

## Ilion LWRP Update & Comprehensive Plan Project Advisory Committee Meeting #3

Meeting Date:	November 19, 2020 @ 6pm
Location:	Ilion Village Hall
Committee Members Present:	Cory Albrecht, HCIDA Board Member Liz Hoffman, Business Owner Dick Keeler, HS Principal and Business Owner Bill Lennox, Former Business Owner / School Board Bridget McKinley, Former Board Member Marijo Thompson, Village Treasurer Alan Robinson, Zoning Board Chair
Absent Committee Members:	Pat Brien, Local Businessman and Commercial Property Owner Bob Fletcher, Village Resident Bob McDowell, Business Owner Ron Schoonmaker, Village Board Liaison
Consultant Team:	Chris Lawton, P.E., Barton & Loguidice Bob Murphy Jr., AICP, Barton & Loguidice John Steinmetz, FAICP, Barton & Loguidice Nancy Pattarini, Paige Marketing Communications Group Carrie McMurray, Paige Marketing Communications Group Maria Garcia (Department of State)

This was the third meeting of the Village of Ilion's LWRP Update/Comprehensive Plan Committee ("Committee"). The meeting was attended by members of the Committee, consultants from Barton & Loguidice (B&L) and Paige Marketing Communications Group (The Paige Group), and a Department of State (DOS) representative.

The purpose of the meeting was to establish a general LWRP boundary, evaluate the DOS's inventory and analysis checklist, and review the draft community participation plan. A slideshow accompanied this meeting and is available separately for review.

## 1. Introductions

Mr. Murphy (B&L) kicked off and initiated a Powerpoint presentation. The presentation outlined the agenda beginning with Committee Business. The meeting started with introductions from two (2) new Committee members. The new Committee members included Liz Hoffman, a Herkimer native who moved back to Ilion just before the pandemic to start a fitness center. The second new Committee member is Dick Keeler, a Mohawk native and principal of Central Valley Academy. Mr. Keeler also owns the Side Street Bar in Mohawk.

Mr. Murphy briefly reviewed the project schedule and where the project stands today. Discussion turned to the status of two (2) industrial sites in the Village and how the Comprehensive Plan and LWRP can guide potential changes at those sites. The Duofold site was the first topic of conversation. Mr. Murphy reviewed previous EPA and DEC studies that have taken place. He discussed the current status of the site as well as programs and planning techniques that can bring the site back to a functional existence. Programs include the Brownfield Cleanup Program. Future development scenarios include mixed-use retail, apartments, and lodging. Mr. Albrecht mentioned that a survey had been completed which gathered recommendations on the site's future use. Mr. Albrecht indicated that he would send the survey results to Mr. Murphy.

Conversation transitioned to the recent news about the Remington Plant. There were layoffs in November and news of successful bidders taking the plant over. Mr. Murphy discussed the opportunity of including Remington in the Comprehensive Plan due to its unknown future. Future recommendations for the plant include subdividing the site's industrial parcels and repurposing the site for mixed-use.

## 2. Community Outreach Plan

The presentation shifted to the Community Outreach Plan. Mr. Murphy notified the Committee that a website for the project will be completed over the next few weeks. He handed the presentation over to Ms. Pattarini (Paige Group) who discussed the initial outreach strategy:

- There will be a short questionnaire in order to keep people's attention;
- The B&L Team will complete the questionnaire over next few weeks;
- B&L will work with the Committee members to facilitate stakeholder outreach;
- The Committee will contact key stakeholders and conduct "interviews" via email and phone (if needed) during December; and
- B&L will analyze feedback, revise the survey, and launch it to the public (tentatively scheduled for January 2021);

The survey will inform the first public information meeting scheduled for late January/ early February. The Committee was in favor of the outreach strategy.

Mr. Lennox asked about how this plan will transition into implementation as some plans have a tendency to 'sit on the shelf'. He also voiced his concern about how realistic strict code enforcement is in the long term. Mr. Murphy along with Mr. Steinmetz reinforced B&L's perspective that it is on the Committee to identify ways momentum can be continued as the Plan is adopted (ie. "low-hanging-fruit" project recommendations; identifying project "champions"; identifying funding paths). Mr. Steinmetz also mentioned that the LWRP program requires some adoption of policies before approval.

### 3. LWRP Boundary

Mr. Murphy proceeded to provide an overview of what an LWRP boundary is and where Ilion's previous boundary was located. He projected the previous boundary using the 2000 Central Mohawk Valley LWRP. He explained what it means to be a part of the LWRP boundary, also known as the Waterfront Revitalization Area (WRA). Ultimately, the Committee decided to keep the boundary the same as in the 2000 LWRP, as well as include two parks in the southwest part of the Village.

### 4. Inventory & Analysis (I&A)

Lastly, Mr. Murphy discussed the inventory and analysis (I&A) section of the LWRP. The DOS had released a checklist of inventory items that may be relevant to an LWRP community. Mr. Murphy first discussed and clarified the purpose of an I&A. He then reviewed what was in the Village's previous LWRP and pointed out items from the checklist that were not addressed. Three (3) Committee members also completed the DOS checklist analyzing what should and should not be included in the upcoming LWRP I&A section. The Committee agreed with the scope identified by Mr. Murphy in the I&A discussion and expressed excitement about the history section.

### 5. Next Steps & Adjournment

#### Committee

- Engage with stakeholders directly after questions are distributed by B&L team
- Review draft plan sections when distributed by B&L team

#### Consultant Team

- Catch Mr. Keeler and Ms. Hoffman up on the project
- Consult Mr. Keeler on public participation from the youth
- Distribute Stakeholder Engagement Questions and Online Community Survey
- Distribute Draft Sections of Plan for review

#### Next Meeting

- ~~Tentative, Thursday, January 7, 2021 @6pm Zoom~~ – to be rescheduled for February 2021