



29 Elk Street
Albany, NY 12207
518-434-1583

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – January 5, 2018

Media Contact: Alison Jenkins,
Director, Parks Program
518-434-1583
ajenkins@ptny.org
www.ptny.org

Parks & Trails New York Applauds Governor Cuomo's 2018 State of the State Agenda

We commend Governor Cuomo for advancing policies in the State of the State that protect New York's environment and provide New Yorkers with access to the outdoors, including those that the federal government has walked back on. Investing in our parks and statewide trail network and addressing climate change are priorities that Parks & Trails New York shares, as demonstrated in its [2018 Advocacy Agenda](#). By committing to continuing the re-investment in parks, including the \$63 million in Upstate parks noted in the State of the State, building a new 407-acre state park in Brooklyn, and completing Hudson River Park, Governor Cuomo is showing his commitment to protecting our shared green spaces.

By forming the U.S. Climate Alliance, Governor Cuomo has set New York State at the forefront of the push to combat climate change. Several other programs in his State of the State Agenda, such as expanding the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, reducing emissions from power plants, and reconvening the Scientific Advisory Committee on Climate Change, also point to his commitment on climate change.

The commitment to end the rail car storage on the 30-mile Tahawus Spur within the Adirondack Park and the State's filing of an application of abandonment of the rail corridor demonstrate further environmental leadership. Transitioning this corridor from industrial rail car disposal site to a protected part of the Adirondack Park will allow discussion to begin around future recreational uses that benefit the surrounding communities and all New Yorkers. If appropriate, PTNY believes that transitioning the corridor to a trail would be a breathtaking addition to New York's growing trail network, including the statewide Empire State Trail that is currently in development.

We look forward to working with the Governor and Legislature in the coming months on these important issues.

Parks & Trails New York is the state's leading advocate for parks and trails, working since 1985 to expand, protect and promote a network of parks, trails and open spaces throughout the state for use and enjoyment by all. Learn more at www.ptny.org.

#####