



# Town of Pendleton Niagara County, New York



## Waterfront Park Acquisition Project

**Submitted by:**  
Town of Pendleton  
Supervisor Joel Maerten  
6570 Campbell Blvd.  
Lockport, NY 14094

**Submitted to:**  
Niagara River Greenway Commission  
DeVeaux Woods State Park  
Niagara Falls, NY 14305

## Table of Contents

	<b>Pages</b>
PROJECT APPLICATION	1-2
PROJECT NARRATIVE	3-14
1. Project Description	3-5
2. Advancement of Greenway Vision/Consistency with Greenway Vision, Goals and Principles and Action Plan Criteria	6-12
Consistency with Niagara River Greenway Vision	6
Consistency with Niagara River Greenway Goals	6-7
Consistency with Niagara River Greenway Principles	8-10
Consistency with Niagara River Greenway Criteria	10-12
Consistency with Niagara River Greenway Priority Status Category	10-11
3. Budget	13
4. Local Support	13-14
5. Environmental Setting	14
6. Maps and Photographs	15
7. Local Planning Documents	
Authorizing Resolution	
Wendelville Fire Company <i>Letter of Intent to Sell</i>	
Letters of Support	
2017 Recreational Survey	
Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor Excerpts	



**PROJECT INFORMATION**

Project Name:  Pendleton Waterfront Park Acquisition Project

Location:  Town of Pendleton; Erie Canal/Pendleton Creek Waterfront

Site Address:  4881 Pendleton Creek Road

State:  New York  Zip Code:  14094-9210

Minor Civil Division(s):  Pendleton, New York

County:  Niagara

Project Proponent Property Interest (own, lease, easement or other):  The Town of Pendleton is proposing to purchase the proposed parcel, SBL # 178.01-1-36, currently owned by the Wendelville Fire Company

**AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL**

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## 1. PROJECT NARRATIVE

The Town of Pendleton is a country community located on the Erie Canal on Niagara County's southern border. The Town's estimated population is 6,558 (2016 ACS estimate), an increase of approximately 2.5% since 2010. Encompassing an area just over 27 square miles, the Town has limited waterfront of approximately 0.27 square miles. Thus, despite sharing a significant border on the Erie Canal the availability of publically-accessible waterfront in the Town is limited.

At present, there are four areas to recreate in the Pendleton area:

Pendleton Town Park is the main park, consisting of approximately 23 acres, located off Campbell Blvd., surrounding the Pendleton Town Hall. The park is primarily used for active recreation and organized Town events including Fourth of July celebrations, Farmers Market, and various community events. The majority of the property contains baseball diamonds, batting cages, tennis courts, basketball and volleyball courts and newly installed handicap-accessible playground equipment. There are permanent restroom facilities and several pavilions with picnic tables and barbecue grills.

Depeau Park consists of approximately one acre, located at the corner of Oakwood Dr. and Pendleton Creek Road across from the Erie Canal but providing no direct access to the waterfront. The Park consists of tennis courts, some aging playground equipment and a rollerblading rink. The park has no permanent restroom facilities.

Nine Mile Island is approximately 31 acres of land. The land is for use as green space and passive recreational uses such as campgrounds, nature trails, and youth groups. It is a very rustic site and its primary purpose is to be a facility which fosters an appreciation of the outdoors and respect for the environment. Restroom facilities have been constructed.

The Rails-to-Trails is a paved multi-use trail that runs southwest from Lockport Road through the town center at Campbell Blvd. to Townline Road. Approximately 3.1 miles of trail have been paved in multiple stages and the Town will be constructing phase IV in 2018.

These recreation areas continue to draw more and more visitors and residents each year, particularly the main Town Park as organized sports leagues have expanded to meet the demands of the growing population and our youths. In 2017 the Town partnered with Mason's Mission, a local non-profit, to construct a state-of-the-art recreational playground facility for handicapped and disabled children that has quickly become a regional destination.

These facilities adequately support the community's current demands for active recreation and organized sports. However, the desire for a developed waterfront green space is in high demand, as evidenced by a 2017 recreational survey (attached). Being located within the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, Town Officials have recognized that few opportunities remain to develop any available waterfront on the Erie Canal.

The Town is therefore requesting funding assistance to acquire Canal waterfront to expand its public waterfront access for active and leisure recreation and the enjoyment of outdoor open

space. One of the last remaining waterfront parcels ideal for recreational development is currently owned by the all-volunteer Wendelville Fire Company. The Town has been in discussions about acquisition with Wendelville officials for some time. The Fire Company is in full support of the project and is committed to seeing this project come to fruition. A letter of intent to sell is attached.

The proposed property, SBL # 178.01-1-36 (maps attached), is slightly less than 2 acres and has been developed over the years by the Fire Company to provide amenities that allowed seasonal festivities and gathering events, including the widely popular annual Wendelville Field Days. The property is located across from the Wendelville Fire Hall on Tonawanda Creek Road/Campbell Boulevard, adjacent to Saint Paul's United Church. Approximately 130 linear feet of public waterfront access will be afforded once the acquisition process is complete.

Several amenities are already in place to support the proposed use of the property as a public park. Four current structures already exist at the site, including one large open pavilion, typically used for beverage sales during fundraising events; a four-sided pavilion for food sales and storage during fundraising events; a seasonal restroom facility; and a cinder block building that has been used as a rec/weight room and miscellaneous needs by the Fire Department.

It is the Town's intent to make these amenities available for seasonal use to the public for various recreational uses. Families and small organized events will be able to reserve the pavilion as people currently do at the main Town Park. Additionally, existing and future proposed facilities will be available to Canal users as this new park becomes a waypoint and/or destination along the Erie Canal and its associated regional and statewide trail connections. For example, kayakers will be able to enter the water at numerous nearby locations including West Canal Marina (Niagara County owned/operated) and Amherst Veterans Canal Park, each within four miles or less, or in North Tonawanda and paddle upstream to this Park for a rest. The Park will also serve as a stopover for bicyclists and trail users. Located across the adjacent bridge at Campbell Boulevard on the Erie County/Town of Amherst side, the Amherst/Canalway Trail crosses Campbell Blvd. as it follows Pendleton Creek Road and the Erie Canal east towards the Amherst Museum and recently completed extensions of the state bicycle route system.

Acquiring this parcel is the first step towards future development of this waterfront property. Future proposed improvements in consideration include current building/structural improvements (\$100,000), restroom/comfort station improvements (\$20,000), parking lot (\$25,000), and playground equipment (\$15,000). The Town is committed to developing the park into a true waterfront destination and actively will seek out funding opportunities to implement enhancements for its patrons.

All of the Town's recreation areas are located strategically throughout the Town, providing access to park and recreational lands closer to different populated, residential areas in the Town making them more readily accessible to park goers and those who desire different types of recreational activities. The acquisition of this parcel and its development into the Town park system will provide residents and visitors with an improved park, trail and blueway system that will ultimately link to the *Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor*. This linkage to the larger regional trail corridor along the canal allows for a unique opportunity to develop and manage a

trail system that will be interconnected with the Erie Canal National Heritage Corridor and as part of a broader Erie Canal Greenway network throughout the county and region, enhancing community character and adding to the quality of life in the community.

These land acquisitions will provide more local opportunities for residence in the town of Pendleton to experience park and recreation without having to travel great distances. Outdoor recreation, whether for active exercise or leisure enjoyment of the outdoors, has numerous benefits for people of all ages and abilities. *Why America Needs More Town Parks and Open Space*, a report from the Trust for Public Land, makes the following observations about the health, economic, environmental, and social benefits of parks and open space.

- Physical activity makes people healthier.
- Physical activity increases with access to parks.
- Contact with the natural world improves physical and physiological health.
- Residential and commercial property values increase.
- Value is added to community and economic development sustainability.
- Benefits of tourism are enhanced.
- Trees are effective in improving air quality and act as natural air conditioners.
- Trees assist with storm water control and erosion.
- Crime and juvenile delinquency are reduced.
- Recreational opportunities for all ages are provided.
- Stable neighborhoods and strong communities are created.

Paul M. Sherer, "The Benefits of Parks: Why America Needs More Town Parks and Open Space," The Trust for Public Land, San Francisco, CA, 2006

The property proposed for acquisition will be developed, supported and maintained as well as adequately budgeted for by the Town Board. The Pendleton Town Board will go through the appropriate motions to alienate the property as dedicated parkland should the acquisition be approved. The Town's Department of Public Works is responsible for maintenance and grounds keeping activities on town parkland. Lawns are mowed at regular intervals. The recreation committee organizes all recreational activities and evaluates the condition of the recreational facilities of the Town, solicits feedback from park users, and recommends improvements or enhancements to the Town Board on an on-going basis. The Department of Public Works determines equipment needs necessary to execute maintenance duties. The annual budget process allows for the opportunities to request any special or unique funding requests as well as commits funding necessary to keep park facilities in excellent working condition.



