

LEGISLATIVE & RULES
AGENDA
MARCH 17, 2020

Committee Members: Supervisors Strough, Braymer, Conover, Beaty, Diamond, Driscoll, Leggett, Merlino and Simpson

- I. Committee meeting called to order by Chair.
- II. Approval of minutes of prior Committee meeting - *September 5, 2019.*
- III. Action Agenda/New Business Items:
 - 1) NYSAC Medicaid Cap Advocacy and NYSAC Resolution Calling on the Governor and New York State Legislature to Preserve the Zero Percent Medicaid Growth Cap for all Counties and New York City.
 - 2) Assembly Bill A8123, *An Act to Amend the Executive Law in Relation to Preserving Ecological Integrity, Wildlife and Open Space in the Adirondack Park.*
 - 3) Broome County Legislature Resolution No. 45 of 2020, *Resolution Urging Governor Cuomo and the New York State Legislature to Increase the Counties' Share of Department of Motor Vehicles Revenue to 25 Percent to Provide a More Equitable Share for Counties Operating Local DMV Offices.*
 - 4) Request from the US Geological Survey for a recommendation about a proposal to correct the name of Halfway Creek to Halfway Brook.
 - 5) Request to amend the Rules of the Board to include a night Board Meeting for 2020.
- IV. Discussion Items:

None.
- V. Referrals/Pending Items:
 - 1) Referral from the Personnel & Administrator Committee to establish a policy for nominations to appoint members of the Warren-Washington Counties Industrial Development Agency, and other agencies or organizations unless superceded by State or Federal law. (03.05.20)
- VI. Privilege of the Floor to discuss any additional items to come before the Committee
- VII. Motion to adjourn

Attachments:

- 1) NYSAC resolution and information regarding Medicaid Cap (Agenda Item 1).
- 2) Assembly Bill A8123 (Agenda Item 2).
- 3) Broome County Legislature Resolution No. 45 of 2020 (Agenda Item 3).
- 4) Email and backup documents provided by USGS (Agenda Item 4).

Warren County Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION NO. OF 2020

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY SUPERVISORS STROUGH, BRAYMER, CONOVER, BEATY, DIAMOND, DRISCOLL, LEGGETT, MERLINO AND SIMPSON

RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE GOVERNOR AND NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE TO PRESERVE THE ZERO PERCENT MEDICAID GROWTH CAP FOR ALL COUNTIES AND NEW YORK CITY

WHEREAS, spending in New York State for Medicaid is the single largest expense in the State Budget, and

WHEREAS, the funding to support the Medicaid program is provided by a combination of Federal, State and Local resources, and

WHEREAS, the required County and New York City contribution is \$7.6 billion annually, and

WHEREAS, the local share of Medicaid funding paid in New York is the highest of any State in the Country and is more than what 43 individual States pay in State share for their Medicaid programs, and

WHEREAS, this large local funding share for Medicaid and other State programs is a major contributor to New York's high local tax burden compared to other States, and

WHEREAS, the Governor and legislative leaders recognize the fiscal burden the financing of Medicaid is for local taxpayers and initiated steps to relieve part of that burden by capping the growth in local costs in this program, and

WHEREAS, one of the most prominent property tax reduction and mandate relieve initiatives in State history was Governor Cuomo's establishment of the zero percent Medicaid growth cap, and

WHEREAS, this zero percent growth cap enables counties to keep funding for the growing cost of many vital State programs and services, while continuing local quality of life services demanded by taxpayers, and

WHEREAS, the Medicaid budget is facing billions of dollars in annual deficits over the next several years, and

WHEREAS, these Medicaid deficits are contributing to the largest budget deficit the State has faced since the Great Recession, and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Executive Budget Recommendation is proposing a variety of ways to address these combined fiscal shortfalls, and

WHEREAS, budget proposals advanced by the Governor rely on \$150 million in Medicaid program costs assumed by local taxpayers, and include:

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- using county government federal enhanced medicaid match savings;
- losing state Medicaid growth cap if counties breach the State property tax cap;
- shifting the local share of Medicaid growth above 3% to counties, if counties cannot contain costs under 3%, and

WHEREAS, counties do not have tools to control the Medicaid program growth; some of these limitations include:

- the ability to audit the Medicaid program;
- the ability to control the cost of prescription drugs;
- the ability to set provider reimbursement rates;
- the ability to modify eligibility and benefit levels for Medicaid recipients;
- the ability to control changing demographics across the State;
- the ability to control provider contracts, and

WHEREAS, if State experts in the Medicaid program are unable to develop solutions to control growth in the Medicaid program, it will be difficult for counties to do so, since they do not have this authority to control costs, and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Budget proposal will increase Warren County's \$11.8 million Medicaid program by as much as \$1,672,250 per year, every dollar of which would become the responsibility of local property taxpayers, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Warren County Board of Supervisors hereby urges the Governor and legislative leaders to maintain the zero percent Medicaid growth cap for counties and New York City as they address State budget shortfalls in order to keep downward pressure on the local tax burden, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Board of Supervisor is authorized and directed to forward copies of this resolution to Governor Andrew Cuomo, Senator Elizabeth O'C. Little, Assemblyman Daniel Stec, the New York State Association of Counties and the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks.

Keep the Cap: Local Medicaid Advocacy Talking Points

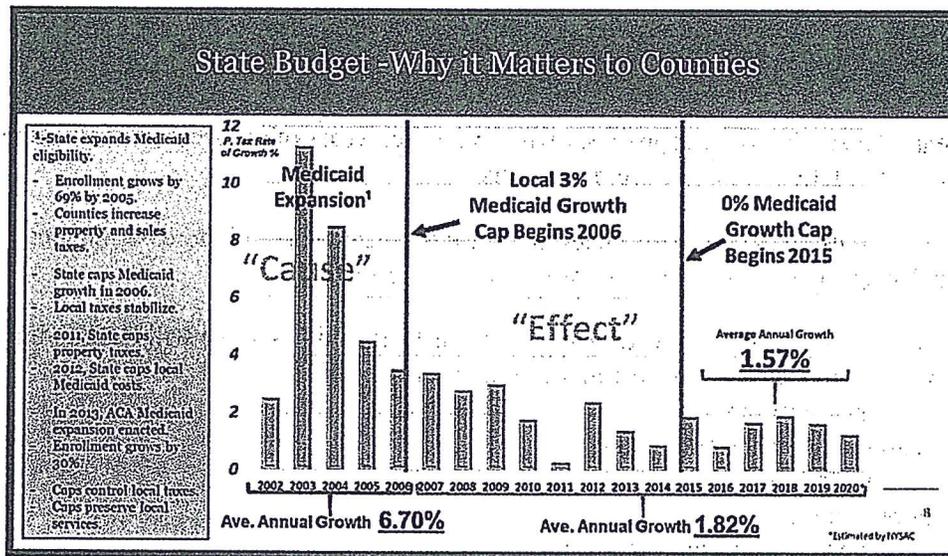
- New York Counties and the City of New York stand united behind working with the State to more effectively manage the cost of Medicaid and improving the quality of care for those in need.
- But any state Medicaid proposal must protect local taxpayers and services by keeping the current cost control caps in place.
- A number of state and federal decisions, and demographics, have caused recent Medicaid cost increases, including
 - New York State raised the minimum wage, costing Medicaid \$1.8 billion.
 - New York State enhanced services to seniors, even as our population ages and seniors become a growing part of our demographic profile.
 - Long-expected cuts in federal reimbursements for Medicaid are taking effect.
- Counties and New York City have no control over these cost drivers:
- In 2012, to help counties keep to the 2% property tax cap, Governor Cuomo and State Lawmakers enacted a zero growth Medicaid cap.
- The Medicaid cap worked: It empowered counties to hold property taxes stable or lower them.
- This year's Executive Budget proposal will reverse ten years of progress in controlling property taxes, taking a major step backwards.
- It includes 3 initiatives that would undo the local Medicaid cap and increase the local Medicaid share that local taxpayers have to pay to the state.
- If counties and the City are forced to absorb more Medicaid costs, we will have to increase property taxes, reduce staff, and/or make cuts to services like:
 - veterans' programs,
 - road maintenance and repair,
 - youth services,
 - public libraries,
 - Meals on wheels and other senior services,
 - workforce development and tourism promotion, and more.
- We stand ready to work with state leaders and with the Medicaid Redesign Team to address what is under local control and recommend solutions that are under state control.
- However, local governments do not control the main drivers of Medicaid costs.
- Local governments administer Medicaid according to the State's rules and regulations.

