



# Village of Saranac Lake

## Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Update

### MEETING SUMMARY

**Purpose:** Waterfront Advisory Committee (WAC) – Kick-Off/Meeting #1  
**Date and Time:** Thursday, December 9, 2021, 5:00 PM  
**Location:** Town Hall Auditorium, 39 Main Street Saranac Lake  
**Attendees:** See Attached

Agenda Item	Discussion	Key Decisions & Outcomes
<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b>	<p>Jaclyn Hakes (MJ) welcomes everyone to the first Waterfront Advisory Committee (WAC) meeting.</p> <p>Jaclyn Hakes (MJ) introduces the consultant team that will be assisting the Village through the process.</p>	N/A
<b>Roles &amp; Responsibilities</b>	<p>Jaclyn Hakes (MJ) presented an overview of the Roles and Responsibilities for the duration of the project.</p> <p>The Village will be adopting the Final LWRP and will ensure the final plan and recommendations are consistent with existing local plans.</p> <p>The Department of State (DOS) is the funding agency and will guide the contract process between the Village and the State. DOS will also provide technical management.</p> <p>The Waterfront Advisory Committee (WAC) will be reviewing materials prepared by the Consultant team and will communicate the process and program to the community and their networks.</p> <p>The Consultant team, including MJ Engineering, CLA Site and Shumaker Engineering will assist the Village and WAC through facilitation of meetings, preparation of materials including the Waterfront Plan, publicity, and public engagement.</p>	N/A