## 2. Advancement of Greenway Vision/Consistency with Greenway Goals, Principles and Criteria

### **Niagara Greenway Vision Statement:**

*The Niagara River Greenway is a world-class corridor of places, parks and landscapes that celebrates and interprets our unique natural, cultural, recreational, scenic, and heritage resources and provides access to and connections between these important resources while giving rise to economic opportunities for the region.*

The Town of Pendleton's proposed Waterfront Park Acquisition Project will promote and further the vision of the Niagara River Greenway by increasing access to and connections between the Town's natural and scenic resources and waterfront and recreational facilities through an ambitious effort to improve and expand public waterfront access facilities. The proposed project will tie together existing and developing connections between the various trail systems and communities that comprise the Buffalo-Niagara River Greenway, advancing local and regional agendas for community livability, recreation, public health, tourism and economic revitalization.

Driven by community engagement and leadership of Town officials, this project is a community-based initiative that aims to enhance public access to waterfront recreational facilities in the canal-community of Pendleton where there currently is none. The project will facilitate enhanced connections for visitors to fully experience the community's rich natural and scenic resources, cultural and historic sites and recreational facilities while filling a critical gap in public safety and emergency marine and land-based response capabilities.

This project incorporates the several of the goals, principals and criteria of the Niagara River Greenway Commission, as it will support an attractive, accessible, unified, environmentally friendly, and revitalized corridor of the Niagara River and Erie Canal. The **goals** are as follows:

### **Improve Access & Make Connections**

To build upon ongoing efforts to increase recreational offerings for its residents and visitors, the Town of Pendleton is seeking funding to expand its park system for residents and visitors to take full advantage of the Town's limited waterfront. As a Canal community in the heart of the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, the Town has no developed publically accessible waterfront and available sites to acquire are severely restricted. This is a prime opportunity for the Town to partner with the Wendelville Fire Company, Niagara County and the Niagara River Greenway to fill this gap in the Town's recreational offerings and severely limited waterfront access. The park will be easily accessible and strategically located as a stopover point for users of the NYS Bicycle Route, including the Canalway Trail that intersects Campbell Blvd. just over the adjacent bridge in Amherst, and for marine recreation enthusiasts such as kayakers, canoes, and shoreline anglers. Pendleton's organized soccer league facilities are located less than a 1/3 of a mile from the Wendelville Fire Hall and this new park will serve as an additional attraction for families recreating in the Pendleton area.

### **Protect and Restore Environmental Systems**

This project will provide the Town of Pendleton with its sole waterfront site that is Town-owned and dedicated for public access. The property has been in the care of the Wendelville Fire



Company for several years. The Pendleton DPW is in charge of all park maintenance and upkeep, and will dedicate the necessary resources to ensuring the proposed property remains well-kept and environmentally sound.

### **Spark Revitalization and Renewal**

As stated by the Niagara River Greenway: *In the 21st century economy, the livability of a place, including the natural environment, the built environment, the culture and recreational offerings all contribute to attracting residents, visitors and investment.* This endeavor by the Town of Pendleton will reinvigorate the public's interest in the diverse resources of the Niagara River Greenway by providing direct access to Erie Canal waterfront where the currently is none, despite its location within the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. The proposed location is ideal and familiar to most residents where the Wendelville Fire Company hosted its annual Wendelville Field Days for years. As Pendleton continues to grow each year and new businesses are creating commercial attractions, expanding a diverse offering of recreational amenities and open green space is a priority for Town officials. This project will highlight these assets and further ensure the continued economic prosperity of the many local businesses that rely on the influx of dollars that visitors contribute to the area.

### **Promote Long Term Sustainability**

This project focuses on improving the public's access to and awareness of the Town's and the Greenway's diverse offering of its waterfront assets, including the natural and built environment, cultural and historical attractions, and economic opportunities. As a canal community, the public's interest in and experience of these existing resources and assets comprise Pendleton's character of the Niagara River Greenway. In some instances the project will promote smart growth by redeveloping existing but deteriorating sites, and the Town of Pendleton is committed through its annual budgets to maintain facilities through ensuring against vandalism, decay and weatherization. Further, as the number of residents (and visitors) continues to increase each year, the Town must support increasing demands for public recreation and open space. With its location directly on the Erie Canal waterfront, improved public access will significantly aid in the Town's ability to accomplish this goal and the desires expressed by the community.

### **Extend Olmsted's Legacy**

As a canal community in the heart of Western New York's Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, Pendleton has many key resources that contribute to Olmsted's vision for the overall Niagara River corridor, several of which are shared amongst the residents and visitors. Each of the Town's parks and trails are key connections that establish a sense of a linear parks system stretching the length of the Greenway. This project will highlight new waterfront development as well as reinforce the importance of these connections, their contributions to the region's history, culture and heritage, and will ensure that they are maintained well into the future, thus preserving Olmsted's legacy and vision of parks and open spaces along the length of the Erie Canal and Niagara River Greenway corridor.

## GUIDING PRINCIPALS

The implementation of the **Town of Pendleton's Waterfront Park Acquisition Project** will meet the guiding principles of the Niagara Greenway Commission as follows:

### **Excellence**

Once completed, this project will highlight the first of Pendleton's publically accessible waterfront resources and assets that have shaped canal communities in the Niagara River Greenway. The proposed project will accomplish a long sought-after goal of offering public access to canal waterfront while significantly improving existing structures and amenities that will offer consistent and inclusive access to these assets. This project will advance the mission of the Niagara River Greenway and further connect residents and visitors to the Greenway's diverse resources.

### **Sustainability**

The Town of Pendleton fully support this proposed initiative and is committed to the long-term care of existing facilities and future improvements through the prevention of vandalism, decay and weatherization. All proposed facilities will adhere to handicap-accessible standards. The project will be conscientiously maintained by the Town, its Recreation Committee and the Department of Public Works to accomplish these long-term results.

### **Accessibility**

The project's main goal is to provide inclusive access to the very limited waterfront resources of the Town of Pendleton. With several miles of Erie Canal shoreline within the Town, Pendleton lacks any developed waterfront and open space for outdoor recreation, leisure enjoyment and community gatherings. The proposed project will resolve this widely expressed community desire at a commonly known location.

This project provides enhanced public access to the Erie Canal National Heritage Corridor and the Erie Canal Greenway. As such, this community-based project advances many of the initial Niagara River Greenway Goals (pg. iii), including:

**Improve Access** - *provide more opportunities to enjoy the many resources of the Greenway.* The proposed Waterfront Park Acquisition Project offers direct access to Erie Canal waterfront that will facilitate a public connection to waterfront access points in Pendleton within the Greenway and Heritage Corridor. A multitude of local, regional and state-wide trails originate and/or pass through the Town of Pendleton and draw some of the highest volume of trail users in the region. Just across from the proposed site, the Canalway Trail follows the southern shore of the Erie Canal (Tonawanda Creek) with connections to Amherst Veterans Canal Park to the west and the Amherst Museum to the east. Situated in the middle of these two locations is Pendleton's Nine Mile Island that is a popular destination location for numerous community youth groups. The state has recently completed long standing gaps in the statewide bicycle route passing through Pendleton that connects Amherst with Lockport, with additional connections planned for the near future. With new trails currently under development, including Pendleton's Rails to Trails, this project will provide a key access point for trail users and will further connect visitors to the community's diverse recreational, cultural, historic, and business assets.

### **Ecological Integrity**

Ecological integrity is a key focal point of the Town's ongoing community development. This project will restore existing structures and new amenities will have no affect on the natural landscapes or ecological resources of the area so as to fully maintain the health, vitality and integrity of the area's natural resources and wildlife habitats. With over 130 feet of canal waterfront access, opportunities for ecological education programs with community youth groups such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H, and the Starpoint School District will be abundant.

### **Public Well-Being**

Both the physical and emotional wellness of the public are priorities of the Town of Pendleton as its population continues to increase each year particularly for families and young adults. This project will capitalize on new recreational development in the area that will connect trail users directly to the Erie Canal and, further downstream, popular Niagara River waterfronts, which inherently encourages and promotes a healthy lifestyle. As one of the last remaining available parcels for waterfront development in Pendleton, the proposed location is strategic in that it is already a commonly known community gathering area due to its long-time ownership by the Wendelville Fire Company.

### **Connectivity**

This project could not better highlight the Greenway's principle of increasing connectivity and access to waterfront, park and trail amenities. A coordinated approach to enhancing connections to both existing and developing waterfront facilities will make connections to and between the diverse resources of the Greenway more easily accessible for users. This project will link Pendleton's Erie Canal waterfront with various other canalway sections of the Greenway, surrounding corridors and resources and other parks and natural resources in the Buffalo-Niagara region.

### **Authenticity**

As a centrally located destination of the Niagara River Greenway, this project will draw attention to outdoor recreation, waterfront resources and attractions, area landmarks and local history, and help re-establish a sense of place that the Town of Pendleton contributes to the Greenway character and Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Pendleton is a prime location in Western New York where major blueways and trailways traverse through the Town, connect a central business district to municipal services, and draw residents and visitors to a single community gathering destination. As a canal community with no public access to its waterfront, this project is widely supported by the community and thus will be considered a major asset to the growing Town.

