



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



Public Meeting 2

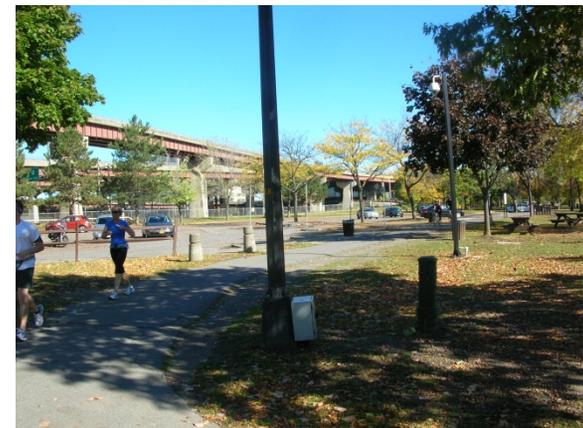
February 25, 2013





Agenda

- LWRP and Climate Adaptation Plan overview.
- What have we heard so far? Summary of public input.
- Where are we now?
- Overview of proposed projects.
- What's next?
- Questions and discussion.



LWRP and Climate Adaptation Plan Overview

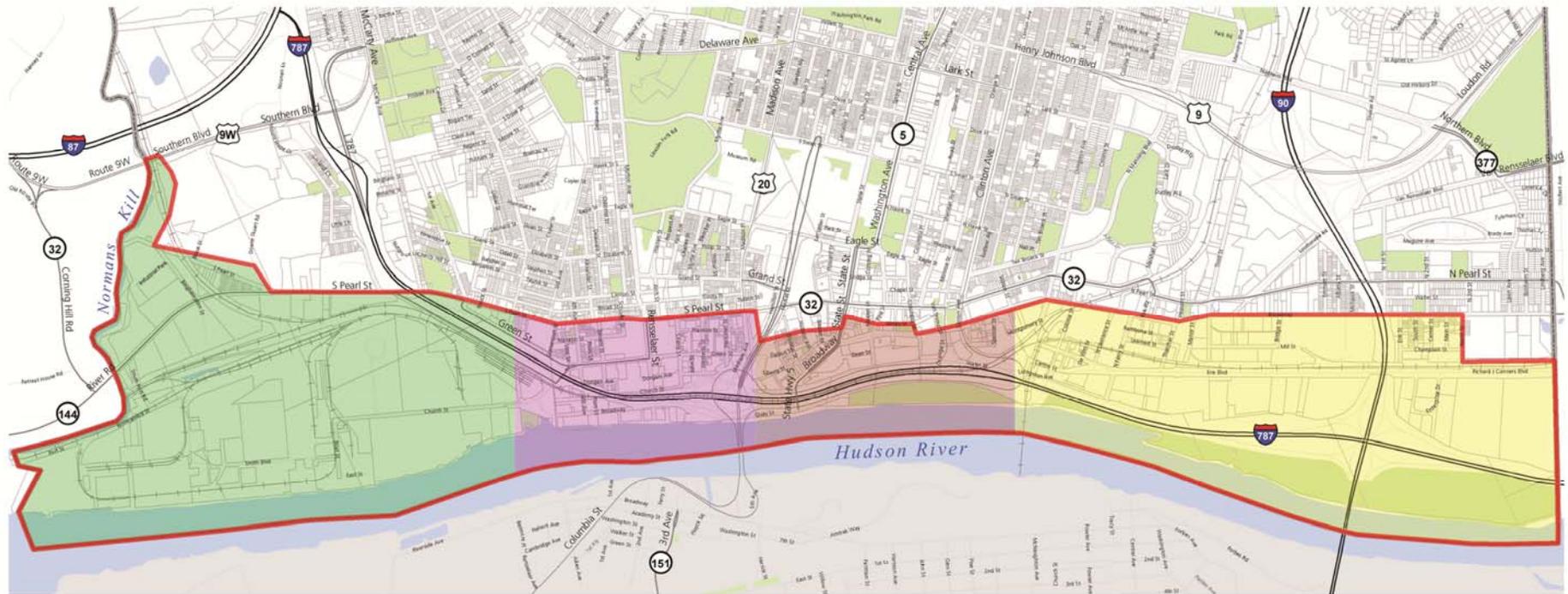
What is the LWRP? Local Waterfront Revitalization Program

- 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.

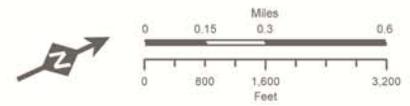


LWRP and Climate Adaptation Plan Overview

WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION AREA BOUNDARY



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



LWRP and Climate Adaptation Plan Overview

What is the Climate Adaptation Plan?

- The first adaptation plan funded by the State of New York
- An assessment of Albany's vulnerability to climate change impacts
- Establishes goals to adapt to climate change – economic, social, environmental resilience



LWRP and Climate Adaptation Plan Overview

Vulnerability Assessment

- How resilient is Albany to the adverse impacts of climate change?
 - Increase in average temperatures
 - Increase in the number of days of 90 degrees Fahrenheit
 - A rise in the water table for the tidal Hudson River, due to sea level rise
 - Increase in precipitation amounts
 - Increase in the number and severity of storm events

Table 2. Temperature in the Hudson and Mohawk River Valley (ClimAID Region 5)

	Baseline	2020s	2050s	2080s
Temperature (F)	50	+ 1.5 to 3	+ 3 to 5.5	+ 4 to 8

Source: (NYSERDA 2011)

