



Village of Saranac Lake

Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Update

DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

Purpose: Public Open House #1
Date and Time: Tuesday, April 26, 2022, 5:00 PM & Thursday, April 28, 2022, 5:00 PM
Location: Harrietstown Town Hall, Saranac Lake & Virtual (via Zoom)
Attendees: See Attached

Agenda Item	Discussion
<p>Overview</p>	<p>As part of the public engagement component of the Village of Saranac Lake Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) Update, an in-person Public Open House was held at Harrietstown Town Hall in Saranac Lake on Tuesday, April 26th at 5:00 PM. A virtual version of the same event was held via Zoom on Thursday, April 28th at 5:00 PM for those community members who were unable to attend the in-person event. The purpose of both the in-person and virtual Public Open House #1 was to introduce the program and schedule, provide an overview of existing conditions, and learn about the needs and opportunities from the community.</p> <p>Both events incorporated interactive elements to elicit input from members of the public. At the in-person event, participants could use pens and sticky notes to identify community needs and opportunities on designated boards. At a visioning station, participants were asked to draw desired amenities directly onto a large-format paper map of the Waterfront Revitalization Area (WRA). The virtual event on Zoom featured facilitated breakout room discussions, wherein members of the public were invited to offer input on perceived needs and opportunities within the WRA.</p> <p>For the virtual event on April 28th, pre-registration was required and could be accessed through the Village website, www.saranaclakeny.gov.</p> <p>The Public Open House #1 event was publicized through a variety of platforms including the Village website, project email distribution, social media and flyers.</p> <p>Members of the Village of Saranac Lake, NYDOS, Waterfront Advisory Committee, and the consultant team participated as panelists in the virtual event.</p>

This document was prepared with funding provided by the New York State Department of State under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund.



Village of Saranac Lake

Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Update

Agenda Item	Discussion
<p>Welcome & Introductions</p>	<p>Village of Saranac Lake Director of Community Development, Jamie Konkoski, provided an introduction and welcomed participants to the virtual Open House.</p> <p>Jaclyn Hakes (MJ) introduced Katherine Hogle (DOS) as well as members of the consultant team, including Sarah Starke, Nora Culhane Freidel and Andris Blumbergs.</p> <p>Jaclyn Hakes (MJ) also introduced the members of the local Waterfront Advisory Committee (WAC):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jamie Konkoski – Village of Saranac Lake Community Development Director • Ashley Milne – Harrietstown Council Member • Becca Halter – Climate Smart Taskforce • Emmett Smith – Northern Power & Light • Jason Smith – Adirondack Outfitters • Jeremy Evans – Franklin County IDA • Nina Schoch – Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation • Zoe Smith – Paul Smith’s College
<p>Agenda Overview & Virtual Meeting How-To</p>	<p>Jaclyn Hakes (MJ) presented an overview of the agenda for the virtual Open House which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome/Workshop Overview • Overview of the LWRP • Existing Conditions • Group Discussion • Next Steps • Live Q&A <p>Jaclyn Hakes (MJ) gave an overview of the virtual meeting format, including directions on how to participate by posting questions in the chat box function or by using the raise hand feature in Zoom.</p>

This document was prepared with funding provided by the New York State Department of State under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund.



Village of Saranac Lake

Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Update

Agenda Item	Discussion
<p>LWRP Overview</p>	<p>Jaclyn Hakes (MJ) presented an overview of the LWRP. The following is a summary of the topics discussed during the overview presentation:</p> <p>What is an LWRP?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land and water use plan • Strategy to implement the program • Addresses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Development ○ Waterfront Access ○ Protecting Natural & Cultural Resources ○ Erosion and Flooding ○ Benefits of an LWRP <p>Benefits of an LWRP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attract appropriate development • Protect waterfront and other valued resources • Eligibility for further funding • Establishes consensus • Creates long-term partnerships (among Community-based organizations and State agencies) • Provides a comprehensive framework for decision-making • Actions by state agencies (permits, funding) must be consistent with LWRP <p>LWRP Planning Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form Waterfront Advisory Committee • Develop Vision, Goals & Objectives • Review Previous Planning • Inventory & Analysis of Local Resources • Draft & Review Required Sections • Village “Acceptance” of Draft • NYS Secretary of State Approval • 60-Day Review • Incorporation of Public Comments • Local Adoption of LWRP & Local Laws

This document was prepared with funding provided by the New York State Department of State under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund.



