



City of Oswego 2020 Vision Plan Update



APPENDIX B *Community Profile Update*

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January 2011

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Introduction

The purpose of the City Profile is to recognize and identify how the City of Oswego has evolved since adopting the 2003 *City of Oswego 2020 Vision Plan*. Understanding how conditions within the City have changed provides direction to guide important policy, fiscal, and regulatory recommendations later in the planning process. In order to identify existing conditions and trends, a cursory review of available data and existing planning documents was conducted. The topics reviewed in this section were selected based on feedback from the New Visions process as being of particular importance to the Oswego community. The New Visions process included a series of interactive workshops that were designed to obtain community feedback regarding the issues and opportunities faced by the City of Oswego.

Data was obtained from the following resources:

- the United States Census
- New York Department of Transportation
- Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Bureau of Labor Statistics
- New York State Department of Labor
- New York State Department of Education
- The City of Oswego and Oswego County.

Where possible, information was obtained and analyzed for the City of Oswego. However, due to the scope of some of the sources, data was reviewed at the County level and therefore includes some outlying areas. As data from the 2010 Census becomes available, information provided in this section should be reviewed and updated to support plan implementation.



Oswego City Hall



View of the City of Oswego Waterfront



City Profile 2010: Population Trends

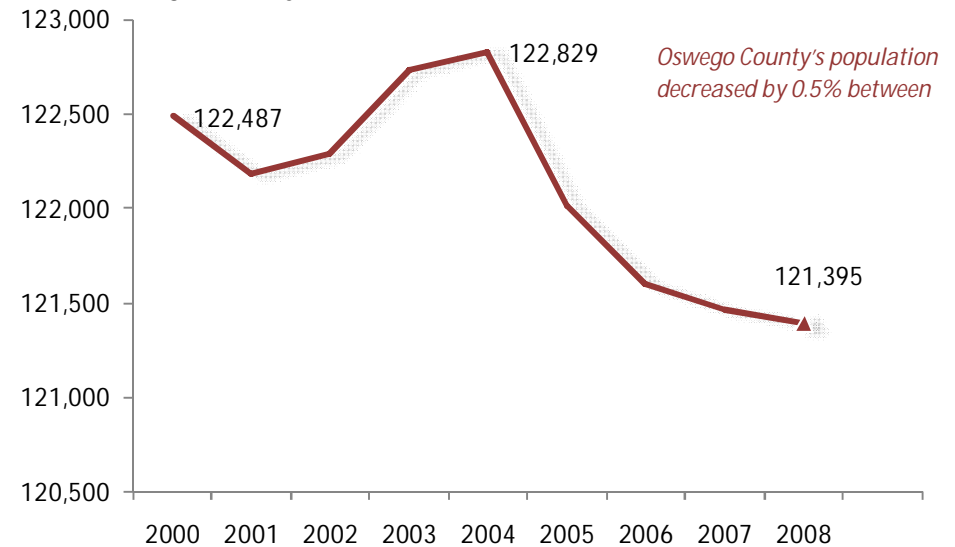
Population Trends

The population of the city has gradually decreased over the past several decades. Between 1990 and 2000, the number of residents decreased from 19,195 to 17,954 (6.4 percent), which is comparable to trends in other upstate New York cities. During the same time period, however, the population of Oswego County grew modestly (0.5 percent). This suggests that the City of Oswego was most likely losing residents to outlying towns within the County.

Since 2000, the County's population has remained relatively stable, exhibiting an overall population decrease of only 0.5 percent between 2001 and 2008 based on census estimates. By comparison, the population of New York State increased by approximately 5.9 percent during the same time period. Population data is not available during this timeframe for the City because it has a total population of less than 20,000 residents. Historically, however, the City's population has comprised approximately 15 percent of Oswego County's total population. Based on historic trends and local knowledge, it is anticipated that updated census data will show that the City's population continued to decrease between 2001 and 2010 at higher rates than those observed at the county level.

Additionally, public feedback has indicated concern for the continued loss of young residents and college graduates to other cities or outlying areas. The loss of these residents, commonly referred to as the "brain drain," poses a challenge for the city. Housing options, employment opportunities, diversity of shops and restaurants, street life and recreational outlets are all characteristics of a community that young professionals and families seek. Population retention therefore remains an issue for consideration.

FIGURE 1: Population Change (2001-2008)
Oswego County



Data Source: American Community Survey.

City Profile 2010: Employment

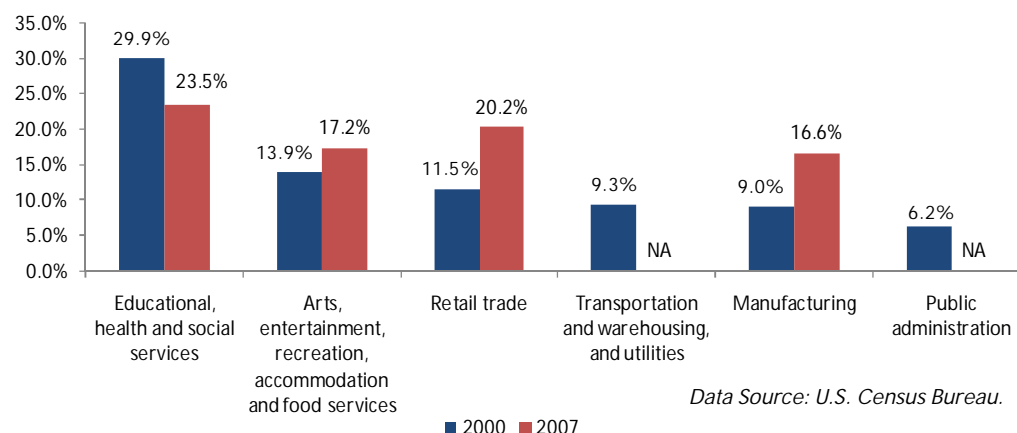
Employment

Employment opportunities within an area give insight to an area's potential for growth and vitality. Diversification of industry and employment opportunities can help support the long-term viability of an area. Prior to 1990, manufacturing and service industries dominated Oswego County's employment base. Although the influence of manufacturing dwindled, service industries experienced continued growth. The top three industries in Oswego County in 1990 included service, wholesale/retail trade, and manufacturing.

As of the 2000 and 2007 census, the majority of residents in the City of Oswego were employed in the educational, health and social services, indicating that the service sectors continues to be a growing part of the local economy. By comparison, employment in manufacturing dropped from approximately 20 percent of the population in 1990 to nine percent in 2000, and then rose again to approximately 16.6 percent in 2007. Energy and energy services were omitted from the census, and therefore employment in the listed industries is anticipated to be an overestimate of actual employment levels. The adjacent chart illustrates the distribution of employment in 2000 and 2007 within the County.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics prepares employment prospects as part of its Occupational Employment Statistics Survey. Projections for Central New York (Madison, Oswego and Onondaga Counties) have been

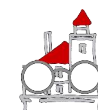
FIGURE 2: Employment by Industry — Oswego County, NY 2000 and 2007



Job Growth Forecasts through 2016—Central New York

Job Prospects	Median Salary	Training Time
Pharmacists	\$107,580	First professional degree
Education Administrators, Elementary and Secondary School	\$87,220	Bachelor's or higher degree, plus work experience
Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents	\$79,830	Bachelor's degree
Registered Nurses	\$56,250	Associate degree
Sales Representatives, Services, All Other	\$52,080	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Receptionists and Information Clerks	\$24,800	Short-term on-the-job training

Data Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.



City Profile 2010: Employment

prepared through 2016. These projections indicate jobs that are likely to be growing based on economic patterns. Examples of the highest paid job prospects by training time for Central New York are listed on Figure 3.

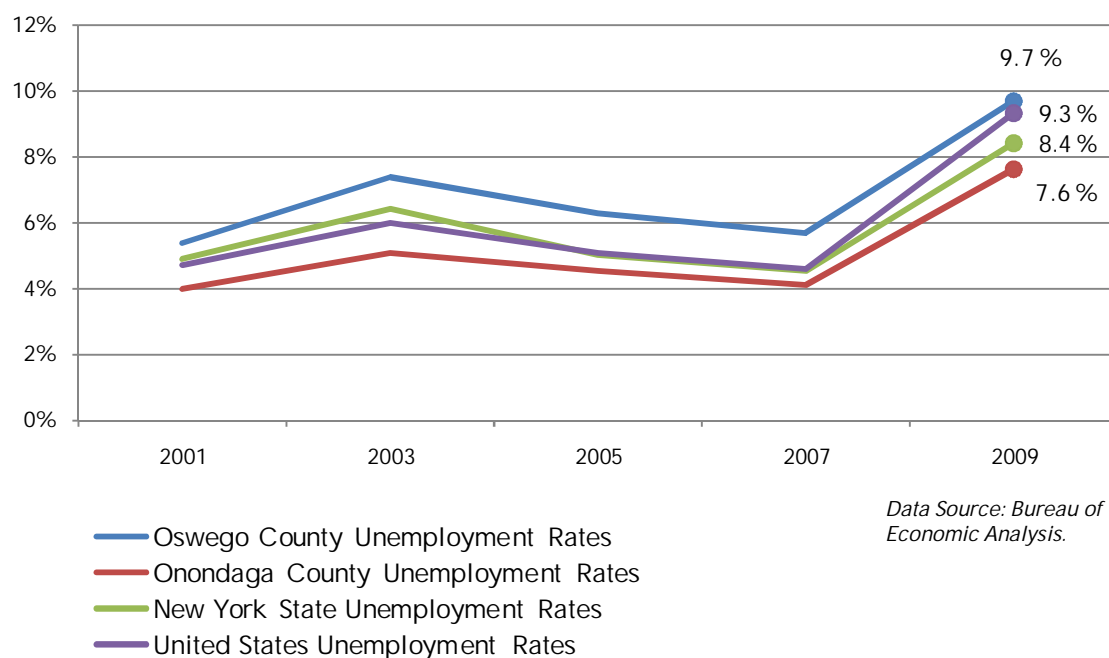
Pharmacists, Education Administrators and School Teachers, and Financial Services are the highest paying of these, but additionally require the most training. Those listed are only a few examples of job prospects that are the most favorable within the region. The complete survey identifies 98 very favorable positions ranging in salary from \$16,180 to \$107,580, many of which have also been identified by Oswego Health as future needs. Favorable job prospects, as identified by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, may help to inform the community about education and training opportunities to ensure gainful employment within the region.

Unemployment Rates

Unemployment rates provide insight into the overall economic health of an area. High unemployment rates indicate that residents are unable to find jobs that meet their qualifications. Feedback obtained during development of the original Vision 2020 Plan cited local job opportunities and high unemployment as a major concern, and this continues to be the case.