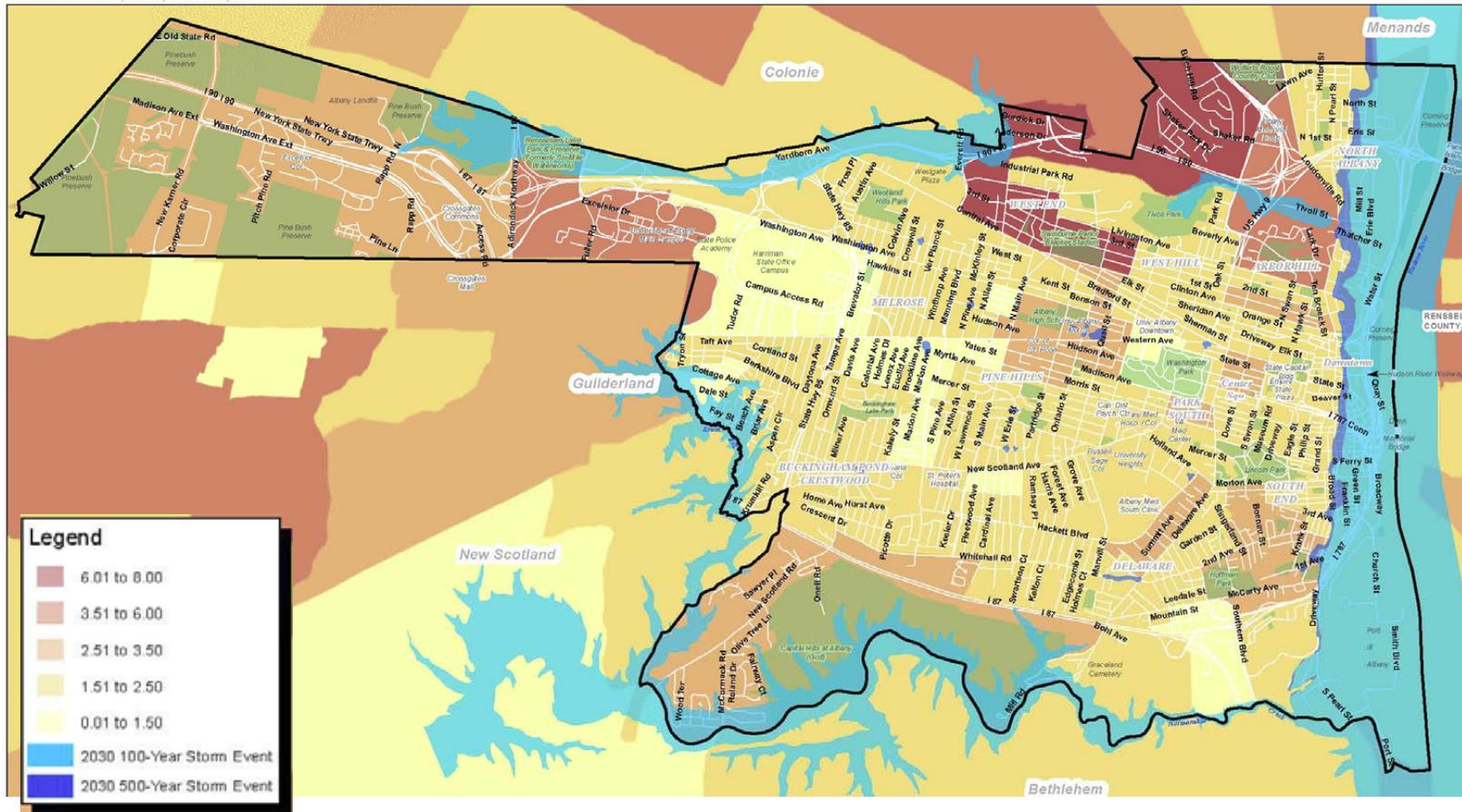
Table 5. Current and Projected Precipitation in the Hudson and Mohawk River Valley (ClimAID region 5)

	Baseline (1971-2000)	2020s	2050s	2080s
Precipitation	39 in*	+ 0 to 5%	+ 0 to 5%	+ 5 to 10%

Source: (NYSERDA 2011)

