towards a more sustainable Buffalo Niagara

Land Use and Development

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Working Team Process and Timeline

6 Meetings/4 Tasks

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

FALL 2013
Council and Community Congress Meetings

+2 Additional Meetings

REVIEW & REFINE

LAND USE & DEVELOPMENT

#oneregionfwd
Agenda

Welcomes, introductions and review

Update from across our 5 Working Teams

Review of “Final Draft” Goals

Continuing our Strategy Discussion

Next steps
Update from across our 5 Working Teams

An intuitive, interpretive cross-cut of intentions

- Food Access and Justice
- Land Use and Development
- Regional Economic Development Strategy
- Climate Change Action
- Transportation and mobility
- Housing and Neighborhoods
This isn’t about word-smithing statements.

It’s not about making sure your key concept is there.

It’s about thinking about the connections across statements of intention.
Land use and development

- Create, maintain, great places, city, suburb, and rural
- Development pattern to save land, energy, money
- Protect, connect, access our waterfronts
- Expand, improve, connect our parks + recreation areas
- Protect air, land, water, habitat, and biodiversity.
- Promote adaptive reuse for history, energy, integrity
- Manage brownfields and vacant land for long-term reuse
- Create resilient communities that adapt to change
Transportation and mobility

- Multi-modal system to conserve energy, reduce VMT
- Federal-state-local collaboration for planning, finance
- Lead the way to “complete streets”
- Safe, affordable, healthy choices for access and mobility
- Invest in rails for freight and passengers
Housing and neighborhoods

- Housing choice and equal opportunity
- Neighborhood choices for city, suburb, country
- Preserve existing stock for energy, history, character.
- Safe, accessible, walkable neighborhoods
- Mixed use neighborhoods accessible by foot, bike, transit
- Housing for energy efficiency, conservation, renewables
- Inclusive housing design for all ages, abilities
- Housing convenient to employment
Food access and justice

- Support urban agriculture in various forms
- Farm with less water, energy, chemicals
- Protect farmland and support farmers
- Support urban agriculture in various forms
- Promote careers, education, training in the food system
- Connect local growers to markets here and beyond
- Help local farmers, processors, distributors compete globally
- Help local farmers, processors, distributors compete globally
- Help everyone obtain healthy foods
- Educate public on local food production, processing, distribution
- Promote culture of healthy eating and strong food economy
- Help local farmers, processors, distributors compete globally
- Help everyone obtain healthy foods
Promote energy efficiency and conservation to slash GHGs

Replace fossil fuels with non-carbon renewables ASAP

Anticipate and prepare for impacts of climate change

“Environmental justice” as a frame for all action

Make new energy economy a source of jobs and community wealth

Educate on climate change causes, impacts, responses

Protect Great Lakes and its water

Climate change action
Foster a culture of entrepreneurship and innovation

Improve education and workforce development

Pursue policies of smart growth for an efficient region

Build on our strength in higher education

Develop our health and life sciences economy

Invest in visitor attractions and marketing

Build on our strengths in advanced manufacturing

Invest in professional services employment

Invest in trade and logistics industry

Build a renewable energy sector of our economy

Support growth in agriculture and food production
Some of the possible cross-cutting statements

- Create a more efficient land use pattern...
- And a transportation system to fit
- Create great places
- Conserve energy any way we can
- Create a new energy economy
- Support local agriculture
- Reuse physical assets wisely

- Promote lifestyle choices for all
- Protect and repair basic natural resources
- Make places worth visiting
- Develop trade and transportation
- Develop resilience
- Education has an important role
Create a more efficient land use pattern

- Pursue policies of smart growth for an efficient region
- Promote energy efficiency and conservation to slash GHGs
- Development pattern to save land, energy, money
- Support urban agriculture in various forms
- Protect farmland and support farmers
- Manage brownfields and vacant land for long-term reuse
- Federal-state-local collaboration for planning, finance
- Housing convenient to employment
And a transportation system to fit

