The City of Rochester's Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP)

"A 30 Year Success Story for Rochester's Three Great Waterways: Lake Ontario, the Genesee River and the Erie Canal"

Presentation to New York State Department of State July 9, 2015



Rochester's LWRP: A 30 Year Success Story Presentation Outline





Presentation Outline:

- (1) LWRP History/Background
- (2) Waterfront Tour
- (3) Waterfront Resources
- (4) Waterfront Successes
- (5) Waterfront Issues/Opportunities

- Almost 30 years of LWRP planning, public participation and project implementation have been completed by the City of Rochester. During that time, the LWRP has provided a clear vision and critical set of policies, goals and recommendations to guide the future development of the Lake Ontario shoreline, and the Genesee River and Erie Canal corridors.
- Major waterfront development projects that have been implemented within the current and expanded LWRP boundary include the Genesee River wave surge project, Port Site redevelopment and new marina, River Street redevelopment, Genesee River Trail segments, O'Rorke Bridge, other park, bridge and trail improvements, signage and wayfinding improvements, land acquisition, river overlooks, and other public infrastructure and environmental remediation improvements.
- Rochester's LWRP has resulted in significant waterfront access improvements, water quality improvements, water-dependent and water-enhanced recreational improvements and erosion and flooding control improvements within the program boundary (lake, river and canal).
- The city's LWRP has leveraged millions of dollars of public and private financing for implementation of water-dependent and water-enhanced development projects within the boundary. The LWRP has also leveraged significant funding from state and federal planning grants to complete a wide variety of waterfront planning, design and public participation activities.
- Rochester's LWRP has created significant opportunities for the public (residents, neighborhood organizations, property owners and other stakeholders) to become involved in and affect the overall development of the city's waterfront areas. The LWRP has been an important tool and "venue" for community feedback and input regarding the city's overall waterfront vision, goals, policies and implementation recommendations. Thousands of residents have participated in the LWRP planning process during the past 30 years through various community meetings, public information meetings, focus group meetings, special events, conferences and on-line surveys.

1972

Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) passed by Congress; as a result, New York State creates the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) for its coastal communities.

1990

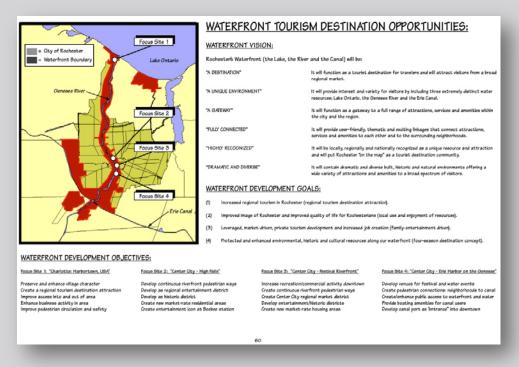
Rochester's LWRP is written by City Planning Office and adopted by City Council and NYSDOS; Major projects implemented from the plan include Genesee River Trail segments, O'Rorke Bridge over the Genesee River, Army Corps of Engineers Wave Surge Project at the Port of Rochester and various public infrastructure improvements at city and county parks.



1990 LWRP Port Development Plan

1999

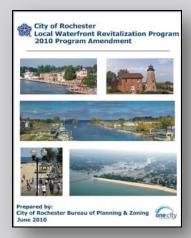
Draft LWRP Update written by City Planning Office and submitted to NYSDOS for approval; Fast Ferry development begins at Port Site; Draft LWRP Update never receives final approval from NYSDOS; New City Comprehensive Plan that address waterfront development opportunities completed by City Planning Office and adopted by City Council (Renaissance Plan).



"The Renaissance Plan" (1999)
Waterfront Development Vision/Goals
Incorporated into Draft LWRP Update

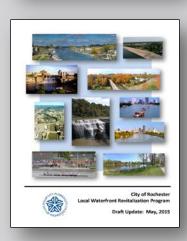
2011

Funded by NYSDOS EPF grant, LWRP Amendment completed by City Planning Office to address termination of Fast Ferry operations at Port Site and new marina proposal and other landside redevelopment plans for the area; Amendment approved by NYSDOS.



2012 - 2015

Funded by NYSDOS EPF grant, LWRP Update Project undertaken by City Planning Office; Update expands LWRP boundary to include all of the city's waterfront areas and will address new waterfront planning priorities and opportunities. Harbor Management Plan for Port area also prepared. Update coordinated with preparation of Health Impact Assessment (HIA) by U of R.

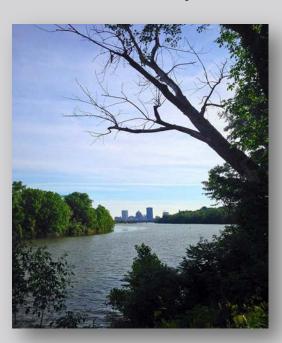


2015 LWRP Waterfront Vision:

"The City of Rochester's three great waterways and their unique assets and resources are a "world-class" attraction that enhances the quality of life for residents and visitors, preserves and protects the environment, encourages economic investment and is integrated into the fabric of our community."

2015 LWRP Waterfront Goals:

- Promote connectivity and accessibility
- Encourage sustainability
- Develop four-season destination attractions
- Encourage appropriate investment
- Preserve community character
- Create a healthy place to live, work and play



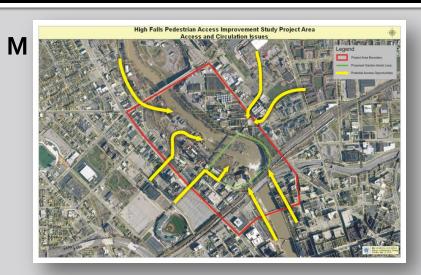
2015 LWRP - Current Project Highlights:

Key current project recommendation highlights include:

- (B) Port of Rochester Marina and Landside Development (Phase I)
- (J) Brewery Line / CSX Trail Connection
- (L) JOSANA Rails to Trails Project
- (M) High Falls Access Improvement Study
- (N) Crossroads Garage / Charles Caroll Park Redevelopment Study
- (P) Vacuum Oil BOA Plan
- (R) Genesee Valley Park Master Plan
- (T) Genesee River Natural Resource Plan

