



Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Update for the **City of Albany**



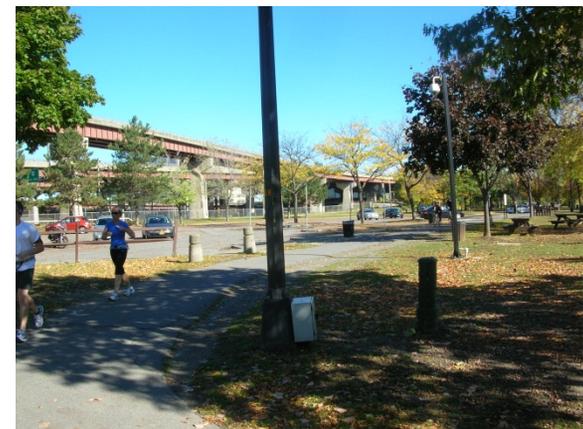
December 11, 2012





Agenda

- What is the LWRP?
- Why do we need an update?
- Who is involved?
- What is the process?
- Where are we now?
- What's next?
- Discussion





What is the LWRP? Local Waterfront Revitalization Program

- The LWRP is a locally prepared land and water use plan for Albany's Hudson River waterfront.
- It is a working partnership between the NYS Division of Coastal Resources and the City of Albany to establish policies and implementation techniques for a community waterfront vision.
- The LWRP provides a framework for ensuring consistency between local, state, and federal policies and decisions.

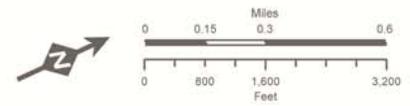




WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION AREA BOUNDARY



- | | |
|---|--|
| City Boundary | Waterfront Revitalization Sub-Areas |
| Railroads | 1, Port |
| Park or Open Space | 2, South End |
| Water | 3, Downtown |
| Waterfront Revitalization Area Boundary | 4, North Broadway |





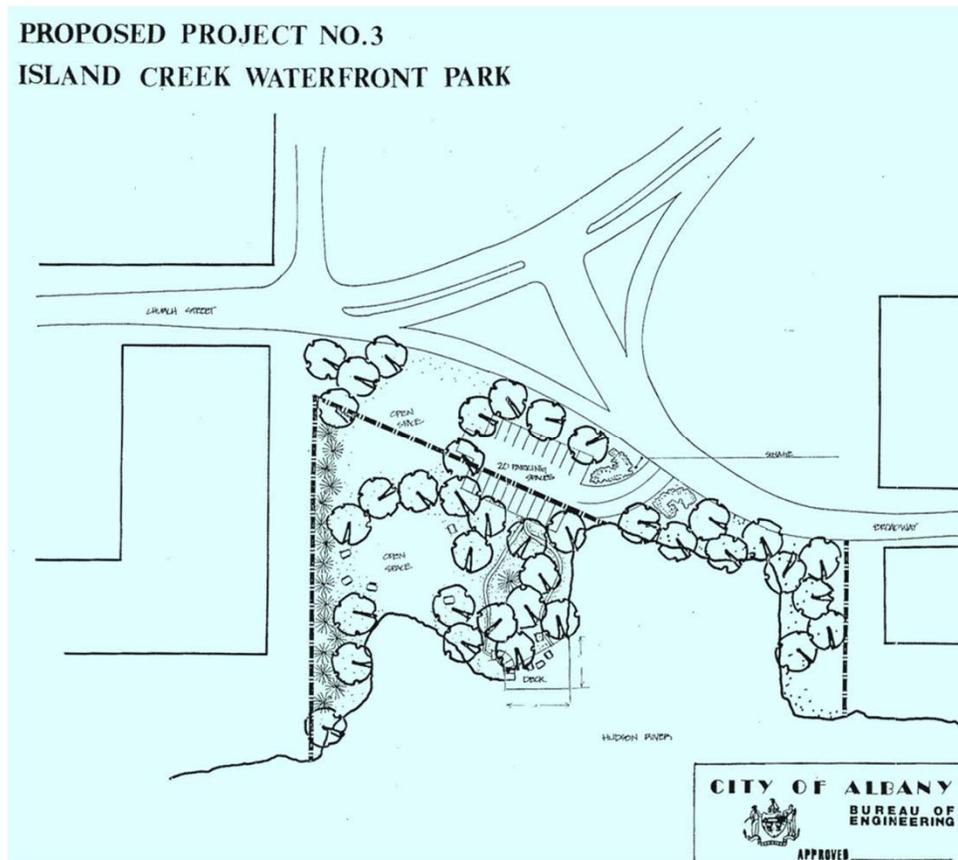
Why do we need an update?

