towards a more sustainable Buffalo Niagara

Housing & Neighborhoods Working Team

Mike Clarke, Co-Chair (Buffalo LISC)
Mike Riegel, Co-Chair (Belmont Housing)
Bart Roberts, Facilitator (UB Regional Institute)
Agenda

Introductions and ice breaker

Review of process and the working team’s scope and charge

Review of key housing issues

Goal setting discussion

Next steps
How would you define a sustainable approach to neighborhoods and housing for our geographically diverse region using one sentence?
Tasks you will help us with...

- **ESTABLISH GOALS**
  for pursuing more sustainable approaches to housing development

- **FRAME STRATEGIES**
  Align strategies to match our regional goals

- **IDENTIFY ACTIONS**
  Policies, programs, and projects and the actors to implement them

- **CONSTRUCT INDICATORS**
  Create metrics to measure success
Deliverables you will help create...

Our Regional Plan for Sustainable Development

A document outlining a strategy for pursuing a sustainable approach to housing

“Fair Housing Equity Assessment” that looks at disparities in housing opportunities at a regional level

Capacity building tools and educational modules that can empower civic leaders and citizens to advance sustainability.
Who will implement our recommendations?

- Local municipalities, county governments, state or regional agencies (i.e. NFTA)
- Community Based Organizations and private citizens
- Private sector actors or businesses (developers, business decision-makers)
- Collaborative partnerships across these groups
Working Team Process and Timeline

**6 Meetings/4 Tasks**

- **1 Establishing Goals**
- **2 Frame Strategies**
- **3 Identify Actions**
- **4 Construct Indicators**

**Spring**

- **April (APR)**

**Summer**

- **May (MAY)**
- **June (JUNE)**
- **August (AUG)**

**Fall**

- **September (SEP)**
- **November (NOV)**

- **FALL 2013**
  - Council and Community Congress Meetings

**Winter**

- **January (JAN)**
- **February (FEB)**

**+2 Additional Meetings**

**Review & Refine**

#oneregionfwd
Preferred Sustainability Status

Buffalo Niagara’s successful application to the HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant program has given our region “Preferred Sustainability Status.” This means that for certain grant programs, HUD will award two bonus points to applications from our region that promote the livability principles and align with the work being done under One Region Forward. This opportunity extends to any community, organization or agency within Erie or Niagara counties, regardless of its current or past involvement with 1RF.

If you would like to be considered to receive these bonus points on a current application to HUD, please complete the following form.

One Region Forward Preferred Sustainability Status Application

* Required

Contact Information

Name of Organization, Agency or Municipality *
Some key issues to frame our discussion...
We have and continue to build new homes even as we shed population.
We have 55,000 more households today than we did in 1970.
But we’ve built more than 150,000 new homes.
Primarily on land formerly undeveloped, and disconnected to existing infrastructure

50+
new homes per sq. mile since 1990
Abandonment has left a glut of vacancies, spawning out from our central cities and into our first ring suburbs.
In 1970 there were 15,214 vacant dwellings

50+ vacant units per sq. mile
In **2010** there were **45,475 vacant dwellings**

Vacant dwellings more than tripled in 40 years.

50+ vacant units per sq. mile
The homes we build today don’t match our changing households.
From 2001 to 2011, 75% of building permits were for single family homes.
In 2010, 
28% of our households 
were households with children.
Age Composition of Buffalo Niagara Population

- **65 and older**
- **55 - 64**

Our homes and households are isolated from opportunities.
We are one of the most segregated metropolitan regions in the nation.

Racial Concentrations 2010

Segregation

MSA Rank #95

#1 LEAST Segregated

#100 MOST Segregated

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2010)
Households without a vehicle

13%  
Buffalo Niagara

9%  
US
Key issues.

Are these data telling the story of Buffalo Niagara’s housing issues?
Goal Setting, a starting point.

Do they align with our region’s vision?
Are they current/relevant?
Are they long term/resilient?
Are they attainable?
What’s missing?
What shouldn’t be there?
Draft Goals: Housing & Neighborhoods

• Preserve and revitalize our existing housing stock to preserve history, embedded energy, and neighborhood integrity.
• Promote rehabilitation and development for changing demand and demographics (e.g. seniors, low-income, etc.)
• Promote housing rehab and development to promote easier access to employment (e.g. location-efficient housing).
• Design neighborhoods to be safe, accessible and walkable.
• Create mixed-use neighborhoods where daily needs are accessible on foot, bicycle, or transit.
• Foster neighborhoods that are culturally diverse and distinctive.
• Design new housing and retrofit existing housing for energy efficiency, conservation, and renewable production.
Housing and Neighborhoods Working Team

Get Started as a Working Team Member at www.oneregionforward.org

Recruit a Working Team Contributor

Provide Online Feedback on Our Regional Vision and Values
TeamWork Site: https://oneregionforward.teamworkpm.net
TeamWork Site: https://oneregionforward.teamworkpm.net

Housing and Neighborhoods Working Team » One Region Forward

Overview

Activity: Upcoming milestones

Upcoming milestones

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
<th>Sun</th>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Apr 1</td>
<td>Apr 2</td>
<td>First Working Teams Meeting</td>
<td>Apr 3</td>
<td>Apr 4</td>
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<td>15</td>
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13th March

Link: One Region Forward
Milestone: First Working Teams Meeting (02 April)
Created by: Teresa B.

12th February

Notebook: Preliminary Goals
Created by: Bartholomeow
Project: Housing and Neighborhoods Working Stream
Created by: Bart R.
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us

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