

City of Syracuse Local Waterfront Revitalization Program

Virtual Public Workshop #2

May 17, 2022

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01

What is a LWRP?



LWRP Program

- NYS Department of State funded program - more than a plan, is part of a larger “program”
- Establishes consensus on preferred future land and water uses
- Identifies vision for waterfront, and a means to achieve that vision

Local Waterfront Revitalization Programs in the Coastal Area: Guidance Manual for Preparing Local Programs



Prepared by:
New York State Department of State
Office of Planning, Development,
and Community Infrastructure



Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor
Rossana Rosado, Secretary of State

Benefits of a LWRP

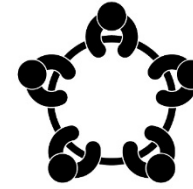
- Provides a clear direction for appropriate and **desirable waterfront development**
- Increases opportunities to obtain public and private **funding for future projects**
- Establishes long-term partnerships: **government + private sector + residents**
- **Aligns local, state and federal actions**



Waterfronts



Engagement



Connectivity & Accessibility



Investment

**Local
Waterfront
Revitalization
Program**

Placemaking &
Community Character



Neighborhoods



Defining the LWRP Boundary



Project Team



**Department
of State**

Maria Garcia, Project Manager
Jaime Reppert



Waterfront
Advisory
Committee

Community
Stakeholders
& Residents

Owen Kerney City Planning, LWRP Project Manager
Rebecca Klossner City Planning Division
Dan Kwasnowski City-County Planning Director
Travis Glazier County Office of the Environment
Megan Costa County Planning Division

Consultant Team



02

What We've Heard



Public Outreach

- Advisory Committee Meetings – Held regularly
- Stakeholder Interviews – On-going
- Public Workshops
 - “Pop-Up” Events in August 2021
 - Open House in May 2022
- Project Website – www.syracuselwrp.com



What We've Heard So Far

Enhance connectivity and safety throughout the WRA

Ensure sustainability and resiliency is considered with future development

Expand year-round recreational activities

Leverage historic legacy and existing assets/destinations to bolster tourism

Balance between open space + development

Create series of recreational and tourism nodes/destinations in the WRA

Attract and support new residents to the WRA and Syracuse

Create an identifiable brand and character for the waterfront area

Key Goals/Objectives



Enhance safe connections
between destinations,
neighborhoods and the
waterfront



Improve year-round
recreational opportunities
for residents and visitors













Provide a variety of
complementary uses to
support economic growth
and tourism



Incorporate sustainable and
resilient practices in
decision-making (ie. energy
efficiency)