According to data published by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, Oswego County's unemployment rates have continued to increase by approximately 4 percent since adoption of the Vision 2020 Plan. Although patterns mirror those observed elsewhere in the region, countywide unemployment reached 9.7 percent in 2009 compared to Onondaga's unemployment rate of 7.6 percent. State and

FIGURE 3: Unemployment Rates 2001—2009



City Profile 2010: Income

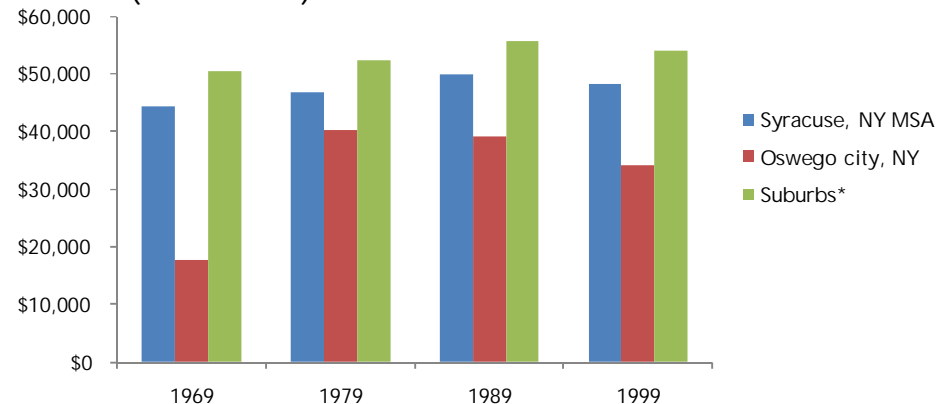
National unemployment rates have historically exceeded Onondaga County's, but are lower than unemployment rates in Oswego. Increasing unemployment rates underscore the fact that there are not enough jobs available locally, which has direct impacts on population, housing, and the local economy. A lack of a strong job market makes it difficult to entice residents to stay or to attract new residents to the region, a concern that has been echoed by students and employees of SUNY Oswego, as well as the local community.

Income and Poverty

Income levels and cost of living indicators provide insight to the amount of consumer power of an area. The City of Oswego's employment opportunities and wages are integrally tied to the amount of disposable income that residents have to circulate throughout the local economy. Historic median income levels for the City of Oswego have lagged the median income for the suburbs of the Syracuse MSA, as well as those for the City of Syracuse, NY. Over the past forty years, median income levels within the City of Oswego have decreased. This shift could be due to a loss of higher paying jobs or to an increase in the number of students within the community.

The Bureau of Economic Analysis publishes per capita income estimates for Oswego County through 2008. Per capita income estimates are determined by dividing total personal income for the county by mid-year population estimates. According to these estimates, Oswego County's per capita income was approximately \$29,171 in 2008, indicating an increase of 7.5% from 2000 when adjusted for

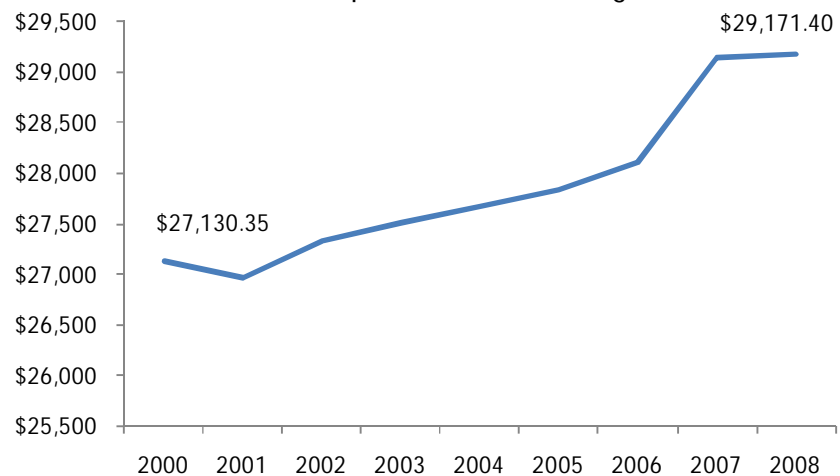
FIGURE 4: Median Household Income
(2006 dollars)



* Estimated rates are derived from the Census Bureau's Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates.

Data Source: Department of Housing and Urban Development.

FIGURE 5: Per Capita Income—Oswego



Data Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis.



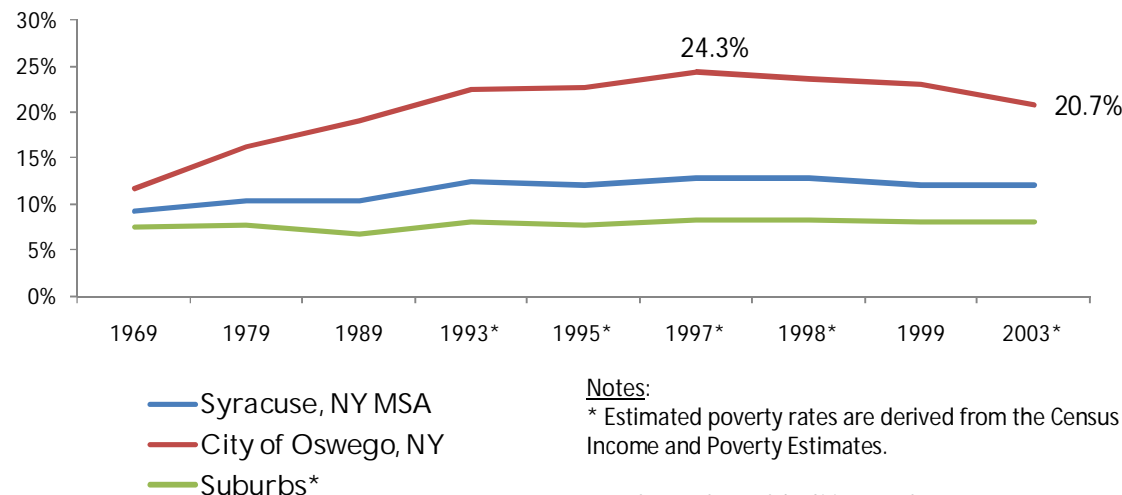
City Profile 2010: Income

inflation. By comparison, per capita income in Syracuse was \$37,520.59 in 2008 (adjusted for inflation), up 7.7% from 2000. These figures indicate that income levels in Syracuse are roughly 29 percent higher than those in Oswego County.

Although this data permits comparison between geographic regions, the method of analysis assumes that all residents within each area have equal earnings. As a result, levels may be skewed by those residents who work part-time, have lower paying positions, or are not in the workforce. Consequently, per capita income levels do not necessarily portray how income levels may have changed at the local level.

Although the cost of living in the City of Oswego is significantly lower than other areas, making it possible to live on lower incomes, poverty is a concern echoed throughout the community. According to estimates from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, approximately 20.7 percent of residents within the City of Oswego were living in poverty in 2003. Although this is lower than during 1997 when poverty levels peaked (24.3 percent), it still exceeds rates in the Syracuse MSA suburbs as well as those noted in the City of Syracuse.

FIGURE 6: Poverty Rates 1969—2003



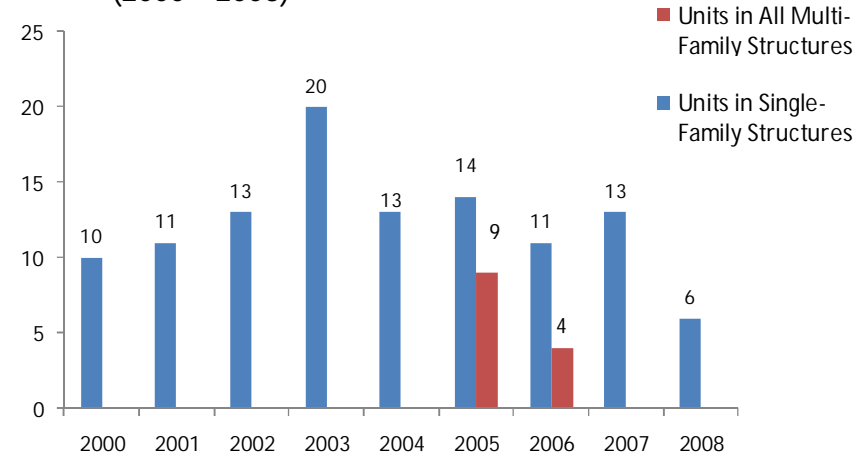
City Profile 2010: Neighborhoods

Housing

The quality and character of the City's neighborhoods are an important element associated with quality of life. There are approximately 5,521 residential properties located within the City of Oswego, comprising 77.8 percent of total properties (see Map on next page). Between 2000 and 2005, the number of residential housing permits issued within the City limits increased, peaking in 2005 with 23 permits issued. Housing permits were primarily for single-family residential structures, however nine housing permits were issued for multi-family structures at that time, potentially indicating an increased demand for more affordable housing options. Since 2005, the number of housing permits issued throughout the City has dropped, with only six single-family residential permits and no multifamily residential permits issued in 2008. Worth noting, a number of residential developments of 20+ units are currently being considered within the City. The adjacent figure illustrates historic residential permits issued within the City of Oswego.

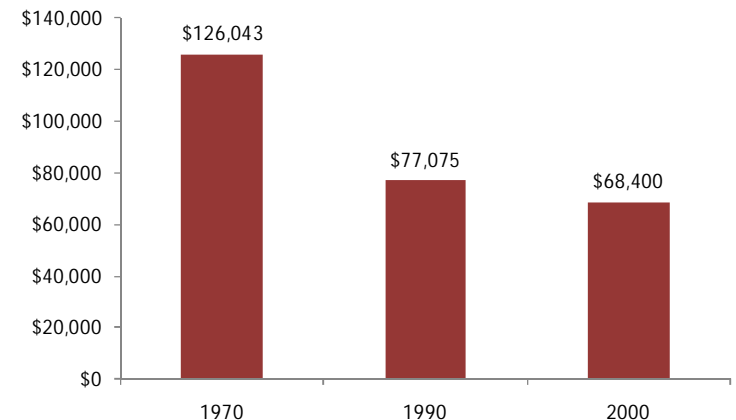
Property values are also an important indicator of demand for housing within an area or the condition of housing stock. Housing values within the City of Oswego have been depreciating over the last several decades. The median housing value was approximately \$68,400 in 2000 compared to approximately \$126,000 in 1970, illustrating a decrease by 84.2 percent. The large drop in housing values could be partially attributed to the conversion of homes to multi-family units in order to accommodate construction workers for the nearby nuclear plant. According to more recent parcel data obtained from the New York State Office of Real Property Services (NYSORPS), the average total assessed value for all residential properties was \$74,710. Although low housing values indicate that the City of Oswego is an affordable place to live, many of the homes within the City are older homes that are more costly to maintain and repair. According to the 2000 census, 59.3 percent of properties were built in 1939 or earlier, indicating that home maintenance may present a problem for residents with modest incomes.

