# Master Plan Committee Town of Cortlandt

Linda D. Puglisi, Supervisor

Town Board Richard Becker Francis X. Farrell Ann Lindau Martin John Sloan



Town Hall 1 Heady St Cortlandt Manor, NY

November 6, 2013

#### Welcome to the Town of Cortlandt

Linda Puglisi, Supervisor Francis X. Farrell, John Sloan, Ann Lindau Martin, Richard Becker, Town Board Members



#### About Us

The Town of Cortlandt is referred to as the "Gateway to the Hudson Valley" and is part of the Hudson Highlands Areas of Statewide Scenic Significance.

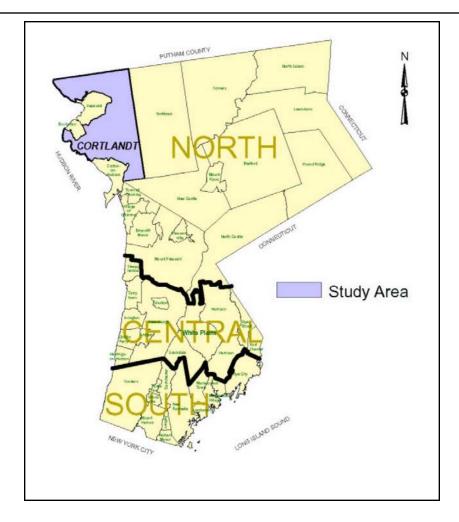
The Town of Cortlandt, New York is located in the northwestern corner of Westchester County and occupies approximately 40 square miles. The Town is bounded on the west by the Hudson River, the north by Putnam County, the east by the Town of Yorktown and on the south by the Towns of New Castle and Ossining.



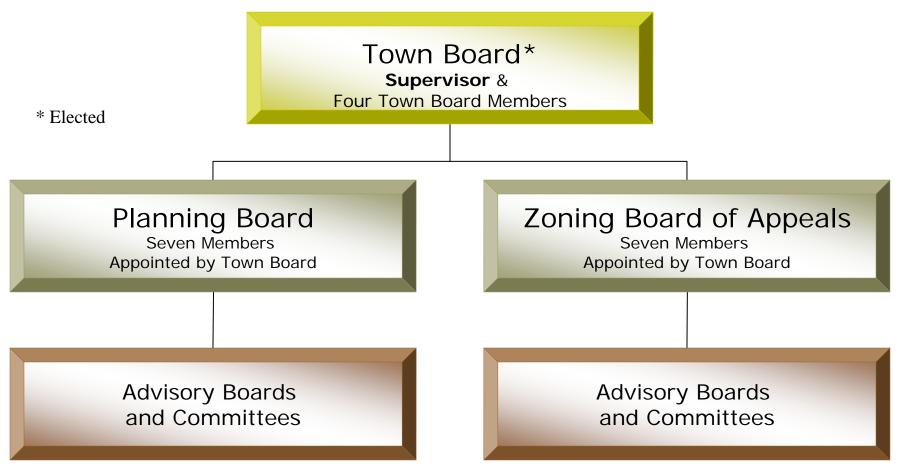


Cortlandt includes two incorporated villages, Croton-on-Hudson and Buchanan and several hamlets including Montrose, Crugers, Mohegan Lake and Verplanck. The Hudson River, the New York City Watershed Lands, numerous wooded hills and steep slopes, wetland areas and streams define the rural and suburban character of the Town. The population, at the time of the 2010 census, was 41,592.

#### Cortlandt: Westchester County



#### Major Boards



## Advisory Boards

All of the following Committees and Boards are appointed by the Town Board and advise the Town Board, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals:

- Architectural Advisory Council
- Conservation Advisory Council\*
- Open Space Committee\*
- **Electrical Board**
- Cable TV Advisory Board

- Parks Recreation & Conservation Advisory Board
- **Fire Advisory Board**
- Traffic Advisory Committee
- Assessment Review Board

\*Meet as a combined committee

# The Cortlandt Town Hall & Courtyard

Dedicated December 5, 1992





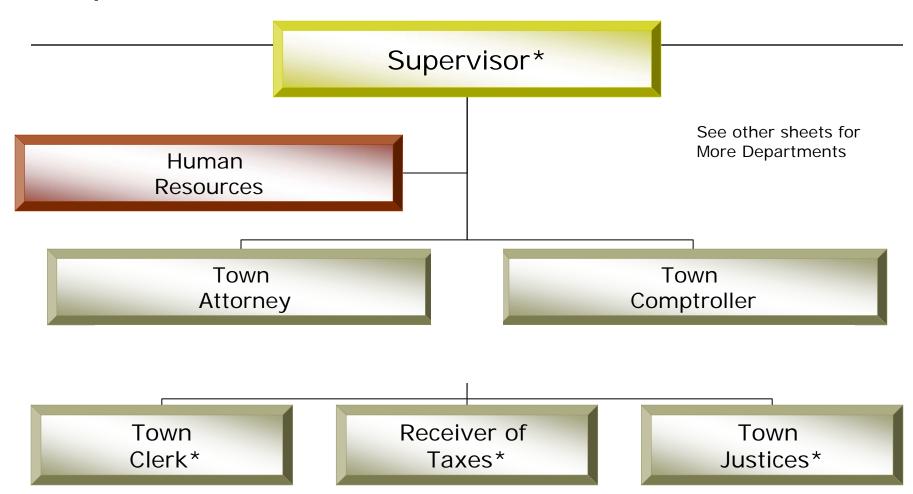


# Town Department Listing

- Supervisor\*
- Town Clerk\*
- Receiver of Taxes\*
- Assessor
- Comptroller
- Human Resources
- Town Attorney
- Justice Court\*
- Purchasing/Technology
- Recreation & Cons.
  - Office of Aging
  - Youth Services

