

## **Section V - Local Implementation Techniques**

The following section describes the City techniques and management structure for implementation of the City of Binghamton LWRP. It describes land use controls that are necessary for implementation of the LWRP and describes the means for long-term management of Binghamton's LWRP. It specifies the authority of the City to implement the LWRP and presents the organizational strategy that the City will follow to implement the LWRP's policies and projects.

### **5.1 Local Planning Initiatives**

The following section summarizes land use and planning documents that have been completed, or are in the process of being completed, which may have implications on the future of the City of Binghamton.

#### **City of Binghamton Comprehensive Plan**

The City of Binghamton is currently completing a two-year process to update the Comprehensive Plan for the City. The Comprehensive Plan, worked on by an outside consulting team, was prepared with full input by City staff and elected officials. The Comprehensive Plan looks at the entire City, rather than focusing on waterfront areas, and identifies potential revitalization efforts and coordinated design schematics.

The Comprehensive Plan identifies goals for the City, policies to address the goals and specific actions to implement the policies. Many of the LWRP recommendations and policies were derived from, or build upon, those contained in the Comprehensive Plan.

#### **Binghamton Metropolitan Greenway Study**

The Binghamton Metropolitan Greenway Study was completed in 1999 in an effort to improve bicycle and pedestrian transportation opportunities throughout the greater Binghamton metropolitan region. Trail Master Plans were described in detail in the study, which identified trail development opportunities and obstacles for thirteen trail systems in, and around, the City of Binghamton. Specifically addressed were trail systems along the East and West banks of the Chenango River and along the Susquehanna River. The study identified trail design standards, including off-road trails, on-road trails, trailhead facilities, access control and signage, as well as a long-term implementation strategy.

During the development of the policies, recommendations and concept plans prepared for the LWRP, the Binghamton Metropolitan Greenway Study was reviewed and all pertinent information was considered and integrated, as deemed appropriate.

## **Susquehanna River Greenway Plan**

The Susquehanna Greenway Plan was prepared by Binghamton University in 2000 to address the benefits of constructing a greenway within the City of Binghamton. The document explores options and routes for a linear park within the City, examines ecological resources, economic development potentials, financing issues and legal matters. The plan was reviewed during the compilation of the Local Waterfront Revitalization program for the City of Binghamton.

## **5.2 Existing Local Laws and Regulations**

One of the primary means of implementing the City of Binghamton LWRP is through local laws and regulations that concern, or are related to, land use. The following local laws and regulations of the City of Binghamton are relevant to the implementation of this LWRP.

### **Binghamton Zoning Ordinance**

The Zoning Ordinance of the City of Binghamton, adopted April 7, 1987, was prepared to provide for the orderly growth of the City, to promote public health, safety and the general welfare of its citizens, to prevent the overcrowding of land, to minimize conflicts among land uses and buildings and to safeguard the heritage of the City of Binghamton.

The Zoning Ordinance regulates all land use activities in the City and establishes specific land use classifications, or districts, which govern development and redevelopment actions. Within each of the districts, the zoning establishes setbacks and density requirements, arrangement of buildings, area covered by lots, open spaces to be preserved, provisions for off-street parking, accessory uses, fences and walls, lighting, screening and landscaping, in addition to other similar issues typically regulated under zoning ordinances. The document also includes all regulations governing the City Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals.

The existing zoning districts located within the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program waterfront revitalization area boundaries are identified and described in detail in the Inventory and Analysis section of this LWRP.

The Zoning Ordinance is an important element in the implementation of the LWRP since all development must conform with the regulations specified for the district in which the development is proposed. No LWRP actions or policies can be undertaken without meeting the requirements of the zoning ordinance, therefore modifications to the zoning ordinance shall be required if the LWRP policies and recommendations are to be fully implemented. Recommendations for appropriate and necessary

amendments to the City's existing Zoning Ordinance are incorporated as part of this LWRP.

The City anticipates adoption of their Comprehensive Plan in May 2003 and will commence a complete overhaul of the existing Zoning Ordinance at this time. All recommended zoning districts and amendments identified within the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program, will be incorporated into the Zoning Ordinance Update.

