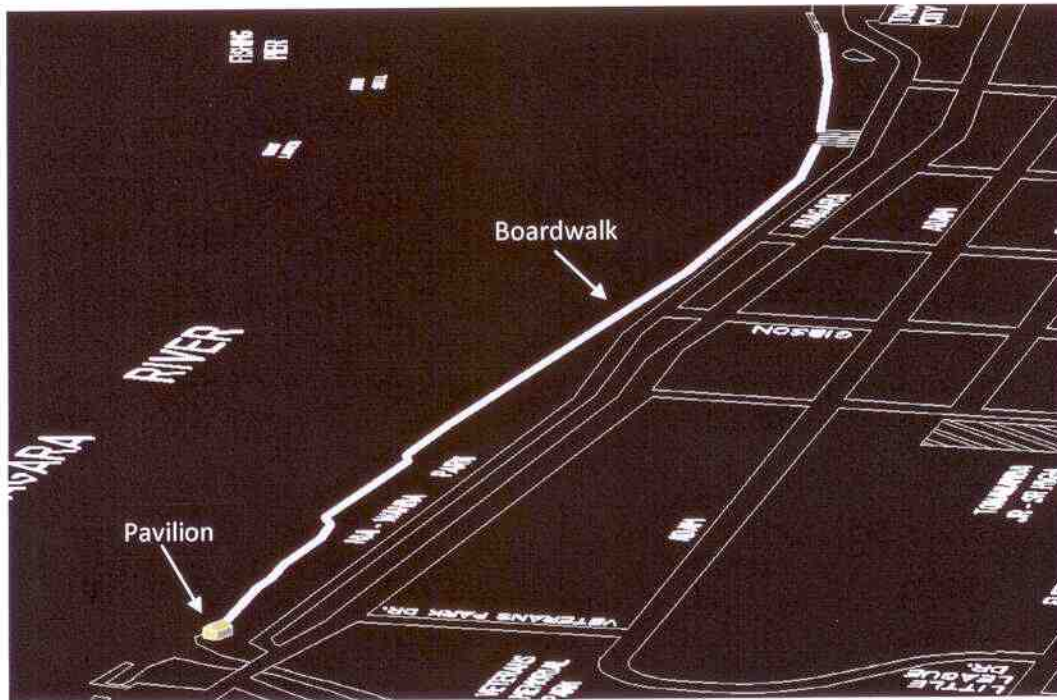


**City of Tonawanda  
Boardwalk and Pavilion**



**Submitted by:**

Mayor Ronald Pillozzi  
City of Tonawanda  
200 Niagara Street  
Tonawanda, NY 14150

**Submitted to:**

Executive Director Rob Belue  
Niagara River Greenway Commission  
2136 West Oakfield Road  
Grand Island, NY 14075

**Niagara River Greenway Commission Consultation and Review Form**



AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL

Name: **Ronald Pilozzi** Title: **Mayor**  
Business Address: **200 Niagara Street City of Tonawanda**  
State: **New York** Zip Code: **14150**  
Telephone Number: **716-695-8645** Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax Number: **716-695-8314**  
E-Mail Address: **mayor@ci.tonawanda.ny.us**

PROJECT POINT OF CONTACT

Name: **Ronald Pilozzi** Title: **Mayor**  
Organization/Firm: **City of Tonawanda**  
Business Address: **200 Niagara Street City of Tonawanda**  
State: **New York** Zip Code: **14150**  
Telephone Number: **716-695-8645** Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax Number: **716-695-8314**  
E-Mail Address: **mayor@ci.tonawanda.ny.us**

PROJECT NARRATIVE

Please attach material which responds to the follow five items in the order that they are presented

1. In a brief paragraph, describe the project and its purpose, how and when it will be accomplished, and why it is important.
2. Referring to the Niagara River Greenway Plan, clearly document and describe how the proposed project will advance the Niagara River Greenway vision including the goals, principles, and criteria that define that vision.
3. Define the budget for the proposed project and include costs for the following:

**Pavilion**

Planning:	\$128,300
Construction:	\$770,000
Acquisition:	\$0
Administration:	\$40,000
Operations and Maintenance/ Year:	\$ 25,000
Total Project Cost	\$963,300

Identify all sources of funding and the amount of funding expected from each source. Identify and quantify funds that are already on hand or have been allocated for the proposed project. Explain how the project will be operated and maintained.

4. Describe the measures taken at the local level to gain community and government support for this project (hearings, petitions, public surveys, resolutions of support or other methods). If this project has been cited or described in a local planning document or some equivalent thereof, attach copies of that documentation highlighting the sections that are relevant to the proposed project. Describe the role of municipal agencies, stakeholder groups, consultants, volunteers or others who will be involved in the proposed project.
5. Describe and document the environmental setting and existing conditions at the proposed project site. If you are not the owner of the property include a letter(s) or resolution(s) evidencing support for the project by the owner. Provide photographs, conceptual plans and drawings that show the site as it presently exists and the how the site will change with the addition of the proposed project. Describe how your project will comply with the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). The existence of wetlands, significant upland and aquatic habitats, and plant or animals species that are classified as rare, threatened, or endangered should be noted. Explain how such natural resources will be protected and/or enhanced. Cite any relevant project related studies.



### **Project Description**

*In a brief paragraph, describe the project and its purpose, how and when it will be accomplished, and why it is important.*

The City of Tonawanda respectfully requests support from the Niagara River Greenway Commission for the creation of a boardwalk and pavilion along the shore of Nia-wanda Park. This park is one of the most journeyed to riparian parks in Erie and Niagara Counties. During the summer months it is not unusual to witness hundreds of people jogging, riding bicycles, having picnics, or simply enjoying the river. Over the course of the past few years, it has become evident the park must be upgraded to allow for better separation of transportation modes between bicyclists and pedestrians. The addition of a boardwalk to Nia-wanda Park will create a "pedestrian grade" avenue for people to travel. This boardwalk will complement the existing bike-path currently in existence. Nia-wanda Park can be considered an "open" park, meaning vast; due to the lack of trees and structures. There are no community structures throughout the park, with the exception of the northern portion comprising of the amphitheater and City Hall. The creation of a community pavilion in the southern end of the park will act as a bookend with the amphitheater. This pavilion will be a four season's destination, providing respite from the sun and heat in the summer months and anchor an outdoor ice-rink in the winter. The structure will not be an imposing site, being only 80 by 100 feet in size. The boardwalk and pavilion comply with the goals and vision of the Niagara River Greenway Plan. The addition of these two structures is also coherent with the City of Tonawanda's Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Plan and Comprehensive Plan. The project will be funded by various grants at Federal, State and local levels and the City of Tonawanda. Maintenance and upkeep will be provided by the City of Tonawanda.

**Advancing the vision of the Niagara River Greenway**

*Referring to the Niagara River Greenway Plan, clearly document and describe how the proposed project will advance the Niagara River Greenway vision including the goals, principles, and criteria that define the vision.*



## Niagara River Greenway Vision Statement

*The Niagara River Greenway is a world-class corridor of places, parks and landscapes that celebrates and interprets our unique natural, cultural, recreational, scenic and heritage resources and provides access to and connections between these important resources while giving rise to economic opportunities for the region.*

The City of Tonawanda Boardwalk and Pavilion Project will uphold and advance the Niagara River Greenway vision by supplying needed upgrades and improvements to parkland along the Niagara River. This project will provide recreational options and a social gathering place for visitors and residents alike. Located on the boarder of Erie and Niagara Counties; the City of Tonawanda acts as the gateway to Erie County. The Greenway and the City have the opportunity to welcome travelers to Erie County with a grand and beautiful boardwalk.

