at the end of **July 2006**.

Community Visioning Workshop II: Exploring Alternatives

The second Community Visioning Workshop will provide opportunity to review the Initial Issues, Opportunitites, and Vision Report developed from the first workshop. The group will also examine case studies of efforts in other communities to help explore alternative choices and ideas for implementing the community vision, and begin to identify actions and means to implement the vision. Meeting two will be held in **early September 2006**.

Community Visioning Workshop III: Implementing the Vision

The third Community Visioning Workshop will provide opportunity to discuss long and short term priorities, develop an action plan and discuss as strategies for continuing public participation. The group will discuss next steps in the waterfront revitalization program. Meeting three will be held in month **mid October 2006**.

Community Outreach

On an ongoing basis, WCS, the WAC, and partners will inform other stakeholders of the development, progress and content of the plan and obtain their input and feedback.

Public Participation: Meetings are open to all members of the public including special interest groups identified above and community leaders, individuals, home owners associations, and other community groups.

Notification: Announcements will be placed in local newspapers, the Bargain Hunter, and radio including Watertown Daily, Potsdam, Canton, Pennysaver, and North Country Public Radio. Also notices will be sent to residents via direct mail and email. Minutes of the meetings and final documents will be available on the project website. Drafts and review copies will be mailed electronically to participants. Opportunities will be available for additional public input.

IV. ONGOING CONSULTATION WITH THE TOWNS OF CLIFTON AND FINE

Purpose: Regular ongoing formal and informal communication will be conducted between the WCS staff, the WAC and the Town Boards of the Town of Clifton and the Town of Fine in order to insure a smooth flow of information. Ultimately the Town Boards will be asked to take actions supporting or rejecting results from the waterfront strategy.

Schedule: Regular progress reports after major milestones such as completion of the Public Participation Plan, Corridor Area Boundary, Inventory and Analysis, Draft and Final Strategic Plan will be conveyed to the Boards.

V. ONGOING CONSULTATION WITH NYS DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Purpose:

Regular ongoing formal and informal communication will be conducted between the Town of Clifton and WCS with NYS DOS, for monitoring and smooth flow of all planning tasks related to the plan and related documents. By contract, NYS DOS must approve many product of the planning process.

Schedule:

Regular progress report as outlined in NYS DOS workplan. By contract WCS must submit Public Participation Plan; Existing Conditions Report; Draft Issues, Opportunities and Vision Report; Draft Proposed Land Use Descriptions; Draft Action and Recommendations Plan; Draft Revitalization Strategy; and Final Intermunicipal Waterfront Revitalization Strategy. In addition, WCS will submit to the DOS semi-annual reports and a final Measurable Results Form.

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Purpose:

Public hearings will be used as appropriate to facilitate public presentation and formal endorsement of the plan at the local level. Public hearings provide the Advisory Committee, property owners, and the broad public an opportunity to address the municipalities regarding the progress and content of the LWRP Plan and related documents. Hearings provide the municipalities with an opportunity to discuss the LWRP and provide any additional direction, as appropriate.

Participants:

Municipal officials, County, Town and Village boards, Advisory Committee, NYSDOS, local residents and stakeholder organizations.

Notification: Announcements will be made on the project web site, announcements in local print and radio media (Watertown Daily, Potsdam, Canton, Penneysaver, and North Country Public Radio.), Direct mail, and E-mail.

Schedule:

As appropriate near the end of the LWRP process.