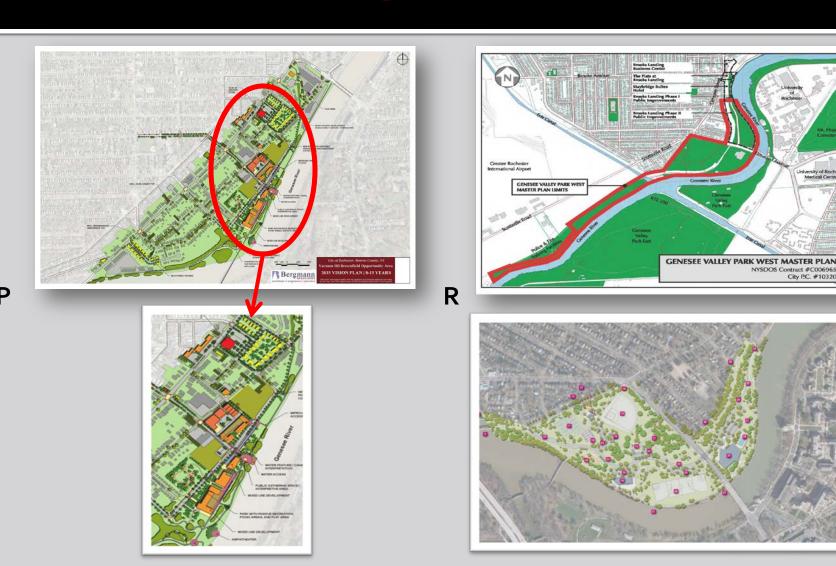








Current LWRP Projects



Current LWRP Projects

2015 LWRP – Future Project Highlights:

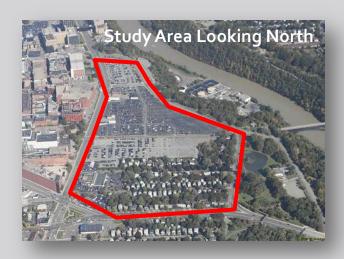
Key proposed or future project recommendation highlights include:

- (#7) Port of Rochester Marina and Landside Development (Phase II)
- (#11) River Street / Latta Road Mixed-Use Redevelopment
- (#16) Lake Avenue / Ridge Road / Maplewood Drive Planning Study
- (#21) "Genesee Falls Park" Master Plan
- (#25) High Falls Zip Line Attraction
- (#26) "GardenAerial" Trail Node / High Falls Access Improvements
- (#27) Riverfront Promenade / Charles Caroll Park Improvements
- (#31) Erie Canal Aqueduct Redevelopment
- (#40) Vacuum Oil BOA Plan Implementation Projects
- (#43) Westside Canal Parkway, Trail and Access Improvements
- (#44) LWRP Management / Oversight Structure

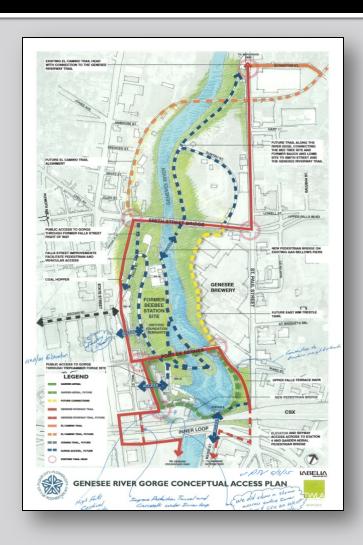


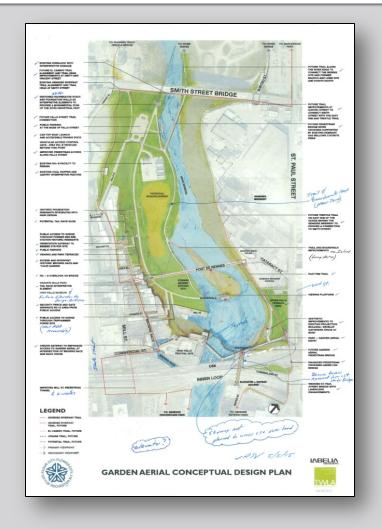


(#7) Port Redevelopment Project: Phase I and II









(#21) "Genesee Falls Park" Master Plan

(#26) "GardenAerial" Project





(#21) "Genesee Falls Park" Master Plan - Potential New Pedestrian Bridge Location



(#26) "GardenAerial" Project









(#31) Erie Canal Aqueduct / Broad Street Corridor Redevelopment Project



(#40) Vacuum Oil BOA Implementation Projects





Northeast Region

ORLEANS
COUNTY

ERIE CANVAL
CITY OF
ROCHESTER
COUNTY

GENESEE
COUNTY

ONTARIO
COUNTY

LIVINGSTON
COUNTY

Western New York Finger Lakes

Monroe County

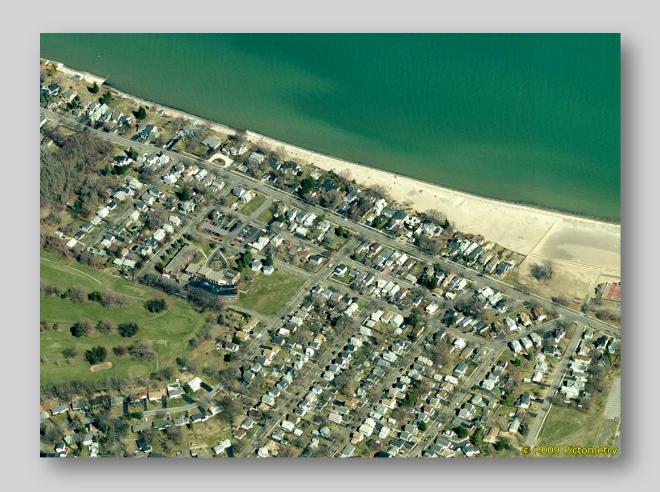
Rochester's "Three Great Waterways" - Lake Ontario, Genesee River, Erie Canal



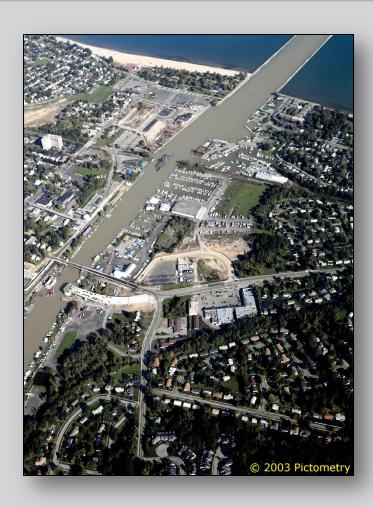
LWRP Boundary:

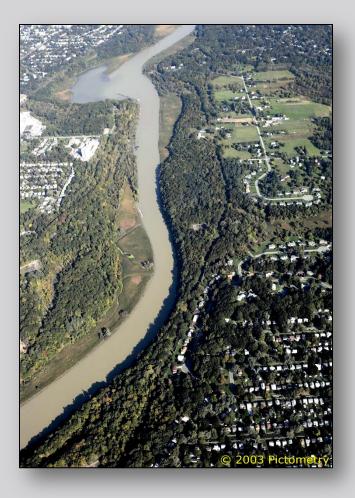
The original 1990 LWRP program boundary (in white) has been expanded in the 2015 LWRP update. The boundary has been extended from Lower Falls south to include High Falls, downtown Rochester (Center City riverfront), the south river corridor, Genesee Valley Park, Erie Canal waterfront and the Densmore Creek ROW.