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	Key Decisions & Outcomes
<p><b>Overview of the LWRP</b></p>	<p>Katherine Hogle (DOS) presented an overview of the LWRP program and process.</p> <p>An LWRP is a land and water use plan as well as a strategy to implement the program. The plan addresses development, waterfront access, protecting natural &amp; cultural resources, erosion, flooding, and other topics.</p> <p>Benefits of the LWRP include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attract appropriate development</li> <li>• Protect waterfront and other valued resources</li> <li>• Eligibility for further funding</li> <li>• Establishes consensus</li> <li>• Creates long-term partnerships (among Community-based organizations and state agencies)</li> <li>• Provides a comprehensive framework for decision-making</li> </ul> <p>Additionally, actions by state agencies (permits, funding), must be consistent with the LWRP.</p> <p>The LWRP Planning Process includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Form Waterfront Advisory Committee</li> <li>• Develop Vision, Goals &amp; Objectives</li> <li>• Review previous planning</li> <li>• Inventory &amp; Analysis of Local Resources</li> <li>• Draft and Review Required Sections</li> <li>• Village “acceptance” of draft</li> <li>• 60-Day Public Review</li> <li>• Incorporation of public comments</li> <li>• Local adoption of LWRP &amp; Local Laws</li> <li>• DOS Final Legal Review</li> <li>• NYS Secretary of State Approval</li> <li>• Federal Approval if required</li> </ul> <p>The required elements of an LWRP include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. LWRP Revitalization Area Boundary</li> <li>II. Inventory and Analysis</li> </ol>	<p>More information can be found in the <a href="#">DOS LWRP Guidance Document</a></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	Key Decisions & Outcomes
<p><b>Overview of the LWRP (cont'd)</b></p>	<p>III. Local Waterfront Revitalization Policies            IV. Proposed Land and Water Uses and Proposed Projects            V. Techniques for Local Implementation            VI. Federal and State Actions and Programs Likely to Affect Implementation            VII. Local Commitment and Consultation            VIII. Compliance with SEQRA</p> <p>I. <b>LWRP Revitalization Area Boundary</b> will define the land and waterside areas that are included in the LWRP. This boundary is the focus of the study area and describes the legal limits of the jurisdiction of the plans, projects, and policies of the LWRP.</p> <p>II. <b>Inventory and Analysis</b> will include a series of existing conditions mapping to help understand the LWRP area.</p> <p>III. <b>Local Waterfront Revitalization Policies.</b> The New York State waterfront revitalization policies address the use and protection of the state’s waterfront resources. Communities may refine the explanations of the policies by adding local conditions that are important to the community.</p> <p>IV. <b>Proposed Land and Water Uses and Proposed Projects</b> identifies future land and water uses as well as projects. The community determines, describes, and documents the types and patterns of long-term land and water uses that are desirable and appropriate given the resources and vision.</p> <p>The LWRP will then describe and illustrate existing land and water uses, new uses that will be encouraged to be developed, and existing uses you hope to change, redevelop, revitalize, restore, and improve.</p> <p>The community’s vision, findings from the inventory and analysis, and application of waterfront policies will all contribute to the development of the LWRP.</p>	<p>More information can be found in the <a href="#">DOS LWRP Guidance Document</a></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	Key Decisions & Outcomes
<p><b>Overview of the LWRP (cont'd)</b></p>	<p>Projects that are proposed in the LWRP should contribute to achieving the waterfront vision. Projects advanced through municipal and other public funding should be strategic and serve as catalysts for private investment.</p> <p>V. <b>Techniques for Local Implementation</b> will describe how the policies, proposed uses and projects will be implemented.</p> <p>VI. <b>Federal and State Actions and Programs Likely to Affect Implementation</b> (Provided by DOS). Federal and state projects or permits proposed in designated coastal zones receive consistency review. DOS reviews Federal actions and the applicable state agency (such as DEC) reviews state actions.</p> <p>VII. <b>Local Commitment and Consultation</b> describes the local process engaged to prepare the LWRP, individuals and organizations involved, and how they have contributed to the LWRP.</p> <p>VIII. <b>Compliance with SEQRA</b> - Community initiates SEQR and submits documentation to DOS. The section will include a description of the SEQR process undertaken, identification of the lead agency, Environmental Assessment Form and the associated SEQRA determination statement (positive or negative declaration).</p> <p>The LWRP Review process will involve review of Sections by DOS. Upon submission of the Final Full LWRP additional steps will be completed including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 60-day Public Review</li> <li>• Incorporation of public comments</li> <li>• Local adoption of LWRP &amp; Local Laws</li> <li>• DOS Final Legal Review</li> <li>• NYS Secretary of State Approval</li> </ul>	<p>More information can be found in the <a href="#">DOS LWRP Guidance Document</a></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	Key Decisions & Outcomes
<p><b>Overview of the LWRP (cont'd)</b></p>	<p>The last stage of the LWRP is Implementation. This is ongoing and will include capital projects, applying for grants, local land use controls, updating the LWRP if necessary and finally consistency review of local actions.</p>	<p>More information can be found in the <a href="#">DOS LWRP Guidance Document</a></p>
<p><b>Project Scope &amp; Schedule</b></p>	<p>Jaclyn Hakes (MJ) presented an overview of the project tasks. The project tasks include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Task 6: Project Meeting</li> <li>• Task 7: Community Outreach Plan</li> <li>• Task 8: LWRP Section I – Waterfront Revitalization Area Boundary</li> <li>• Task 9: LWRP Section II – Inventory &amp; Analysis</li> <li>• Task 10: First Public Information Meeting</li> <li>• Task 11: LWRP Section III – Local Waterfront Revitalization Policies</li> <li>• Task 12: LWRP Section IV – Proposed Land Uses &amp; proposed Projects</li> </ul> <p>Andris Blumbergs (MJ) presented an overview of projects proposed in the 2004 LWRP and their status including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lake Flower</li> <li>• Riverside Park</li> <li>• State Boat Launch</li> <li>• Prescott Park</li> <li>• Mountain Mist Park</li> <li>• Baldwin Park</li> <li>• Lake Colby Beach</li> <li>• Traffic Improvements</li> </ul> <p>Sarah Starke (MJ) presented an overview of major planning efforts since the 2004 LWRP including the 2018 Parks Vision Plan and 2019 Downtown Revitalization Initiative.</p>	<p>N/A</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	Key Decisions & Outcomes
