

Interim
**2018 State of the State
County Impact Report**



NYSAC[®]
NEW YORK STATE
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

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Interim 2018 State of the State County Impact Report

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Introduction

Below is an intern analysis of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's 8th State of the State Address that impacts counties. The New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) will continue to review the specifics of the proposals, and expects that more details will be included in the Governor's Executive 2018-19 State Budget Proposal that will be released later in January.

Agriculture

Launch a five-point plan to ensure no student goes hungry

One prong of Governor's five-point plan to eliminate barriers to school food is to expand the Farm to School program, which was created to help schools provide students with nutritious meals from food produced by local farms. Governor Cuomo proposes doubling the state's investment to add \$750,000 for a total of \$1.5 million in Farm to School projects. The Governor also proposes to incentivize school districts to use more local farm-fresh products by increasing the reimbursement schools receive for lunches from the current 5.9 cents per meal to 25 cents per meal for any district that purchases at least 30 percent ingredients from New York farms. This is a win-win for students and New York's local farms.

Grow New York's regional agricultural commodities

The Governor will launch phase two of the New York State Grown & Certified program, expanding the number of producers and commodities in the program. He also proposes to launch a concentrated consumer advertising program to build awareness and preference for New York State agricultural products. In addition, the Governor will host two new summits focused on forestry and wood products and Concord grapes to bring stakeholders together to identify challenges and develop solutions that will unlock the economic potential of these commodities.

Promote New York agriculture through Taste NY and new marketing

The Taste NY Initiative, launched in 2013, has proven to be successful in raising the visibility of New York's high-quality food and agricultural products. By expanding marketing efforts to highlight New York agriculture products and strengthening the Taste NY program, the State will help take New York agriculture to a new level. To build on the success of these promotional initiatives, the Governor will make a series of targeted investments to increase awareness and trust in the quality of New York food across the state and nation.

Criminal Justice System/Public Safety

Eliminate Monetary Bail

The Governor has proposed legislation to eliminate monetary bail for people facing misdemeanor and non-violent felony charges. The accused will be released either on their own recognizance or with non-monetary conditions imposed by the court, such as reporting to a pretrial services agency. For people charged with a violent felony offense,

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both monetary and non-monetary bail would be permitted, but only after a judge conducts an individualized review of the nature of the case and the defendant's personal and financial circumstances. If monetary bail is set, the court must give the defendant a choice between cash or bail industry bonds and an alternative form of bail such as an unsecured or partially secured bond. Additionally, in limited cases such as domestic violence offenses, cases involving serious violence, or when a defendant commits a new crime while out on pretrial release, a judge could order, after due process, a defendant to be held in jail pretrial without bail if they find the defendant poses a significant flight risk or if there is a current threat to a reasonably identifiable person's physical safety.

Amend the Criminal Trial Discovery Process

Under the Governor's plan, prosecutors and the defense will have to share discovery information sooner than current practices (specific timelines are not yet given). Discovery including intended exhibits; expert opinion evidence; witnesses' criminal history information; and search warrant information.

Speedy Trial Waiver Process Change

Proposal to require that people held in custody - not just their attorneys - consent to a speedy trial waiver that must be approved by a judge. These waivers include a deadline so that the defendant, defense attorneys, prosecutors, and judges understand when the trial is scheduled and will only be granted after the defendant has made an appearance before a judge.

Amend Civil Asset Forfeiture/Seizure Policies

Civil asset forfeiture is the process by which authorities confiscate cash or property they believe is obtained through illicit means. Currently, a person does not have to be found guilty to have their assets claimed by law enforcement, instead a preponderance of evidence to make a seizure. The anticipated legislation would ban all asset seizures, unless an arrest is made. In cases where people are acquitted or the case is otherwise dismissed, they would get their money and valuables returned. Additionally, enhanced reporting requirements for local law enforcement and District Attorneys would include demographic and geographic data to be sent to the State Division of Criminal Justice Services.

Early Childhood Development and Children with Special Needs

First 1000 Days Initiative

The Governor is implementing a First 1000 Days initiative that focuses on a child's first 1000 days of life. Significant research is available that highlights how important this time period is for overall childhood health and development, including readiness for school and lifelong learning. As part of this initiative the Governor is undertaken numerous health initiatives including:

- developing clear and standardized pediatric primary care models that focus on health and learning;
- Facilitate group-based models of prenatal care to support pregnant women living in neighborhoods with the poorest birth outcomes in the State;

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- Enhance home visiting services in three high-risk communities; and
- Launch peer-family navigator services in non-healthcare community settings, such as family homeless shelters and drug treatment centers.

Additionally, the Governor is proposing to expand the availability of preschool for 3 and 4-year-old children in high need schools across the state. This expansion is designed to ensure that children of all physical and learning needs are able to participate in three and 4-year-old pre-kindergarten and the new expansion will focus on including students in integrated or community-based settings. This is something NYSAC has emphasized for many years is that the current preschool system continues to segregate children with special needs out of these “universal” programs.

Another component will require a broad array of child care providers, educators, local social service districts and state agencies (among others) to focus on examining access to affordable child care; availability of child care for those with non-traditional work hours; statutory and regulatory changes that could promote or enhance access to child care; business incentives to increase child care access; and the impact on tax credits and deductions relating to child care.

