

SECTION VII

CONSULTATION WITH OTHER AFFECTED
FEDERAL, STATE, REGIONAL AND LOCAL AGENCIES

A. DESCRIPTION OF CONSULTATION ACTIVITIES

1. Method: The Town of Brant has used a variety of approaches for consulting federal, state, regional and local agencies and municipalities that are affected by/or impact the development of the Town of Brant Local LWRP. These approaches were selected to facilitate understanding of the town's waterfront program, promote information sharing, coordinate related agency efforts and coordinate efforts to resolve conflicts between the LWRP and the policies/or programs of governmental agencies. The approaches used include technical consultations and written communications.

2. Description of Procedures

a. Technical Consultations: Issue-focused meetings and discussions have been held with numerous government officials and agencies as noted below on a needs basis concerning the development of the Town of Brant Local Waterfront Revitalization Program.

(1) New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC): Discussion, both as part of meetings and phone conversations, have been held with staff from the regional NYSDEC Office concerning the following waterfront issues in the Town of Brant: the proposed boat launch in Evangola State Park,

flooding problems between the wide beach area and Inactive Hazardous Waste Site Remedial Action Study and its implementation.

(2) New York State Office of Parks and Recreation (NYSOPR): Close coordination has occurred among Town of Brant officials. County staff and the regional office of NYSOPR which is located in Niagara Falls, New York. This has occurred due to the proposed boat launch at Evangola State Park, as well as in relationship to existing and proposed uses in the Park. A meeting with Regional Director Mario Pirastru in December 1984 provided the incentive to pursue the Boat Launch Feasibility Study for Evangola State Park. James Manning, Superintendent of Evangola State Park, has attended most planning board meetings concerning the waterfront program, was a representative on the town's waterfront consultant selection committee, and participated in all technical meetings with

the consultant as the boat launch study progressed. He continues to work with county staff in this regard.

- (3) United States Army Corps of Engineers: Two waterfront program issues for the Town of Brant have necessitated discussion with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Office in Buffalo, New York. The first issue concerned the impact of the recently completed (1983) Cattaraugus Creek harbor project on the Town of Brant shoreline. The second issue is the possible need for an off-shore breakwall in relation to the proposed boat launch and what the design requirements might be, given off-shore Lake conditions. In addition to informal discussions by consultant staff concerning the proposed boat launch, a meeting was held at the Corps offices in August 1985 which discussed both of these concerns. Concerning the former issue, a letter will be sent at an appropriate time by the Town to the Corps to document its understanding of the Corps' intent to monitor the harbor impacts in relation to littoral drift and water quality along the Town's waterfront.
- (4) Coordination with LWRP's in Adjacent Waterfront Municipalities (Town of Evans, Cattaraugus Indian Reservation, Village of Farnham): All of the above noted adjacent municipalities were invited to meetings as work on the Town of Brant waterfront program progressed. The Mayor of the Village of Farnham has had a particular interest in being made aware of waterfront program progress. The consultants who are preparing the Cattaraugus Indian Reservation's waterfront program elements were contacted and sent a summary of the Town's waterfront program. Particular emphasis was placed on resolving the flooding problem occurring at the Town of Brant-Indian Reservation boundary at Wide Beach. No information concerning any aspects of the reservation's program has been provided by its consultant and no comments were provided to the County by the consultant concerning the Town's program.

(5) Coordination with elected Federal, State, Local Officials Representing Town of Brant Waterfront: There has been very little direct participation in waterfront program development by government officials except that provided by the Town Supervisor. State Assemblymen have, however, indicated particular interest in the boat launch project and have been forwarded pertinent information on a regular basis.

(6) Coordination with Erie County Department of Environment and Planning. Erie County's Division of Environmental Control has continuously monitored the Wide Beach studies in the Town of Brant and has participated actively in the discussions and meetings that have been held in that regard. County staff working on the Town of Brant waterfront program have discussed the elements of the Town of Brant waterfront program in relation to the Wide Beach issue with the Environmental Control Division. The Erie County Planning Division has had responsibility for working with the County Highway Division in developing highway design guidelines. In discussing the future plans for Old Lakeshore Road, there was agreement that no changes would need to be made in the design of that road without it providing consistency with the Town's waterfront program.

b. Written Communications: In order to insure that relevant waterfront agencies and government officials have been kept informed of progress being made in the development of the Town's waterfront program two methods of written communication were used.

(1) Transmittal of Technical Memorandum: A technical memorandum was sent to appropriate federal, State, regional and local agencies and officials in January 1986. The memorandum reviewed all aspects of the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program.

(2) Transmittal of Draft Task Products. Both government officials in the Town of Brant as well as in the Village of Farnham, Town of Evans and related governmental agencies have been sent draft products developed as part of the waterfront program.

3. Accomplishments Resulting from the Use of Consultation Procedures: Both techniques, technical consultations and written communications, have been an effective way to transmit information on the development of the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program. Consultation on the technical aspects of the program with all agencies has been necessary as few were aware of the interests and concerns of the Town. Both these techniques helped to provide the basis for consistency with agency programs and secure the support needed for program implementation.

B. CONFLICT RESOLUTION METHODS

1. Method: The consultation methods noted previously also provide a mechanism to resolve conflicts both general and locally oriented concerning the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program. In addition to those previously mentioned two other conflict resolution methods have been utilized: (1) Erie County Waterfront Policy Plan and (2) SEQR Coastal Assessment.

(a) Erie County Waterfront Policy Plan: This plan was prepared by the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning in 1983. The plan provides policies pertaining to waterfront management that focus on insuring consistent and up to date approaches to waterfront issues facing the area. The plan has been used as a reference resource throughout the development of all the municipal waterfront revitalization programs that the county has been involved in preparing. The plan will also be used as a reference by which the county through its integrated review process reviews appropriate local waterfront actions for consistency and impacts. This type of review enables the early identification of potential conflicts and recommends alternative actions or means to resolve the conflicts.

(b) SEQR Coastal Assessments: It is anticipated that as part of the SEQR process the evaluation required by the coastal assessment procedures will provide a major means to identify and resolve conflicts between federal, State and local agencies.

2. Accomplishments Resulting From Use of Conflict Resolution Measures: Use of Erie County's Waterfront Policy Plan has demonstrated its ability to provide a comprehensive coordinated approach to waterfront planning both in the Town of Brant and the other waterfront municipalities. Appropriate elements of this plan have been incorporated

into the Town's program. Use of the County plan in reference to waterfront program development diminishes the probability of major conflicts as waterfront programs are implemented.