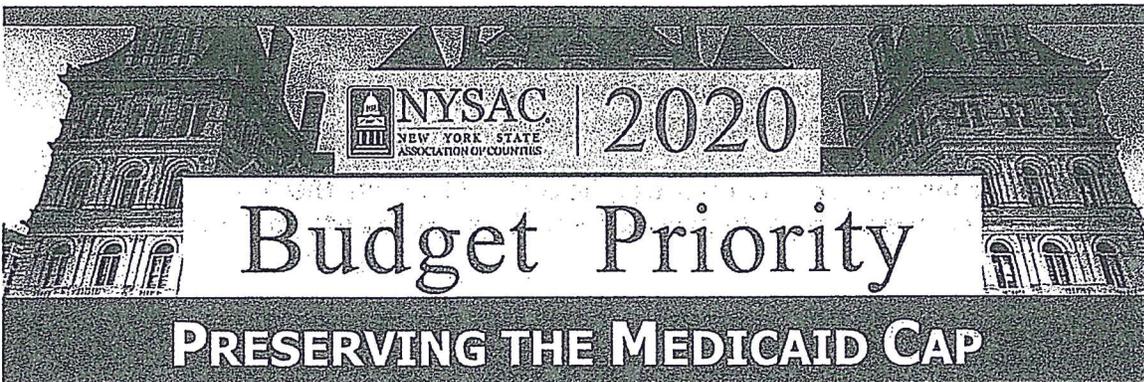
- Our neighbors and businesses should not shoulder the burden of higher local taxes for a program that counties have little power to restrain.

Background

- New York is one of the few states in the nation to require local funds to cover a large share of the Medicaid program.
- County taxpayers have been funding Medicaid since the 1960s.
- Local taxpayers now pay \$7.6 billion each year to the state for Medicaid.
- This proposal would increase what local taxpayers pay by at least \$150 million a year.

The local Medicaid caps did what they were supposed to do: relieve property taxpayers from skyrocketing annual increases. Property taxes have grown less than the rate of inflation for the last 15 years, with average growth around 1.4 percent since 2011.





RECOMMENDATION

Remove Part R of the Health and Mental Hygiene Article VII language from the Final Budget, and the accompanying \$150 million cost shift to local taxpayers.

Counties oppose efforts to alter the local Medicaid cost control caps that have helped keep local taxes under the cap.

SFY 21 EXECUTIVE BUDGET PROPOSAL

This year's Executive Budget proposal includes three separate initiatives, referred to collectively as "Medicaid Local District Spending Reforms" that would impact the Medicaid local share county taxpayers pay in support of the state Medicaid program.

- 1. Cap eFMAP Federal Fiscal Benefits to Counties** — Caps the amount of federal savings for counties and New York City from the Affordable Care Act. As proposed, the savings would be transferred to the benefit of the state financial plan.
- 2. Require Counties and NYC to adhere to the 2% Property Tax Cap** or lose the savings from the state-funded local Medicaid growth cap.
- 3. Adhere to a Local Share Medicaid Costs Increase of No More than 3%** — If a county's local share and associated savings exceeds 3% in any given year, the county is required to refund any excess benefit over 3% back to the state.