LWRP and Climate Adaptation Plan Overview

Vulnerability Assessment



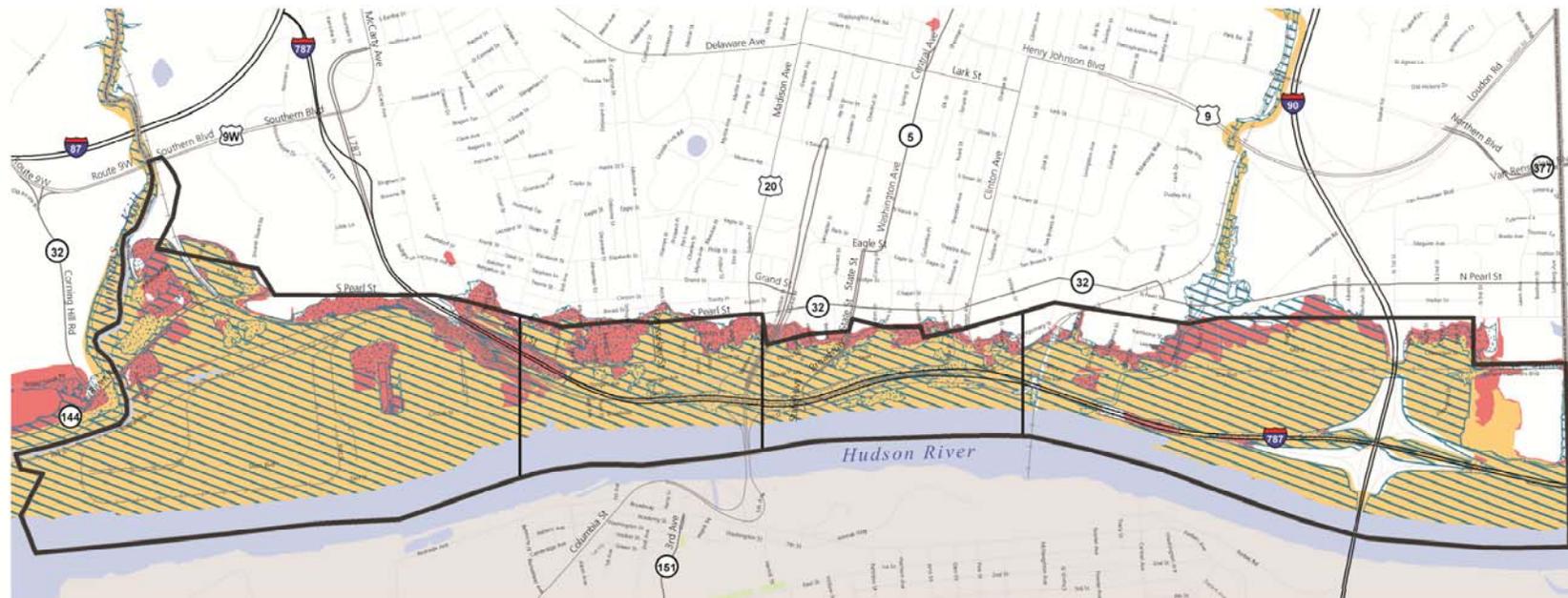
Social Vulnerability Index

Source: ESRI

LWRP and Climate Adaptation Plan Overview

Vulnerability Assessment

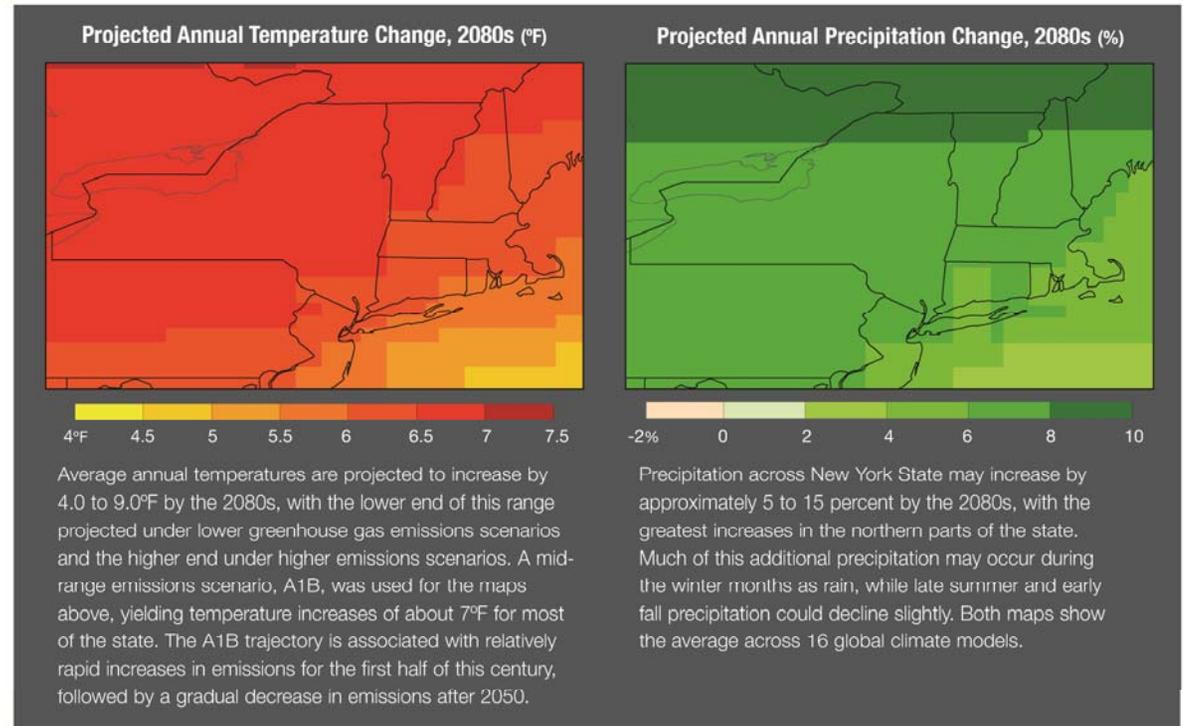
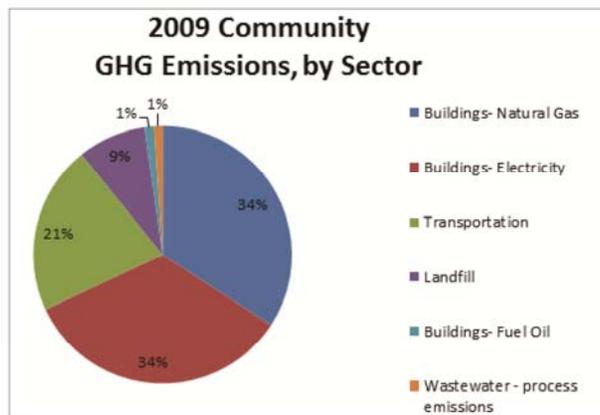
PROJECTED 100 YEAR & 500 YEAR FLOODPLAINS (YEAR 2030)



- City Boundary
- Railroads
- Water
- Waterfront Revitalization Area
- Existing Floodplain
 - Existing 100 Year Floodplain
 - Existing 500 Year Floodplain
- Projected Floodplain
 - Projected 100 Year Storm Event
 - Projected 500 Year Storm Event

LWRP and Climate Adaptation Plan Overview

Climate Action Plan





LWRP and Climate Adaptation Plan Overview

Sample Climate Adaptation Strategies

- Enhance resiliency against natural events linked to climate change
- Assess emergency response plans in anticipation of climate change impacts.
- Limit encroachment into habitat areas through land use control.
- Limit encroachment on steep slopes through land use controls.
- Support local food production.
- Modernize the port.
- Increase resilience of housing stock to impacts of climate change.
- Create a green infrastructure system.
- Reduce impermeable surfaces through land development regulations.
- Protect and enhance the urban forest.

LWRP and Climate Adaptation Plan Overview

How are these plans connected?

- Ensure that proposed waterfront projects mitigate the negative impacts of climate change.
- Ensure that climate change adaptation strategies enhance redevelopment opportunities.
- Ensure that climate change adaptation is considered in all projects.
- Ensure that recommendations from both plans help to implement the vision of Albany 2030.





What have we heard so far?

Summary of public input

- Redesign I-787 to improve access and free valuable land and air space for redevelopment as additional park, greenway, and mixed use development.
- Improve signage, lighting, and security for boaters / trail users.
- Improve access on both sides of the river.
- Improve public access to clean water for water recreation (rowing, kayaking, etc.)
- Promote the bike trail as more of a destination and route to other major destinations in the region.
- Either reuse or demolish the Central Warehouse.
- Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs) are a major concern for the Normanskill and Hudson water bodies.
- Promote cultural interpretation of the Hudson River.
- Expand Corning Preserve with a larger mix of recreation uses, more active uses, improved amenities for year round events (covered pavilion, electrical capacity).
- Market the regatta and other major riverfront events so more people are aware of them.
- Create a parking strategy for the downtown/waterfront.
- Make sure South End and Downtown (re)development are tied to the waterfront.
- Have productive coordination with NYDOT.
- Make the waterfront a destination to draw families and homeowners to Downtown.
- Involve relevant federal agencies to access funding opportunities.

Where are we now?

