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Greenway Council to remain its own entity

ALBANY – A state budget proposal that would have seen the Hudson River Valley Greenway Council and Heritage Conservancy placed under the aegis of the state Department of State has been removed from the final budget.

Assemblymen Kevin Cahill of Kingston and Marc Molinaro of Red Hook teamed up with 17 other state lawmakers, Congressman Maurice Hinchey and Scenic Hudson in order to block the item from the spending plan.

“At a time when regional approaches to governing are being looked to for efficiencies, cost savings and economic development, the elimination of the Greenway would have been a huge step backwards,” said Cahill. “The Greenway plays an essential role in helping our communities protect ecological balance of the region while at the same time stimulating economic growth.”

Since their inception in 1991 by an act of the legislature, the Hudson River Greenway Council and Conservancy have worked to establish voluntary regional planning partnerships with 251 municipalities in 12 counties and New York City.

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