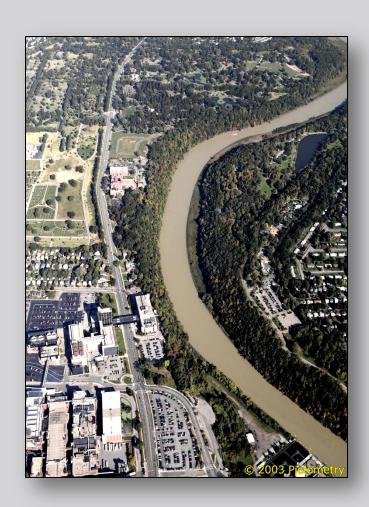
Lake Ontario Shoreline / Charlotte Neighborhood / Beach Avenue

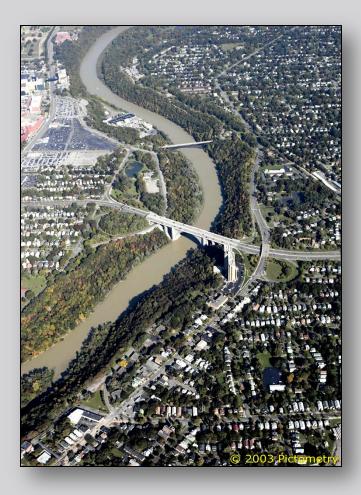




Genesee River at Lake Ontario

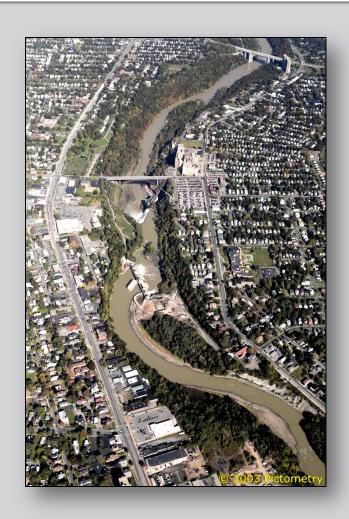
Genesee River at Turning Basin

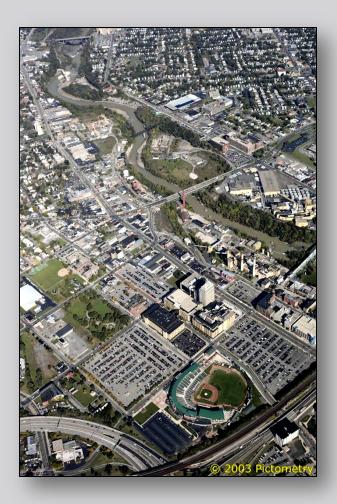




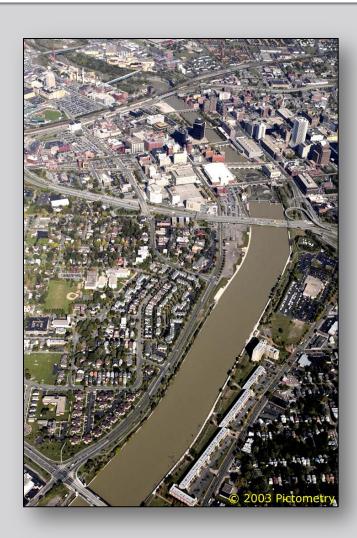
Genesee River at Seneca Park

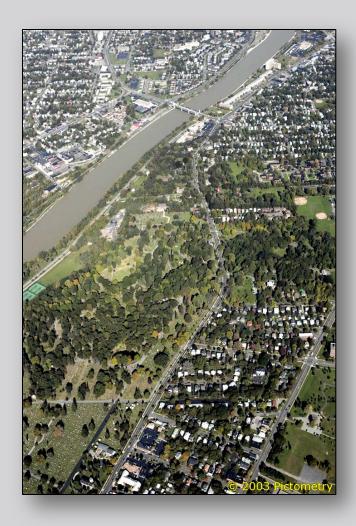
Genesee River at Maplewood Park



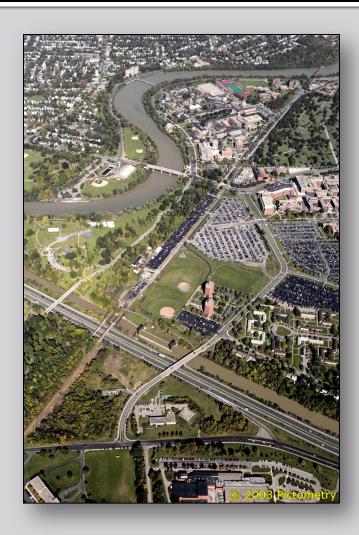


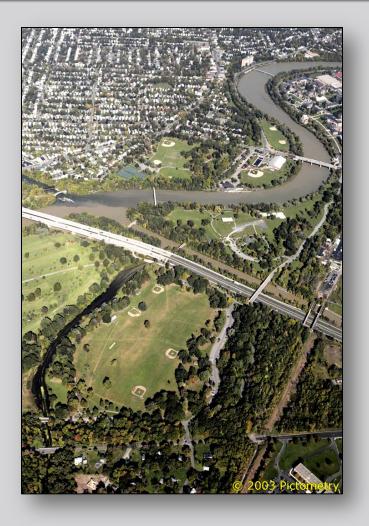
Genesee River Gorge: Lower Falls, Middle Falls



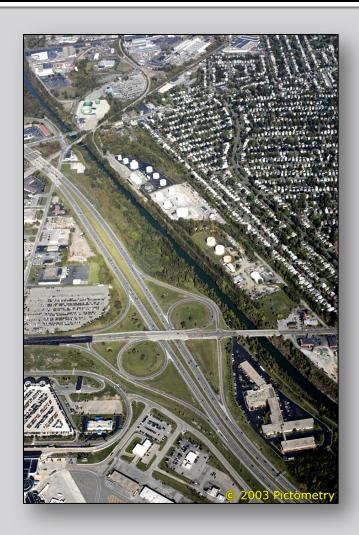


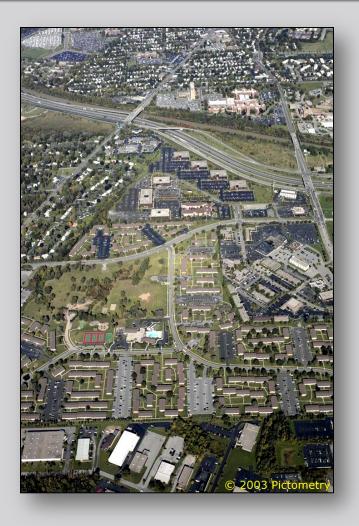
Genesee River: High Falls, Downtown Rochester and South River Corridor



