Elmwood-Bidwell Farmer’s Market—September 7th, 2013

Community Feedback—“TELL US WHAT YOU THINK”

Members of the One Region Forward team attended the Elmwood-Bidwell Farmer’s Market on September 7th, 2013. Team members distributed approximately 200+ palm cards out to the community that included information about One Region Forward and its upcoming November workshops. Additionally, 19 community members signed up with their email address to receive the monthly e-News that One Region Forward sends out.

The community was then asked to answer three questions, displayed on presentation boards, regarding sustainability in their neighborhood. For the first two questions, community members were instructed to write down their responses to the two questions onto post-it notes and to affix the post-it note to the appropriate presentation board. For the third question, community members were asked to choose between four options and to affix a sticker under the chosen answer. Community members could also choose the “other” option and affix their own response on a post-it note to the appropriate presentation board. All community member responses were displayed for the duration of the festival for others to see. Responses to the three sustainability questions are below.

- **What would you change about your community to make it more sustainable?**
  - Tax gas, so that we could fund renewable energy infrastructure
  - Abolish the Erie County Industrial Development Agency (ECIDA) and NFTA
  - Ban fracking
  - Extend the subway to UB’s North Campus
  - Create high speed rail lines between Buffalo, Toronto, and Rochester
  - Create more places to walk to
  - Expand the subway
  - Keep and grow colleges in the city. Stop creating colleges in the North Towns.
  - Better public transportation and more bike lanes
  - More gardens 2
  - Stop taxing people to death

- **What about your community do you want to save for future generations?**
  - Waterfront development
  - Our unique culture and identity
  - Green space
o Historical silos on the outer harbor
o Our close knit, diverse community

• If you could choose one thing to make Buffalo Niagara more sustainable, what would it be?
  o Expand public transportation and increase alternative ways to get around: 49
  o Grow more food: 22
  o Limit fossil fuels: 19
  o Reinvest in Communities: 53
  o Other, write in your own:
    ▪ Coordinate stop light timing on Main Street at intersections like Oak Street and Elm Street.
    ▪ Encourage more street art
    ▪ Promote hydro-fracking
    ▪ Ban hydro-fracking because it involves the use of dangerous chemicals that threaten our ground water, dairies, and farms
    ▪ More regional planning
    ▪ Secure the West Valley Nuclear Waste site. If the radioactive water at this site reaches the Great Lakes it will ruin our water.
    ▪ Consider installing street trolleys that people could use hop on and off passes for, especially on streets like Elmwood from Buffalo State to City Hall.