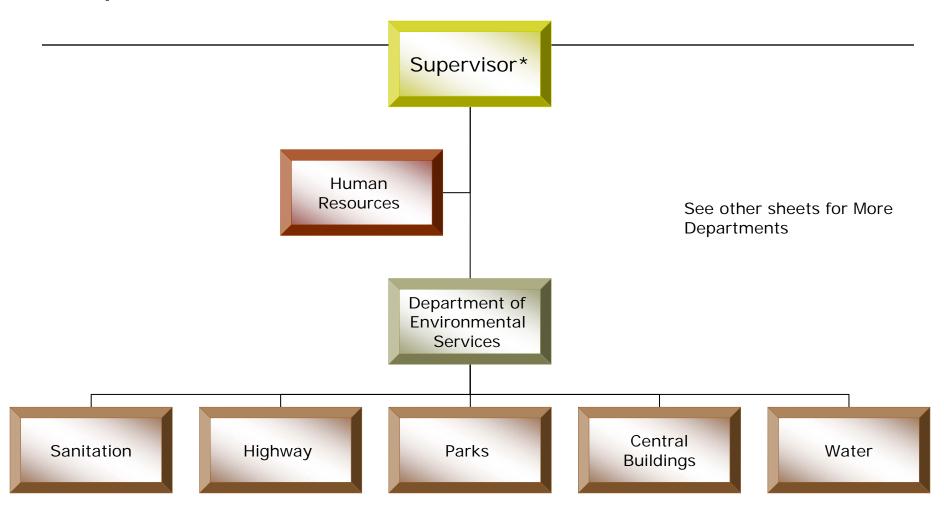
- Dept. Environmental Svc.
  - Highway
  - Sanitation
  - Parks
  - Water
  - Central Buildings
  - Dept. Technical Services
  - Engineering
  - Code Enforcement/Building
  - Planning