### **Subdivision Regulations**

The City of Binghamton has Subdivision Regulations that require the submission of proposed subdivisions to the City Planning Commission for review and approval. The regulations include standards for submittals of applications, street layout, intersection configuration, cul-de-sac requirements, construction and design standards, provisions for drainage and water and sewer systems as well as provisions for landscaping and recreation areas.

Amendments to this land use regulation may not be significant with respect to the implementation of this LWRP due to the fact that there are very few areas within the waterfront revitalization area boundaries, or the City, where further subdivision of land can occur that has not already been developed.

### **City of Binghamton Landmarks Ordinance**

As stated within, the City of Binghamton Landmarks Ordinance was adopted in order to:

- 1 Promote the educational, cultural, economic and general welfare of the public through the protection, enhancement and perpetuation of landmarks and districts of historic and cultural significance;
- 2 Safeguard the City's historic, aesthetic and cultural heritage by preserving landmarks and districts of historical and cultural significance;
- 3 Stabilize and improve property values;
- 4 Foster civic pride in the legacy of beauty and achievements of the past;
- 5 Protect and enhance the City's attractions to tourists and visitors and provide a stimulus to new business;
- 6 Strengthen the economy of the City; and
- 7 Promote the use of landmarks and districts of historic and cultural significance as sites for the education, pleasure and welfare of the people of the City of Binghamton.

The law establishes a Commission on Architecture and Urban Design of eleven persons and specifies certain types of qualifications that are required. The Ordinance outlines the powers of the Commission and all pertinent procedures and regulations required as part of those powers. As currently written, the City of Binghamton Landmarks Ordinance implements the historic and cultural resource protection policies of the LWRP.

### **Floodplain Management (Chapter 503)**

This Chapter of the City's Zoning Ordinance states that "no permits for use within the floodplain management area, as delineated on the flood insurance rate map dated June 1, 1977, for the City of Binghamton shall be permitted without compliance with the floodplain management regulations as set forth in Local Law No. 5 of 1987". Projects within the floodplain management area are reviewed to ensure that hazards from flooding are minimized through appropriate standards concerning construction techniques and materials, siting and protection and maintenance of drainage areas.

### **Performance Standards (Chapter 504)**

The purpose of these performance standards is to regulate the potentially objectionable aspects of land uses or activities in the City of Binghamton by the application of specific standards whenever possible. This involves standards for allowable conditions with respect to various environmental parameters, including noise, vibration, atmospheric pollutants (smoke, dust, etc.), radiation, electromagnetic interference, humidity and heat and light.

### **State Environmental Quality Review Act**

The DEC Division of Regulatory Affairs manages the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). SEQRA is a law that establishes a process that requires the consideration of environmental factors early in the planning stages of actions that are directly undertaken, funded or approved by local, regional and state agencies. The City considers all applicable requirements under SEQRA during review of all qualifying projects.

## **5.3 Additional Local Laws Needed to Implement LWRP**

The City of Binghamton recognizes that waterfront and downtown renewal and revitalization is one of the most effective means of stabilizing and rejuvenating residential and commercial districts within the waterfront revitalization area, and throughout the City. City efforts will focus on promoting the waterfront character of the City, encouraging additional water-dependent and water-enhanced uses and promoting additional commercial and recreational activities that have historically

made waterfront communities appealing as commercial and residential areas for residents, as well as visitors.

The previous Section (5.2) outlined the various local laws and regulations of the City to determine how well they implement the policies and proposals of the City of Binghamton Local Waterfront Revitalization Program. The only local regulation in need of updating and revision in the immediate future is the City of Binghamton Zoning Ordinance, including the incorporation of design standards in appropriate areas and new zoning districts that provide for a wider array of uses along the waterfront.

### **Adoption of New Zoning Districts**

Although the City is not proposing drastic changes in general land uses along the waterfront and in the Central Business District, the LWRP suggests that increased flexibility and a shift to mixed-use development is most desirable within the waterfront revitalization area, for the purposes of creating a 24-hour downtown and waterfront, to spur economic development initiatives, to increase residential and commercial opportunities and to create development that is visually consistent and aesthetically pleasing. It is recommended that the City update their current Zoning Ordinance, including all of their existing zoning classifications in order to accommodate and guide future developments and changes in land uses. All zoning districts and land use classifications are shown on the enclosed map, labeled "Future Land Use and Zoning".

