

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Town of East Hampton Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) is the Town's coastal management blueprint. As a comprehensive examination of the Town's coastal resources and management practices, it aspires to coordinate local and state policies for a multitude of commercial and recreational uses of the coast. It puts forward the Town's coastal policies and commits it to managing and conserving coastal resources into the twenty-first century and for generations to come.

The LWRP process has provided a forum for a host of local coastal issues, many of them complex and requiring long term solutions. The summary of **Key Local Issues** accompanying the **Introduction** highlights the scope of concerns that were examined. Throughout its development the LWRP has involved balancing community interests and state program requirements. Structured on the 44 statewide coastal policies, the LWRP has been adapted to reflect local needs. In its programmatic mode the LWRP serves as the guide for consistency review, a process for state and federal agencies to review actions affecting the Town's coast based on the LWRP policies, and a means to require adherence to Town guidelines.

East Hampton's LWRP document was written by the Town Planning Department with advice and oversight by a Town Waterfront Advisory Committee. The Committee, made up of citizen representatives of the marina industry, commercial fishing, and environmental interests, was regularly augmented by Town Board members, representatives of the Town Trustees, the Town Harbormaster, and the Town Planning and Natural Resource Directors. The NYS Department of State Division of Coastal Resources provided extensive technical guidance and support throughout the process. The Waterfront Advisory Committee devotedly reviewed each policy issue and inventory detail in countless hours of night meetings over nine years. Issues were further resolved at numerous public meetings, and received a thorough airing in the local press. A final review was conducted by the full Town Board.

As a planning tool the LWRP is intended as a living document, an evolving strategy rather than a static regimen. As knowledge increases, as needs manifest over time, the LWRP can and should be amended and reviewed. A compendium of **Projects** included in Section XIV are designed to enhance understanding of coastal processes, take further planning steps, and implement policy recommendations. The **Projects** section provides an extensive shopping list of management initiatives that will serve the Town's coast in years to come. Integrating these efforts within the LWRP is also expected to help leverage Town funding with grants from other levels of government.

Completing the LWRP has been a long and arduous process that will benefit the Town's coast with tangible improvements, better management and enhanced resource protection. The **Introduction** and **Guide to Using the LWRP** that follow provide an overview of the document and assist in navigating its structure and in locating information and recommendations. They are intended as an aid to the general public, agencies and the private sector in reviewing the LWRP planning process.