Canton Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP)

Waterfront Advisory Committee (WAC)
Meeting #4 Summary Notes

September 23, 2026
4:30PM – 6:00PM
Canton Municipal Building / Virtual (Zoom)

Attendance

LWRP Committee
Tom Langen, Committee Chair
Tim Bacon (zoom)
Tom Greene (zoom)
Kara McLuckie
Leigh Rodriguez

Department of State
Greta Alvarado

Barton & Loguidice
Dan Theobald, Project Community Planner

Absent
Meghan Richardson
John Danis
Wayne Cuthbert (zoom)
Keith Zimmerman

The fourth Waterfront Advisory Committee meeting for the Canton Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) was held on September 23, 2026. The primary focus of the meeting was a presentation by 4Ward Planning summarizing findings from the market. The project team also presented the latest community survey results and feedback received through the interactive map. These findings will help inform the next phase of the LWRP process, including the identification and development of potential projects and recommendations for Section IV: Proposed Land and Water Uses and Proposed Projects.

Meeting Agenda:

1. Project Status Update
2. 4ward Planning Market Analysis
3. Survey Review
4. Interactive Map Comments
5. Next Steps
6. Meeting Adjourned

This project was prepared with funding provided by the New York State Department of State under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund.

1. Project Status Update

Dan provided an update on the status of the LWRP, noting that B&L received a third round of comments from the New York State Department of State (DOS) on Section I. B&L has addressed the comments and will be submitting the revised section back to DOS for continued review.

Section II: Inventory and Analysis has also been drafted and will continue to be updated as additional information becomes available. In particular, summaries of the market and redevelopment analysis being completed by 4ward Planning and the facility assessments being completed by Aubertine & Currier (A&C) will be incorporated into Section II as appropriate.

Dan also updated the committee on A&C's role in evaluating the Recreational Pavilion, former water filtration plant at Bend in the River Park, and Taylor Park bathhouse. Once the assessments are complete, B&L intends to have A&C present their findings and recommendations at the next Waterfront Advisory Committee meeting.

2. 4ward Planning Market Analysis

4ward Planning presented findings from the market and redevelopment analysis, including demographic and economic trends, existing lodging and restaurant activity, and potential redevelopment opportunities. The analysis included comparisons between St. Lawrence County and Jefferson and Oswego Counties. The committee recommended adding Lewis and Franklin Counties as more comparable communities, while retaining Jefferson and Oswego County as a useful aspirational comparison.

4ward Planning also reviewed mapping of existing businesses and potential redevelopment sites, and the committee provided several corrections and additions. Discussion included whether industrial properties, such as the Kraft facility, should be incorporated into the analysis. It was noted that St. Lawrence County may already be pursuing plans for the property, and 4ward Planning will determine how it should be addressed in the analysis.

The committee also discussed 4ward Planning's upcoming stakeholder interviews with local and regional economic development contacts. Dan will follow up with Leigh and connect her with 4ward Planning to assist in identifying and coordinating with potential interview participants.

3. Survey Review & Interactive Map Comments

Dan provided a review of the community survey results and comments received through the interactive map. Several of the open-ended survey questions were summarized into common themes to highlight recurring issues, opportunities, and priorities. Dan noted that the complete responses are available in the survey summary and accompanying appendix for committee members who would like to review them in greater detail.

The committee had limited additional comments on the survey results and interactive map feedback. Dan noted that the community survey will remain open to continue gathering responses and suggested additional outreach to local college students now that they have returned for the academic year. Tom

Langen offered to help promote the survey to students in an effort to increase participation from younger respondents and capture their perspectives on the future of Canton's waterfront.

4. Next Steps

- 4ward Planning to update the market analysis based on committee feedback.
- B&L to connect 4ward Planning with Leigh to coordinate stakeholder interviews.
- B&L to continue updating Sections I and II, including incorporation of relevant findings from 4ward Planning and Aubertine & Currier.
- Community survey to remain open, with additional outreach targeted toward college students and younger participants.
- Schedule Committee Meeting #5 to review have A&C review facility assessments, continued public engagement results, and begin discussing potential LWRP projects and recommendations.

5. Meeting Adjourned

The meeting concluded at 6:00 p.m.