Nine-month process, expected completion in April 2013

Step 1 – Inventory & Analysis; Climate Vulnerability Assessment

Public Meeting 1

Step 2 - Proposed Projects

Step 3 - Revitalization Policies

Public Meeting 2



Step 4 - Local Implementation / State & Federal Actions

Step 5 - SEQRA Compliance

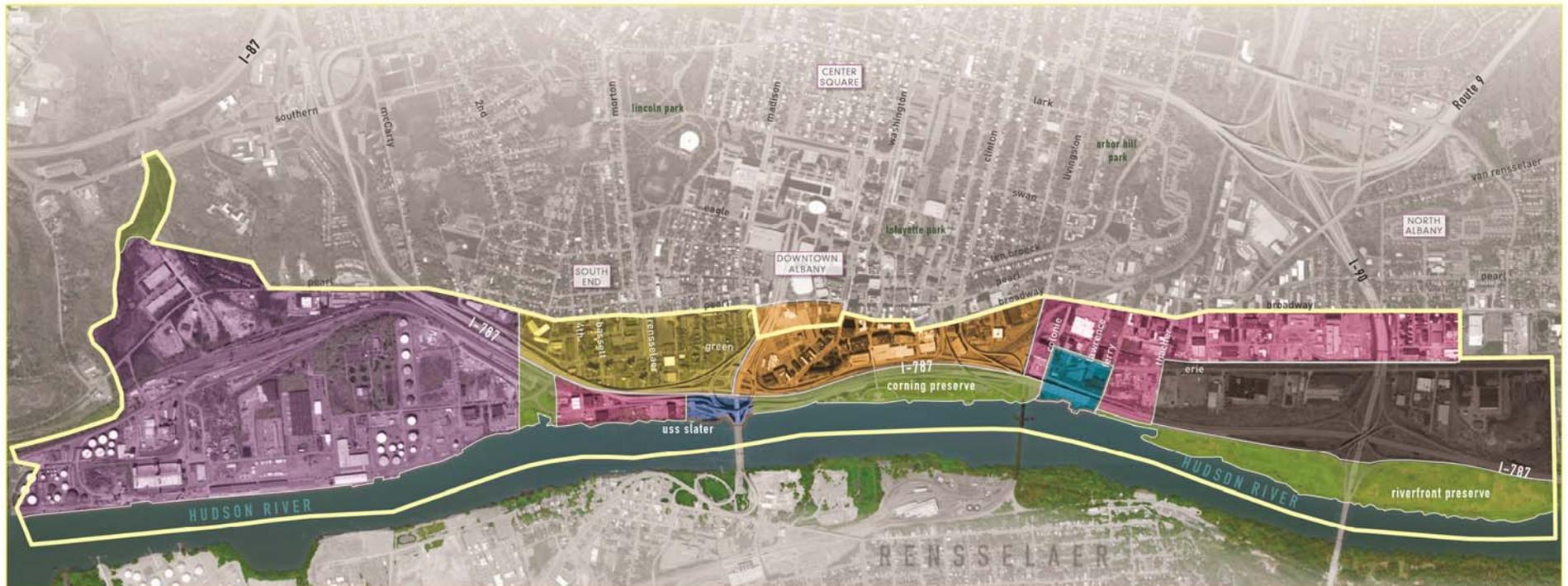
Step 6 - Draft LWRP

Public Meeting 3

Step 7 - Final LWRP

Proposed projects

Proposed land and water uses

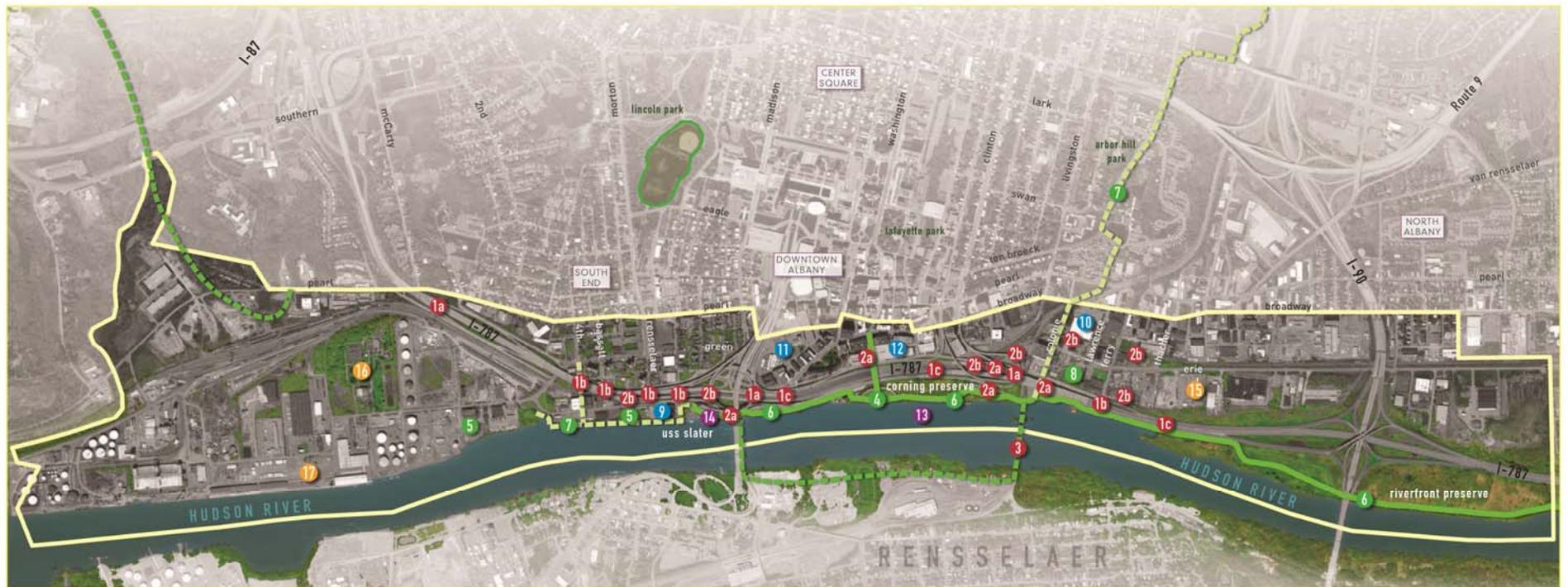


- Study Area
- Industrial/Port
- Recreation/Open Space
- Central Business District
- Residential
- Mixed-Use/Light Industrial
- Tourism/Museum
- Marina
- Industrial/Utility



Proposed projects

Proposed projects



- | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--|---|--|--|------------------------------------|
| Study Area | Transportation Improvements | Short Term Access Improvements | Livingston Avenue Bridge Replacement | Marina | Waterfront Marketing Strategy |
| Existing Greenway/Trail | Recreation Improvements | Medium Term Access Improvements | Corning Preserve Expansion | Brownfield Opportunity Area - S. Waterfront District | USS Slater Improvements |
| Proposed Greenway/Trail | (Re)Development Projects | Long Term Access Improvements | Potential Sites-New Albany Rowing Center | Brownfield Opportunity Area - N. Warehouse District | Solar Photovoltaic System |
| Potential Greenway/Trail | Tourism Improvements | Parking Strategy-Improve Existing Parking | Lighting and Safety Improvements | Convention Center Site Redevelopment | Biogas System |
| | Energy/Green Infrastructure Improvements | Parking Strategy-Potential New Parking | Trail and Greenway Expansion | Downtown Technology District | Green Infrastructure Pilot Project |



Proposed projects

Transportation Improvements



1. Waterfront Access Improvements

1a. Short Term Access Improvements

Signage and wayfinding, bus connections.

1b. Medium Term Access Improvements

New connections – extend 4th Ave., Bassett St., Cherry St., Rensselaer St., Ferry Ave.; improve lighting, streetscaping, pedestrian connections.

1c. Long Term Access Improvements

I-787 alternative design strategies – e.g., boulevarding or decking over the highway.

Proposed projects

Transportation Improvements

2. Waterfront Parking Strategy

2a. Improve Existing Parking

- Restripe / reorganize
- Landscaping and lighting
- Define pedestrian connections to destinations
- Coordinate with signage and wayfinding
- Provide car share, bike share, bike parking
- Dedicated parking for alternative fueled vehicles

2a. Potential New Parking

- Highway underpasses
- On-street parking
- Structures within revitalization projects



Proposed projects

Transportation Improvements

3. Livingston Avenue Bridge Replacement

Continue to work closely with NYSDOT, CSX, Amtrak, and other stakeholders to provide bicycle and pedestrian connections to and across the bridge.