Preliminary Projects

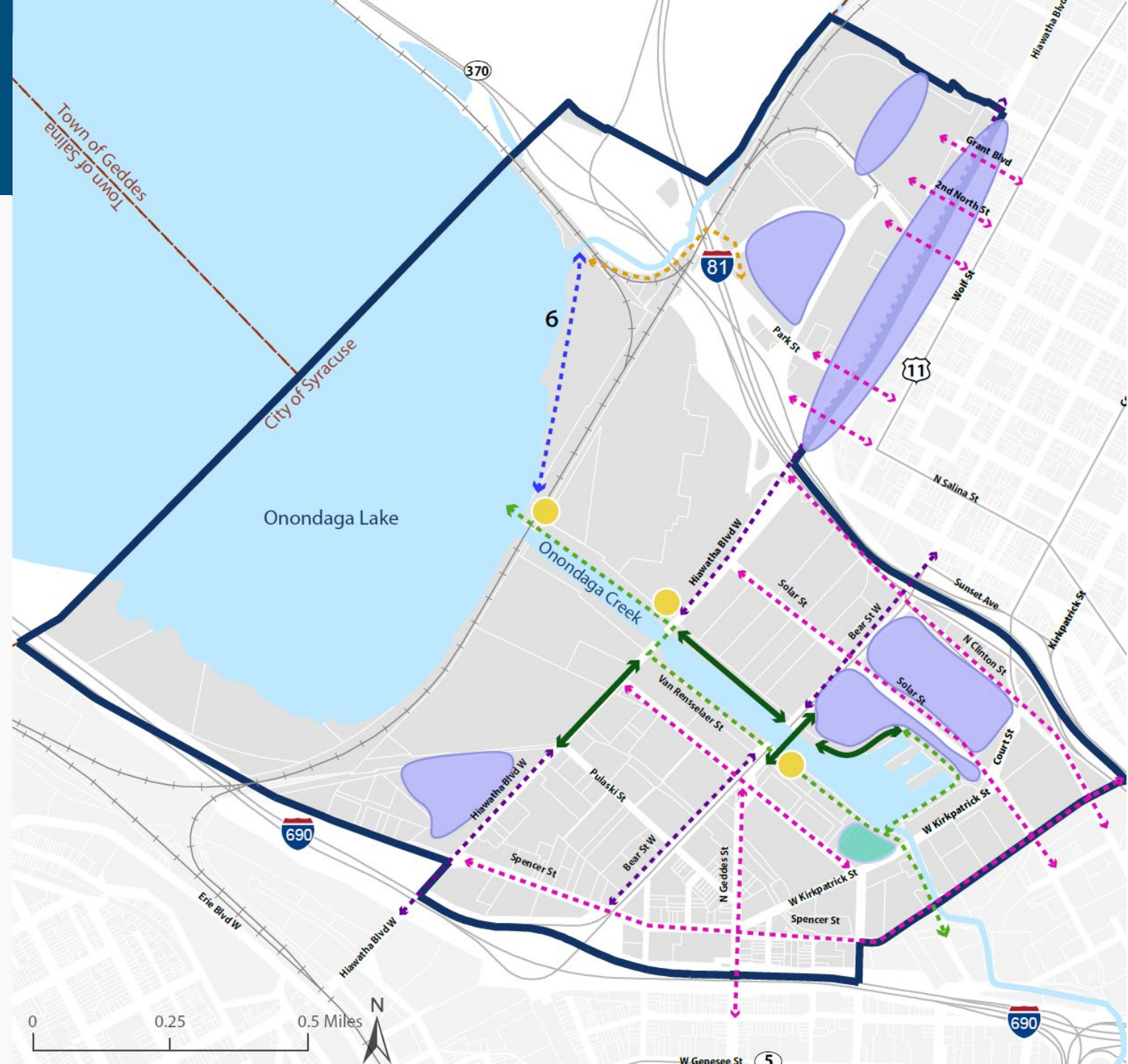
Physical Improvements

-  Trailhead Improvements
-  Creekwalk Enhancements
-  New Creekwalk Connections
-  Murphy's Island Extension
-  Trail Loop Connection
-  Major Streetscape Enhancements
-  Minor Streetscape Enhancements
-  Development Opportunities
-  Recreation Improvements
-  Waterside Infrastructure

Programming Opportunities

*Not shown on Map

1. Waterfront Brand Initiative
2. Tourism Campaign + Strategy
3. Comprehensive Wayfinding Plan



03 Project Discussion

Purpose of Today's Meeting

- Discuss project opportunities for the Syracuse WRA!

We want to hear your feedback and ideas for Syracuse's Waterfront

WRA Focus Areas for further discussion

1. Onondaga Lake Shoreline
2. Former Roth Site
3. Inner Harbor East
4. NBT Bank Stadium and CNY Regional Market
5. Inner Harbor Park and Amphitheater
6. Trail System & Connections



NBT Bank Stadium + CNY Regional Market



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Location Map



NBT Bank Stadium

Regional
Transportation
Center

Byrne Dairy

CNY Regional Market

Market Diner
Free Delivery
on 1st Order

Park Ave

NBT Bank Pkwy

Tex Simone Dr

Hiawatha Blvd

What We Know / Heard

Facts!