The vision of the Greenway was central to the incorporation of the City of Tonawanda. The mission of the City has always been to protect and cherish the natural wonders of the Niagara River. The establishment of Nia-wanda Park, Isle View Park, and Veterans Memorial Park were manifested in the love and admiration Tonawanda residents possessed for the River. These are city parks created and maintained with City and Erie County tax dollars. As citizens of the Greenway we look to improve on a park that is in vital need of upgrade.

Nia-wanda Park is a 5,500 foot expanse of parkland along the shores of the Niagara River. While properly maintained, this park has had few upgrades through the course of its life. The proposed boardwalk and pavilion will provide residents and visitors with autonomous routes for bicyclists and pedestrians, enhanced access to the river itself, improved erosion protection, community gathering space, and a venue for outdoor and indoor entertainment during all four seasons. Signage and memorial placards are also envisioned to communicate to travelers the history and legacy of the park along the Niagara River. The Boardwalk and Pavilion project will announce to all travelers that they had arrived to a special place along the Niagara River Greenway. When completed, the Boardwalk and Pavilion plan will unite the northern gateway of Niagara and Erie Counties to the southern portion of the City of Tonawanda seamlessly.

The project incorporates several **goals** of the Greenway that will lead to an accessible, unified, environmentally friendly and revitalized corridor highlighting the natural beauty, cultural diversity and historic significance of the Niagara River and its surrounding communities.

#### **Improve Access**

Creating a boardwalk and pavilion along the shores of Nia-wanda Park will enhance the beauty of and access to the Niagara River Greenway. The boardwalk will establish a multi-use trail network complimenting the existing bike path. The southern pavilion will act as a destination node doubling as a scenic overlook and interpretive center. Being the destination gateway it is; Nia-wanda Park will welcome visitors to Erie County with open arms and ease of access to the Niagara River.

#### **Make Connections**

Having such a close relationship with the City of North Tonawanda; the City of Tonawanda is eternally connected to its sister city by bridges, roads and the Niagara River. Serving as a gateway destination between Niagara and Erie Counties, it is imperative that the City of Tonawanda possess beautiful structures that make you feel as though you were on a magical journey. The boardwalk and pavilion will compliment the majesty that is the Niagara River and connect the counties that share its wonders. These improvements will help visitors navigate through the Greenway effectively; as well as understand the connections between the people, the history, and the environment of the region.

#### **Protect and Restore Environmental Systems**

This project will ensure that the existing parkland along the Niagara River does not fall into disrepair. The environmental health of the river is at the forefront of the minds of every elected official and resident of the City of Tonawanda. The investment made by building the boardwalk and pavilion will cause travelers to marvel at the pristine waters; etching places in their hearts for environmental restoration and ecological protection.

#### **Promote Long Term Sustainability**

The City of Tonawanda will continue to maintain Nia-wanda Park and the developed boardwalk and pavilion. These maintenance costs are central to budgetary decision making. The park system is vital to the fabric of our community. The financing and staff needed to keep the parkland and river tranquil is always a top priority.

#### **Extend Olmsted's Legacy**

Frederick Law Olmsted believed that parks and green-space were the 'glue' that held cities together. Nia-wanda Park acts as a Parkway connecting the Civic Center to Isle View and Veterans Memorial Park. This was the task of Bidwell Parkway as it connected Delaware Park to The Parade; which is now Martin Luther King Park in Buffalo. The boardwalk and pavilion will strengthen this tie, helping keep Olmsted's vision alive.



The Boardwalk and Pavilion Project of the City of Tonawanda meets the following **guiding principles** of the Niagara River Greenway:

**Excellence:** The Boardwalk and Pavilion Project will be a first rate *world class* addition to the Niagara River Greenway. It will meet all ecological and esthetic principles consistent with top of the line boardwalks and riparian structures.

**Sustainability:** The City of Tonawanda is committed to *promote ecological, economic and physical sustainability for long-term viability and effectiveness*. The Boardwalk and Pavilion will endure weather, decay, and vandalism.

**Accessibility:** The Boardwalk and Pavilion project, located along the banks of the Niagara River, will *provide and increase physical and visual access to and from the waterfront and related resources for a full range of users (youth, seniors, and persons with special needs)*. The plan will improve traffic among pedestrians and bicyclists. By separating the two, a more pleasant and enjoyable park experience will be had by all. This organized traffic pattern will allow for ease of travel up and down the Niagara River Greenway.

**Public Well-Being:** By separating transportation modes, the Boardwalk and Pavilion Project will *promote physical and emotional wellness through the experience that it offers to the public by providing access to both active and passive recreational opportunities*. This will prevent accidents between pedestrians and bicyclists by alleviating the confusion that currently exists in Nia-wanda Park. The addition of the pavilion will create a magnet destination keeping people warm in the winter and cool in the summer.

**Connectivity:** The City of Tonawanda's attachment to the City of North Tonawanda and the Town of Tonawanda is vital to its existence. Keeping that connection strong and healthy is vital to the existence of the City of Tonawanda. The Boardwalk and Pavilion Project will *increase connectivity to related corridors and resources across the region, including connections across the international border with Canada*.

**Authenticity:** The Boardwalk and Pavilion Project will be unlike any other riverfront project in the history of Niagara and Erie Counties. This truly unique endeavor will create a genuinely new attraction along the Niagara River Greenway. *A clear sense of "place" and identity that reflects the traditional spirit and heritage of the area* will be etched along the banks of the Niagara River.

**Celebration:** The Boardwalk and Pavilion Project will truly be a *celebration of local history, diversity, cultural recourses, and the natural and built environment*. Activities planned for the site will be inclusive and festive. *Events and activities that help build social interaction and shared experiences* are central to the conception of the Pavilion. Ice skating, community gatherings, public and private parties, and many other events and recreational activities will take place there. Travelers and residents alike will be enthralled with the amount of four seasons action taking place along the shores of the City of Tonawanda.

**Partnerships:** In order to fully execute the concept behind the Boardwalk and Pavilion Project, partnerships will have to be welded between the City of Tonawanda and several other entities. For instance; great communication between the City and the ARMY Corps OF Engineers will be necessary during construction and for the assembly of the ice rink. In order to uniform signage along the Niagara River Greenway, communication must exist between the City of Tonawanda and other member communities to establish a cohesive pattern. *Cooperation and reciprocal compromise* is vital to the success of the Boardwalk and Pavilion Project.

**Community Based:** The Boardwalk and Pavilion Project *will reflect the preferences and plans of the local communities, while respecting other stated goals and the communal vision of the Niagara River Greenway.* The improvements and upgrades planned are consistent with the City of Tonawanda's Comprehensive Plan as well as the Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan. Additionally, the Pavilion is highlighted in the Niagara River Greenway Plan as a project for the City of Tonawanda.



In addition to consistency with the guiding principles of the Niagara River Greenway, the Boardwalk and Pavilion Project meets the **criteria** of the Niagara River Greenway Plan.

**Consistency with Principles:** As stated previously, the Boardwalk and Pavilion Project *is consistent with the Principles that have been established for the Niagara River Greenway*. These consistencies meet at a number of levels. With the development being completed right along the banks of the Niagara River, improvement and beatification of the Greenway will be tremendously evident.

**Priority Status:** As a project along the banks of the Niagara River, priority status can be considered high for the Boardwalk and Pavilion Project. The project will provide visitors and residents with *improved access to waterfront resources and will include scenic overlooks, interpretive signage, and "Greenway Guides" signage*. The improvements created by the Boardwalk and Pavilion Project will establish the Niagara River Greenway as a *world class destination*.

