

INTRODUCTION

The Local Waterfront Revitalization Area (LWRA) of the Town of Rhinebeck presents many opportunities to maintain and improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of this municipality and the surrounding areas. Over the years, the citizens of Rhinebeck have recognized the special value of the Town's natural, historic, scenic and recreational resources and have been involved in many efforts to preserve, enhance and make wise use of these resources.

Much of what has already been accomplished in Rhinebeck forms the basis of the Town's Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP). Preparation of the LWRP gives Rhinebeck an opportunity to take previous efforts a significant step further and to create a cohesive and vital program to guide the future of its waterfront area.

The LWRP is a valuable planning tool which provides the Town with an opportunity to establish objectives and specific projects and implementation steps as part of its planning and development process. Actions proposed by either private project sponsors or by local Town and County, State or Federal agencies to be undertaken in the Rhinebeck Waterfront Revitalization Area, will be examined for consistency with the policies and purposes of the LWRP. This will further opportunities to preserve and enhance the scenic and historic qualities of the Town, promote the beneficial use of coastal resources, avoid the impairment of these resources and establish a system to manage major activities that may substantially affect coastal resources. The Local Waterfront Revitalization Area for Rhinebeck is co-terminus with the Mid-Hudson Historic Shorelands Scenic District in order to continue and expand upon a variety of efforts already undertaken, including those discussed below, to protect and enhance the waterfront.

The Rhinebeck LWRP includes:

1. A description of the Town's Waterfront Revitalization Area;
2. An inventory and analysis of existing conditions in the LWRA, including discussions of important coastal resources and major issues and opportunities;
3. Statements and descriptions of local and State policies, coupled with descriptions of criteria or standards that will be used to evaluate compliance with the policies;
4. Descriptions of proposed land and water uses and proposed public and private projects within the LWRA; and
5. A discussion of techniques for local implementation of the program, including local laws and regulations, as well as other public and private actions.

In addition, Rhinebeck's LWRP describes procedures to be followed by Federal, State and local agencies to insure consistency of their actions with the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program, and identifies those Federal and State agencies that are likely to undertake actions that might affect the

implementation of this program. The LWRP describes consultation activities that the Town carried out with adjacent municipalities and appropriate Federal, State and regional agencies. It also describes local activities that have been, and are being, undertaken to obtain commitment and support for the LWRP.

Moreover, while the LWRP concentrates attention on the Local Waterfront Revitalization Area (LWRA), in some instances, sites within the whole Town or issues affecting the entire Town are examined. Where this is the case, e.g., in examination of recreation sites, the text will specify the area under consideration. In all other cases not so specified, the study area will be the LWRA.