1. Welcome and Introductions:
   H. Morse and R. Shibley introduced and welcomed all to this meeting.

2. Awards and Honors:
   - Presented by B. Roberts: 1RF Awarded by American Planning Association: Western New York Chapter and Upstate award, Best Practices and Public Outreach.
   - Suggestion: note this recognition online (through website/social media).

3. One Region Forward (1RF) Implementation Progress:
   - Southtowns Coalition: Southtowns Coalition, Southtowns Planning and Development Group. Groups have been meeting; G. Eppolito is chairing the planning and development group. Need for workers for agriculture – an initiative of the farmers working with International Institute of Buffalo to get 40-50 immigrants working on farms in the Southtowns. Food service is one of the biggest issues to the region and area – identifying a FoodHub and designating Eden Valley Growers as significant asset to region/FoodHub.
   - NYSDOT: Niagara Street and Ohio Street are two local implementation projects where NYSDOT is focusing on complete streets and sustainability; starting to think about how annual re-paving can be looked at for complete streets work.
   - Erie County: has been funding smart growth programs through Community Development Block Grant, as far as the brownfield opportunities and business development for Bethlehem Steel site.
   - Riverkeeper: there has been significant elected leader engagement in recent months around re-thinking our relationship with Great Lakes and the water. A renewed focus on the “Blue Economy.” A lot going on, some highlights: RiverBend landscape work in concert with the developers; groundbreaking at Niagara Street for a brownfield reclamation for public access point; bigger efforts on Blue Economy – working with pub, private, nonprofits locally and nationally on this initiative for WNY.
- **Niagara Falls**: Buffalo Ave. Brownfield Opportunity Area. Block clubs are citing One Region Forward as are some council members. Progress continues on Robert Moses Parkway South and North sections.

- **Niagara County**: preparing for the impacts of Climate Change – adapting Niagara Falls Airport to an Emergency Preparedness Center; working aggressively in brownfields – received $400K from EPA for Brownfields, Erie Niagara transit coordination with NFTA, and Cornell Cooperative Extension is looking to update the 1990 Agriculture Plan.

- **City of Buffalo**: both shovel in the ground and good planning. Gates Circle progress, UB Medical School, Northland job training center, Buffalo Green Code is being presented to the Council soon (10/22/15). Philosophically, the Mayor has issued an Opportunity Pledge to bolster inclusiveness and diversity - [https://www.ci.buffalo.ny.us/applications/Pledge/SignPledge.aspx](https://www.ci.buffalo.ny.us/applications/Pledge/SignPledge.aspx).

- **GBNRTC**: GBNRTC, United Way, Oishei Foundation, and others received funding to design transportation initiative to help low-income moms get to medical appointments, Belmont is a key partner because financial education is important to this equation; GBNRTC waiting for results of NYSERDA opportunity they applied for in partnership with Buffalo Niagara Partnership, Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus, Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority, Go Bike Buffalo, and others to lift up Transit Demand Management Strategies – what would a regional TDM body look like, would allow us to expand opportunities. Look to lifestyle transit options (car/bike sharing), availability, and efficiency. MPO Long Range Transportation Plan 2050 is underway. MPO is basing its projections and other types of inputs from scenario planning for 1RF to coordinate 1RF land use goals with transportation goals.

- **WNYEA**: looking at integration of 1RF on 2 fronts – subject-specific and macro. Subject-specific, our advocacy on outer harbor, along with other partners like Riverkeeper. Transportation and mobility – Route 198 coalition. Housing and neighborhoods – lead project through CFGB. Food and Access – big event with Buffalo Public Schools earlier in the year and continued work of the Food Policy Council. Climate Change – 3-month campaign to raise awareness and movement. On Macro-level, we’ve been thinking of how we could organize some of our work around 5 organizing areas of 1RF. When talking to national funders, when we show our work is tied to something bigger, it makes a difference.