#### Departments and Divisions - 1



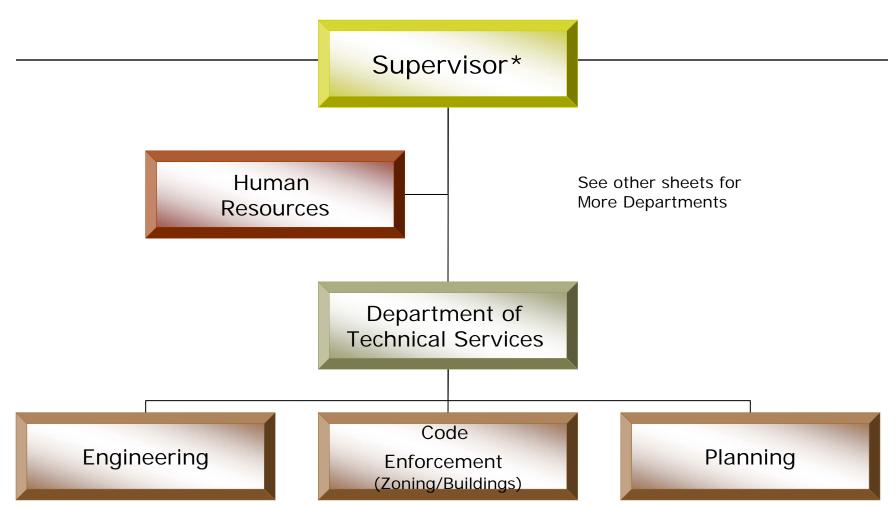
\* Elected position

#### Departments and Divisions – 2

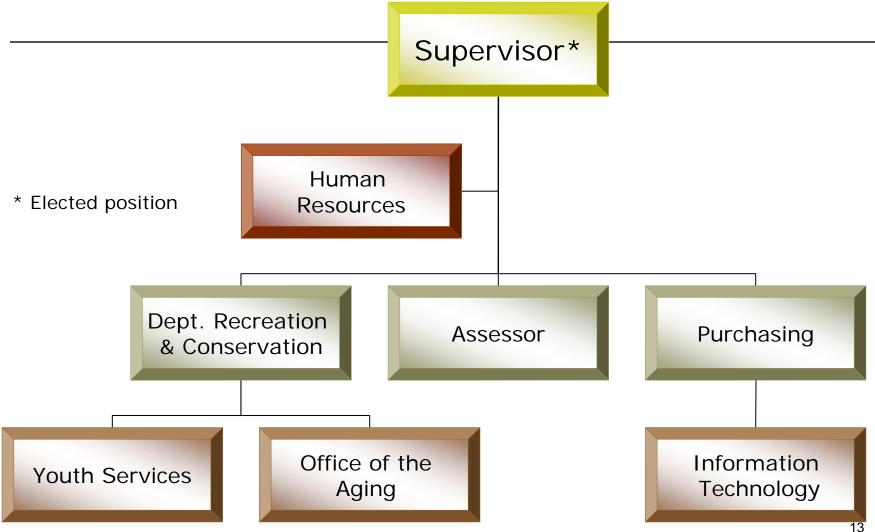


\* Elected position

#### Departments and Divisions – 3



#### Departments/Divisions 4



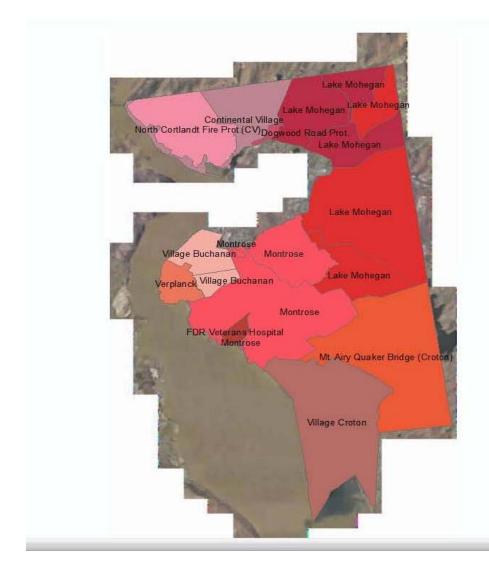
#### **5** School Districts

Hendrick Hudson **Croton Harmon** Lakeland Central Putnam Valley Yorktown

14

### Fire Districts - 11 (including Villages)

III



Continental Village **Dogwood Fire Protection** FDR VA Hospital Lake Mohegan Montrose Mount Airy/Quaker Bridge North Cortlandt Fire Prot Verplanck Village of Buchanan Village of Croton

#### Westchester County Sanitary Sewer Districts

#### Peekskill Sanitary Sewer District

#### **Ossining Sanitary Sewer District**

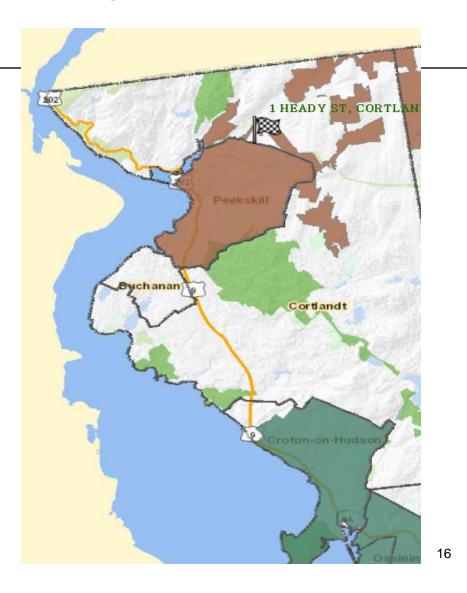
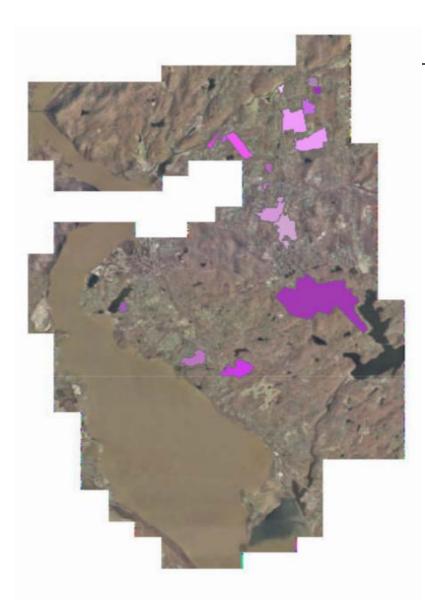


Image courtesy of Westchester County

#### Sewer Districts – (17)





- □ Policy 96: Continue to clean and line older cast iron water pipes and replace the nearly 20 miles of brittle transite pipe which is subject to leaks and breakage.
- □ Within the Cortlandt Consolidated Water District the Town should continue the program of cleaning and lining old cast iron pipes and replacing brittle pipe to avoid the loss of water due to leaks and breakage.
- Status Implemented. Each year these projects are listed in the CIP. In 2013 the Town completed 6,000 linear of water line replacement in the area of Continental Village in order to increase fire flow capacity. Furthermore, the Town will begin replacing transite pipe in Jerome drive and Rita Drive off Route 6 shortly.
- Policy 97: Conduct regular flow measurements within the sewer system in areas where the capacity is limited.
- □ Status Implemented and ongoing. In 2013, Acadia Development completed a flow study evaluation in the Fawn Ridge Sewer District and in the Westbrook Dr sewer trunk line. This evaluation is ongoing.
- □ Policy 98: Finalize the formation of the commercial Route 6 Sanitary Sewer District and assess fees for rehabilitation of the Westbrook sewer system.
- □ Status: In progress. In 2013, it was agreed in concept that the initial Route 6 Sanitary Sewer District will include a portion of the existing CTC, the former Frooks property, Pondview, and the Van Cortlandtville Elementary school. Improvements will include a new pump station that will direct sewage to the Fawn Ridge District.

