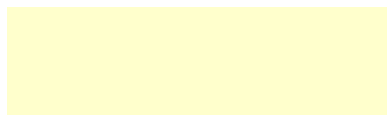


onondaga creek

CONCEPTUAL REVITALIZATION PLAN DRAFT PLAN OVERVIEW



OCR
P

Urban open space: challenges and opportunities for Onondaga Creek

Onondaga County Planning Federation
Annual Planning Symposium, August 2011



Sponsored by:
Onondaga Lake Partnership
Congressman James T Walsh



Funding from:
US Environmental Protection Agency

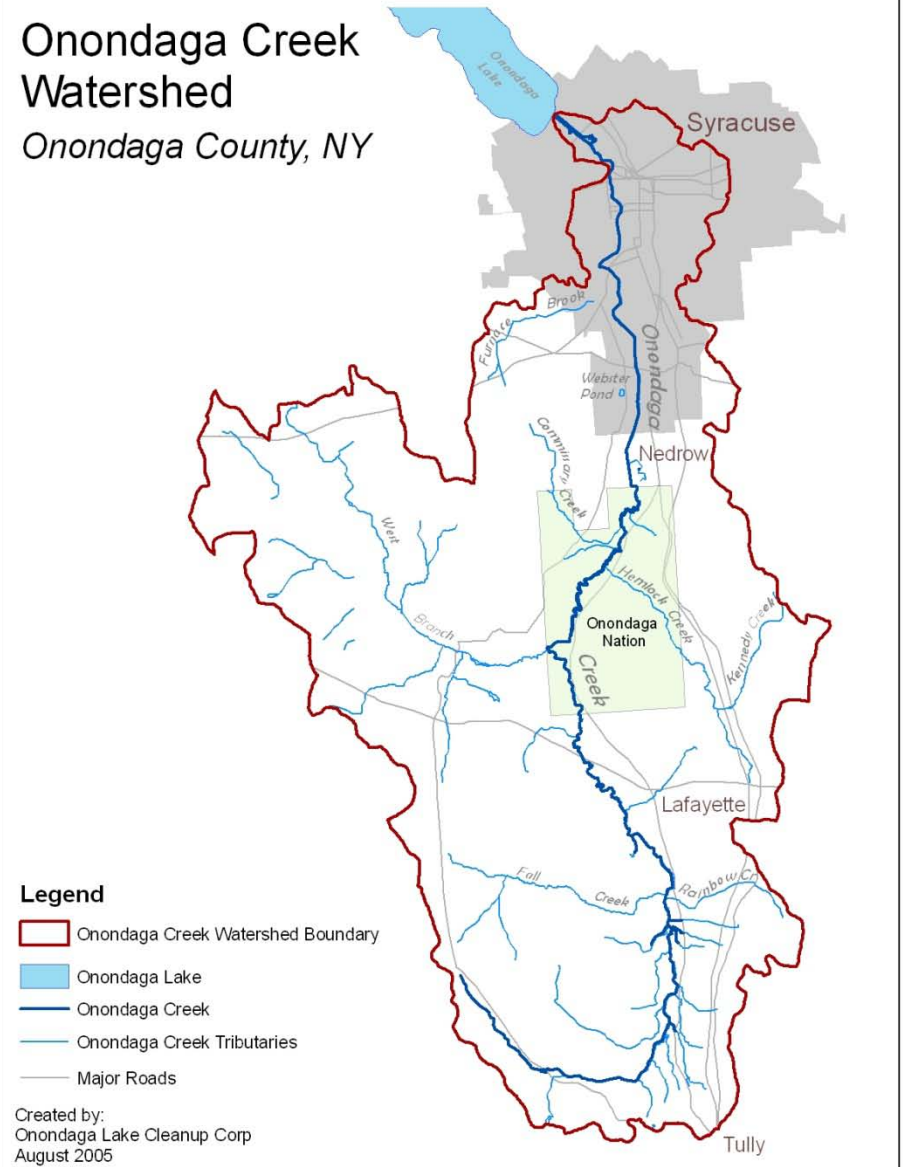


