

2015 Action Agenda

Continuing Planks

Citizens' Campaign for Climate Smart Communities

Energy & Climate Change Working Group

League of Women Voters of Buffalo/Niagara

Specific Tasks: Encourage member organizations and their individual members to initiate or join grassroots campaigns for Climate Smart Communities, a NYS sponsored program to lower the “carbon footprint” of counties, cities, towns and villages. Creation of community-based committees to lobby and assist municipal governments.

Outcome: Increase in number of municipalities signing the Climate Smart Community Pledge (4 currently in Erie County, plus (new!) Erie County itself), increased engagement towards objective of municipal Climate Action Plans, targeting a significant reduction of GHG emissions via increased efficiency, conservation and conversion to renewable energy, as well as preparing for unavoidable climate change.

Ban Fracking in NYS

Habitat & Natural Resources Working Group

Sierra Club Niagara Group

Advocate for the Ban of Horizontal High Volume Hydrofracking (HHVHF) in New York State and its associated activities.

Specific Tasks: Support local organizations efforts toward same

Outcome: Ban Fracking in NYS

Right-Size the Scajaquada Corridor to be consistent with the Community's stated goals

Transportation Working Group

GOBike Buffalo and Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy

Specific Tasks: Ensure NYSDOT preferred design alternative in Rte 198 DEIS transforms Scajaquada corridor to a Complete Street through advocacy and public participation for context sensitive design.

Outcome: Implementation of the Open Streets initiative along the Scajaquada Expressway, developing our own in-depth traffic study and impact analysis, as well as creating a marketing and communications plan to educate the community on the benefits of the 30MPH option and complete removal.

Improve Buffalo's Recycling Rate

Waste & Pollution Working Group

Buffalo Recycling Alliance

Specific Tasks: Improve Buffalo's Recycling Rate by updating the City's recycling law, persuading the Buffalo Public Schools to adopt a unified and complete recycling program, and educating the public.

Outcome: Boost recycling, reduce waste, and reduce pollution, while saving the City money.

Advocate for Carbon-free public transit along the Niagara River Greenway

Energy & Climate Change Working Group

Citizens for Regional Transit

Specific Tasks: Act as grassroots lobbyists to educate our Federal Congresspersons and Federal Senators and their staffs to the advantages of amending the PURPA Law Section 210 to permit a Feed-In Tariff in NY State.

Outcomes: Political support from our Federal Elected officials for permitting the most effective method for promoting renewable energy development for use in NY State.

New Planks

PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy)

[Energy & Climate Change Working Group](#)

Sierra Club Niagara Group

Specific Tasks: To work with Erie County to implement a PACE in the county with the support of the Energy Improvement Corporation to facilitate conservation and renewable energy financing for commercial properties.

Outcomes: Low cost long term loans for businesses and regional reduction of carbon emissions.

Municipal Wind Energy for WNY

[Energy & Climate Change Working Group](#)

Wind Action Group

Specific Tasks: Develop a report documenting the economics of municipalities investing in wind energy to meet their electricity needs and recruit a delegation to educate elected municipal officials on this issue

Outcome: Generate interest on the part of municipalities to reduce their Carbon footprint and reduce their exposure to volatile priced fossil fuel electricity through municipally owned wind power

Erie Niagara Marine Sanctuary

Habitat & Natural Resources Working Group

GreenWatch, Learning Sustainability Campaign

A campaign to advocate to build a constituency that will possibly lead to a community based nomination of the Erie Niagara Marine Sanctuary within the next 12 months.

Specific Tasks: Work to build community support for Community Based Nomination to NOAA

Outcome: Community Based Nomination to NOAA

Avian Conservation Standards Bird Safe Building and Design Practices

Habitat & Natural Resources Working Group

Friends of Times Beach Nature Preserve

Advocate for avian conservation practices including bird safe design for Western New York. Including but not limited to FLAP- Fatal Light Awareness Program.

Specific Tasks: work with local government and planning organizations to adopt bird safe design practices and strategies.

Outcome: Adoption of bird safe design practices and strategies.

Sustainability Sector Social Enterprise Development Initiative

Urban Regeneration Working Group

PUSH Buffalo

Specific Tasks: A grassroots economic development strategy to provide job training and social enterprise development assistance in key sustainability sectors (e.g., stormwater, energy efficiency, solar) to low income communities of color in the Buffalo-Niagara Region

Outcome: Raise awareness of gaps in service and program delivery in existing workforce and economic development regimes. Create a coalition of labor, community, industry, and environmental groups that can work together to create a viable job training and social enterprise development program that serves low income communities of color. Win commitments from local and state decision makers to invest in the program.

WNYEA Outer Harbor Principles

WNYEA Board of Directors

Outer Harbor Task Force

Specific Tasks: Develop and implement a strategy to align the Erie Canal Harbor Development Corporation's redevelopment plans for the Outer Harbor with the key principles developed by the Alliance.

Outcome: ECHDC revision of draft Master Plan Blueprint Report creating a vision for Buffalo's Outer Harbor respectful of it's context within the City of Buffalo and the Great Lakes system and based in ecological revitalization.