- Majority of the Property is publicly-owned
- Currently draw thousands of visitors to the area regularly
- Hiawatha-Lodi BOA identified a series of improvements for this location

Opportunities

- Provide additional retail and food/beverage establishments
- Enhance multi-modal connections between destinations

Constraints

- Lack of safe, multi-modal connections to access the sites
- Visually and physically separated from the waterfront

Potential Uses Identified in Hi-Lo BOA

- Mixed-Use Development, Food and Beverage, + Thematic Manufacturing and Retail
- Streetscape and crosswalk enhancements
- Gateway features



Existing – Park Ave and Hiawatha Blvd



Proposed

Precedents



Case Study – West Louisville Food Port



Let's discuss...

- What types of facilities or amenities do you think are needed in this area? (*ex: bike stations or racks, multi-use trails, signage, crosswalks, etc*)
- What are your thoughts on adding outdoor seating opportunities at the CNY Regional Market?
- What types of establishments would draw you to visit this location?

Inner Harbor East

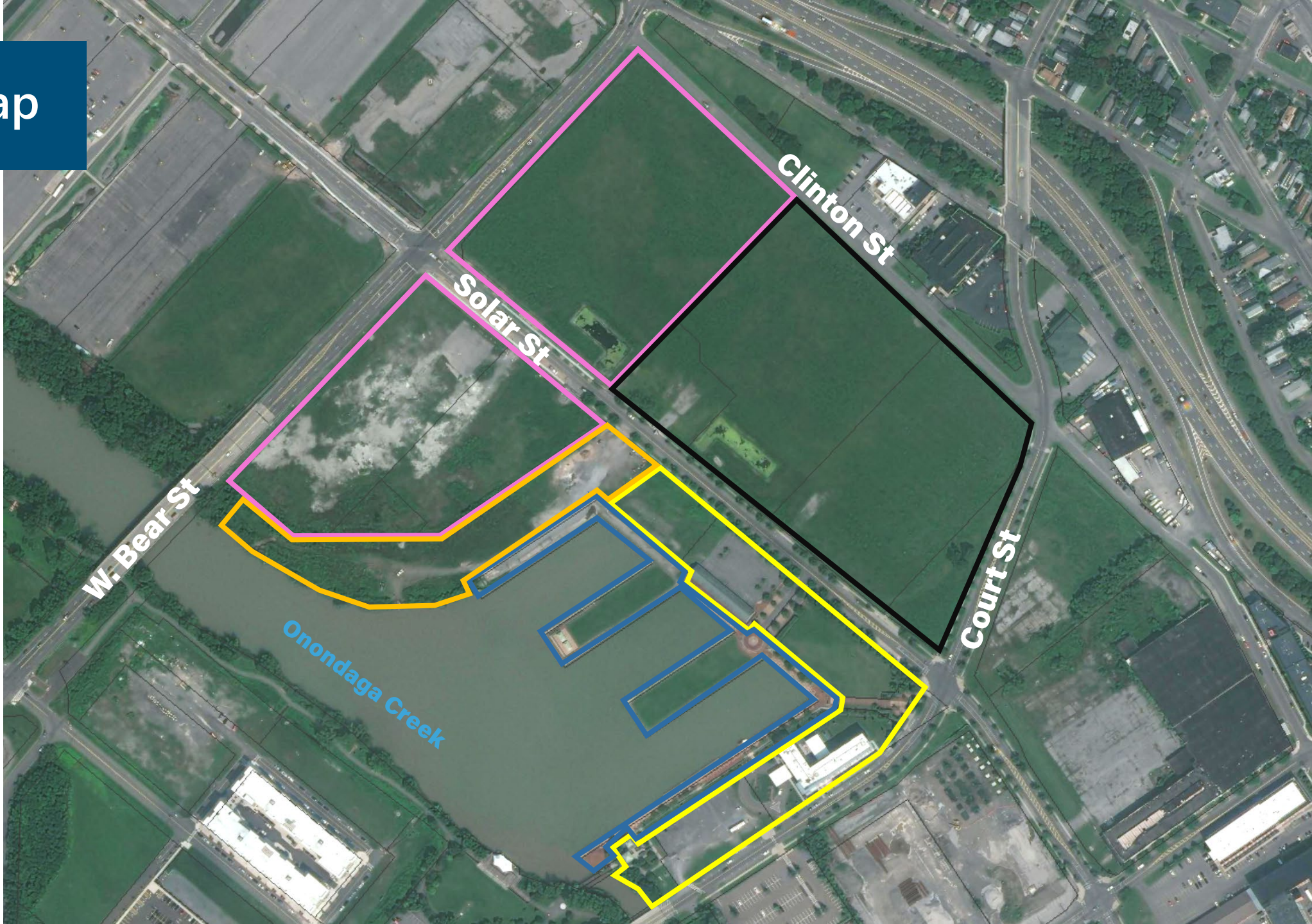


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Location Map

OWNERSHIP

-  City
-  Onondaga Cnty
-  COR Development
-  Destiny USA
-  Private



What We Know / Heard

Facts!

- Proposed Aquarium development by Onondaga County
- Established plans by COR Development for mixed-use development

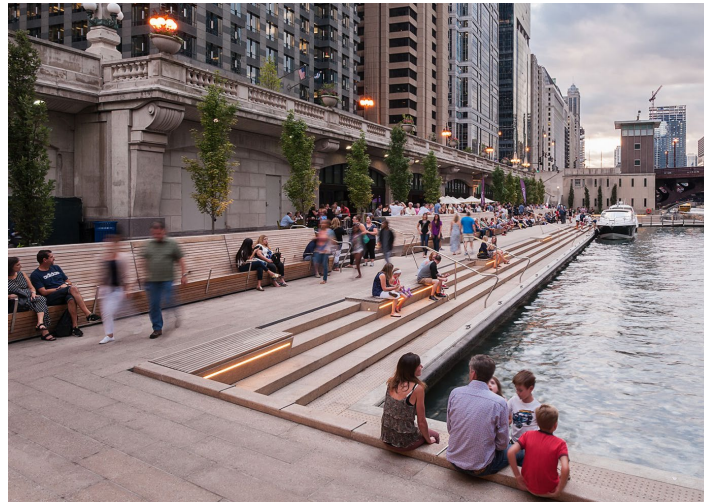
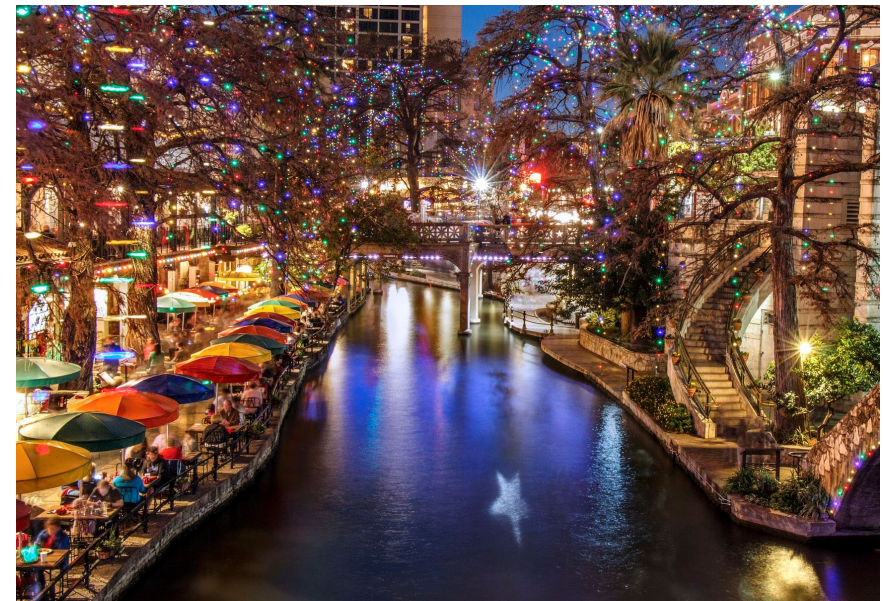
Opportunities

