

Conference Subcommittee Report

Subcommittee: Housing, Agriculture and Environmental Conservation

Date: Monday, 3/21/06

Time: 5:00 P.M.

Place: LOB Hearing Room B

Present: Senators Marcellino (Co-Chair), Bonacic, Rath, Young, Valesky (D), and alternates Trunzo and Coppola (D)

Assemblymembers DiNapoli (Co-Chair), Magee, Pheffer, Towns, Conte (R) and alternates Millman and Brown (R)

The Housing, Agriculture and Environmental Conservation Subcommittee has had productive meetings over the past week, and after thorough consideration we have reached an agreement. We are pleased to present this report which provides detail on all the budget changes agreed to by the subcommittee, including agreement on spending levels and Article VII proposals for the agencies under the subcommittee's jurisdiction as follows:

Department of Agriculture and Markets;
Department of Environmental Conservation;
Environmental Facilities Corporation;
Division of Housing and Community Renewal;
Greenway Heritage Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley;
Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council;
Northeastern Queens Nature and Historical Preserve;
Hudson River Park Trust;
Olympic Regional Development Authority;
Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation; and
State of New York Mortgage Agency.

The subcommittee allocates the \$45 million General Fund target as follows:

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING, AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)

Final Agreement

North Elba/ORDA

155,250

Integrated Pest Management	400,000
Susquehanna River Basin Commission	188,000
Delaware River Basin Commission	123,000
Interstate Environmental Commission	23,280
Reject Regulatory Fees	2,560,000
Reject ATV Sweep	800,000
Reject Title V Fees	6,250,000
Reject Hazardous Wastewater Technical Change	714,000
Port Washington Aquifer Study	155,000
Childrens' Environmental Health Centers	200,000
Jamaica Bay Estuary	50,000
Environmental Education	50,000
Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy	50,000

Subtotal Environment	11,718,530
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Department of Agriculture and Markets (AG&Markets)

Migrant Child Care	606,000
NYS Apple Growers Association	550,000
Cornell - Cattle Health Assurance	147,000
Quality Milk Promotion	148,000
Agricultural Teachers Education	40,000
Additional Services and Expenses for Food Inspectors	1,100,000
Farm Viability Institute	4,394,000
Cornell Diagnostic Lab	265,000
Cornell Ag. In the Classroom	69,000
Farm Family Assistance	41,000
Grape Entomologist – Fredonia Experiment Station	4,000
Future Farmers of America	49,000
Avian Disease	43,000
Cornell Seed Inspection Program	27,000
Ag Economic Development	118,000
Cornell Rabies	250,000
Golden Nematode	7,000
Cornell Apiary Research	85,000
Apiary Inspection	200,000
NYS Onion Research	14,000
North Country Agriculture	400,000
Marine Resources	100,000
Johnes Disease	41,000
Deny Food Safety Penalty Increases	1,100,000
Maple Producers Assoc.	100,000
Wine and Grape Foundation	238,000
Wine Marketing Program	2,000,000
Turfgrass Stewardship	175,000

Tractor Rollover Protection Program	200,000
Hudson Valley Fruit Lab	85,000
NY Agri-Tourism	1,000,000
Cornell Biological Field Station	200,000
Long Island Rabies	350,000
Subtotal Agriculture	14,146,000
Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (Parks)	
Independence Trail	500,000
French and Indian War Anniversary Commission	125,000
Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadracentennial Commission	250,000
Schuylerville	350,000
Tioga State Park	1,000,000
Heritage Tourism	200,000
Reject Snowmobile Sweep	2,500,000
Subtotal Parks	4,925,000
Housing	
NPCs	5,041,500
RPCs	2,370,000
Lead Paint Poisoning Demonstration Program	200,000
Subtotal Housing	7,611,500
Total General Fund Expenditures	38,401,030

Environmental Conservation Agreement

The Assembly and Senate have reached an agreement to fund the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) at a level of \$200 million. The agreement also includes providing for a permanent \$50 million increase in Real Estate Transfer Tax revenue dedicated to the fund in 2007-08 and beyond.

