

PRESS RELEASE

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As part of the ongoing effort to Update the Town of Evans Local Waterfront Revitalization Program, Evans residents are invited to help plan the future of the Town's twelve miles of Lake Erie waterfront. The Town has scheduled a public information meeting to gather public comments on important issues and opportunities in the waterfront area.

The Public Information Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 12, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Media Center at Lake Shore High School. Doors will open a half-hour early to allow time for the public to review maps of existing conditions of the area.

A Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) is an extension of the New York State Coastal Management Program. Having a local program enables the Town to evaluate land use and waterfront resources and develop a comprehensive strategy to effectively manage and protect these resources. By applying a local focus on land use management and the maintenance, improvement and enhancement of important resources and features in the waterfront area, an LWRP strengthens the State program and provides the Town with a road map to guide growth and recognize opportunities. It also gives the Town more local control over its waterfront.

The Town of Evans' current Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) was adopted by the Town Board and approved by the New York State Department of State in 1986. Since that time, and with the adoption of the Town's Comprehensive Plan in 1999, the importance of updating and improving the LWRP to better reflect current trends and conditions has grown.

The Town has gathered up-to-date information about existing waterfront conditions, including land use and community character, economic development, public access, flooding and erosion, historic preservation, scenic resources, environmental resources and water quality. To complement this information, we are asking local citizens to assist in describing important issues, opportunities, desires and concerns to help establish a clear vision for the waterfront. These comments can include simple suggestions such as ideas for individual neighborhoods or area-wide vision statements.

The comments gathered at the public information meeting will be useful in upgrading the LWRP coastal management policies and revising the LWRP document to better reflect current issues and opportunities of local importance. This information will also help to determine where improvement projects could be undertaken or where zoning or other regulatory changes could be effective in improving the waterfront.

After the public comments are received and analyzed, the LWRP document will be updated. Thereafter, the document will be made available to the public for further review and input, prior to Town Board action on the revised program.

For additional information on this meeting or the LWRP project, contact the Town of Evans Planning Office at 549-0945.