Multi-modal system to conserve energy, reduce VMT

Safe, affordable, healthy choices for access and mobility

Safe, accessible, walkable neighborhoods

Mixed use neighborhoods accessible by foot, bike, transit

Replace fossil fuels with non-carbon renewables ASAP

Promote energy efficiency and conservation to slash GHGs

Housing convenient to employment
Create great places

Create, maintain, great places, city, suburb, and rural

Pursue policies of smart growth for an efficient region

Expand, improve, connect our parks + recreation areas

Safe, accessible, walkable neighborhoods

Mixed use neighborhoods accessible by foot, bike, transit

Protect, connect, access our waterfronts

Lead the way to “complete streets”

Help everyone obtain healthy foods

Support urban agriculture in various forms
Conserve energy every way we can

- Multi-modal system to conserve energy, reduce VMT
- Promote energy efficiency and conservation to slash GHGs
- Promote adaptive reuse for history, energy, integrity
- Pursue policies of smart growth for an efficient region
- Development pattern to save land, energy, money
- Farm with less water, energy, chemicals
- Housing for energy efficiency, conservation, renewables
- Preserve existing stock for energy, history, character.
Create a new energy economy

- Housing for energy efficiency, conservation, renewables
- Replace fossil fuels with non-carbon renewables ASAP
- Make new energy economy a source of jobs and community wealth
- Build a renewable energy sector of our economy
Support local agriculture

- Development pattern to save land, energy, money
- Connect local growers to markets here and beyond
- Protect air, land, water, habitat, and biodiversity.
- Pursue policies of smart growth for an efficient region
- Support growth in agriculture and food production
- Help local farmers, processors, distributors compete globally
- Protect farmland and support farmers
- Support urban agriculture in various forms

Development pattern to save land, energy, money

Pursue policies of smart growth for an efficient region

Protect farmland and support farmers

Support urban agriculture in various forms

Support local agriculture

Connect local growers to markets here and beyond

Support growth in agriculture and food production

Help local farmers, processors, distributors compete globally

Protect air, land, water, habitat, and biodiversity.
Reuse physical resources wisely

- Promote adaptive reuse for history, energy, integrity
- Preserve existing stock for energy, history, character.
- Manage brownfields and vacant land for long-term reuse
- Pursue policies of smart growth for an efficient region
Promote lifestyle choices for all

- Create, maintain, great places, city, suburb, and rural
- Neighborhood choices for city, suburb, country
- Housing choice and equal opportunity
- Safe, affordable, healthy choices for access and mobility
Protect air, land, water, habitat, and biodiversity.

Protect Great Lakes and its water

Protect, connect, access our waterfronts

Manage brownfields and vacant land for long-term reuse

“Environmental justice” as a frame for all action

Protect and repair basic natural resources
Make places worth visiting

- Invest in visitor attractions and marketing
- Preserve existing stock for energy, history, character.
- Protect, connect, access our waterfronts
- Promote adaptive reuse for history, energy, integrity
- Expand, improve, connect our parks and playgrounds
Develop trade and transportation

Invest in rails for freight and passengers

Invest in trade and logistics industry
Develop “resilience”

- Foster a culture of entrepreneurship and innovation
- Anticipate and prepare for impacts of climate change
- Create resilient communities that adapt to change
Education has an important role

- Educate on climate change causes, impacts, responses
- Educate public on local food production, processing, distribution
- Educate elected officials, planners, and the public
- Build on our strength in higher education
- Promote culture of healthy eating and strong food economy

Education has an important role
We will continue to look across the groups

- We’re in working groups on purpose
- But we want to “cut across the silos”
- Parts of the plan might not be in these topic areas
- Looking at connections might make it more concise
- This is work in progress
- Take it as food for thought
- We will continue...
1. **Maintain and create places in city, suburb, village, and countryside** that are beautiful, efficient, distinctive, have lasting value, and are loved by the people who live there.

2. **Foster a pattern of development that makes wise use of resources** – land, existing building stock, transportation, utilities and other infrastructure – to save money and energy and promote economic prosperity and quality of life.

3. **Protect or restore our waterfronts**, connect them to local communities, make them more accessible to the public, and dedicate them to “water dependent” or “water enhanced” uses.