**Focus Area:** The Boardwalk and Pavilion Project is located in 'the high priority focus area' along the banks of the Niagara River. These improvements *will create discrete and visible results that will have a local, regional, and even international impact*.

**Environmental Soundness:** The City of Tonawanda is committed to maintaining the ecological integrity of the Niagara River. Waste and recycling receptacles will be provided by the City as well as general maintenance and landscaping. The project will *strive to enhance the environmental quality of the region*.

**Implementable:** The City of Tonawanda can easily incorporate maintenance and operations costs into its yearly budget. These costs will not be large additions. This plan has tremendous support and will be well received from the government and the general public.

**Economic Viability and Local Sponsor:** The City of Tonawanda has considered all of the *projects' ongoing operation and maintenance costs, as required by the legislation*. The City is confident the necessary monies, equipment, and manpower will be available after the project is complete.

**Matching Funding/ Leverage:** The City of Tonawanda currently owns the park land in question along the Niagara River. The City will contribute 10% of the cost of the project through in-kind donations of services and cash funding. The City is also devoted to maintaining the Boardwalk and Pavilion through its yearly budget.

**Consideration of Other Planning Efforts:** The Boardwalk and Pavilion Project is consistent with the goals and vision of the City of Tonawanda's Comprehensive Plan as well as the Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan.

**Clear Benefits:** The Boardwalk and Pavilion Project demonstrates *clear benefits to the Niagara River, the Niagara River Greenway, and the stated vision of the Greenway as a world-class corridor*. The enhanced access to the river as well as the recreational and traffic improvements will no doubt benefit travelers and residents alike.



### **Budget Summary**

*Define the budget for the proposal project and include costs for the following: Planning; Construction; Acquisition; and, Operation and Maintenance. Identify all sources of funding and the amount of funding expected from each source. Identify and quantify funds that are already on hand or have been allocated for the proposed project. Explain how the project will be operated and maintained.*

The general cost for the project is broken down as follows:

**Pavilion**

Planning:	\$128,300
Construction:	\$770,000
Acquisition:	\$0
Administration:	\$40,000
Operations and Maintenance/ Year:	\$ 25,000
Total Project Cost	\$963,300

**Boardwalk**

Planning:	\$4,500,000
Construction:	\$9,625,000
Acquisition:	\$0
Administration:	\$0
Operations and Maintenance/ Year:	\$20,000
Total Project Cost	\$14,145,000
Grand Total	\$15,108,300

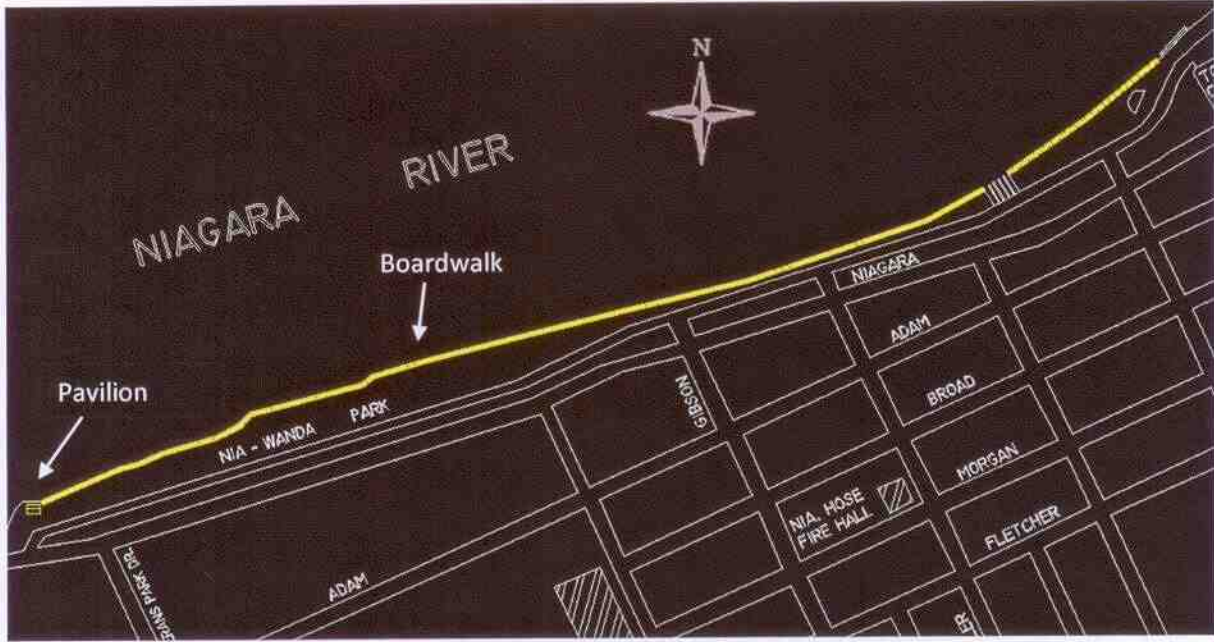
The City of Tonawanda respectfully request support from the Niagara River Greenway Commission for the Boardwalk and Pavilion project. The City will contribute approximately 10% of the total project cost, through in-kind donations of time, labor, and cash from its general budget. Included in the City's share will be engineering, administration, operations, and maintenance costs. Additional funding will be used to cover architectural, site preparation, construction, and procurement costs. The City of Tonawanda will leverage their commitment to this project through grants and associated funding via NYS DEC, NYS DOS and EPF programs.

It will be a multi-phased project with Phase I focused on the planning, design and construction of the Pavilion. The cost of Phase I has been estimated to be \$963,300 with the City of Tonawanda contributing \$96,330 (10% of Phase I costs).

The City of Tonawanda will continue to fund, through its annual operations and maintenance budget, yearly maintenance costs for the site. Annual expenses will include increased man-hours for City staff for routine operation activities including but not limited to snow removal and general maintenance work. Additionally, the cost will cover landscaping, up-keep of signage, routine painting and the removal of any vandalism.

These estimates were compiled with the help of Michael Maglio of LP Ciminelli and various administrative figures at the Town of Tonawanda. These numbers are preliminary estimates. Extreme care and diligence was performed during the estimating process. The figures for the pavilion were taken from the Noco Pavilion recently built by the Town of Tonawanda. The boardwalk numbers were inspired by the Buffalo Inner Harbor Redevelopment Project currently under construction.

