

Niagara Relicensing Environmental Coalition

721 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14213

*Adirondack
Mountain Club,
Niagara
Chapter*

DATE: 06/10/2022
TO: Niagara River Greenway Commissioners
FROM: Niagara Relicensing Environmental Coalition
RE: Comments on Proposed Greenway Projects

*Audubon New
York*

The Niagara Relicensing Environmental Coalition has reviewed the proposals before you today and submits the following comments.

*Buffalo Niagara
Waterkeeper*

Artpark Trails Connector, New York State Parks

Recommendation: Consistent with the Niagara River Greenway Plan

*League of
Women
Voters of Buffalo
Niagara*

Robert Moses Parkway Removal – Phase 2, New York State Parks

Recommendation: Consistent with the Niagara River Greenway Plan

*Niagara Musky
Association*

Outdoor Fitness Court, Town of Porter

Recommendation: Consistent with the Niagara River Greenway Plan

*Presbytery of
Western New
York*

- NREC recommends including meaningful environmental improvements as a component of this project, prior to submitting a proposal for funding.
- The planned nature trail at Porter on the Lake Park presents an opportunity to enhance and celebrate natural resources in the Greenway. NREC suggests allowing native plants to grow and/or planting them along the nature and exercise trail or shoreline where appropriate. The plants and their root systems can help to mitigate runoff, erosion, and flooding at the site. Additionally, they will host a variety of wildlife, including insects and other pollinators, birds, and mammals. For reference, here is an example of this is at BNW's Living Shoreline site at Hyde Park Lake (photos attached). Town of Porter plantings don't need to be as robust but the before and after pictures from that site demonstrate a nice, meandering trail through wildlife.
- Resources that may be helpful:
 - Native Plant Guide: <https://bnwaterkeeper.org/projects/nativeplantguide/>
 - Guide to Invasive Species: https://bnwaterkeeper.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Final-Invasive-Species-Booklet_website_small.pdf
 - Stewardship Guide for Waterfront Properties: <https://bnwaterkeeper.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/PDF-Version-for-Website.pdf>

*Sierra Club,
Niagara Group*

*Western New
York Land
Conservancy*