# Water Districts (2)



Cortlandt Consolidated

#### Montrose Improvement

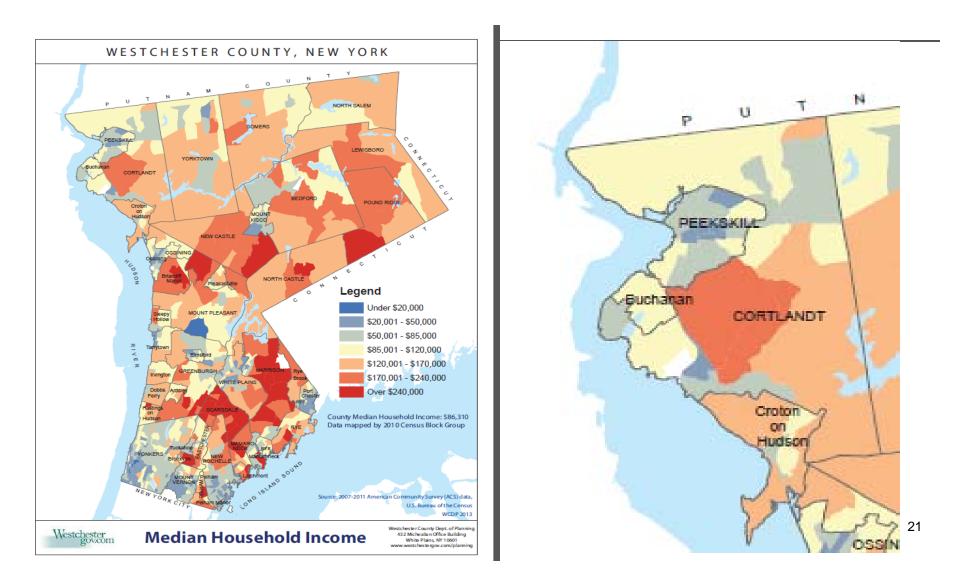
#### Northern Westchester Joint Waterworks:

A coalition to filter water (an EPA mandate) consisting of Cortlandt, Yorktown, Somers and Montrose Improvement District).

#### Policy 95: Establish utility planning as a specific technical area within the municipal government to develop a schedule of utility evaluation relating to future districts and to prioritize capital projects.

Status: Implemented and ongoing. Each year the Supervisor meets with staff to discuss future utility improvement projects which are detailed in the CIP. Furthermore DOTS periodically develops reports during the year detailing needed drainage, sanitary sewer, and water improvements.

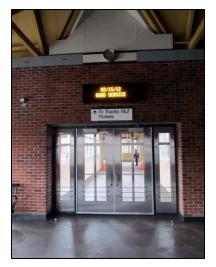
#### Median Household Income - 2010



#### Expanded Cortlandt Train Station Grand Opening February 15, 2012









## Policy 94: Reassess facilities and amenities at the Cortlandt Train Station.

STATUS: IMPLEMENTED. In 2008, the Town worked with the Operating Engineers the Keon Center, and Metro North to transfer land in order to create sufficient area for the recently completed Phase II of the Cortlandt Station which includes a large parking area, pedestrian overpass and restrooms. In 2013, the Town and Metro North received a WMPF award for this project.

# The Cortlandt Metro-North Train Station







#### Major Employers in the Town include:

Cortlandt Town Center (Route 6):	1,500
Hudson Valley Hospital Center (Route 202):	1,200
Entergy Nuclear Northeast (Buchanan):	1,200
Veterans Administration Hospital (Montrose):	600
Curry Subaru/Toyota (Route 6):	200
School Districts/Local Governments:	Many
Town of Cortlandt Government:	200

# The Hudson River Shoreline in Cortlandt



# □ Policy 16: Develop additional Town operated active and passive recreational facilities and regularly maintain existing facilities.

- Status: IMPLEMENTED and Ongoing. Recent new recreational facilities include: new soccer and little league fields on Sprout Brook Road, new playground/basketball courts at Croton Avenue (paid for by developer); Stokes-Greene Parkland acquisition from Westchester County and the official takeover by the Town of approximately 30 acres of Waterfront land in Verplanck (Martin Trailer Park). The Town continually evaluates grant opportunities for future recreation including trails such as the Annsville Creek Marsh Path. The Engineering Division is currently evaluating the feasibility of constructing an "all purpose" field" at Sprout Brook Park. The Planning Board, with feedback from the PRC Advisory Board and others, is currently considering an "all purpose field" as a possible condition of approval for a potential single lot development on Croton Ave. across from "Cortlandt Ridge".
- □ Policy 24: Continue to provide additional public access to the Hudson River waterfront and promote water-oriented recreational activities and tourism.
- STATUS: IMPLEMENTED & Ongoing. Recent examples include the "Martin Park" Committee and Steamboat Park and Cortlandt Waterfront Park. The Town continues its efforts to possibly acquire George's Island and use some of the FDR VA Hospital properties. The Annsville Pedestrian Path will encourage Riverfront recreation and connectivity. (A NYSDOT grant)

Recreation: More Hudson River Shoreline including George's Island, the VA, Croton Point, Former McAndrews Estate, Oscawana Kayak launch.



- Policy 21: Encourage the State and County to continue to improve and maintain existing State and County Parks located within the Town.
- □ STATUS: IMPLEMENTED & Ongoing.