Presentation by:
Meredith Perreault
Onondaga Environmental Institute

Project Goals

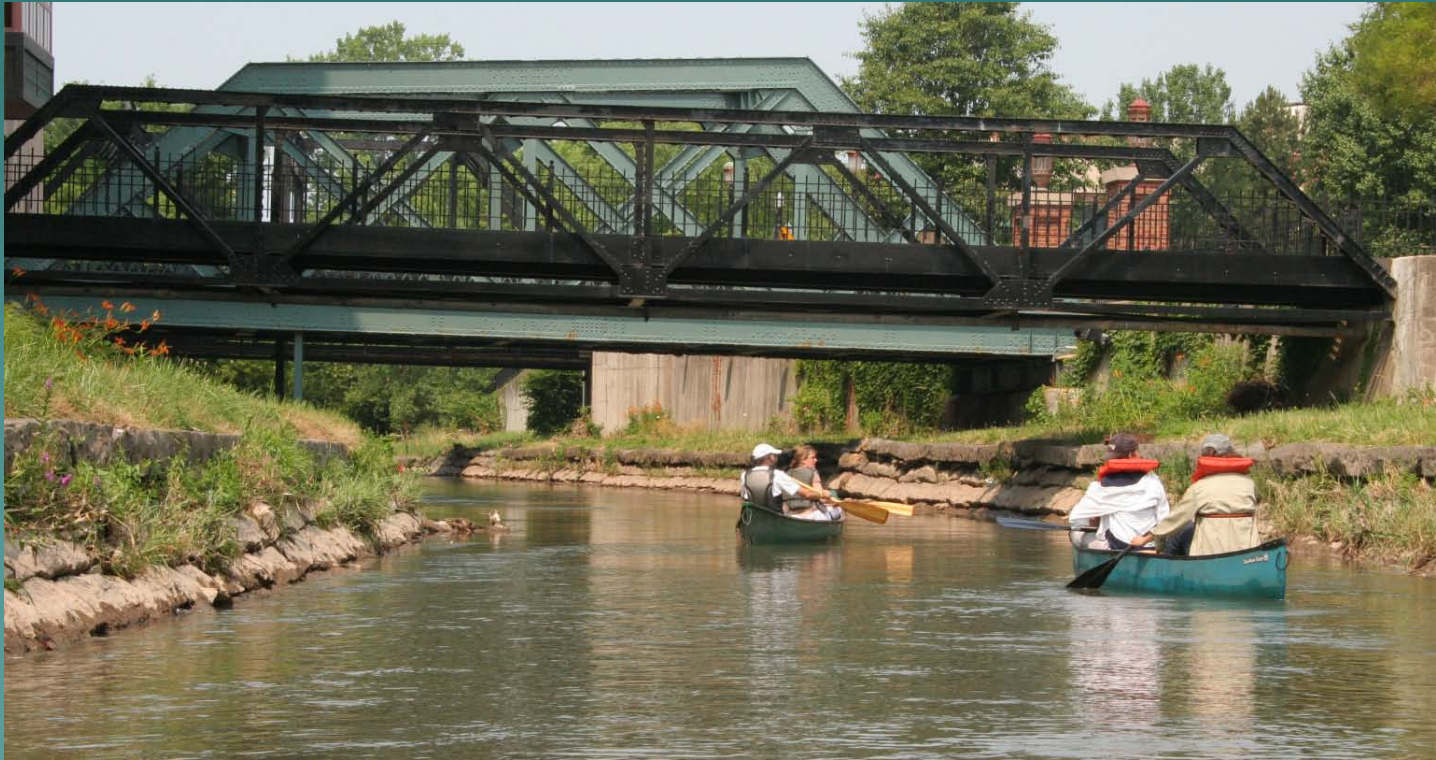
- ◆ Develop a community-based revitalization plan for Onondaga Creek watershed
- ◆ Plan provides a guide for future development, water quality, and habitat improvements
- ◆ Improvements enhance environmental, social and economic conditions along Onondaga Creek