FIGURE 7: Housing Permits—City of Oswego (2000—2008)



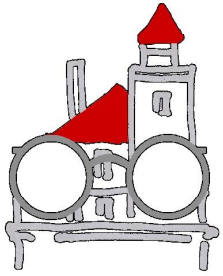
Data Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

FIGURE 8: Median Housing Value—City of Oswego (2000 dollars)



Data Source: United States Census.





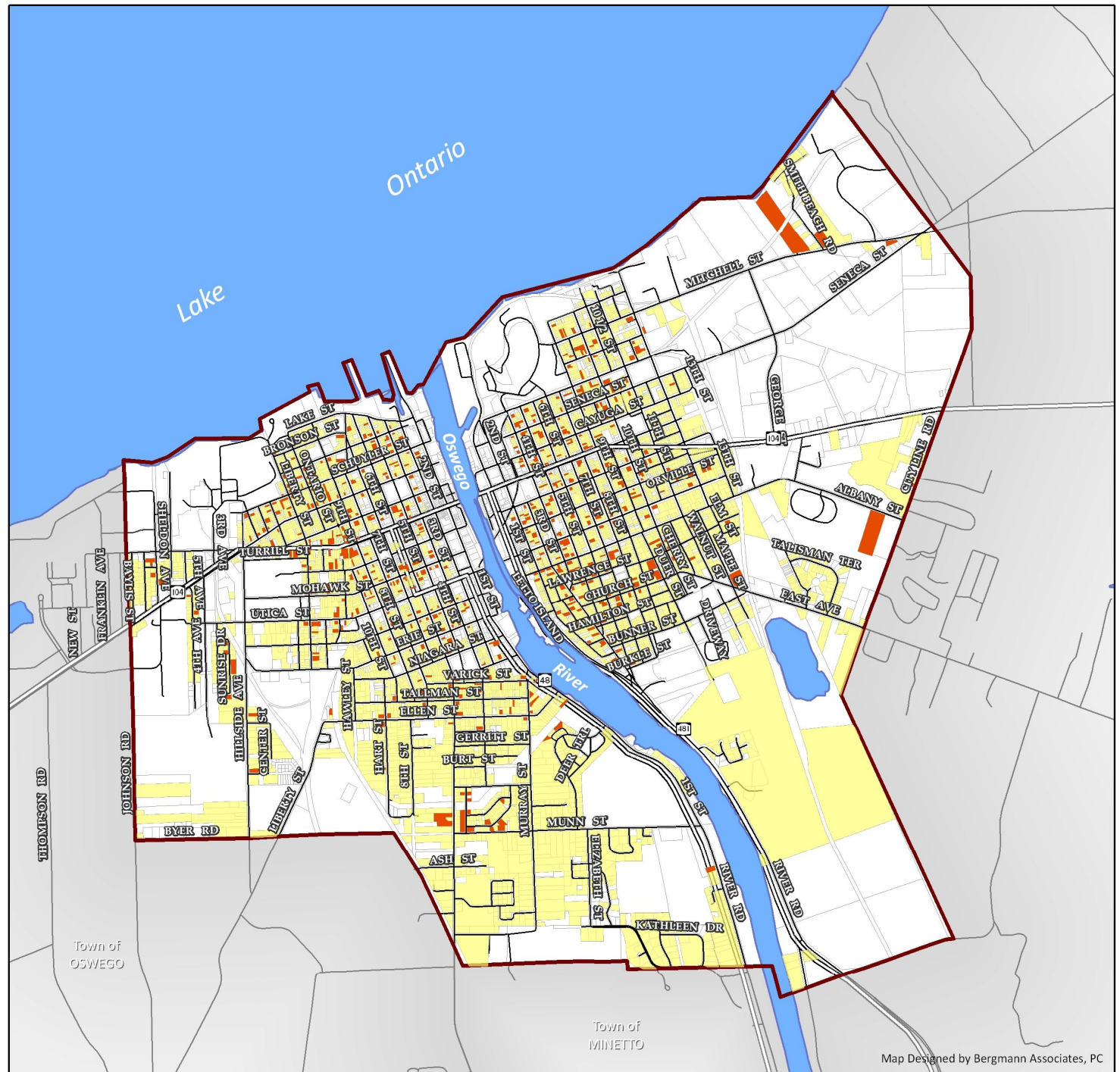
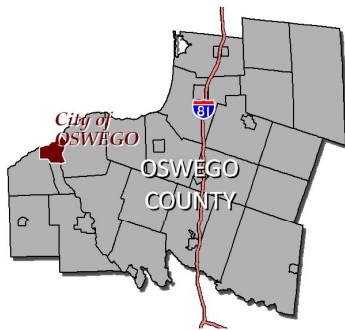
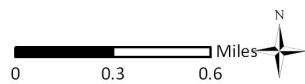


Comprehensive Plan
Update

Residential Land Uses

LEGEND

-  Multifamily Residential
-  Single Family Residential



Map Designed by Bergmann Associates, PC

Housing Initiatives

Recent market studies indicate the demand for affordable housing in Oswego, NY. This demand is being addressed by several housing initiatives throughout the City. The Seaway Lofts housing project aims to redevelop the Seaway Supply building into workforce housing, featuring 26 affordable housing units. Financial assistance for the project is provided by the Industrial Development Agency and the City of Oswego Community Development Office. In addition, several market rate waterfront housing projects are in development, including the Waterfront Square and Oswego Stevedore projects. Both projects will feature apartment housing, office and retail space to provide affordable housing and spur economic development.

Residential Properties

Residential properties are primarily concentrated centrally within the City (see adjacent Map). Together they make up 34.6 percent of total parcel area, making it the largest land use by parcel area within the City. The majority of properties (87.1 percent) in the City of Oswego are single-family residences. By comparison, only 12.9 percent of properties are multifamily, an unusual finding for a City that is located near a college or university. Many students may be choosing to live on campus (approximately half of survey respondents indicated on-campus residents), or renting multi-family or single family homes within the City. Only two properties were identified as seasonal residences, which are located along Smith Beach Road near Lake Ontario.

Vacant Properties

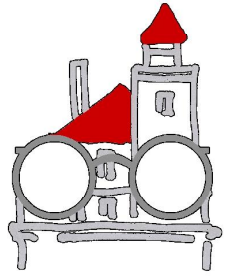
Vacant properties are identified by NYSORPS as those properties that are either not in use, are temporarily in use, or that lack permanent improvement. Within the City of Oswego, 753 parcels are classified as vacant, comprising 10.6 percent of parcels and 18.6 percent of total parcel area (773 acres). Vacant lands are the second largest land use within the City, and may present opportunities for new development or infill development. Large tracts of vacant properties are concentrated along the eastern and western periphery of the City, while smaller vacant properties are also located throughout the downtown. The majority of vacant properties are residential, but only make up 25.5 percent of total vacant property area. The largest vacant property classification by land area are public utility properties, which make up 34.4 percent of total land area. The map on the following page illustrates the location of vacant properties as well as other land uses.

Distribution of Vacant Properties

Property Description	% Parcels	% Acre Coverage
Vacant Public Utility	2.8%	34.4%
Vacant Residential	81.7%	25.5%
Abandoned Agricultural	0.8%	15.4%
Vacant Commercial	13.3%	15.2%
Vacant Industrial	1.5%	9.5%



Oswego 2020



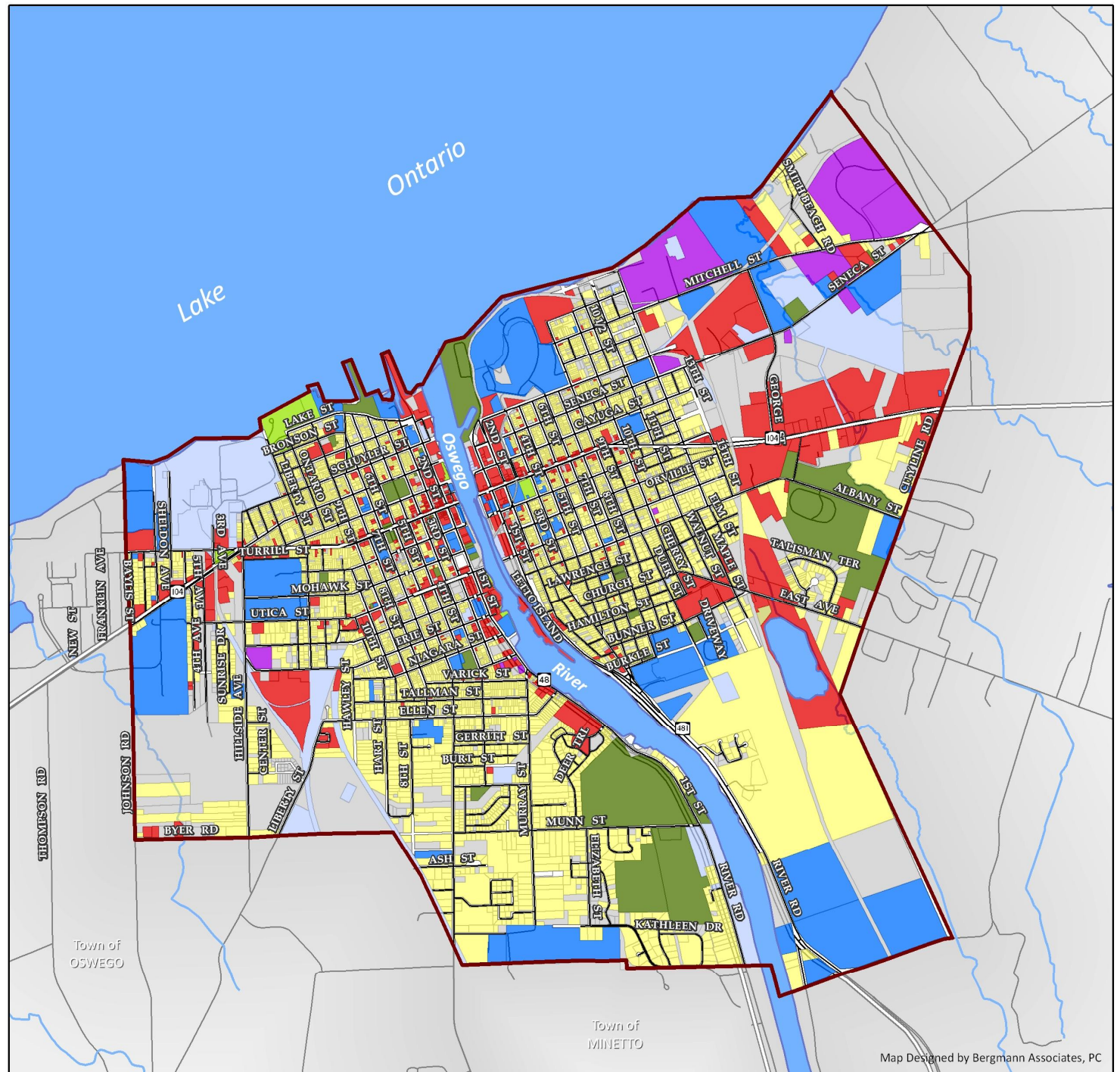
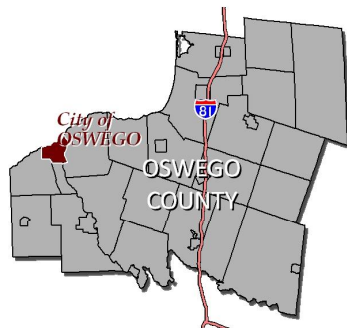
Comprehensive Plan Update