Proposed zoning and land use classifications within the waterfront revitalization area boundaries are identified in detail in Section 4.1 of this LWRP, and include the following:

- Residential (R)
- Historic Museum District (HMD)
- Waterfront Village (WV)
- Urban Village Center (UVC)
- Regional Mixed Use (RMU)
- Central Business District (CBD)
- Waterfront Industrial / Mixed Use (WI)
- Open Space / Recreational (OS)
- Institutional (INS)
- Public Service (PS)
- Planned Development (PD)

The HMD, WV, UVC, RMU, CBD, WI and PD districts strive to encourage a mix of residential, entertainment and commercial uses to serve as a catalyst for the economic and physical revitalization of the entire City core. It is the purpose of these districts to encourage development with a consistent set of design standards that ensure a unified

and comprehensively planned development, which will function effectively and achieve a high standard of site planning and architectural design. Both the LWRP and the mixed use zoning districts, identified above, call for a high level of public access to each of the Rivers.

There are heavily populated residential neighborhoods within the waterfront revitalization area that do not lend themselves to mixed-use developments and should be recognized as residential enclaves that provide a stable residential base to the City. These areas are located along Riverside Drive, northern Chenango Street and at the eastern edge of the City on the southern side of the Susquehanna River. These areas would be classified under the Residential (R) Zoning District. This zoning district mirrors the existing type and pattern of one and two family residential development found along these areas of the waterfront.

Open Space / Recreational (OS) uses are those existing park and open space areas, as well as additional undeveloped lands within the waterfront revitalization area that are ideal locations for future park and open space development. The unique attributes of open space areas and parklands, and their contribution to the overall quality-of-life in a community, warrants the establishment of their own zoning classification in order to address their specific issues.

A new Planned Development (PD) Zoning Classification has been included specifically for the Binghamton Psychiatric Center site. This will allow the site to be developed as a planned development for the entire site, ensuring the site is developed with uses that complement and work with one another, as opposed to competing against one another.

Institutional (INS) and Public Service (PS) Zoning Districts are established to identify existing institutional and public service land uses in the waterfront revitalization area that do not reasonably fit into any of the other mixed-use zoning districts.

While the LWRP identifies the laws and regulations in need of updating within the City, the actual rewriting of the zoning, as part of a separate planning process, will be necessary. This should be considered a priority project by the City and should be undertaken in an immediate and timely manner. The City will be adopting their Comprehensive Plan in May 2003, and will commence work immediately thereafter to complete a thorough revision and update of their existing Zoning Ordinance. All recommended zoning districts and amendments, as identified within the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program, will be incorporated into the Zoning Ordinance Update at this time.

The recommended zoning amendments, as described above, are not required to be immediately updated in order to begin implementation of the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program.

## **Adoption of Design Standards in Designated Zoning Districts**

In order to create an attractive waterfront and downtown, design standards should be implemented in the waterfront revitalization area that coordinate with existing and /or desired architectural and design characteristics of the different "character areas" along the waterfront. Design standards are necessary to address, at a minimum, the following building and streetscape criteria:

- Overall Design and Building Style
- Architectural Details
- Building Mass and Height
- Building Setback
- Building Orientation
- Window Coverage
- Signage
- Lighting
- Landscaping
- Screening and Buffering
- Lot Coverage
- Public Access
- Relationship to Waterfront
- Off-Street Parking
- On-Site Utilities and Services

As the City begins the process of updating their Zoning Ordinance in 2003, design standards will be incorporated to ensure consistency with the recommendations of the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program.

### **Establish a New Local Law to be entitled the "City of Binghamton Waterfront Consistency Review Law"**

The purpose of this new local law is to establish a framework and procedures for agencies in the City to consider the policies and purposes of the LWRP when reviewing applications for actions or direct agency actions located within the City; and to assure that such actions and direct actions are consistent with the policies and purposes of the City's LWRP. The text of this law is included as an Appendix of this document.