#### Recreation: Steamboat Park (Hamlet of Verplanck)









#### Lake Meahagh (Hamlet of Verplanck)



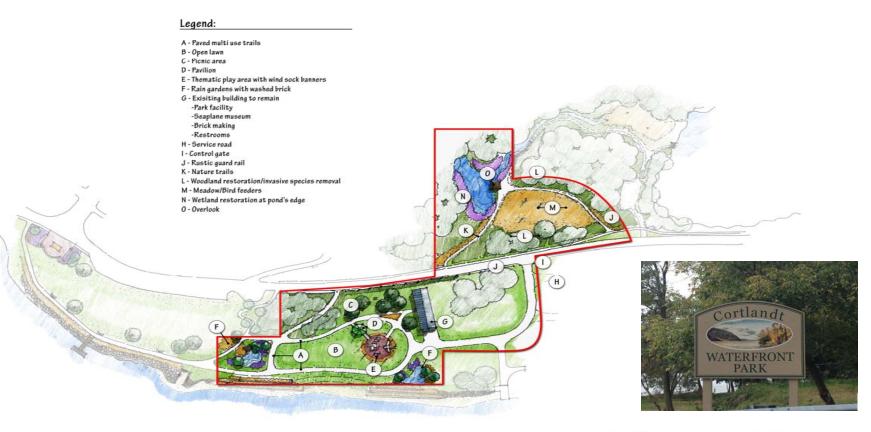




# Policy 54: Establish a comprehensive program for the cleanup of polluted water bodies.

STATUS: IMPLEMENTED and Ongoing. Lake Meahagh: We hired a consultant to conduct water quality tests which revealed high concentrations of fecal coli forms and high nutrient loadings. As recommended by the consultant we lowered the lake for an approximate 2 month period in the winter which has "burned off" nutrients. We have installed aerators to increase oxygen in the lake which was funded from New York State. We continue to provide yearly public outreach to citizens living around this 303/TMDL identified Lake. Other ponds and water bodies are tested periodically.

# Recreation: Expansion of "Cortlandt Waterfront Park" (Former Martin Property)



Steamboat Water	front Park - Phas	e One Project Are
Verplank, New York		06-23-1

IQ

#### Policy 24: Continue to provide additional public access to the Hudson River waterfront and promote water-oriented recreational activities and tourism.

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#### Jim Martin Aviation Playground Dedicated August 23, 2012



## Veterans Memorial at Cortlandt Waterfront Park (Hamlet of Verplanck) Dedicated: July 20, 2012







#### □ Policy 147: Complete Improvements to Steamboat Riverfront Park and continue to maintain this unique waterfront area.

IMPLEMENTED and Ongoing. In 2007, The Town completed the Broadway Streetscape Improvement project from 5th Street to 8th Street, funded by a NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation grant. The Town has fully incorporated the former Sturgeon Boat Club property into the Cortlandt Waterfont Park by removing fencing, brush and the selective removal of trees. A Veteran's Memorial Park and an aviation themed playground were completed in 2012 and a new boat launch was completed in 2013. In addition several trailers that were located at the former Sea Plane base parcel were removed, the area was cleaned and the existing hangar buildings were painted. Currently the Town is in the design phase for additional sidewalks on Broadway from 5th Street to the Hudson River funded by a NYS DOT Federal-Aid grant.

#### Community Boat Launch at Cortlandt Waterfront Park (Hamlet of Verplanck) Dedicated: May 16, 2013













38

#### Affordable Housing

- > 158 Jacobs Hill Affordable Housing (Seniors)
- > 8 Homes (ownership) in various subdivisions in the Town
- Roundtop: 91 Apartments near the Cortlandt Train Station
- Accessory Apartments (throughout the Town) by Special Permit
- Affordable Housing and other Housing Opportunities:
  - Apartment Rentals
  - Condo/Townhouses
  - Multi-family and single family

- Policy 29: The Town should continue, strengthen, and supplement existing zoning mechanisms that allow for a variety of affordable and/or handicapped-accessible housing opportunities to meet the needs for housing by Town residents. STATUS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED and ONGOING. The Town has approved the 161 unit Jacob's Hill Affordable development. The Town also approved, and construction was completed in 2012 of the 92 unit Roundtop at Montrose development. All 92 units in the apartment complex are affordable. The completion of the Roundtop units count towards Westchester County's 750 units required under the settlement of the Affordable Housing Lawsuit and exceed the number of units required to be produced by the Town. In 2009 the Town Board issued a Residential Reuse Special Permit (RRUSP) for the redevelopment of 56 existing "bungalows" to moderately priced condominium units located on Cortlandt Boulevard (Route 6). The RRUSP and CBD zoning districts encourage the applicant to provide affordable housing (both rental and ownership opportunities).
- Policy 37: Establish an Affordable Housing Program to be administered by the Town or an Agent of the Town. STATUS: IMPLEMENTED and Ongoing. The Town worked with the Housing Action Council to oversee 3 affordable housing lotteries in 2005 and 2006. One was for Cortlandt Ridge, one for the Townhouses at the golf course and one for the large 55+ Jacobs Hill development. Subsequently, the HUD vs. Westchester County decision was issued after which we approved the Roundtop development in Montrose which provided 92 affordable units all of which counted towards the Town's HUD requirement.
- Policy 38: Update the Town of Cortlandt "Draft Housing Action Plan" prepared by Turner & Associates" <u>dated June, 2000.</u> STATUS: Not implemented and most likely will NOT be implemented. We feel this plan dated 2000 has been reviewed by staff and its policies incorporated into other legislation (CBD/RRUSP). Therefore, we feel it is no longer necessary to incorporate the "Draft Housing Action Plan" in our Code.
- Policy 39: Adopt Inclusionary Zoning Regulations which requires that at least 10% of the proposed residential units be affordable. This would only apply to proposed subdivisions with 10 or more units as recommended in the 2000 Turner Affordable Housing Plan. STATUS – IMPLEMENTED - but in a slightly different way. The Planning Board routinely encourages affordable housing units. The Town Board has often required affordable housing be included as part of any Open Space Cluster authorization. In addition, the Town Board has adopted the CBD and RRUSP both of which provide for affordable housing.