- Expand recreational access to creek and lake
- Open space to allow for diverse programming
- Tourism and economic development
- Proximity to existing tourism destinations

Constraints

- Mix of private and public land ownership
- Bridge heights limit boat access into Creek

Range of Development and Programming Considerations



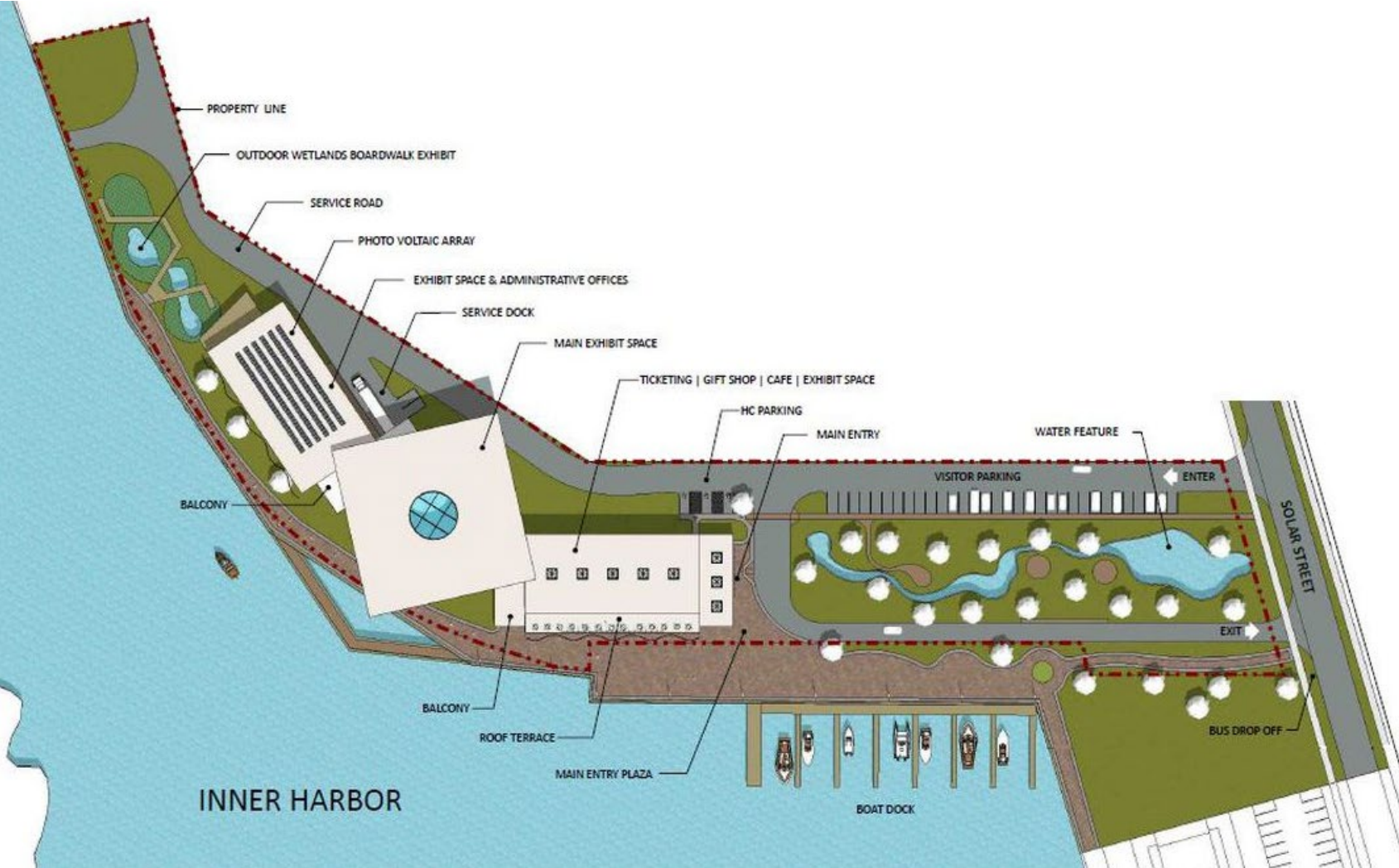
Four Season Activation



Case Study: Canalside Buffalo, NY



Proposed Aquarium: Complementary Waterfront Anchor



Placemaking Improvements

Signage



Amenities



Accessibility



Streetscape Enhancements – Solar Street



Let's discuss...