This proposed local law establishes consistency review procedures for City actions within the City in order to implement the LWRP. This local law will require of each board, department, office, officer or other body of the City that its actions to directly undertake, or to permit, fund or otherwise approve any project, use or activity within the City, be consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the State and local

policies set forth in the City of Binghamton Local Waterfront Revitalization Program. To this end, the LWRP Consistency Review Law establishes procedures for:

- 1 initial review of proposed actions in a manner compatible with requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) and Title 6, Part 617 NYC RR;
- 2 advisement and assistance to applicants (if involved) and/or the boards, the departments, offices, officers or other bodies of the City involved regarding forms, procedures, etc.; and
- 3 LWRP consistency and SEQRA review through advisement from a newly created Waterfront Advisory Committee and the local lead agency, respectively.

### **Adopt a New Local Law to Establish the City of Binghamton Waterfront Advisory Committee**

In order to provide general oversight for administration of the City's Local Waterfront Revitalization Program and technical assistance in the form of advice, the City should create, by local law, a Waterfront Advisory Committee. Such Committee would function as the City entity that is primarily responsible, in an advisory capacity, for implementing the policies, purposes and projects contained within the City of Binghamton's Local Waterfront Revitalization Program. The Committee would also function as the City agency that makes recommendations for consistency of actions with the City's LWRP as prescribed by the City's Waterfront Consistency Review Law, located in Appendix 4 of this document.

## **5.4 Other Required Public and Private Actions**

### **Secure Necessary Waterfront Easements**

A property survey and easements or other means of negotiated passage will need to be secured for private properties bordering on the Chenango or Susquehanna Rivers where the waterfront trail is proposed.

### **Private Investment in Public Amenities**

The implementation of certain components of the proposed waterfront redevelopment projects will require significant private investment. This includes the construction and maintenance of commercial facilities, residential structures, rental facilities and certain other amenities. The City and other involved public agencies should seek to maximize the contribution of private funds toward the development of public amenities, such as portions of waterfront trails, internal roadways, park improvements, parking facilities and public restrooms.

## **Economic Development Strategy**

It is recommended that the City undertake an economic development feasibility study to uncover the realistic redevelopment potentials and future uses within the Central Business District and at appropriate locations along the waterfront. The economic development strategy would determine what would be the highest and best uses for the lands within the waterfront revitalization area, based on local supply and demand and market needs.

Broome County is currently completing a regional economic development strategy that the City of Binghamton could build upon with respect to developing their own economic strategy. Binghamton should maintain a role in the development of the Broome County Economic Development Strategy in order to more clearly recognize the potentials of the local economy, as well as their position in the regional economy. In addition, the participation of the City in the planning process will assist the City in building regional partnerships and relationships that will be of a benefit far into the future.

## **Continue Trail Development in Accordance with BMTS Greenway Study**

The City should continue to invest in the development of a contiguous trail system through the City that would enhance public use along the water and improve connections between different neighborhood areas within the City. Trail locations have been identified in the BMTS Greenway Study and the document should be consulted with respect to future trail development.

## **5.5 Administrative Actions Necessary for Implementation**

The following section summarizes the additional administrative actions that should be undertaken in order to successfully implement the LWRP:

### **Obtain Services of Additional Grant Writer**

The City of Binghamton Department of Planning, Housing and Community Development should hire an additional part-time grant writer to assist the department in the research and writing of grant applications for funding opportunities to implement future waterfront development efforts.

### **Designate a "Waterfront Coordinator" to Oversee Waterfront Related Activities**

The City of Binghamton should create a new position within the Department of Planning, Housing and Community Development that focuses solely on planning as it relates to waterfront programming and development. The Waterfront Coordinator could be a full or part-time position and would be responsible for coordinating with other department staff and grant writers to seek funding for identified projects, solicit

private development interest, organize activities and special events, create waterfront themed marketing and promotional materials and manage general planning efforts for all waterfront related projects.

