

State of New York
Division of the Budget
Eliot Spitzer, Governor

RE: 2008-2009 Budget Public Hearings
The former Kings Park Psychiatric Center

November 12, 2007

Dear Governor Spitzer:

Pursuant to your request, please accept this letter as formal comments in lieu of personal testimony at the upcoming public hearings regarding the New York State 2008-2009 Budget.

We request that the \$25 million dollars earmarked for the environmental cleanup of the former Kings Park Psychiatric Center which is currently found in the Transportation, Economic Development and Environmental Conservation 2007-2008 Budget Bills be reappropriated in the State's 2008-2009 budget.

This money is to be utilized by the state to help remediate the property that is now part of the Nissequogue River State Park. This funding will greatly ease the burden on the state parks department as they move forward in the cleanup and eventual redevelopment of this park.

Further, we request that additional money be appropriated towards the remediation of the Nissequogue River State Park in order to facilitate the complete redevelopment of this park, which will benefit all of New York State. The residents of this community have been waiting years for the State to take responsibility for this land and the first important steps towards this goal have included the designation of this property as parkland and the appropriation of clean up money. We seek this administration's continued commitment to this park.

Thank you for accepting these comments and for your consideration of same. Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate in contacting the undersigned at your convenience.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Henninger
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