

Niagara River Greenway

DEC Comments re Consistency, 12th Round Projects

Buffalo Museum of Science - Tiff Nature Preserve Sustainability Center Upgrade and Expansion Planning

This project as described is considered consistent with Niagara Greenway Goals. The facility falls within the Niagara River Greenway focus area and is administered by the Buffalo Museum of Science. The desired upgrade and expansion will serve to improve on the facilities purpose and will add to its ecological integrity.

New York State Parks - Heritage Park Restoration

This project propose to repair and upgrade the existing park which serves as a connection between the City of Niagara Falls and the State Park. This project is considered to be consistent with the goals of the Niagara River Greenway.

New York State Parks - Niagara Falls State Park

This request is designed to help fund program events that will highlight the 125th Anniversary of Niagara Falls State Park. The programming which is listed in the funding request are consistent with the goals of the Niagara River Greenway.

Niagara Falls and the River Region Chapter of the Wild Ones Native Plants, Natural Landscaping - Regional Economic Growth Through Restoration of the Niagara Gorge Rim

The request for funds to develop an ecological restoration plan for the area along the Niagara gorge rim is consistent with the goals of the Niagara River Greenway.

All comments provided are based on the material presented in the individual project submissions. We reserve the right to change our opinions based on the discussion of additional information that may be provided by the applicant

Rob:

My comments for each of the 4 projects are attached -- with respect to the Niagara River Greenway Principles; Initial Greenway Goals; and, Niagara River Greenway Plan Criteria.

Buffalo Museum of Science-Tifft Nature Preserve Sustainability Center Upgrade and Expansion Planning – Consistent

Note: The City of Buffalo Draft Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) includes “expansion of the Tifft Nature Preserve” as a proposed project – to improve public access to and the use and economic viability of the waterfront. Additionally, the project is w/in the South Buffalo Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA). The BOA was among one of three areas designated a Brownfields Smart Growth Spotlight Community by Governor Paterson and Secretary of State Cortés-Vázquez. This project would serve to further those two efforts.

New York State Parks-Heritage Park Restoration – Consistent

New York State Parks-125th Anniversary of Niagara Falls State Park – Consistent

Niagara Falls and the River Region Chapter of the Wild Ones Native Plants, Natural Landscaping-Regional Economic Growth Through Ecological Restoration of the Niagara Gorge Rim Study – Consistent

Note: The Department of State supports this project, and stresses the importance of having a local sponsor, i.e., City of Niagara Falls, to assist in guiding such a planning effort.

I hope you're doing well!

Renee

Renee Parsons
Coastal Resource Specialist
NYS Department of State
Office of Coastal, Local Government and Community Sustainability