- What is the right mix of programmable green space/open space versus development?
- What variety of uses are most suited for this area that could leverage the future aquarium?
- What types of placemaking improvements would you like to see?
- What types of waterside programming/amenities are desired along the Harbor?

Inner Harbor Park + Amphitheater



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Location Map



Onondaga Creek

Van Rensselaer St

W. Kirkpatrick St

What We Know / Heard

Facts!

- Publicly-owned
- Approximately 4-acre prominent greenspace on waterfront

Opportunities

- Access to the Creekwalk and strategic location
- Emerging adjacent residential density
- Space for additional recreational amenities to support year-round use
- Public art and interpretive signage

Constraints

- Lack of recreational facilities
- Amphitheater is nearing the end of its useful life
- Visibility into the park

Where's the Park?



Inner Harbor Amphitheater Waterside Infrastructure

Oneida Lake Fishing Dock



Seneca Lake



Boater Amenities



Boat Slips



Programming and User Amenities

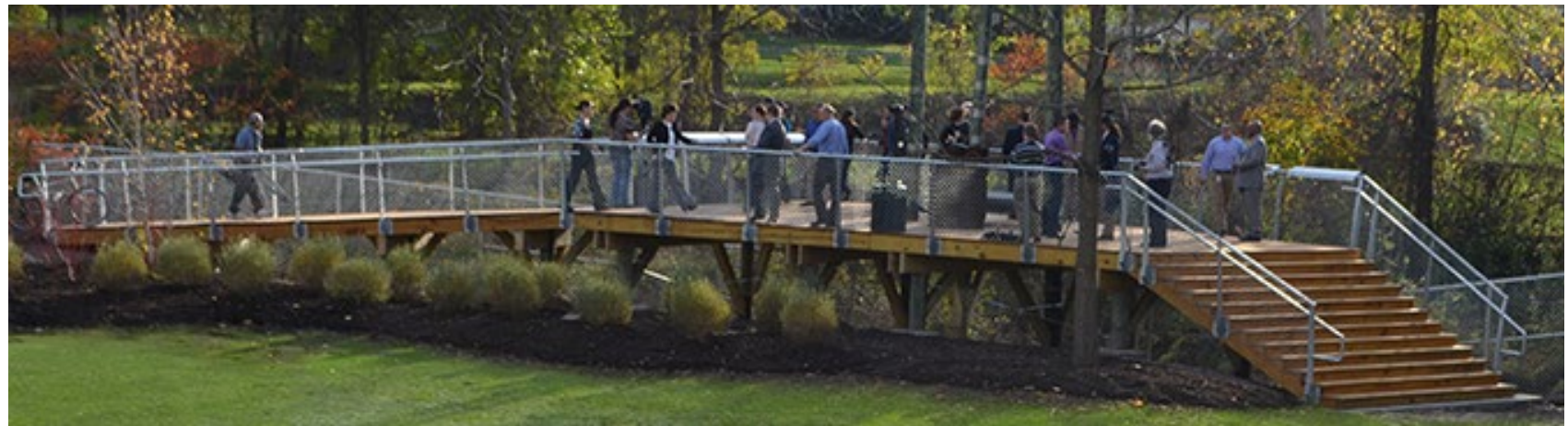
Pavilion



Programmable Space



Education and Interpretation – Outdoor Classroom



Let's discuss...