### **Develop Partnerships with Local Schools, Universities and Colleges**

The City should pursue relationships with the local school district and area colleges and universities in order to fully address the needs and concerns of the various educational institutions with respect to future waterfront development efforts. Working in conjunction with these institutions, the City should strive to develop waterfront facilities and amenities that promote educational opportunities, with the Rivers and riverbanks acting as a field laboratory for scientific and natural studies of the living environment.

### **Determine Maintenance Schedule and Responsibilities for Waterfront**

In order to sustain the character of the waterfront as a clean, safe and welcoming attraction within the City, a maintenance schedule, including responsibilities, is an important issue for the City to address. The City should develop a maintenance schedule that identifies what City department, or other local organization holds responsibility for maintaining specific waterfront facilities and amenities and how often the designated maintenance is required. The maintenance requirements should then be incorporated into the City budget to ensure that they are consistently and adequately upheld. When new, private developments are considered for any location within the waterfront revitalization area, they should be required to submit their own maintenance schedule, outlining the frequency and extent of their actions to satisfactorily maintain the facility and/or lands that are under their ownership.

## **5.6 Local Management Structure and Procedures**

It is the intention of the City of Binghamton that the revitalization of the City takes place in a coordinated and comprehensive manner that ensures a proper balance between the protection of natural resources and the need for economic development and revitalization.

In order to provide a LWRP focus within the community, the City needs to enact a Waterfront Advisory Committee Local Law and a Local Consistency Review Law that provide for the establishment of an advisory committee and a process for review of actions within the City for consistency with the LWRP. The procedures for review are identified in the Local Consistency Review Law found in Appendices 4 of this LWRP.

The Waterfront Advisory Committee, once created, will assist in interpreting the LWRP to the City Council, the Planning Commission, the Zoning Board of Appeals and any and all other City agencies, officers, personnel and the general public, and will also be

responsible for coordinating and/or overseeing implementation of projects identified in Section 4.0 - Proposed Projects of the LWRP. The main role of the Waterfront Advisory Committee will be to advise the City Council, Mayor and Planning Commission on the consistency of proposed actions in the City with the policies of the City's LWRP. The recommendation of consistency by the Waterfront Advisory Committee will be an important element in the decision by the Lead Agency relating to both the determination of consistency and the eventual approval, disapproval, or modification of the project proposal.

The purpose of the LWRP Consistency Review Law is to provide a framework for agencies of the City to consider the policies, purposes and common interests contained in the City's LWRP when reviewing applications for actions or direct City agency actions and to assure that such actions are consistent with those policies and purposes. The procedures for consistency review are intended to ensure that all of the policies of the City's LWRP are considered, to the greatest extent possible, in the formulation or a proposed action. Timing for review by the Waterfront Advisory Committee will be established so as to avoid delays in the permitting process.

All proposals for land development in the waterfront revitalization area are subject to the City's land use regulations, in addition to the policies set forth in the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program for the City of Binghamton.

## **5.7 Financial Resources**

There are three main funding implications associated with implementation of the City's LWRP. These include administrative costs associated with local management of the LWRP, capital and revenue costs associated with project implementation and costs related to the maintenance and upkeep of projects.

Management costs and technical assistance support must be budgeted by the City and financed out of general revenues. This involves creating a separate budget item for the administration of the LWRP by the Waterfront Advisory Committee to cover the costs of consistency reviews, production of an annual report and general administrative needs.

The second funding implications involve costs associated with capital projects and the implementation of projects identified in Section 4.0 of this LWRP. Although the City will need to take the lead in achieving the implementation of these projects, it is unlikely that the City will be able to provide the financial resources necessary to implement these projects without additional assistance from other entities or as part of a public/private partnership.

A key element in obtaining money from outside sources is the ability of the City to provide a local match. This match is essential in leveraging money from both the

public and private sector. The local match can generally take a number of different forms, including funding from the City, the provision of materials or labor from the City and the use of volunteers and staff time to provide a monetary equivalent. It is also advantageous to link LWRP projects with other capital improvement projects that are current, or planned within the City, whenever possible, as it will help to stretch the benefits of limited public funding and achieve multiple objectives.