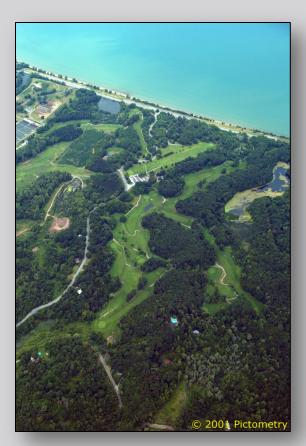


Genesee River South Corridor and Confluence with Erie Canal

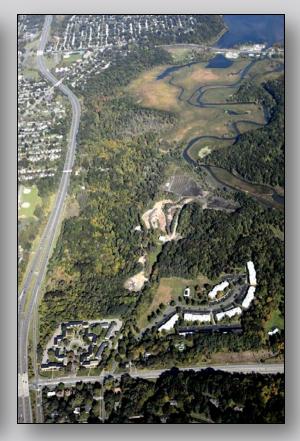




Erie Canal: Western Canal and Eastern Canal







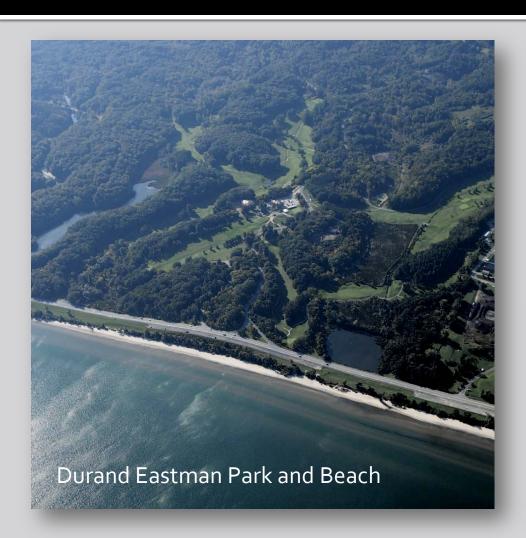
Lake Ontario at Durand Eastman Park/Beach, Densmore Creek and Tryon Park (Irondequoit Bay)







City of Rochester Waterfront Resources and Assets Identified in LWRP





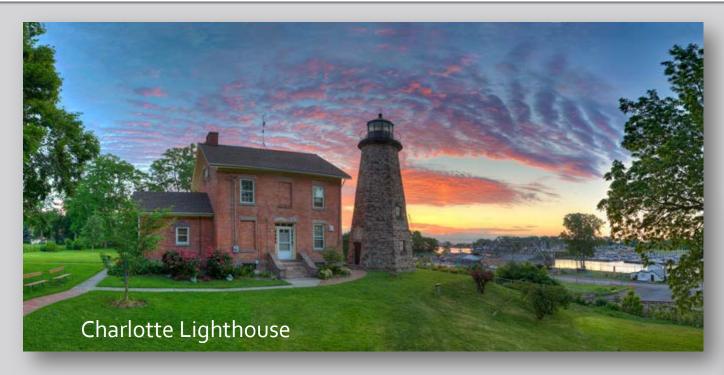


City of Rochester Waterfront Resources and Assets Identified in LWRP





City of Rochester Waterfront Resources and Assets Identified in LWRP







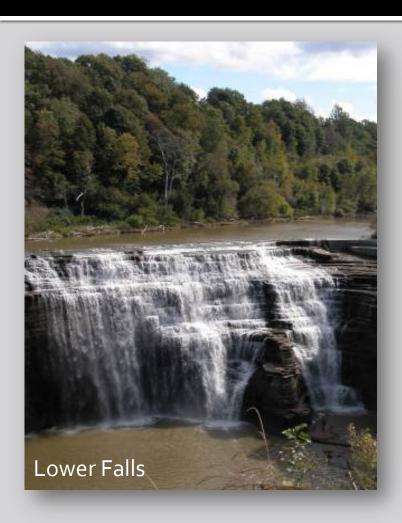
City of Rochester Waterfront Resources and Assets Identified in LWRP