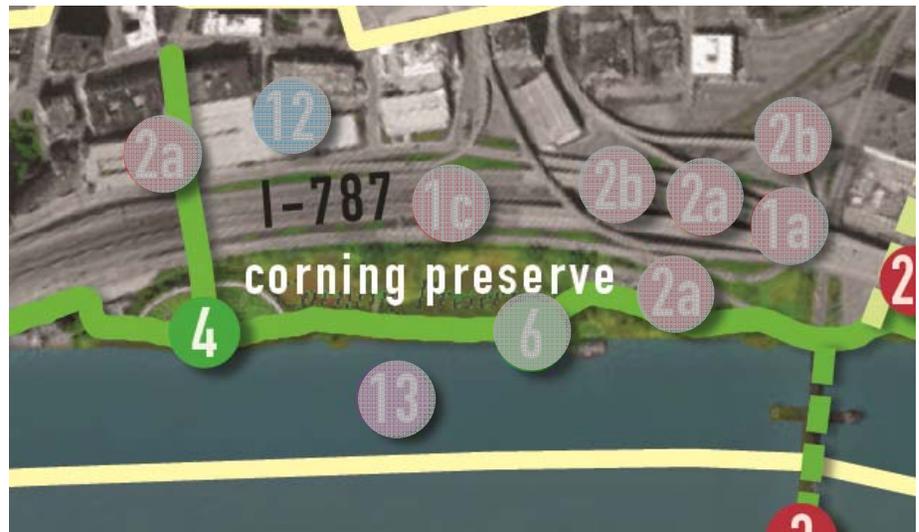


Proposed projects

Recreation Improvements

4. Corning Preserve Expansion

- Prepare a comprehensive and sustainable vision for the future use and redevelopment of the preserve, including a restaurant, café, boat docks, bicycle and kayak rentals, and access improvements.
- City awarded \$950,000 New York State Consolidated Funding to construct the Albany Waterfront Performance Place, a state-of-the-art covered stage.



Proposed projects

Recreation Improvements

5. New Albany Rowing Center

Construct a new boathouse and rowing facility to allow for larger and more frequent events.



Proposed projects

Recreation Improvements



6. Lighting and Safety Improvements

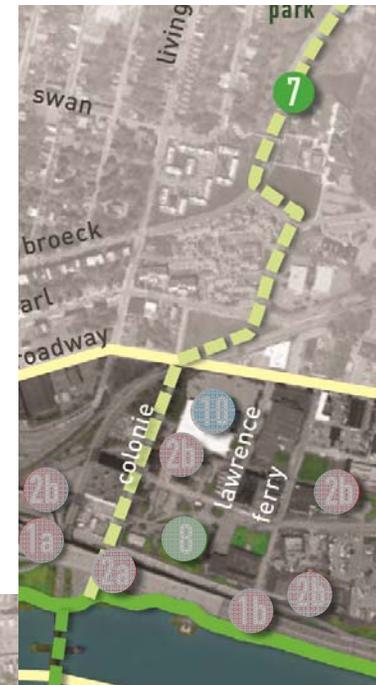
Enhance the visual appearance, safety and image of recreational resources and destinations with landscaping and energy efficient lighting of the trail and parking areas and safety call boxes on the trail.

Proposed projects

Recreation Improvements

7. Trail and Greenway Expansion

Implement the Patroon Greenway and extend the Mohawk-Hudson River Trail south from the Corning Preserve along the Hudson River to the proposed Albany County Rail Trail.



Proposed projects

Recreation Improvements

8. Marina

Study the feasibility of creating an inland marina for visiting and permanent boaters along the Hudson River and Erie Canal.



Proposed projects

(Re) Development Projects

9. Brownfield Opportunity Area – South Waterfront District

- Included in the Pre-Nomination Study for the NYS Brownfield Opportunity Areas (BOA) Program.
- Proposed uses: mix of high density residential, ground floor retail, existing industrial uses, potential new rowing center.



Proposed projects

(Re) Development Projects

10. Brownfield Opportunity Area - North Warehouse District

- Included in the Pre-Nomination Study for the NYS Brownfield Opportunity Areas (BOA) Program.
- Proposed uses: mix of high density residential, retail, entertainment, existing industrial, indoor recreation, potential marina.



Proposed projects

(Re) Development Projects

11. Convention Center Site Redevelopment

Identify potential new uses for redevelopment of the land identified as the convention center site in the Downtown.



Proposed projects

(Re) Development Projects

12. Downtown Technology District

Create a Downtown Technology District surrounding Kiernan Plaza to attract spin-off industries related to the University at Albany's College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering and other high tech businesses.



Proposed projects

Tourism Improvements

13. Waterfront Marketing Strategy

Develop a marketing strategy to promote waterfront business, activities, and events:

- Create a brand to provide visitors with a sense of arrival.
- Identify an organization or partnership responsible for marketing & branding.
- Promote existing activities events through brochures, flyers, posters, website, traditional media, and social media.
- Identify and promote new waterfront events and activities.



Proposed projects

Tourism Improvements

14. USS Slater Improvements

Upgrade facilities at the USS Slater Museum to increase visitation, including:

- Formalize agreement to utilize area under I-787 for overflow parking.
- Provide funding for permanent year-round mooring.
- Construct a more substantial visitor center to replace temporary structure.



Proposed projects

Energy / Green Infrastructure Improvements

15. Solar Photovoltaic System

Identify underutilized public land (e.g., DGS facility) for construction of a solar photovoltaic system to conserve energy and reduce energy costs in public facilities.



Proposed projects

Energy / Green Infrastructure Improvements

16. Biogas System - South Wastewater Treatment Plant

Construct a permanent biogas system based on the success of the anaerobic digestion demonstration project at the Albany County Sewer District's South Wastewater Treatment Plant.



Proposed projects

Energy / Green Infrastructure Improvements

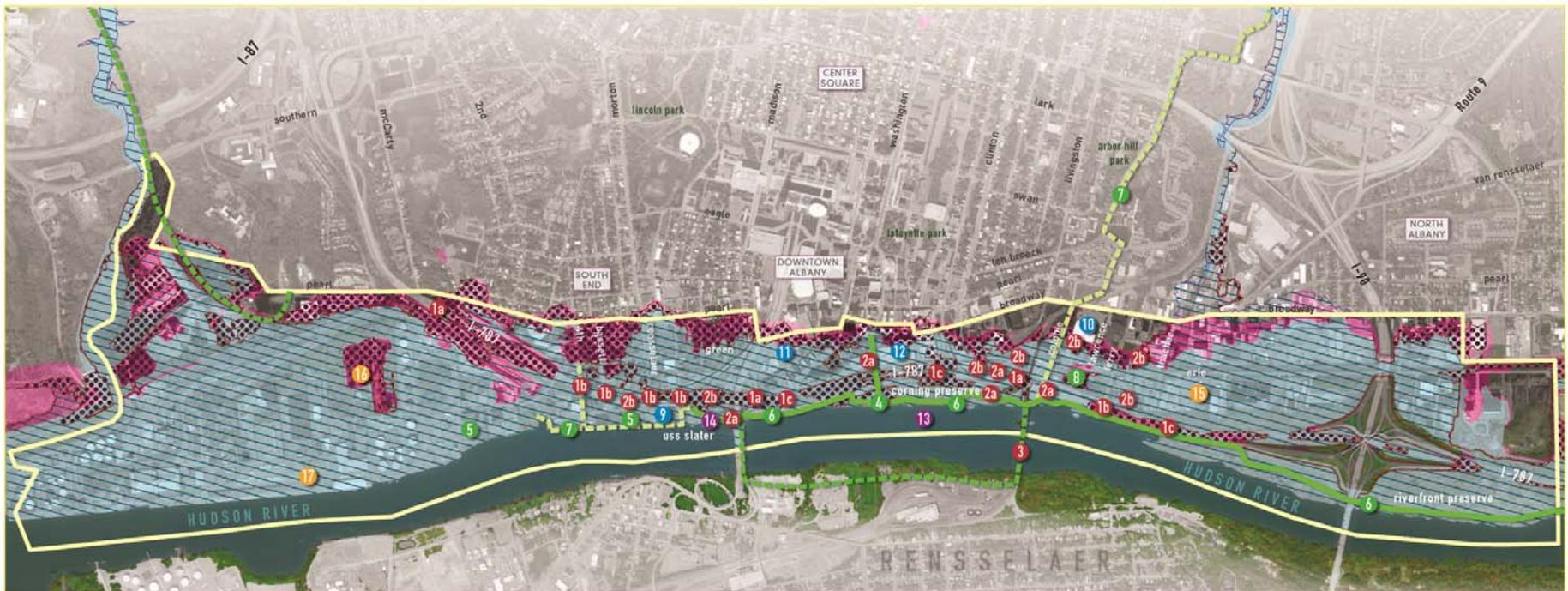
17. Green Infrastructure Pilot Project

- Create a green infrastructure pilot project at the Port of Albany as a model for future green infrastructure projects.
- Apply techniques to reduce and filter stormwater, including green roofs, pervious pavement, tree planting, bioswales, etc.



