

**October 9, 2007**  
**River Council Notes**

**Present:** Jim Arey, Bob Bailey, Cheryl Box, Linda Couchon, Sam Draper, Jennifer Fais, Doc Gee, Dave Grier, Don Hall, Jim Hare, Mike Hastrich, Keith Matthews, Skip Mills, Debbie Peterson, Scott Rodabaugh, Duke Emmanuel

**1) Additional River Feedback** from October 1st Open House, emails, blogs, etc. attached with minutes.

**2) Open House in Big Flats**

Thursday, October 18, 7-9 Big Flats Community Center

Come! Invite folks. Rick Manning will be presenting. Focus on Big Flats trails.

**3) 2008 River Council Project funding**

Reviewed proposal to Tom Santulli for the Chemung River Council.

We are estimating the costs to be around \$50,000 in total. This does not include any pending or potential grant funds.

Unanimously voted to approve Resolution to County.

Lee Younge, Cheryl Box and Jennifer Fais will meet with Tom Santulli on October 16.

**4) Other River Council constituencies**

STEG via our representative, Paul Rossi

Safety folks (County, police, fire departments) - Linda will set up meeting

Chamber of Commerce. Mike H. and Linda C. are meeting with Board on October 22.

**5) 07-08 Local Waterfront Revitalization Grant**

Request for proposals just came out. Due date is November 30.

Need to identify possible construction projects.

Need 50% match! In-kind match works.

Cheryl suggested it be written by one of the Towns since the City hopes to have money for river development within the City limits.

Steuben County may write one that parallels ours but is a visioning/non-construction stage grant.

**6) Additional meetings to meet budget/grant/other timelines**

**Tuesday October 16 at 4:00 (note different time) at Extension**

Hear back about meeting with Tom Santulli

Identify priority projects for construction-ready plans using current City LWRP

Identify projects for 07-08 LWRP request

Linda will contact Haas team to see if we can get ballpark figures on projects.

Tuesday, October 23 at 3:00 at Extension

# Open House/Public Feedback as of 10-9-07

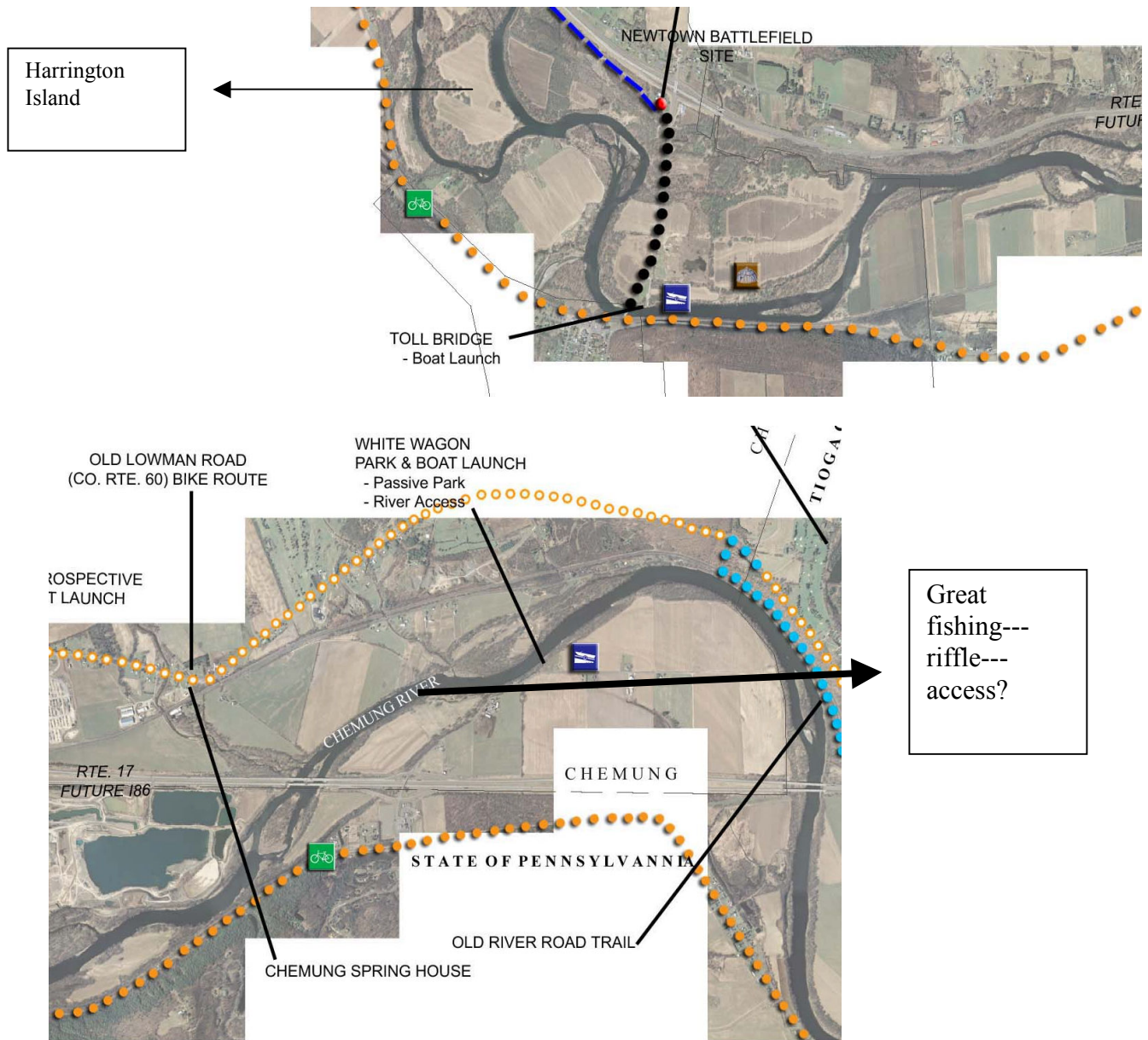
## Clip board comments from 9/13 public meeting

