



SUMMIT RESERVOIR AREA PLAN Village of Philmont

Executive Steering Committee:

- Larry Ostrander, Village of Philmont, Co-Chair
- Barbara Sagal, Village of Philmont, Co-Chair
- Kathy Abeyatunge, PB Inc., Project Management Assistant
- Sally Baker, PB Inc., Project Management and Administrator
- Jean Giblette, High Falls Gardens
- Peter Paden, Columbia County Land Conservancy
- Thomas Paino, Resident
- Chris Reed, Resident
- Christine Vanderlan, Columbia County Land Conservancy

Project Consultant Team:

- [Elan Planning, Design & Landscape Architecture PLLC](#)
- Elan.3 Consulting
- Economic Transformations Group, Inc.
- CT Male Associates (Engineering)
- Harris Beach PLLC (Attorneys)

02/09/2015 #3 Monthly Report to The Village of Philmont

On Tuesday, January 13, 2015 members of the Elan Planning Team facilitated a series of Focus Group meetings and one-on-one interviews. Elan Team members included Lisa Nagle, Rob Holzman, Eric Hansen and Kelli Rose Pearson. A Co-Chairman and one member of the Executive Committee also sat in on a few of the meetings. Focus Groups included: Housing; Existing Businesses/Economic Development; Community Organizations; and Recreation & Environment. In total, there were 36 local and regional interests attendees who participated in

the focus group meetings and interviews. All meetings were held at the Philmont Library in the Karen Garafalo Cultural Center.

The goal of the meetings was three-fold. First, and foremost, the Elan Team were there to listen to participants identification of today's issues and opportunities in Philmont. As a team, Elan reported that they were able to gain some valuable insights throughout the day. They also reported that it seems evident that the groups they met with have a positive sense of momentum and possibility for Philmont's future. They had hoped these meetings would establish a foundation for continued conversation among the various participants. It seems that the Existing Businesses/Economic Development Focus Group, in particular, benefited by all coming together and sharing thoughts and ideas; many agreed that they need to come together again in a similar manner. Finally, Elan asked participants to take the message back to their friends and colleagues about what they are doing and to encourage them to participate in the February Community Open House.

The Community Open House is scheduled for Tuesday 24th February from 11am to 7pm at the Karen Garafalo Cultural Center at the Philmont Public Library.

The event is open to all community members to visit and discuss the **“Making of the Philmont Waterfront”** with the Elan Team.

1. **Draft Stations:** The open house will be an all-day event in which Elan hope to allow as many residents as possible to participate. The intent with the open house is to allow for a lot of free thinking with some structure. The stations will be set up in the early morning and will remain “open” all day. Participants will come and go at their leisure. Participants can choose to participate in just one, a few or all of the stations. Various stations will provide opportunity for comment in space provide on the print-outs. Some stations will have ‘bubbles’ to write in, and there will also be a large sheet of paper on the table below each of these stations to provide additional space for comments from community members.

The Elan Team will be present all day at the Karen Garafalo Cultural Center. Their role will be to help participants get oriented and then to have discussions and provide facilitation as appropriate. Elan's plan is to be as inviting as possible to grab people's attention and willingness to participate without the pressures of being in small groups.

2. **Comment Form:** Participants may want to add further detail about a thought or idea at the various stations. They may also want to share information that is not covered in the various stations. The comment form will be provided at each station, providing the opportunity for further comment. These comment forms can either be dropped in a box before they leave or sent to Elan Planning via regular mail or email.

3. **Trivia hand-out:** There will be a station dedicated to the history of Philmont in which Elan will ask participants multiple choice Philmont history questions, then provide opportunity to share some personal thoughts and memories of Philmont's past. This station

is intended to be a fun way to both educate and engage. Elan used the publication *Philmont New York 1892-1992* to draft these questions about the history of Philmont.

The stations will be available for “touring” various venues throughout Philmont following the Open House. If there is an organization, a local business, a church, or a community group who would like to host the stations for a couple of days, they can contact Sally Baker, Executive Director of Philmont Beautification, Inc to make arrangements:

Contact telephone: PBI (518) 697 0038

Email: info@pbinc.org

Sally Baker, Executive Director, PBI 02/09/15
Project Management for Summit Reservoir Area Plan