Existing Land Use

LEGEND

- Agricultural
- Residential
- Vacant Land
- Commercial
- Recreation & Entertainment
- Community Services
- Industrial
- Public Services
- Wild, Forested, Conservation Lands & Parks
- Not Classified

0 0.25 0.5 Miles



Map Designed by Bergmann Associates, PC

Community Services

Community services are those properties used for the well being of the community. These properties may include lands devoted for academic institutions, religious institutions, hospital facilities, or properties for government functions. Parcels designated as community services are located along the periphery of the city, as shown in the darker teal on the map. These properties make up only 1.2 percent of total parcels, however comprise 13.5 percent of parcel area (561 acres), making it the third largest land use within the city.

Commercial Properties

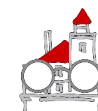
Commercial properties include those properties used for the sale of goods or services. Within the City of Oswego, 8.8 percent of all parcels are classified as commercial. These properties are primarily located along the Oswego riverfront, with fewer commercial parcels located throughout more residential neighborhoods. Larger tracts of commercial properties are present in the eastern portion of the City. Combined, commercial parcels comprise approximately 12.9 percent of total parcel area (536 acres). The map on the following page illustrates the locations of this land use.

Public Services

Public service parcels are those that provide service to the general public. Generally these include areas used for water supply or treatment, communication, transportation, waste disposal, and utilities. Public service properties are located in the far northeast and northwest of the City of Oswego. Forty-six parcels are classified as public services and comprise 8.6 percent of total parcel area (356 acres). Lands used for these purposes are generally larger to accommodate the facilities needed as well as to separate possible nuisances from other land uses.

Recreation and Entertainment

There are 33 properties within the City used for the purpose of recreation and entertainment. These properties are mostly located along the Oswego River, while others are located throughout the residential neighborhoods. Included in this classification is the Oswego Country Club, to the south, and lands owned by the Port Authority. Together these properties comprise 7.0 percent of all parcel area (approximately 291 acres).



City Profile 2010: Land Use

Industrial Properties

Historically Oswego's waterways have served to support industrial activities, and industrial properties remain concentrated along the Lake Ontario waterfront or the Oswego Canal. However, only 15 parcels within the City are classified as having industrial activity. Together these parcels only comprise 3.9 percent of total parcel area, making it the third smallest land use. The majority of these are used for manufacturing and processing activities. One property, located within the western part of the city, is utilized for mining and quarrying operations. Larger industrial parcels are located in the eastern portion of the City in proximity to the Lake Ontario waterfront. The largest parcel is owned by the Oswego County Industrial Development Association (I.D.A.), and is 56.64 acres. Industrial properties are illustrated on the map on the adjacent page.

Opportunities to expand small industry within the City may exist off Route 104. The City should evaluate the feasibility of attracting light industry to the properties located behind the Price Chopper and Wal-Mart. If this is determined a realistic opportunity, the City should work towards making these properties shovel-ready and accessible to infrastructure.

Wild, Forested, Conservation Lands & Public Parks

There are only nine properties within the City that have this land use classification. These parcels are primarily City Public Parks and recreation areas, which are scattered throughout the City. Breitbeck Park is the largest of these areas, comprising 14.4 acres. These properties comprise 35.9 acres (0.9 percent total parcel area), making it one of the smallest land uses within the City.

Agricultural

Only one property within the City is designated for agricultural use and is located off East Avenue in the eastern portion of the City. This land is owned by A. Ferlito Farms, which was established in 1989. Ferlito Farms is a wholesale farm equipment manufacturer located on 1.8 acres of land. Agricultural properties are the smallest land use within the City of Oswego, making up less than 0.5 percent of total parcel area.

Oswego Port

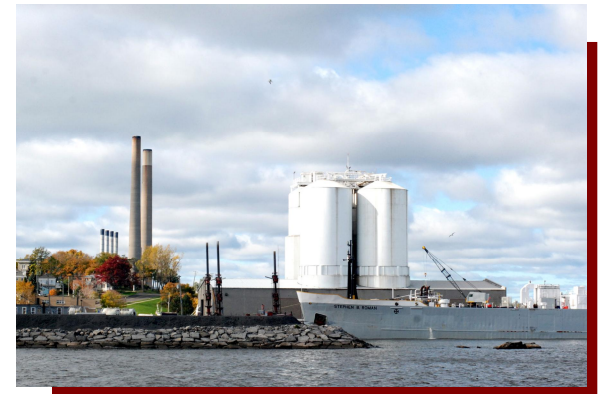
Oswego, the Port City of Central New York, is known for its international shipping and as a gateway to the Great Lakes and the Erie Canal Heritage Corridor. Benjamin Franklin speculated developing the Oswego Harbor for trade to control the country's northern border. Oswego Harbor has been controlled for trade by the French, British and American forces since 1755. The Oswego Port was established as a lumber and shipbuilding center in the 18th and 19th centuries. Grain, coal, potash, aluminum and salt became the principle commodities shipped throughout the Great Lakes, Europe and South America through the 20th century. Heavy electrical generating equipment for nuclear power and steam generating power plants was also received at the Oswego port during this time. Aluminum, salt, potash, cement, petroleum, grains and wind generator parts characterize the current Port of Oswego's cargoes. On an annual basis, the Port serves approximately 120 vessels, manages 750 inbound rail cars, and employs approximately 125 people for its operations.

The Port functions as an international transportation and logistics hub. The volume in bulk commodities shipped in the past three years averages more than 1 million metric tons per year. The west side terminal cement silos, asphalt and petroleum tanks continue to distribute these commodities throughout upstate New York.

Plans for expansion include an increased emphasis on tourism. The International Marina, located on the west side, currently operates primarily as a recreation marina with 100 slips. The west side terminal cement silos, asphalt and petroleum tanks continue to distribute these commodities throughout upstate New York. The Port plans to attract upscale cruise lines to make Oswego a port of call for international tourists. An improved dock facility with visitor amenities and linkages to downtown shopping and transportation to regional attractions would be necessary to realize this goal.



Operations at the East Terminal



View of the West Terminal



City Profile 2010: Industry

Developing the capacity to service container ships is another goal of the Port of Oswego Authority. The Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway is expecting a large inflow of container ships as a result of the Melford International Terminal development in Nova Scotia, Canada. The increase in container ships through the St. Lawrence Seaway will find Oswego as the first U.S. port with connections to the interstate highway system and Class I rail. Improvements in equipment, rail service, truck routes and increased storage capacity are required to serve the international container ships. The Port of Oswego East Terminal Connector Project identifies the strategy and implementation phases to diversify the cargoes and increase the volume of shipments.

Tangible projects to be completed within the next ten years include establishment as a Tier 3 port, completion of the Port of Oswego East Terminal Connector Project expansion of dock and storage capacity through infill facilities on port property, and installing a 21st century Container Management System at the Port of Oswego.



Port of Oswego Authority

Healthy Living Infrastructure

A city's quality of life is characterized by its ability to promote healthy lifestyles through its environmental and recreational infrastructure and programs that encourage physical and spiritual health through exercise, sports, environmental awareness, education and the arts.

Healthy living infrastructure includes well maintained sidewalks, bike lanes or bike paths, as well as available and accessible parks, trail systems, and playgrounds. Together these features support leisure, recreation and exercise, all of which enhance the overall quality of life within a community. The City of Oswego has 15 parks, 4 trails, and 20 sports fields. In addition, Selkirk State Park is located in nearby Pulaski, offering 5 miles of trails that overlook Lake Ontario and are part of SUNY Oswego's Rice Creek Field Station. In particular, the Blue Trail passes over the highest portion of the park. The trails are used primarily for hiking, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing. Finally, natural resources, such as the Oswego River and Lake Ontario, provide the City with the opportunity to expand and link recreational resources. If done in a strategic manner, the City could become a location that promotes active living, appealing to residents of all ages. One of the most fundamental methods of incorporating health back into the City is to include such concepts as part of a strategic plan.

Healthy Living Analysis

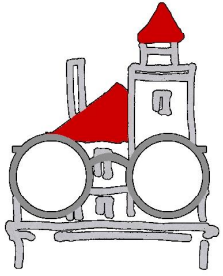
Generally speaking, 1/8 mile is recognized as the distance that people will comfortably walk to access goods, services and recreation. An 1/8 mile buffer surrounding the City of Oswego's existing parks and trails encompasses approximately 31.9 percent of all residential parcels within the City (see map on the following page). This indicates that residents not willing or able to walk more than this distance must utilize a vehicle to access these resources. An additional 47 percent of residents are located between 1/8 and 1/4 mile of existing parks, and only 21.1 percent of residential properties are located at distances greater than 1/4 mile.

Community Perspective

The community survey indicated that 87.6 percent of residents felt that trails and recreational opportunities were either important or very important contributors to the character of the City of Oswego. Respondents generally indicated that there is adequate parkland located within the City of Oswego (82.1 percent). By comparison, 37.5 percent of residents indicated that there are not an adequate number of trails located within the City limits. Opportunities may exist throughout the City to expand trails and better link to existing recreational resources.