Economic Development

Reauthorize MWBE Program legislation and expand the MWBE program to all State-funded contracts

The Governor will propose legislation that will seek the reauthorization of the State’s Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise Program (MWBE) program, which is due to expire this year, and increase the participation of minority- and women-owned businesses in all levels of State contracting (both prime contractors and subcontractors). Under current State law, MWBE goals apply to State-funded contracts issued by State agencies and authorities but do not attach to contracts issued by localities and other entities that are funded by the State. The legislation will require MWBE goals on State funds used for contracting purposes on the local level. In doing so, the State will further its goal to help minority and women business owners overcome entrenched barriers to success.

Examine eliminating the minimum wage tip credit to strengthen economic justice in New York State

In certain workplaces, such as car washes and restaurants, tips serve as a critical wage subsidy that brings workers’ wages just up to the legally-mandated minimum wage. This disproportionately affects women and people of color in the service industries and is linked to higher rates of sexual harassment. Governor Cuomo is directing the Commissioner of Labor to schedule public hearings to evaluate the possibility of ending minimum wage tip credits in New York State.

Expand the New York Youth Jobs Program

The New York Youth Jobs Program, launched by Cuomo in 2012, incentivizes the hiring of at-risk youth, age 16 to 24, through business tax credits. The Program provides \$30

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million for 13 targeted areas with high youth unemployment—including Albany, Brookhaven, Buffalo, Hempstead, Mount Vernon, New Rochelle, New York, Rochester, Schenectady, Syracuse, Utica, White Plains, and Yonkers—and an additional \$20 million for young people who live in other areas of the state. The Governor proposes to increase the maximum credit available to certified New York employers by 50 percent—raising the maximum tax credit from \$5,000 to \$7,500 for certified youth employed full-time and from \$2,500 to \$3,750 for those employed part-time. In addition, to help participants better develop the skills needed to advance from an entry-level position toward a chosen career, the Governor will direct the Department of Labor to align and connect employers and youth participating in the Youth Jobs Program with regional workforce development efforts of SUNY, CUNY and BOCES.

Invest in New York’s workforce and future

The Governor proposes a comprehensive workforce development program to fill “skills gaps” by making sure all New Yorkers have access to training to meet the State’s growing workforce needs. This will include establishing a new \$175 million Consolidated Funding Application for workforce investments through the Regional Economic Development Councils (REDCs), targeted in particular emerging fields. The Governor also proposes to create a new Office of Workforce Development, headed by a Director of Workforce Development, which will oversee all workforce training programs for the state. Furthermore, he proposes to create a One-Stop Shop online portal to help workers and businesses navigate the State’s workforce development programs. The Governor plans to use the innovative data mining methodology utilized by Monroe County Community College to identify local workforce needs with more precision than BLS and Census data.

Invest \$750 million for round eight of the Regional Economic Development Councils (REDCs)

The Governor proposes to continue the regional economic development approach with an eighth round of the REDC awards, which will provide \$750 million to fund regional priority projects.

Launch round three of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI)

More than 100 communities in all ten regions of the state competed for the first 20 DRI awards to boost their local economies and transform downtown neighborhoods. New York State will expand the Initiative with an additional \$100 million, providing up to \$10 million for awards in each region.

Drive New York’s drone economy forward

Governor Cuomo will accelerate a business expansion plan to bring in more jobs through the Upstate Revitalization Initiative and continue to invest in the drone corridor. He will also continue Unmanned Aerial Systems operations and training opportunities at the State Preparedness Training Center (SPTC) in Oneida County.

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Become a national leader in industrial hemp production

First, New York State will invest \$650,000 in a brand-new \$3.2 million industrial hemp processing facility in the Greater Binghamton area. Second, the State will help import thousands of pounds of industrial hemp seed into New York, ensuring that farmers have access to a high-quality product and easing the administrative burden on farmers seeking to secure this substance. Third, New York State will invest \$2 million in a seed certification and breeding program in New York to begin to produce unique New York seed. Finally, New York will host an Industrial Hemp Research Forum in February to bring together researchers and academics with business and processors to develop ways to further boost industry research in the Southern Tier and across New York State.

The New NY Broadband Program Round III awards

This year, Governor Cuomo will announce Round III awards to address the remaining two percent of New Yorkers without access to broadband, connecting approximately 120,000 locations. Round III is expected to catalyze more than \$360 million in total investment, including \$225 million in State funding. Round III projects that address eligible locations will also have access to matching funds in federal Connect America Fund support through the State's partnership with the Federal Communications Commission. After Round III, it is anticipated that 99.9 percent of New Yorkers will have commitments for high-speed broadband access, with all but one percent having access to 100 mbps service or better.

Regional Economic Development Projects

Reimagine Rochester's Riverfront

The State will launch a new focused development strategy called "ROC The Riverway" to expand access to and capitalize on the city's waterfront. Consistent with the Finger Lakes Forward Upstate Revitalization Initiative (URI) plan, this initiative will support the newly updated Local Waterfront Revitalization Program plan and will be developed in partnership with the City and stakeholders up and down the Genesee to drive economic, environmental, and recreational opportunities along the Rochester riverfront.

Create the photonics-related business attraction fund

New York State will dedicate a \$30 million Photonics Attraction Fund through the Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council, specifically to attract integrated photonics companies to set up their manufacturing operations in the greater Rochester area. The Finger Lakes is already a leader in photonics research and development. The additional State funding will leverage this unique asset to bring the businesses and the jobs of tomorrow to the Finger Lakes region.

Bring the New York Islanders back to Long Island with a world-class arena and redevelopment at Belmont Park

The comprehensive \$1 billion plan includes an 18,000-seat, year-round arena that will host the Islanders, as well as a new 435,000-square-foot retail and entertainment complex, a new hotel, and other community amenities. The transformational plan will strengthen the local economy, boost tourism, increase visitor spending, and stimulate

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local businesses. To accommodate New Yorkers and visitors traveling to the brand-new facility, the Long Island Railroad is also committed to developing a plan to expand LIRR service to Belmont Park Station for events year-round.

