Lewiston Festival of the Arts—August 10\textsuperscript{th}, 2013

Community Feedback—“TELL US WHAT YOU THINK”

Members of the One Region Forward team attended the annual Lewiston Festival of the Arts on August 10\textsuperscript{th}, 2013. Team members distributed approximately 120+ palm cards out to the community that included information about the organization and One Region Forward’s 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?**
  - Better hiking in the gorge (Niagara River)
  - Bike path all around Grand Island
  - Redevelop the silos on Buffalo’s waterfront
  - Expand arts and cultural assets
  - Remove rust belt (industrial vacant)
  - Invest in the waterfront
  - Reduce urban heat island
  - Change our transportation ways
  - New politicians who really lead with new ideas serving the communities not themselves
  - Promote recycling through commercials (esp. in public schools)
  - Enforce recycling
  - Recycling tax incentives
  - Take a more regional approach to how we do things
  - More pedestrian-friendly main streets
  - Municipal solar
  - Provide healthy, fresh food in convenience stores/corner stores in urban areas
• More Farmers Markets (Lewiston)
• Reduce traffic congestion
• Covered walkways in downtown Buffalo
• Roof top gardens
• Reduce dependence on the automobile
• Turning vacant lots and/or houses and turning them into community gardens!
• Real options for organic food
• Add more to the waterfront of Buffalo
• Stop using so much of our land to dispose or garbage
• Improve/expand mass transit
• Add composting bins to homes and restaurants
• Aggressively clean up our waterways
• Lower dependency on oil
• Increase public transport
• Green public transit
• Technological cultural center
• A Live-in city
• Park
• Walkable community

• What about your community do you want to save for future generations?
  • Urban gardening
  • Support made in America USA
  • The parks
  • Computer controlled traffic lights
  • Promote and protect wildlife
  • Bike paths, rails to trails
  • Landscape is magnificent
  • Talented people producing tech and cultural innovations
  • Preserve all current open spaces
  • Art festivals

• If you could choose one thing to make Buffalo Niagara More sustainable, what would it be?
  • Expand public transportation: 20
  • Grow more food: 20
  • Limit fossil fuels: 12
  • Reinvest in Communities: 26
  • Other, write in your own:
    • Local food co-op community
- More bike paths
- More small grocery stores in rural areas
- Preserve our unique farming microclimates along the lakes (not develop houses)
- Cut taxes
- Requiring to walk/bike
- All of them!
- Turn garbage dumps into tubing hills
- Get rid of that toxic dump in N.F.
- Have recycling in apt. buildings
- Rid ourselves of self-servicing politicians