City of Rochester Waterfront Resources and Assets Identified in LWRP

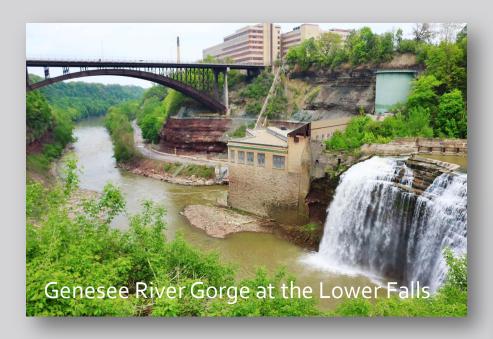


City of Rochester Waterfront Resources and Assets Identified in LWRP

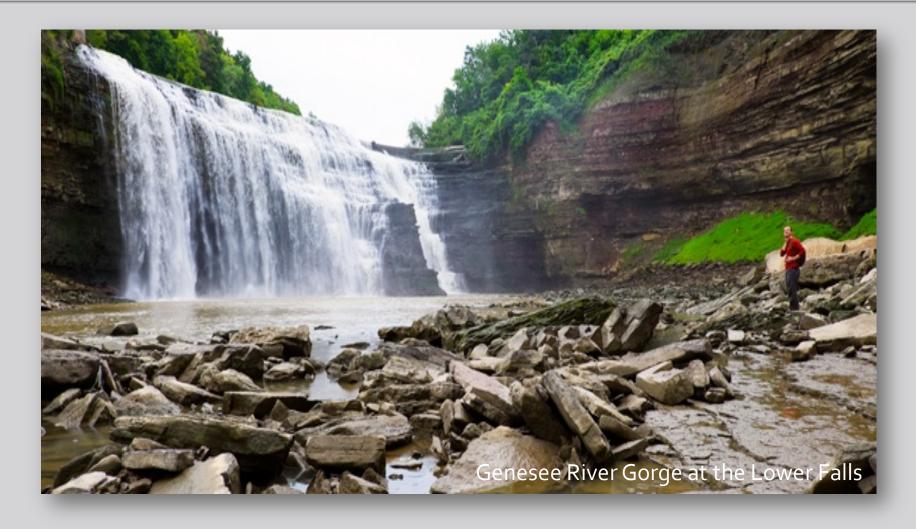




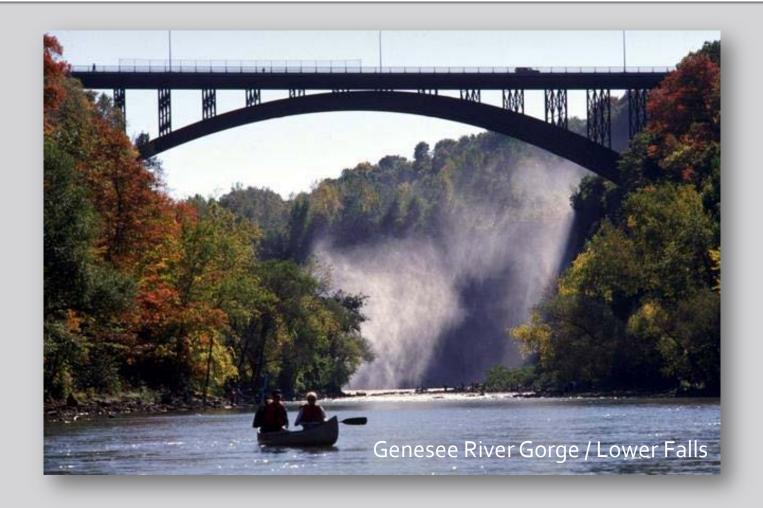
City of Rochester Waterfront Resources and Assets Identified in LWRP



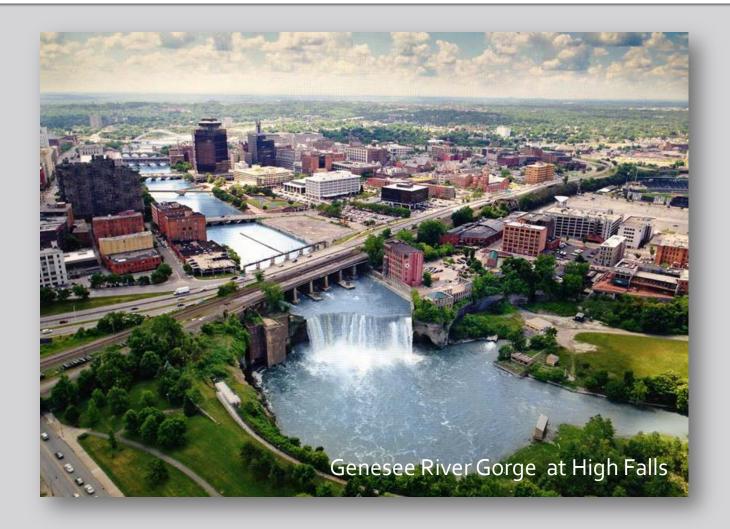




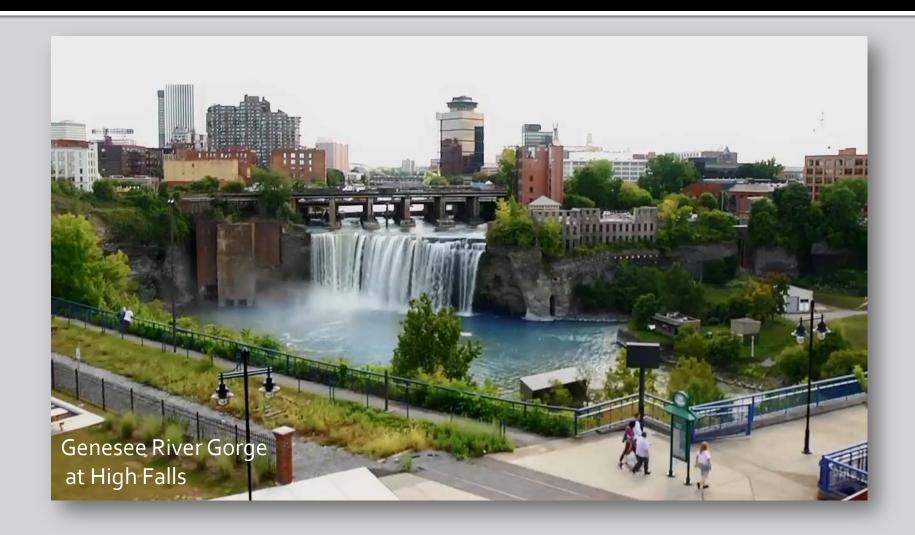
City of Rochester Waterfront Resources and Assets Identified in LWRP



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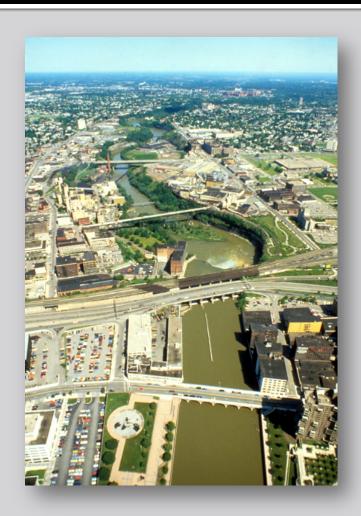
City of Rochester Waterfront Resources and Assets Identified in LWRP