Village of Saranac Lake

Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Update

Agenda Item	Discussion
<p>LWRP Overview (Cont'd)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOS Final Legal Review • NYS Secretary of State Approval <p>LWRP Required Elements</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. LWRP Revitalization Area Boundary ii. Inventory & Analysis iii. Local Waterfront Revitalization Policies iv. Proposed Land and Water Uses and Proposed Projects v. Techniques for Local Implementation vi. State Actions and Programs Likely to Affect Implementation vii. Local Commitment and Consultation viii. Compliance with SEQRA <p>Implementing the LWRP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital Projects • Apply for Grants • Local Land Use Controls • Ongoing Process ○ Updating the LWRP • Consistency Review of Local Actions <p>Project Schedule</p> <p>The following are key milestones in the Saranac Lake LWRP Update process:</p> <p>Winter 2021-2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WAC Kick-off • WRA Boundary • Existing Conditions Inventory & Analysis • LWRP Section I & II <p>Spring 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Outreach Plan • First Public Meeting • LWRP Program Policies (Section III)

This document was prepared with funding provided by the New York State Department of State under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund.



Village of Saranac Lake

Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Update

Agenda Item	Discussion
LWRP Overview (Cont'd)	<p>Summer 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draft Proposed Projects• Second Public Meeting <p>Fall 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final Proposed Projects• Local Implementation Techniques• LWRP Sections IV – VII <p>Winter 2022-2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draft LWRP• 60-Day Review• SEQRA Compliance• Adoption of Local Laws• DOS Legal Review <p>Spring 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final DOS Legal Review• State Approval <p>WRA Boundary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Waterfront Revitalization Area (WRA) is the are of focus for the LWRP• Current (original) LWRP Boundary is the Village of Saranac Lake Municipal Boundary• Funding opportunities for proposed projects within WRA• Actions to be determined may be subject to Local Waterfront Consistency Review Law, which will be an outcome of the LWRP effort



Village of Saranac Lake

Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Update

Agenda Item	Discussion
<p style="text-align: center;">Existing Conditions</p>	<p>Sarah Starke (MJ) provided an overview of the existing conditions mapping, which included:</p> <p>Waterfront Revitalization Area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village of Saranac Lake Municipal Boundary • Village covers over 2000 acres • Within Essex & Franklin County • Within the Towns of St. Elba, Saranac Lake, and Harrietstown • Major Routes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Route 3/River Street ○ Route 86/Lake Flower Ave/Broadway <p>Existing Zoning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 35 Zoning Districts • Majority of Lake Flower Waterfront within: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Downtown Commercial (E2, E3) ○ Commercial Gateway (B1, B2, B3, B4) ○ Single-Family Residential (K2) • Saranac River Waterfront within: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Downtown Commercial (E2) ○ Residential (H3) <p>Existing Land Uses within WRA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial: 4% • Commercial Apartments: 2% • Community Services: 14% • Industrial: <1% • Mixed Use: <1% • Parks: 3% • Public Services: <1% • Recreation: 4% • Residential – High Density: 1% • Residential – Low Density: 26% • Residential – Medium Density: 2%

This document was prepared with funding provided by the New York State Department of State under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund.



