

Tompkins County Water Resources Council

Resolution 2021-01: Approve and Endorse Tompkins County Harmful Algal Bloom Strategy

1. WHEREAS, in 2018 New York State released Harmful Algal Blooms (HAB) Action Plans for twelve lakes including Cayuga and Owasco lakes, and
2. WHEREAS, while those Action Plans assisted local stakeholders in understanding the complexity of implementing projects to address HABs, they did not provide specificity on which projects to implement in which subwatersheds, and
3. WHEREAS, the 2019 update of the Tompkins County Comprehensive Plan included an action to “establish a detailed countywide Harmful Algal Bloom strategy based on the Cayuga Lake and Owasco Lake HABs Action Plans and identify the actions, and the appropriate lead agencies, to be taken in Tompkins County that would most effectively reduce HABs,” and
4. WHEREAS, the Water Resource Council’s (WRC) HABs Committee took on the role of prioritizing projects from the state HABs Action Plans and revising those to meet the needs of the local agencies, and
5. WHEREAS, a draft Tompkins County HAB Strategy was presented at the WRC, the Tompkins County Council of Governments, and the Planning, Energy, and Environmental Quality Committee in April 2021 and was available for public comment through May 28, 2021, and
6. WHEREAS, the HABs Committee reviewed comments and revised the Strategy as appropriate, now therefore be it

RESOLVED That the WRC approve and endorse the final Tompkins County Harmful Algal Bloom Strategy and share the Strategy with the County Legislature.

Approved and endorsed by the Tompkins County Water Resources Council on June 21, 2021.