### **Celebration**

The Town's all-volunteer Wendelville Fire Company has owned and maintained the proposed property for several years. The Fire Company has historically celebrated the community's support of its members with its annual Wendelville Field Days at this location, thus it is a commonly known location and destination each summer. Acquisition and development of this property will allow the Town to expand community events, typically held at its 23-acre Town park, to a waterfront location in addition to providing amenities to the public for its own private events. With existing pavilions and restroom facilities, residents will be able to reserve facilities

for family gatherings and organized events. Youth groups and organized recreation leagues are increasingly growing in popularity as the Town continues to expand residential development. The availability of a waterfront outdoor green space will drastically improve the diverse offering of both leisure and active recreation opportunities.

### **Partnerships**

As an all-volunteer organization, the Wendelville Fire Company and the Town of Pendleton have long-standing partnerships and relationships with one another and the local community. This project represents another step towards advancing these relationships, as well as the opportunity to partner with state and local agencies to further development of the proposed waterfront site. Through this request the Town anticipates strengthening existing partnerships and forming new relationships that will further enhance the experience of the Niagara River Greenway. The project has received the full support of the Town's County Legislator, Mr. Anthony Nemi, as well as the blessing of NYS Senator Robert G. Ort.

### **Community Based**

This project directly reflects the Town's commitment to providing state-of-the-art facilities and amenities to the residents and visitors to the community and Niagara River Greenway corridor. The Town is actively pursuing projects that reflect the plans and preferences of the community and surrounding region, as evidenced by undertaking of a 2017 recreational survey, continuation of its Rails to Trails with local, state and federal aid, and a regionally significant handicapped-accessible playground expansion at its Town Park primarily due to monumental efforts of the local Mason's Mission non-profit organization. This project will offer additional opportunities to partner with local, state and federal agencies to support the Town's commitment to providing these facilities for its growing community.

## **CRITERIA**

Through the **Town of Pendleton's Waterfront Park Acquisition Project**, the Town of Pendleton is consistent with the previously mentioned **Goals** and **Principles** in addition to following **Criteria** of the Niagara River Greenway Plan:

### **Priority Status**

This project supports several of the Greenway's initial priorities as previously discussed. The proposed Waterfront Park Acquisition Project is a priority project for the Town as it has no developed public access to its Erie Canal waterfront. With existing structures and amenities in place, and great potential for future improvements, this is a strategic location for park development as waterfront access sites are severely limited within the Town. Thus, acquisition of the proposed property from the Wendelville Fire Company (letter of intent to sell attached) will enable the Town and its residents to begin taking full advantage of its available waterfront for recreational, scenic and aesthetic uses.

As stated in the Niagara River Greenway Plan (p. 30), *"A system of spurs and loops extending from the Greenway spine will connect into residential neighborhoods and provide access to near-by attractions, parks or connecting trail systems, such as the Erie Canalway. A parallel*

*system of water-based trails will enhance opportunities for paddlesports and increase the number of ways to enjoy the River."*

Potential future enhancements include parking improvements and playground equipment, renovations to existing restrooms and pavilions, interpretive signage, general open space, and a small launch site for canoes and kayaks, all of which offer integration into the Canalway trail system.

### **Focus Area**

This project is as close to the Erie Canal as one can get. The Town of Pendleton is located in the heart of the Greenway and Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. The Greenway's expansive linear park and trail system extends throughout Pendleton, taking users along the waterfronts of the Canal and providing connections to other Greenway resources in nearby communities. As emphasized by the Greenway Plan, projects outside the primary focus area should aid in establishing strong linkages between the Greenway focus area and surrounding areas. This project is a clear effort of the Town of Pendleton to gain control over one of the last remaining waterfront parcels for public access. This project is consistent with the Greenway Plan and will significantly contribute to further establishing physical and interpretive connections between the Niagara River and its surrounding area. Without funding assistance, however, the Town and community may potentially lose this strategic opportunity to achieve this regionally significant goal.

### **Environmental Soundness**

This project will support smart growth principles by improving existing infrastructure and constructing new sustainable development, fostering a distinctive, attractive community with a strong sense of place, preserving the natural scenic beauty found in the community, and providing residents and visitors with a waterfront destination. The project is an environmentally sound initiative and will result in no adverse impact to the environment.

### **Implementable**

This proposed project has widespread community support and is backed by Town officials. The Town has worked with local leaders and stakeholders to successfully complete past projects in the community and continues to actively seek out opportunities for continued development. The site for the proposed park acquisition is currently owned and maintained by the Wendelville Fire Company. A letter of its intent to sell to the Town is attached, and the process can proceed as soon as funding becomes available.

### **Economic Viability and Local Sponsor**

The economic viability of this project is based on the continued and increased attraction of residents and visitors to the parks and trail systems and waterfront attractions that contribute to the economic vitality of local businesses throughout the Pendletons. Through its ownership the Town of Pendleton will assume the long-term responsibility for the stewardship and maintenance of the proposed waterfront facilities. The Town eagerly anticipates this opportunity to partner with local stakeholders to bring this project to fruition.

### **Matching Funding/Leveraging**

The Town of Pendleton is committed to the long-term maintenance of the proposed project. The Town is seeking \$140,000 to aid in its acquisition of the proposed waterfront park property currently owned by the Wendelville Fire Company. To support its commitment to this priority community-based project, Town Officials are committed to providing \$40,000 for the acquisition of the property. Additional funds will be made available to match future local, state and federal funding initiatives to support future park development at the site.

### **Consideration of Other Planning Efforts**

The benefits of the proposed project will be compounded when the Pendleton Rails-to-Trails and state bicycle route extensions are complete. The Town is actively seeking opportunities to take advantage of development to complement these projects and significantly transform public accessibility to its waterfront. Although located on several miles of Erie Canal shoreline, the proposed property is one of the last remaining waterfront parcels available for park development and public waterfront access.

### **Clear Benefits**

By its very nature this project demonstrates several clear benefits to the Niagara River Greenway, its stated vision as a world-class corridor, as well as the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. The Town of Pendleton is growing each year and offers an array of recreational assets and linkages to regional trail systems. However, as a canal community the Town and its residents desperately want public access to its limited waterfront where there currently is none. This project will achieve this goal by preserving one of the last remaining parcels in the Town for outdoor recreation and open green space. It will complement efforts by the Town and the state to fill a critical gap in the existing trail systems that pass through the Town of Pendleton and Upper Niagara River Greenway, and is a prime opportunity to capitalize on the recent efforts of Town officials and local/regional stakeholders to advance the betterment of bicycling activities throughout the Town, the Erie Canalway, and its subsequent connections to the Niagara River. The project presents a smart growth approach by creating a more accessible waterfront, fostering a distinctive, attractive community with a strong sense of place, preserving the natural scenic beauty found in the community, and providing residents and visitors with a variety of leisure and active recreation choices.



**3. Provide a Sources and Uses Budget. Identify all sources of funding and the amount of funding expected from each source. Identify and quantify funds that are already on hand or have been allocated for the proposed project. Explain how the project will be operated and maintained. Complete the Sources and Uses Budget for the proposed project and include the following:**

<b>SOURCES OF FUNDS</b>	
Loan #1	\$
Loan #2	\$
<b>Grant #1 (requested funds)</b>	<b>\$140,000.00</b>
<b>Other Source #1 (Town cash match)</b>	<b>\$40,000.00</b>
Other Source #2	\$
<b>TOTAL SOURCES OF FUNDS</b>	<b>\$180,000.00</b>
<b>USE OF FUNDS</b>	
Planning	\$
Construction	\$
<b>Acquisition</b>	<b>\$150,000.00</b>
<b>Administration</b>	<b>\$30,000.00</b>
Operation and Maintenance / Year	\$
<b>TOTAL USES OF FUNDS</b>	<b>\$180,000.00</b>
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COST</b>	<b>\$180,000.00</b>

The Town of Pendleton is seeking \$140,000 to support its proposed acquisition of a dedicated waterfront park. The current owner of the property, the Wendelville Fire Company, has indicated its commitment to the project to sell the property to the Town of Pendleton (see attached Letter of Intent to sell).

The Town of Pendleton will support this project through a \$40,000 cash match, and is in full support of all future operations and maintenance of the park and its facilities.

**4. Describe the measures taken at the local level to gain community and government support for this project (hearings, petitions, public surveys, resolutions of support or other methods). If this project has been cited or described in a local planning document or some equivalent thereof, attach copies of that documentation highlighting the sections that are relevant to the proposed project. Describe the role of municipal agencies, stakeholder groups, consultants, volunteers or others who will be involved in the proposed project.**

As an Erie Canal community in the heart of the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, the Town and its residents desperately seek a publically accessible waterfront park where there currently is no available access. This project is a community-driven initiative as evidenced by the community's desires expressed by many in a 2017 recreation survey (attached). Available locations for waterfront access are severely limited in Town despite its miles of canal shoreline, and the Wendelville Fire Company has presented a strategic opportunity to achieve this goal.



