

TOWN OF PLATTSBURGH
TOWN BOARD MONTHLY MEETING
June 5, 2025

Resolution No. 025-154

Imperial Dam on Saranac River

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Plattsburgh has previously passed a resolution supporting the removal of the Imperial Dam, and now seeks to reaffirm its commitment to this project and its associated public safety, environmental, and recreational benefits; and

WHEREAS, the Imperial Dam is located on the Saranac River in Plattsburgh, New York and is a Class “C” High Hazard dam, its’ failure may result in serious damage to residences and infrastructure such as the loss of human life, and/or widespread economic loss is likely; and

WHEREAS, Imperial Dam has a long history of serious uncorrected safety and habitat deficiencies such as ice build-up which exacerbates ice jams downstream impacting City of Plattsburgh infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the impounded water behind Imperial Dam is not used for any hydropower electrical generation or industrial use; and

WHEREAS, improved fish passage and improved health of the landlocked salmon fishery in the Saranac River would likely increase tourism and recreational opportunities within the City and Town of Plattsburgh; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Plattsburgh received a presentation by the Lake Champlain Chapter of the Trout Unlimited on October 24, 2019 regarding these issues; now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Town of Plattsburgh supports the removal of the Imperial Dam and the full restoration of the Saranac Rivers to reduce any threats to public safety, improve the recreational benefits to nearby communities and allow full access of native Atlantic Salmon to historic native spawning waters; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Plattsburgh joins and supports the efforts of the City of Plattsburgh as well as those of the Lake Champlain Chapter of Trout Unlimited to remove the Imperial Dam.

Motion:

Seconded by:

Discussion:

Roll Call:

Yes

No

Absent

Carried

Tabled

**Thomas E. Wood
Dana M. Isabella
Daniel A. Bosley
Charles A. Kostyk
Michael S. Cashman**