

# **Roundtable Questions For “Canalway Art Collections” Trail**

## **Roundtable Questions - Before lunch (11am – 12pm)**

### **Existing Conditions – the Image of the Canalway Corridor**

1.) If asked to describe what the canals of the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor mean to you, what particular images or experiences/events would you use? Are there ceremonial items or sounds (buckets, cannon fire, etc.), working implements (buoys, lanterns, etc), native flora and fauna, canal characters, or folklore and folk art (songs, stories, and crafts) that evoke these images and experiences that could be used as part of a marker system throughout the Corridor? Are the images and experiences that you selected recognizable to the visitors from outside of the Corridor as well as to the residents? Are the images and experiences that you selected “accessible” to everyone including visitors of different ages and abilities and visitors who do not speak English?

### **Existing Conditions – the Place**

2A.) If asked to provide a description of the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, the place, to someone who has never been to Upstate New York, how would you describe the area? What important landmarks would you describe? Are there distinctive examples of architecture, patterns in the landscape, vistas, gathering spots, native flora and fauna, or geology?

2B.) Would your description differ for the various regions of the Canalway Corridor or are there common themes throughout the Corridor? Identify the region if your descriptions reflect a specific area of the Corridor.

2C.) If you were offering this description in 1840 and in 1920 what would it include?

### **Existing “Infrastructure”**

3.) Describe the existing potential for an “art collections” trail or trails? Are there existing art collections including those in museums, historical societies, and public art installations (including murals), that are historic themselves or draw from the heritage of the Canalway? When describing “art collections” think of them in the larger sense including architectural building styles, theatres, and music festivals to name a few. Are the collections currently inventoried, described, or marketed?

**Note: Think of “infrastructure” in the broad sense including staff, technology, funding, transportation systems, marketing, etc.**

## **Roundtable Questions - After Lunch (12:45 – 2:15pm)**

### **Articulating Goals**

4.) Identify the goals of a “Canalway Art Collections” trail or trails. Is one of those goals to ensure that the project has a heritage component?

### **Articulating Strategies – The Project Logistics**

5A.) As you know, a project does not materialize from a good idea alone, although a good idea is very important. What other elements of a “Canalway Collections” trail project would ensure its success? An overall plan? Funding for planning? Project funding? A survey of resources and interest? A central location and manager to collect the inventory information? A guidebook, pamphlet, or website or other marketing material? Please be specific and identify the elements by name. Please prioritize the importance of identified project elements if time allows.

5B.) What role should the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor play, if any, in this project in the future?

## **Roundtable - Reporting Out (2:30 – 3:30pm)**

**Vote for your top descriptions (questions #1 – 2C) and top goals (question #4) (3:30 – 4:00pm)**