Take steps to revitalize Red Hook

Governor Cuomo is calling on the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to explore options for improving and consolidating maritime operations by relocating activities in Red Hook to South Brooklyn. In addition, the Governor is calling on the Metropolitan Transportation Authority to study options for improving transportation access to the Red Hook area and surrounding communities, including the potential extension of subway service from lower Manhattan to a new station in Red Hook through an underwater tunnel. Once a plan for how to modernize and potentially consolidate maritime activities becomes clear and the MTA study is completed, a community-based planning process would be expected to recommend the appropriate redevelopment alternatives for any Port Authority land no longer required for maritime needs.

Redevelop and rebrand Stewart International

Governor Cuomo proposes several enhancements and initiatives for Stewart Airport in Orange County to catalyze economic development and tourism in the Mid-Hudson Valley region. These include building a new permanent U.S. Customs and Border Protection Federal Inspection Station; changing the name of the airport from Stewart Airport to New York International at Stewart Field; rebranding the airport bus service to New York City into a New York State-themed Stewart Express; and advancing sustainability and environmental goals through a solar PV Project at the airport.

Complete the new Expo Center to continue the transformation of the New York State fairgrounds

This year, the State will complete a new 136,000 square-foot Expo Center announced in 2017. The new building will provide year-round economic growth to the region and be the largest exhibition facility north of New York City between Boston and Cleveland.

Complete the Hudson River SkyWalk

The Hudson River SkyWalk is a 1.8-mile scenic pedestrian trail that crosses the Hudson River, linking the Olana State Historic Site in the Town of Greenport (Suffolk County) to the Thomas Cole National Historic Site in the Village of Catskill (Greene County). As part of the third phase of the Hudson River SkyWalk project, the State will reconstruct the current intersection of Route 23 and Route 9G in Columbia County into a pedestrian and bicycle-friendly roundabout with a direct connection to Olana State Historic Site. Further, the state's Empire State Trail, which is currently under construction, will provide pedestrian and bicycle-friendly travel north from Olana and the Rip Van Winkle Bridge directly into the City of Hudson.

Increase year-round tourism for Upstate New York through world class attractions at our mountains and Olympic facilities

Governor Cuomo proposes to invest in critical infrastructure improvements and additional year-round attractions at Whiteface Mountain, Gore Mountain, Belleayre

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Mountain, and the Olympic Facilities. In addition, the state will issue a request for expressions of interest to engage firms with ski industry and winter sports expertise, ensuring that these resources are invested in a manner that maximizes benefits to both the Olympic Regional Development Authority (ORDA) and the regional economy. Investment in these assets will stimulate economic and tourism activity.

Bridge the gap in the North Country's tourism lodging needs

Tourism stakeholders have identified the need to address the lack of full-service lodging in the North Country because of the region's dependence on seasonal accommodations and the lack of enough places for visitors to stay that appeal to their varying needs. To help address this problem and encourage further development, the State will provide the North Country region with tools and resources to catalyze private investment in lodging. Empire State Development will commission a study to identify lodging development opportunities in the Adirondacks and Thousand Island regions and provide \$13 million in capital funding through the REDCs and Upstate Revitalization Initiative to spur development activity.

Bring the World University Games back to Lake Placid in 2023

Lake Placid is in a unique position to secure the International University Sports Federation World University Winter Games to be held in 2023. The event has only been held in the U.S. twice before, both times in New York: Lake Placid hosted the winter games in 1972, and Buffalo hosted the summer games in 1993. This year, Governor Cuomo will support Lake Placid's bid to once again host the Winter Universiade in 2023. In conjunction with his ongoing commitment to modernizing winter sports infrastructure across New York, Cuomo will work together with local government and the private sector to help Lake Placid put forth the best possible bid. Bringing the games back to Lake Placid will further strengthen the city's legacy as a global center for winter sports, attract new tourists to Lake Placid and neighboring communities, and fuel a critical engine of the North Country's economy.

Create a new 407-acre State Park in Central Brooklyn

In 2018, the Governor will advance the signature open space project of the Vital Brooklyn Initiative by creating the largest State Park in all of New York City. In partnership with the National Park Service and the City of New York, the State will transform the former Pennsylvania and Fountain Avenue landfills into a new 407-acre State Park on the shores of Jamaica Bay into a waterfront park. The State will invest \$15 million to open the property to the public, creating 3.5 miles of waterfront, paths, and trails and access to a unique coastal highland. Activities will include biking, hiking, fishing, kayaking, and environmental education, and amenities will include comfort stations, shade structures, and concessions. Additional future investments may include the construction of a connecting bridge between the two sites and an amphitheater, as envisioned by the community.

Elections

Institute early voting

Cuomo proposes to institute early voting in New York State to make it easier for New Yorkers to vote. Currently, 37 states and the District of Columbia allow voters to cast ballots in person before Election Day. The proposal requires every county to offer residents access to at least one early voting poll site during the 12 days leading up to Election Day. Voters will have at least eight hours on weekdays and five hours on weekends to cast early ballots. Counties must have one early voting poll site for every 50,000 residents. The bipartisan County Boards of Elections will determine the specific location of early voting polling places, subject to standards of accessibility and convenience.