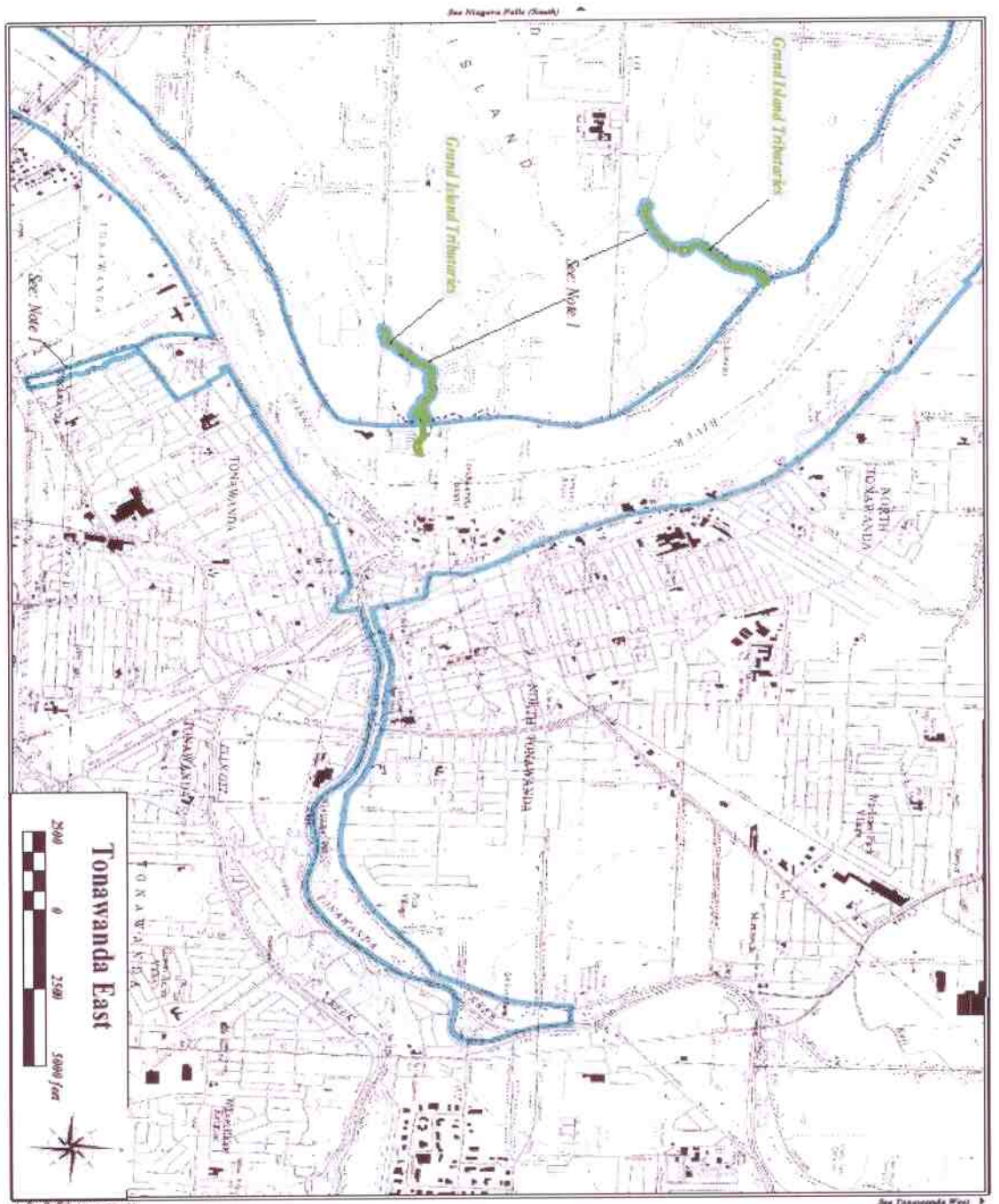
**Conceptual Design Plan**



North-East View



**DOT Planimetric Map**



GL113

### **Public Support and Legislation**

*Describe the measures taken at the local level to gain community and government support for this project (hearings, petitions, public surveys, resolutions of support or other methods). If this project has been cited or described in a planning document or some equivalent thereof, attach copies of that documentation highlighting the sections that are relevant to the proposed project. Describe the role of municipal agencies, stakeholder group, consultants, volunteers and other who will be involved in the proposed project.*

The Boardwalk and Pavilion project is the latest effort of the government of the City of Tonawanda to not only beautify the riverfront but also establish a coordinated pedestrian and bicycle transportation system along Niawanda Park. This plan was created by Mayor Ron Pilozzi and has the blessings of the City Council and various civic groups. The City's LWRP and Comprehensive Plan leave room for the pavilion and boardwalk to be produced.

This project fits the goals and objectives of the City's Comprehensive Plan by strengthening the recreation system and adding additional open space and recreational opportunities, as well as improving the existing transportation system in the City of Tonawanda and facilitating pedestrian and bicycle traffic. The goals of the Local Waterfront Redevelopment Plan also allow for the Boardwalk and Pavilion Plan by restoring, revitalizing and redeveloping deteriorated and underutilized waterfront areas for cultural and recreational uses. The LWRP also encourages the transportation improvements this project will bring.

We at the City of Tonawanda were pleasantly surprised at the positive feedback we received from several civic groups located in the City. The recreational benefits of this project have not gone unnoticed by the general public.

**Highlighted sections of the LWRP**



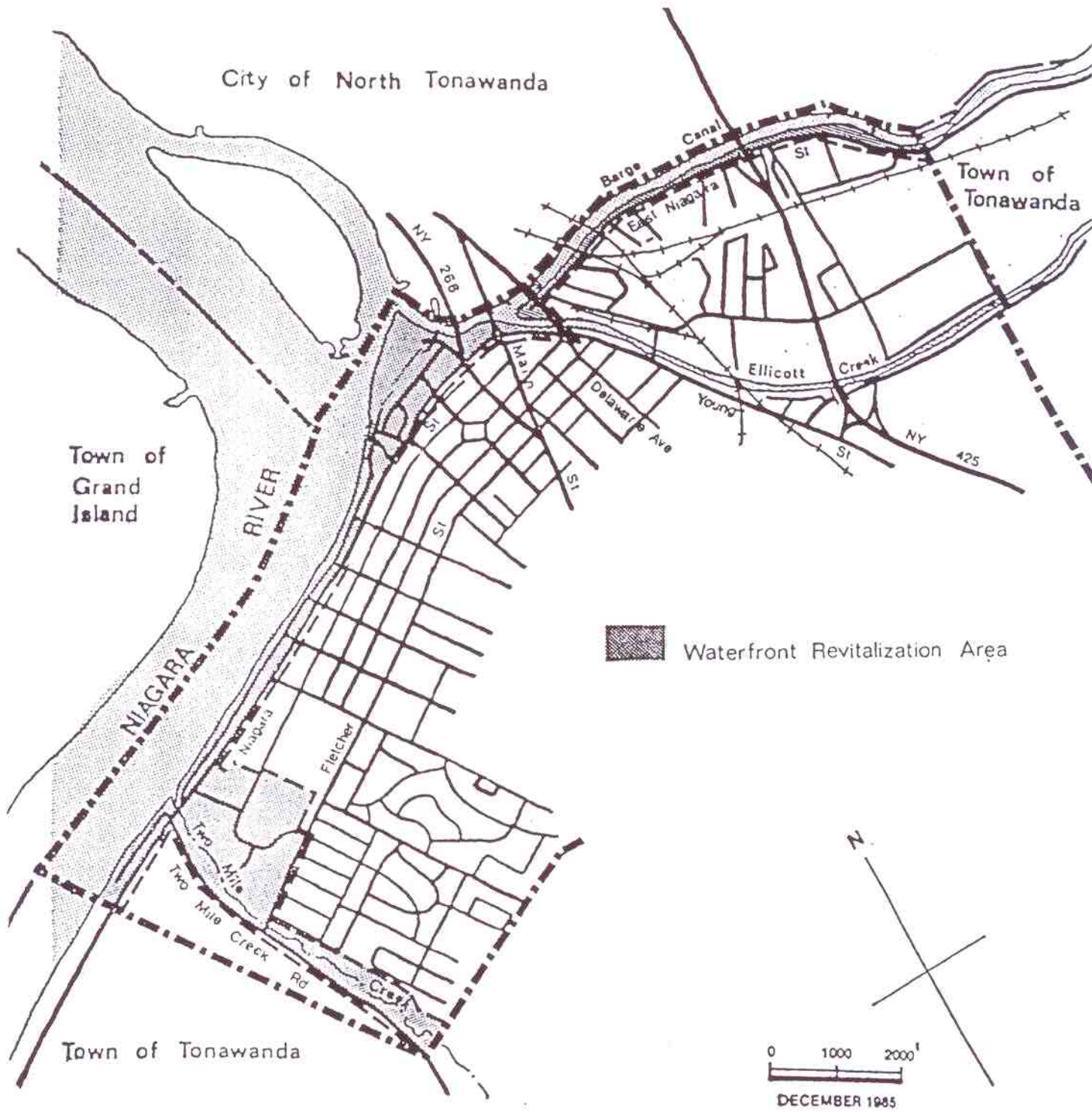
CITY OF TONAWANDA

WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION AREA BOUNDARY

The City of Tonawanda Waterfront Revitalization Area includes all lands and water encompassed within the following boundary:

Beginning at the point of intersection of the north and east City Lines (at the convergence of the boundaries of the City of Tonawanda, and City of North Tonawanda), the Waterfront Revitalization Area proceeds south along the east City Line to its intersection with East Niagara Street; then easterly along the southern right-of-way of East Niagara Street to its intersection with Delaware and Fillmore Avenues; then south along the western right-of-way of Delaware Avenue to Young Street; then westerly along the southern right-of-way of Young Street and Niagara Street, following the Niagara Street R.O.W. to the eastern boundary of Veteran's Memorial Park; then following the Park boundary to a point 100' east of its southern junction with Two Mile Creek; then south along a line parallel to the Creek center-line to the south City line; then following the City line to its junction with the western right-of-way of Two Mile Creek Road; then northeasterly along the Two Mile Creek road R.O.W. to its intersection with Niagara Street; then southwesterly along the southern right-of-way of Niagara Street to its junction with the City line; then following the City line northwesterly in the Niagara River and Barge Canal to the point of beginning.

Map 1A shows a graphic description of the waterfront boundary.



<p>LOCAL WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION PROGRAM          ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING</p>	<p><b>MAP 1A</b>  <b>COASTAL BOUNDARY</b>          CITY OF TONAWANDA</p>
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## DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

Policy 1 Restore, revitalize, and redevelop deteriorated and underutilized waterfront areas for commercial, industrial, cultural, recreational, and other compatible uses.

Policy 1A Redevelop the former Continental Can site for residential uses.

This policy applies to that area depicted on Map 3A. Its intent is to focus capital resources on the redevelopment of the former Continental Can site into a quality waterfront residential community. The area is within a former designated urban renewal area and the City has approved a developer and corresponding site plan for 168 residential units on the 26 acre site. Bids have been let for infrastructure improvements and project completion is targeted for 1987.

The following guidelines will be used to review actions for consistency with this policy as it pertains to any future development of the River Edge site.

1. When an action is proposed to take place on the former Continental Can site, the following guidelines will be used.
  - a. Priority should be given to uses which are enhanced or dependent on a location adjacent to the water;
  - b. The action should enhance existing and anticipated uses. For example, a new highway should be designed and constructed as to serve the potential access needs for desirable residential/commercial development.
  - c. The action should serve as a catalyst to private investment in the area;



Policy 19A

Protect, and maintain the level and type of access to Niawanda Park, Veteran's Park, Riverwalk and City owned property adjacent to the Barge Canal, including the transient boat docking facilities at the mouth of Ellicott Creek with the Barge Canal.

The City of Tonawanda is fortunate to have 70% of their shoreline in public ownership. All lands are presently or soon will be developed as water related recreational resources.

The following guidelines shall be used by City, State and Federal agencies in determining the consistency of proposed actions which may affect access to Niawanda Park, Veteran's Park, Riverwalk, City-owned and State-owned property adjacent to the Barge Canal, and other public water-related recreation resources.

1. The existing access from adjacent or proximate public lands or facilities to public water-related recreation resources and facilities shall not be reduced, nor shall the possibility of increasing access in the future from adjacent or proximate lands or facilities to public water-related recreation resources and facilities be eliminated, unless in the latter case, estimates of future use of these resources and facilities are too low to justify maintaining or providing increased public access or unless such actions are found to be necessary or beneficial by the public body having jurisdiction of the need to meet systematic objectives.

The following is an explanation of the terms used in the above guidelines:



- a. Access - the ability and right of the public to reach and use public coastal lands and waters.
- b. Public water-related recreation resources or facilities - Niawanda Park, Veteran's Park, Riverwalk, City and State owned property adjacent to the Barge Canal (See Map 6).
- c. Public lands or facilities - lands or facilities held by State or City in fee simple or less-than-fee simple ownership and to which the public has access or could have access, including underwater lands and the foreshore.
- d. A reduction in the existing level of public access -includes but is not limited to the following:
  - 1) The number of parking spaces at a public water-related recreation resource or facility is significantly reduced.
  - 2) The service level of public transportation to a public water-related recreation resource or facility is significantly reduced during peak season use and such reduction cannot be reasonably justified in terms of meeting systemwide objectives.
  - 3) Pedestrian access is diminished or eliminated because of hazardous crossings required at new or altered transportation facilities, electric power transmission lines, or similar linear facilities.

- 4) There are substantial increases in the following already existing special fares (not including regular fares in any instance) of public transportation to a public water-related recreation resource or facility, except where the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority having jurisdiction over such fares determines that such substantial fare increases are necessary, and/or that such increases will significantly reduce usage by individuals or families and incomes below the State government established poverty level.
- e. An elimination of the possibility of increasing public access in the future includes, but is not limited to the following:
- 1) Construction of public facilities which physically prevent the provision, except at great expense, of convenient public access to public water-related recreation resources and facilities.
  - 2) Sale, lease, or other transfer of public lands that could provide public access to a public water-related recreation resource or facility.
  - 3) Construction of private facilities which physically prevent the provision of convenient public access to public water-related recreation resources or facilities from public lands and facilities.
2. Any proposed project to increase public access to public water-related recreation resources and facilities shall be analyzed according the following factors:

- a. The level of access to be provided should be in accord with estimated public use. If not, the proposed level of access to be provided shall be deemed inconsistent with the policy.
  - b. The level of access to be provided shall not cause a degree of use which would exceed the physical capability of the resource or facility. If this were determined to be the case, the proposed level of access to be provided shall be deemed inconsistent with the policy.
3. The State will not undertake or fund any project which increases access to a water-related resource or facility that is not open to all members of the public.
  4. In their plans and programs for increasing public access to public water-related resources and facilities, State agencies shall give priority in the following order to projects located: within the boundaries of the Federal-Aid Metropolitan Urban Area and served by public transportation; outside the defined Urban Area but not served by public transportation; outside the defined Urban Area boundary and served by public transportation.

Policy 20            Access to the publicly-owned foreshore and to lands immediately adjacent to the foreshore or the water's edge that are publicly owned shall be provided, and it should be provided in a manner compatible with adjoining uses. Such lands should be retained in public ownership.

Publicly owned lands immediately adjacent to the water's edge are identified in Section II.K., Public Access and Recreation, and are shown on Map 6. While such land shall be retained in

**Highlighted Sections of the Comprehensive Plan**



#### 4.0 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goals and objectives identified below resulted from numerous community, agency, and steering committee meetings, research of existing documents and reports, and the Citizens' survey that was distributed during the summer of 2000. These goals and objectives were designed to assist the city in achieving the residents "vision" for the City of Tonawanda. The following section lists the specific goals desired and the action steps identified to achieve those goals. It is important to understand that the goals/action steps are not exhaustive and should be updated over time.

##### 4.1 Open Space and Recreation Goals

###### Goals:

- *Create a comprehensive open space and recreation system that compliments the existing and future population needs*
- *Protect significant scenic areas*
- *Protect environmentally important lands for enjoyment by city residents*
- *Protect the City's natural resources*

###### Action Steps:

- Cooperation and coordination with school system as well as, development of programs and use of facilities.
- Conduct a professional recreational/tourism needs assessment/feasibility study.
- Consider connecting the Riverwalk, Erie Canal and Two-Mile Creek bikeways with all of the existing major parks in the City of Tonawanda.
- Continue to implement and expand yearly beautification and restoration activities for all city residents.
- Assess the feasibility of relocating the senior center to an appropriate site.
- Work with the Town of Tonawanda and the City of North Tonawanda to offer residents collective recreational activities.

