

Plattsburgh (C) Harborside Master Plan
Project Advisory Committee Meeting #2
September 27, 2021 @ 3:00pm – Video Conference



SUMMARY NOTES

[Link to meeting recording](#)

Attendees:

Committee Members

- Julie Baughn, ZBA & Farmers Market Mgr
- Shannon Thayer, Clinton County Planner
- Kim Mannion, Business Owner
- Jared Hogle, Outdoor enthusiast
- Jeff Moore, City Councilor
- Jon Ruff, Environmental Manager
- Ethan Vinson, CDO
- Matthew Miller, CDO

Consultant Team

- Bob Murphy, Barton & Loguidice
- Leigh Jones, Barton & Loguidice
- Brian Jones, Aubertine & Currier

Others

- Aaron Benner, Boire Benner Group

Mayor Rosenquest and Liou Xie were unable to make this meeting time. The B&L team met with the Mayor earlier in the day on Sept. 27 and worked with Ms. Liou to issue her a recording of the meeting.

1. Introductions

Mr. Murphy walked everyone through the agenda items before turning to Committee Business. The Draft Harborside Committee Kickoff Meeting Summary (July 2021) was approved to be finalized. These file will be then posted on the project web page. The second order of Committee Business was to consider the City's proposal to add a Green Street intersection study to B&L's contract. Mr. Murphy outline the need and approach that had been discussed between the City and B&L which was further elaborated on by Matt Miller and Jon Ruff. After some discussion, the Committee agreed that this was an appropriate constraint to investigate, given the waste materials being transported across Green Street today and the promise of more vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle traffic in the future at Harborside.

Other comments included:

- Annual revenue over \$1 million per year from WRRF activity that travels up and down Green St.
- Be mindful of the history of the structures on Green Street and Bridge Street
- Abandoned building owned by a Canadian
- One-way traffic is not a problem for users of the Farmers Market
- Dock Street entrance can also be confusing
- Consider a separate bridge over the Saranac River to connect Green Street with Cumberland Avenue



Plattsburgh (C) Harborside Master Plan

Harborside Master Plan Committee Meeting #2 Summary

2. Project Timeline and Milestones

Mr. Murphy briefed the Committee on the progress of the project based on the DOS Contract Tasks with the City. The project team has been working on Task 1 – Kickoff Meeting, Task 2 – Community Participation Plan, Task 3 – Review of Community Planning and Waterfront Revitalization Initiatives, and Task 4 – Site Reconnaissance and Mapping. This groundwork is helping to prepare the project team and Committee for Task 5 – Community Workshops and Task 6 – Identification of Priority Waterfront and Community Revitalization Projects.

3. Site Design Considerations and Context

Ms. Jones led the Committee through the project team’s baseline understanding of site design considerations. These included a photo log and regional context map highlighting connections to other destinations and activity nodes in and around Plattsburgh. Comments included:

- Interactive map
 - o Add information to our maps
- Historical information needed on signage and wayfinding maps
- Connect downtown and SUNY to the waterfront and vice versa
- Montreal visitors
- Ped. Bridge across Saranac River to site is heavily used during Farmers Market, but needs accessibility improvements
- Frisbee being played on the green spaces of Harborside
- Site M – Peace Point Park: limited usage despite scenic view opportunities

4. Preliminary Conceptual Plans

Ms. Jones continued to lead the Committee through a discussion of the proposed conceptual site layout. Comments included:

- Advocate for a play area / splashpad / skating rink
- Opportunities to enjoy the lake itself are key
- Weave in history – use elements / features to engage
 - o Geri Favreau (Clinton County Historical Society) will have information on mass transit industrial history in Plattsburgh
 - o Battle of Plattsburgh, shipwrecks
- Peace Point Park – originally constructed as a pier for freight rail – to – ferry transport
- Formal and informal “posts” to mount hammocks
 - o Tree grove
- NYSEG site – playground hammock grove, art sculptures
- In-water activity:
 - o Golden, CO example of hydraulics for whitewater
 - River tubing for other times
 - o Sacandaga River another local example, “surfing” in Munich, Germany park space
 - o Hydraulic study has been completed from SUNY campus down to the lake
 - o Salmon run used to happen



Plattsburgh (C) Harborside Master Plan

Harborside Master Plan Committee Meeting #2 Summary

Mr. Murphy described the need to engage important user groups for Harborside. These include the following:

- Wildlife, Fish & Game
- DEC
- Saranac River Trail Group
- Fly Fishing Group
- Rotary Clubs (Morning and Noon)

5. Community Participation Plan

Mr. Murphy then turned attention to public engagement events. The first Community Workshop will be held virtually with a survey component. The dates targeted for this workshop are November 16 or 17 at 6pm. The B&L will work with the City staff and Committee to get the word out and promote the event for maximum attendance.

6. Next Steps

Over the next month, B&L will make revisions to the Preliminary Concept Plans and prepare the public engagement materials. The Committee will provide further feedback / mark-ups to the concept layouts as presented by a due date to be determined.

The next Committee Meeting is targeted for mid-December, following the first Community Workshop, at a date/time to be determined.

7. Adjourn

The Harborside Master Plan Committee Meeting #2 adjourned at 4:40pm.