



Empowering Communities, Advocating Solutions.

BUDGET PRIORITIES FOR SFY 2019-20

INVEST AT LEAST \$2.5 BILLION IN NEW FUNDING FOR CLEAN WATER INFRASTRUCTURE: Invest at least \$2.5 billion over 5 years in *new* funding for clean water infrastructure in SFY 2019-20 (combined with the remaining 3 years of funding under the Clean Water Infrastructure Act of 2017). This will help address the nearly \$80 billion in wastewater/drinking water infrastructure needs across the state and help protect clean water for New York residents.

ADDRESS THE STATE'S SOLID WASTE CRISIS: China closed its doors to our recyclable materials, causing New York to experience a growing solid waste crisis. There are a suite of solutions that NYS can implement to address this crisis:

- ***Pass the Food Recovery and Recycling Act*** to require large generators to donate excess edible food and repurpose food scraps to create compost or generate renewable energy.
- ***Ban plastic carryout bags and include a fee on paper bags*** to reduce plastic pollution, reduce costs for municipal recycling facilities, and incentive consumers to switch to reusable bags.
- ***Expand and modernize the Bottle Bill*** by increasing the bottle deposit and expanding covered beverage containers (e.g. glass wine and liquor bottles).
- ***Invest in robust, standardized public education on recycling*** to reduce “wish-cycling” that results in unrecyclable items contaminating/degrading the value of truly recyclable materials.
- ***Expand markets and support glass recycling*** by initiating state procurement of products made with recyclable materials and to providing incentives to build glass recycling facilities our state.
- ***Packaging Expanded Producer Responsibility (EPR)*** to require brand owners to take responsibility for their products throughout their entire product life cycle, by bearing the cost of proper recycling and responsible disposal for packaging and printed paper.

FUND STATE AGENCIES: Provide funding in the state budget to ensure that staffing levels at state agencies (DEC, DOH, OPRHP, A&M, and DOS) are adequate to carryout essential functions, including enforcement and effective program implementation.

INVEST AT LEAST \$300 IN THE NYS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FUND: Provide at least \$300 million for the EPF in SFY 2019-20, which includes, but is not limited to, the following line items:

- \$20 million for the Ocean & Great Lakes program
- \$500,000 for a comprehensive study of wastewater solutions for Fire Island (new, onetime allocation)
- \$500,000 for Suffolk County to become a much-needed resource for testing of perfluorinated compounds (PFCs) in groundwater (new, onetime allocation)

Citizens Campaign for the Environment is an 80,000 member, non-profit, non-partisan organization that works to empower communities and advocate solutions that protect public health and the natural environment.

For more information, contact:

Adrienne Esposito, Executive Director, 516-390-7150, aesposito@citizenscampaign.org

Brian Smith, Associate Executive Director, 716-831-3206, bsmith@citizenscampaign.org

William Cooke, Government Relations Director, 518-461-9947