The project has received the full support of the Pendleton Town Board and Town Officials, Niagara County Legislator Mr. Anthony Nemi, and New York State Senator Mr. Robert G. Ort (please see attached letters of support and authorizing resolution).

**5. Describe and document the environmental setting and existing conditions at the proposed project site. If you are not the owner of the property include a letter(s) or resolution(s) evidencing support for the project by the owner. Provide photographs, conceptual plans and drawings that show the site as it presently exists and the how the site will change with the addition of the proposed project. Describe how your project will comply with the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). The existence of wetlands, significant upland and aquatic habitats, and plant or animals species that are classified as rare, threatened, or endangered should be noted. Explain how such natural resources will be protected and / or enhanced. Cite any relevant project related studies.**

The Wendelville Fire Company, current owners of the proposed property, have indicated their intent to sell to the Town of Pendleton should funding assistance be made available (letter attached). The proposed parcel, one of the last remaining waterfront properties for park development in the Town, is pre-disturbed and presents vast potential for additional improvements. Several amenities are already in place to support the proposed use of the property as a public park, including one large open pavilion, a second four-sided pavilion, a seasonal restroom facility, and a cinder block building that has been used as a rec/weight room and miscellaneous needs by the Fire Department.

No wetlands or rare, threatened or endangered plant or animal species are noted. After the acquisition process is complete, Town Officials will actively pursue additional funding opportunities to enhance existing facilities and develop future recreational improvements. Prior to any rehabilitation of existing facilities or development of new amenities, the Town will strictly adhere to all applicable environmental reviews including but not limited to SEQRA, NEPA, EIS, etc.

## **6. Maps & Photographs**





A Wendelville Fire Co

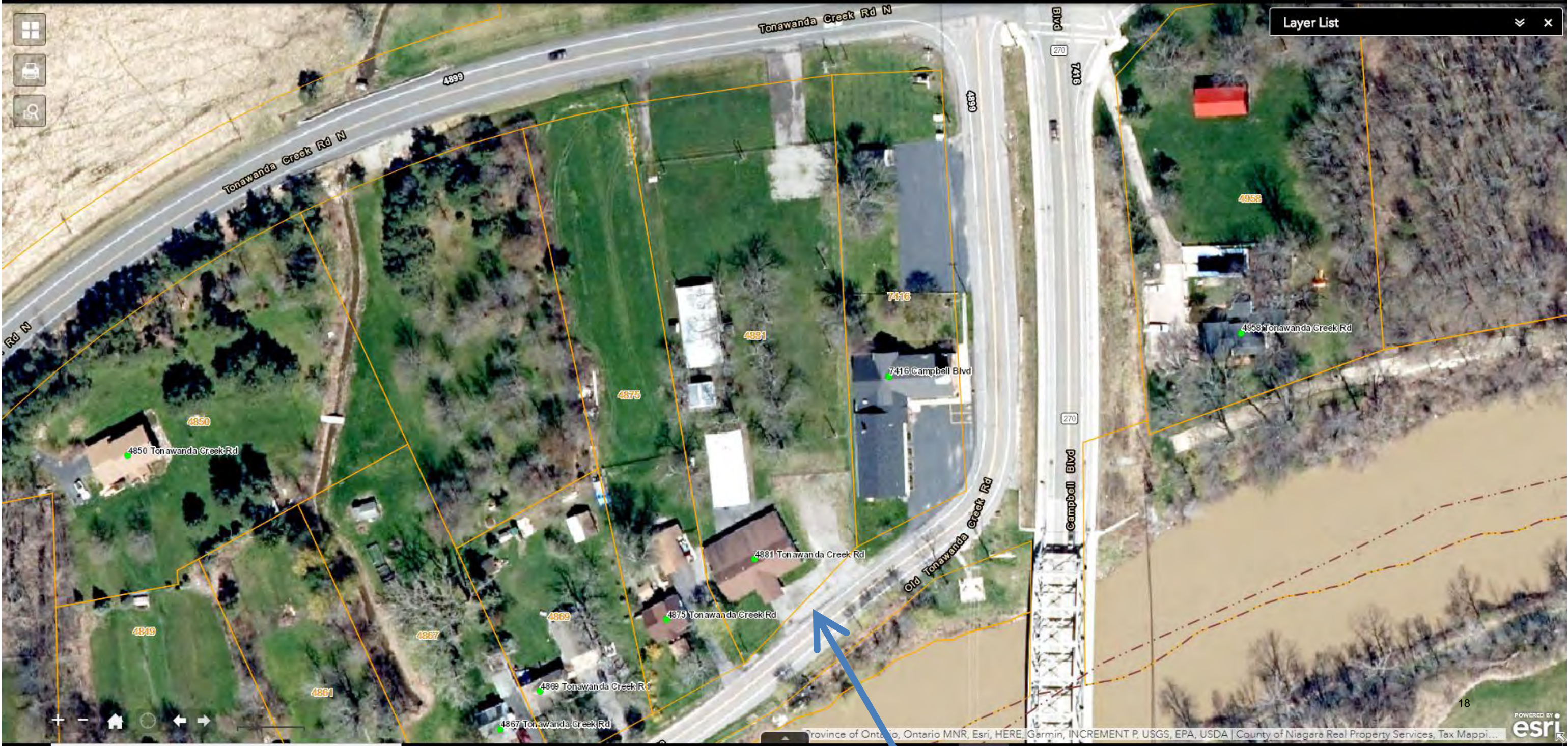
Google Earth

400 ft

17



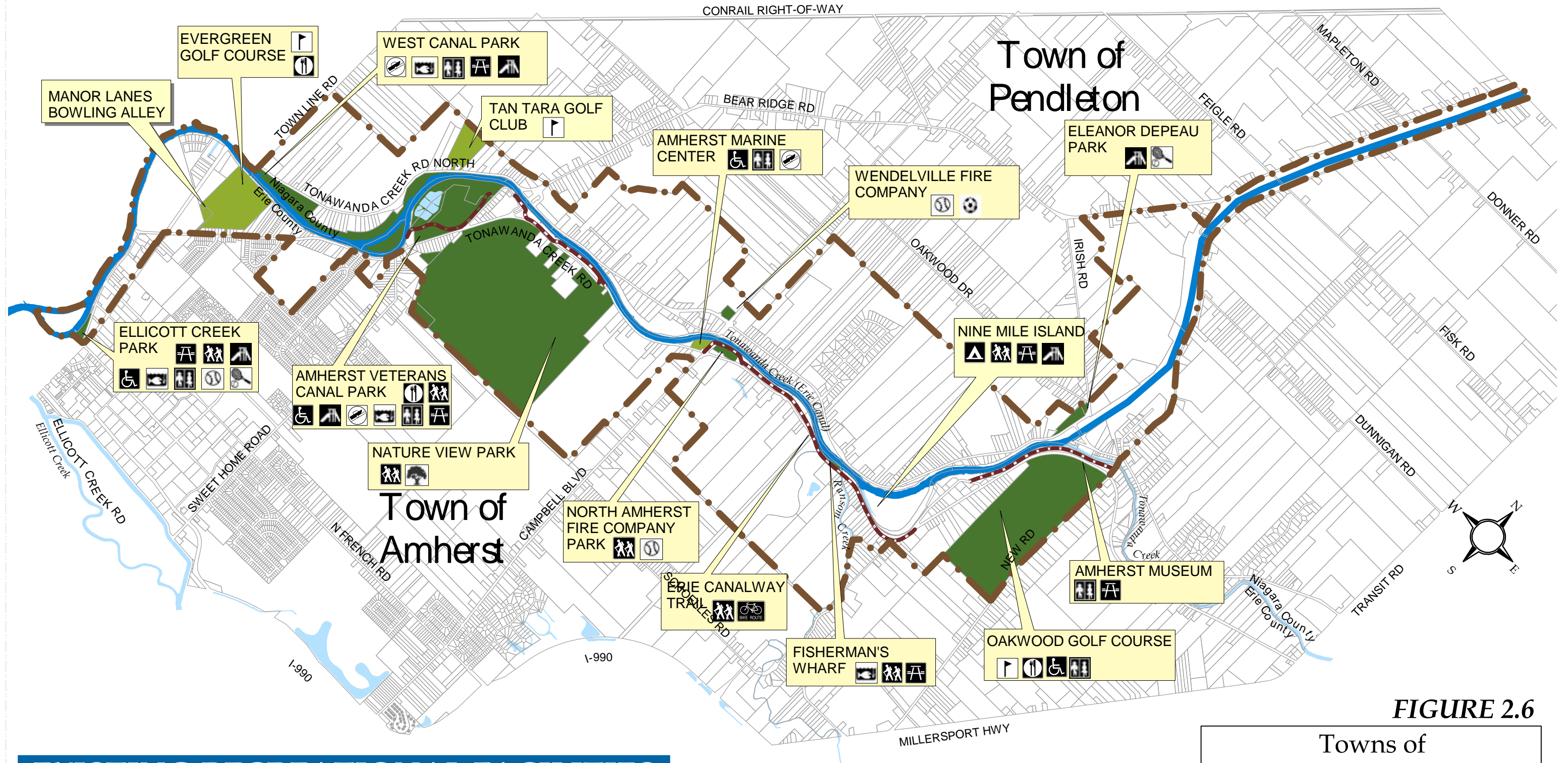




Layer List







**FIGURE 2.6**

Towns of  
Amherst & Pendleton,  
New York

**JOINT LOCAL  
WATERFRONT  
REVITALIZATION  
PROGRAM**

**EXISTING RECREATIONAL FACILITIES**

- LEGEND**
- Existing Public Park and Open Space Facilities
  - Existing Private Open Space Facilities
  - Existing Trails
  - Waterfront Revitalization Area
  - Erie Canal (NY State Barge Canal)
  - Other Surface Water Body

**MAP NOTES**

**Data Source:** Wallace Roberts & Todd, 2001

This map is a working draft document and is subject to future revisions and corrections.