Proposed projects

Potential climate change impacts

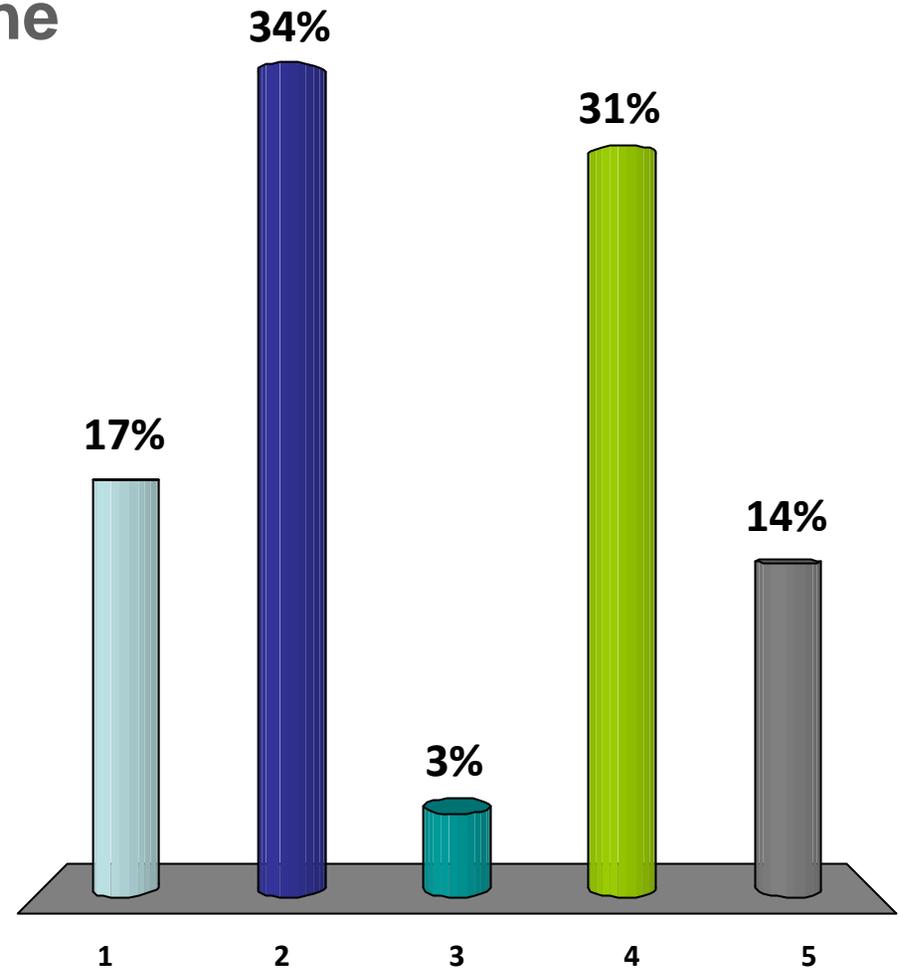


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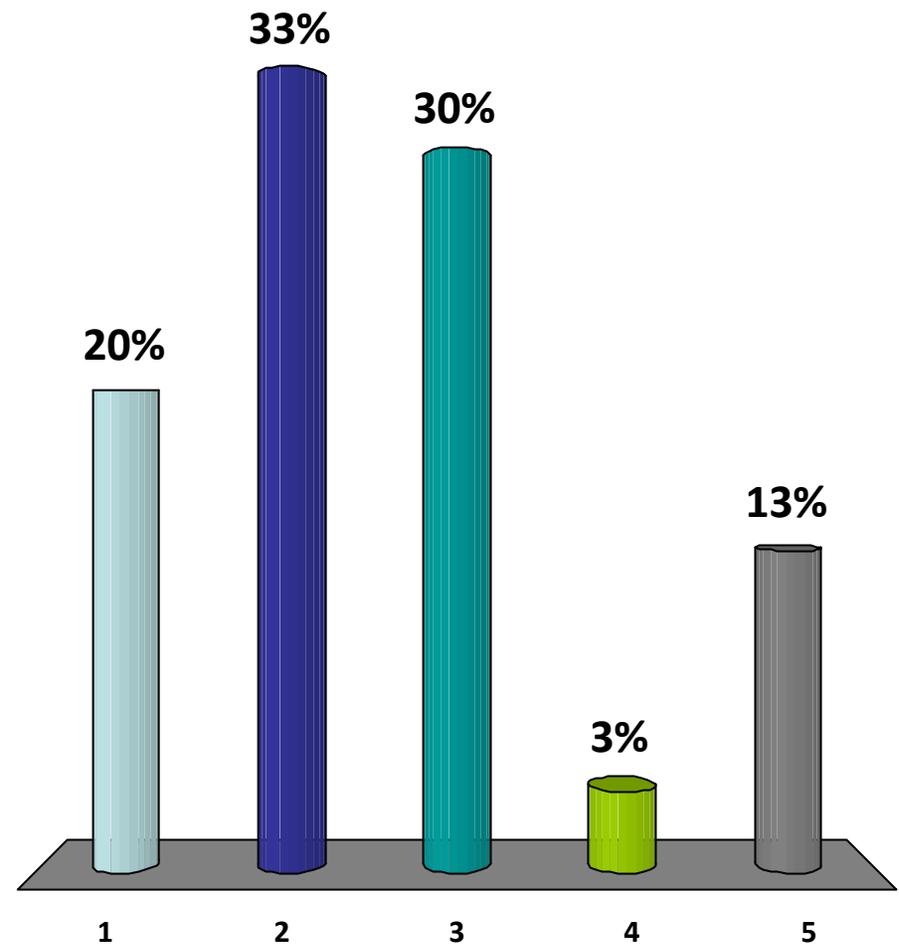
How did you hear about tonight's meeting?