- What are your thoughts regarding the future of the amphitheater?
- What types of programming and user amenities would you like to see in this park?
- How important is it to maintain the full scale of the existing parking lot?

Former Roth Steel Site



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Location Map



What We Know / Heard

Facts!

- Approximately 15 acres
- Owned by Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency
- Remedial activities are underway but not yet complete

Opportunities

- Highly-visible parcel from Hiawatha Boulevard
- Blank slate for redevelopment
- Adjacent to Empire State Trail and Onondaga Lake

Constraints

- Environmental conditions and associated costs to remediate limit reuse potential
- Adjacent to Wastewater Treatment Plant

Potential Short-Term Improvements

Trailhead with Parking



Wayfinding



Long-Term Vision



Green Parking Facility



Interpretive Amenities



Multi-purpose Recreation Facility

Let's discuss...

- Given the site's condition and location, what use(s) would you envision on the site in the future? How can a future use better support recreation and tourism opportunities in the WRA?

Onondaga Lake Shoreline



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Location Map



What We Know / Heard

Facts!

- Approximately 50 acres
- Owned by Onondaga County

Opportunities

- Leverage existing multi-use trails
- Proximate to St. Joseph's Amphitheater
- Expanded recreational access and fishing
- Ped/bike access from trail

Constraints

- Deed restrictions / ecological protections
- No current vision for the property (also an opportunity!)
- Adjacent to I-690
- Limited vehicle access

Future of the Lakefront

Multi-Use Trail Enhancement



Fishing Access



Unique Recreational Facilities



Passive Recreation



Visioning

- Money is no object, what types of recreation amenities and facilities would like to see on this property? How can we enhance the existing trail segment?
- Are there other complementary uses you feel could be supported on this site?