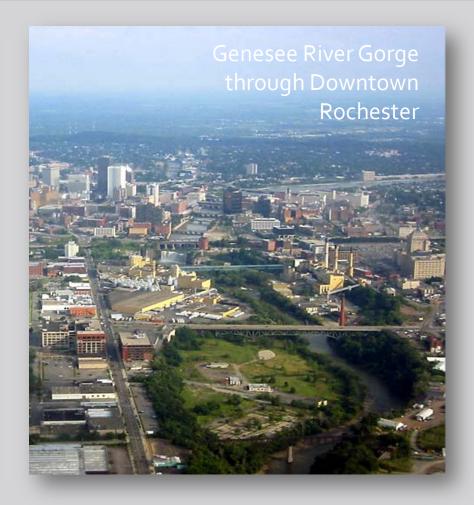










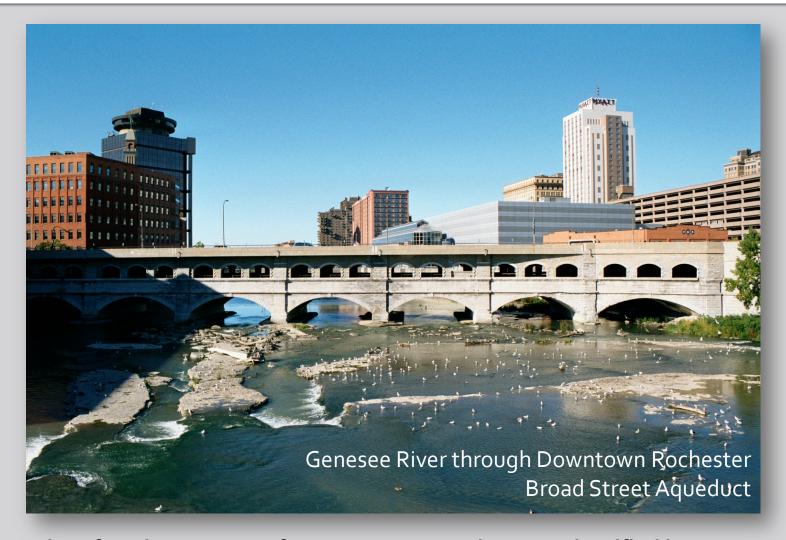








City of Rochester Waterfront Resources and Assets Identified in LWRP



City of Rochester Waterfront Resources and Assets Identified in LWRP



City of Rochester Waterfront Resources and Assets Identified in LWRP

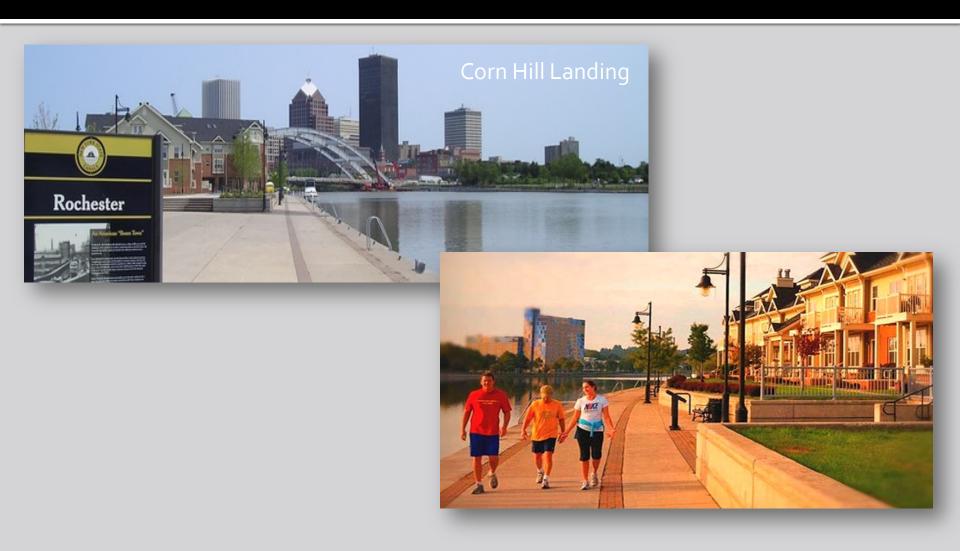


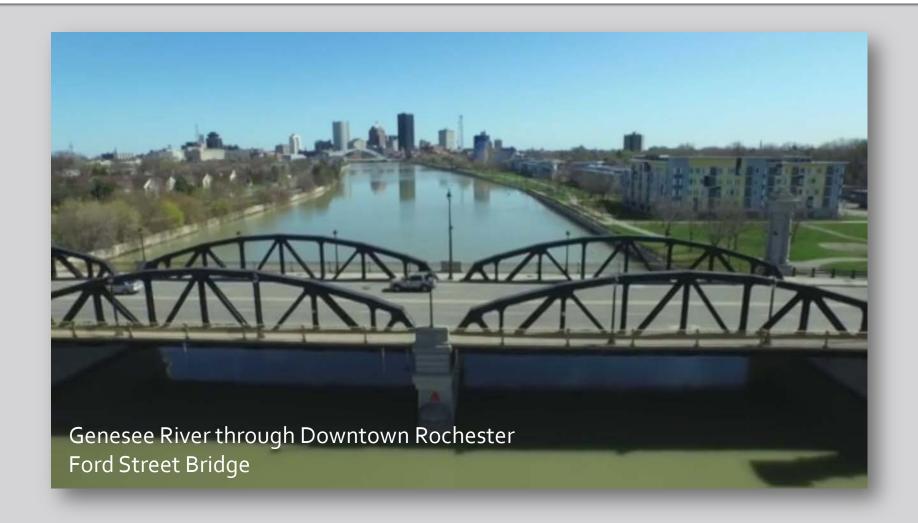




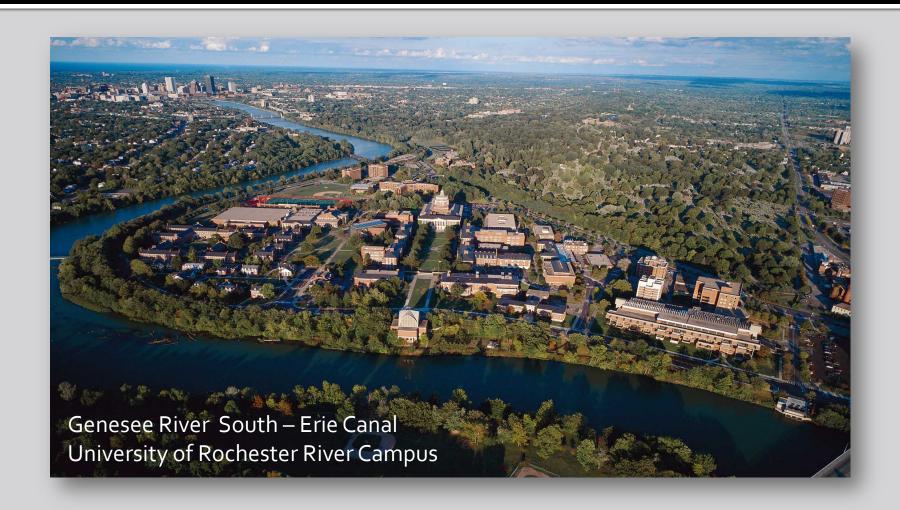
City of Rochester Waterfront Resources and Assets Identified in LWRP























City of Rochester Waterfront Resources and Assets Identified in LWRP





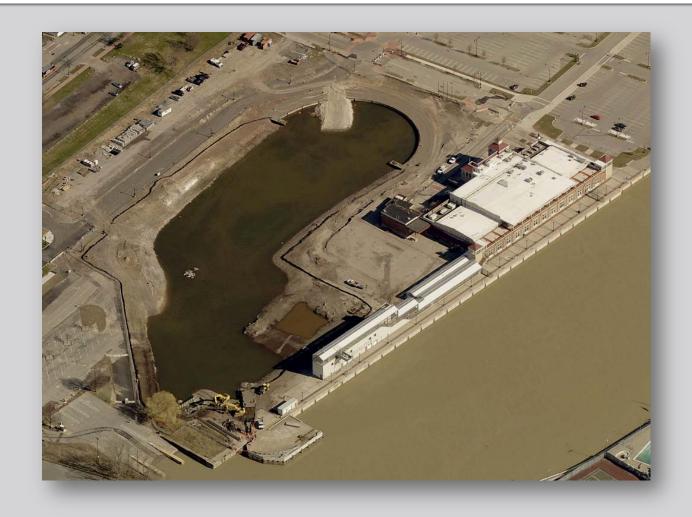








LWRP Projects: Genesee River Wave Surge Project



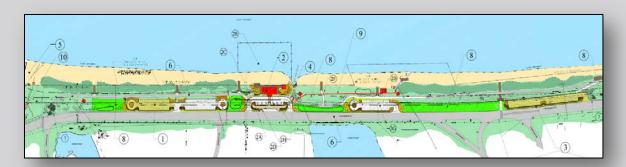
LWRP Projects: Port Redevelopment Project / New Marina