Western New York Regional Information System:  
University of Buffalo, 2001

**Map Compiled By:**  
Wallace Roberts & Todd, LLC



## 7. Local Planning Documents

Authorizing Resolution  
Wendelville Fire Company - *Letter of Intent to Sell*  
Letters of Support  
2017 Recreational Survey  
Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor Excerpts



Town of Pendleton  
**AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION**  
**3/19/2018**

*For the Pendleton Waterfront Park Acquisition Project*

I, Deborah Maurer, elected Clerk of the Town of Pendleton located at 6570 Campbell Blvd, Lockport, NY 14094, a corporation subject to the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law of New York State and therefore qualified for tax exempt status under the Town of Pendleton, do hereby certify that the following resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the Town of Pendleton held on March 19, 2018 and is incorporated in the original board minutes of the said meeting and that the said resolution has not been altered, amended, or revoked and is in full force and effect.

**Therefore, be it Resolved:**

That the Town of Pendleton will submit to the Niagara River Greenway Commission a proposal for recommendation of the Town of Pendleton's Waterfront Park Acquisition Project.

---

Deborah Maurer, Town Clerk

Seal of Municipality

Wendelville Fire Company  
President Glenn Christman  
7340 Campbell Blvd.  
North Tonawanda, New York 14120

Town of Pendleton  
6570 Campbell Blvd.  
Lockport, New York 14094

RE: Letter of Intent to Sell

Dear Supervisor Maerten and Pendleton Town Board,

Please let this letter serve as the Wendelville Fire Company's intent to sell the proposed parcel, SBL # 178.01-1-36, located at 4881 Tonawanda Creek Road, North Tonawanda, New York 14120, to the Town of Pendleton for the use of publically accessible parkland in an amount not to exceed \$149,900 with the understanding that the purchase of the property by the Town of Pendleton be contingent upon receiving financial assistance to acquire the property through Niagara County's Host Community Niagara River Greenway fund.

We will hold this letter until September 1, 2018 to get it through the process. Should you have any questions or concerns please feel free to reach me at (716) 693-4747.

Sincerely,



Glenn Christman  
President, Wendelville Fire Company

State of New York  
County of Niagara  
Subscribed and Sworn to before me on this  
5th day of January, in the  
year 2018

Deborah K Maurer Notary Public

DEBORAH K. MAURER  
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF NEW YORK  
Registration Number # 01MA6364158  
Qualified in NIAGARA COUNTY  
Commission Expires 09/05/2021



THE LEGISLATURE  
NIAGARA COUNTY

LEGISLATOR ANTHONY J. NEMI  
11<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT  
CHAIRMAN, ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

March 5, 2018

Niagara County Ad Hoc Committee  
Attn: Chairman Richard Andres  
Attn: Thomas Burgasser, Ad Hoc Attorney  
Niagara County Greenway  
Lockport, NY 14094

Dear Legislator Andres:

I am pleased to submit this letter of support on behalf of the Town of Pendleton's request for \$140,000 from the Niagara River Greenway Commission to purchase waterfront accessible land from the Wendelville Fire Company and to develop it and maintain it as a new recreational and environmental open space park within the Town of Pendleton. The Town of Pendleton borders the Erie Canal/Tonawanda Creek but lacks any publically-accessible waterfront for development. This project will ensure that the rapidly growing suburban community of Pendleton will preserve one of the last remaining public greenspace properties on Tonawanda Creek and facilitate improved amenities to the Town's and region's park, trail and blueway systems.

Over the coming years, the total cost of this project could very well exceed \$355,000. This first step of the project, which includes all costs associated with site acquisition and initial step to make it usable, has a total cost of \$180,000 which the Town of Pendleton is prepared to match \$40,000 worth of Town funds during the current budget year of this project. The balance of the cost estimate will be committed over the coming budget years as design work is completed for improvement of the park. We are seeking your help in the amount of \$140,000 to help see this project come to fruition.

Again, I strongly support this project and the benefit that it will have, not only for the residents in the Town of Pendleton, but also for residents throughout the region. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely yours,

  
Anthony J. Nemi

**CHAIRMAN**  
MENTAL HEALTH AND  
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

**COMMITTEE MEMBER**  
CIVIL SERVICE AND PENSIONS  
CORPORATIONS, AUTHORITIES  
AND COMMISSIONS  
ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
LABOR  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
VETERANS, HOMELAND SECURITY  
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK



**ROBERT G. ORTT**  
**SENATOR, 62<sup>ND</sup> DISTRICT**

**ALBANY OFFICE:**  
815 LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING  
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247  
(518) 455-2024  
FAX: (518) 426-6987

**DISTRICT OFFICE:**  
175 WALNUT STREET, SUITE 6  
LOCKPORT, NEW YORK 14094  
(716) 434-0680  
FAX (716) 434-3297

March 13, 2018

Supervisor Joel Maerten  
Town of Pendleton  
6570 Campbell Blvd.  
Lockport, NY 14094

Dear Supervisor Maerten:

I am writing to lend my support for the Town of Pendleton's application to the Niagara River Greenway Commission to acquire waterfront accessible land from the Wendelville Fire Company and to develop it and maintain it as a new recreational and environmental open space park. With town borders on the Erie Canal/Tonawanda Creek but no publically-accessible waterfront or open space, this project will ensure that the rapidly growing suburban community of Pendleton will preserve one of the last remaining public greenspace properties on Tonawanda Creek and facilitate improved amenities to the Town's and region's park, trail and blueway systems.

I am intimately familiar with recent improvements at Pendleton's primary public park at Town Hall, including the regionally significant handicapped-accessible playground initiative the Town recently completed in cooperation with an ambitious community foundation. The Town has successfully demonstrated its commitment to offering its residents and visitors state-of-the-art recreational facilities for all patrons, and its capability to implement and deliver park development projects in a timely, efficient manner.

Again, I strongly support this project and the benefit that it will have, not only for the residents in the Town of Pendleton, but also for residents throughout the region. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

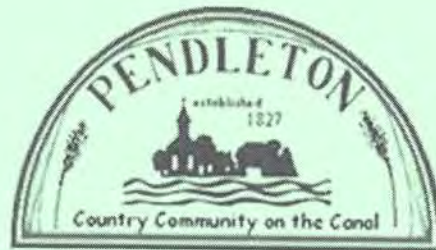
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert G. Ortt".

Robert G. Ortt  
State Senator, 62<sup>nd</sup> District

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# Town of Pendleton Recreation Survey August 2016



There were 120 responses to the Recreation Survey.



