On January 5, 2022, Governor Hochul delivered her State of the State address outlining the Governor’s priorities and plans for the upcoming year and legislative session. The Executive Budget and proposed legislation will offer more details on these priorities, but here is a quick rundown of some of the proposals directly impacting towns that we will be following. You can read more about these proposals and others in the State of the State booklet available [here](#).

- Increase funding for PAVE NY by $1 billion and Bridge-NY by $1 billion in the next five-year capital plan, with an emphasis on resilient infrastructure.
- Establish and provide local governments with standardized cellular siting requirements and master-lease agreements to facilitate cellular infrastructure deployments via Empire State Development.
- Introduce legislation requiring municipalities to allow a minimum of one accessory dwelling unit (ADU) on owner-occupied, residentially zoned lots that also allows municipalities to set minimum and maximum size requirements that both meet safety standards but will not prevent reasonable new construction. There are plans to include capital funding for municipalities to assist in the legalization or creation of new ADUs.
- Increase funding for the Clean Water, Clean Air and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act from $3 billion to $4 billion.
- Institute an “extended producer responsibility” (EPR) program for packing and paper products, an environmental protection strategy that requires producers – not taxpayers/municipalities – to cover the cost of recycling.
- Strengthen ethics requirements for local officials with respect to gifts, standards of conduct for all public officers, nepotism, and lobbying.
- Revitalize and spur economic growth across small rural communities through state investment in projects that accelerate revitalization in rural social centers.

For additional information and legislative updates, check our website, [www.nytowns.org](http://www.nytowns.org) and social media pages regularly.