

## INTRODUCTION

The Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) for the City of Newburgh has been developed in response to, and consistent with, national and state objectives identified in the following legislation:

1. Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972;
2. the New York State Waterfront Revitalization and Coastal Resources Act of 1981 (Article 42, Executive Law); and
3. the Coastal Erosion Hazard Area Act of 1981 (Article 34, Environmental Conservation Law).

The response to the mandates imposed by this legislation was the preparation and adoption of the State of New York Coastal Management Program and Final Impact Statement of 1982.<sup>1</sup>

The New York State Coastal Management Program offers municipalities in the state's coastal area an opportunity to adapt the state program to address local needs and objectives by preparing and implementing an LWRP. An LWRP is a program that addresses the use, revitalization and protection of a municipality's waterfront resources. The City of Newburgh commenced the process of preparing an LWRP in 1989. The major components of the LWRP are as follows:

- 1) The delineation of the local waterfront revitalization area boundary;
- 2) The inventory of existing conditions including man-made characteristics and natural resources;
- 3) The identification of major planning issues and opportunities;
- 3) The establishment of policies for managing the local waterfront revitalization area. These policies have been established by reviewing the 44 policies found in the New York State Coastal Management Program, and refining the policies through the examination of local conditions and regulations as well as objectives for future use of the waterfront; and proposed local actions and activities.
- 4) Proposed land and water uses for the entire waterfront area;
- 5) Proposed projects, activities and regulatory actions; and
- 6) Local implementation techniques for the proposed activities and program policies.

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<sup>1</sup> All references to the New York State Coastal Management Program (NYSCMP) refer to the State of New York Coastal Management Program and Final Impact Statement prepared by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Office of Coastal Zone Management and New York State Department of State, August 1982.

Once the LWRP document was prepared, it was submitted to the Secretary of State and the U.S. Department of Commerce for review and approval. Now approved, this local program replaces the State Coastal Management Program for the City of Newburgh. This Program is the regulatory vehicle for governing Local, State, and Federal actions affecting the coastal and waterfront area. All State and Federal agencies are required to adhere to the approved LWRP document when undertaking an activity, funding a project, or considering granting of a permit for a project within the local waterfront area. This will ensure that decisions of State and Federal agencies reflect local objectives for the development and protection of waterfront resources.

By undertaking the LWRP process, the City is eligible to receive grants for program implementation. The Department of State awards implementation grants on a competitive basis for project pre-construction and construction activities and other activities that help implement local programs. These funds may be used, for example, to design a public recreation facility or to study the potential reuse of abandoned waterfront buildings. An implementation grant can help a municipality to do the preliminary work necessary to obtain public or private financing for a project.

The development of this Local Waterfront Revitalization Program represents major steps by the City of Newburgh to establish a specific plan and program for the waterfront area. This plan will promote the preservation of valuable coastal resources, the expansion of water-related and water-enhanced uses and the improvement of underutilized and deteriorated sites. It will discourage activities that will negatively affect the waterfront area, its use, and environment.