The subcommittee allocates the EPF as follows:

EPF Category (In Millions)	Amount
Solid Waste Account	21.775
Landfill Closure	3.000
Municipal Recycling	7.500
Secondary Markets	7.500

Hudson River Natural Resource Damages	1.300
Pesticide Program	2.475
Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation Account	58.720
Local Waterfront Revitalization	18.250
Municipal Parks Projects	17.470
Hudson River Park	5.000
Stewardship	11.000
Zoos, Botanical Gardens, & Aquaria	7.000
Open Space Account	119.505
Land Acquisition	50.000
Quality Communities Grants	3.000
Agricultural & Farmland Protection	23.000
Biodiversity	1.500
Albany Pine Bush	1.500
Invasive Species	3.000
Long Island Pine Barrens Planning	1.100
Oceans and Great Lakes	2.000
Water Quality Improvement Projects	7.000
Long Island South Shore Estuary Reserve	0.900
Agricultural Non-point Source Projects	10.980
Municipal Non-point Source Projects	5.525
Soil and Water Conservation Districts	3.000
Finger Lakes - Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance	2.000
Hudson River Estuary Management	5.000
Total	200.000

Housing Agreement

The Assembly and Senate have agreed to restore the funding for Neighborhood Preservation Programs and Rural Preservation Programs to the 2005 level. Each house has \$25 million in housing capital money, details of which will be determined.

Article VII

The subcommittee reached agreement on the following Article VII proposals:

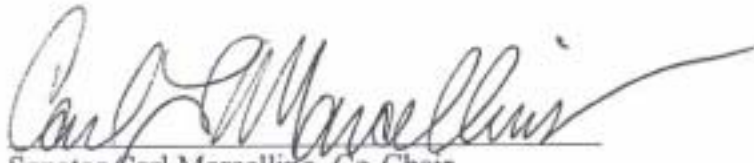
- Amend the proposal to authorize the Department of Environmental Conservation to collect fees on surf clams and ocean quahogs until 2010;
- Reject an All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) trail development program and repeal the \$15 fee increase included in SFY 2005-06 Enacted Budget;
- Reject Title V Operating Permit Program Fee increase;
- Reject DEC Regulatory Fee increases and amend well driller provisions;
- Reject Hazardous Waste Fee amendments;
- Amend EPF provisions;

- Reject proposed food security language, proposed inspection frequency cuts and restore food inspector positions at the Department of Agriculture and Markets;
- Amend the Executive's language regarding increased penalties to require the Department of Agriculture and Markets to submit a report on penalties assessed and violations per section of law; and
- Increase the NPC/RPC aggregate cap by \$80,000.

After thorough deliberation on the issues of wetlands protections and on the agricultural food laboratory, the Assembly and Senate were unable to reach an agreement. These issues are hereby submitted to the General Conference Committee for consideration:

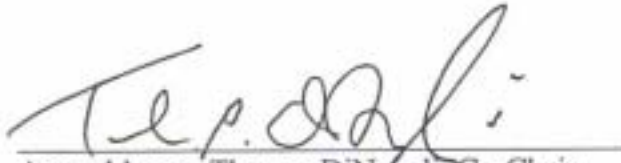
- The expansion of the Department of Environmental Conservation's authority over wetlands and the establishment of permit fees to fund staff positions to administer the program.
- A new \$40 million capital appropriation for an agricultural food laboratory.

The subcommittee is transferring the remaining \$6,598,970 of the \$45 million table target to the General Conference Committee.



Senator Carl Marcellino, Co-Chair

Joint Conference Committee on Housing, Agriculture and Environmental Conservation



Assemblyman Thomas DiNapoli, Co-Chair

Joint Conference Committee on Housing, Agriculture and Environmental Conservation