Need place to camp  
Bathrooms at boat launches

## From Sept 23 Federation of Sportsmen event at the Fairgrounds

A walking/biking trail along the river would be great.  
Need a deck extending out over the cement wall downtown for parties and events.  
There is a culvert already running under Route 17 (a bear uses it to get to the river) not far from mm192

When the I86 interchange is put in opposite the Casella Land fill.....do a slip ramp on the river side of the highway going down to the river to create direct access.



Need parking and access for Hibbard and State Park Land in Big Flats....no way to get to it.  
About 10+ people-----importance of rail bed along Route 17 from Elmira to Lowman.

### **From Sept 29 Chemung Fall Fest downtown**

Ron Weeks (733-6189) has book with pictures and history of entire trolley system.

Said to check out WSKG story on Southern Tier Memory.

Great set up on Merimack River in Manchester NH....they have a city white water passage over their dam.

#1 need kayak passage #2 bike and hiking trails

Need way to get over wall at Katie Leary Park

Where is the handicap access?

Need benches along river trail

Use 46 Grove St for a river museum

Use Lake Street Bridge----highly underused!

#1 Kayaking #2 River access downtown

Talk to Samantha Barrends about Rail bed along I86

Concern with crosswalk next to Brand Park across Madison

Want swimming spot near river

Use island near Walnut bridge.....roller blades and hiking paths, turn into Park

Need numerous clearings along river for boaters to stop and picnic or camp

Landscaping at Grove launch site....islands

Primitive camping on islands is a good idea

Research the riverwalk upgrade done in Indianapolis.

Where is the beach?

Call the village of Fairport NY for ideas of how they did it. They built a new canal path....excellent results for community.

Prevent the landfill increase!

### **From Oct. 1 Town of Chemung Open House**

Civil War encampment would be a huge boost to the already historic heritage of the City. Andersonville, GA is a major tourist draw. Perhaps the state could get involved or National Park Service. Access to the river could help tremendously

Priorities:

1 access

2 trails

3 boat portage around dam

4 recreation

5 historical

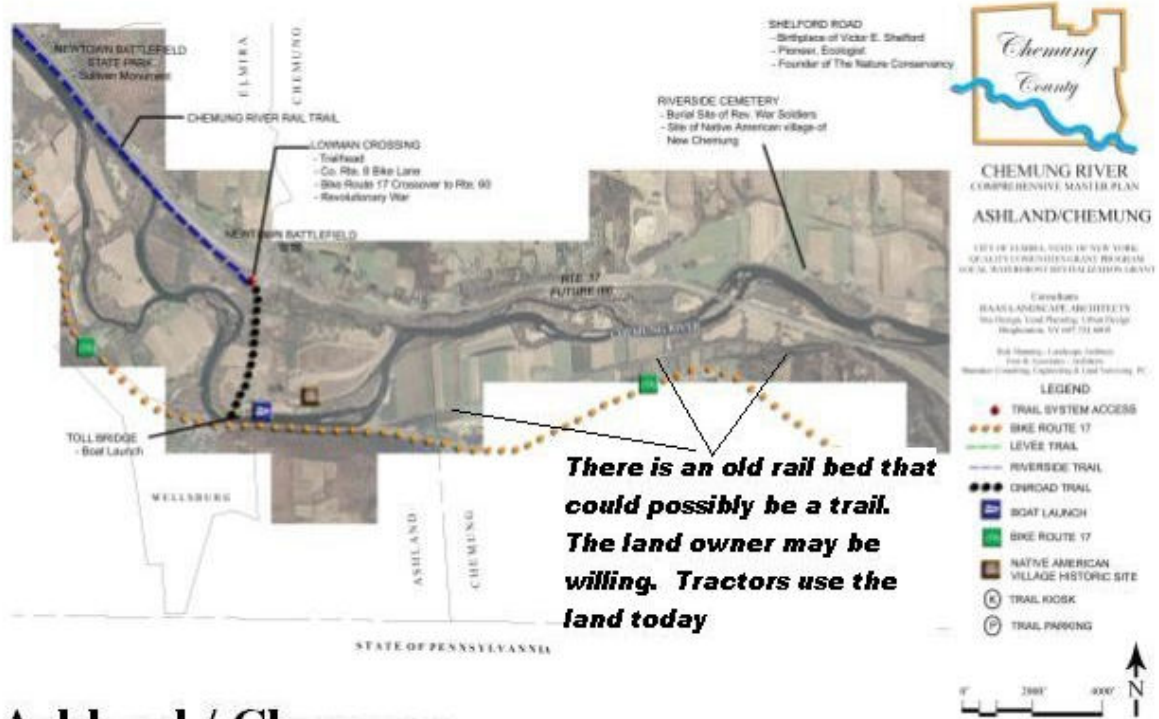
What will attract people? Fishing access and stocking the River.

