



Division of  
the Budget

## ENVIRONMENT

Launch the

### GREEN NEW DEAL



to put New York on the path to **economy-wide carbon neutrality** and provide a just transition to a clean energy economy.



The Executive Budget commits another **\$2.5 Billion**, for **clean water infrastructure**, doubling the State's investment.

Renews record high **\$300M** funding for

### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FUND



Invests **\$110M** to further the **\$990M**



### NY PARKS 2020 INITIATIVE

**\$23M** is provided to complete



### THE HUDSON RIVER PARK

## Budget Highlights

**Launch the Green New Deal.** As part of his Justice Agenda, the Governor is launching the Green New Deal to put New York on the path to economy-wide carbon neutrality and provide a just transition to a clean energy economy that prioritizes the needs of low- to moderate-income New Yorkers while spurring economic growth.

**Expand Historic Clean Water Investment.** Governor Cuomo is committing an additional \$2.5 billion for Clean Water Infrastructure over five years, doubling the State's investment in clean water.

**Promote Environmental Protection.** Renew funding for the EPF at \$300 million, maintaining the highest level in history.

**Further the \$900 Million NY Parks 2020 Initiative.** Invest an additional \$110 million to transform New York's parks, recreation and historic facilities.

**Complete the Hudson River Park.** Provide \$23 million to complete the Hudson River Park.

**Enhance Food Safety and Inspection.** To help ensure food inspection needs are being met, 29 new food safety inspectors will be added to the Department of Agriculture and Markets.

Climate change is the challenge of this generation and Governor Cuomo's Green New Deal puts New York State on a path to economy-wide carbon neutrality and a just transition to a clean energy economy. The FY 2020 Executive Budget commits an additional \$2.5 billion over the next five years for drinking water infrastructure, wastewater infrastructure, and water quality protection, doubling the State's already historic investment in clean water projects. The Budget also renews the historic funding level for the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) and supports capital funding plans for environmental and recreational facilities. By providing the necessary resources to state agencies and public authorities focused on promoting the health of our environment, New York will continue as a leader in the clean tech economy, reduce emissions that contribute to climate change, and enable the transformation of the electric power transmission system to a distributed smart grid network.

## Overview

The State's environmental, energy and natural resource agencies and authorities support and regulate land use planning and preservation, recreation and tourism, agricultural development, protection of water resources, food safety, and energy programs.

The Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) mission is to conserve, improve and protect New York's natural resources and environment while enhancing the health, safety, and well-being of New York's citizens. DEC is responsible for administration and enforcement of the State's Environmental Conservation Law.

The Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) provides safe, enjoyable recreational and interpretive opportunities for New York State residents and visitors, and functions as a steward of New York's valuable natural, historic, and cultural resources. OPRHP operates the State Park System, a network of 180 State parks and 35 historic sites. In 2017, the system welcomed a record 71 million visitors.

Together, DEC and OPRHP oversee 5.35 million acres of open space statewide, including 2.6 million acres in the Adirondack Park and nearly 300,000 acres in the Catskill Forest Preserve.

The Department of Agriculture and Markets (Ag&Mkts) has wide-ranging responsibilities, including food safety inspection, agricultural economic development, farmland protection, animal and plant health surveillance, and control of agricultural runoff.

The Department of Public Service (DPS) functions as the staff arm of the Public Service Commission (PSC), which regulates the rates and services of public utilities – an industry with an estimated \$32 billion in annual revenue. DPS oversees the siting of major utility infrastructure and provides oversight of cable franchise agreements and telecommunications service. Additionally, DPS provides oversight of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority's (NYSERDA) implementation of the PSC-approved Clean Energy Fund and Clean Energy Standard.

The New York Power Authority (NYPA) supplies power statewide through two large hydroelectric facilities and more than 1,400 miles of transmission lines. NYPA is also helping to reimagine New York's energy system by providing enhanced clean energy services to its customers and moving towards becoming the first fully digitized utility in the country to more effectively manage its assets.

## Protecting the Environment and Investing in Agriculture

Governor Cuomo has made unprecedented investments in the State's environmental, energy and agricultural programs. These include:

- Enacting the unprecedented \$2.5 billion Clean Water Infrastructure Act of 2017, to protect public health and the environment through investments in drinking water, wastewater and source water protection;
- Establishing the \$400 million Water Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2015, a municipal clean water infrastructure grant program;
- Extending the State Superfund hazardous waste cleanup program by \$1 billion;
- Creating the \$900 million NY Parks 2020 initiative;
- Investing over \$425 million in environmental projects through the New York Works program; and
- Increasing the EPF to a historic \$300 million level.

### Performance Profile

**Achieving the Nation's Lowest Per Capita CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions.** New York has the lowest per capita carbon dioxide emissions of any state in the country.

