

## Policy Framework

A variety of recent planning documents, including state policy plans, county and regional plans, economic strategies, local comprehensive plans and waterfront programs, have been reviewed to find Greenway supportive themes. A list of common policy statements was then organized under five Greenway goal headings.

The following policy framework lays out the primary objectives of the program and cross-references their consistency with major source documents from the region, including the Hudson River Valley Greenway Act of 1991, Directions: The Plan for Dutchess County, the third Dutchess County Economic Forum, Local Waterfront Revitalization Programs, the NYS Open Space Plan, the Hudson River Estuary Plan, Patterns for Westchester, and the Regional Plan Association's Third Plan. All the policies are consistent with at least four of these surveyed plans.

### GREENWAY COMPACT PROGRAM POLICY FRAMEWORK

NYS Open Space Plan  
Waterfront Programs  
Economic Forum  
Directions  
Greenway Act  
Westchester Estuary Plan  
RPA Plan

#### I. REGIONAL COOPERATION

1. Establish mechanisms for **local and regional partnerships**, such as the Hudson River Valley Greenway Compact process.
2. Promote **regionally significant development projects and infrastructure improvements** which are consistent with Greenway policies.
3. Provide a more **balanced transportation system** with stronger emphasis on walkable communities, while supporting land use and site plan decisions that reduce traffic impacts.
4. Focus development more efficiently in and around **traditional centers** and avoid overdevelopment of the **rural surroundings**.
5. Create an **interconnected system of open space corridors** to offer recreational opportunities, protect environmentally sensitive areas, and provide natural greenbelts.

#### II. ENVIRONMENTAL & CULTURAL PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT

1. Use inventories of **important natural, scenic, cultural and recreational features** as part of the decision-making process.
2. Preserve our heritage of **historic structures and districts** through designation of landmarks, rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of historic buildings, and compatible new construction.
3. Identify and maintain **scenic roads** and places suitable for designation as scenic areas.
4. Encourage physical connections and joint programming between **local cultural activities**.
5. Protect **important habitats, critical natural areas, and aquifers** through land use regulations and preservation/restoration techniques.

	NYS Open Space Plan	Waterfront Programs	Economic Forum	Directions	Greenway Act	Westchester Estuary Plan	RPA Plan
1. Establish mechanisms for <b>local and regional partnerships</b> , such as the Hudson River Valley Greenway Compact process.	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
2. Promote <b>regionally significant development projects and infrastructure improvements</b> which are consistent with Greenway policies.	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
3. Provide a more <b>balanced transportation system</b> with stronger emphasis on walkable communities, while supporting land use and site plan decisions that reduce traffic impacts.	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
4. Focus development more efficiently in and around <b>traditional centers</b> and avoid overdevelopment of the <b>rural surroundings</b> .	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
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POLICY FRAMEWORK**

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**III. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

1. Enhance the **economic climate** of the county by providing central utility systems, a variety of housing options, and a wider diversity of businesses.
2. Promote **tourism and marketing projects** that build on the distinctive characteristics of the region.
3. Protect **farmland** and address issues affecting the viability of agriculture, including municipal regulations and marketing opportunities.
4. Stress **Main Street and urban revitalization strategies**, and especially waterfront redevelopment projects.
5. Streamline the **development review process** for projects consistent with Greenway guidelines and reduce the cost of government by providing more efficient public services.

**IV. PUBLIC ACCESS**

1. Develop an **integrated Hudson River Valley Greenway system** by linking trails, bikeways, sidewalks, and scenic roads with connections to open space corridors and recreational areas.
2. Improve **public access** along the Hudson River and other tributaries, and acquire waterway parks and access points.
3. Enhance use of **parks and recreation facilities** with high quality outdoor recreation opportunities.
4. Treat **public road rights-of-way** as our most prominent open spaces and areas where municipalities can most directly increase their attractiveness to residents and visitors.

**V. HERITAGE & ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION**

1. Promote **heritage and environmental education** and regional Greenway strategies in schools and other public forums.
2. Improve the **local decision making process** by providing resource materials, design guidelines, and training for local board members.
3. Increase **public participation** in the planning process.

	NYS Open Space Program	Waterfront Economic Directions	Greenway Act	Westchester Estuary Plan	RPA Plan
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2. Promote <b>tourism and marketing projects</b> that build on the distinctive characteristics of the region.					
3. Protect <b>farmland</b> and address issues affecting the viability of agriculture, including municipal regulations and marketing opportunities.					
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