## 2016 Pendleton Recreation Survey

		Under 12	12 to 17	18 to 25	26 to 40	41 to 65	66 & up	Total
#1	When did you last visit a Pendleton park?							
	Last year (2015)	31	9	11	27	48	42	168
	Prior Year (2014)						5	5
	In the previous 5 years (2011-2015)	6	2	5	5	18	6	42
	More than 5 years (prior to 2011)		2	2	1	10	6	21
	Never visited	2			2	1	3	8
#1A	If you last visited prior to 2011 or never visited, why?							
	I don't know where a park is.							
	I recently moved to Pendleton.	2		1	3	2	1	9
	Parks are too far from my residence.							
	Park in my area is overcrowded.							
	I am too busy.					3	5	8
	Other, please specify:							
	No Need						3	3
#2	What was the name of the park you visited recently?							
	Town Park	28	9	13	27	63	35	175
	DePeau Park	1	1			3	2	7
	How did you hear about this park?							
	Near home	26	8	8	21	46	39	148
	Friends/family	2			1	6	8	17
	Advertisement					2	1	3
	Website					2	1	3
	Yearly activity book					1	2	3
	Other:							
	Drive by it	2			3	3	1	9
	Children's baseball	1		1	4	5		11

2016 Pendleton Recreation Survey

		Under 12	12 to 17	18 to 25	26 to 40	41 to 65	66 & up	Total
	Comments:							
	Visit Town Park on Campbell weekly.					1		1
	West Canal-safety-alcohol related-gathers AM & PM				1	1	1	3
#3	What is the name of the park/trail closest to home?							
	DePeau Park	1	1		3	5	3	13
	Town Park	15	6	10	15	31	21	98
	Trail Meyer to Mapleton	2	4	2	3	15	10	36
	Bike Path	5	2	2	4	5	1	19
	How many days per year do you visit this park/trail?							
	One to five	7	3	3	5	18	11	47
	Six to ten	3	1		3	7	6	20
	Eleven to fifteen	1			2		6	9
	Sixteen to twenty	7	1	2	9	6		25
	Over 21	9	1	2	10	13	6	41
	Comments:							
	Rails to trails totally unusable for walking due to the 4-wheel dirt bike activity/dust-what a waste of money					1		1
#4	Which of the following have you used in the last 5 years?							
	baseball diamonds	7	7	7	5	26	7	59
	tennis courts	5	4	4	4	17	3	37
	basketball court	3	1	4		12	3	23
	playground/playfield	29	9	4	26	28	18	114
	walking/running trail	20	5	10	18	45	24	122
	horseshoe pits							
	watch outdoor events	16	3	5	19	32	28	103
	concessions	7	6	4	4	20	9	50
	picnic area/pavelion	17	6	8	19	30	45	125

2016 Pendleton Recreation Survey

		Under 12	12 to 17	18 to 25	26 to 40	41 to 65	66 & up	Total
	ice skating rink	5	5	4	5	11		30
	dog walking	9		4	11	24	6	54
	Other:							
	Farmer's Market				1	2	1	4
	Roller Blade					1		1
	Hockey Court							
	Volleyball Court				1	2	2	5
	Snowmobile					2		2
#5	If you have visited a park in the last 5 years, what rating would you give it for providing recreation for all children?							
	Excellent	4	4	3	5	16	20	52
	Good	15	5	11	20	39	29	119
	Fair	11	1	2	8	14	8	44
	Poor					1		1
#6	Have you ever accessed the website for park information?							
	Yes	16	4	8	16	25	9	78
	No	9	5	8	14	47	51	134
	No Opinion					6	3	9
	Comments:							
	Website is poor. Filled out a contact-never got a response.					1		1
#7	Which 3 are most important to your decision to visit a park.							
	Location	18	7	10	22	50	45	152
	Safety/Security	12	3	8	16	37	18	94
	Restrooms	7	6	5	10	30	20	78
	Hours of Operation	4			3	6	1	14
	Cleanliness	15	4	8	18	44	30	119
	Recreation programs (e.g. softball/baseball)	12	5	2	10	23	6	58



2016 Pendleton Recreation Survey

		Under 12	12 to 17	18 to 25	26 to 40	41 to 65	66 & up	Total
	Facility availability (picnic tables, ball fields, etc.)	8	5	8	12	36	22	91
	Other: Please specify:							
	Tennis	1	1			2		4
	Bike Trail	1	1			4		6
	Play Equipment	5		1	6	5	3	20
	Special Needs Equipment					1		1
	Handicap Accessible					1	1	2
	Maintenance of tennis courts & nets-cracks							
	Paved roads to walk dog during cold weather			1		1		2
#8	<b>Activity List</b>							
	<b>Visiting Parks</b>							
	Relaxing in the park	35	1		131	84	171	422
	Picnicking	53			55	16	29	153
	Playground Use	101	73	1	278	79	47	579
	Bird Watching/Nature Photography				15	9	59	83
	Use of pavilions	15	11	1	27	61	40	155
	Summer Youth Programs	6			25	68	16	115
	Concessions	21	5		3	89	10	128
	Restrooms	35	52	3	92	194	43	419
	<b>Court Games</b>							
	Tennis	16	13	6	13	41	6	95
	Basketball	4	15	1		17		37
	<b>Field Sports</b>							
	Men's slo-pitch softball							
	Boys baseball	30	25		40	61	20	176
	Girls softball		7	2		29	25	63
	Machine pitch					10		10
	Tee ball	36	3		10	16		65
	Soccer				20			20
	Outdoor roller hockey	10	10					20

2016 Pendleton Recreation Survey

	Under 12	12 to 17	18 to 25	26 to 40	41 to 65	66 & up	Total
<b><u>Water Based Activities</u></b>							
Fishing				59	35	39	133
<b><u>Track Activities</u></b>							
Walking for enjoyment or exercise	34			658	3168	598	4458
Jogging/running	10			190	623	20	843
Dog Walking	20			476	1520	179	2195
<b><u>Winter Activities</u></b>							
Ice Skating	3	3	3	9	17		35
Sledding				5	3		8
Other: (please specify)							
Kayaking					6		6
Volleyball				5	10		15
Skiing			5		19		24
Farmer's Market					3		3
Biking					20		
Watch Outdoor Activities						12	12
Snowmobiling				10			10
Snowshoeing				5			5
Comments:							
Tennis courts need wind protection							
					1	1	2
#9	What 2 activities would you most like to participate in?						
	Small and large game hunting			1	1	1	3
	Pickle ball				1	1	2
	Bocce ball				1	1	2
	Swimming	2		2	4	2	10
	Field days			1		2	3
	Sledding-no hill			2	3		5
	Live music	2				2	4

## 2016 Pendleton Recreation Survey

		Under 12	12 to 17	18 to 25	26 to 40	41 to 65	66 & up	Total
	Kayaking					2		2
	Feel safe alone on bike/walking path						2	2
	Special needs playground				3		2	5
	Frisbee golf					1		1
	Fitness						1	1
	Bird Watching					1		1
	Walking					2	1	3
	Jogging						1	1
	Running						1	1
	Ice Skating						2	2
	Indoor winter activities						1	1
	Relaxing					1		1
	Comments:							
	Hard to do walking with ATV activity					2	1	3
#10	Compared to 5 years ago, how much are you participating in physical activities?							
	More	5	1	1	10	19	14	50
	Less			1	4	33	9	47
	Same	8	4	6	14	24	22	78
#11	What prevents you from participating in activities?							
	Work/housework/school	1		2	14	33	6	56
	Financial limitations				5	4	3	12
	I prefer indoor activities					8	7	15
	Physical limitations	1				11	23	35
	There are few facilities available in my area	1	1		3	9	4	18
	Nothing, I participate in as much recreation as I want.	6	3	2	9	27	27	74
	Need a dog park				1	3		4



#12	26-40	41-65	66 & ↑	Total
More lands should be purchased by the town to preserve open space.				
Strongly Agree	7	28	19	54
Somewhat Agree	12	22	18	52
No Opinion	8	8	5	21
Somewhat Disagree	1	9	5	15
Strongly Disagree	1	15	15	31
The town should preserve more open space by means other than acquisition (e.g. easements, zoning, etc.)				
Strongly Agree	5	17	9	31
Somewhat Agree	11	13	9	33
No Opinion	7	25	10	42
Somewhat Disagree	5	7	9	21
Strongly Disagree	2	15	19	36
More lands should be purchased by the town for recreation.				
Strongly Agree	8	14	10	32
Somewhat Agree	10	20	8	38
No Opinion	5	14	15	34
Somewhat Disagree	6	11	10	27
Strongly Disagree	1	17	13	31
The town should increase/create additional access to water resources.				
Strongly Agree	10	23	24	57
Somewhat Agree	8	24	13	45
No Opinion	8	18	9	35
Somewhat Disagree	1	5	2	8
Strongly Disagree	1	7	7	15
The town should increase spending for development of recreation facilities (pools, trails).				
Strongly Agree	15	21	12	48
Somewhat Agree	2	32	17	51
No Opinion	7	6	9	22
Somewhat Disagree	2	11	4	17
Strongly Disagree	2	7	13	22



	26-40	41-65	66 & ↑	Total
More money should be spent on public park maintenance and repair.				
Strongly Agree	4	9	11	24
Somewhat Agree	7	22	18	47
No Opinion	9	27	13	49
Somewhat Disagree	6	16	7	29
Strongly Disagree	1	4	9	14
State/Federal financial assistance to support local recreation development and land acquisition should be increased.				
Strongly Agree	14	36	19	69
Somewhat Agree	6	18	18	42
No Opinion	5	9	11	25
Somewhat Disagree	2	3	4	9
Strongly Disagree	1	7	6	14
Public/Private partnerships should be considered to expand and develop recreational facilities.				
Strongly Agree	9	15	12	36
Somewhat Agree	12	45	19	76
No Opinion	3	11	14	28
Somewhat Disagree	3	9	5	17
Strongly Disagree	1	5	9	15
Patrons should help support programs and services that have been provided through government subsidies in the past.				
Strongly Agree	5	19	15	39
Somewhat Agree	7	23	19	49
No Opinion	9	22	13	44
Somewhat Disagree	3	11	4	18
Strongly Disagree	3	6	7	16
Comments:				
Bike trails need repairs - big holes full of water-breeding grounds for insects - open all gates.				
We need a new Historical Building.				

