



ORGANIZING for
HEALTH and JUSTICE



STATUS UPDATE REPORT

Details on the Progress of the Plan

Tasks	Steps	Breakdown	Lead by	Comments
Moving the plan to action	Forming an implementation team with CACWNY, Delta Institute, members from the business community, non-profit groups, organized labor, the school district, and workforce development groups.	1 - Formation of Tonawanda Tomorrow Implementation Team	Town of Tonawanda	Completed / In Progress Met regularly through 2018, 2019 but stalled due to staffing issues. Other projects have been prioritized (zoning law, zombie home program, current zoning)
		2 - Focus implementation efforts	Tonawanda Tomorrow Implementation Team	
		3 - Provide accountability to community residents and partners		
		4 - Pursue funding		
		5 - Build partnerships		
		6 - ID new opportunities and projects to advance this plan		
Present this plan and Tonawanda's economic priorities to regional economic and development partners	Present on Tonawanda Tomorrow to the WNY Regional Economic Development Council to reinforce the importance of Tonawanda as a regional employment center.	7 - Reach out to Empire State Development and the WNY REDC to schedule a meeting/presentation	Town of Tonawanda	Completed
Identify opportunities that can bolster outreach and support for businesses in Tonawanda	Pursue additional funding for the Town of Tonawanda's Department of Planning and Development to implement this plan	8 - Explore funding options	WNY AFL-CIO, USW, Tonawanda Tomorrow	Completed / In Progress
	Create opportunities for innovative business ownership structures that encourage job growth, including co-operative, collective, not-for-profit and employee-owned businesses	9 - Create a working group, in partnership with the business community, to study models to pilot in Tonawanda		In Progress: From USW: Working with USW International leadership to identify possible business investment in the area. Also went to Cincinnati to meet with Co-Op leaders on possible investment. From WNY ALF: The WNY ALF participated in all meetings with the Tonawanda Tomorrow Implementation Team and pushed the discussion on vocational education training with the Kenmore Tonawanda School District on the need to update their curriculum with advanced manufacturing.

Tasks	Steps	Breakdown	Lead by	Comments
Build off the momentum of Tonawanda Tomorrow to create a sustained, collaborative effort to continue advocating for the remediation and redevelopment of the Huntley facility.	Assess contamination levels at the Huntley site to establish adequate mechanisms for protecting public health and to develop a cleanup strategy that enables full and unconstrained site redevelopment for the most diverse types of use.	10 - Engage NRG and NYSDEC in conversations with the Tonawanda Tomorrow Implementation Team	Tonawanda Tomorrow Implementation Team	
	Develop a strategy to ensure long-term viability of water supply services to Tonawanda industries at the Huntley raw water intake, including obtaining municipal control of existing infrastructure or creating new infrastructure nearby.	11 - Engage conversations with NRG to consider options	Town of Tonawanda	In Progress
Fast track implementation of the Brownfield Opportunity Area program along the industrial riverfront corridor	Secure Brownfield Opportunity Area Step 3 funds to advance redevelopment of strategic sites along the waterfront.	12 - Apply for funding through NYS Department of State in 2018		In Progress 2020 Step 3 Budget
	Repurpose the landfill site on River Road, locally known as "Cherry Farm" to provide public access to the water.	13 - Finalize the ownership agreement in partnership with National Grid and Honeywell		In Progress Legal framework needed
	Create access and infrastructure support to the Niagara River World site to open opportunities along Tonawanda's waterfront.	14 - Seek funding for needed infrastructure investments.		In Progress ESD funding for road and utilities \$1.5M
	Implement street reconfigurations on River Road, along with the intersection of Riverview Parkway, to improve safety, open up access to strategic development sites and provide an opportunity to build and expand public access to Isle View Park and the Riverwalk	15 - Work collaboratively with stakeholders and state agencies to secure resources to implement this project.		Completed Being paved and reprogrammed Spring 2020

Tasks	Steps	Breakdown	Lead by	Comments
<p>Promote projects and programs that enhance the Town's sustainability, energy efficiency, and place-based values</p>	<p>Perform a comprehensive rewrite of the Town's zoning code that reinforces walkability, transit-oriented development, mixed use neighborhoods, energy efficiency and strengthened economic centers.</p>	<p>16 - Secure funding through the NYS Consolidated Funding Application to secure this work.</p>	<p>Town of Tonawanda</p>	<p>Completed / In Progress Received \$150K to rewrite code (NYSERDA). Agreements have been executed and preliminary meetings held.</p>
	<p>Pursue actions related to the NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities program and NYSDEC Climate Smart Communities to help contribute to statewide energy goals and be eligible for targeted grant dollars from NYS.</p>	<p>17 - Complete four "High Impact Actions" to qualify for a NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities designation</p>		<p>Completed We are designated since November 2018</p>
		<p>18 - Secure a \$250,000 grant for NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities Designation</p>		<p>Completed We received \$150K</p>
		<p>19 - Qualify for NYSDEC Climate Smart Communities to help contribute to statewide energy goals and be eligible for targeted grant dollars from NYS</p>		<p>To-Be Started Under construction</p>
	<p>Ensure the NYSDEC continues to operate air monitors in the Town and City of Tonawanda to protect the health of people who live near, or wish access to, the waterfront.</p>	<p>20 - Seek commitment from NYSDEC to continue this work on a bi-annual basis.</p>	<p>Clean Air Coalition of WNY</p>	<p>Clean Air members had 4 meetings with DEC/Erie County/ and the Town in 2017/2018 . Various media coverage. We are waiting to hear back from the NYSDEC on whether or not the first portion of this application has been approved. After the application has been approved, NRG will submit plans to the NYSDEC to conduct a remedial investigation. (extended information on last page)</p>
<p>Explore implementing a community shared solar model on a River Road property to offset maintenance costs, reduce energy costs, and increase public access to the water.</p>	<p>21 - Work collaboratively to identify a site and model, and secure resources to implement.</p>	<p>Town of Tonawanda</p>	<p>Completed 2 sites have been recommended for community solar</p>	