For more information, visit www.nysac.org/medicaid or call 518-465-1473 to speak to Dave Lucas, NYSAC Director of Finance and Intergovernmental Affairs.

WHY IT MATTERS

New Yorkers are at risk of paying higher taxes or losing vital services under the Medicaid proposal in this year's Executive Budget.

If counties are forced to shoulder more of the cost of Medicaid, they'll have no choice but to **increase property taxes, reduce staff, or make cuts to services, including:**

- Veterans' services,
- Meals on Wheels and other senior services,
- Youth services,
- STOP-DWI initiatives,
- Road maintenance and repair, and
- Public libraries.

THE TRUE COST OF THIS PROPOSAL

Based on recent Medicaid data, the average annual cost of the 3% proposal would be **\$162 million for county taxpayers outside of NYC.**

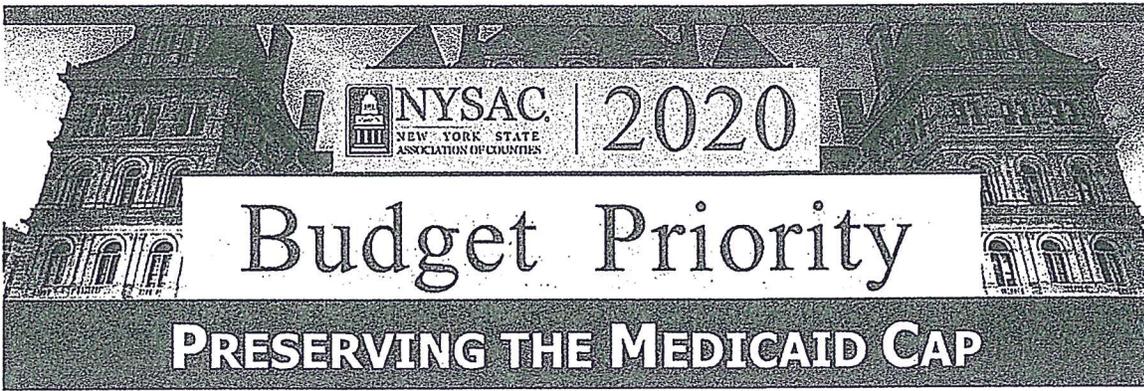
\$162 MILLION EQUALS

- Salaries of **2,900 county employees** each year
- **Public defender services** for a full year across all counties
- **11 months of Early Intervention Services** for all counties
- A full year of home delivered meals for **58,700 seniors**
- **One-third** of annual county community college costs
- **3 months of pre-school special education** services for all counties
- Funding for **half of all culture and recreation activities**

COUNTIES ARE UNITED

Any state Medicaid proposal must protect local services, local taxpayers and keep the current cost control caps in place!





HISTORICAL OVERVIEW AND TIMELINE

New York Implements Medicaid (1966). The federal Medicaid program was signed into law in 1965 by President Lyndon B. Johnson as part of historic legislation also creating the Medicare program of health insurance for all elderly Americans.

Medicaid is jointly funded: the federal government pays about half of the program costs in New York, and the other half comes from nonfederal (State or local) sources. The federal government provides authorization and oversight for Medicaid, but states develop their own plans for administering the program. Federal law grants the states flexibility to raise a portion of the nonfederal share from local governments.

New York was one of the few States in the nation to require county funds to cover the cost of the program, and the only one to require county taxpayers to fund a full half of the State's share. At that time, the federal government paid 50 percent, the State paid 25 percent, and local taxpayers in New York City and the 57 counties paid 25 percent.

In 1966, the county taxpayer share was \$112 million. The costs grew quickly, and in the following years, the State gave counties authority to levy a local sales tax to help cover new costs associated with paying for Medicaid (and other social welfare programs the state was requiring counties to provide and fund at the time).