#### Jacob's Hill Senior Citizen Affordable Apartments and Housing Complex









41

#### Roundtop Affordable Housing

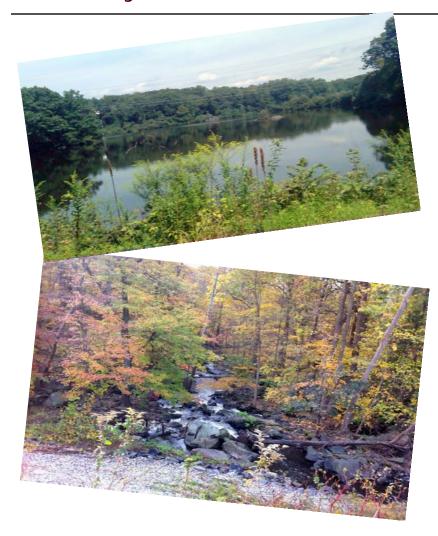






## Recreation: Furnace Dock Lake

Acquired by Town of Cortlandt from Consolidated Edison February 15, 2011.





Approximately 55.13 acres

#### Hudson Highlands Gateway Park

Former Hillpoint Proposed 352 unit Development – Now Open Space Joint project with NYS, Westchester County, Town of Cortlandt and Scenic Hudson







#### Hollowbrook Golf Course

#### (Oregon Road)



(Some images courtesy of Hollowbrook Golf Course)

## Policy 11: Encourage Cluster Open Space Design, where appropriate to further protect environmentally sensitive areas and preserve open space.

 STATUS: IMPLEMENTED. The Town's Planning Board continually encourages development under "Section 278" Cluster Design. Examples include Jacobs Hill, Valeria, Emery Ridge, Hollowbrook Golf Course, and Furnace Dock Inc

#### Muriel H. Morabito Community & Senior Citizen Center Westbrook Drive









#### Policy 123: Continue to provide specialized services for our senior citizens such as shopping vans, nutrition programs, support of senior citizen clubs, support of the Operation Snowflake program and pharmacy pick-up programs.

STATUS: Implemented and Ongoing: Furthermore, the Town has been successful in providing affordable housing for seniors at Jacobs Hill and Springvale. The Cortlandt Community Center hosts daily senior programs including educating seniors on proper nutrition, providing recreational facilities, showing movies, etc. Jacobs Hill and Springvale offers regular jitney services to and from area shopping centers.

#### The Youth & Recreation Center Dedicated September 2010



(Memorial Drive near Cortlandt Train Station)

#### Policy 127: Continue to evaluate appropriate geographic locations for Youth Activity Center and Teen Center.

Status: Implemented: In 2009 the Town opened a \$2 million dollar "Youth Center" on Town owned property next to the skate park near the Cortlandt Train Station in Montrose. Currently the Town is considering a "public/private" partnership with a developer (to be chosen) for an ice rink and other recreational facilities next to the Youth Center.

#### The Town Pool at Charles Cook Park Off Furnace Dock Road



## Recreation: The Town Dog Park (Off Sprout Brook Road) Dedicated: 11/2/08













## □ Policy 16: Develop additional Town operated active and passive recreational facilities and regularly maintain existing facilities.

- Status: IMPLEMENTED and Ongoing. Recent new recreational facilities include: new soccer and little league fields on Sprout Brook Road, new playground/basketball courts at Croton Avenue (paid for by developer); Stokes-Greene Parkland acquisition from Westchester County and the official takeover by the Town of approximately 30 acres of Waterfront land in Verplanck (Martin Trailer Park). The Town continually evaluates grant opportunities for future recreation including trails such as the Annsville Creek Marsh Path. The Engineering Division is currently evaluating the feasibility of constructing an "all purpose" field" at Sprout Brook Park. The Planning Board, with feedback from the PRC Advisory Board and others, is currently considering an "all purpose field" as a possible condition of approval for a potential single lot development on Croton Ave. across from "Cortlandt Ridge".
- □ Policy 17: Monitor and maintain existing facilities to ensure they continue to address the recreational needs of the community.
- □ STATUS: IMPLEMENTED & Ongoing. The Parks, Recreation and Conservation Advisory Board conduct reviews of the existing facilities at least every 2 years.
- **Policy 18:** Assess active recreational needs according to geographic location.
- **STATUS: IMPLEMENTED & Ongoing.**

## Soccer Field & Little League Field at Sprout Brook Park Dedicated 4/15/07









55

## The Hudson Valley Hospital Center









#### Policy 52: Identify areas along Route 202/35 to serve several specific economic development objectives such as Community Commercial, general commercial, medical offices and other medical-related uses.

□ STATUS: IMPLEMENTED and Ongoing. The recently approved expansion of the HVHC will reinforce the medical related uses in this corridor. Completed in 2012, the HVHC expansion included architectural features consistent with the area including a stone fascia and stone retaining walls and landscaping. In addition, a small but attractive commercial building at the corner of Croton Avenue and Route 202 replaced a dilapidated gas station. This project incorporated local architectural and landscape features in accordance with this policy.