2016 Pendleton Recreation Survey

		Under 12	12 to 17	18 to 25	26 to 40	41 to 65	66 & up	Total
#13	Do you feel that more recreation facilities are needed within 15 minutes of your home?							
	Yes			2	15	30	11	58
	No			1	5	37	38	81
	No Opinion				3	5	6	14
	If yes, which do you think are most needed?							
	playgrounds				4	5	1	10
	tennis courts					3	1	4
	trails		1	3	8	16	8	36
	picnic facilities			2	2	8	7	19
	golf courses				3	9	5	17
	ball fields							
	soccer fields					3		3
	football field							
	swimming	1	1	1	11	24	7	45
	boating and other water access				8	20	10	38
	open space				1	13	9	23
	Other: please explain							
	bathrooms						2	2
	splash pad				1			1
	fitness center					1		1
	Historical Building						2	2
	frisbee golf				1	1		2
	ATV trails					2		2
	bocce					1		1
	climbing wall				1			1
	Special needs playground	1			1			2
	tree parks/gardens					2		2
	Community Center					1	2	3
	Keep more farmlands				1	1	1	3

2016 Pendleton Recreation Survey

		Under 12	12 to 17	18 to 25	26 to 40	41 to 65	66 & up	Total
	Community pool					1		1
	Improve what we have-look at Amherst				1			1
	Comments:							
	Dog park to eliminate walking path contamination.						2	2
	More parking on Wendelville soccer fields					1		1
	Need more enclosures for picnic facilities					1	1	2
#15	Do you believe the Town should have a Community Center?							
	Yes			3	18	50	53	124
	No				3	12	11	26
	No Opinion				2	19	8	29
	Comments:							
	I have lived 20 years without one.					1		1
	Not interested if it meant an increase in taxes.				1			1
	Only town in Niagara County without one.						1	1
#16	Do you believe the Town Park is an ideal location for a Community Center?							
	Yes				19	47	52	118
	No				1	4	8	13
	No Opinion			2	4	20	9	35
	Comments:							
	It depends on the size of the facility					2		2



#14	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
Rate the following in order of importance:													
Ballfield lighting	5	1	2		6	5	7	5	7	5	6	14	63
Bicycle/walking trails	22	18	9	1	5	8	3	3	1		1	4	75
Coed outdoor volleyball league	1	2	5	5	5	3	10	3	5	9	7	11	66
Coed softball league	1	1	5	3	4	5	2	8	8	12	12	5	66
Cross Country ski trail	5	6	1	3	9	9	8	9	8	7	1	5	71
Golfing	6	6	4	3	1		7	4	12	4	9	10	66
Outdoor swimming pool	11	10	7	2	4	3	4	8	4	6	4	5	68
Canal front park	11	10	13	9	10	7	5	7	1		2	2	77
Splash Park	5	6	5	15	1	3	4	3	3	6	4	13	68
Workout/fitness Center	11	10	8	8	10	3	4		2	7	3	5	71
Aquatic Center	9	5	7	10	7	6	2	2	4	7	4	10	73
Senior/Community Center	29	5	8	8	4	11	2	4	2		3	10	86
ATV Trail									1				1
Comments:													
I would not choose any. We don't have to be Amherst. We have the school. Lots of activities at Public Libraries.													
Kayak rental													
More nature preserves that are "undeveloped".													
Seniors shouldn't have to pay for all this new stuff in town.													
We are a community along the canal. We should be able to sit/walk/stroll by the canal. Could use more trails.													
Add water fountains to biking/water trails.													
Would love to see park beautification such as fountain and gardens. This would draw more people to the park.													



2016 Pendleton Community Reaction Survey

		Under 12	12 to 17	18 to 25	26 to 40	41 to 65	66 & up	Total
#17	How would you fund a Community Center?							
	Town Bond				2	15	15	32
	Pay as you go fees				12	24	5	41
	Slight tax increase				3	3	5	11
	Grants and private donations				15	33	31	79
	All of the above			2	8	30	30	70
	Comments:							
	If people want one they can pay for it through fees. My husband says we pay so much in taxes now, we should already have one.							
	Start taxing government pensions above \$50,000.							
	Seniors pay enough-let the people who want all this pay for it.							
	Taxes are high enough.							
	Don't need one.							
	Rent it out for a reasonable fee: weddings, family reunions, birthday parties, etc.					1	1	
	Bingo or other fundraisers-taxes are high enough? They have tripled since we first moved out here in 1976. Decrease taxes (school) for seniors.					2		
#18	Currently the Historical Society, Veteran's Association, Senior Citizens and the Athletic Boosters Association have expressed interest in using a Community Center if built.							



## 2016 Pendleton Reaction Survey

	Under 12	12 to 17	18 to 25	26 to 40	41 to 65	66 & up	Total
What other organizations/groups do you envision using it?							
Kid's Club				1	1		2
Residents not affiliated with a group/organization				1	13	8	22
Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, 4-H				5	30	15	50
Kids with Special Needs					1	1	2
Voting					1	4	5
Seminars					2	5	7
Winter Athletics					1	2	3
Anyone who wants to					2	2	4
Yoga classes				2	2		4
Summer Recreation					6	2	8
Churches					1	1	2
Lion's Club					3	3	6
Political Clubs						1	1
Veteran's Group						1	1
Garden Club					1	1	2
Exercise Classes						1	1
Wendelville Fire Company				1			1
Homework Help				1			1
After School Child Care					2		2
Bands/Concerts					2		2
Food Pantry					1	1	2
Boys and Girls Club					2		2
Driver Safety Class					2		2
Fire Fighter personnel					1	1	2
Town Parade							
Comments:							
Who would maintain and care for the Community Center?							
If built, would you make it self-sufficient, e.g. solar panels, geo-thermal?					1		1



## 2016 Pendleton Recreation Survey

	Under 12	12 to 17	18 to 25	26 to 40	41 to 65	66 & up	Total
Town Parade				1			1
Starpoint reunions					1		1
Summertime concert series, small scale-not like NT	1				2		3
Car shows with concession stans open	1				2		3
Youth rec programs on Saturdays, Oct.-April	1				2		3
Guest speaker series in evenings, not all during the day so working people can attend, covering a range of topics- Eldercare, Financial Planning, College planning, gardening, resources for elders about to retire, elected officials- county, state, national	1				2		3
What does Riverkeepers do? Can they help Pendleton?	1				2		3
let the town Grant Writer tell us what's in the workd	1				2		3
There is nothing in town for senior citizens-let's get out of the committee stage and the Town Board take action. We have enough recreation. Do something for the Senior Citizens. We have been strung along long enough.							
This is a unique oppportunity for a special needs/wheelchair playground that can be funded/maintained by all private monies. I have 7 handicapped kids alone on my street. This is something the town should consider strongly down the road.							

#19	You	Member	Total
Please check the employment status for you and the other 2 household members.			
Working full-time	40	34	74
Working part-time	19	7	26
Self-employed	10	8	18
Unemployed	3	2	5
Retired	45	33	78
Student	1	10	11
Homemaker	10	3	13
Disabled	4	4	8
#20 What is your approximate total annual household income?			
Below \$15,000	1		
\$15-\$29,999	12		
\$30-\$49,999	10		
\$50-\$74,999	15		
\$75-\$125,000	31		
Over \$125,000	18		
#21 Including yourself, how many members or your immediate household are in each category?			
Children (under 12)	43		
Teenagers (12 to 17)	16		
Young Adults (18-25)	29		
Adults (26-40)	38		
Adults (41-65)	100		
Senior Citizens (66 and older)	71		
Some residents didn't answer any of these questions.			
Many residents didn't answer the income question.			

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# 5

## Promoting Recreation



### OVERVIEW

The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor offers abundant recreational activities that range from urban experiences to backwoods settings. In most cases, the quality of the available recreational resources is directly related to the stewardship of natural resources. Fishing, swimming, and boating are all dependent on pristine waters. **The integrity of the landscape and continuity of trails establish the basis for attracting bicyclists and hikers into the region.** The many historic resources and cultural landscapes featured along these routes provide a deeper understanding of the region and add to its sense of place.

