



# NEWS RELEASE

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New York State Conference of Mayors and Municipal Officials  
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Peter A. Baynes  
*Executive Director*

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**Statement from  
NYCOM Executive Director Peter A. Baynes  
on the 2016-17 State Budget**

“With the exception of an important increase in infrastructure funding, this budget is a major disappointment for municipal governments and their taxpayers, and continues a disturbing trend of fiscal abandonment by the State. In a year when State aid to school districts will increase by \$1.5 billion, our municipal governments – upon which schools, businesses, farmers and all of our residents rely – receive not one additional dime in unrestricted State aid. If this policy of disowning municipalities is intended to force a great Darwinian restructuring of local governments, it is failing and is instead harming our communities and weakening our State.”