#### The Cortlandt Town Center

#### Retail Mall on Route 6/ "Cortlandt Boulevard"



### Policy 45: Attract new business uses as needed to existing developed areas.

STATUS: Partially implemented. Town held a realtor forum as an outreach to the community. The Town intends to hold a commercial realtor forum shortly. A staff committee was established to review the Annsville Circle and other waterfront areas for possible Tourism and Light industrial uses. (WLI/WT).

## **Cortlandt Boulevard Plans**

Streetscape Enhancement Plan for Route 6/Cortlandt Boulevard







#### Delicy 86: Promote the Route 6 Streetscape Concept

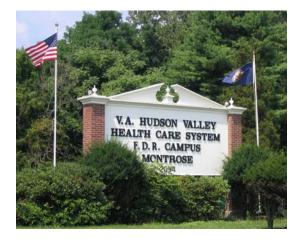
STATUS: IMPLEMENTED and Ongoing. Completed items include installation of decorative lighting, banners, signs and hanging baskets. The Town recently was authorized to prepare a survey for the area between Locust Avenue and Van Cortlandtville school. (This is the area we plan to target for future streetscape improvements). Funds were received from Curry Auto and the Town will continue to seek funding from applicants along Route 6 to assist with the streetscape plan.

## □ Policy 44: Provide infrastructure and aesthetic improvements to existing commercial areas.

□ STATUS: IMPLEMENTED: In progress and ongoing. When we meet with individuals seeking to develop larger commercial sites (i.e. Frooks) we always review/evaluate opportunities to improve infrastructure for the surrounding areas. As for Aesthetic improvements to commercial areas the Town has hired a landscape architect to develop a plan detailing landscaping and other improvements to enhance the appearance of the Route 6 corridor. Route 6 Boulevard Enhancement Plan is discussed with all applicants along that corridor and they are encouraged to make improvements or contribute towards future improvements. As a policy the Planning Board always looks for opportunities for applicants to use "shared driveways" in commercial areas (e.g. Shoprite and the former Circuit City").

#### VA Hudson Valley Health Care System FDR Campus (Hamlet of Montrose)



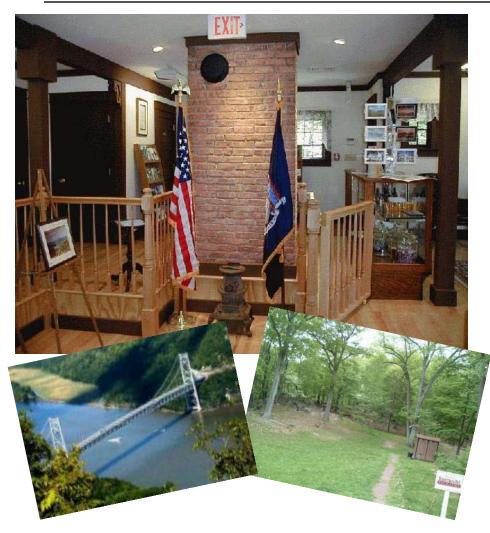




## □ Policy 35: Continue to work with the FDR VA Hospital with regard to their future plans, including but not limited to, proposed housing for veterans.

- □ STATUS: IMPLEMENTED. The Town Board is working closely with the various organizations and government entities regarding the future use of this property. The Town successfully fought against the Enhanced-Use Lease program which would have permitted the long-term lease of a large portion of the VA Hospital property to private developers for the construction of several hundred housing units. The Town up-zoned the property to 4 acre residential zoning in 2009.. The Town is still working with local Veteran's groups and elected officials to ensure the continued use of the VA property for Veterans. The VA property continues to be a strong focus of the Town.
- Policy 124: Continue to assist our veterans by maintaining our Veterans Council and supporting property tax exemptions for Veterans.
- Status: Implemented and ongoing. Veteran's meetings are held monthly in Town Hall. The Town recently completed a Veteran's Memorial at the Cortlandt Waterfront Park in Verplanck

