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PTNYenews



MAKE A DONATION | FEBRUARY 2015 | BECOME A MEMBER

Dear Friend -

February is budget season in Albany. We always hit the ground running this time of year to make sure we are fulfilling our promise to be your voice for parks and trails in the state capital. And this year we have more reasons than ever to speak out for these treasured outdoor spaces.

The Governor's proposed budget includes a continuation of his historic commitment to state parks - \$110 million for infrastructure, health, and safety needs and a new grants program for Friends groups that support and strengthen state parks and historic sites.

PTNY fought hard for the inclusion in the Executive Budget of this grants program, which will unlock the potential of Friends groups to be even stronger stewards of New York's magnificent parks and historic sites. Now, we're looking to you to help make sure the grants program is included in the final state budget. See how you can help below.

If we all unite our voices in support of parks and trails we can't help but win!

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robin".

Robin Dropkin
Executive Director



Historic Budget Proposal for Parks

Governor Cuomo's 2015-2016 Executive Budget proposal includes great news for state parks and historic sites, and for Friends groups, including \$500,000 for a new capacity-building grants program for state park and historic site Friends groups. We need your help to secure this critical funding for parks and Friends groups.

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Park Advocacy Day March 3

Join Parks & Trails New York and the Alliance for New York State Parks at our 9th annual Parks Advocacy Day on Tuesday, March 3 in Albany and help send a message of support for New York's 215 state parks and historic sites.

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PTNY to Honor Governors Island Save the date - April 21

Join us Tuesday, April 21 in NYC to honor The Trust for Governors Island, Governors Island National Monument, and The Governors Island Alliance for their hard work and dedication to making Governors Island one of New York City's favorite getaways right off the tip of Lower Manhattan!

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Become a Cycle the Erie Canal Trailblazer

Are you interested in joining our Cycle the Erie Canal bike tour for only \$100? Become a Cycle the Erie Canal Trailblazer and help make a completed Erie Canalway Trail a reality!

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Our Opinion: Adirondack Recreational Trail Good for NYS

Read our opinion piece in the *Times Union* about how New York has an opportunity to create a multi-use trail through the Adirondacks that would be a wonderful addition to the constellation of upstate multi-use trails, including the cross-state Erie Canalway Trail.

[Read More](#)



Get Your Hands Dirty This Spring

Join thousands of volunteers across New York to improve and enhance the NYS Canal System and State Parks and Historic Sites by volunteering for Canal Clean Sweep and I Love My Park Day. Have fun and feel good by giving back to the outdoor places you love this spring.

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Activists Speak Out for Active Transportation

Bicycle and pedestrian advocates from across the state traveled to Albany on February 3rd to ensure all New Yorkers have access to multi-use trails and complete streets as part of the third annual Active Transportation Advocacy Day.

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Trail Travel

PTNY joined our partners--Canal New York, the NYS Canal Corporation and I Love New York--at the New Times Travel show to tout the Erie Canalway Trail as a great place for a bicycling vacation.

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Dash to Success

Parks & Trails New York is co-sponsoring the Designing a Strong and Healthy New York (DASH-NY) conference on March 19 that will focus on how to plan for maximizing the viability of a project after funding has ended.

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Albany Bikeway Link to 2 Great Trails

Stakeholders gathered in Albany last month to discuss the recreational and economic benefits that a proposed connector trail, which would connect the Albany County Helderberg Hudson Rail-Trail with the Erie Canalway Trail, will have on residents and neighboring communities.

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2 NYS Heritage Areas Reauthorized

In December, Congress reauthorized heritage area designation and access to federal funding for the Erie Canalway and Hudson River Valley National Heritage Areas.

[Read More](#)



Short Takes/Resources

[New video](#) shows how the Federal Highway Administration makes walking, biking safer.

National Trails Day is June 6, For more info or to organize an event, [click here](#).

Read the latest issue of the [Canalway Trail Times](#).

Calendar

March 3: [Park Advocacy Day](#)

March 7: [Canal Society of New York State winter symposium](#)

April 17-19: [Canal Clean Sweep](#)

May 3: [I Love My Park Day](#)

July 12-19: [Cycle the Erie Canal](#)

Help protect New York's parks and trails



DONATE NOW

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