

County of Albany, Hudson River Waterfront Strategy

Recipient of the American Planning Association, New York Upstate Chapter, 2000 Outstanding Planning Project Award for Comprehensive Planning, the County of Albany's Hudson River Waterfront Strategy is a cooperative community vision for Albany County's waterfront designed to further public and private investments. Completed by ***Behan Planning Associates, LLC***, in 1999, the strategy documents the county's resources, both natural and cultural, and identifies a vision for the waterfront through an extensive "bottom-up" participation process.



Area marinas and waterfront parks, like Coeymans Landing Park and Harbor Area, provide access to the Hudson River.

The strategy provides goals and objectives, guiding principals, recommendations and an implementation component to guide the work of the waterfront advisory committee in realizing the vision. The strategy's vision is of a public that is reconnected to a revitalized and restored waterfront. The three R's of the waterfront strategy, "*Reconnect, Revitalize, and Restore*", were identified as key elements to maximizing the potential usage and enjoyment of the Hudson River. The vision of the waterfront is based on these concepts. It recognizes that by reconnecting to the river, each waterfront community's history is celebrated and resident's enjoyment of the river is enhanced. By revitalizing the waterfront, each community's economic base is strengthened. By restoring the waterfront's natural systems, the long-term sustainability of the region is enhanced.



Enjoying a summer day on the waterfront at Henry Hudson Park in the Town of Bethlehem.

In this strategy, each waterfront municipality is playing a proactive role in advancing appropriate waterfront development and recreation projects. This strategy builds upon these efforts and creates a countywide approach to support those projects. The strategy integrates existing, proposed, and potential waterfront projects into a cohesive program that balances preservation and development issues along the river while recognizing the importance of the waterfront to Albany County's communities and the region.