#### The Bear Mountain Tollhouse On the National Historic Registry – Grand Opening September 22, 2002



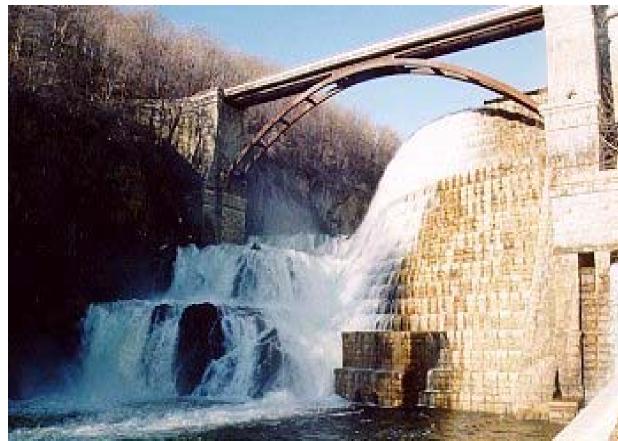




#### The Croton Dam Located in Town of Cortlandt Built between 1892 and 1906







#### Bear Mountain Bridge Opened November 27, 1924







#### The Aaron Copland House A National Historic Designated Site



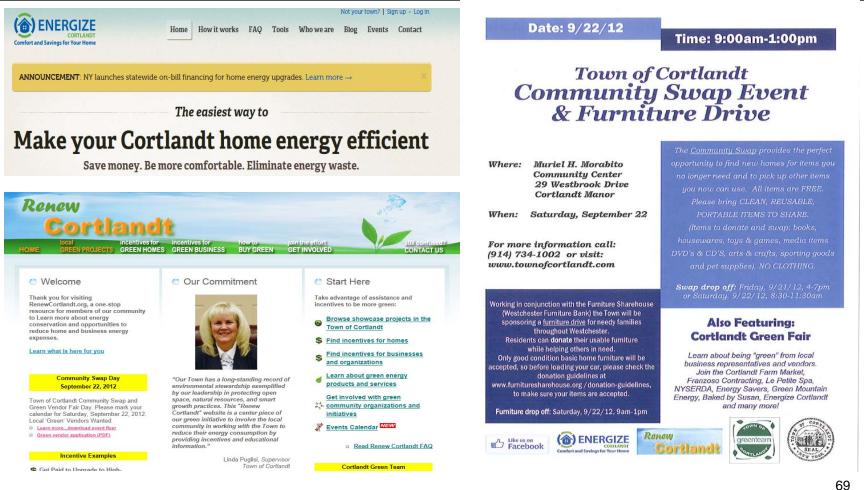
**COPLAND HOUSE** is dedicated to nurturing and renewing America's musical heritage, and to fostering greater public awareness and appreciation of our nation's composers and their work. Building upon Aaron Copland's seminal artistic and personal legacies, we further this mission through composer residencies; live, broadcast, and recorded performances; and educational and community outreach programs.





- Policy 148: Continue to maintain and expand the use of historic sites such as the Toll House, the Aaron Copland home and the Cortlandt Museum and identify historic properties for public acquisition and /or preservation
- STATUS: Implemented and Ongoing. The Town is proud of its ongoing financial commitment to our established historic sites like the Tollhouse, the Cortlandt Museum and the Copland house. The Town continually seeks opportunities to preserve historic structures for public use. Currently the Town is working on listing the old VFW Hall in the Village of Croton on the National Register of Historic Places and the FDR VA, as well.

#### Green Initiatives/Sustainability/Climate Resiliency



- Policy 56: Adopt low-impact development and "green building" design standards in the Town's Subdivision and Site Development Plan Regulations.
- STATUS: PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED/IN PROCESS. In 2012, the Town's Department of Technical Services (DOTS) completed a report which was presented to the Town Board recommending Energy Star and/or LEED requirements for residential and commercial buildings. We are currently waiting for NYS to release their new Energy Code so we can compare it to our proposed standards.

#### Climate Smart Community





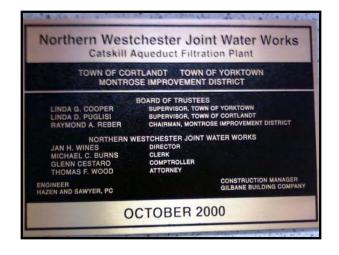
- Climate Smart Communities is a State-Local partnership to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, save taxpayer dollars and advance community goals.
  - Cortlandt is PROUD to be one of the first communities to sign the "Climate Smart Communities Pledge".
  - We are one of 48 Mid-Hudson Communities who have committed to make efforts to reduce greenhouse gas and prepare for a changing climate to help support a secure economic future for our Town, Region and State.

#### Shared Services: Northern Westchester Joint Water Works

- An unfunded mandate (in mid 1990's) from EPA to filter water.
- NWJWW was formed as a collaboration between the Towns of Cortlandt, Yorktown, Somers and the Montrose Improvement District.
- We filter 2.6 billion gallons of water each year collectively.
- Together we saved over \$8 million dollars on this multi-million dollar filtration plant project.







# Shared Services: Northern Tier Coalition for Recycling

- Created in 1992, the Northern Tier Coalition was formed to meet yet another unfunded mandate to recycle, and to save money for 6 municipalities.
- Westchester County operates a recycling center in the Town of Cortlandt (Land owned by the Town) for the coalition. Collectively we save money for each municipality.



#### Shared Services: Police Plan with the NYS Police & Westchester County Police

- New York State Police have a new office building in Cortlandt and the Westchester County Police have a satellite office at Cortlandt's Town Hall.
- The new police plan, initiated in 1999, has saved Cortlandt taxpayers over \$15 million dollars.



# Shared Services: Cortlandt Regional Paramedic Program (ALS)

- Advanced Life Support Paramedic Program a partnership between the Town of Cortlandt, Village of Buchanan, City of Peekskill and the Hudson Valley Hospital Center.
- Created in the mid-1990's to provide Advanced Life Support (ALS) Paramedic Service to our residents at a very low rate.



## GIS and Webpage



# □ **Policy 108:** Utilize and expand the Town's GIS program to manage and monitor water, sewer and drainage systems.

- □ The Town is currently reviewing the prior mapping of existing water, sanitary sewer and drainage systems to assist with management and monitoring of these systems and plan for future improvements. GIS will continue to be a major tool for providing updates and enhancements in the future.
- Status Implemented and ongoing. The GIS system continues to be updated to include accurate water, sanitary sewer and drainage system information which are invaluable for maintenance, planning, and design purposes.
- □ Policy 109: Establish GIS as a specific technical area within the municipal government.
- □ Status Implemented and ongoing. Rather than select one specific person to be a GIS specialist the Town chose to have several key individuals manage this effort.

# Facebook Page





## The End.



THANK YOU!