Tasks	Steps	Breakdown	Lead by	Comments
Advance transportation projects that make it easier for Tonawandans to get to work, support the Town's land use goals, and make Tonawanda a regional leader in diverse modes of transportation.	Replace existing streetlights with LED technology to improve nighttime visibility and safety, decrease carbon emissions, and reduce maintenance and operational costs to the Town.	22 - Study the cost, potential funding sources, and return on investment of installing this technology.	Town of Tonawanda	Completed / In Progress Agreements in place, some issues being worked out
	Launch a "Solarize" campaign to increase interest in solar and advance community solar opportunities across the Town of Tonawanda.	23 - The Town launches a Solarize campaign as part of its Clean Energy Community pursuits.	The Town of Tonawanda, Clean Air Coalition of WNY	Completed 55 residential installs 2018
	Parker Avenue between Sheridan and Englewood becomes Tonawanda's first "complete street" project with bike lanes, ADA sidewalk ramps, and other pedestrian and bicycle amenities	24 - The Town works in collaboration with stakeholders and state agencies to secure resources to implement this project.	Town of Tonawanda	In Progress Received \$1.2M grant for installation. In final design.
	Advocate for efficient east-west bus route connections to be integrated into the bus operations plan of the proposed light rail extension along the western edge of the Town.	25 - Conduct outreach to Town residents to participate in the public comment process for expanding light rail.	NFTA, Clean Air Coalition of WNY, Town of Tonawanda	In Progress The EIS process for the LRT expansion started in early 2018 and is ongoing. Multiple public workshops have been held regarding the project. Many neighborhood level meetings have been held with the LRT extension corridor including one with the Tonawanda Neighborhood Watch Group.
	Establish a regular relationship with the NFTA to engage with transit planners to ensure alignment of public transit planning and new development in Tonawanda.	26 - Start conversations with NFTA on cultivating this relationship.	Town of Tonawanda	Completed Meet regularly with NFTA planners on TAC
Engage with local workforce partners to focus on the workforce strategies and bring resources to Tonawanda	Advance the vocational education curriculum in 9-12 public education to create career pathways for skilled trades, manufacturing, healthcare, and other "high road" job opportunities	27 - Analyze existing curriculum and work with the Kenmore-Tonawanda Union Free School District to make changes	Kenmore Teacher's Association	In Progress Our career and technical education programs and academics continue to prove popular and result in strong placement for students. The district places these programs on a curriculum review cycle.
	Extend the Workforce Investment Board (WIB)'s Job Club program to the Northtowns	28 - Meet with WIB to explore funding and operational strategies to make this happen	Tonawanda Tomorrow Implementation Team	

Tasks	Steps	Breakdown	Lead by	Comments
Engage with local workforce partners to focus on the workforce strategies and bring resources to Tonawanda (continued)	Create and fund a scholarship program for Ken-Ton students to access skilled trade and advanced manufacturing training and apprenticeship programs.	29 - Identify a cost-effective mechanism for stewarding and administering the fund.	Committee of Ken-Ton Teachers, AXA	In Progress This initiative could not be successfully implemented due to challenges in forming a 502(c)3 designation for the scholarship.
	Explore bringing the Industrial Manufacturing Technician Apprentice program to Tonawanda	30 - Create a working group to explore how to bring this program to Tonawanda and the greater region	United Steelworkers and The WNY AFL-CIO	To-Be Started From USW: Not sure if the IMT program still exists.
	Assess the diverse transportation needs of Tonawanda residents and workers to access employment and career advancement opportunities	31 - Seek funding and support to perform assessment	Tonawanda Tomorrow Implementation Team	

Extended Comment # 20

Clean Air members had 4 meetings with DEC/Erie County/ and the Town in 2017/2018 encouraging them to pressure NRG to begin the assessment of contamination of the site and to create a remediation plan. In addition, members gained 5 media hits on this issue in the spring of 2018, including 2 editorials in the Buffalo News. NRG submitted the 1st stage of their remediation application for the South parcel, which totals 34.80 acres in the fall of 2018. This application was released for public comment in October. Clean Air submitted comment on this application (attached, and we can bring copies to share) November 2018. We are waiting to hear back from the NYSDEC on whether or not the first portion of this application has been approved. After the application has been approved, NRG will submit plans to the NYSDEC to conduct a remedial investigation which will determine the level of toxicity on the 34.80 acres portion of the site. The total size of the site is 84 acres, including 3,000 ft of waterfront.

Clean Air will continue to advocate for remediation for the full site, and organize to ensure that NRG's remediation plan aligns with vision stated in Tonawanda Tomorrow; to improve the health of people in Tonawanda, and gain access to the waterfront.

Clean Air will contact NYSDEC in November of 2019 for an update on the status of NRG's application and remedial investigation.

Extended Update # 25

A draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) will be issued by the end of 2019. A public hearing will be held in early 2020. Public input is ongoing. Issue DEIS by end of 2019. Hold review period and issue final EIS by spring 2020

Extended Update # 27

Business and career technical programs are supplemented by internship programs - some internship programs are available to students not enrolled in CTE Academies. BOCES continues to provide skilled trades education.