- The current LWRP was adopted in 1991
- Several projects have been implemented (Hudson River Walkway, Island Creek Park)
- New issues have emerged over time (climate change)
- Significant issues have yet to be addressed (access, vacant & abandoned properties)
- Adoption of Albany 2030





Completed projects proposed in the 1991 LWRP



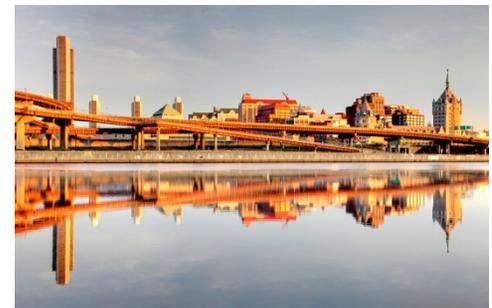
- Landscaping Lower Patroon Island Nature Preserve (Riverfront Preserve)
- Rehabilitation of Corning Preserve Comfort Station
- Island Creek Waterfront Park
- Pedestrian overpass from Downtown to the waterfront
- Continuation of the riverfront pedestrian bike path (Mohawk-Hudson Bike Trail)



Relationship to Albany 2030

".....Downtown Albany is a vibrant mix of business, residential, educational, cultural, and entertainment uses connected to the Hudson River waterfront."

- UD-2 Improve waterfront and downtown connections.
- CHR-7 Increase opportunities for recreational use of waterways.
- FMP-2 Modernize the port to accommodate increased demand.
- WW-1, WS-1 Implement Long-Term Control Plan to mitigate water quality impacts of CSO's.
- WW-3 Use zoning and environmental review to protect river and stream corridors.
- WW-4 Remediate brownfields to reduce runoff and water table contamination.
- WW-5 Improve public access to waterways.
- OS-1 Expand and connect greenways and trails and link to regional networks.



Who is involved?

- The City of Albany
- NYS Department of State, Office of Communities & Waterfronts
- WRT – Planning Consultant
- Waterfront Advisory Committee (WAC)





WAC Members

- The City of Albany
- Albany Port District Commission
- Albany County
- Albany County Convention & Visitor's Bureau
- Albany Rowing Center
- USS Slater Museum
- Riverfront Bar & Grill
- Downtown Albany BID
- NYS Canals Recreationway Commission





What is the process?

Nine-month process, expected completion in April 2013

Step 1 - Inventory & Analysis; Climate Vulnerability Assessment

Public Meeting 1



Step 2 - Revitalization Policies

Step 3 - Proposed Projects

Public Meeting 2

Step 4 - Local Implementation / State & Federal Actions

Step 5 - SEQRA Compliance

Step 6 - Draft LWRP

Public Meeting 3

Step 7 - Final LWRP



Where are we now?

Inventory & Analysis - Key Issues

- Access to the waterfront via all modes is constricted by physical barriers and confusing street patterns.
- Vacant and underutilized properties provide opportunities, but also environmental and financial constraints to redevelopment.
- Commercial services (refreshments, equipment rental, retail) are limited by a lease agreement with the State and Albany Port Commission.
- Waterfront facilities (parking lots, sidewalks, boathouse) are in disrepair and reflect a poor image.
- Improved marketing and promotion of waterfront events, activities, and businesses is needed.
- Projected impacts of climate change (Hudson River rise and increased flooding) on waterfront development and infrastructure.





What's next?

- Identify new waterfront projects
- Second public meeting
- Identify local implementation strategies





Discussion

- What do you consider to be the major issues for the Hudson River Waterfront?
- What projects would you like to see in the Waterfront Revitalization Area?

