

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

A. Local Consultation

Consultation has consisted of maintaining a close liaison with other Town agencies whose actions or functions may be affected by the LWRP. The chairman of both the Planning Board and Environmental Board serve on the Waterfront Advisory Committee and have kept their respective boards informed of progress. In addition, a meeting was held with each board to review the entire program. A presentation to the local historical society was also made.

The only other local government likely to be affected by the LWRP is the City of Kingston, on the north side of the Rondout Creek. Since the City is also preparing an LWRP, the Town's consultant met with the City Planner to exchange preliminary drafts and review possible conflicts. At this point no conflicts have been identified.

B. Regional Consultation

1. Ulster County Planning Board: A meeting was held with the staff of the Planning Board early in the program to inform them of the nature of the LWRP and to offer them the opportunity to comment on County concerns which the program might address. A number of suggestions were made and have been incorporated in the program. A copy of the first draft was referred to the staff and no potential conflicts with county programs were identified.
2. Heritage Task Force for the Hudson River Valley: The director of the Task Force was consulted with regard to the Esopus Meadows Lighthouse. The Task Force has been involved in an effort to preserve the four Mid-Hudson lighthouses and their advice and consultation was sought in this regard. They were able to share the experiences at the other three lighthouses and provide general support.

C. State Agency Consultation

1. Department of Environmental Conservation: Numerous contacts were made to gather data concerning flood hazard management, wetland designations and fish and wildlife resources.
2. Department of State: Consultation with the Department of State has taken place throughout the preparation of the LWRP. In addition to matters directly dealing with preparation of this program discussion has concerned methods of implementation and legal and programmatic concerns.

D. Federal Consultation

No direct federal consultation has taken place at this time.

SECTION VIII

LOCAL COMMITMENT

VIII LOCAL COMMITMENT

From the inception of the LWRP, it was recognized that involvement and commitment by both local officials and citizens was essential to the development of an effective program and to carrying out the various tasks to achieve its implementation. The program to achieve local commitment is described below:

A. Waterfront Advisory Committee

The first action taken by the Town Board following approval of the LWRP planning grant was to invite interested citizens and members of local boards to participate in the program. The appointment of a Waterfront Advisory Committee was made from this group. The Committee includes former members of the Town Board, members of business, civic, planning and environmental groups, and residents of the waterfront area.

The Committee was assigned major responsibility for guiding and developing the program. During the planning period the Committee met at least once a month. Subcommittees were formed to discuss policy, consider alternative approaches and recommend specific actions. The entire Committee has endorsed the program developed herein and recommended to the Town Board that it be adopted.

B. Public Meetings

The general public has been informed of the planning process through periodic releases and through participation in two public meetings. The first meeting was held at the start of the program to determine public concerns, to explain the purpose of the program and its potential benefits and to set forth the schedule and procedures to be followed. The second meeting was held at a point when the policies had been established and a program determined but when modifications were still possible based on public response. A final public hearing will be held prior to approval by the Town Board.

C. Town Board Briefings

The Supervisor and the Town Board have followed the activities of the Waterfront Advisory Committee and the preparation of the LWRP throughout the planning period. The supervisor is the local official responsible for the preparation of the program and has attended many Advisory Committee meetings as well as attending to various administrative functions.

The Town Board received copies of preliminary reports and was provided with several briefing sessions at which it had an opportunity to express its concerns and discuss the rationale for various elements of the plan.

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