Onondaga Creek Watershed Onondaga County, NY



Community Vision

Public meetings: Most frequent written goals consistently paired desires for



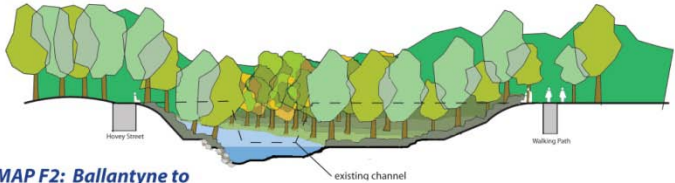
recreation opportunities with a clean creek.

Working Group Results

Revitalization Maps



Proposed Section a-a



MAP F2: Ballantyne to West Onondaga Street

Botanical Garden Area (Kirk Park to Newell Street)

- Park/Greenspace Showcase Area
- Renaturalization
- Channel Modification
- Stormwater Management Innovations

The recommendations in this area are similar to those for the Southside potential project area. Creek renaturalization through habitat enhancement and channel modification are proposed. Collaboration with the Onondaga Botanical Garden and Arboretum project in this area is a key opportunity to showcase renaturalization and reintegration of Onondaga Creek into this residential community.

Furnace Brook Daylighting Project (Underground portion of Furnace Brook, roughly Glenwood Avenue to Onondaga Creek Boulevard, near Elmhurst Ave.)

- Channel Modification/Reconnection
- Education/Interpretation

The urban team recommended daylighting (uncovering) the culverted portion of Furnace Brook. The team also recommended (on Map L) adding interpretive signage at the point where the brook passes underground.

Southside Area (West Onondaga St. to Kirk Park Northern Boundary)

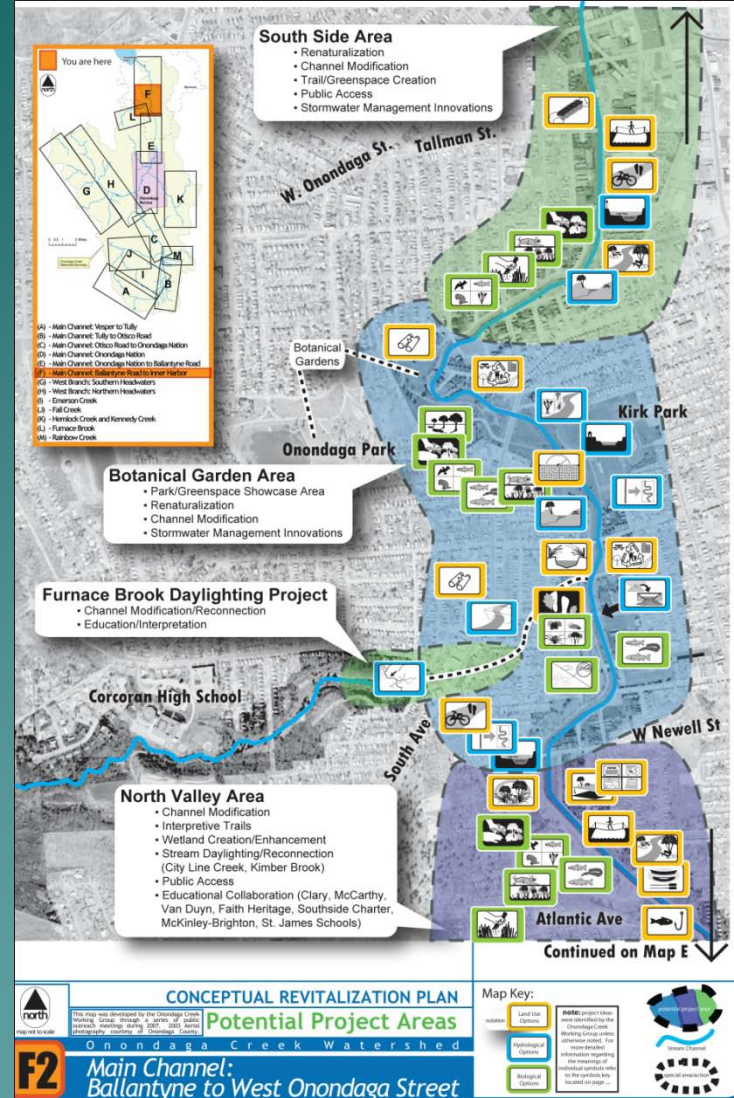
- Renaturalization
- Channel Modification
- Trail/Greenspace Creation
- Public Access
- Stormwater Management Innovations