<p><b>Project Scope &amp; Schedule (cont'd)</b></p>	<p>The Parks Vision Plan, completed in 2018, was developed with funding through the LWRP. The Vision Plan evaluated parks and recreational opportunities throughout the Village, many of which were proposed in the 2004 LWRP Plan. The Vision Plan included conceptual design and preliminary cost estimates for future improvements.</p> <p>The Parks Vision Plan set the stage for several public projects ultimately funding through the 2019 Downtown Revitalization Initiative including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ward- Plumadore Park Improvements</li> <li>• Berkley Green Park Improvements</li> <li>• William Morris Park Improvements</li> <li>• Woodruff Street Improvements</li> <li>• Riverwalk</li> <li>• Saranac Lake Whitewater Park</li> </ul> <p>Other projects from the Parks Vision Plan including Riverfront, Riverside and Prescott Park improvements, were considered during the DRI, but ultimately not recommended for funding. These projects may be a starting point during the development of projects for the LWRP update.</p> <p>Jaclyn Hakes (MJ) continued the overview of project tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Task 13: Second Public Informational Meeting</li> <li>• Task 14: LWRP Section V – Techniques for Local Implementation</li> <li>• Task 15: LWRP Section VI – Federal &amp; State Actions &amp; Programs Likely to Affect Implementation of the LWRP</li> <li>• Task 16: LWRP Section VII – Local Commitment &amp; Consultation</li> <li>• Task 17: SEQR Compliance</li> <li>• Task 18: Draft LWRP (Includes DOS Legal Review and 60-day review)</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</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	Key Decisions & Outcomes
<p><b>Project Scope &amp; Schedule (cont'd)</b></p>	<p>WAC meetings throughout the projects will be held in a combination of Virtual and In-person format.</p> <p>To assist with the process and identification of future project, MJ will utilize mobile mapping/webmap technology to help facilitate discussions.</p> <p>Jaclyn Hakes (MJ) presented an overview of the project schedule. The current schedule runs from December 2021 through March 2023 and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bi-monthly WAC meetings (combination of in-person and virtual)</li> <li>• Stakeholder Group meetings (TBD Winter 2022)</li> <li>• Two Public Meetings (TBD Winter, Summer 2022)</li> <li>• Two Village Board Updates</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Interactive Work Session:</b></p> <p><b>Opportunities &amp; Challenges</b></p>	<p>Jaclyn Hakes (MJ) led a mini visioning discussion with prompt questions for the committee.</p> <p>1. What are the top three challenges for your waterfront area?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lake Flower invasive species               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Raising awareness</li> <li>○ Implementation – potential boat wash station</li> <li>○ Downstream impacts on other waters</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Lake Colby invasive species               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Potential boat wash station</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Concern regarding Hydro dam structure</li> <li>• Riparian buffers               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Not many in Village</li> <li>○ Addressing this will help Climate Smart gain additional points</li> </ul> </li> <li>• More ice fluctuation with temperature changes, climate change impacts</li> <li>• Flooding</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</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	Key Decisions & Outcomes
<p><b>Interactive Work Session:</b></p> <p><b>Opportunities &amp; Challenges (cont'd)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impact of road salt, sand on water quality</li> <li>• Heavy truck traffic near Riverfront/Riverside Park</li> <li>• Ice less stable (on Lake Flower), dogs sometimes go through the ice</li> <li>• Pollution from boaters – noise, gas from engines</li> <li>• Fishing related trash               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Opportunities for education</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Challenge with educating visitors vs. residents</li> <li>• Lake Colby improvements, discussion of fencing</li> <li>• Traffic/Signal timing on Church Street/River Street</li> <li>• Geese issues on Lake Flower</li> <li>• Need for better hand launching at Lake Flower</li> <li>• Better marking/signage for Canoe Carry</li> <li>• General connectivity for pedestrians between areas               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Signage along River Street limited by requirements with DOT</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Rail Trail access to the waterfront, and Downtown               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Opportunities along Brandy Brooke Ave</li> </ul> </li> <li>• River Street crossing for pedestrians – only stoplight is on Church Street. Limited opportunities for safe crossing.</li> </ul> <p><b>2. What are the top three opportunities?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of green infrastructure in village parking lots adjacent to waterways; reduce runoff</li> <li>• Rail-trail               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Need for several rail-trail access points to the waterfront</li> <li>○ Opportunities within causeway. Will add to the experience of Lake Colby and Little Lake Colby</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Turtle crossing near Lake Colby</li> <li>• Ways to reduce road salt               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Opportunity to partner with Adirondack Action</li> <li>○ Many issues are from State Roads</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>N/A</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	Key Decisions & Outcomes
<p><b>Interactive Work Session:</b></p> <p><b>Opportunities &amp; Challenges (cont'd)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Village rarely uses road salt, primarily limited to sidewalk use</li> <li>○ Private property use of road salts (primarily business parking lots)</li> <li>● Confirm park concepts from Vision Plan               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ How to activate existing spaces?</li> <li>○ How have public needs changed?</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Lake Colby Beach               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Challenge with plan with regard to NYS Department of Health (DOH). DOH requires beach to be closed if lifeguard not on duty. Fencing the beach area would allow for the rest of the park to remain open when a lifeguard is not on duty. Just the fenced area could be closed instead of the entire park.</li> <li>○ Discuss options to incorporate into design while allowing area to be used year round</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Village Parks (Berkley Green, Riverfront) are loud due to truck traffic               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Opportunity for noise buffers</li> <li>○ Opportunity for WiFi</li> </ul> </li> <li>● The Saranac Lake chain is an opportunity               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Village provides access, “jumping off point” for adventures throughout the chain.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Interpretation along Lake Flower – highlight cultural heritage</li> <li>● Interpretation for birding and wildlife (rail-trail, Lake Colby, Little Lake Colby)</li> <li>● Embrace the 90 miler Canoe Race more</li> <li>● Lack of event space at Lake Colby launch – need for year round public bathroom</li> <li>● Consistent message on water quality issues.</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p>