Trail System & Connections



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What We Know / Heard

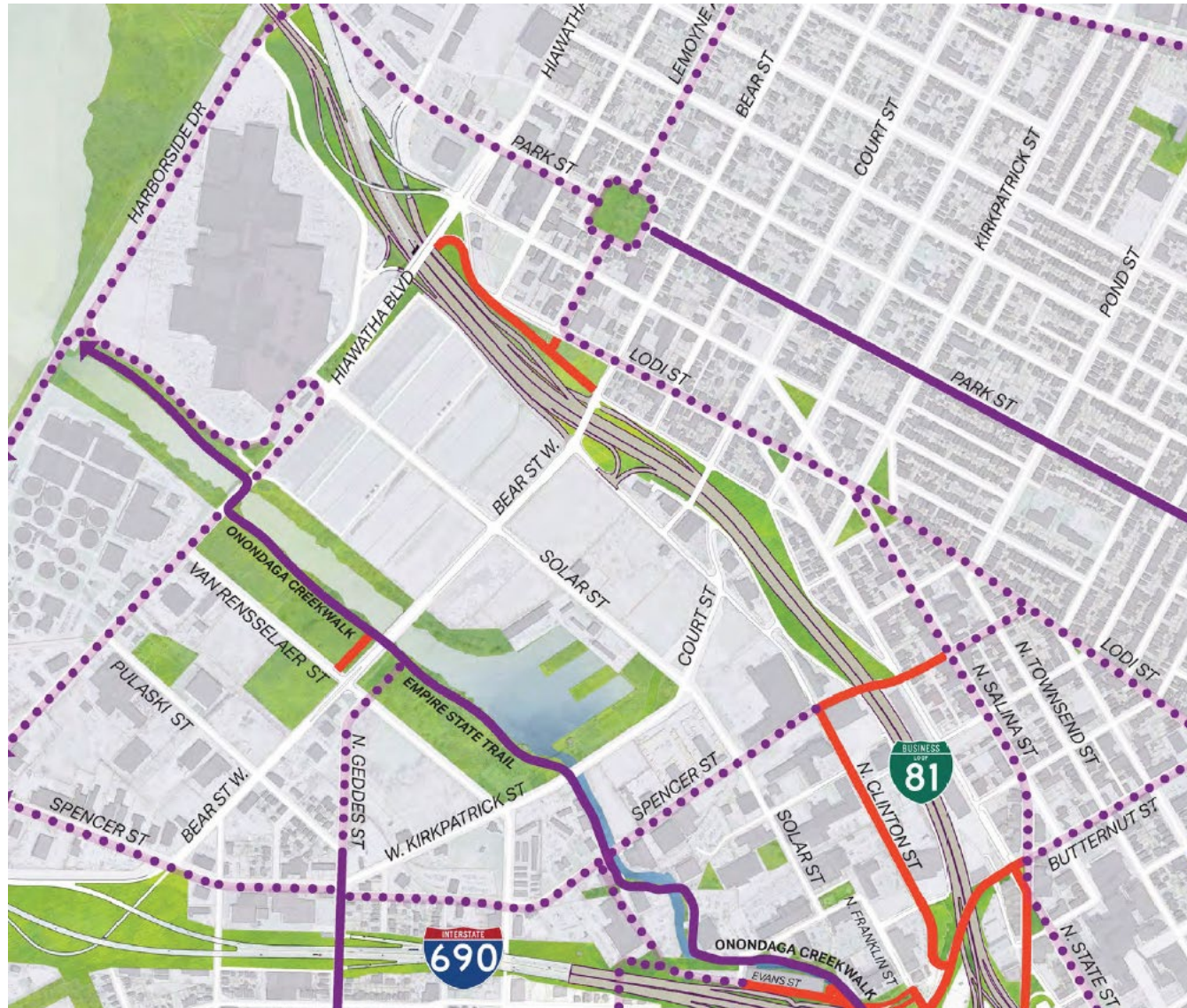
Opportunities

- Improved connectivity throughout WRA and beyond
- Enhanced sight lines
- Amenities – signage, benches, bike racks, boat launches, lighting, etc
- Public art and placemaking!
- Historic interpretive signage




Constraints

- Lack of visibility and connectivity to the waterfront
- Disjointed and mismatched facilities
- Lack of inviting trailheads
- Dead end at Onondaga Lake
- Ecology surrounding trail is overwhelmed by invasive species

Anticipated I-81 changes in the WRA



LEGEND

-  I-81 Project Proposed Bicycle Facility
-  Existing City Bicycle Facility
-  Proposed City Bicycle Facility*

*Syracuse Bicycle Plan: A Component of the Syracuse Comprehensive Plan, 2012

Existing Visibility and Sighting Problems on Creekwalk



Safety and Visibility Improvements



Placemaking Opportunities



Public Art Interventions



San Antonio, TX



Toronto, Canada



Dallas, TX



Nashville, TN



Stevens Point, MS

Waterfront Amenities

Traditional

Waterfront

Contemporary

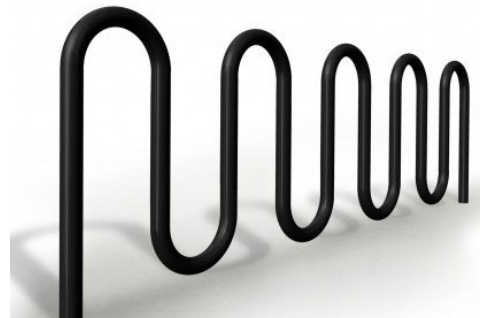
Seating / Benches



Tables



Bike Racks



Let's discuss...

- What is a “low-hanging fruit” project you think could be implemented along the trail system to enhance this asset?
- What safety improvements would you like to see on the trail system?
- What style of amenities would you prefer?
- What are your thoughts about extending the Creekwalk on the north side of Onondaga Creek?

**ANY OTHER GENERAL IDEAS
YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE?**



04

NEXT STEPS



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Next Steps: June/July 2022

- Compile public feedback
- Develop and evaluate projects
- *Public Workshop #3 – Fall 2022 (TBD)*

Visit www.syracuselwrp.com to take the online community survey by May 27th.

COMMENTS / QUESTIONS

Thank you for attending today's
session!