Want Horse Trails. 3-4 miles is good. 6+ miles is great.

Trolley line went all the way to Waverly.

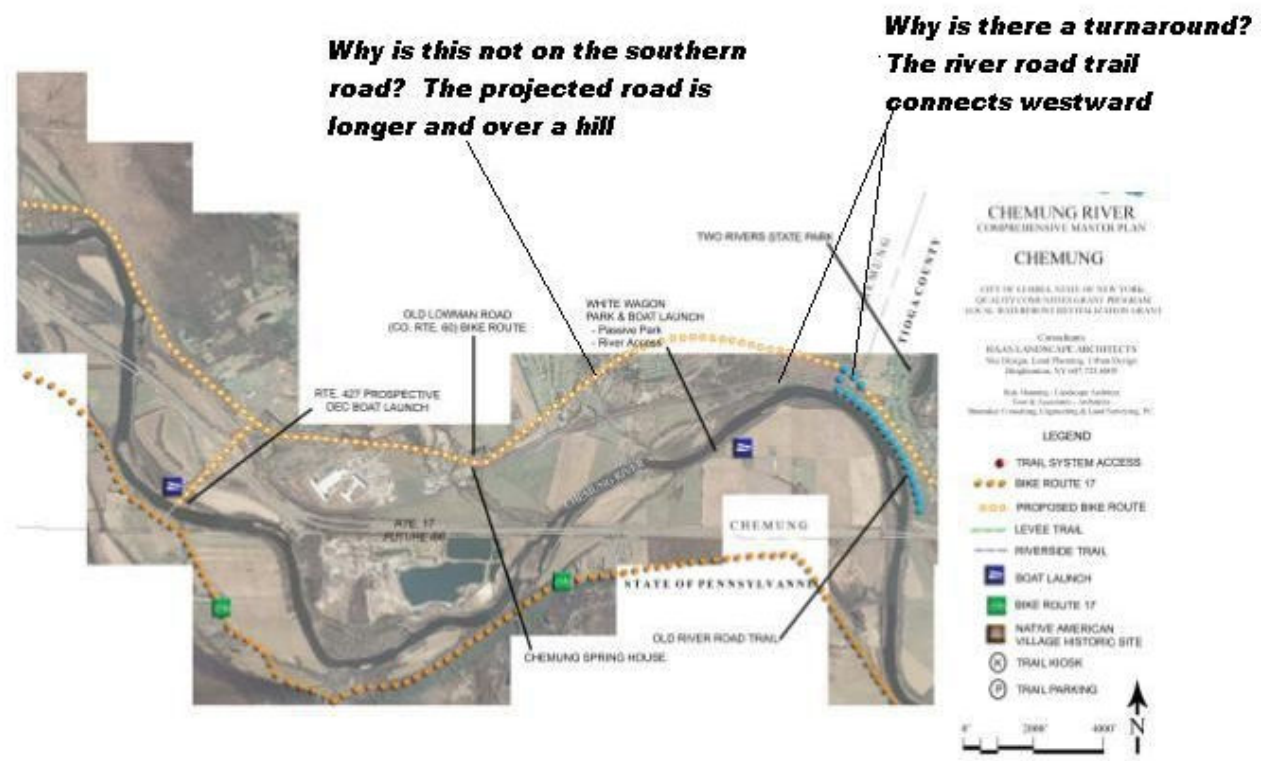
Old Tow path on southside of river...private land, short stretch about 1 mile. Walking/fishing

17C is not a good bike route.....stay on River Road



**There is an old rail bed that could possibly be a trail. The land owner may be willing. Tractors use the land today**

## Ashland / Chemung



## Town of Chemung