- Maintain existing views and vistas, as well as identifying new locations.
- Use the former Spaulding Fibre parking lot for a designated skating area for teens.
- Identify funding sources to improve existing facilities.
- Implement improvements to Eastern Park by moving the park to the north side of Fillmore Street and selling the park land for commercial development.
- Create a comprehensive parkland plan that designates how development should interact with existing parks.
- Pursue funding and professional assistance from a variety of sources to increase revenues for maintenance and operation of facilities.
- Develop and implement a tree ordinance.

#### 4.2 Transportation Goals

##### Goals:

- *Improve the existing transportation system in the City of Tonawanda*
- *Improve transportation and traffic flow in heavily congested areas in order to facilitate movement within the city*
- *Maintain the "small town" atmosphere desired around the residential dwelling units*
- *Facilitate pedestrian and bicycle traffic*

##### Action Steps:

- Conduct a professional traffic study. This traffic study should include an emphasis on the needs of pedestrians surrounding tourist sites.
- Close Young Street between Main and Delaware to permit development.
- Redesign the intersection at Young/Delaware/Broad.
- Eliminate a large number of stop signs to improve the traffic flow within the City.

**IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

Task Description	Estimated Project Cost	Re-sponsible Agency	Implementation Priority Rating	Special Notes
<b>OPEN SPACE, RECREATION, &amp; SPECIAL ACTIVITIES</b>				
1. Provide activities that efficiently utilize present facilities and support existing services	TBD	RC	V	Prepare a Master Plan for City recreational programs that evaluate the recreational needs of the community. Coordinate and develop programs in conjunction with the school district to cost-effectively maximize use of tax dollars.
2. Implement yearly beautification and restoration activities, enhance scenic areas and natural resources	TBD	BC, CC	✓	Encourage businesses to contribute plants and hold fundraisers for beautification projects. Identify areas that need sprucing up and signage.
3. Construct a trail system to connect the Riverwalk, Canal, and Two-Mile Creek Trailways with all of the existing major parks in the City of Tonawanda.	TBD	CM, RC, PC	✓	By connecting the trailways to the parks, use of the facilities will increase. With more people using the parks, less random acts of vandalism will occur. Apply for grant funding assistance to implement planning, design, and construction of trailways over a phased period of time.
4. Create a comprehensive parkland plan that distinguishes how future programs and remaining development should interact with existing parks. Protect scenic vistas and natural areas	\$30,000 to \$50,000	RC, CC, DD	✓	The Plan for parks will assure protection of these sites from development. The Plan can also be used in funding applications as more and more grant programs are requiring applicants to submit their comp plans as evidence the planning of the project is acceptable to the community. Evaluate relocating Eastern Park to a lot north of its present location in order to sell the property to the neighboring developer for new or expanded manufacturing facilities.
5. Pursue and apply for grant funding and professional assistance from a variety of sources to improve existing recreational facilities and continue or create recreational programs	\$35,000/yr.	CM, CC, PC	✓	Retain the services of a grant writer to research and apply for grant funding. Create a recreational needs assessment to evaluate the public's needs and desires for new programs or changes to existing events.
6. Work with neighboring municipalities to offer recreation programs.	TBD	CM, RC, CC	✓	Consider having an inter-municipal Recreation Commission to discuss combining and sharing programs
7. Inventory and assess the programs being offered at the City's Senior Citizen Center. Evaluate existing curriculum to other New York Community programs to determine if the City's recreation needs are being met.	\$25,000 to \$40,000	CM, RC, PC	✓	Establish a committee of business leaders, school officials, and community residents to identify programs. Visit the Dale Association in Lockport to understand the multitude of opportunities that can be offered to meet senior citizen desires as well as community needs. Have professional assist w/study.

Implementation Priority Ratings: V= Very Important, I= Important, A= Implement Annually, TBD=To Be Determined, RC=Recreation Committee, CC=City Council, CM=City Mayor, DD=Development Director, FD=Fire Dept., PD=Police Dept., CE=Code Enforcement, EN=City Engineer, SB=School Board, SC=Senior Citizens, H=Historian, BI=Building Inspector, BC=Beautification Committee, TAC=Traffic Advisory Committee, PW=Public Works, PC=Professional Consultant



**IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

Task Description	Estimated Project Cost	Re-sponsible Agency	Implementation Priority Rating			Special Notes
			V	I	A	
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>						
1. Update 5-year Capital Improvements Plan and prioritize projects	TBD	CM, & ALL DEPTS.		✓		Incorporate tasks from this plan as necessary
2. Deliver governmental services in a timely manner.	TBD	CM, CC			✓	Review efficiency of various departments and evaluate effectiveness and need. Look for ways to combine duties/assignments to prevent overlap.
3. Continue applying for available federal, state and county funding to rehabilitate facilities and execute projects.	TBD	CM, CC, ALL DEPT. HEADS			✓	Use GIS data base to track and update grant funding information that is repeatedly requested in grant applications.
4. Enforce existing building codes.	TBD	CE, BI, Zoning BOA	✓			Review codes, policies and ordinances annually and update as necessary
5. Utilize GIS for developing programs, assembling data, and presenting information to the community.	TBD	ALL DEPTS		✓		Continue staff training in GIS and visit other municipalities and talk to PC's to realize the overall benefits and savings that can be realized by using GIS.
6. Pursue accreditation for the Public Works Department and Engineering	TBD	CM, CC, EN, PC	✓			Accreditation assures the public that the DPW knows what they are doing and have the policies in place to follow procedures as needed. Accreditation has also proven effective in eliminating departmental overlap in caretaking of City fixtures and assigned duties among departments and personnel. Insurance rates have decreased significantly for municipalities that have become accredited due to policies being in-place and enforced. The City could use a modified accreditation approach in lieu of a national certification to keep costs at a minimum.

Implementation Priority Ratings: V= Very Important, I= Important, A= Implement Annually, TBD=To Be Determined, RC=Recreation Committee, CC=City Council, CM=City Mayor, DD=Development Director, FD=Fire Dept., PD=Police Dept., CE=Code Enforcement, EN=City Engineer, SB=School Board, SC=Senior Citizens, H=Historian, BI=Building Inspector, BC=Beautification Committee, TAC=Traffic Advisory Committee, PW=Public Works, PC=Professional Consultant



### **Environmental Setting and Existing Conditions**

*Describe and document the environmental setting and existing conditions at the proposed project site. Provide photographs, conceptual plans and drawings that show the site as it presently exists and how the site will change with the addition of the proposed project. Describe how your project will comply with the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). The existence of wetlands, significant upland or aquatic habitats, and plant or animal species that are classified as rare, threatened, or endangered should be noted. Explain how such natural resources will be protected and / or enhanced. Cite any relevant project studies.*



Unsightly Riffraff



Site of proposed pavilion



Dangerous edge

**Letters of Support**



Ronald J. Pilozzi, Mayor  
City of Tonawanda  
200 Niagara Street  
Tonawanda, New York 14150



RE: Nia-wanda Park Boardwalk and Pavilion Project

Dear Mayor Pilozzi,

It has come to my attention that the City of Tonawanda is submitting a project proposal to the Niagara River Greenway Commission for determination of the Project's consistency with the Greenway Plan. I am writing in support of the City of Tonawanda's proposed project to build a boardwalk and pavilion in Nia-wanda Park along the shores of the Niagara River. The project will provide an aesthetically pleasing atmosphere for visitors and outdoor enthusiasts