1. Communication from the City
2. Online/Email
3. Newspaper
4. From a friend or colleague
5. Other



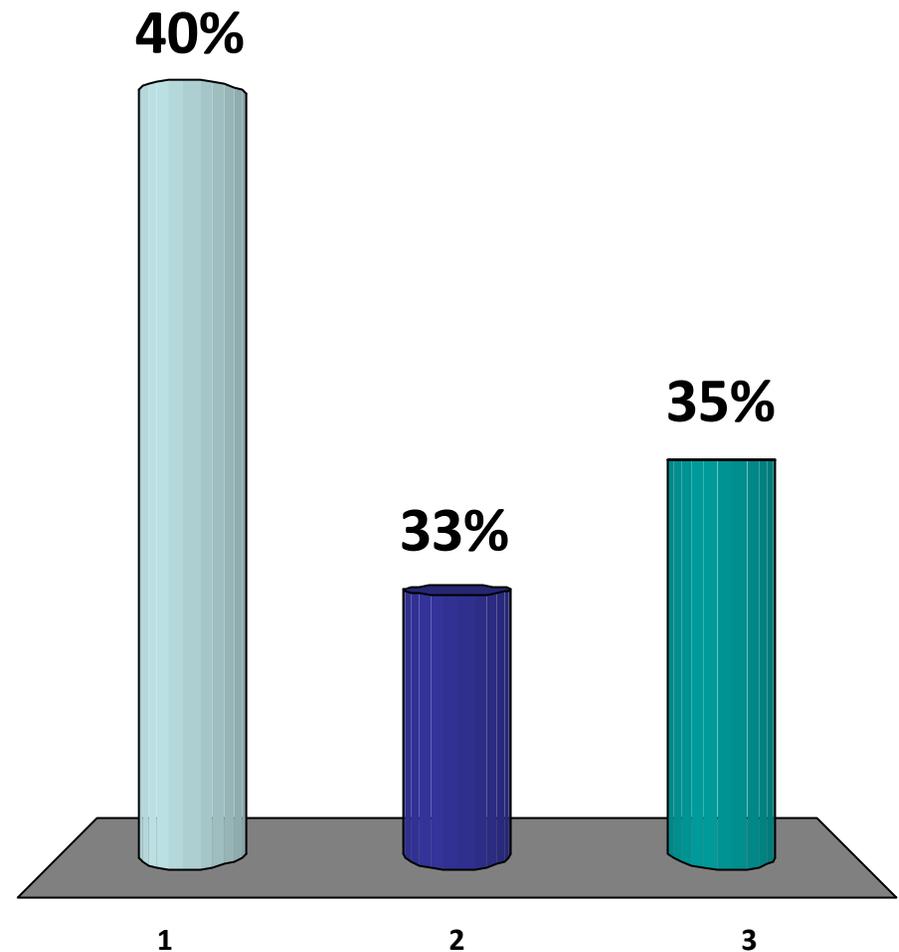
Which type of improvement do you think will yield the greatest benefits at the waterfront?

1. Transportation
2. Recreational
3. Redevelopment
4. Tourism
5. Green Infrastructure/
Energy



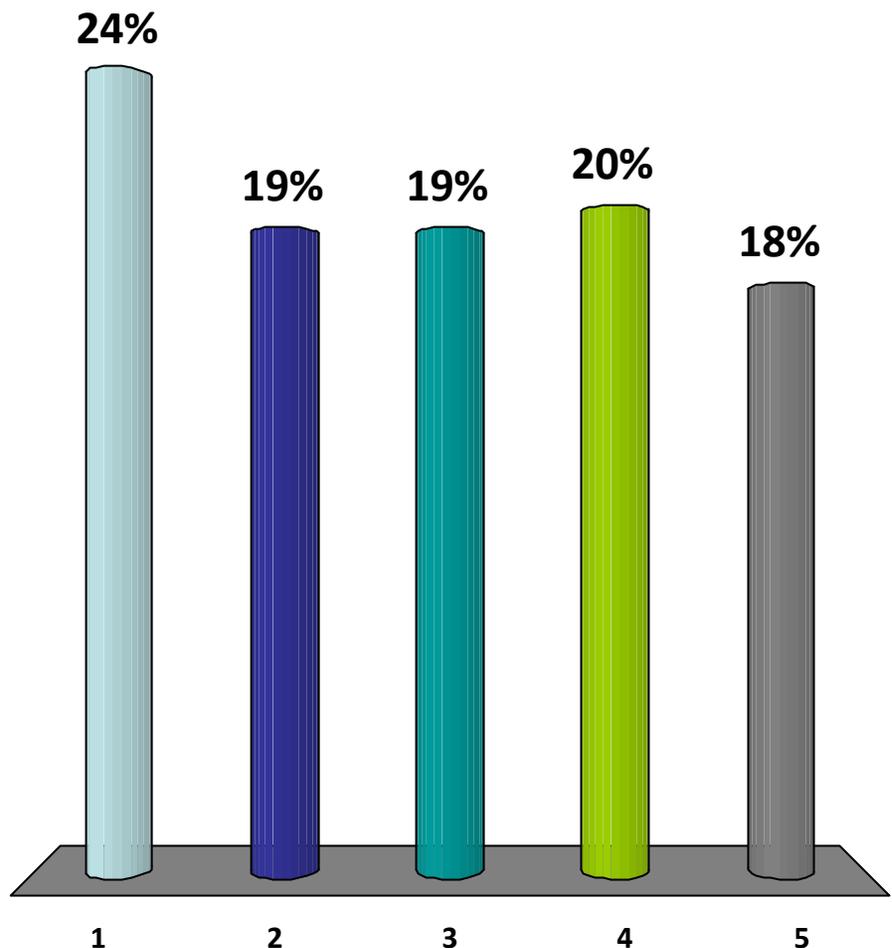
Please Rank the following Transportation Improvements based on which you think provides the greatest value to the Waterfront

1. Waterfront Access
2. Parking Enhancements
3. Livingston Ave Bridge Replacement



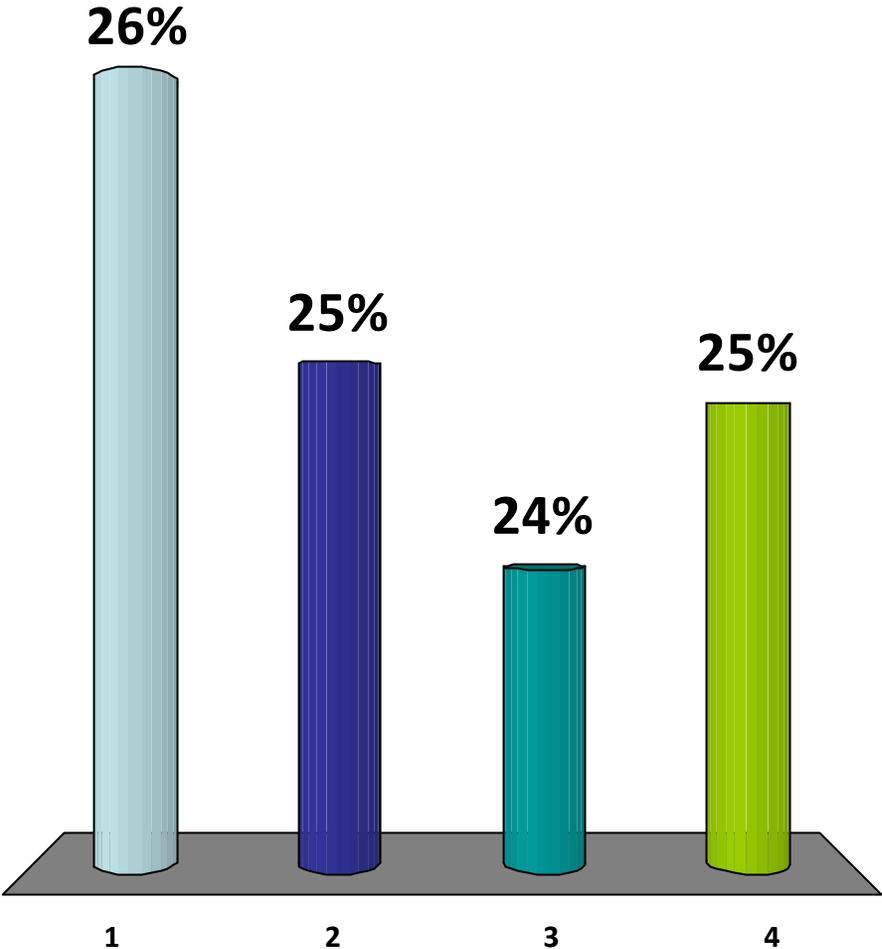
Please Rank the following Recreational Improvements based on which you think provides the greatest value to the Waterfront