# Village of Saranac Lake

## Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Update

Agenda Item	Discussion	Key Decisions & Outcomes
<b>Next Steps</b>	<p>Jaclyn Hakes (MJ) presented the next steps for the project.</p> <p>The next WAC meeting will be held virtually in February 2022. The meeting will include a discussion of the Waterfront Revitalization Boundary.</p> <p>The Consultant team will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare a Community Outreach Plan</li> <li>• Gather previous planning documents and data</li> <li>• Initiative the existing conditions mapping and inventory.</li> <li>• Identify potential stakeholders.</li> </ul>	<p>The next WAC meeting will be held virtually - TBD February 2022</p>
<b>Next Steps (cont'd)</b>	<p>Discussion of public engagement methods. Suggestion for outreach to be primarily virtual due to seasonal residents. Outreach should include passive feedback opportunities.</p>	<p>The next WAC meeting will be held virtually - TBD February 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



# Village of Saranac Lake

## Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Update

### ATTENDANCE

Name	Affiliation
Jamie Konkoski, Chair	Community Development Director, Village of Saranac Lake, WAC Chair
Ashley Milne	Harrietstown Council member, WAC member
Becca Halter	Climate Smart Taskforce, WAC member
Caroline Kessner	Climate Smart Taskforce
Emmett Smith	WAC member
Jason Smith	Adirondack Outfitters, WAC member
Jeremy Evans	Franklin County IDA, WAC member
Nina Schoch	Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation, WAC member
Zoe Smith	Paul Smith's College, WAC member
Rich Webber	Saranac Lake Planning & Development Board
Katherine Hogle	NYSDOS, Office of Planning, Development and Community Infrastructure
Jaclyn Hakes	MJ Engineering
Andris Blumbergs	MJ Engineering
Sarah Starke	MJ Engineering
Peter Loyola	CLA Site
Nathan Horstman	Shumaker Engineering