These improvements to Nia-wanda Park are consistent with the Niagara River Greenway Plan; which is to create *a world class corridor of places, parks, and landscapes that celebrates and interprets our unique natural, cultural, scenic and heritage resources and provides access to and connections between these important resources while giving rise to economic opportunities for the region.* From your description, I agree that the proposed project will enhance the beauty and majesty found in the Niagara River. It is important that the City of Tonawanda continues to provide its residents and the people of the Niagara Region with high quality parks and recreational destinations.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this important project. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

*Jim M. Sluiz*  
Secretary - Eldridge Bicycle Club  
17 Board St  
Tona., NY 14150

# V.F.W

FRONTIERSMAN POST 7545  
110 ELGIN STREET, P.O. BOX 263  
TONAWANDA, NEW YORK 14150



Ronald J. Pilozzi, Mayor  
City of Tonawanda  
200 Main Street  
Tonawanda, New York 14150



RE: Nia-wanda Park Boardwalk and Pavilion Project

Dear Mayor Paisleys,

We the members of Frontiersmen Post 7545 of the Veterans of Foreign are in full support of your effort to Build a Broadwalk and Pavilion in Nia-wanda Park as part of the Greenways Project.

This will enhance the Riverwalk experience, improving on the natural beauty of the Park and making it more accessible to the people of the community.

God luck with this project and you can count on our support.

Commander

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deni Darveaux". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Deni Darveaux

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES



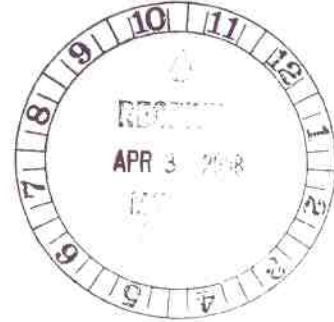
Girl Scout Council of  
Buffalo & Erie County, Inc.  
70 Jewett Parkway  
Buffalo, NY 14214  
T 716 837 6400 F 716 837 6407  
www.bflogirlscouts.org

April 1, 2008

Ronald J. Pilozzi, Mayor  
City of Tonawanda  
200 Niagara Street  
Tonawanda, NY 14150

RE: Nia-wanda Park Boardwalk and Pavilion Project

Dear Mayor Pilozzi,



It has come to my attention that the City of Tonawanda is submitting a project proposal to the Niagara River Greenway Commission for determination of the Project's consistency with the Greenway Plan. I am writing in support of the City of Tonawanda's proposed project to build a boardwalk and pavilion in the Nia-wanda Park along the shores of the Niagara River. The project will provide an aesthetically pleasing atmosphere for visitors and outdoor enthusiasts.

These improvements to Nia-wanda Park are consistent with the Niagara River Greenway Plan; which is to create *a world class corridor of places, parks, and landscapes that celebrates and interprets our unique natural, cultural, scenic and heritage resources and provides access to and connections between these important resources while giving rise to economic opportunities for the region.* From your description, I agree that the proposed project will enhance the beauty and majesty found in the Niagara River. It is important that the City of Tonawanda continues to provide its residents and the people of the Niagara Region with high quality parks and recreational destinations.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this important project. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Cindy L. Odom  
Chief Executive Officer



Where Girls Grow Strong.



Ronald J. Pilozzi, Mayor  
City of Tonawanda  
200 Niagara Street  
Tonawanda, NY 14150



RE: Nia-wanda Park Boardwalk and Pavilion Project

Dear Mayor Pilozzi,

I am writing in regard to the City of Tonawanda's submission of a project proposal to the Niagara River Greenway Commission. I understand this proposal is to determine the project's consistency with the Greenway plan. I fully support the City's project to build a boardwalk and pavilion in Nia-wanda Park along the shores of the Niagara River. Along with many other business owners, I feel this will provide a pleasing environment for the many visitors and outdoor enthusiasts who enjoy frequenting this area.

Indeed, these improvements are consistent with the Niagara River Greenway Plan; *to create a world class corridor of places, parks, and landscapes that celebrates and interprets our unique natural, cultural, scenic and heritage resources and provides access to and connections between these important resources while giving rise to economic opportunities for the region.* From the description of this project, I wholeheartedly agree that this proposed project will enhance the beauty and majesty of the Niagara River. It is important that the City of Tonawanda continues to provide its residents and the people of the Niagara Region with high quality parks and recreation destinations.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this important project. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kory Schuler".

Kory Schuler  
President, Swiftwater Business and Merchants Association  
City of Tonawanda





CHAMBER of  
COMMERCE of the TONAWANDAS

Your Bridge to Success.

March 27, 2008

Ronald J. Pilozzi, Mayor  
City of Tonawanda  
200 Niagara Street  
Tonawanda, NY 14150



Re: Tonawanda Park Boardwalk and Pavilion Project

Dear Mayor Pilozzi,

It has come to my attention that the City of Tonawanda is submitting a project proposal to the Niagara River Greenway Commission for determination of the Project's consistency with the Greenway Plan. I am writing in support of the City of Tonawanda's proposed project to build a boardwalk and pavilion in Nia-wanda Park along the shores of the Niagara River. The project will provide an aesthetically pleasing atmosphere for visitors and outdoor enthusiasts.

The improvements to Nia-wanda Park are consistent with the Niagara River Greenway Plan; which is to create a world class corridor of places, parks, and landscapes that celebrates and interprets our unique natural, cultural, scenic and heritage resources and provides access to and connections between these important resources while giving rise to economic opportunities for the region. I agree with your decision, that the proposed project will enhance the beauty and splendor found in the Niagara River. It is important that the City of Tonawanda continues to provide its residents and visitors to the Niagara Region with high quality parks and recreational destinations.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this important project. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, or are in need of any other information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 716-692-5120.

Sincerely,

Joyce M. Santiago  
Executive Director



# County of Erie

**CHRIS COLLINS**  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

PHONE: 716-858-8500  
FAX: 716-858-8411

March 18, 2008

Ronald J. Pilozzi, Mayor  
City of Tonawanda  
200 Niagara Street  
Tonawanda, New York 14150



Re: Nia-wanda Park Boardwalk and Pavilion Project

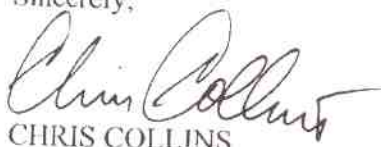
Dear Mayor Pilozzi,

It has come to my attention that the City of Tonawanda is submitting a project proposal to the Niagara River Greenway Commission for determination of the Project's consistency with the Greenway Plan. I am writing in support of the City of Tonawanda's proposed project to build a boardwalk and pavilion in Nia-wanda Park along the shores of the Niagara River. The project will provide an aesthetically pleasing atmosphere for visitors and outdoor enthusiasts.

These improvements to Nia-wanda Park are consistent with the Niagara River Greenway Plan; which is to create a world class corridor of places, parks, and landscapes that celebrates and interprets our unique natural, cultural, scenic and heritage resources and provides access to and connections between these important resources, while giving rise to economic opportunities for the region. From your description, I agree that the proposed project will enhance the beauty and majesty found in the Niagara River. It is important that the City of Tonawanda continues to provide its residents and the people of the Niagara Region with high quality parks and recreational destinations.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this important project. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me

Sincerely,

  
CHRIS COLLINS  
Erie County Executive



United Way  
of the Tonawandas

March 7, 2008

Ronald J. Pilozzi, Mayor  
City of Tonawanda  
200 Niagara street  
Tonawanda, New York 14150



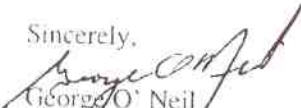
Dear Mayor Pilozzi,

It has come to my attention that the City of Tonawanda is submitting a project proposal To the Niagara River Greenway Commission for determination of the Project's consistency with the Greenway Plan. I am writing in support of the City of Tonawanda's proposed project to build a boardwalk and pavilion in Nia-wanda Park along the shores of the Niagara River. The project will provide an aesthetically pleasing atmosphere for visitors and outdoor enthusiasts.