LWRP Projects: Ontario Beach Park Algae Control Project



LWRP Projects: Durand Eastman Park Beach Water Quality Improvement Project









LWRP Projects: Durand Eastman Park Beach Improvements







LWRP Projects: New O'Rorke Bridge





LWRP Projects: River Street Improvements, Boat Docks and Trail



LWRP Projects: Port River Trail and Promenade

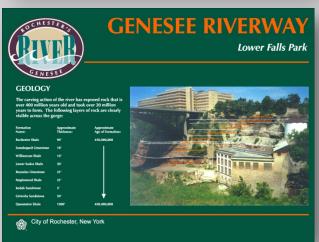


LWRP Projects: Turning Basin Elevated Pedestrian Trail / Catwalk (Genesee River Trail)



LWRP Projects: Maplewood Park and Genesee River Trail Improvements







LWRP Projects: Lower Falls Park and Trail Improvements







LWRP Projects: High Falls Improvements - Vincent Street Trail





LWRP Projects: Douglass / Anthony Bridge



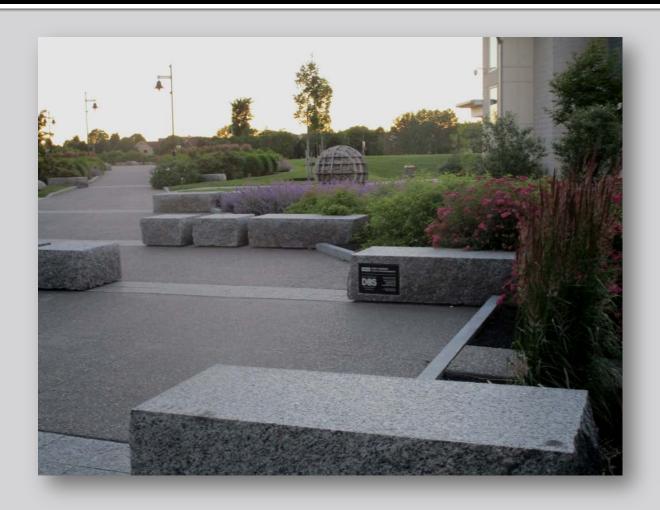
LWRP Projects: Genesee River Trail Improvements (Corn Hill to Downtown)







LWRP Projects: Corn Hill Landing



LWRP Projects: Erie Harbor Enhancements and Trail Improvements

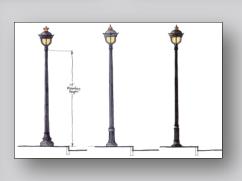


LWRP Projects: Ford Street Bridge Improvements







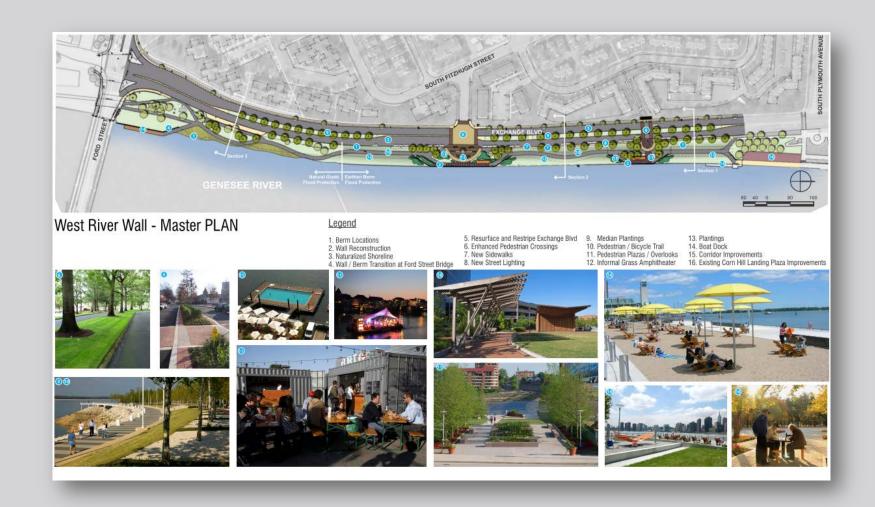




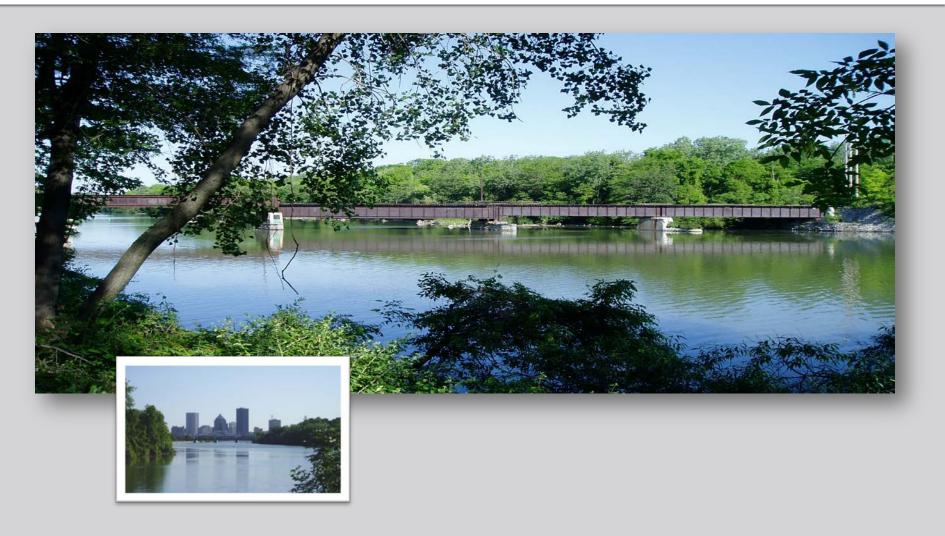
LWRP Projects: Ford Street Bridge Improvements