**Cleaning New York's Water.** To date, 433 municipalities have been awarded funding totaling \$817 million to improve water quality through the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2015 and the Clean Water Infrastructure Act of 2017.

**Breaking Parks Attendance Records.** The Governor's \$900 million investment through the NY Parks 2020 initiative has resulted in capital improvements at 178 parks statewide, spurring a record 71 million visitors in 2017.

**Setting New Highs for State Fair Attendance.** The \$120 million to modernize the State Fair has paid dividends. The 1.3 million visitors at the 2018 State Fair exceeded the previous record set in 2017.

**Promoting New York Agricultural Products.** The New York Grown and Certified Program, since its launching in 2016, has certified over 2,386 farms, representing over half a million acres of farmland.

The Governor is committed to protecting open space and improving access to wildlife-related recreation. This is reflected in the State's acquisition of the former Finch Pruyn Lands, the largest single addition to the Adirondack Forest Preserve in more than a century. The Governor enacted the NY Open for Fishing and Hunting initiative, which streamlined licensing and reduced hunting and fishing fees. He also provided for dozens of new and improved ways to access the State's natural resources, including through the launch of the Adventure NY program in 2017.

The State has invested more in agriculture during Governor Cuomo's tenure than at any point in history, including record levels of grant funding through the EPF and the Ag&Mkts local assistance budget. The Governor has also supported strategic investments to modernize the State Fair, grow the agriculture industry in the Southern Tier, and protect farmland in the Hudson Valley. Through the Taste NY and NYS Grown and Certified programs, Governor Cuomo continues to prioritize the promotion of locally grown and produced foods and products.

The FY 2020 Executive Budget maintains support for critical environmental protection programs. To ensure that current and future New Yorkers have access to clean water, the Budget commits an additional \$2.5 billion in Clean Water funding over five years while continuing the original \$2.5 billion Clean Water Infrastructure Act, enacted in 2017, which supports drinking water, wastewater, and source water protection initiatives.

Support for the EPF, which provides dedicated funding to communities throughout New York to improve the environment, will continue at \$300 million. This is the highest level of annual funding since the creation of the EPF and an increase of \$166 million since the Governor took office.

The Budget also includes \$172.75 million of new capital appropriations for DEC, OPRHP, Ag&Mkts, and the Olympic Regional Development Authority (ORDA). These resources will be utilized to continue the State Fair modernization plan, accelerate improvements to the State's recreational assets, and fund infrastructure projects statewide, spurring the creation of jobs and leveraging private sector and Federal investment.

## Leading the Fight Against Climate Change

The Governor has taken major actions to combat climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including establishing the most ambitious greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets in the nation and launching the program known as Reforming the Energy Vision, a comprehensive strategy to build a clean, resilient, and affordable energy system for all New Yorkers. New York has the lowest per capita carbon dioxide emissions of any state in the country, with 9 metric tons of carbon dioxide per person.

In June 2017, Governor Cuomo formed the U.S. Climate Alliance with the Governors of California and Washington State to ensure that New York State and 297 other willing partners continue to meet or exceed the targets of the Paris Agreement on climate change, even as the Presidential Administration has pulled the United States out of the accord.

To continue New York's progress in the fight against climate change, Governor Cuomo is launching as part of his Justice Agenda the Green New Deal, which has two core objectives: to put New York State on a path to economy-wide carbon neutrality, including by making New York's electricity 100 percent carbon neutral by 2040; and to provide for a just transition to a clean energy economy that prioritizes the needs of low- to moderate-income New Yorkers while spurring sustainable economic growth.

Components of the Green New Deal will actively explore actions to reduce emissions statewide, establish a Climate Action Council tasked with developing a roadmap for making New York carbon neutral as soon as possible, and ensure a just transition by harnessing the economic opportunities associated with a transition to clean energy.

In hastening the transition to a sustainable future, Governor Cuomo is also cultivating a vibrant clean energy economy that now employs more than 151,000 New Yorkers, proving once more that pursuit of a sustainable future brings tremendous opportunity. Currently, the rate of job growth in this sector far outpaces growth in the economy at large.

Following on Governor Cuomo's call on the Comptroller to divest the New York Common Fund from Fossil Fuel Investments in 2018, this year the Governor will direct State agencies and authorities to decarbonize their investment funds and ramp up investment in clean energy.

The Governor is also positioning New York State to lead on offshore wind power generation, drive competition, reduce costs, and create high quality jobs in this emerging industry. In November 2018, the Governor issued a comprehensive solicitation seeking 800 megawatts or more of new offshore wind projects for New York – enough clean, renewable energy to power 400,000 New York households.

The solicitation kicks off competition for New York State's first large-scale offshore wind development contracts. This is an initial step toward the program's goal of 2,400 megawatts from offshore wind by 2030 to help combat climate change. The solicitation marked an important new chapter in New York's nation-leading offshore wind planning efforts that will – in addition to providing clean, renewable energy – reduce costs, and create high quality jobs in this emerging industry.