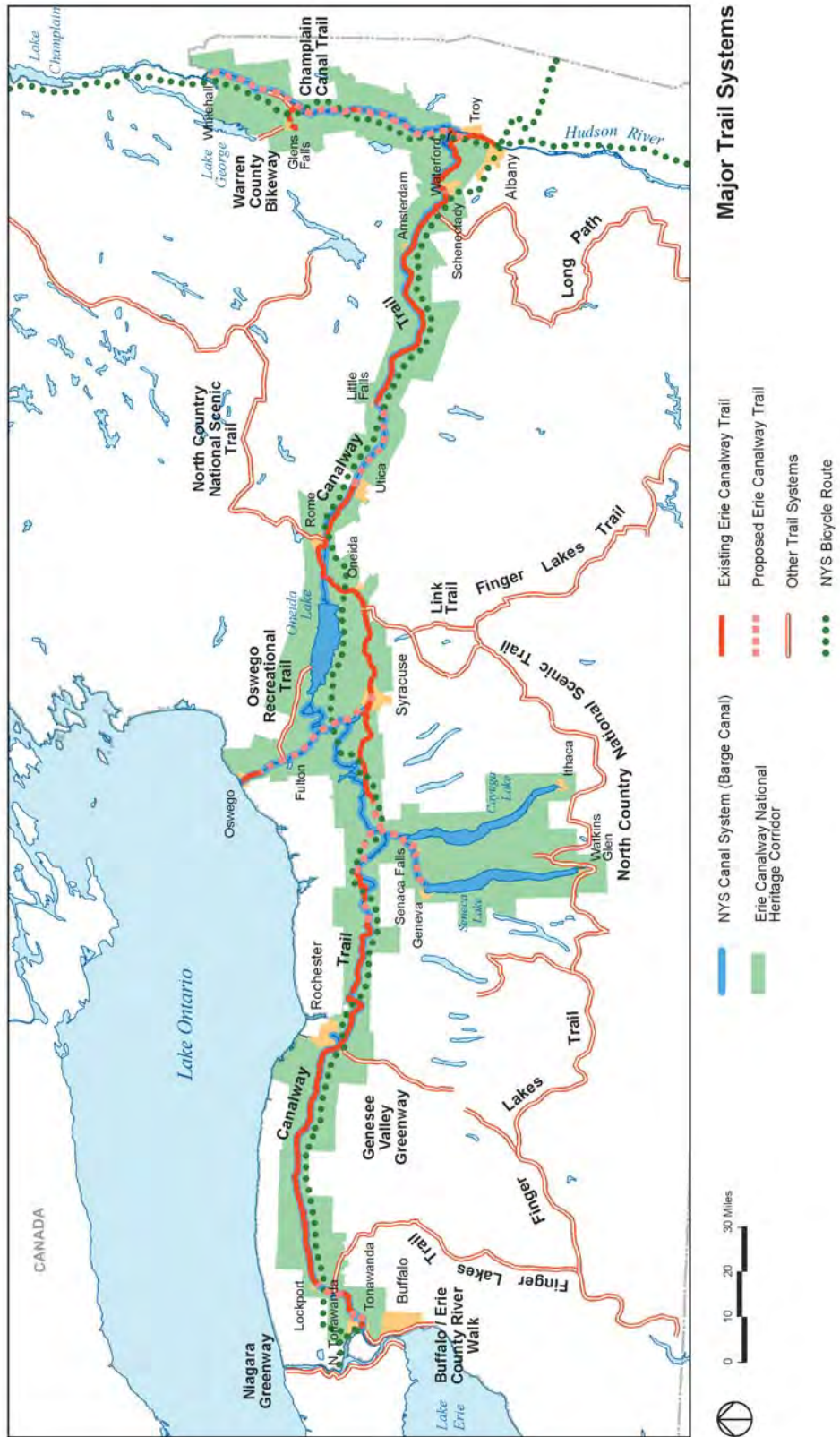
The last decade has seen a marked increase in outdoor recreation and a new focus on the recreational potential on the New York State Canal System. At the same time, heritage tourism has become the recreation of choice for many. **The many recreational destinations in the Corridor will attract visitors to the region and improve the quality of life for residents. Organized trips and special events, whether oriented toward bicycling, boating, hiking, fishing, or hunting, offer opportunities to change perceptions and draw new people into the area.** The provision of sports equipment, supplies, and rental equipment can enhance the experience of visitors and increase economic activity. The development of strategically located facilities and more consistent and sophisticated information can lead visitors to extend their stay, increasing the economic benefit to the region. The packaging and promotion of the recreational resources in the Corridor will benefit from a coordinated effort that crosses its many jurisdictional boundaries.

Photo:  
Cyclists along the Canalway Trail  
(Photo courtesy of Parks & Trails NY)

Erie Canalway  
National Heritage Corridor  
Preservation and Management Plan

The National Heritage Corridor can advance the ongoing implementation of many of the recommendations of the 1995 New York State Canal Recreation-





way Plan. The Recreationway Plan was developed as a framework to promote the use of the canal system as a recreational resource for boaters, bicyclists, and pedestrians. Many of the planned improvements outlined in the Recreationway Plan have been completed, including seven canal harbors, many of the service port and lock park projects identified in the plan, and 220 miles of the Erie Canalway Trail. The National Heritage Corridor's national status, broader scope, and wider study area provide an opportunity to build on and expand the impact of the Recreationway concept, bringing it into concert with the goals of preservation, conservation, interpretation, and revitalization outlined elsewhere in this Preservation and Management Plan.

In general, this chapter addresses issues related to outdoor recreation. However, it is important to recognize that enjoyment of the Corridor's heritage extends beyond use of the region's waterways, parks, trails, and touring routes. In addition to shopping for souvenirs or antiques, visiting museums and galleries, and attending performances and events – activities that are directly related to the Corridor's unique cultural landscapes – the recreational experience of Corridor residents as well as visitors is often driven by leisure opportunities such as dining, sports events, and local entertainment. **Wherever possible, outdoor recreation should be integrated into the bigger picture of heritage tourism and leisure activity – both physically, with well-marked linkages between recreational facilities and downtowns,** and conceptually, through cross-promotion and other marketing efforts. These issues are addressed more directly in Chapter 7, *Economic Revitalization*, and Chapter 8, *Tourism Development and Marketing*.

## GOALS

The recreation goal for the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor is that *the Corridor's recreational opportunities will achieve maximum scope and diversity, in harmony with the protection of heritage resources*. Three objectives have been identified as milestones toward this goal:

### **Increase access to and diversity of recreational opportunities throughout the Corridor**

A broad range of recreational activities benefits residents, appeals to different interests in a family or group planning a trip, and encourages visitors to stay longer. Full implementation of the 1995 Recreationway Plan will maximize the Corridor's unique ability to offer urban and rural experiences in close proximity to each other.

### **Encourage repeat visits and extend the stay of recreational visitors through the quality of the experience**

Visitors to the Corridor should take away such a positive experience that they not only return, but encourage others to visit as well. **The quality of the recreational experience is affected by the integrity of the cultural and natural resources; the proximity, accessibility, and development of quality trails, boating, and other**

**Outdoor recreation should be integrated into the bigger picture of heritage tourism and leisure activity – both physically and conceptually.**

recreational opportunities; and availability of essential hospitality services that meet or exceed expectations.

#### **Enhance connectivity between protected areas, trail segments, and recreation destinations**

The best way to enhance the experience of the Corridor's extensive recreational resources is to connect them, either physically, through trails, easements and careful land management, or virtually, through better interpretation consistent standards, and coordinated management, maps, and signage. Heightened connectivity will boost the perception of the Corridor as a cohesive geographic entity with a critical concentration of resources to experience.

## **CONTEXT**

Government agencies, civic groups, and business leaders are developing the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor as an attractive leisure destination for residents, vacationers, and tourists worldwide. More and more communities are seeing waterfront recreation as the way to bring new life and energy to their area, and they are finding that the key to making the most of their waterfront assets includes a clear vision and plan, broad public involvement, and creative partnerships. A number of programs continue to introduce new national and international audiences to the Corridor's remarkable recreational resources and, increasingly, are connecting them to each other and to historic town centers in an effort to improve quality of life for residents as well as visitors.

This chapter outlines the opportunities to build upon the wealth of previous plans and implementation efforts to create a spectacular place for recreation through trail use and management, connectivity and signage, water use and boater needs, seasonal use, facilities, and recreational heritage tourism.

### **NEW YORK STATE CANAL RECREATIONWAY PLAN**

This 1995 plan was developed by the Canal Recreationway Commission as a framework for the adaptive reuse of the canal system as a recreational resource. The plan sought to launch "the next chapter in the canal system's story" – a new vision of the canal system as a gathering place for leisure-time enjoyment, re-energizing adjacent communities and bringing new benefits and prosperity. The plan outlined numerous opportunities for water and landside recreation, including the potential for new charter and tour boats, for winter use of the canal prism and trails, and for the completion of a multi-use trail\* parallel to the entire New York State Canal System – all significantly enhanced by the continuity of public lands managed by the Canal Corporation alongside the waterways.

**Many of the planned improvements outlined in the Recreationway Plan have been completed.**

\* The *Canalway Trail* was envisioned by the Recreationway Plan as a continuous 520-mile multi-use trail system parallel to the Erie, Champlain, Oswego, and Cayuga-Seneca Canals. The *Erie Canalway Trail*, running 348 miles parallel to the Erie Canal, will be the "spine" of the Canalway Trail system.



Thank you for your support and  
consideration of our proposal