There are a number of financial resources available for the acquisition of lands, site improvements, facility development, job creation, economic development, environmental conservation and circulation system improvements, including pedestrian bicycle networks. Federal, state and local funding resources should be considered and combined for maximum benefit to the City for the implementation of recommendations and policies within the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program.

The availability of many funding sources varies greatly from year-to-year, and therefore must be monitored closely. Maintaining up-to-date information regarding qualification criteria, application schedules, requirements and procedures are necessary to take full advantage of all grant monies available. The list of potential funding sources on the following pages provides an overview of perspective funding alternatives (federal, state and local) that the City could potentially target and secure during their efforts to improve and enhance their existing and future waterfront facilities, amenities and programs, as presented in the LWRP.

### **Federal Sources:**

#### **Economic Development Administration**

Eligibility: Rural and urban areas in the Nation that are economically distressed

Projects: Assistance is available to areas experiencing high unemployment, low income or severe economic distress in order to generate jobs, retain existing jobs and stimulate industrial and commercial growth

Local Match: Varies

Limit: Varies

Contact: Economic Development Administration

#### **Federal Highway Administration Federal Lands Highway Funds**

Eligibility: Municipalities

Projects: Funds may be used for the construction of pedestrian walkways and trails in conjunction with roads, highways and parkways

Local Match: None Required

Limit: One hundred (100) percent federal share program

Contact: Federal Highway Administration

Attn: New York State Pedestrian Coordinator

**Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act Eligibility: Municipalities**

Projects: Funds may be used for the development of transportation-related bicycle and pedestrian facilities

Local Match: States are required to allocate ten (10) percent of their federal highway funds for transportation enhancements

Limit: None Identified

Contact: New York State Department of Transportation

**Outdoor Recreation Acquisition, Development and Planning Land and Water Conservation Fund**

Eligibility: Municipalities

Projects: Funds may be used for the acquisition and / or development of public outdoor recreation facilities

Local Match: At least fifty (50) percent of total project costs

Limit: Fifty (50) percent of total project costs

Contact: Department of the Interior

**National Park Service Regional Office - President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports**

Eligibility: States, local municipalities, private agencies and non-profit organizations

Projects: Funds may be used for the development, implementation and improvement of physical fitness and sports programs

Local Match: Project Specific

Limit: None Identified

Contact: Federal Government

**Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program**

Eligibility: Municipalities and non-profit organizations

Projects: Funds may be used for technical assistance services, including resource assessment, regional assessments and workshops offering advice on conservation techniques in communities hoping to protect rivers, trails and greenways on lands without Federal ownership

Local Match: Project Specific

Limit: None Identified

Contact: National Park Service

**State Sources:**

**Community Development Block Grant - State Administered**

Eligibility State governments responsible for distributing the funds to units of general local governments, including metropolitan cities and urban counties

Projects: Assistance may be used for projects that would improve commercial buildings, commercial strips, downtown areas and business districts, as well as, new construction projects, renovation improvements, soft costs related to construction or renovation and preliminary planning feasibility studies, surveys or reports related to these projects

Local Match: Varies

Limit: Varies

Contact: Department of Housing and Urban Development

**Empire State Development Corporation -Commercial Area Development Financing**

Eligibility: Municipalities, Industrial Development Agencies, not-for-profit corporations or any business or group of businesses authorized to conduct business in New York State

Projects: Assistance may be used for projects that would improve commercial buildings, commercial strips, downtown areas and business districts, as well as, new construction projects, renovation improvements, soft costs related to construction or renovation and preliminary planning feasibility studies, surveys or reports related to these projects

Local Match: Fifty (50) percent match required

Limit: Up to 30% of total project costs for new construction and renovations - range from \$75,000 to \$1,000,000. Up to 50% of total soft costs, preliminary planning and feasibility studies - range from \$25,000 to \$100,000

Contact: Empire State Development, 212-803-3614

#### **New York Landmarks Conservancy - Consulting Resources Exchange**

Eligibility: Historic religious buildings and sites located within New York State, owned by a religious institution and designated under a local preservation law or listed in the State or National Registers of Historic Places

