

Village of Port Leyden – SOAR Analysis Summary

Key Takeaways

- Natural & Location Assets: Black River, canal history, Adirondacks proximity, and Route 12 position Port Leyden as a recreational hub and gateway.
- Strong Community Identity: Local traditions and events reinforce pride and social cohesion.
- Recent Investments: Water, sewer, and wastewater upgrades, grant successes, and blight removal show capacity for progress.
- Gaps in Amenities: Residents want a grocery store, restaurants, public transportation, and family-friendly spaces.
- Challenges with Blight: Vacant buildings and unmaintained sidewalks are recurring concerns.
- Momentum Exists: Small visible wins (sidewalk repairs, beautification) can build confidence for long-term goals.

Action Items

Short-Term (1–2 years)	Medium-Term (3–5 years)	Long-Term (5+ years)
- Beautification & clean-up days - Sidewalk/street repairs - Pavilion/events - Vacancy audit - Improve communication	- Recruit small businesses - Vanpool/shuttle service - Tourism growth (guides, rest area) - Housing & blight reduction	- Infrastructure modernization - Sustainability & resilience planning - Market Port Leyden as a gateway community

Emerging Themes

- Clean & Attractive Village: Revitalize streetscapes and reduce vacant properties.
- Community-Centered Growth: Invest in amenities and recreation that improve daily life.
- Leveraging Location: Build on Route 12, Adirondack access, and Black River assets.
- Collaboration & Funding: Partnerships and grants are essential for success.
- Balanced Future: Preserve small-town character while embracing new opportunities.