These improvements to Nia-wanda Park are consistent with the Niagara River Greenway Plan; which is to create a world class corridor of places, parks, and landscapes that celebrates and interprets our unique natural, cultural, scenic and heritage resources and provides access;to and connections between these important resources while giving rise to economic opportunities for the region. From your description, I agree that the proposed project will enhance the beauty and majesty found in the Niagara River. It is important that the City of Tonawanda continues to provide its residents and the people of the Niagara Region with high quality parks and recreational destinations.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this important project.  
Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

  
George O'Neil  
Executive Director





TONAWANDA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

202 BROAD STREET TONAWANDA, NEW YORK 14150-2098

DR. BARBARA PETERS  
Superintendent  
(716) 694-7784  
Fax (716) 695-8738  
bpeters@tona.wnyric.org

March 12, 2008

Ronald J. Pilozzi, Mayor  
City of Tonawanda  
200 Niagara Street  
Tonawanda, NY 14150



RE: Nia-wanda Park Boardwalk and Pavilion Project

Dear Mayor Pilozzi:

It has come to my attention that the City of Tonawanda is submitting a project proposal to the Niagara River Greenway Commission for determination of the Project's consistency with the Greenway Plan. I am writing in support of the City of Tonawanda's proposed project to build a boardwalk and pavilion in Nia-wanda Park along the shores of the Niagara River. The project will provide an aesthetically pleasing atmosphere for visitors and outdoor enthusiasts.

These improvements to Nia-wanda Park are consistent with the Niagara River Greenway Plan; which is to create *a world class corridor of places, parks, and landscapes that celebrates and interprets our unique natural, cultural, scenic and heritage resources and provides access to and connections between these important resources while giving rise to economic opportunities for the region.* From your description, I agree that the proposed project will enhance the beauty and majesty founding the Niagara River. It is important that the City of Tonawanda continues to provide its residents and the people of the Niagara Region with high quality parks and recreational destinations.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this important project. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Dr. Barbara A. Peters  
Superintendent





March 10, 2008



Ronald J. Pilozzi, Mayor  
City of Tonawanda  
200 Niagara Street  
Tonawanda, New York 14150

RE: Nia-wanda Park Boardwalk and Pavilion Project

Dear Mayor Pilozzi,

It has come to my attention that the City of Tonawanda is submitting a project proposal to the Niagara River Greenway Commission for determination of the Project's consistency with the Greenway Plan. I am writing in support of the City of Tonawanda's proposed project to build a boardwalk and pavilion in Nia-wanda Park along the shores of the Niagara River. The project will provide an aesthetically pleasing atmosphere for visitors and outdoor enthusiasts.

These improvements to Nia-wanda Park are consistent with the Niagara River Greenway Plan; which is to create a *world class corridor of places, parks and landscapes that celebrates and interprets our unique natural, cultural, scenic and heritage resources and provides access to and connections between these important resources while giving rise to economic opportunities for the region.* From your description, I agree that the proposed project will enhance the beauty and majesty found in the Niagara River. It is important that the City of Tonawanda continues to provide its residents and the people of the Niagara Region with high quality parks and recreational destinations.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this important project. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. B. Owen".

Tamara B. Owen  
President, DeGraff Memorial Hospital

DeGraff Memorial Hospital  
445 Tremont Street  
P.O. Box 750  
Tonawanda, NY 14120-0750  
Tel: 716.604.4500



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
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Web Site  
www.bgcnt.net

**Administrative Office**  
54 Riverdale Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14207  
(716) 873-9842

**All Saints Club**  
127 Chaddock Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14207  
(716) 874-0050

**Black Rock/Assumption Club**  
435 Amherst Street  
Buffalo, NY 14207  
(716) 876-7582

**Charter School for Applied Technologies Club**  
2303 Kenmore Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14207  
(716) 873-9842 ext. 214

**Franklin Club - Tonawanda**  
325 Franklin Street  
Tonawanda, NY 14150  
(716) 693-2307

**Gilmore Club - N. Tonawanda**  
789 Gilmore Street  
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120  
(716) 807-3758

**Newfane School Club**  
6023 Dutton Place  
Newfane, NY 14108  
(716) 778-9787

**Shaffer Village Club**  
98 Isabelle  
Buffalo, NY 14207  
(716) 876-3768

**Town Club**  
54 Riverdale Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14207  
(716) 873-3244



March 10, 2008

Mayor Ronald Pilozzi  
City of Tonawanda  
200 Niagara Street  
Tonawanda, New York 14150

Re: Nia-wanda Park Boardwalk and Pavilion Project

Dear Mayor Pilozzi,

I am writing in support of the City of Tonawanda's proposal to build a boardwalk and pavilion in Nia-wanda Park along the Niagara River. I know the project will provide a pleasing atmosphere for visitors and residents of the Niagara Region.

These improvements to Nia-wanda are consistent with the Niagara River Greenway Plan. From your description, I agree that the proposed project will enhance the beauty and majesty found in the Niagara River. It is important that the City of Tonawanda continue to provide its residents and visitors to the Niagara region with high quality parks and recreational destinations.

Thank you for your attention in this important project. Please call me if you wish to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,

Robert O'Brocta



A United Way Agency

NEW YORK  
STATE  
SENATE

ALBANY NEW YORK 12247



MARY LOU RATH  
STATE SENATOR

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
STATE RELATIONS

LEGISLATION  
POLITICS  
GOVERNANCE

COMMITTEES

AGRICULTURE  
ARTS AND CULTURE  
CHILDREN  
CORRECTIONS  
EDUCATION  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
FINANCE

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March 7, 2008

Hon. Ronald J. Pillozzi  
Mayor  
City of Tonawanda  
200 Niagara Street  
Tonawanda, New York 14150



Dear Mayor Pillozzi:

Thank you for advising me of the City of Tonawanda's proposal for enhancements to Niawanda Park, which is being submitted to the Niagara River Greenway Commission for determination of the project's consistency with the Greenway Plan. I appreciate your initiative in sharing the City's proposal with me, and I am pleased to add my support to it.

Niawanda Park is a beautiful park along the shores of the Niagara River, and includes a portion of the path which forms the Niagara Riverwalk. I understand that the City proposes building a boardwalk adjacent to the Park and a year-round pavilion. This project will provide a more aesthetically pleasing and accessible atmosphere for visitors, and for the special events held in and around the Park. From your description, I agree that the proposed project will enhance this picturesque area along the Niagara River. I applaud your leadership in advocating for the City of Tonawanda to protect and enhance the natural beauty and majesty of the Niagara River shoreline. The proposed enhancements to Niawanda Park seem to me to be completely consistent with the Niagara Greenway Plan's goal to create "a world class corridor of places, parks and landscapes that celebrates and interprets our unique natural, cultural, scenic and heritage resources and provides access to and connections between these important resources while giving rise to economic opportunities for the region." Furthermore, I understand that the proposal responds to needs identified by users of the Park.

Again, thank you for advising me of the proposal of the City of Tonawanda to enhance Niawanda Park with a boardwalk and pavilion. I fully support this plan. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to hearing about progress of the proposal.

Very truly yours,

MARY LOU RATH  
State Senator

MLR/bd