Projects: Grants may be used for retaining professional services for the preservation of houses of worship, including conditions surveys, specification writing, project management, engineering reports, stained glass surveys, energy audits and fund raising consultants

Local Match: Fifty (50) percent match required

Limit: None identified

Contact: Sacred Sites Program

**New York Landmarks Conservancy 141 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10010, 212-995-5260**

#### **New York Landmarks Conservancy - Sacred Sites Program**

Eligibility: Historic religious buildings and sites located within New York State, owned by a religious institution and designated under a local preservation law or listed in the State or National Registers of Historic Places

Projects: Funds may be used for general activities related to the preservation of historic religious buildings and sites

Local Match: Fifty (50) percent match required

Limit: \$15,000

Contact: Director, Sacred Sites Program, New York Landmarks Conservancy 141 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10010, (212)-995-5260

**New York State Council on the Arts - Architecture, Planning and Design Eligibility: Nonprofit group with tax exempt status or a unit of government**

Projects: Funds may be used for a wide variety of historic preservation activities, including public programming (workshops, conferences), design and building condition studies, publications and exhibitions

Local Match: Formal match is not required

Limit: \$300 - \$10,000

Contact: Director, APD, New York State Council on the Arts 915 Broadway, New York, New York 10010, (212)-387-7013

**New York State Council on the Arts - Capital Funding Initiative**

Eligibility: Applicants must have received funding from New York State Council on the Arts for three consecutive years in order to be eligible

Projects: Grants may be used for capital improvements to nonprofit arts facilities including theaters, museums and historical society buildings

Local Match: Fifty (50) percent match required

Limit: \$25,000

Contact: New York State Council on the Arts, 915 Broadway, New York, New York 10010, (212)-387-7018

**New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Clean Water / Clean Air Bond Act**

Eligibility: Municipalities, not-for-profit corporations, public benefit corporations and public authorities

Projects: Funds may be used for projects that focus on issues involving clean water, safe drinking water, solid waste, environmental restoration and air quality

Local Match: Project Specific

Limit: Fifty (50) to ninety (90) percent of the total project costs

Contact: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

**New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation  
Environmental Protection Act and Clean Water / Clean Air Bond Act**

Eligibility: Municipalities, not-for-profit corporations, public benefit corporations and public authorities

Projects: Funds are available for acquiring a permanent easement in lands or a fee title to lands, waters or structures for use by the public for park, recreation, conservation or preservation purposes

Local Match: Fifty (50) percent match required for State funds

Limit: Environmental Protection Act - \$350,000

Clean Water / Clean Air Bond Act - \$500,000

Contact: New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

**New York State Department of State Environmental Protection Fund Eligibility:  
Municipalities**

Projects: Funds are available for use in implementing recommendations and policies in Local Waterfront Revitalization Program's and for general waterfront development

Local Match: At least fifty (50) percent of total project costs

Limit: Fifty (50) percent of total project costs

Contact: New York State Department of State

**New York State Department Of Transportation ISTE A Transportation  
Enhancement Program**

Eligibility: Municipalities and incorporated groups

Projects: Funds are available for transportation enhancement activities including facilities for pedestrians and bicycles, acquisition of scenic easements and scenic or historic sites, scenic or historic highway programs, landscaping and other scenic beautification, historic preservation and removal of outdoor advertising

Local Match: At least twenty (20) percent of total project costs

Limit: Eighty (80) percent of total project costs

Contact: New York State Department of Transportation, (518)-457-4835

**Preservation League of New York State and NYS Council on the Arts Preserve New York Grant Program**

Eligibility: Municipalities and not-for-profit organizations with 501(c) (3) status

Projects: Funds are available for three types of projects: historic structure reports, historic landscape reports and cultural resource surveys and may be used for consultant fees and travel, photography, report production costs and other associated expenses

Local Match: Formal match is not required

Limit: \$3,000 - \$15,000

Contact: Preservation League of New York State, Tania G. Werbizky, Director Technical and Grants Program, (607)-272-6510

**Recreation Trails Program**

Eligibility: Counties, municipalities, school districts and private non-profit groups

Projects: Funds may be used to support the acquisition, development, rehabilitation and maintenance of trails and trail-related projects

Local Match: Project Specific

Limit: None Identified

Contact: New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation,

Attn: Chief of Grants

## **Local and Private Sources:**

### **Decker Foundation**

The Decker Foundation, started in 1979 by Dr. G. Clifford and Florence B. Decker, assists charitable organizations that service the residents of Broome County and the City of Binghamton. This assistance is in the form of grants that may be used for capital projects or new and innovative projects and programs. Opportunities tend to focus primarily on educational, medical, cultural and human service organizations.

