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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Public Meeting on New Waterfront Park in Newburgh**

### **Residents sought to come share ideas**

**NEWBURGH (Orange County)**—The City of Newburgh and Scenic Hudson are inviting area residents, business owners, community groups and other river enthusiasts to discuss ideas and possibilities for a new riverfront park. The public session also will enable residents to learn more about the interesting history of the property, which is on Front Street to the north of the restaurant Torches on the Hudson.

While railroad rights-of-way and shoreline setbacks mean that only about 3,000 square feet of the site can be used to create a park, the centrally located riverfront site can yield a wonderful “pocket park” with great views of Fishkill Ridge to the east and the Hudson Highlands to the south.

### **Public meeting—June 16**

The city and Scenic Hudson will host the public meeting on Wednesday, June 16, at 7 p.m. at the Newburgh Heritage Center, 123 Grand St., to engage the public in a discussion about the park’s design features. A Scenic Hudson park planner will lead the session, which will include a handout to focus public input as well as breakout groups.

### **City and Scenic Hudson partnering on creating new park**

The city-owned property was used as an illegal junkyard in the 1930s and was proposed for a public parking lot in the 1960s. Scenic Hudson has agreed to provide schematic design services to enable the city to create a new riverfront destination for residents and visitors. The city will own and manage the park.

Next steps for the project will be to incorporate ideas from the public meeting to develop a schematic design and cost estimate. It will be essential to secure funding from grants or private donors to further develop the project, which Scenic Hudson also has offered to assist with.

“Scenic Hudson’s mission focuses on preserving land along the Hudson and creating new places where people can connect with the river to enjoy all it has to offer. This is especially important in our Hudson River cities, where the greatest number of people are located. Parks not only contribute powerfully to the valley’s \$4.7-billion tourism industry that sustains 80,000 jobs, but they also promote a quality of life that attracts business to the region,” said Scenic Hudson Senior Vice President Steve Rosenberg.

“The City of Newburgh is excited to partner with Scenic Hudson to create this park. The park promises to be a great addition to the city’s riverfront. This is another proud example of our working with the community to create access to the majestic Hudson while improving our quality of life,” said Mayor Nicholas Valentine.  
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### **About Scenic Hudson**

Scenic Hudson works to protect and restore the Hudson River and its majestic landscape as an irreplaceable national treasure and a vital resource for residents and visitors. A crusader for the valley since 1963, we are credited with saving fabled Storm King Mountain from a destructive industrial project and launching the modern grass-roots environmental movement. Today with more than 25,000 ardent supporters, we are the largest environmental group focused on the Hudson River Valley. Our team of experts combines land acquisition, support for agriculture, citizen-based advocacy and sophisticated planning tools to create environmentally healthy communities, champion smart economic growth, open up riverfronts to the public and preserve the valley's inspiring beauty and natural resources. To date Scenic Hudson has created or enhanced more than 50 parks, preserves and historic sites up and down the Hudson River and conserved more than 28,000 acres. [www.scenichudson.org](http://www.scenichudson.org)