Because local taxpayers funded 25 percent of the program, it was easier for state leaders to expand the program by adopting all options put forth by the federal government. In the next couple of decades, New York State's Medicaid program grew to be the nation's largest, and most complex, state system of healthcare funding and finance.

For decades, a series of Governors, in collaboration with the State Legislature, have created a complicated system of "off-budget" financing to pay for Medicaid. The largest source of this off-budget financing was derived from local property taxes in most counties (New York City uses a different combination of local taxes to support State-mandated Medicaid costs).

Today, New York's Medicaid program is slightly smaller than California's, even though they have nearly twice the population as New York. Today's local share for Medicaid of \$7.6 billion is higher than the state contribution of 43 individual states.

TIMELINE

State Takeover Efforts Rejected (1981). In 1981, the annual local share of Medicaid was already greater than \$1 billion. The State proposed a seven-year state takeover of the Medicaid local share. The Assembly passed the Governor's plan, but the Senate rejected it. While the Senate Majority Leader acknowledged that the local share was inappropriate because Medicaid is state-run, leaders could not agree on how to fund a state takeover.

Partial Takeover Success (1983). In 1983, the State proposed a five-year plan wherein the State would bear 90% of the nonfederal share. Again, the Senate blocked the plan, but a deal was reached for the State to take on 90% of Medicaid long-term care costs (primarily nursing homes and home care) to save local taxpayers \$429 million in the first year.

At the time, long-term care costs represented nearly half of Medicaid spending. This new policy significantly changed the state's Medicaid financing. By 2004, county taxpayers were paying about 16% of New York's total Medicaid bill, compared to the 25% prior to 1983.

Child Health Plus Enacted (1990). The Child Health Plus program was passed by the New York State Legislature in 1990, and by August of 1991, children began receiving coverage under the program. New York's Child Health Plus is the largest taxpayer-funded child health insurance program in the country.

In 1999, the State expanded Medicaid eligibility significantly under the Health Care Reform Act. Enrollment in Medicaid increased nearly 70% in the ensuing years. As enrollment and costs rose, so did county property taxes to fund the program.

Growth Cap Enacted (2005). By 2005, the local share of Medicaid surpassed \$6 billion annually statewide (\$4.3 billion in New York City and \$1.8 billion in the rest of the state). In 2005, the State agreed to a cap on the local share.

The annual growth of the local share in the first three years (from 2006 through 2008) was capped at 3.5%, 3.25%, and 3% thereafter. Under this growth cap, local costs have continued to rise by \$180 million each year automatically. Any cost growth above that level became the fiscal responsibility of the State.

The cap worked. Since 2005, county property taxes have risen at or below the rate of inflation.

Freezing Local Growth (2012). In 2011, Governor Andrew Cuomo took office and implemented a 2% property tax cap. To help counties and local governments adhere to the 2% property tax cap, Governor Cuomo and state lawmakers enacted two mandate relief measures: A zero-growth Medicaid cap, enacted in 2012, and a new pension tier to rein in state and local retirement costs.

Over the next three years, annual growth was reduced from 3% to 0% in 2015. Annually, thereafter, each local district's Medicaid local share could not exceed the 2015 level of \$7.6 billion. All nonfederal costs above the frozen amount are now paid for by the State.

This most recent cap helped counties stabilize and, in several cases, reduce county property tax rate levies.

For more information, visit www.nysac.org/medicaid or call 518-465-1473 to speak to Dave Lucas, NYSAC Director of Finance and Intergovernmental Affairs.

ACTION AGENDA ITEM 1

Key State Lawmakers for Medicaid Advocacy

Now that the Executive Budget proposal is set, it's time for counties to make our voices heard and tell the State Lawmakers to reject these local Medicaid proposals. The following members are the key legislative decision makers who will influence the outcome of this proposal in the final budget. They need to hear from you. In addition to your state representatives, please contact these members and let them know they need to protect local taxpayers and keep the cap on local Medicaid costs!