The Foundation requires an application form be completed for any grant request. Application forms are available via telephone, over the Internet or by written request. Deadlines for grant applications over \$5,000.00 are due by the first day of March, May, September and November. Grants under \$5,000 are accepted at any time throughout the year.

Additional information regarding the Decker Foundation may be obtained from: Dr. G. Clifford & Florence B. Decker Foundation, Attention: Gerald E. Putnam, Executive Director, 8 Riverside Drive, Binghamton, New York or by calling 607-722-0211. The Decker Foundation Home Page may be found on the Internet at [www.hancock.net/~deckerfn/index.html](http://www.hancock.net/~deckerfn/index.html)

### **The NYSEG Foundation, Inc.**

Grant monies and funding from the NYSEG Foundation, Inc. are available to community-based organizations throughout upstate New York with an Internal Revenue Service classification as a 501(c)(3).

The NYSEG Foundation, Inc. was established in 1998 in an effort to protect and enhance the well-being and prosperity of the communities that the company serves. NYSEG fully supports community-based organizations that enhance the economic, cultural and social well-being of a municipality and provide financial support, as well as volunteer hours in support of these traditions.

Priority is given to education programs, health and human service programs that emphasize health care improvements and early childhood development, programs that promote cultural diversity and advocate community involvement and organizations that encourage economic development or environmental protection.

Requests for funding and assistance must be made in writing to the foundation and additional information is available through the local community development representative. In the Binghamton area, additional information regarding community

outreach and development may be obtained from Alan Hertel, Manager at ahertel@nyseg.com or Bob Pass, Coordinator at bpass@nyseg.com.

**United Way of Broome County, Inc.**

The United Way of Broome County provides Special Assistance Grants to local health and human service agencies within the City of Binghamton and throughout the County. In conjunction with the Helen T. Howland Foundation, the United Way provides one-time grants for start-up costs and projects that are either related to high-priority community needs or are special one-time projects that cannot be covered by the organization's normal operating budget.

In the past, grant monies have been used to meet local youth recreational needs, cultural purposes and transportation programs. Monetary assistance in 2002 ranged from \$9,000 to \$316,000.

Additional information regarding the United Way of Broome County, Inc. and their assistance programs can be obtained from the organization at 607-729-2592 or via email at info@uwbroome.org. The United Way of Broome County office is located 101 South Jensen Road in Vestal, New York 13850 and their mailing address is PO Box 550, Binghamton, New York 13902-0550.

**Local Community Foundations:**

In addition to the foundations described above, the following local community and business related foundations should be contacted regarding potential grants and assistance that may be available to organizations and projects in the Binghamton area that further the recommendations contained within this LWRP:

- Akel Foundation
- Clee Foundation
- Community Foundation
- Crowley Foundation
- Egleston Foundation
- Gassney Foundation
- Kresze Foundation

**Donations**

Local clubs and organizations, special interest groups, private developers and investors should be viewed as potential sources of money, services and labor for the development and maintenance of waterfront facilities and programs. The discretion and personal input of the donor would determine the amount of the donation and where or what the funds would be used for. Property owners with waterfront lands

may also choose to donate or lease their land for public use and / or future development by the City.

### **The Foundation Center**

The Foundation Center is one of the most thorough sources for obtaining information on private funding sources, with information on over 40,000 foundations offering private monies. Grant information is well organized by geography, types of support and affiliations, making it easy for local governments to identify sources that are more likely to have a greater impact on local needs. The Foundation Center also offers additional information on researching corporate donations, government funding sources and Internet sources. In order to use the resources provided by The Foundation Center, a registration fee is required.