This potential project area spans maps F1 and F2. The urban team envisioned the Southside Area as a key opportunity for urban renaturalization, through both aquatic and terrestrial habitat enhancement and channel modification, via compound channel creation. Creek renaturalization complements use by nearby residents, through trails and greenspace creation. The urban team recommended a pedestrian bridge near Tallman Street and consideration of replacing the chain-link fencing with natural fencing where needed or wanted. Removal of invasive species and additional floodplain trees are recommended near South Avenue. A multi-use park and creation of a flood and stormwater retention basin is recommended near West Castle Street. To most effectively renaturalize Onondaga Creek in this area, innovative stormwater management solutions will be needed, with involvement and cooperation of local residents.



Figure 5.7 Southside preferred project bundle aerial rendering depicting pedestrian bridges over the creek, creekwalk extension, renaturalization, detention area, and new plantings, a cross-section rendering is illustrated above.

Revitalization Map Sample



Challenge: Water Quality

- ◆ Stormwater and wastewater inputs during heavy rain, snow melt
- ◆ Impairs water quality



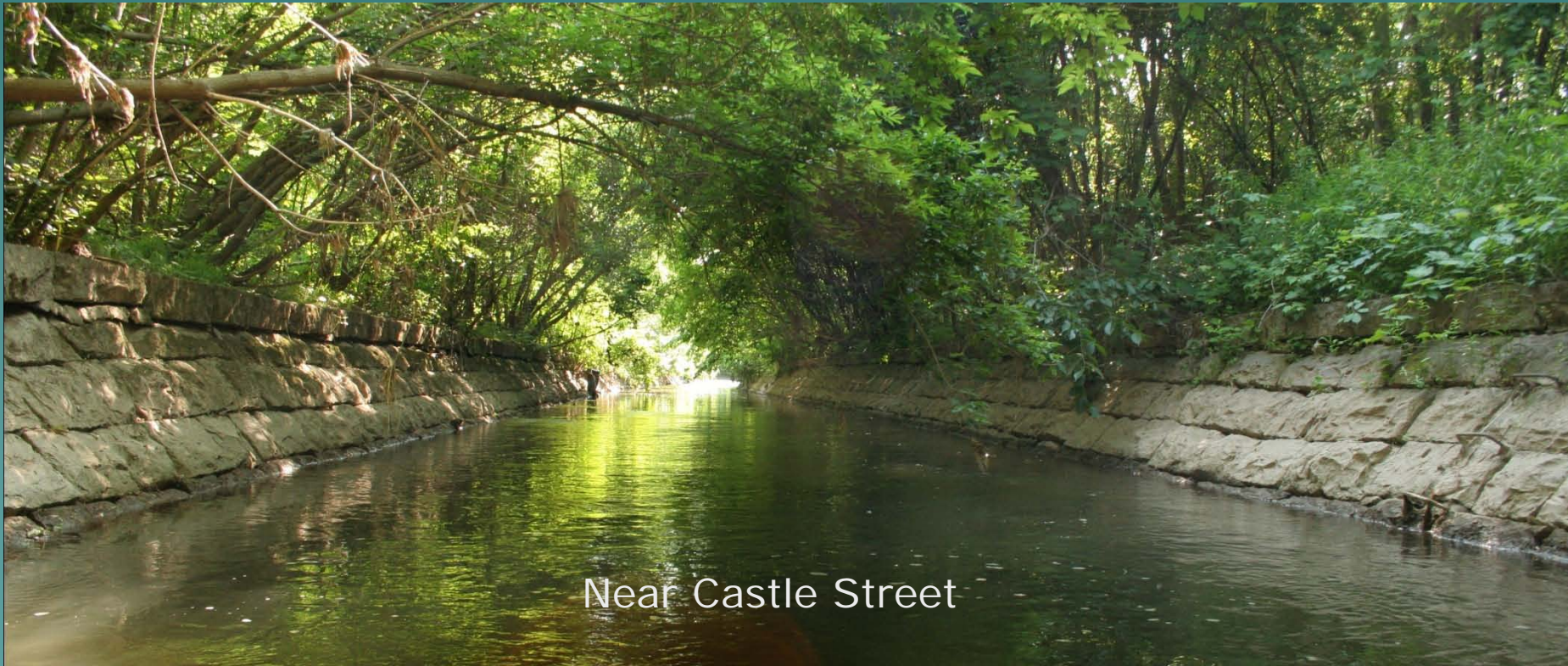
Challenge: Access

- ◆ Onondaga Creek is fenced
- ◆ Public access is restricted



Challenge: Channelization

- ◆ Straightened for sewage disposal and flood prevention
- ◆ Alters natural habitat



Near Castle Street

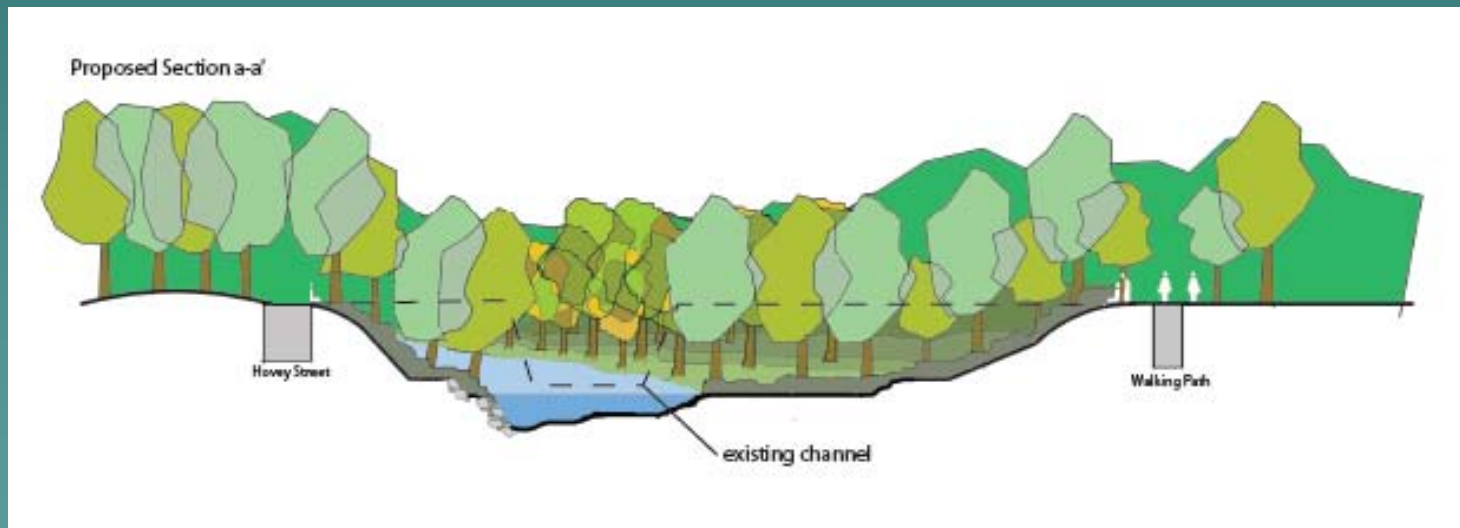
Challenge: Safety

- ◆ Between bacteria and channelization, *safely* accessing Onondaga Creek is a community concern