New York is also a leader in deploying electric vehicles through the Zero Emission Vehicle MOU, Charge NY, the Drive Clean rebate and DEC's municipal ZEV rebate program.

**Table 8: Summary of Spending (All Funds)**

Category	FY 2019 (millions)	FY 2020 (millions)	Change	
			Dollars (millions)	Percent
Department of Environmental Conservation	1,320	1,414	94	7%
Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation	370	391	21	6%
Department of Agriculture and Markets	169	114	(55)	(33)%
Department of Public Service	89	90	1	1%
Hudson River Valley Greenway	22	45	23	105%
New York Power Authority	5	36	31	620%
Energy Research and Development Authority	23	21	(2)	(9)%
Adirondack Park Agency	5	5	0	0%
<b>Total Environment and Energy Spending</b>	<b>2,003</b>	<b>2,116</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>6%</b>

The Budget increases capital funding for the environment, and maintains funding at current levels for agricultural, environmental, and parks operating programs.

- Department of Environmental Conservation.** Total spending for DEC increases by \$94 million, reflecting spending growth from the Clean Water Infrastructure Act and increases in other capital program spending.
- Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.** Total funding for OPRHP increases by \$21 million, reflecting growth in New York Works spending and the creation of Enterprise funds for golf and gift shop purposes.
- Department of Agriculture and Markets.** Total spending for Ag&Mkts decreases by \$55 million. The change primarily reflects the discontinuation of one-time appropriations for local initiatives and State Fair capital spending.
- Department of Public Service.** Total spending for DPS increases by \$1million, reflecting growth in State Operations spending.
- Hudson River Valley Greenway.** Total funding for the Greenway increases by \$23 million, reflecting capital spending growth for the Empire State Trail.
- New York Power Authority.** Total funding for NYPA increases by \$31 million, reflecting increased capital spending for the Empire State Trail.
- New York Energy Research and Development Authority.** Total funding for NYSERDA decreases by \$2 million, reflecting a reduction in Cleaner Greener Communities spending.

## Proposed FY 2020 Budget Actions

- **Launch New Round of the Clean Water Infrastructure Investment.** The Executive Budget launches a second \$2.5 billion commitment for clean water, beginning with a new \$500 million appropriation to support drinking water infrastructure, wastewater infrastructure, and water quality protection.
- **Ban Single Use Plastic Bags.** The Executive Budget includes legislation to ban single-use plastic bags provided to customers. In March 2017, Governor Cuomo created the New York State Plastic Bag Task Force to develop comprehensive statewide recommendations. The ban will help reduce the greenhouse gas emissions associated with bag production and disposal, from petroleum used to produce the bags and emissions from the transportation of bags to landfills. DEC will work with stakeholders and community leaders to ensure the roll-out of this initiative does not disproportionately impact low and moderate income and environmental justice communities through the distribution of reusable bags and exemptions where appropriate.
- **Expand the Bottle Bill.** The Executive Budget includes legislation to amend the Returnable Container Act (“RCA” or “Bottle Bill”) in the Environmental Conservation Law to expand the types of beverage containers covered under the RCA to include bottles from: sports drinks; energy drinks; fruit and vegetable beverages; ready-to-drink tea and coffee; and wellness beverages.

The Bottle Bill expansion includes some exceptions for containers of dairy milk, milk substitutes, infant formula, syrups and flavorings, medical prescriptions and dietary supplements. This proposal will also help reduce sorting and financial burdens on local government recycling programs. Additionally, the Governor will include amendments to the Bottle Bill legislation to address implementation issues and to respond to feedback from stakeholders, as well as enhanced penalties.

Since Governor Mario M. Cuomo enacted the Solid Waste Management Act 30 years ago, New York recycling laws have helped reduce waste in communities across the State. Under the Act, local municipalities adopted local recycling laws requiring source separation of recyclable, which have diverted more than 320 million tons of recyclables from disposal, reducing 1 billion metric tons of carbon dioxide in the process by decreasing methane emissions from landfills and reducing energy and fossil fuel use associated with the production of plastics and glass.

- **Protect Ocean Waters from Offshore Drilling.** The Executive Budget includes legislation that will protect New York State's environment and economy by prohibiting oil and gas development in the North Atlantic Planning Area.
- **Renew Record Funding for the Environmental Protection Fund.** The Executive Budget continues EPF funding at \$300 million, the highest level of funding in the program's history. Appropriations include \$38 million for solid waste programs, \$88 million for parks and recreation, \$153 million for open space programs, and \$21 million for the climate

change mitigation and adaptation program. This investment will provide funding for critical environmental programs such as land acquisition, farmland protection, invasive species prevention and eradication, enhanced recreational access, water quality improvement, and an aggressive environmental justice agenda.