Oswego 2020

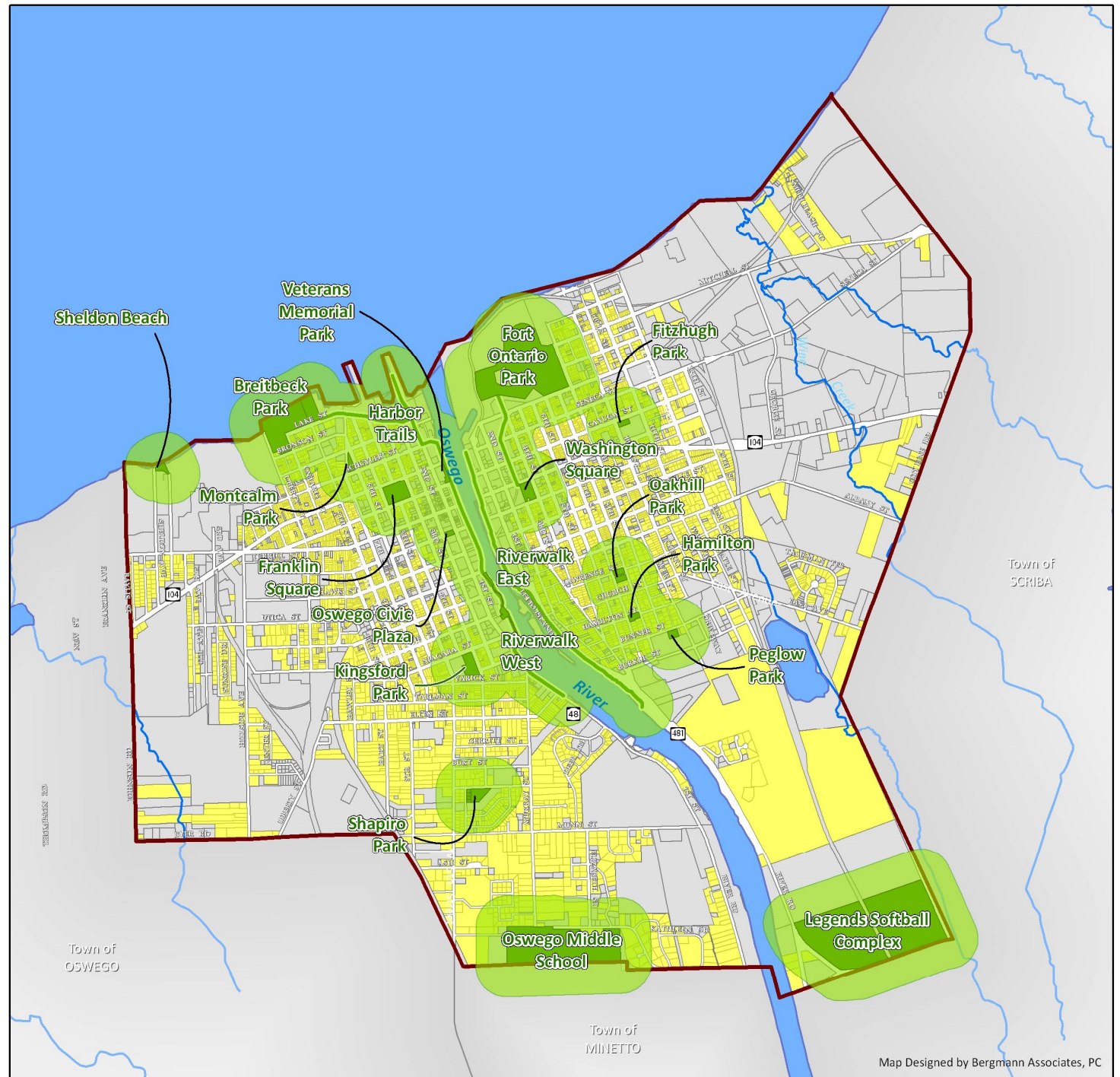
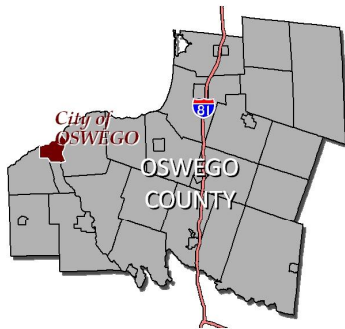
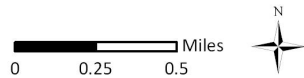


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Parks & Recreation

LEGEND

- 1/8 Mile Walking Buffer
- Parks & Recreation Areas
- Multi-Use Trails
- Parcel Boundaries
- Residential Property



Map Designed by Bergmann Associates, PC

Oswego Health

The availability of quality healthcare is a characteristic that many people in a community consider essential to a good quality of life. Oswego Hospital was founded in 1881 to provide quality healthcare to residents, regardless of income. Since its inception, the 164-bed Oswego Hospital has continued to serve the entire community with acute medical, emergency, surgical, maternity, pediatric and behavioral services.

In 1997, the Oswego Hospital was incorporated into Oswego Health, Inc. to diversify the services offered to Central New York residents. The Oswego Healthcare System includes Oswego Hospital, The Manor at Seneca Hill, a skilled nursing facility; Springside at Seneca Hill, a retirement living community; an urgent care center in Fulton, as well as health service centers in the towns of Mexico, Parish and Phoenix, New York.

Oswego Health recently completed a strategic plan that utilized community input to identify goals for the hospital. One such goal is to evaluate the feasibility of providing assisted living, which is currently not one of the hospital's practices. In addition, the hospital recognizes the need to conduct a needs assessment to identify gaps in resources, services and to better identify opportunities.

Oswego Health has received 14 million and 18 million dollar grants for facility upgrades and are currently in the process of preparing a facilities master plan. During summer 2009, work began on constructing a new ER department to provide private rooms, larger waiting spaces, and the latest in medical equipment.

The hospital recognizes that residents are drawn into communities that have both quality schools and health care facilities. The hospital works closely in support of area schools. The New Visions program, for example, is a camp for



The Manor retirement facility

Oswego Health Facilities

164 bed hospital
124 bed nursing home
64 unit retirement facility
44 unit apartment
4 physical practices

Data Source: Oswego Health



City Profile 2010: Health & Wellness

kids to educate them about healthcare while permitting them to shadow the system. Such partnerships are examples of how organizations can work together for the betterment of the community at large.



Entry to Oswego Hospital

City Profile 2010: Education

Primary and Secondary Education

One of the most important considerations for young families deciding where to live is the quality of an area's educational system. The Oswego City School District is comprised of five elementary schools, Oswego Middle School and Oswego High School, which are illustrated on the Map on the following page. Also, the Oswego Community Christian School provides parochial education for grades K-8 and the Trinity Catholic School provides parochial education for grades Pre-K-6. The quality of any school is generally characterized by class sizes, availability of technology, the academic ability and experience of teachers, school leadership, and academic environment.

Highly qualified teachers are classified by the New York State Education Department as those who have at least a Bachelor's degree, are certified to teach in their subject area, and demonstrate subject matter competency. The number of students taught by teachers who are not highly qualified decreased by four percent between the 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 academic years. Additionally, only three percent of students were taught by teachers without appropriate certification, a decrease of three percent from the previous year.

Although the public has expressed concern over increased high school dropouts in the City of Oswego, rates have remained relatively stable with only minor fluctuations over between 2002 and 2009. Dropout rates have remained below five percent, and the District has had a higher proportion of completers than the state standard. According to the 2008-2009 New York State School Report Card, the majority of students who graduated from Oswego City Schools planned to attend a 2-year (37 percent) or 4-year college (42 percent) following graduation. Six percent of students indicated plans to enter directly into the workforce.

FIGURE 9: Teacher Qualifications 2006—2009
Oswego Central School District

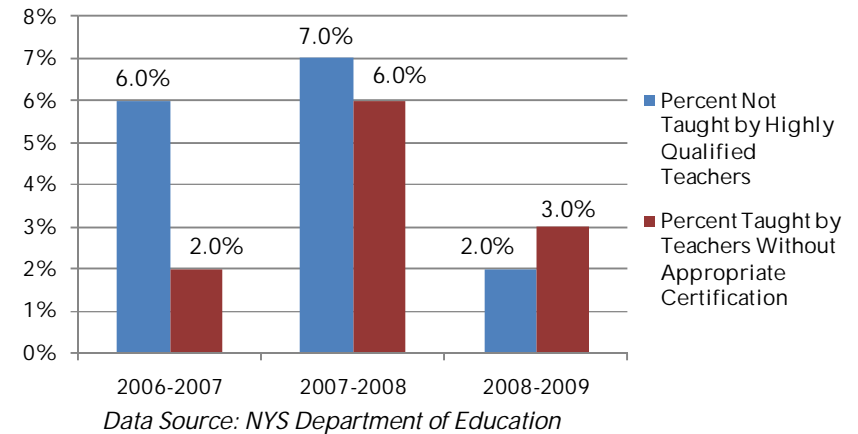
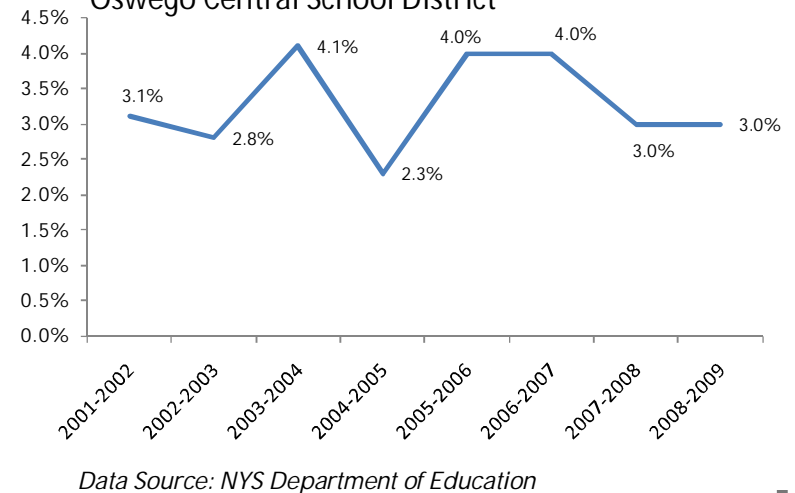
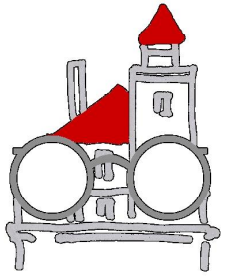


