

# SHUSTER ASSOCIATES

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PLANNING  
AND  
ZONING  
SERVICES

July 9, 1985

To: Waterfront Advisory Committee  
Village of Castleton/Town of Schodack

Subject: Preliminary Analysis of Questionnaire Returns

Some 66 Waterfront Questionnaires have been returned. This represents a response of about 15% of those distributed.

Attached is a copy of the questionnaire with the total responses to each question indicated. (In most cases, the totals do not add up to 66 because not all respondents answered all questions.) A listing of additional comments provided by respondents will also be compiled.

Set forth below is a summary of the highlights of the responses.

## Question #1

- \* The replies were predominantly from the Village, where most residents of coastal area live - 42 respondents (64%).

## Question #2

- \* No more than 40% of the respondents indicated present participation in any waterfront recreation activity.
- \* Between 30-40% indicated participation in boating, hiking, enjoying the view and picnicking.
- \* Hunting, birdwatching and biking were the least cited activity - 1-6%.

## Question #3

- \* Not yet tabulated.

## Question #4

- \* Four issues were ranked almost equally in terms of importance. Between

51-56% of the respondents ranked public access, revitalization of the Village Center, protection of the natural environment and future use of state park land as a "very important issue".

- \* On the basis of assigning 2 points for very important, 1 for important and 0 for not important, the issues scored as follows:

Additional public access to the waterfront	- 94
Protection of the natural environment	- 86
Revitalization of the Village Center	- 85
Future use of state park land	- 82
Generating economic development activity	- 54
Flooding and erosion problems	- 43

#### Question #5

- \* The most favored uses for large parcels north of the Village on the river were for a nature preserve (47) followed by agricultural use (32).
- \* The most disapproved uses were apartments and condominiums (34) and industrial development (34).
- \* The "preference differential"--the number in favor less those who disapproved--is one measure of the strength of sentiment. The order was as follows:

Nature Preserve	+44
Agricultural uses	+26
Single Family homes	0
Apartments and condominiums	-18
Industrial development	-21

#### Question #6

- \* The most strongly approved uses for the state park land were picnic areas (38) and nature preserve (34). No one disapproved of these uses.
- \* A second favored group was swimming beach (26), boat launch (24), education center (23), and camp sites (21).

- \* The least approved use was athletic fields (8).
- \* The preference differential (strongly approve (+2), approve (+1), disapprove (-1) ranking was as follows:

Picnic areas	+91
Nature Preserve	+83
Swimming beach	+65
Boat launch	+59
Education Center	+57
Camp sites	+54
Marina	+50
Horse riding trails	+35
Athletic fields	+30

- \* 33 felt the most important impact of the park was protection of the natural environment while 17 thought it was new jobs and taxes.

Question #7

- \* The most favored project was a riverfront walk in the Village.
- \* Every project listed was favored by a substantial majority of those who responded (favored vs disapproved plus no opinion).
- \* The preference differential was as follows:

Riverfront walk	+46
Scenic over-looks	+41
Public boat launching site	+39
Community park/garden	+26
Park on Cow Island	+22

SUMMARY

Total responses: 66

# Waterfront Questionnaire

VILLAGE OF CASTLETON-ON-HUDSON AND TOWN OF SCHODACK

HUDSON RIVER WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

The Village and Town are preparing a program for the use and protection of the Hudson River waterfront (see Location Map) and its natural narmade resources. The Waterfront Advisory Committee, made up of Village and Town residents, is seeking the opinions of local residents concerning a variety of issues to guide them as they develop the program. Please take a few minutes to complete as many of the following questions as you can so that we may have the benefit of your thoughts on this important project.

1. Check the box which indicates where you live.

- a. Village of Castleton-on-Hudson 42
- b. Town of Schodack 14

2. Please check those boxes next to any recreational activity in which you now participate on the waterfront.

- |             |           |                      |           |
|-------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|
| a. Fishing  | <u>16</u> | f. Enjoying the view | <u>25</u> |
| b. Swimming | <u>3</u>  | g. Picnicking        | <u>27</u> |
| c. Boating  | <u>22</u> | h. Other             | <u>10</u> |
| d. Hunting  | <u>1</u>  |                      | <u>4</u>  |
| e. Hiking   | <u>20</u> |                      | <u>3</u>  |