Adopt automatic voter registration

Governor proposes adopting a system that implements automatic voter registration. The new system will streamline state services by automatically sending voters' information from relevant agencies directly to the County Board of Elections. New Yorkers who do not wish to register to vote can simply check an "opt out" box. This proposal aims to improve the accuracy of voter registration lists, reduce costs, and make registering a more convenient and efficient process for voters and election officials.

Allow same-day voter registration

New York does not currently allow voters to register on Election Day. Cuomo proposes to allow New Yorkers to register and vote on the same day. Thirteen other states and the District of Columbia allow same-day registration.

Enhance statewide election cyber security resilience and defend against election disruption

The State will create the Election Support Center, which will provide technical expertise and trainers to assist the State Board of Elections with developing regulations to enhance the cyber security of elections infrastructure; train County Boards of Elections (CBOEs) members in cyber security best practices; and ensure that relevant threat intelligence is quickly distributed to local stakeholders.

The State will also create and deploy the Elections Cyber Security Support Toolkit, a new suite of threat mitigation tools to ensure election security at the state and local levels. The Office of Information Technology Services will provide cyber risk vulnerability assessments and support to County Boards of Elections to ensure vulnerabilities are identified and voting machines are protected. The State will also offer free hosted Disaster Recovery services to ensure the integrity of voter information is protected. Finally, the Governor will require County Boards of Elections to notify the State Board of Elections and the State Police whenever there is a data breach that could potentially expose private voter or election information. The State Board of Elections will be required to issue an annual New York Election Security Report to the Executive and Legislature outlining security risks and recommendations for remediation actions the State should take to address those risks.

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Institute public financing and enact additional campaign finance reforms

Governor Cuomo proposes to institute a voluntary public financing system that matches small donations with public funds. The Governor also proposes to place a \$25,000 contribution limit on housekeeping accounts and require all campaign intermediaries, known as “bundlers”, to disclose their identities.

Energy

Increase Renewable Energy Use

Proposal to increase renewable energy use by investing \$200 million toward an energy storage target of 1,500 Megawatts by 2025.

Additionally, directing New York State Energy and Research Development Authority (NYSERDA) to invest at least \$60 million through storage pilots and activities to reduce barriers to deploying energy storage (e.g., permitting, customer acquisition, interconnection, financing costs).

Solicit Proposals for Offshore Wind Power

In 2017, the Governor announced a goal to develop up to 2.4 gigawatts of offshore wind power by 2030. This proposal calls for New York State to procure at least 800 megawatts of offshore wind power between two solicitations to be issued in 2018 and 2019.

Increase Number of Electric Vehicles Charging Stations

This proposal would require New York, in conjunction with the private sector, to make public the availability of at least 10,000 charging stations across New York by 2021.

New York would also prioritize the installation of charging stations at strategic locations along the State’s highways based on distance and accessibility with the goal of by 2020, a ZEV traveling anywhere on New York’s interstate system will be able to recharge at a location convenient to the driver.

Environment

Increase transmission of clean and renewable energy by investing \$200 million to meet unprecedented energy storage target of 1,500 megawatts by 2025

Governor Cuomo is launching an initiative to deploy 1,500 megawatts of energy storage by 2025 and employ 30,000 New Yorkers in good jobs in this industry. Achieving this goal will produce \$2 billion in energy value to New Yorkers by reducing the reliance on costly and inefficient energy infrastructure, while also helping to scale up the clean energy industry.

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Launch Charge NY 2.0

Governor Cuomo will launch Charge NY 2.0 in 2018, which will drive the buildout of Electric Vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure and promote ZEV-capable roadways and destinations across New York State. Under Charge NY 2.0, New York will increase the number of charging stations across the state and establish clean fuel corridors along the state's highways.

Attack Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) in New York's waters

This year, Governor Cuomo will implement a \$65 million, 4-point initiative to aggressively combat HABs in Upstate New York by targeting twelve priority lakes that are vulnerable to HABs and are critical sources of drinking water and vital tourism drivers. The State's Water Quality Rapid Response Team, national experts, and local stakeholders will collaboratively develop Action Plans to identify contributing factors fueling HABs, and the State will provide \$500,000 per lake to develop immediate action plans to reduce sources of pollution that spark algal blooms. The state will provide nearly \$60 million in grant funding to implement the Action Plans, including new monitoring and treatment technologies. This comprehensive program will continue New York's national leadership in responding to the threat of harmful algal blooms and establish a national model for protecting our natural resources.

Launch Resiliency NY to dramatically enhance community resiliency in the face of extreme weather

Cuomo proposes to develop a comprehensive program to adapt to and prepare for extreme weather. He will direct the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to issue resiliency guidelines modeled after a federal order that was revoked and further require that state funding for infrastructure projects consider these resiliency criteria. Additionally, the Department of State (DOS) will recommend changes to the State Fire Prevention and Building Code that will increase climate resiliency, and the DEC will update and improve its maps of wetlands and coastal risk areas. Finally, the State will provide financial support for state-of-the-art local resiliency plans to create a pipeline of projects to increase the flood resiliency of our communities by protecting streams, coasts and critical infrastructure, such as hospitals, transit systems, bridges, water and wastewater infrastructure, dams, culverts and levees, as well as homes and small businesses. Interagency response teams will also conduct at least 40 emergency flood response trainings in communities across New York annually.

