



Niagara River Greenway Commission

Beaver Island State Park
2136 West Oakfield Road
Grand Island, New York 14072

Rob Belue
Executive Director
(716) 773-5361
Fax: (716) 773-5392
rob.belue@oprhp.state.ny.us

For Immediate Release:
Thursday, March 08, 2007

Press Contact: Allen James
716.278.1764
Executive Director: Rob Belue
716.773.5361

Niagara Power Coalition to Support Niagara River Greenway Plan

Grand Island, New York ...March 8, 2007 The Niagara River Greenway Commission and the Niagara Power Coalition is pleased to announce that the remaining questions and concerns of the NPC relative to the Niagara River Greenway Plan have been discussed and resolved. The NPC will now urge its members to support the plan.

“This is an historic moment for Western New York. With the NPC on board and the expected approvals that will be forthcoming over the next dozen days, we are demonstrating that Western New York can work together for the good of our region.” commented Robert Kresse, Chairman of the Niagara River Greenway Commission.

“A win-win situation for the Niagara Region! The compromises reached between the Niagara River Greenway Commission and the Niagara Power Coalition provide the opportunity to maintain the original mission and vision of the Greenway while not precluding any member of the Niagara Power Coalition from successfully proposing and implementing a Greenway-related project. Thanks should be given to all of the members of the Niagara River Greenway Commission and Niagara Power Coalition for their hard work and tireless dedication to developing a Niagara River Greenway Plan that all of the citizens of our region can be proud of,” stated Acting Niagara Power Coalition Chairman Bill Ross.

Fred Newlin, the Supervisor of the Town of Lewiston, who was one of the driving forces involved in the latter stages of arriving at a compromise between the Niagara Power Coalition and the Niagara River Greenway Commission, reflected positively on the process and its outcome. "Today marks the first step towards a brighter future for all of the communities along the Niagara River," Newlin said.

"Lewiston in particular will benefit greatly from this agreement, and we can look forward to a stronger and even more attractive town for all of our residents. We can now look forward to enhancing our already attractive waterfront, as well as investing in other parts of Lewiston which will add to our quality of life. It was a long road to reach this point, but we demonstrated that by working together and recognizing each community's unique needs, we have put into place one of the key building blocks our entire region can use to maximize its potential and make the most of its abundant natural resources."

“The vision we share today shows the true spirit and what it means to be part of Western New York. The Town of Tonawanda was the first community to approve the plan and we look forward to a long and excellent relationship with all of those that are part of the process.” Stated Supervisor Ron Moline, Town of Tonawanda and Chairman of the Local Government Advisory Committee.

The Niagara River Greenway Commission is a public benefit corporation established by Chapter 460 of the Laws of 2004, and charged with the planning and development of a greenway of interconnected parks, river access points and trails along the Niagara River from Lake Erie to Lake Ontario. The public can view the plan at <http://www.niagaragreenway.org>.

The next meeting of the Niagara River Greenway will be at the Beaver Island State Park Clubhouse, Beaver Island State Park. The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday March 20, 2007 at 7 PM. It is anticipated that this will be the Commission's final meeting prior to the plan being transmitted to Carol Ash, the acting NYS Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation for review.

###