FIGURE 10: High School Dropout Rates
Oswego Central School District



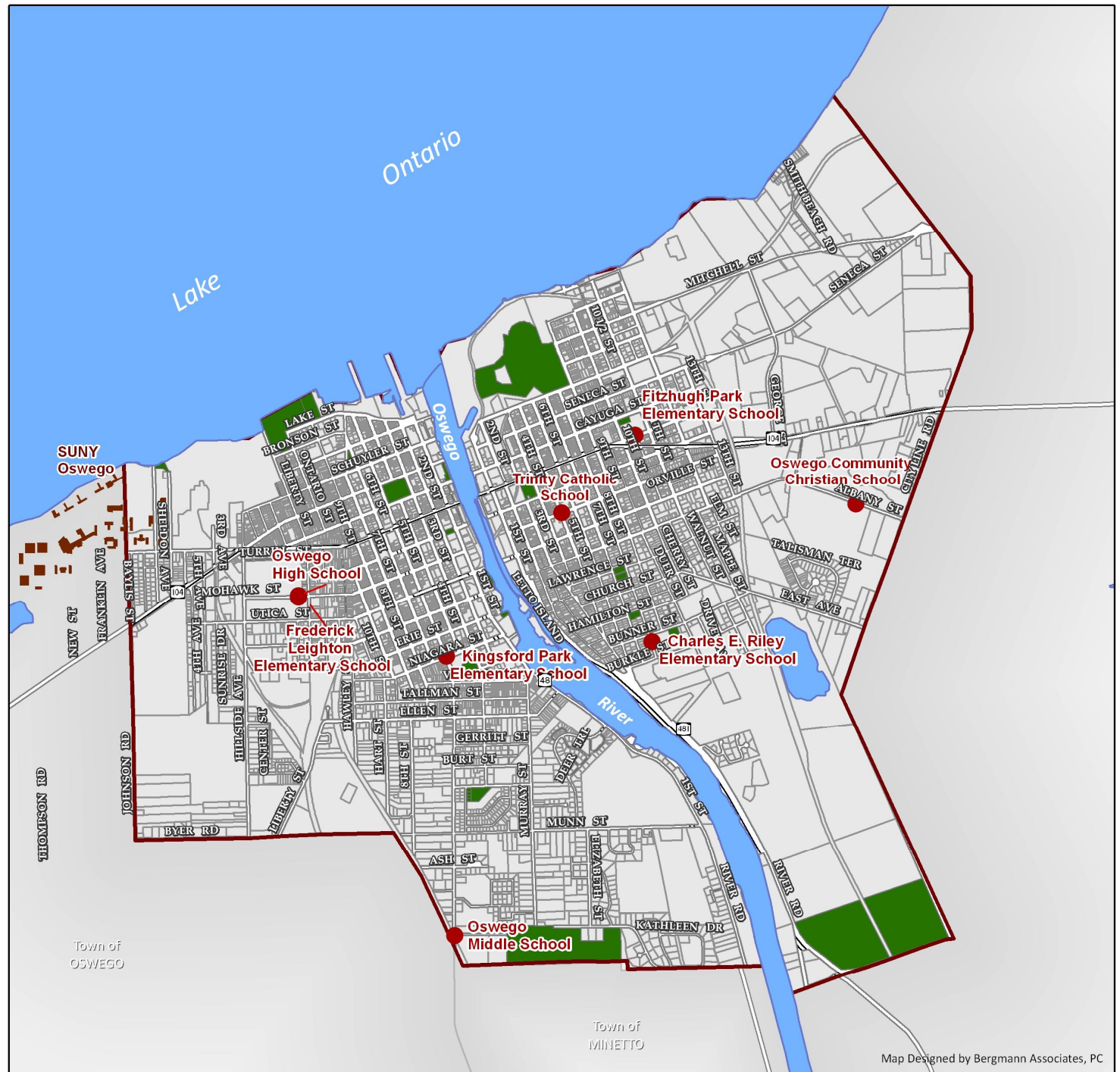
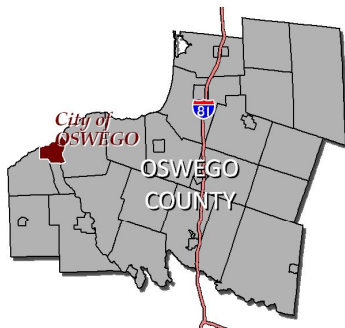
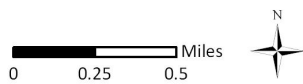


Comprehensive Plan
Update

Academic Institutions

LEGEND

- Oswego Schools
- SUNY Oswego Campus
- Parks & Recreation



Map Designed by Bergmann Associates, PC

City Profile 2010: Education

Total enrollment in the district has been decreasing in recent years, from 4,505 in the 2006—2007 school year to 4,252 students in the 2008—2009 school year. Although this indicates that the number of youth in the City may be decreasing, in some instances this has afforded smaller class sizes and lower student to teacher ratios. For example, in most subject areas, the average class size for Grade 10 decreased between 2006-2007 and 2008-2009.

Post-Secondary Education

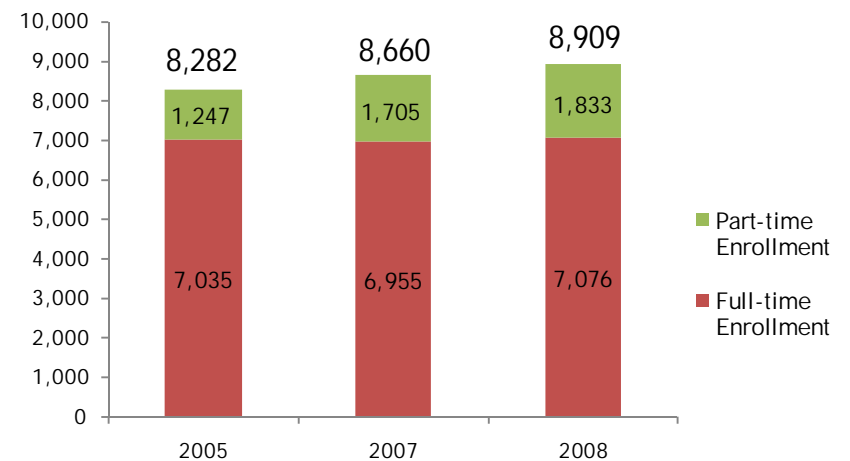
The SUNY Oswego campus is located on the Lake Ontario shoreline in both the City and town of Oswego. Sheldon Hall, the old Main campus, two dormitories, Rich and Park Halls and the President's residence are all located within the city limits of Oswego.

In 2009, SUNY Oswego had a full-time enrollment of 8,140 students, including 7,212 undergraduate and 928 graduate students. The College indicates that applications to the institution have been increasing over the past several years, permitting them to be more selective in the students that they admit. Approximately 75 percent of accepted freshmen graduated in the top third of their high school class. An estimated 4,300 students live on campus, which comprises the third largest community in Oswego County.

SUNY Oswego offers a variety of academic programs at the baccalaureate and masters degree levels. The majority of degrees conferred at the College are in the fields of education and business, management and marketing. SUNY Oswego is currently one of a select few institutions nationally that is accredited with the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). NCATE is an alliance of professional and public organizations that recognize institutions that have met national professional standards for the preparation of teachers and other educators.

Other programs offered include Psychology, Visual and Performing Arts, Computer and Information Sciences, and Mathematics. SUNY Oswego recently expanded its media facilities. The new Al Roker television studio is housed in the WTOP Channel 10 television studio, distinguishing SUNY Oswego as

FIGURE 11: SUNY Oswego Enrollments 2005-2008



Data Source: IPEDS Data System



City Profile 2010: Education

a leader in the region for media services. In addition, the College's expansion plans include developing a new Electrical and Computer Engineering program

The College continues to expand and upgrade its facilities, and is in the process of completing a new Facilities Master Plan. The master plan has several focus areas including strategic direction, implementing climate initiatives, creating community through placemaking, pedestrian scale connections, and emotional connections. Several campus projects support these goals, some of which will be initiated in the short-term (see sidebar). The facilities plan includes a sustainability component that evaluates circulation patterns, parking, and sustainable landscapes.

Additionally, the college completed a Sesquicentennial Plan using the acronym VIEWS to identify five strategic areas including vitality, intellectual rigor, engagement, world awareness, and solutions. Growth in these areas supports the overall vision of the institution to strengthen the college while cultivating students to become humane citizens who are influential at the global level and their profession.

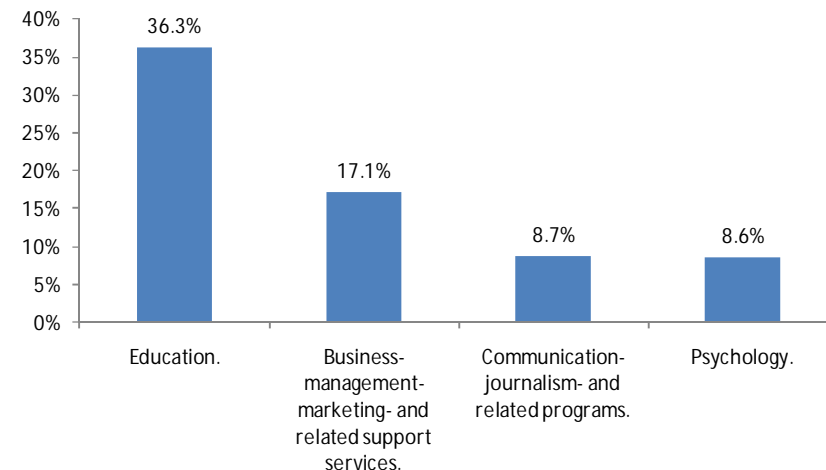
The college has recently completed an internal assessment of the engagement of its students, faculty and staff in the community and based on this is seeking the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education as an Engaged College. SUNY Oswego was a founding member of the New York State Campus Compact to help students develop the values and skills of citizenship through involvement in community service. Students participate in community volunteer work throughout the year:

- Creative writing students conduct writing workshops with residents of a nearby retirement community;

SUNY Oswego Facilities Master Plan Proposed Projects:

- Regional fine and performing arts center
- Information innovation center
- Historic Sheldon Hall Adaptation
- Campus and Community Wellness Initiative
- New Science Building
- Penfield Renovation
- Tyler Hall Renovation
- Sheldon Hall Renovation

FIGURE 12: Top Degrees Awarded (2008) - SUNY Oswego



Data Source: IPEDS Data System

- Students tutor local children through the Oswego Public Library;
- Dozens of students participate in Habitat for Humanity, Adopt a Grandparent, Circle K, Red Cross, and Special Olympics through the college's Center for Service Learning.