Create the Zero Cost Solar for All Program for 10,000 low-income New Yorkers

To reduce the energy burden of low-income households and ensure their participation in the clean energy economy, the Governor is directing the New York State Energy and Research Development Authority (NYSERDA) to use its purchasing power to secure community solar subscriptions for low-income customers and provide them at zero cost to deliver cost savings and clean energy to more than 10,000 low-income New Yorkers. The Governor is also directing NYSERDA to work with low-income energy efficiency programs, utilities, community agencies, solar project developers, investors and other stakeholders to market the program to low-income customers and develop strategies for

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how the program can better serve low-income New Yorkers and help them participate in the growing clean energy economy.

Reduce emissions of the most potent and dangerous greenhouse gases

This year, Governor Cuomo will direct the Department of Environmental Conservation, New York State Energy and Research Development Authority, and the Department of State to develop a comprehensive strategy to reduce hydrofluorocarbons (HFC) emissions by incentivizing the use of climate-friendly alternatives. This effort will provide rebates to municipalities to convert large cooling systems, like public ice rinks and school cafeterias, to safer alternative technologies. It will also develop new building codes to encourage the use of climate-friendly alternatives and provide free audits and technical assistance to help businesses identify opportunities to reduce emissions and costs.

Regional Environmental Projects

Build on the success of the NY Parks 2020 State parks transformation

New York will continue to make significant investments in parks. These investments include restoring the Boardwalk Café at Jones Beach State Park; constructing the new and first vacation cabins and cottages on Long Island at Heckscher and Wildwood State parks; completing the \$70 million revitalization of Niagara Falls State Park; constructing a Green Lakes State Park Environmental Education Center as part of the \$16.9 million transformation of Central New York's most-visited State Park; building a Minnewaska State Park Visitor Center; opening the Major League Baseball Youth Academy on the new and refurbished baseball fields; finishing the gateway transformation at the entrance to the flagship Watkins Glen State Park; opening the completely overhauled Peerless Pool Complex at Saratoga Spa State Park; and debuing the entrance transformation at Sunken Meadow State Park.

Complete the Hudson River Park

The Hudson River Park, encompassing over 500 acres and stretching 4.5 miles along Manhattan's West Side, is the borough's second largest after Central Park. This year, the Governor will work with the City to make the phased and matched investments necessary to finish infrastructure repairs and other important projects. In addition, the State will continue to facilitate public-private partnerships, while ensuring the Estuary Management Plan is complete and the marine sanctuary is protected.

Stop railcar storage to protect the natural beauty of the Adirondacks

In the fall of 2017, Iowa Pacific Co. announced that it plans to store up to 2,000 railcars owned by third parties on the 30-mile long Tahawus Spur in the Adirondack Park for 10 years to generate needed revenues for track maintenance and rail operation costs. Both of the affected counties, Warren and Essex, have passed resolutions objecting to this proposed storage. In spite of mounting opposition, railcars began to be delivered for storage in October 2017, with at least 75 cars currently stored on the Tahawus Spur. In December 2017, the Union Car Tank Company announced that it would heed the State's call and remove all of its tank car units from the Adirondack Park as soon as possible

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and ensure that its cars are not stored in the Park in the future. The State continues to stand ready to exhaust all legal options to end this unacceptable practice.

Fast-track containment and treatment of “Grumman Plume”

In Nassau County, industrial practices at the U.S. Navy and Northrop Grumman Aerospace Bethpage facilities in the Town of Oyster Bay have left a legacy of pollution in the form of a massive contaminated groundwater plume that has affected the surrounding community since the 1930s. This year, New York State will fast-track construction of a new, state-of-the-art well system to fully contain and treat the plume of contamination and protect the quality of drinking water on Long Island. The State will use all legal tools at its disposal to hold the U.S. Navy and Northrop Grumman accountable for the construction and operation of the containment and treatment system. The full containment and treatment system is estimated to cost at least \$150 million to construct.

Sue the EPA to complete the Hudson River cleanup

From the 1940s through the 1970s, General Electric manufacturing facilities in Hudson Falls and Fort Edward dumped well in excess of one million pounds of hazardous polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) directly into the river, impacting the health and livelihood of communities along the Hudson River ever since, including the decimation of a once-thriving commercial fishery valued at \$40 million. Governor Cuomo, in partnership with Attorney General Eric Schneiderman, has committed to immediately take steps necessary to sue the EPA if the agency accepts the Upper Hudson River cleanup of PCBs as complete. In light of the overwhelming evidence and data that the remedy is not protective of human health and the environment, EPA’s decision to certify the PCB remedy for the Upper Hudson River as complete is indefensible.

Require expedited corrective actions at the Niagara Falls Wastewater Treatment Facility

To ensure that the Niagara Falls wastewater facility’s problems with dark water discharges are resolved in a comprehensive fashion, Governor Cuomo will invest over \$20 million to launch Phase One of the wastewater system overhaul to complete comprehensive infrastructure and operational improvements at the Niagara Falls Wastewater Treatment Facility. The Governor's proposal also provides \$500,000 to expedite two engineering studies that are evaluating both the plant's discharges and treatment systems, which are required by the new consent order with the Niagara Falls Water Board. The results of these studies will help guide and inform the \$20 million Phase One investment, serving to protect one of the nation’s greatest natural treasures.

Ethics

Ethics Reforms

The Governor introduced a proposal to make State Constitution amendments which would 1) limit outside income for members of the New York State Legislature that would limit outside income for legislators to 15 percent of their base salary; and 2) to impose term limits for members of the Legislature and state-wide elected officials.

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Another proposal would require elected officials to file financial disclosure requirements to the State. This proposes that any local elected official who earns more than \$50,000 per year in a government salary, as well as all county executives, county managers, and all chairs of county board of supervisors file the same financial disclosure statements that state employees file with the Joint Commission on Public Ethics.

