

## 2. Objectives

**Goal of Effort:** To create a shared facility for marine safety training, and a base for the deployment of public safety marine vessels on to Cayuga Lake and Cayuga Inlet. Established Water, Boater, and Public Safety Agencies presently operating in Ithaca and Tompkins County would support and participate in the effort.

**Mission of Shared Facility:**

Boater Safety Training Facility  
USCG Boat Inspection Facility  
Law Enforcement Patrol Base  
Fire, Rescue, & EMS Operations Base

**Background of Present Agencies and Facilities Involved**

**USCGA** – The Auxiliary presently operates out of a facility on Inlet Island adjacent to the flood control channel in the City of Ithaca. The Auxiliary has been in operation for approximately 50 years and been located at its present facility for about 30 years. It has about 35 members who volunteer their time to provide water and boater safety-training classes to the general public. The facility, which is used by the Auxiliary, was converted from a service station to the present training and storage facility with funds provided by donations and dues from its all-volunteer membership.

**Ithaca Power Squadron** – The Ithaca Power Squadron is comprised of about 30 volunteer members who provide boater and personal watercraft safety training. The Squadron does not presently have an established facility for its Boater Safety Training Courses. It relies on local facilities, such as the Ithaca School District Property, for providing its training programs.

**Tompkins County Sheriff's Department** – The Tompkins County Sheriff's Department operates a police patrol boat from a slip at Johnson's Marina. A Deputy Sheriff who is regularly assigned to the lake patrol staffs the boat. The patrol operates on a limited schedule, with primary service provided during the boating season on weekends, holidays, and some weekdays. The primary mission for the Sheriff's Lake Patrol is safety and law enforcement of the waterways in Tompkins County. The boat is moored from April through October. During the off boating season and during the winter months the docks at Johnson's Marina have limited accessibility due to ice and a decrease in the lake levels. During the

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winter months, the Sheriff's Boat is stored off site at the Sheriff's office on Warren Road.

**NYS Parks Police** – The NYS Parks Police operate a lake patrol from Treman Marina during the months of May thru October. Depending on the availability of Parks Police Officers, the patrol boat is staffed 7 days a week. The Parks Police have jurisdiction over the entirety of Cayuga Lake. They provide law enforcement and limited boater education for the public, in the Finger Lakes Region. During the winter months, ice prevents the use of the slips and boat launch from Treman Marina. During the off season and winter months the Parks Police Boats are stored at Park Facilities in Trumansburg and Seneca County.

**Ithaca Fire Department** – The department provides fire, rescue, and emergency medical services to the southern part of Cayuga Lake and the Cayuga Lake Inlet. The Ithaca Fire Department operates a boat from Treman Marina during the months of May thru October. Staffing for the boat is provided by on-duty career firefighter 24 hours a day. The fire department stores its boat at the West Hill Fire Station during the winter months. The boat is ready for emergency deployment during the off-season on a 24-hour basis.

### Needs Assessment

Presently the USCGA is in need of relocation. The Ithaca Fire Department, the Tompkins County Sheriff, and the NYS Parks Police, operate from public boat slips at Treman Marina and Johnson's Boating Center. The Local Power Squadron operates from rented or acquired third party public assembly facilities.

An assessment of the needs of all of these agencies included

- Public Assembly Space
- Enclosed Storage Space
- Exterior Storage Space
- Dock Space
- Maintenance Space
- Accessibility to Public Roadways and Waterways during off season months

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The needs assessment for the various agencies, concluded that there was a need for the following:

- 1) A classroom with a capacity of 49 student seats
- 2) 600 square feet of utility/storage space
- 3) 150 square feet of space for office use
- 4) 250 square feet of space for a conference room with a kitchenette
- 5) 150 square feet of space for a radio/ready room
- 6) Dock spaces of 20 feet by 40 feet, for each of 4 boats.

It was initially concluded that it was most desirable to have this facility located close to Cayuga Lake along the inlet or flood control channel. Considering the length of time it takes to respond out on to the lake from locations significantly south along the inlet, it was concluded that a location as close to Treman Marina and adjacent to Cass Park would be most desirable. The Treman Marina area would also offer the most exposure and visibility to the general boating community who would most likely use the services offered at the facility. Further investigation revealed that a site across from the Framer's Market near route 89 and Linderman Creek is ideal for this facility.

### **Funding Possibilities for the Facility**

Potential Funding Sources include, but are not limited to:

- Local Municipal Funding
  - City of Ithaca
  - Town of Ithaca
- County Funding
  - Tompkins County
- State Funding
  - NYS DEC
  - NYS Parks
  - Legislative Discretionary Funds
  - Block Grant Funds for Finger Lakes Regional Development
- Federal Funding
  - USCG Grants
- Private Funding
  - Boater-US Association