The Hudson River Valley Greenway is an innovative state-sponsored program created to facilitate the development of a regional planning vision through the establishment of a 15-year regional planning process. The Greenway's objectives include the identification of areas that are environmentally sensitive, historically significant, and culturally important. The Greenway is designed to provide a framework for the coordinated planning and development of the region, ensuring that its resources are used in a manner that is consistent with the region's heritage and natural environment.

Westchester County's Patterns:

- **Nature and Cultural Heritage:** The Greenway recognizes the importance of preserving the natural and cultural heritage of the region, including its forests, rivers, and historic sites.
- **Economic Development:** The Greenway recognizes the importance of promoting economic development in a manner that is consistent with the region's natural and cultural heritage.
- **Community and Quality of Life:** The Greenway recognizes the importance of preserving the quality of life in the region, including its natural and cultural resources.

The HRTW region was prioritized in Westchester for a Greenway Compact. The multi-step planning program used to develop the HRTW Compact was a prototype for additional Compacts to be developed for "country-side" communities. Workshops organized by the Westchester County Department of Planning identified five subregions where strategies can be tailored to practical economic and environmental experiences. The shared interests among the HRTW communities are acknowledged in the planning process.

The HRTW region was designated as its own subregion - the Hudson River Shore - by the designation of the area as its own subregion - the Hudson River Shore. The Greenway recognizes the importance of preserving the natural and cultural heritage of the region, including its forests, rivers, and historic sites. The Greenway recognizes the importance of promoting economic development in a manner that is consistent with the region's natural and cultural heritage. The Greenway recognizes the importance of preserving the quality of life in the region, including its natural and cultural resources.
WHAT IS SMART HERITAGE TOURISM?

- Celebrate the past and present diversity of HRTW by recognizing and commemorating the different cultures and traditions that are important to the history and future of the region.
- Actively encourage the establishment of new lodging places by converting historic properties into bed & breakfasts, building new hotels and motels, and transforming former offices or industrial buildings into places to stay.
- Form partnerships with other tourism sites and public and private hospitality organizations to jointly market and promote resources, and cooperate on special package tours and shared events.
- Welcome all visitors to the region by permitting access to all sites, providing information kiosks and tourist centers, and enlisting local residents to serve as HRTW ambassadors.
- Promote use of a variety of transportation options like the HRTW trolley, bus, train, Metro-North trains, bikes, ferries, cycling and walking to alleviate traffic congestion, lessen air pollution and make travel more interesting.

WHAT IS SMART WATERFRONT RENEWAL?

- Create a functionally linked inter-connected waterfront consisting of esplanades, greenways and trails.
- Use the Hudson River as a transportation link between the communities and to promote waterborne tourism.
- Give priority to water-related uses along the water's edge.
- Preserve views of the Hudson River and surrounding Valley by restricting building heights, regulating cell towers, developing scenic overlooks and enhancing access to key vantage points.
- Enhance public access to the waterfront by securing easements for esplanades and open spaces, prioritizing waterfront properties for public acquisitions and eliminating access restrictions to parks and marinas.
- Improve connections to the waterfront for pedestrians and cyclists across Metro-North railroad tracks and from the water's edge for boaters and sailors.
- Transform brownfield sites and abandoned industrial buildings from environmental liabilities to economic and community assets.
- Protect water quality, aquatic life, environmental resources and the natural shoreline when using the river for recreation and transportation and in all development and redevelopment activity.
- Involve the community in every step in planning for the future waterfront and invite participation by surrounding neighborhoods in the development process.
- Promote mixed-use development along the waterfront that provides diversity and a range of attractions.
- Encourage safe recreational and educational enjoyment of the Hudson River by promoting boating, kayaking, canoeing, sailing, fishing, swimming and study of the estuary where appropriate.
- Make the waterfront a special place for the region by celebrating with neighbors the cultural history of the river and share in clean-up campaigns that promote sustainability.

WHAT IS SMART DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION?

- Provide a variety of housing choices so that young and old, singles and families and those of varying economic ability may find places to live near their work and close to public transit.
- Foster small business development that supports the tourism industry and will maintain Main Street as the community’s commercial and service center.
- Create special public places for people that provide a sense of place, foster community identity and enhances quality of life.
- Recognize the importance of traditional downtowns to the economic long-term health of the region.
- Explore and improve predictability in the development process, provide incentives and proactively solicit development projects that enhance the economy, the community and the environment.
- Strengthen the connection between the downtown and the Hudson River waterfront by enhancing roadways and trails, preserving views, and with signage and maps.

LEARNING FROM EACH OTHER: LOCAL EXAMPLES OF SMART GROWTH

- Cortlandt's rehabilitation of the Bear Mountain Tell House into a Welcome Center.
- Sing Sing Museum Proposal.
- Irvington’s Transformation of a Brownfield Site.
- Croton’s Interconnected Waterfront.
- Tarrytown’s Preservation Efforts.
- Sleepy Hollow Streetscape Improvements.
- Dobbs Ferry Gateway Study.
- Ossining’s Market Square.

PROJECTS FOR A SMARTER FUTURE

- Do a regional Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP).
- Prepare walking & biking maps of the waterfront.
- Create special public places for people.
- Do a joint market area study to identify specialty niches.
- Create a functionally linked inter-connected waterfront.
- Draft a model bed & breakfast ordinance.
- Do a parking inventory & needs survey.
- Draft model design & architectural review guidelines.
- Draft a model ordinance for outdoor dining.
- Draft a model easement agreement for access.
- Inventory all obstacles to continuous public access.
- Inventory all obstacles to continuous public access along the waterfront.
- Install directional signage to HRTW downtowns.
- Form partnerships with other tourism sites.
- Provide a variety of housing choices.