Name	Title/ Position	Email	Phone	Address
Hon. Andrea Stewart-Cousins	Senate Majority Leader	scousins@nysenate.gov	(518) 455-2585	LOB 907 Albany, NY 12247
Hon. Carl Heastie	Assembly Speaker	Speaker@nyassembly.gov	(518)-455-3791	LOB 932 Albany, NY 12248
Hon. Dick Gottfried	Chair, Assembly Health Committee	GottfriedR@nyassembly.gov	(518)-455-4941	LOB 822 Albany, NY 12248
Hon. Gustavo Rivera	Chair, Senate Health Committee	grivera@nysenate.gov	(518)-455-3395	CAP 502C Albany, NY 12247
Hon. Fred Thiele	Chair, Assembly Local Gov. Committee	ThieleF@nyassembly.gov	(518)-455-5997	LOB 837 Albany, NY 12248
Hon. James Gaughran	Chair, Senate Local Gov. Committee	gaughran@nysenate.gov	(518) 455-3250	LOB 848 Albany, NY 12247
Hon. Liz Krueger	Chair, Senate Finance Committee	lkrueger@nysenate.gov	(518) 455-2297	CAP 416 Albany, NY 12247
Hon. Helene Weinstein	Chair, Assembly Ways & Means Committee	wamchair@nyassembly.gov	(518)-455-5462	LOB 923 Albany, NY 12248

STATE OF NEW YORK

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2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

June 3, 2019

Introduced by M. of A. ENGLEBRIGHT, D'URSO, L. ROSENTHAL, ORTIZ, THIELE
-- read once and referred to the Committee on Environmental Conserva-
tion -- reported and referred to the Committee on Rules -- Rules
Committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and
recommitted to the Committee on Rules

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to preserving ecological
integrity, wildlife and open space in the Adirondack park

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

1 Section 1. Legislative findings and statement of purpose. When enacted
2 in nineteen hundred seventy-three, the Adirondack park land use and
3 development plan represented an historic application of natural
4 resource-based land use control and economic opportunity for the park's
5 residents and communities. For over forty years, the plan has sought to
6 insure optimum overall conservation, protection, preservation, develop-
7 ment and use of the unique scenic, aesthetic, wildlife, recreational,
8 open space, historic, ecological and natural resources of this cherished
9 area and the essential interdependence of economic and community needs
10 through balanced apportionment of land use within the park.

11 Conservation science and land use planning techniques have advanced
12 since the enactment of the plan. It is now recognized that the spatial
13 pattern of development is fully, if not more, as ecologically important
14 as its overall density.

15 Subdivision of land into large residential lots, or rural sprawl,
16 impairs ecosystem function, decreases biotic integrity, alters species
17 behavior and composition, increases human-wildlife conflicts, fragments
18 ownership, impairs cohesive land management, undermines the open space
19 character of the park, and threatens its agricultural and forestry work-
20 ing landscapes.

21 Conservation development is an approach to the design, construction
22 and stewardship of development that achieves functional protection of

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

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1 natural resources, while providing social and economic benefits to human
2 communities. It requires a process that ensures thorough analysis of
3 ecological systems and environmental conditions before the developer
4 actually designs the project. This saves the preparation of detailed
5 subdivision plans, the most expensive part of design, to the end of the
6 planning process. The process provides for smaller initial costs and
7 allows for agency and public input before design funds are exhausted and
8 ensures that the developer is not committed to a design that is not
9 supported by ecological and environmental conditions.

10 The purpose of this act is to strengthen the land use and development
11 plan and its administration by incorporating modern conservation design
12 principles therein and to curtail rural sprawl. It is acknowledged that
13 each property is unique and that subdivision should be pursued in
14 accordance with ecologically-sound principles including appropriate
15 dedication and preservation of substantial open space areas in further-
16 ance of environmental protection goals and working landscapes.

