

SECTION VII - LOCAL COMMITMENT AND CONSULTATION

In 2005, the Town of Clay began actively pursuing interests in further developing land it had recently acquired at Three Rivers Point. As discussions regarding the redevelopment of this area progressed, the Town turned its interests to development of a comprehensive plan for new waterfront development of its entire 26 miles of shoreline along the Seneca and Oneida Rivers. In 2006, Supervisor Rowley and the Town Council initiated efforts to have an LWRP completed for the Town.

In April 2007, the Town completed a Community Outreach Plan for the LWRP. This outreach plan identified means by which to involve the local community in the development of the LWRP and provide opportunities for public comments on its recommendations. The most critical element of this outreach plan was the establishment of a Stakeholders Group. The Stakeholders Group was to consist of individuals from the community who held some particular interest in waterfront redevelopment. The purpose of the group was to assist in the identification of potential projects to be included in the LWRP and to provide input and feedback to the Town during its development.

In June 2007, members of the Town Council discussed candidates for the Stakeholders Group. The Stakeholders Group met for the first time on July 24, 2007. The group consisted of seven individuals from the community-at-large, one Town Councilor and the Town Supervisor. Members of the community-at-large all have a particular interest in waterfront revitalization due to living on the waterfront, owning a business on the waterfront or representing a group with a particular interest in waterfront redevelopment.

The Stakeholders Group met on three other occasions in addition to its first meeting. During these meetings, options for waterfront redevelopment were discussed, the history of the waterfront activities was presented and particular projects of interest were offered for consideration. In addition, the group was provided the first sections of the LWRP for review and comment.

In addition to review by the Stakeholders Group, on April 21, 2008 a public information meeting was held at the Town of Clay Town Hall to solicit public input regarding the completeness and accuracy of Section II – Inventory and Analysis and Section III – Waterfront Revitalization Policies of the LWRP. More than a week earlier, these sections of the report were placed in Town Hall and the North Syracuse Public Library for public review. A legal notice of their availability was published in local papers.

The purpose of forming the Stakeholders Group and holding the informational meeting was an attempt by the Town to develop an LWRP that truly reflects the interests of the community. The intent of all projects presented in this Program are a direct result of discussions held during Stakeholder Group meetings.

Other organizations and agencies have assisted and consulted in the development of this Program. The DEC has been contacted regarding property they hold in the Town and their intended future use of that

property. The New York State Canal Corporation has provided much information pertaining to use, restrictions and regulations along the Seneca and Oneida Rivers. The New York State Department of State has been contacted on numerous occasions regarding the development of this Program. Also, the Town of Clay local historian was consulted on a number of occasions regarding the region's history and its influence on the waterfront.