

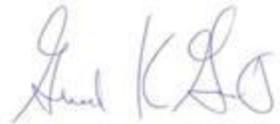
Dear Supervisor,

Governor Cuomo's Countywide Shared Services Property Tax Savings Plan is an unfunded mandate that will require county executives/managers to study and develop new efficiency plans, ultimately impacting the delivery and provision of town services. Please take a moment to contact your state senator and your state assemblymember to voice your concerns about the governor's budget proposal. Here are some concerns you can talk about:

- These plans are not voluntary. The county executive must put together a plan to go before the county voters for approval at the general election this November.
- The budget provides no direct funding to pay for either the development or implementation of these plans.
- The governor's proposal does not require town approval before the efficiency plan is put to a countywide vote, taking decision-making power away from those residents who will be most impacted by changes.
- The governor's budget also eliminates AIM funding if the Legislature does not adopt the Countywide Shared Services Property Tax Savings Plan. The governor's attempt to compel the Legislature to approve his proposal is contrary to his oft-stated goal of lowering property taxes, as AIM funding is a proven property tax reduction tool.
- Thank your legislators for omitting the references to the governor's Countywide Shared Services Property Tax Savings Plan in their one-house budget bills and for rejecting the condition placed on AIM funding.
- Ask your state legislator to insist that the governor's Countywide Shared Services Property Tax Savings Plan (PPG Part U - S2005/A3005) be removed from the adopted state budget.
- Ask your state legislator to insist that the final budget does not include the language contained in the Governor's Aid to Localities Budget Bill (S2003/A3003 on page 1060) that ties the distribution of AIM funding to the adoption of state legislation requiring Countywide Shared Services Property Tax Savings Plans (PPG S2005/A3005 Part U).

There is also a budget briefing paper in the member section of our website (www.nytowns.org), where you can find references to the various budget bills and background papers on the governor's Executive Budget and the Senate and Assembly's one-house budget bills.

Gerald K. Geist



Executive Director

Association of Towns of the State of New York
150 State Street, Albany, New York 12207-1671
Phone (518) 465-7933
Fax (518) 465-0724
<http://www.nytowns.org>