

Town Board of Dryden resolution in opposition to the elimination of Aid and Incentives to Municipalities in the 2020 New York State Budget

WHEREAS Governor Andrew Cuomo's proposed 2020 NYS Budget includes an unwarranted cut to unrestricted state revenue sharing program known as Aid and Incentives to Municipalities (AIM) that will effectivity eliminate this funding for 91% of villages and town in New York state.

WHEREAS, funding has not been increased since the program's inception in 2008, and has not been indexed to inflation, while unfunded mandates from the state and the costs of town and village services have risen significantly; and

WHEREAS, if the proposal remains in the state budget, the Governor's proposal would create a \$53,000 loss for the town of Dryden, and losses of \$11,000 and \$4,000 for the villages of Dryden and Freeville respectively, and

WHEREAS, the proposal arbitrarily and irrationally maintains funding for municipalities that depend on AIM for more than 2 percent of their budgets,

WHEREAS, the Governor is proposing items in his budget that will further stress municipalities, including making the state tax cap permanent, discontinuing the Extreme Winter Recovery Program and no increase for CHIPs funding; and

WHEREAS, the Governor in his 30 Day Budget Amendments has proposed that municipalities would effectively have AIM cuts restored by new sales tax revenues, if and when, New York State begins taxing internet sales,

WHEREAS, the Town of Dryden rejects the notion that AIM funding is no longer needed because new internet sales taxes, with unpredictable revenues for towns, are enacted by the state,

WHEREAS, both houses of the New York State Legislature recently passed budget resolutions that maintain AIM funding,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The town of Dryden joins Tompkins County and numerous other towns and villages to strongly oppose the elimination of AIM funding; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to Honorable Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Honorable Speaker of the Assembly Carl E. Heastie, Honorable Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, and the New York Delegation representing the town of Dryden.