4. **Maintain, improve, expand, and increase access to our parks, recreation areas, trails and open spaces** and connect them to each other and the places people live and work.
5. **Protect natural resources** including air quality, rural and agricultural land, natural habitat, biodiversity, watersheds, water bodies and the quantity and quality of our water.

6. **Promote the adaptive reuse of residential, commercial, industrial, and ecclesiastical building stock** to preserve embedded energy, neighborhood integrity, and heritage.

7. **Manage abandoned industrial and commercial land and neighborhoods in decline** to minimize negative impacts now and prepare their resources for timely and appropriate reuse.

8. **Create communities that are resilient and adaptable**, that can serve the region’s needs even as population, demographics, climate, and other factors fluctuate.
Organize Preliminary Strategies to address Final Goals
Preliminary Strategies: Land Use and Development

1. Create a regional planning body.

2. Broaden the base of public service provision.

3. Define a land use concept for the region.

4. Redesign revenue-raising structures to promote land use goals.

5. Build support for regional planning through public engagement and reaching more diverse stakeholders.

6. Establish mechanisms to manage declining or devalued properties, neighborhoods and districts.

7. Develop planning capacity at the municipal level.

8. Incentivize preserving natural areas, rural land, and farms.

9. Proactively identify important and sensitive natural resources and natural places.
1. Create a regional planning body.

• What is its role?
• Who are the members or participants?
• How is it funded?

Preliminary Strategies: Land Use and Development

Counties covered by a regional planning council
2. Broaden the base of public service provision.

- Why: Reduce costs, promote efficiency, or reduce redundancy?
- What public services?
- Are the services financed differently? (e.g. regional tax-base sharing)?
- Is inter-municipal, regional cooperation a place to start?
3. Define a land use concept for the region.

- Was the centers and corridors concept (“hot dogs and tater tots”) of the Framework for Regional Growth adequate?
- What do our goals about smart growth mean in specific terms?
- What’s the process for creating and vetting such a concept?
4. Redesign revenue-raising structures to promote land use goals.

- What revenue raising structures: property taxes, sales taxes?
- How can these structures be improved to improve land use decisions?
5. Build support for regional planning through public engagement and reaching more diverse stakeholders.

- Is “Build support for regional planning” a goal, and is “…public engagement and reaching more diverse stakeholders” a strategy?
- What forms of community engagement can help build support for smart growth?
- Have we reached diverse (race, language, age, occupation) groups? If not how can we?
6. Establish mechanisms to manage declining or devalued properties, neighborhoods and districts.

• Can we differentiate this from the goal “Manage abandoned industrial and commercial land and neighborhoods in decline.”?
• We have a land bank in formation. Are there mechanisms other than the land bank needed?
• Is this something that is constituted on a regional scale?
7. Develop planning capacity at the municipal level.

- Is it about staff to work with municipalities?
- Is it about “tools” – model codes, ordinances, programs?
- Is this a role for the regional entity?
Preliminary Strategies: Land Use and Development

8. Incentivize preserving natural areas, rural land, and farms.

- What kinds of incentives?
- What approaches will be successful in protecting farm land in rural areas, and preserving other natural lands?
- Is Transfer of Development Rights a promising approach here?
- What about open space bonds?
9. Proactively identify important and sensitive natural resources and natural places.

- What data already exists?
- What data must be generated?
- What should we do when these are identified?
Continue to develop strategies in order to address all goals.

What is missing??

Given the goals we set, what additional strategic initiatives do we need to include to achieve all goals?
Continue to develop strategies in order to address all goals

Do our strategies address all of the goals:
  • Maintain and create great **places**?
  • Protect and restore our **waterfronts**?
  • Maintain, improve, expand, and increase access to our **parks**...?
  • Protect quantity and quality of **water**?
  • Promote **adaptive reuse**?

What strategies are **missing**?

Where does **economic development policy** fit in this array of strategies?

What would we instruct the **other working groups** to take care of?

Do our strategies lead to **smart growth** and create **resilient communities**?
Recruit a Working Team Contributor

Keep involved as a Working Team Member at www.oneregionforward.org
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us

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