In 2008-09, more than 1,100 students provided more than 24,300 hours of service to the community. College faculty and staff also serve in leadership roles in a variety of community organizations. The college was instrumental in the creation of the young professional's organization, YP Voice. The college continues to seek new ways to engage and partner with the community to further existing partnerships.

In addition to getting the students involved in the community, the college has facilitated several joint planning sessions with the City of Oswego, the Town and County of Oswego. SUNY Oswego's President, Deborah F. Stanley, signed the University and College President's Climate Commitment, which kicked off several sustainability initiatives on and off campus. A public forum, "Working Together for Sustainable Communities," brought all of these municipalities together to talk about the interdependence and future infrastructure planning. SUNY Oswego's Climate Action Plan was adopted in September 2009 and can be found at <http://acupcc.aashe.org/cap/72>.

De-



City Profile 2010: Infrastructure

The City of Oswego has a relatively sound infrastructure; its highways, drainage and utilities are basically functioning well and serving the needs of the City. The Oswego River divides the City into an east and west side. The element requiring the most attention at this time is wastewater handling, which is being addressed under consent decrees established with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, as described below.

Water and Wastewater

The City obtains its water from nearby Lake Ontario, which is processed through a 16 million gallon per day (MGD) water treatment works, also serving the Town of Scriba. The system includes three elevated tanks on the west side of the Oswego River and one elevated and on ground storage tank on the east side. The City has developed a five year capital expenditure program to upgrade and replace watermains on a systematic approach. The east side elevated tank is planned to be replaced with a larger and higher tank in the next year or two to keep pace with demand.

Wastewater handling is a larger issue due to the need to accommodate combined sanitary/stormwater sewers and related overflows during storm events. A consent decree issued by the NYSDEC sets for the objectives to reduce infiltration/inflow (I/I) and to separate combined sewer over three phases, with target dates for completion of 2014, 2018 and 2021. A Capacity Management, Operations and Maintenance (CMOM) program is being prepared to address the consent decree conditions and includes inspecting and maintaining the systems as well as developing projects to eliminate I/I. The sewage is wholly domestic in nature with no special industrial components.

The west side wastewater handling system comprises a 4 MGD dry/ 8 MGD wet weather capacity activated sludge wastewater treatment works (WWTW) with tertiary treatment. Sludge from the process is transported to the County landfill. The west side sewer system consists of approximately 40% combined sewers and 60% separate (sanitary only) sewers. Per the consent decree, the west side WWTW will be upgraded in capacity to 6 MGD dry/ 12 MGD wet weather flow capacity by 2014.

On the east side of the Oswego River, the City completed a long term control plan in 2008 wherein the activated sludge WWTW was expanded to 7.5 MGD capacity. The east side sewer system consists of approximately 30% combined sewers and employs a large surge tank at the WWTW to accommodate flow surges during and following storm events. The

current system experiences an average of two overflows per year, below the accepted norm of four such events annually. No other improvements are planned at this time.

Storm drainage for the city comprises four basic systems to convey flow to Lake Ontario: the Oswego River; the Gardinair Street sewer system; the Harbor Brook pipe system; and the Wine Creek (open channel) system. Of the current 40 percent combined sewers on the west side, 75 percent are to be separated into discrete storm and sanitary sewers by 2021 in three phases. Generally speaking, the drainage systems serve the City satisfactorily; there have been no severe flooding problems reported since 1974 following an intense storm (reputed to be a '50 year' storm). The City has good slope; the Oswego River and Lake Ontario meet the classification as "Fourth Order Streams," and do not require stormwater quantity detention. Natural stormwater detention is provided along the Gardinair Street system on the west side and in the Harbor Brook muck lands on the east side. The Gardinair storm sewer needs to be cleaned out to restore its capacity.

Energy

The City of Oswego has demonstrated that it shares a commitment to embrace sustainability best practices as evidenced by its work with the Maxwell School to produce "The City of Oswego: Toward Municipal Sustainability" study. The study identifies cost-effective ways for the City to reduce its energy use through strategic street light removals and upgrades. In addition, Oswego has proposed to assess the feasibility of Lake Source Cooling and has made strides towards utilizing sustainable energy resources including solar and wind power .

In terms of energy production, The City of Oswego is home to a wide variety of electric and gas production and distribution facilities. National Grid supplies both electric and natural gas to the City and has plans to upgrade its system from 4KV to 11KV in the near future. Gas mains in the City are currently being upgraded from low pressure to medium pressure. Additional energy providers are summarized on the next page .



City Profile 2010: Infrastructure

Hydroelectric Generators

The Oswego River is home to two hydroelectric generating stations, both operated by Brookfield power. The High Dam Hydroelectric Station, owned by the City of Oswego, is located at the First Street dam and generates up to 8 MW of power which is sold to National Grid. In addition, the Varick Hydroelectric Station, owned by Erie Boulevard Power, operates an 8 MW hydropower generating facility.

Oil & Natural Gas Facility

The Lake Ontario Energy Complex, an oil/natural gas facility, is owned and operated by NRG and Oswego Harbor Power. The facility is located on the Lake Ontario shore on the northwest side of the City, and has a generating capacity of 1,700 MW. The facility provides electricity during high demand periods.

Co-Generation Facility

Indeck Energy is a gas fired co-generating plant located next to the EJ Spirtas development opportunity on the eastern shore of Lake Ontario.

Wind Energy

The City of Oswego and the SUNY Oswego Campus are prime opportunity sites for wind power electrical generation. The City of Oswego Common Council adopted a wind ordinance for siting wind electrical generation equipment in the City limits of Oswego in 2009.

Solar Energy

The City of Oswego was awarded a \$268,000 grant for the installation of photovoltaic panels on the Crisafulli ice rink in 2010. The City of Oswego Common Council adopted a solar ordinance for siting photovoltaic energy devices in the City of Oswego for industrial, commercial and residential purposes in 2009.

Lake Source Cooling

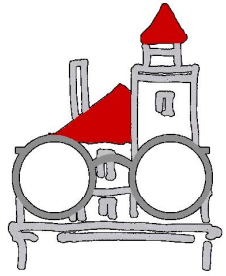
In 2009, the City of Oswego, County of Oswego, Oswego City School District, and SUNY Oswego proposed a feasibility study for adopting Lake Source Cooling for public and commercial uses. Lake Source Cooling is a method employed for climate control systems, using the lower temperatures found in deep waters as a heat sink. SUNY Oswego is acting as lead agency for further exploration of this technology.

Summary

The City of Oswego has demonstrated that it shares a commitment to embrace sustainability best practices as evidenced by its work with the Maxwell School to produce "*The City of Oswego: Toward Municipal Sustainability*" study. The study identifies cost-effective ways for the City to reduce its energy use through strategic street light removals and upgrades. In addition, Oswego has proposed to assess the feasibility of Lake Source Cooling and has made strides towards utilizing sustainable energy resources including solar and wind power.



Oswego 2020



Comprehensive Plan Update

Bus Routes

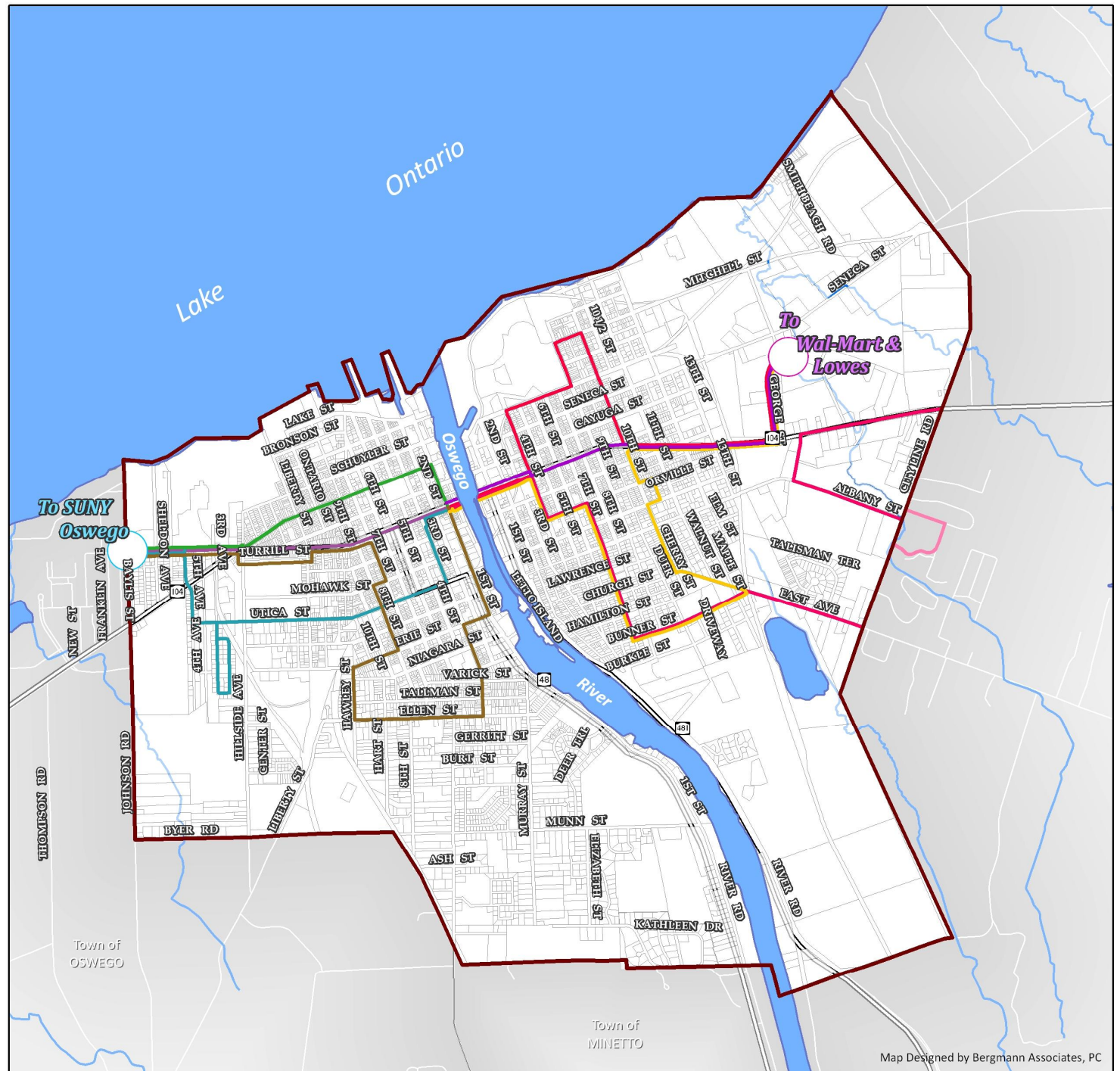
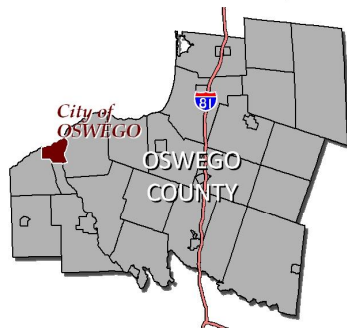
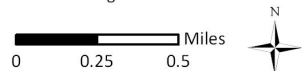
LEGEND

East Side

- 1A Price Chopper via 104 East
- 1B Price Chopper via Hamilton Homes
- 1C Price Chopper via East Seneca
- 1D Price Chopper via Brandonwood Apt.

