

## ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATIVE NEWS

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## Stalled Belleayre Resort Project Makes Vital Headway Chairman Hopeful for Swift Advancement

Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature, Frederick J. Wadnola, congratulates State Comptroller, Thomas P. DiNapoli, on his recent approval of a contract for the purchase of Catskill land by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. The Comptroller's approval is the first step in allowing the controversial Belleayre Resort Project, managed by Crossroads Ventures L.L.C., to move forward. Chairman Wadnola believes word of the Comptroller's recent approval will encourage the Administration in Albany to see that all State Agencies must proceed expeditiously. The Chairman acknowledged, "I recognize the catastrophic damage as a result of Hurricane Irene in that part of the County, and encourage any economic development that will create jobs and aid in the rebuilding of those communities. Upon completion, this project will have supplied a dismal economy with over 2,000 jobs."

Chairman of the Economic Development & Tourism Committee, and proponent of the construction project that has been in the works for over a decade, Legislator James Maloney, applauds Comptroller DiNapoli for aiding in the advancement of the project. "Tourism is a major component of the Ulster County economy, and we must do everything possible to further advance our tourism industry," said Legislator Maloney. "In addition, this project provides a tremendous opportunity for job creation in these hard times."

Long time advocate of the project, and sponsor of legislation encouraging and supporting the construction of the new resort, Ulster County Legislator Peter Loughran said, "I also would like to thank Tom DiNapoli and his office for his recent decision regarding this project. This is wonderful news for Ulster County taxpayers." Legislator Loughran expressed concern regarding Ulster County Government's struggle to provide much needed services to Ulster County taxpayers, including services for senior citizens and the Golden Hill Health Care Center. This tourist resort will aid in keeping property taxes to a minimum. Legislator Loughran summarized the many projected benefits that the Belleayre Resort will bring to the community: Many years of construction work; approximately 541 full-time and 230 part-time jobs; direct and indirect wages of approximately 47 million dollars per year; annual real property tax revenues due Ulster County of over \$500,000, and the annual sales and bed tax revenues to Ulster County of an estimated 2.3 million dollars. "Every taxpayer in Ulster County will benefit from this vacation resort either directly or indirectly," said Legislator Loughran.