1. Corning Preserve Expansion
2. New Albany Rowing Center
3. Lighting & Safety Improvements
4. Trail & Greenway Expansion
5. Marina



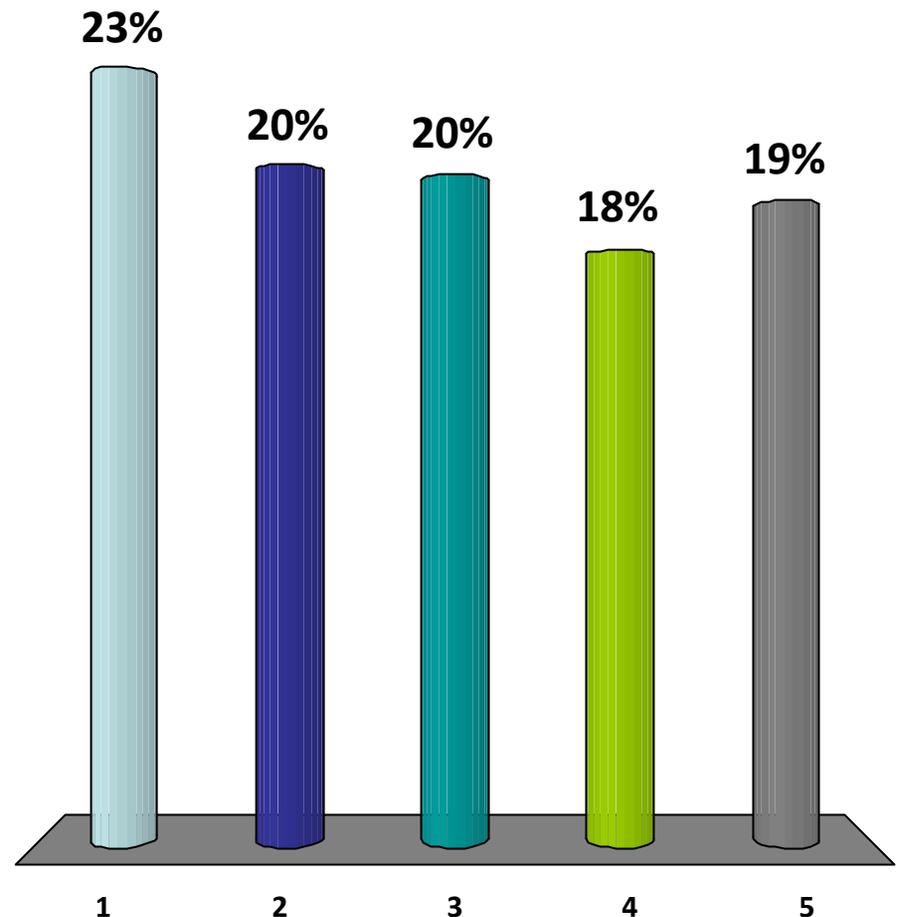
Please Rank the following Redevelopment Improvements based on which you think provides the greatest value to the Waterfront

- 1. BOA- S. Waterfront District
- 2. BOA- N. Warehouse District
- 3. Convention Center
- 4. Downtown Technology District



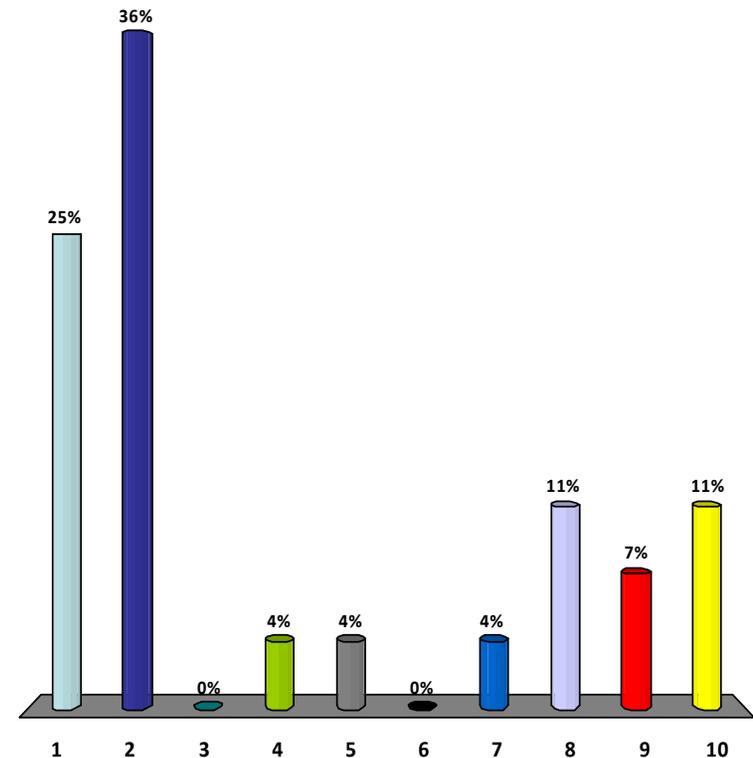
Please Rank the following Tourism and Energy Improvements based on which you think provides the greatest value to the Waterfront

1. Waterfront Marketing Strategy
2. USS Slater
3. Solar PV System
4. Biogas System
5. Green Infrastructure Pilot



If money were not an issue, which one strategy would you implement immediately?

1. Waterfront Access Improvements
2. Corning Preserve Expansion
3. Trail & Greenway Expansion
4. Marina
5. BOA - S. Waterfront District
6. BOA - N. Warehouse District
7. Downtown Technology District
8. USS Slater Improvements
9. Solar PV System
10. Green Infrastructure Pilot



What's next?

- Refine waterfront concept illustrations
- Identify local implementation strategies
- Draft Plan
- Public Meeting 3





Questions / Discussion

