

STATE OF NEW YORK

4416

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 11, 2019

Introduced by Sen. KAPLAN -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions

AN ACT to require the empire state development corporation to create a plan regarding multi-use trails

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. (a) For the purposes of this act, the term "multi-use
2 trail" shall mean an off-street linear facility for recreation and
3 transportation, paved or unpaved, designated to serve multiple types of
4 users, including, but not limited to, bicyclists, pedestrians, in-line
5 skaters, joggers, cross-country skiers or equestrians.
6 (b) The empire state development corporation shall create a plan for a
7 comprehensive statewide system of multi-use trails consisting of a
8 network of primary corridors linked to and enhanced by regional and
9 local multi-use trails. The draft plan shall be completed one year after
10 this act becomes a law. The empire state development corporation shall
11 consult concurrently with representatives from the office of parks,
12 recreation and historic preservation, the department of environmental
13 conservation, the department of health and the department of transporta-
14 tion to create such plan. A representative of each agency shall be
15 appointed by the commissioner of their respective agency. The empire
16 state development corporation shall meet with the representatives of
17 such agencies at least quarterly. There shall be a sixty-day public
18 comment period on such draft plan and there shall be at least one public
19 hearing on the draft plan during such sixty-day public comment period.
20 The final plan shall be completed and adopted one hundred eighty days
21 after submission of the draft plan. The plan shall be updated no less
22 than every five years. Such plan shall include five major components:
23 (i) A vision for a statewide network of primary corridors linked to
24 and enhanced by regional and local multi-use trails, which will include

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 trail uses to be addressed in the plan; goals for geographic distrib-
2 ution; goals for universal accessibility; and general goals for new
3 trail acquisition and development.

4 (ii) A Geographic Information System (GIS) inventory of existing
5 multi-use trails across the state, as well as planned multi-use trails,
6 or undeveloped corridors under consideration for future multi-use
7 trails.

8 (iii) Identification of new multi-use trail opportunities including,
9 but not limited to, transportation (rail, canal, trolley) corridors -
10 existing, abandoned or under consideration to be abandoned; under-uti-
11 lized or closed roads; utility corridors and natural corridors such as
12 waterways and waterfronts.

13 (iv) A comprehensive set of multi-use trail recommendations, including
14 but not limited to acquisition and development priorities; guidelines
15 for design and maintenance of different "tier" (primary, regional,
16 local) multi-use trails; guidelines for wayfinding, marketing and inter-
17 pretive signs and informational resources, such as statewide and
18 regional maps of existing multi-use trails, to promote the use of such
19 trails and their coordination with other tourism opportunities in New
20 York state.

21 (v) Recommendations for funding the acquisition, construction, mainte-
22 nance, and promotion of multi-use trails as well as implementation.

23 (c) The office of parks, recreation and historic preservation, the
24 department of environmental conservation, the department of health, the
25 department of transportation and any other state agencies, departments,
26 public authorities or programs with relevant expertise or resources
27 shall provide the empire state development corporation with such facili-
28 ties, assistance, and data as will enable the empire state development
29 corporation to carry out its powers and duties. The empire state devel-
30 opment corporation will have primary responsibility for implementation
31 of the plan created pursuant to the provisions of this act, provided the
32 costs of implementation have been appropriated or identified by the
33 chairperson of the empire state development corporation.

34 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.