West Side

- 2A College via 104 West
- 2B College via West Seneca
- 2C College via West Utica
- 2D College via Ellen Street



Map Designed by Bergmann Associates, PC

City Profile 2010: **Transportation**

Roads

The City has a good highway system with no immediate problems. Eighty-six miles of streets exist in the City, 80 percent of which are characterized by curbing that is in good condition. There are very few one way streets. City streets typically have 100-foot wide rights-of-way, with structures up to the right-of-way, then typically 18 feet to the sidewalk, and 36 feet wide streets, curb to curb. This generous width accommodates snow storage and handling, as well as parking. Although the road system is considered to be in good condition, many students have indicated that poor driving conditions and weathered roads detract from the quality of life in Oswego.

The City of Oswego is primarily served by two New York State routes: Route 104 and Route 481. Route 481 provides access south to Syracuse, while Route 104 connects the City to Western New York. There are a total of 95.2 centerline highway miles within City limits that are maintained by both the City of Oswego and the New York State Department of Transportation.

The map located on page 30 provides the Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) volumes for those NYS Routes that traverse the City, as provided by the NYSDOT. Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) is the total volume of vehicle traffic of a highway or road for a year divided by 365 days. These figures are typically estimated based traffic counts conducted over the course of several days and extrapolated. Generally, traffic volumes are heavier on the east side of the City, with much of the traffic coming into the City from the neighboring communities .

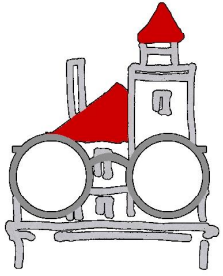
Major highway bridges also exist in the City, including two over the river. The Route 104 bridge was reconstructed in 2008 and the Utica Street bridge is to be completed in late 2010 or 2011. Three bridges span the CSX railway on the east side: Route 104 (rebuilt in 2000), East Albany Street (rebuilt in 2002) and East Seneca Street (rebuilt in 1975). An old railroad bridge over the river is now the Harbor Rail Trail pedestrian bridge (since 1995). The City has been successful in obtaining Federal/State funding for many projects in the past ten years. Several projects that will impact area roads and bridges are summarized in the adjacent table. NYSDOT is

Proposed Highway Projects—City of Oswego

No.	Description	Location	Schedule	Cost
1	Route 104 Widening/Improvements	George Street to Kocher Road	Fall 2010	\$ 7.9 M
2	Route 481 Widening/Improvements	Churchill Rd to Route 57	2013 to 2014	\$1.6 M
3	Bridge Rehabilitation	Utica Street over Oswego River	Winter 2009 - 2010	\$ 4 M

Data Source: New York State Department of Transportation.



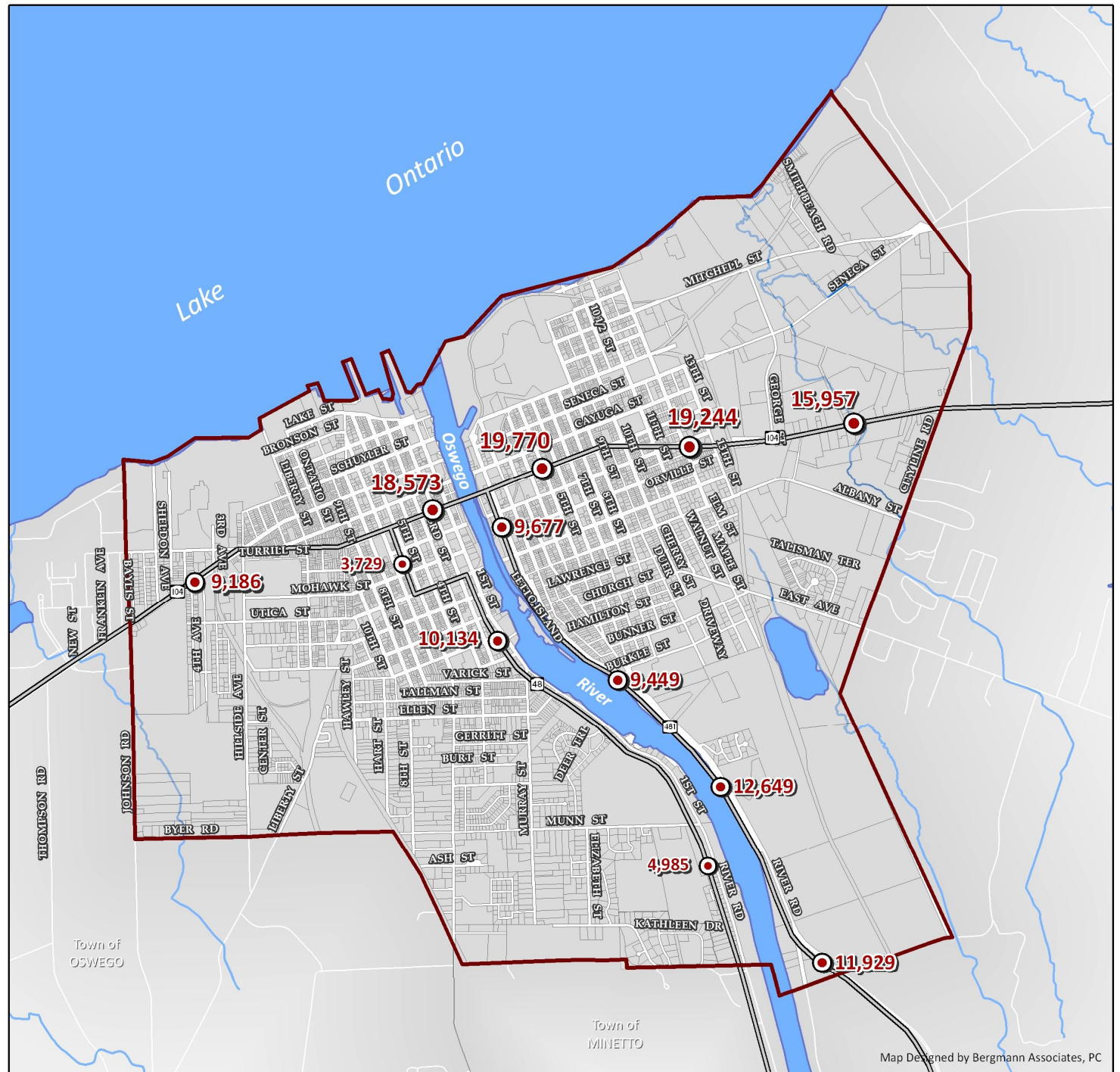
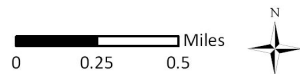


Comprehensive Plan
Update

**Annual Average
Daily Traffic**

LEGEND

○ 3,729 Average Annual Daily Traffic
(NYSDOT, 2008)



Map Designed by Bergmann Associates, PC

City Profile 2010: **Transportation**

currently planning to reconstruct Route 104 from the CXS bridge to Kocher Road, NY Route 48 from Ellen Street to the south City line and City Line Road from Route 104 to County Route 4.

Water

The City of Oswego is defined by its waterways. The Oswego River is part of the Erie Canal National Heritage Corridor and the Erie Barge Canal. It connects the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway to the canal system and the inland canalway. The City of Oswego is home to three marinas with over 280 slips and an international port that serves deep water ocean-going barges. Commodity shipments of petroleum, cement, wind generator parts and salt are commonly transported through the port facility. Aluminum and wood products are also manufactured in area facilities and shipped through the Oswego port to international destinations.

Public Transportation

The City of Oswego has public transportation service available through the Central New York Regional Transportation Authority. The CENTRO bus fleet serves the City of Oswego, SUNY Oswego and also provides regional transportation throughout Oswego and Onondaga County and connects with the Regional Transportation Center and AMTRAK in Syracuse. Eight routes are available that connect various parts of the eastern and western portions of the City to downtown. Select routes also service SUNY Oswego, as well as outlying areas. Ridership is observed to be relatively low. Students who responded to the University survey indicated that more public transportation options as well as additional sidewalks would be factors that would improve the quality of life within the City of Oswego. Bus routes are illustrated on the map on the previous page. SUNY Oswego is currently exploring roundabouts and traffic circles as methods to save fuel and increase safety for the eastern campus access route at Sheldon Avenue and Washington Boulevard.

Rail

The City of Oswego was served by three rail lines up until 1948. CSX Rail maintains freight service to the Port of Oswego Authority. Rail rights-of-way also exist on the west side of the City of Oswego, which once served the Oswego Steam Electrical generating station. This rights-of-way has been proposed for a light rail system from Syracuse to SUNY Oswego; however, no railway improvements are anticipated at this time.



City Profile 2010: **Transportation**

Bicycle Paths

To accommodate bicycle enthusiasts, the City of Oswego has a system of bike trails that it hopes to expand. This expansion would occur along both river walks and connect the Oswego Harbor Trail, the SUNY Oswego campus, and downtown Oswego along the northern shore of Lake Ontario and the Oswego River. Bike paths along the Erie Canal Heritage Corridor would connect to the National Heritage Corridor bikeway that now connects Buffalo to Albany. Opportunities to provide bikeways to connect with the Great Lakes Seaway Trail could provide future connections with the Canadian bike paths that circle Lake Ontario. Bike paths could also be developed to serve as safe routes to schools that are energy efficient and health enhancing. SUNY Oswego is currently implementing climate smart planning to encourage pedestrian, cycling and mass transit as the primary ways to access the campus .

Private Taxi Services

The City of Oswego currently has three taxi companies serving the City of Oswego and its environs.

Alternative Fuel Vehicle

The City of Oswego is exploring possible electric and hybrid vehicles for city fleets. The City is also seeking to expand a shared vehicle program using hybrid electric vehicles for city and subscriber use. Bio-diesel and alternative fuel vehicles are also being considered for future purchases.