Legal

Uniform Code and Proposed Legislation Sexual Harassment Complaints, Policies, and Procedures

The Governor proposes a uniform code of sexual harassment policies binding on all branches of state and local government. This uniform statewide code is expected to include the following:

- an independent and anonymous whistleblower process to help individuals to communicate complaints across state and local government.
- Prohibit the use of taxpayer funds from being used for settlements against individuals relating to sexual assault or harassment.
- Prohibit confidentiality agreements relating to sexual assault or harassment for all public entities and branches of government unless it is the express preference of the victim.

Governor Cuomo also proposes legislation that would void forced arbitration policies or clauses in employee contracts that prevent sexual harassment cases from consideration in law enforcement investigation and court trials.

Public Health/Mental Health

Homeless Services Plan from Each Local Social Services District

The Governor proposes requiring that local governments to have an effective outreach program to the street homeless as a condition of receiving State funding for homelessness services. Governor Cuomo will direct the Office of Temporary Disability Assistance to require social services districts to engage in planning activities related to street outreach, homelessness prevention activities, rapid rehousing, and ongoing housing stability for the formerly homeless. The State will require the social services districts to engage with ongoing efforts, set reasonable goals that are data-driven and uniquely tailored to the needs of its communities, and to report regularly on progress made. The State will provide technical assistance throughout the planning process by releasing guidance related to best practices and policies that can facilitate success.

Increase Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness

The Governor will direct the Office of Mental Health and the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance to work together to ensure that Assertive Community Treatment

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teams are connected to existing shelters, so that individuals with mental illness can access needed treatment.

In addition, the Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services will make on-site peer-delivered substance abuse treatment services available in 14 existing shelters across the state. These on-site services will serve close to 200 homeless individuals with substance use disorder, with services provided in shelters that are located in areas that have seen the biggest increases in substance use.

Opioid Epidemic

The Governor is proposing a comprehensive five-point plan to build on New York's role as the national leader in combating addiction:

1. Hold pharmaceutical companies accountable for their role in perpetuating the opioid epidemic, the Governor with the New York Attorney General will take enforcement actions against pharmaceutical opioid distributors for breaching their legal duties to monitor, detect and report suspicious orders of prescription opioids. Any funds received from such enforcement activity would be used to support the state's efforts to combat opioid addiction.
2. Governor will strengthen protections against addiction stemming from prescription opioids. The Governor will advance legislation to restrict subsequent fills to no more than one additional seven-day prescription of opioids for acute pain without having an in-person visit with the prescriber to evaluate alternative pain management therapies. The Governor will also advance legislation that authorizes the Department of Health (DOH) to apply the same limitations to patients with a diagnosis of chronic pain who have not previously used opioids and to require Emergency Department prescribers to also consult the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program before prescribing opioids.

The Department of Health (DOH) and the Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) will create a Statewide Pain Management Steering Committee bringing together clinical experts to make recommendations on pain management issues, taking into account the latest Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines.

3. The Governor will take steps to eliminate insurance barriers to addiction treatment and recovery services by limiting requirements for prior authorization and co-payments for outpatient addiction treatment. The Governor will also direct the new Statewide Pain Management Committee to make recommendations related to coverage of alternative pain management treatments.
4. The Governor will also direct several State agencies to implement regulatory and policy reforms that increase access to substance use disorder services. These reforms may include consideration of new regulations to include subacute pain as a qualifying condition for medical marijuana. The Governor proposes the

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creation of 250 Certified Peer Recovery Advocates to assist our efforts to engage New Yorkers in seeking treatment and sustaining their recovery after treatment. Relevant agencies will also coordinate and expand their efforts to harness data and share information to mobilize more rapid and comprehensive responses to drug overdoses.

5. The Governor will advance legislation to add 11 fentanyl analogs to Schedule I of the controlled substance schedules of New York State Public Health Law. To combat the rising threats and health risks of other synthetic drugs like K2 and Spice, the Governor is also advancing legislation to add 35 different synthetic cannabinoids to New York's schedule of controlled substances and give the New York State Health Commissioner the authority to add to the state controlled substances schedule any new drugs that have been added to the federal schedule.

Enforce Lead Testing

The Governor will order the Department of Health, New York State Homes and Community Renewal, and other state partners to develop a system to ensure all housing 245 authorities and all private landlords statewide make sure our children are safe from this hazard.

Rural Emergency Medical Services

The Governor proposes a three-pronged Strengthening of the Rural Emergency Medical Services (EMS) System plan to recruit, retain and strengthen the EMS system across rural regions of New York State:

1. DOH will launch a coordinated digital media and educational campaign to heighten awareness of EMS employment opportunities through partnerships with regional and local health care organizations, area health educational centers (AHECs), and EMS training systems. In addition, to enhance career opportunities for EMS professionals and to improve quality of care and lower costs to the health care system, DOH will propose legislation to authorize Community Paramedicine collaboratives and programs, which will expand the scope of services carried out by emergency medical technicians (EMTs) to include community settings beyond initial emergency care and transportation.
2. DOH will work closely with the boards of cooperative educational services (BOCES) and community colleges throughout New York to provide educational opportunities in diverse settings outside of the traditional paradigm.
3. In-depth management educational material to enhance existing supervisory training for EMS professionals who want to advance their expertise and take on leadership roles, and to expand interactive web-based offerings and regional seminars in order to reach a broader audience.