- **Belmont**: variety of activities. Focusing on affordable housing, we are doing a lot more infill, reuse of structure, etc. 30 units online at 1490 Jefferson – close to transit line, reuse of deteriorating development. In past years, we’ve done more in suburban areas. Now we are focusing a lot on owner occupied rehabs with municipalities and infill. In Niagara County, we are working with the City of Lockport, and resurrected a dormant program in North Tonawanda.
BNP: Aspen Institute partnership to do best practice on workforce development, coordinating with Racial Equity Roundtable. This EDA program that will look at issues key to 1RF – access, transportation, etc.; BBRP – secure private sector $ for re-focusing in downtown. We also continue to be interested in working with IDAs on policy revisions.

UB: recently received STARS sustainability designation – moved UB into Gold Status.

UBRI: NYSERDA (CFA), EDA grant, Knight Foundation opportunities have been applied for to implement 1RF. Continue to seek implementation opportunities.

UB/a+p: GROW House on route to participate in a U.S. Dept. of Energy competition and will return to be a permanent installation in the University Heights Neighborhood. The school is also in the running for an opportunity with the University of Milwaukee to perform an assessment of green infrastructure planning across the Great Lakes region.

NFTA: Generally, focused on bringing in new federal dollars for TOD, and efforts in the Canalside/Cobblestone areas. NFTA Service Planning study underway that will help focus resources. New CNG fueling station up and running for fleet.

Suggestion – CFA awards will likely have a lot of projects that have impact with 1RF. 1RF members are looking to inventory successful CFA awards by 1RF partners and others that help implement the plan.

Implementation Council Charter

K. Dixon – gave update on the charter signatory process. We’re about 40% of the way there with signatures. The language was finalized at our June meeting and we haven’t issues holding the rest of member up, but just need to close the loop and get the rest of the signed charters returned.

J. Jedlicka – where does REDC that makes decisions stand on 1RF?

R. Shibley – can’t speak for REDC, but their smart growth plank has made it institutionalized. A formal request requires us to give them a presentation. Typically, REDC hasn’t endorsed things that aren’t state sponsored, but perhaps 1RF is different enough.

R. McPherson – would probably help to see IC charter fully executed before a possible presentation to REDC.

J. Cuozzo – it would probably good to see/highlight the differences and similarities between 1RF and RED

B. Bidell – we still have work to do to firm up and adopt organizational guidelines.
Implementation Projects

- Federal Transit Administration, Transit-Oriented Development Planning grant – federally funded to get consultant to do a TOD plan, education around what it is, regional TOD committee, etc.
  - L. Smith – offer to leverage private sector engagement opportunities through partnership to prime them on this.
  - GNRTC will be the lead on this grant opportunity in partnership with NFTA. The formation of a regional TOD committee is one of the grant activities.
  - K. Dixon – we’re seeing TOD in some places looking different based on new forms of technology (i.e. Uber hubs). While the focus of this study is in Erie, it may help to inform other TOD opportunities for Niagara.
  - B. Bidell – will it be bringing in Minicozzi data? The study will take advantage of the Minicozzi report and data.
  - B. Roberts – will this project have opportunity to be a product of One Region Forward? 1RF will be incorporated into the effort.
  - NYS Dept. of Health – Local Impact Grant – Pedestrian Planning – P2 Collaborative applied to grant. Working on pedestrian planning – locations where pedestrian infrastructure could be improved. They’ve been awarded the grant. GBNRTC/1RF partners to assist with pedestrian planning efforts.

Committees and Partnerships

- Current 1RF materials may be used as a resource for organizations looking to assist with 1RF outreach. Recent interest from Partners of a Livable WNY is being explored.
- Communications Committee: How do you take something complicated like 1RF and put it into an actionable piece? Proposal of self-certification of projects was discussed and how would we do that? What does it mean to have a 1RF project? How do we grow capacity to have regular communications and get public input on what they are doing to implement 1RF?
  - “Sustainability in Action” is a model that exists and could provide the basis of a template.
  - How does this fit within the progress report?
  - Would there be support for putting a process in place for capturing 1RF projects?
  - Imagine within Best Practices – a competition?
  - Fall of 2016 was suggested as a potential timeframe for such an event.
GIS working groups – interest in reconvening GIS working group and other interested parties to foster the sharing of data. UBRI willing to do a presentation on the 1RF data site and how to access available data to GIS users. November 16th is GIS Day and this may be a good time for such a workshop.