

# City of Newburgh

## PRESS RELEASE

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83 Broadway, Newburgh, N.Y. 12550  
(845) 569-7354 – (845) 569-7370

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 6, 2006

### Community Input Sought For Creating the Vision for the Liberty-Grand Street Heritage Corridor

Public Meetings Set for Feb. 16 & Feb. 18

Community input is being sought for an important component of the ongoing Sustainable Master Plan Project- the visioning of the Liberty-Grand Street Heritage Corridor. On Thursday, Feb. 16 at 6 p.m., the City will host a “Visual Preference Survey”® for residents, property and businesses owners, state and county representatives, and other representatives of cultural and social institutions within the corridor and throughout the city. The meeting will be held in the Board of Education Auditorium, Newburgh, Free Library, 124 Grand Street.

The Liberty-Grand Street Heritage Corridor cuts through the East Side Historic District and stretches along Liberty and Grand streets between North Street/Marine Drive on the north and Bay View Terrace on the south. It contains some of the oldest and most historic buildings in the city as well as the city’s poorest population, presenting major challenges for its revitalization.

The State of New York through its Quality Communities Interagency Task Force awarded the City, in partnership with Orange County, a \$29,000 grant to develop revitalization strategies for the corridor. Consultants Larson Fisher Associates in partnership with A. Nelessen Associates have been hired by the City to undertake the Vision Planning as well as implementation of key strategies. This event is one of the first steps in fulfilling the grant requirements.

Mayor Nicholas Valentine noted that this project is considered a component of the ongoing Sustainable Master Planning Project because, “together with our waterfront development efforts, the revitalization of the East End Historic District will be key to encouraging reinvestment and improvement throughout the city as a whole.”

City Manager Jean-Ann McGrane commented, “Making the most of our physical assets, while developing the cultural opportunities for all communities within the city is what this planning initiative is all about. When we talk about a ‘Cultural’ or ‘Heritage’ corridor, we are talking about multi-cultural resources that can be integrated and developed to create a rich urban environment.”

In connection with the Visual Preference Survey on Thursday evening, the consultants will develop strategies for revitalizing the corridor on Friday, February 17 and give a public presentation highlighting the community’s preferences on: **Saturday, February 18, 10 a.m.**, also at the Board of Education Auditorium, Newburgh Free Library.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:**

Lourdes Zapata-Perez

Director of Community Development  
845-569-9400 ext. 203  
lperez@cityofnewburgh-ny.gov

Jill Fisher, AICP, Principal  
Planner  
Larson Fisher Associates  
845-679-5054  
jillfisher47@hotmail.com  
www.larsonfisher.com  
www.nelessen.org

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