Support the Needs of the Modern Aging Population

The Governor will advance a series of policies to prepare for the emerging needs of a growing aging population, including:

- *Launch a Long-Term Care Planning Council*

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The council will be charged with examining New York's long-term care system. The Council will analyze, evaluate, and identify the existing service gaps in New York's long-term care system, determine the most cost-effective evidence based interventions, and prepare a strategic plan to meet the emerging needs of New York's aging population over the next decade. The Council will be jointly-led by the Commissioner of Health and the Director of the Office for the Aging, with participation from external stakeholders.

- *Issue an Age Friendly Executive Order*

The Governor will issue an executive order that directs agencies to consider the impact of their policies and procurements on health and healthy aging, aligned with the eight domains of an Age-Friendly Community. The State will set a goal of making fifty-percent of all health systems age-friendly within the next five years, which will include the establishment of age-friendly Emergency Rooms that will be better equipped to provide care to aging New Yorkers with cognitive and other physical disabilities.

- *Expand Advanced Care Planning(ACP)*

The Governor will initiate a statewide ACP campaign, to include, public outreach and education, engagement and encouragement of New Yorkers of all ages to complete ACP documents and a re-design of the Department of Health's ACP website to include additional functionality and resources. The State will also fully participate in National Health Care Decision Day.

Implement a Lyme and Tick-Borne Disease Control Plan

The Governor will launch an aggressive initiative to reduce the incidence of Lyme Disease and other tick-borne illnesses in New York State, but controlling tick populations on public lands, advancing research on diagnostics and treatment, and further increasing public awareness. The Governor will:

1. Direct the DOH and Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), and the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to launch a tick reduction strategy targeting priority counties and public lands with the highest risk of tick exposure and Lyme disease. Tick control methods will include strategic application of eco-friendly tick control treatments to high traffic trails and facilities, as well the expanded use of 4-poster tickicide stations to treat deer and traps to treat rodents.
2. Direct the Commissioner of Health to establish a new working group on Lyme and other tick-borne diseases to review current strategies and improve the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of tick-borne diseases in New York State.

The DOH Wadsworth Center will work with private partners to explore ways to improve diagnostic testing and treatment for Lyme and other tick-borne diseases, as better solutions are needed to protect New Yorkers. Third, the Department of Health will continue its robust public outreach campaigns and also convene a tick-borne disease summit this spring, bringing together national experts, members of the new working group and local health departments to review New York's existing initiatives, and to make recommendations for future policy actions.

Public Safety

Juvenile Justice System to Improve Youth Outcomes

Governor Cuomo proposes to invest \$100 million over the next fiscal year to support a continuum of effective prevention, diversion, treatment, re-entry and supervision services at the state and local level. The investment is intended to stem the pipeline of youth who are involved in the juvenile justice system.

Reduce New York's Use of Solitary Confinement

The Governor stated he will direct the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision to close more than 1,200 Special Housing Unit (SHU) beds throughout New York State's correctional facilities.

Protect the Rights and Safety of New Yorkers in Local Jails

Governor proposes an immediate enforcement strategy from the State Commission of Correction. The Commission—which is statutorily authorized to oversee all correctional facilities—will undertake a comprehensive review of facilities throughout New York that have failed to meet established standards of safety, security, and service. This review will include an analysis of reportable incidents, deaths in custody, and physical facility conditions. Upon the Commission's determination, local jails with issues will be required to create and adhere to a corrective action plan to either improve their facilities—or close them in an expedited manner—to ensure the safety for both staff and incarcerated individuals.

Cut Off the Pipelines of MS-13 Recruitment

New York will launch an \$11.5 million comprehensive strategy to engage at-risk youth in educational programs as a means of cutting off the recruiting pipeline of MS-13:

- *Expand after-school programs in at-risk areas*
The Governor proposes investing \$2 million to extend the Empire State After-School Program to schools and nonprofit organizations located in at-risk areas on Long Island identified by the State Office of Children and Family Services, Division of Criminal Justice Services, Division of State Police, County Executive, and local law enforcement.
- *Expand job and vocational training opportunities for at-risk young people*
The Governor proposes creating a special \$5 million program within the state's successful New York Youth Jobs voucher program in order to provide individualized job training to young people who are the most at risk from being potentially recruited into gangs. The employment and training program will also provide tax incentives to companies that provide job opportunities for at-risk youth.
- *Provide gang prevention education programming to at-risk students*
The Governor proposes a \$1.5 million investment over three years in locally run programs targeted at middle and high school students focused on early intervention and violence prevention. As street gangs such as MS-13 often attempt to recruit young people that are middle-school age, the initiative will

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provide in-school training and support to help students avoid gang recruitment, peer pressure, violence, and delinquent behavior.

- *Expand comprehensive support services for at-risk young people, including immigrant children*

The Governor proposes investing \$3 million over three years to support comprehensive case management for at risk young people, with a focus on unaccompanied children entering the United States. This will include medical and mental health support, addiction treatment, trauma and family counseling, language training, and other community support services.

- *Deploy a Community Assistance Team*

The Governor will deploy a Community Assistance team composed of six State Troopers, three investigators, one senior investigator and one supervisor. This proactive team will partner with local law enforcement and use intelligence derived from the Computer Aided Dispatching Program, the New York State Intelligence Center, and Regional Crime Analysis Centers to identify and engage gang activity hot-spots or respond to departmental and community requests for increased service. This team will ensure that law enforcement have additional resources available to prevent gang victimization in the community.

Counter Terrorism Program

The Governor is taking action to restrict terrorists' capabilities and make it easier for New Yorkers to report suspicious activity.

