



## Public to get look at waterfront plans

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A regional committee is close to finalizing a plan for revitalizing the waterfront along the Hudson River and Feeder Canal.

The plan will provide a coordinated vision for economic and recreational development in an area that includes all or portions of eight municipalities in Warren, Washington and Saratoga counties.

The goal is for people to come to think of the area as a "borderless community."

The area includes land in South Glens Falls, Moreau, Glens Falls, Queensbury, the town and village of Fort Edward, Hudson Falls and Kingsbury.

"The waterfront is the location of our shared history, and it will be the catalyst for our future vitality together," the proposed plan states.

Consultants to the regional committee will present the proposed plan at a public meeting at 7 this evening in Heritage Hall at the Glens Falls Civic Center.

"It's really intended to be an opportunity for people to weigh in on how we're doing with the plan," said Michael Welti, a senior planner with [The Chazen Companies](#), a firm consulting on the plan.

People may ask questions or make suggestions at the meeting, or submit written comments afterward, he said.

The proposed plan includes about 50 specific recommendations for economic and recreational development.

"We hope to provide a number of things to every community along the river," said Moreau Supervisor Preston Jenkins.

Some of the recommendations -- such as expanding pedestrian trail systems and developing a "Blueway Trail" water route for canoeing and kayaking -- address ways to connect communities with transportation.

Other recommendations address proposed recreational and cultural attractions in specific communities.

There also are recommendations for shared services such as a regional plan for reusing contaminated industrial sites, a regional tourism marketing strategy and a regional long-term plan for improving water and sewer infrastructure.

The plan has been in the works since 2004, when the town of Moreau received a state Department of State grant to prepare the plan in cooperation with the other communities.

"Most of the work has been over the last year, year and a half," Welti said.

Revisions to the plan are expected to be completed this spring, at which time participating municipalities will be asked to endorse the plan.

It won't have the legal weight of a master plan, but it will be used as a general guide for future development, Welti said.

"This doesn't get into a sort of regulatory type of approach," he said.

Having a coordinated plan can bolster chances of receiving state and federal grants for recommended projects, he added.

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