LWRP Projects: Genesee River West Wall Improvements



LWRP Projects: Genesee River West Wall Improvements

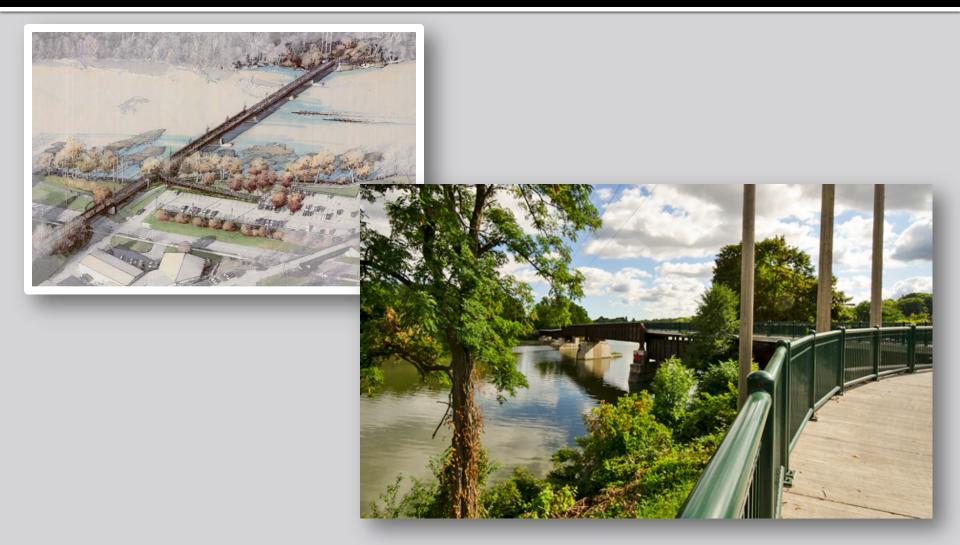


LWRP Projects: Erie Lackawanna Pedestrian Bridge





LWRP Projects: Erie Lackawanna Pedestrian Bridge



LWRP Projects: Erie Lackawanna Pedestrian Bridge







LWRP Projects: Brooks Landing Project and River Trail Improvements









LWRP Projects: Brooks Landing Project and River Trail Improvements

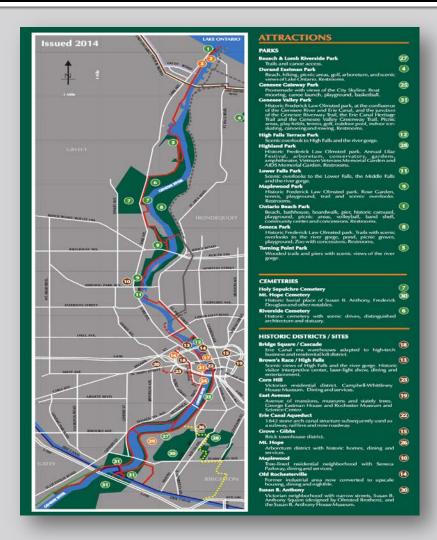








LWRP Projects: Genesee River Trail Improvements (Corridor Wide)





Rochester's LWRP: A 30 Year Success Story Waterfront Issues/Opportunities

LWRP Consistency

- Local, state and federal permitting, funding and direct actions must be consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with an approved LWRP. This "consistency" provision is a strong tool that helps ensure all government levels work in unison and cooperate to build a stronger economy and a healthier environment.
- The City of Rochester adopted a local consistency law in 1990 and will continue to utilize provisions of that ordinance to ensure that new development and activities along the waterfront (both public and private) are planned, designed and implemented in a manner that is consistent with the city's LWRP vision statement, goals, policies and land use and project recommendations.
- The 2015 LWRP Update and HMP recommend that new development review and land use coordination procedures be implemented that will help ensure that consistency is further institutionalized within the city's current development review process and is further enhanced through coordination efforts with other waterfront communities, agencies and stakeholders.

Rochester's LWRP: A 30 Year Success Story Waterfront Issues/Opportunities

Critical LWRP Issues / Opportunities

- Continue with Phase II of the Port Site Redevelopment Project, relocate the boat launch and county maintenance facility and expand the Phase I marina.
- Plan, design and implement the "Genesee River Falls Park" concept within the Genesee River Gorge to include the Lower, Middle and High Falls areas and appropriate pedestrian trail access and connections, waterfront parks and other water-enhanced amenities
- Develop the "GardenAerial" trail loop/node concept within High Falls; create and support a High Falls "eco-district" to promote environmental sustainability and waterfront resource protection and enhancement within the High Falls District.
- Promote the redevelopment of the Broad Street corridor and the re-watering of the Broad Street Aqueduct; support improved pedestrian access to, across and along the Genesee River within Center City Rochester.
- Continue to develop new trail connections, segments and amenities for the Genesee River Trial as well as other pedestrian access improvements along the waterfront; create a continuous river-oriented trail and signage system from Lake Ontario south to the Erie Canal and beyond.
- Redevelop selected sites within the LWRP boundary for water-enhanced or water-dependent uses and development (recreation, public space, open space, mixed-use, boat slips/docks, etc.)
- Implement the recommendations of the LWRP and HMP regarding harbor management, harbor improvements, environmental and resource protection and waterway promotion and marketing.

Rochester's LWRP: A 30 Year Success Story Waterfront Issues/Opportunities

LWRP Management Structure

- Create a Waterfront Owners and Operators Association to improve collaboration, advocacy, and promotion related to harbor operations and waterfront development issues throughout the LWRP boundary.
- Reassess the need for a waterfront-wide management entity after completion of the new marina and the Phase 1 landside development at the Port Site.
- Develop a specific regional promotion and marketing strategy for the City of Rochester's "Three Great Waterways" that will focus on attracting visitors and tourists to the city's waterfront areas (lake, river and canal). This strategy should promote Lake Ontario and the Erie Canal as new "front doors" to the city for visitors coming to the region by boat or cruise ship.
- Create an internal city coordinating committee or team to review and critique waterfront development proposals, plans, infrastructure projects, funding opportunities and priorities and other waterfront issues and concerns.
- Continue the operation of the city's LWRP Waterfront Advisory Committee (WAC) to serve as a citizen's advocacy group for the city's waterfront areas and as a community sounding board for the discussion of important waterfront development issues. Expand the WAC to include sub-committees that will deal with specific waterfront areas of concern including environmental stewardship, development priorities, trail development and access, health impacts, promotion / marketing and project review.
- Develop advocacy and budgetary strategies for ensuring ongoing, long-term dredging for the federal navigation channel, the Port Terminal dock wall area, the public boat launch and the two public marinas at the Port site; work to develop a plan for coordinated dredging (public/private partnerships) as needed throughout the LWRP boundary to save costs and expedite permit administration; work to coordinate debris removal throughout the river corridor.

Rochester's LWRP: A 30 Year Success Story