- *Expand vehicle rental regulations*

The Governor will put forward legislation to require any person attempting to rent a vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of more than 10,000 pounds to present a valid driver's license and an additional form of ID to the vehicle rental company in order to obtain the keys. \

- *Launch a terrorism tip line*

New York will work with the Public Service Commission to establish a first of its kind three-digit tip line dedicated to reporting terrorist threats and suspicious activity.

Develop a School Safety Response System to Ensure First Responders Have Real-Time Access to the Blueprints of Every School in New York State

The State will explore new technology options for a school safety response system that may include real-time "blue team" GPS tracking and direct lines of communication for all response personnel. The State will also ensure that all schools in New York State are mapped both internally and externally so first responders can enter with greater certainty about where they are going, where threats may exist, and where victims may be hiding.

Removal of Firearms for Certain Offenses

Current New York law prohibits the possession of firearms for individuals convicted of felony or "serious" offenses. The Governor will advance legislation to update the list of prohibited offenses to include those domestic violence misdemeanors. Additionally, the

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proposed legislation will mandate that rifles and shotguns are surrendered to law enforcement in instances when handguns are required to be surrendered.

Shared Services

Shared Services

The Governor is proposing to make permanent his County Wide Shared Services Initiative and to provide \$225 million in state matching funds in the SFY 2018-19 budget. The details of this proposal are not yet available, but it is expected they will be part of his budget submission in a couple of weeks. The SOTS did indicate that state funding for local government performance aid be conditional on the continuation of shared services panels.

To help counties in their shared services efforts the Governor is proposing to make it easier for counties to create shared risk health insurance consortiums with other local governments. It is unclear if statutory changes and additional administrative reforms will be included in his budget proposal to implement this initiative.

State Tax Policy

The Governor's leading state tax policy is to fight the recently enacted federal tax reform bill following a three-point strategy.

1. File a lawsuit in federal court on the constitutionality of the federal tax law changes. While an exact legal theory was not presented the Governor raised concerns over the recent reforms violating state's rights and equal protection under the law.
2. Lead a nationwide effort to repeal and replace the enacted tax reform.
3. Review the state's existing tax code and determine if it can be modified to mitigate large components of the federal reforms linked to the loss of state and local tax deductions. Key items mentioned were modifying the state's current income tax system with something akin to a payroll tax and to also enhance opportunities for more charitable contributions as a means of replacing other state and local taxes. The Governor intends to work with the business community and other stakeholders in order to determine what type of reforms or changes would be most feasible.

In addition, the Governor intends to maintain the implementation of already scheduled income tax reductions that are part of a multi-year phase down that will be completed by 2025. These current law reductions will lower the existing 6.45 percent rate for taxpayers in the \$40,000-\$150,000 income bracket, and the 6.65 percent rate for taxpayers in the \$150,000-\$300,000 income bracket down to 5.5 percent and 6 percent respectively upon full implementation.

The Governor will also continue to fully fund the STAR property tax cap credit enacted a couple of years ago that provides property tax rebate checks to homeowners based on their income and STAR benefit.

Transportation

Investment Road and Bridge Infrastructure

The State's multiple year infrastructure investment plan, started in 2016, is expected to continue in 2018 with \$11.7 billion to the State's transportation infrastructure. The State of the State provide no details on a breakout of those funds and/or how much will be dedicated to CHIPS or local government funding.

Cashless Tolling to the Entire New York State Thruway and Port Authority Crossings

Proposal to eliminating the need to stop at a toll on the Thruway and Port Authority Crossings. Put in place would be electronic toll structures designed with license plate readers. The project would utilize Design-Build construction to reduce costs and accelerate the construction schedule. Cashless tolling throughout the Thruway system would be operational in 2020.

Integration of Autonomous Vehicles in New York State

In 2017 New York's first autonomous vehicle legislation was passed allowing for limited use and testing of autonomous vehicles on New York roads. While not specific with details, it is expected the current program will be expanded and modified to further encourage driverless car use on New York roadways.

Regional Transportation Projects

Move I-81 Forward with Expanded EIS

In 2017, the New York State Department of Transportation (DOT) performed a study of tunnel and other alternatives for the I-81 corridor. The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) this project did not include a tunnel alternative. This proposal calls DOT to add the tunnel alternative to the current EIS. The final stage of this review will proceed according to federal and state regulations and will occur after the formal public hearing and analysis of all comments received on the public distribution of the Draft EIS. Final alternative selection will be published in the project's Final EIS and Record of Decision.

Advance Long Island Tunnel Proposal

In 2015 to the Department of Transportation studied the feasibility of a tunnel connecting Long Island to Westchester County or Connecticut. This proposal would require the State to continue to pursue a tunnel from Long Island to Westchester or Connecticut.

Veterans

Expand Programs for Incarcerated Veterans

The proposal provides resources to expand the programs currently available to incarcerated veterans and offer the programs in to Maximum Security Facilities for the

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first time. DOCCS will hire additional Licensed Master Social Workers, as well as a coordinator, and purchase a new professionally designed veteran specific curriculum that will broaden the scope of issues addressed, including conflict reduction and post-traumatic stress disorder and other relevant topics.

Counsel Access for Veterans through Law School Partnerships

In 2017, New York State's Justice for Heroes grants were established, awarding \$50,000 to each of five law schools offering innovative proposals to address veterans' unmet legal needs. The funding allowed the schools to provide free legal assistance to veterans and their family members in practice areas, including foreclosure prevention and other consumer protection matters, family law assistance, discharge upgrade cases, and complex appeals regarding VA benefits. This proposal will expand the Justice for Heroes program to offer each of these schools the chance to renew their grants for the next two years.