- **Advance the NY Parks 2020 Initiative and Create a New State Park.** In furtherance of the NY Parks 2020 initiative – which has delivered \$900 million of resources to our State Parks, the Executive Budget allocates \$110 million in New York Works capital funding for OPRHP. This funding will aid the ongoing transformation of the State’s flagship parks and support critical infrastructure projects. As part of Parks 2020, the State will invest \$20 million to complete Phase 2 of the Shirley Chisholm State Park. This new 407-acre park will transform the former Pennsylvania and Fountain Avenue landfills into the largest State Park in New York City, featuring 3.5 miles of paths and trails. This year’s investments will fund projects such as a new amphitheater, lawn patios and overlooks, kayak launches, and comfort stations.
- **Complete the Hudson River Park.** The Executive Budget includes \$23 million in capital funding for the Hudson River Park, which represents the final funding component necessary to fulfill the Governor’s commitment to complete the Hudson River Park, in partnership with New York City.
- **Support DEC Capital Projects through NY Works.** The Budget includes \$55 million for DEC to address a variety of capital needs to improve access to State lands, rehabilitate campgrounds, and upgrade its recreational facilities, all as part of the Adventure NY program. This funding will also provide for health and safety repairs to State infrastructure, including dams, wetland restoration, State lands, and fish hatcheries.
- **Make the Waste Tire Fee Permanent.** In order to avoid cuts to essential programs, the Budget permanently extends the Waste Tire Fee, which is scheduled to expire December 31, 2019. This \$2.50 fee, which has been in place since 2003, funds the abatement of waste tire sites and supports approximately 140 DEC employees involved in mission critical solid and hazardous waste cleanup activities.
- **Expand Access to New York Grown Agricultural Products.** Since its inception in 2013, the Taste NY program has helped 1,100 local companies reach consumers across the globe. The New York Grown and Certified program, since its launching in 2016, has 2,386 participating farms, representing over half a million acres of farmland. Building on this success, the Executive Budget continues funding for initiatives that connect New York’s food and beverage producers with consumers, including:
  - \$28.9 million for the New York State Grown and Certified program. This program is designed to strengthen consumer confidence in New York State products, address food product labeling, and assist New York farmers so they can take advantage of the growing demand for local, high quality food;



- \$6.2 million in spending for the Taste NY program, an increase of \$400,000 from FY 2019. This program promotes the wide variety of foods and beverages grown and produced in the State, making them readily available and recognizable to New Yorkers and the public around the globe.
- **Increase Core Agriculture and Markets Local Assistance Funding.** The Executive Budget proposes to increase Ag&Mkts local assistance appropriations by more than \$8 million from the FY 2019 Executive Budget. This increase will fund programs that provide the specialized technical assistance, industry promotion, and research investments to reduce farms' exposure to economic and climate inconsistency statewide. The Executive Budget also proposes support for the continued agricultural economic development and promotion of New York produced food and beverage goods and products. These core investments, in addition to programs that support food access, agricultural education, and workforce development, will continue to support our farms and communities.
- **Enhance Food Safety Inspections.** The Executive Budget includes funding for 29 new food safety inspectors at Ag&Mkts. As the number of establishments requiring inspection increases, more inspectors are needed to meet the need and reduce public health risks.
- **State Fair Capital.** The Executive Budget includes \$5 million in appropriations, an increase of \$2.5 million from FY 2019. This funding will be used to continue repair and rehabilitation of the Fair's facilities and allow for year-round operation of the Fairgrounds, including the Expo Center.
- **Meet Growing Workload Demands in Renewable Generation Siting.** The Executive Budget includes \$1.7 million in new appropriations to add eight new siting staff at DPS. The additional staff will enhance DPS's ability to properly ensure the safety and effectiveness of renewable energy projects that will collectively help to achieve Governor Cuomo's goals of having 50 percent electricity use in the State be met through renewable energy by 2030 and 100 percent clean electricity by 2040.
- **Establish New York as a Leader in Hemp Production.** The Executive Budget proposes a first-in-nation comprehensive cannabis regulatory framework, administered by the newly established Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) that centralizes all the licensing, enforcement and economic development functions in one entity. The OCM will administer all licensing, production, and distribution of cannabis products in the adult-use, industrial, and medical cannabis markets.

In the hemp cannabis market, the OCM will administer the licensing, extraction, and distribution of wellness and pharmaceutical grade cannabis products; including the establishment of the Canopy Growth Corporation's \$100 million Hemp Industrial Park, headquartered in the Southern Tier, that includes growing, processing, manufacturing and research facilities. The investment is facilitated by the passage of the Farm Bill and will establish New York State as the national leader in hemp production and innovation. This builds on the New York State Industrial Hemp Research Pilot the Governor launched in 2015.