Village of Saranac Lake

Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Update

Agenda Item	Discussion
Existing Conditions (Cont'd)	<p>Sensitive Environmental Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Steep Slopes<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Mt. Pisgah○ West Side of Lake Flower• 100-year Flood Zones (216 acres)• Federal Wetlands<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Lake Flower○ Saranac River <p>Parks, Trails and Conserved Lands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Key Parks<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Riverside, Riverfront, Prescott○ State Boat Launch○ Baldwin Park○ Lake Colby Beach• Mt. Pisgah Ski Center• Saranac Lake Civic Center• Riverwalk <p>Community and Historic Resources</p> <p>Historic Districts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ NY Central Railroad○ Berkeley Square○ Church Street○ Highland Park○ Cottage Row <p>Over 50 Historic Sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cure Cottages

This document was prepared with funding provided by the New York State Department of State under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund.



Village of Saranac Lake

Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Update

Agenda Item	Discussion
Group Discussions	<p>Sarah Starke (MJ) introduced the purpose of the group discussion exercise: to gather input from the public on opportunities and challenges that exist within Saranac Lake’s WRA. The prompts for the group discussions were:</p> <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ What are some assets within the Village of Saranac Lake?○ What are some possible opportunities to enhance or improve the waterfront? <p>Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ What needs or challenges do you see for the Saranac Lake waterfront? <p>Vision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ What is your vision for the future of the waterfront in Saranac Lake?○ Identify areas where you would like to see improvement. <p>A summary of key public input received during the group discussion included:</p> <p>Important Local Assets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● The river● Lake Flower● Community Spirit● Village properties● All parks● Colby Beach● Waterfront along River St. corridor● Walking paths such as Moody Pond● Restrooms – a big enhancement● Concerts in the park● Farmer’s Market● Great events● Safe community – kids can walk around and not feel threatened● Great environmental focus in the community

This document was prepared with funding provided by the New York State Department of State under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund.



Village of Saranac Lake

Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Update

Agenda Item	Discussion
<p style="text-align: center;">Group Discussions (Cont'd)</p>	<p>Notable Local Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biking – slopes/hills • Very narrow historic layout makes biking dangerous • Crossing the road to Lake Flower • Summer visitors have difficulty and challenge for Ice Palaces, too • Noise from jet skis and snowmobiles • Not enough housing for lower incomes • Balancing the economy, recreation and environmental protection • Could be more/better sidewalks in some places – on Kiwassa Rd. • Impact of short-term rentals – disrupts neighborhood feeling <p>Identified Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rail Trail • Baldwin Park Improvements • Docking along waterfront? Primarily motorized craft • New bike business would be great • Better use of waterfront properties for business <p>Vision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe pedestrian facilities – sidewalks • Plantings – flowers and landscaping • Lake Colby – well-maintained sand volleyball court and improved play park • Look for other opportunities for tennis courts • Baldwin Park is an environmentally sensitive area • Pisgah parking lot a possibility • Town property may be a viable option • Apartments with view of the lake • Eateries along the waterfront – ice cream • People love to eat outside in the summer

This document was prepared with funding provided by the New York State Department of State under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund.



Village of Saranac Lake

Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Update

Agenda Item	Discussion
Next Steps	<p>Sarah Starke (MJ) provided participants with information about the Saranac Lake LWRP Update Survey, accessible via the project page of the Village’s website: www.saranaclakeny.gov. Participants were also invited to submit additional written comments to saranaclakeLWRP@gmail.com.</p> <p>The Waterfront Survey closes on May 27, 2022</p> <p>Goals for WAC Meeting #3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Review public input○ Discuss vision○ Initiate projects discussion <p>Public Meeting #2 is scheduled for Summer 2022</p>

This meeting summary conveys our understanding of the items discussed and agreements reached at this meeting. Please forward any additions, corrections and/or questions to my attention.

Submitted by:
Sarah Starke, MJ Engineering and Land Surveying, PC

cc: Consultant Team, Waterfront Advisory Committee, Village Planning & Zoning Department, Project File