Opportunity: Channel Reconfiguration

- ◆ Reconfigured to sustain a low-flow channel and a floodplain area to convey water during high flows



Castle Street area rendering by
Sam Gordon for OEI, 2008

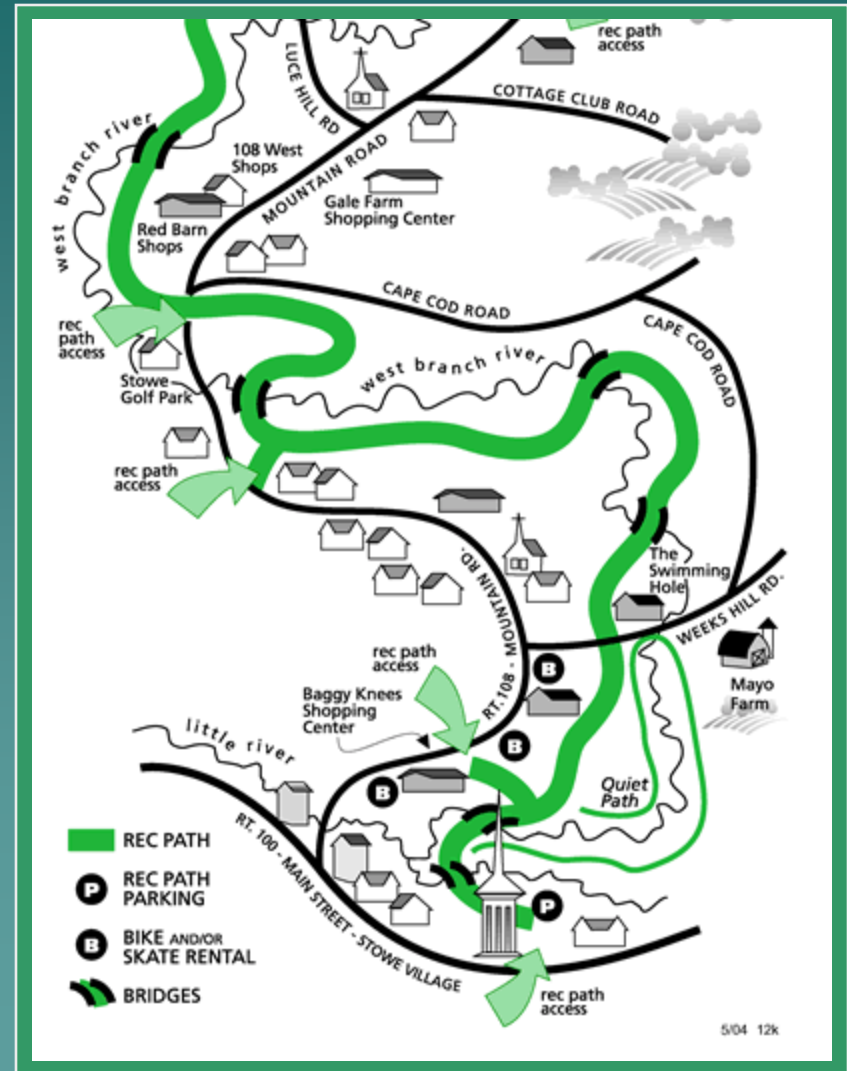
Opportunity: Renaturalization

- ◆ Renaturalize urban space, restore native plant and fish communities throughout area.



Opportunity: Connectivity

- ◆ Onondaga Creek can act as a "spinal cord" through the city -- connecting lateral bike and pedestrian paths that lead from the creek to neighborhoods



Thank you.

- ◆ Download the plan - <http://www.oei2.org/>
- ◆ Planners will be especially interested in Chapter 8: Implementation Strategies
- ◆ Rural and urban creek revitalization strategies, design and ecological standards