

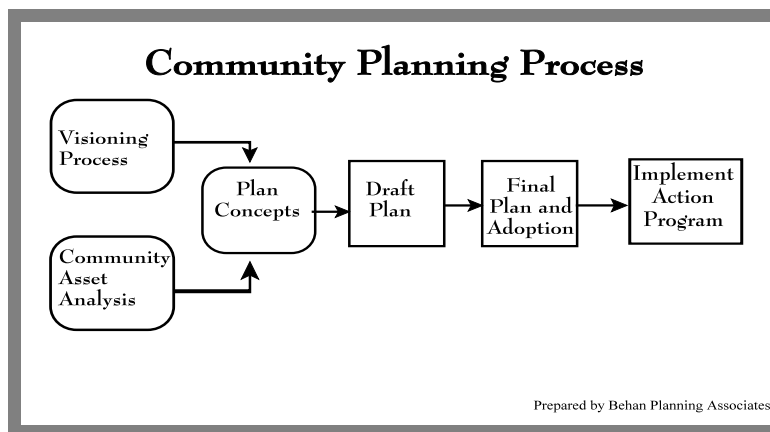
Near East Side Neighborhood Improvement Program

City of Watertown, New York

The Near East Side neighborhood in the City of Watertown had been neglected for decades. In 2000 the community took action towards improving the area, but the efforts were piecemeal. An overall Strategic Plan was needed to pull those activities together and coordinate the public and private efforts that were required to accomplish revitalization of that neighborhood.

In 2001 the City received funds from the Governor's Office for Small Cities to develop a Strategic Plan to provide the direction needed to coordinate the redevelopment of this neighborhood. The completed Plan, is now the basis for current future funding applications to secure the resources needed to achieve the revitalization of this neighborhood.

Below is an outline of the overall process used to develop the Strategic Plan.



- ▶ Gather and analyze social/economic data,
- ▶ Identify existing land uses, ownership, property values, occupancy, building conditions, and public facility deficiencies,
- ▶ Work with public officials, residents, business owners and other community representatives to identify areas of need and opportunities for improvement,
- ▶ Develop a "vision" for the NESNID area,
- ▶ Develop overall goals and implementation strategies to accomplish that "vision",
- ▶ Secure the resources needed to implement the Strategic Plan.

Funding

Small Cities Technical Assistance Grant	\$25,000
Local Match	<u>\$10,000</u>
Total	\$35,000

AVALON ASSOCIATES prepared the funding application and assisted with development of the plan and administration of the grant.