3. Of the activities listed above, which do you think need more or improved facilities? \_\_\_\_\_

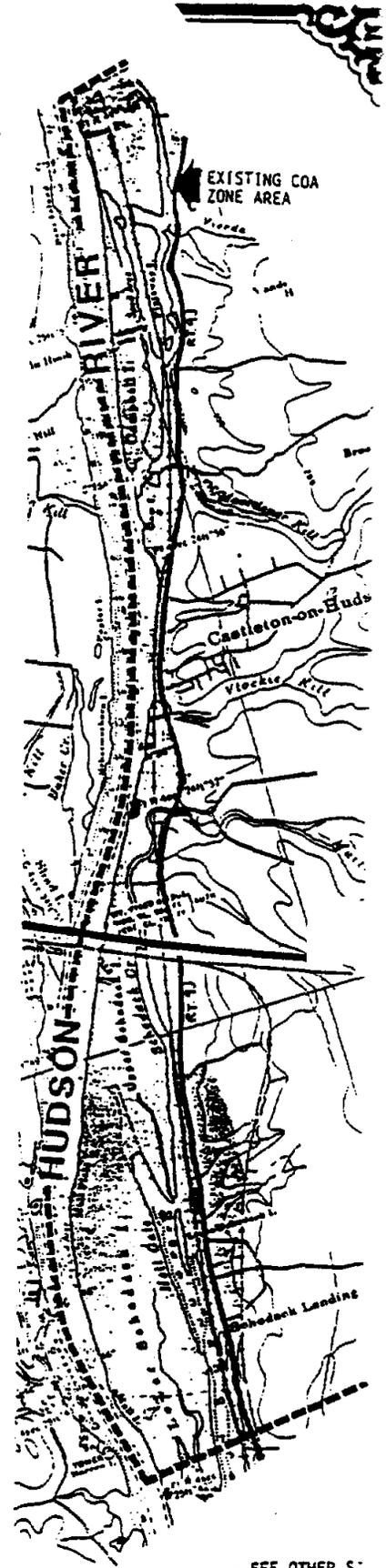
Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

4. The following issues of concern in the coastal area have been discussed by the Waterfront Advisory Committee. Please designate each with a number: 1 = very important; 2 = important; 3 = not important

- |           |           |           |   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| 1         | 2         | 3         |   |
| <u>17</u> | <u>20</u> | <u>16</u> | Generating economic development activities based on the river.                    |
| <u>37</u> | <u>20</u> | <u>2</u>  | Additional public access to the waterfront.                                       |
| <u>34</u> | <u>17</u> | <u>2</u>  | Revitalization of the Village Center.   |
| <u>9</u>  | <u>25</u> | <u>12</u> | Flooding and erosion problems.  |
| <u>35</u> | <u>16</u> | <u>2</u>  | Protection of the natural waterfront environment.                                 |
| <u>34</u> | <u>14</u> | <u>6</u>  | Future use and development of state park land on Upper and Lower Schodack Island. |

5. Several large parcels of land in the Town, north of the Village between Route 9J and the river, are undeveloped and could be used for a variety of purposes. Please indicate whether you favor, disapprove or have no opinion on each.

	Favor	Disapprove	No Opinion
a. Single family homes	<u>23</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>7</u>
b. Apartments or condominiums	<u>16</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>5</u>
c. Industrial development	<u>13</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>3</u>
d. Nature Preserve	<u>47</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>
e. Agricultural uses	<u>32</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>12</u>
f. other Park Area	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>
1st Class Restaurant	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>



- SEE OTHER S:

6. The State of New York has acquired almost all of Upper and Lower Schodack Islands--over 1,000 acres south of the Village--for park developemnt. Although preliminary plans were prepared, they were never pursued. If a new development plan for the park is prepared, please indicate your opinion concerning the possible facilities listed below which might be included in the park.

	Strongly Approve	Approve	No Opinion	Disapprove
a. Camp Sites	<u>21</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>
b. Picnic areas	<u>38</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>
c. Marina	<u>15</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>
d. Nature Preserve	<u>34</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>
e. Education Center	<u>23</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>3</u>
f. Boat Launch	<u>24</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>
g. Athletic fields	<u>8</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>4</u>
h. Horse Riding Trails	<u>13</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>10</u>
i. Swimming Beach	<u>26</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>
j. Other	<u>4</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>-</u>

In general, which impact of the proposed park do you think is more important?

17 Creation of new jobs and increased taxes generated by new private development serving park visitors.

33 Protection of the natural environment of the riverfront.

7. A number of specific projects have been suggested for the waterfront. Please indicate whether you favor, disapprove or have no opinion on each.

	Favor	Disapprove	No Opinion
a. A park on Cow Island adjacent to new sewer treatment plant.	<u>33</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>
b. Scenic over-looks on Route 9J.	<u>45</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
c. A riverfront walk in the Village.	<u>50</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>
d. A community park and "gardens" between Route 9J and the railroad north of Scott Avenue.	<u>36</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>
e. A public boat launching site.	<u>43</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>

8. Do you have any other comments or suggestions you wish the Waterfront Advisory Committee to consider?

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Thank you for your time and consideration in responding to these questions.

You may list your name and address if you wish.

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