

The State's Coastal Management Program has established statewide coastal boundaries in accordance with the requirements of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended, and its subsequently-issued rules and regulations. This previously-designated waterfront revitalization area boundary for the City has been reviewed and reaffirmed during the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program planning process.

Specifically, as illustrated on Figure 1, the inland coastal area boundary in Rensselaer generally follows the landward (eastern) edge of the right-of-way of the Conrail tracks, which extend from south to north throughout the City. This boundary has been selected for several of its characteristics: (1) being generally coincident with the 100-year flood hazard area boundary; (2) being the point at which the land begins to slope upward from the level Hudson River plain; and (3) further being a distinct land use boundary between commercial/industrial uses on the River (seaward) side of the tracks and more residential uses on the landward side. Where the limit of the 100-year flood extends landward (generally easterly) of the right-of-way of the tracks, the waterfront revitalization area boundary instead follows the 100-year flood boundary. The boundary makes one detour from this course to encompass the historic district in Bath.

The seaward boundary of Rensselaer's coastal area is coincident with the City's legal jurisdiction. The Rensselaer City Charter (1915) specifically defines the City's legal jurisdiction as coincident with the westernmost boundary of Rensselaer County; this boundary assumedly is the approximate centerline of the Hudson River.

