



Town of Amherst  
**Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan &  
Amherst Central Park**  
Project Charter

**1. Sponsor:** Town of Amherst

**2. Opportunity:**

- A. Utilize the Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan (LWRP) process laid out by the New York Department of State to plan for recreation, land use, and environmental needs along Ellicott Creek and Tonawanda Creek. The Town prepared an LWRP for Tonawanda Creek in the early 2000s, which was never approved by the Department of State. As of 2015, Ellicott Creek was designated an inland waterway and eligible for the designation and LWRP funding.
- B. Leverage the opportunity created by the closing of the Westwood Golf Course and transfer to development entity.
- C. Connect Town-owned park land, as recommended in Town Comprehensive Plan and 2018 Recreation and Parks Master Plan
- D. The LWRP's process allows the Town to develop a vision for recreational and cultural connections to our inland waterways.

**3. Major Goals and Objectives:**

- Create and adopt LWRP for Ellicott Creek
- Revisit and update the LWRP along Tonawanda Creek
- Improve water quality
- Foster relationships with municipalities to address water quality within the watershed
- Identify opportunities for ensuring environmental quality such as erosion control and shoreline restoration
- Plan Amherst Central Park – identify active/passive recreation opportunities, and nodes of access to engage with Ellicott Creek
- Create a Master Plan for Northtown Center, including facilities expansions and the potential addition of a fifth accessible ice rink
- Create focal point for activity, recreation, and interest
- Identify spaces to expand civic, cultural, and historical assets
- Identify land uses and zonings that compliment surrounding neighborhoods
- Define character of Maple Road , Sheridan Drive, and Millersport Highway as they relate to the park, recreation resources and the University at Buffalo
- Enhance pedestrian, vehicle and bike circulation
- Create pedestrian, vehicle, and bike linkages through the park and along Ellicott Creek and Tonawanda Creek

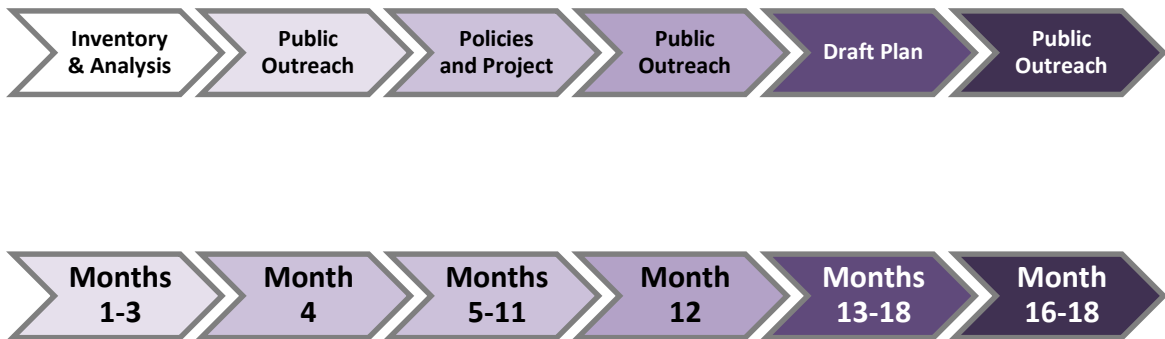
- Foster a collaboration between the University at Buffalo and Amherst to create pedestrian and park land connections to campus, and mutually determine future land uses to meet future expansion, innovation, and economic development goals
- Address environmental hazards and impacts of future development

**4. Major Assumptions and Constraints:**

- A. Assumption: opportunity to develop a central park will be a regional draw and asset to Amherst
- B. Assumption: increased use of trails/integration of trails
- C. Assumption: conservancy model for park management will be cost net neutral
- D. Constraint: Neighborhood Conservation District Zoning per contract with New York State
- E. Constraint: UB Bike Path Concurrent Use agreement
- F. Constraint: Soil contamination at golf courses
- G. Constraint: Wetlands, flood plains, forested areas and significant plant species
- H. Constraint: UB site control (Buffalo and Albany - SUNY)
- I. Constraint: Maple, Sheridan, North Forest, and Millersport Highway (existing conditions and jurisdictional control)
- J. Constraint: Town Highway and Engineering Departments located on creek
- K. Constraint: Wastewater Treatment Plant on Tonawanda Creek
- L. Constraint: Identify State and/or Federal dollars used in Audubon Golf Course which may have to be repaid
- M. Constraint: Sanitary sewer capacity
- N. Constraint: Flood plain management and storm water drainage to the Creek

**5. Process and Schedule:**

A Local Waterfront Revitalization Program consists of a planning document prepared by a community, and the program established to implement the plan. An LWRP may be comprehensive and address all issues that affect a community's entire waterfront, or it may address the most critical issues facing a significant portion of its waterfront. An LWRP follows a step-by-step process by which a community can advance community planning from a vision to implementation, which is described in the image below.



