WHAT DOES SUSTAINABILITY MEAN TO YOU?

The city already installed almost 12 miles of bike lanes, and should continue installing more.

Located in the vicinity of Tonawanda Coke, this site has no positive aesthetic qualities. Fortunately, it has attracted the attention of the DEC and is in the early stages of remediation.

Locating residential, retail, and commercial space within the same building is an efficient use of land, while building vertically and locating parking in underground ramps also reduces the building’s footprint on the land.

The intersection of Elmwood and Hertel Avenues is among the worst in the city. Considering the proximity of the Hertel and Amherst shopping districts, as well as the residential neighborhoods, this intersection is a perfect candidate for a facelift.

WHAT WOULD YOU CHANGE?

Locating residential, retail, and commercial space within the same building is an efficient use of land, while building vertically and locating parking in underground ramps also reduces the building’s footprint on the land.

WHAT WOULD YOU KEEP?

WHAT WOULD YOU CHANGE?

WHAT WOULD YOU KEEP?

Teams of 2 to 3 students will work together over the course of the semester to define what sustainability means to them, using the Buffalo Niagara region as a backdrop. Through One Region Forward’s PhotoVoice tool, students will post photos and captions of things they would change and things they would keep to make the region more sustainable. By incorporating social media into the planning process and engaging a younger voice on the future of the region, One Region Forward hopes to create a vision for Buffalo Niagara that will better inform the decisions made today to create the region students inherit tomorrow.
A Hands-On Process for Students to Explore What Sustainability Means to Them

Sustainability is often a hard word to define, but through examples drawn from the Buffalo Niagara region, students will have an opportunity to create their own definition. They will see the work that is well underway to move our region forward, while better understanding the issues and challenges still to be addressed.

SHARE YOUR IDEAS THROUGH PHOTOS, VIDEOS AND CAPTIONS

STEP 1
Get started with PhotoVoice.
Visit www.oneregionforward.org/photovoice-across-the-region/

Every week, upload AT LEAST 1 PHOTO or VIDEO to respond to either question:

What would you change to make more sustainable?
What would you save for future generations?

Students will post 1 photo/video per week that shows something they would “change to make more sustainable” or something they would “keep for future generations”. Each photo/video should be taken in the Buffalo Niagara region and must be accompanied by a caption to explain what the photo/video represents and how it relates to sustainability.

Photos/videos should be uploaded to the One Region Forward website using the interactive PhotoVoice tool. Photos will be vetted by One Region Forward staff before being posted to the interactive map.

STEP 2
Create a Video Presentation.

The final video presentation will be a culmination of the students’ experiences over the semester. Using the photos/videos collected, students will explain what their definition of sustainability is and how they arrived at that definition.

Students are encouraged to get creative with their video. They can supplement their existing photos and videos with things like interviews, surveys, independent research, or anything else they think might help communicate their ideas.

The final video presentations will then be posted on One Region Forward’s website and shared through various social media outlets.

VIDEO EXAMPLE
If a student’s focus was on creating more walkable places to live, work and play...

Make a video that compares & contrasts photos/videos of different commercial areas in the region, specifically those that are walkable and those that are not. Include a short interview with a staff member of the Elmwood Village Association talking about the virtues of dense, walkable communities.