**6. Town Leadership:**

- A. Brian Kulpa, Town Supervisor
- B. Daniel Howard, Planning Director
- C. Ellen Kost, Assistant Planning Director
- D. Jeff Szatkowski, Landscape Architect
- E. Maggie Hamilton Winship, Director of Strategic Planning
- F. Scott Marshall, Associate Planner
- G. Kimberly Amplement, Planner
- H. Amherst Conservation Advisory Council
- I. Department of Youth & Recreation
- J. Town Highway Department
- K. Town Engineering Department
- L. Amherst Energy Conservation Committee
- M. Town of Amherst Clerk’s Office
- N. Town of Amherst Assessor’s Office

**7. External Stakeholders:**

- A. New York Department of State
- B. University at Buffalo
- C. New York State Department of Transportation
- D. Erie County Department of Public Works
- E. Erie County Soil and Water
- F. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- G. Amherst Industrial Development Agency's Local Development Corporation
- H. Private property owners
- I. Environmental and community groups
- J. Buffalo Niagara Heritage Museum
- K. Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper
- L. WNY Land Conservancy

**8. Waterfront Advisory Committee:**

- A. Brian J. Kulpa, Amherst Town Supervisor, Chair of Committee
- B. Thomas Loughran, Erie County Legislator
- C. Colleen DiPirro, Senior Advisor, Amherst Chamber of Commerce & Regional Economic Development Committee member
- D. Sharon Rich, Chair of the Town of Amherst's Arts & Culture in Public Place Board (or designee)
- E. Elizabeth Graczyk D'Agostino, Chair of the Amherst Conservation Advisory Council (or designee)
- F. David Mingoia, Executive Director of the Amherst Industrial Development Agency
- G. Mary-Diana Pouli, Executive Director, Town of Amherst Youth and Recreation
- H. Ben Vilonen, Village of Williamsville Public Works Crew Chief
- I. Tonga Pham, Associate Vice President for University Facilities, University of Buffalo (or designee)
- J. William Kindel, past Town Councilman
- K. Judy Ferraro, Keep Westwood Green Chairwoman
- L. Francis Kowsky, SUNY Professor Emeritus, Olmsted Scholar
- M. Andy Shaevel, Managing partner, Mensch Capital
- N. Timothy Trabold, retired GBNRTC transportation programs manager
- O. Nate Hartrich, President of the Morningside Neighborhood Association
- P. Anthony J. Panella, Amherst Central Schools
- Q. Scott Martzloff, Williamsville Central School District
- R. Anthony J. Day, Sweet Home Central School District
- S. Mark Alnutt, University of Buffalo Athletic Director
- T. William O'Loughlin, past Town Councilman

**9. Potential Consultant(s):**

- A. Planning - Concept development, design support, and writing of projects and policies
- B. Environmental Consultant (for contamination and wetland delineation)
- C. Outside legal counsel specializing in land use and brownfield processes working with the Town's attorneys



**Amherst Town Board**

5583 Main Street  
Williamsville, NY 14221  
[www.amherst.ny.us](http://www.amherst.ny.us)

Marjory Jaeger  
Town Clerk

Meeting: 07/09/18 07:00 PM  
Department: Supervisor  
Initiated by: **Brian Kulpa**  
Co-Sponsored by:

DOC ID: 18944

**RESOLUTION 2018-739**

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**Waterfront Advisory Committee**

**WHEREAS**, in resolution 2018-648 the Town Board accepted the Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan (LWRP) project charter; and

**WHEREAS**, the LWRP charter calls for the formation of a Waterfront Advisory Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, the LWRP lists the committee members as follows

- A. Brian J. Kulpa, Amherst Town Supervisor, Chair of Committee
- B. Thomas Loughran, Erie County Legislator
- C. Edward Rath III, Erie County Legislator
- D. Colleen DiPirro, Senior Advisor, Amherst Chamber of Commerce & Regional Economic Development Committee member
- E. Sharon Rich, Chair of the Town of Amherst's Arts & Culture in Public Place Board (or designee)
- F. Elizabeth Graczyk D'Agostino, Chair of the Amherst Conservation Advisory Council (or designee)
- G. David Mingoia, Executive Director of the Amherst Industrial Development Agency
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- K. William Kindel, past Town Councilman
- L. Judy Ferraro, Keep Westwood Green Chairwoman
- M. Francis Kowsky, National Association for Olmsted Parks
- N. Matt Roland, Mensch Capital
- O. Timothy Trabold, retired GBNRTC transportation programs manager
- P. Nate Hartrich, President of the Morningside Neighborhood Association
- Q. Anthony J. Panella, Amherst Central Schools
- R. Scott Martzloff, Williamsville Central School District

- S. Anthony J. Day, Sweet Home Central School District
- T. Mark Alnutt, University of Buffalo Athletic Director
- U. Joseph Buscaglia, Historic Preservation

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that this committee be constituted during the duration of the LWRP and be it further;

**RESOLVED**, that the Supervisor, Brian Kulpa, may add or delete committee members as he sees fit and be it further;

**RESOLVED**, that the meetings and minutes from the Waterfront Advisory Committee be publish on the Town's website.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

None for Resolution