17 § 2. Section 802 of the executive law is amended by adding six new
18 subdivisions 17-b, 18-a, 18-b, 18-c, 43-a and 52-a to read as follows:

19 17-b. "Conservation subdivision" means the division of any tract of
20 land into a residential subdivision of twenty-five or more lots, parcels
21 or sites in low intensity use areas, ten or more lots, parcels or sites
22 in rural use areas, and five or more lots, parcels or sites in resource
23 management areas. A subdivision involving solely lawfully existing prin-
24 cipal buildings and associated infrastructure shall not be deemed a
25 conservation subdivision. A subdivision created pursuant to paragraph c
26 of subdivision one of section eight hundred eleven of this article is
27 not a conservation subdivision.

28 18-a. "Development envelope" means the area of land within a residen-
29 tial lot, parcel or site within which all principal buildings, guest
30 cottages, roads, driveways, and other structures and infrastructure must
31 be located. Roads and trails associated with forestry, agriculture and
32 open space recreation are allowed outside of the development envelope
33 pursuant to the open space management and stewardship plan.

34 18-b. "Ecological impact zone" means that area of a project site
35 extending six hundred sixty feet beyond the development envelope for
36 each development site and any contiguous developed sites.

37 18-c. "Ecological site analysis" means an analysis of a project site
38 that identifies important ecological systems, natural resources and
39 habitat on and adjacent to the project site and identifies areas deserv-
40 ing protection and potential development areas for house lots, roads and
41 associated infrastructure.

42 43-a. "Open space management and stewardship plan" means a plan for
43 the ownership, configuration, permanent legal protection, forestry,
44 agriculture and recreational open space uses, and management of desig-
45 nated open spaces. Open space management and stewardship plan also
46 means a plan for the ownership, configuration and management of open
47 spaces providing permanent legal protection of open spaces while allow-
48 ing for forestry, agriculture and recreation open spaces.

49 52-a. "Project site" means the land included in a project upon which
50 the applicable overall intensity guideline is calculated pursuant to
51 paragraph c of subdivision ten of section eight hundred nine of this
52 article.

53 § 3. Subparagraph 2 of paragraph f of subdivision 3 of section 805 of
54 the executive law, as amended by chapter 348 of the laws of 1973, is
55 amended to read as follows:

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1 (2) Purposes, policies and objectives. The basic purpose and objective
2 of rural use areas is to provide for and encourage those rural land uses
3 that are consistent and compatible with the relatively low tolerance of
4 the areas' natural resources and the preservation of the open spaces
5 that are essential and basic to the unique character of the park. Another
6 objective of rural use areas is to prevent strip development along
7 major travel corridors in order to enhance the aesthetic and economic
8 benefit derived from a park atmosphere along these corridors.

9 Residential development and related development and uses should occur
10 ~~[on large lots or]~~ in relatively small clusters on carefully selected
11 and well designed sites. This will provide for further diversity in
12 residential and related development opportunities in the park.

13 § 4. Subparagraph 2 of paragraph g of subdivision 3 of section 805 of
14 the executive law, as amended by chapter 348 of the laws of 1973, is
15 amended to read as follows:

16 (2) Purposes, policies and objectives. The basic purposes and objec-
17 tives of resource management areas are to protect the delicate physical
18 and biological resources, encourage proper and economic management of
19 forest, agricultural and recreational resources and preserve the open
20 spaces that are essential and basic to the unique character of the park.
21 Another objective of these areas is to prevent strip development along
22 major travel corridors in order to enhance the aesthetic and economic
23 benefits derived from a park atmosphere along these corridors.

24 ~~[Finally, resource management areas will allow for residential]~~ Resi-
25 dential development ~~[on substantial acreages or]~~ and related development
26 and uses should occur in relatively small clusters on carefully selected
27 and well designed sites.

28 § 5. Section 809 of the executive law is amended by adding a new
29 subdivision 11-a to read as follows:

30 11-a. All conservation subdivisions shall be reviewed pursuant to this
31 subdivision. a. (1) The applicant shall submit to the agency:

32 (i) an initial ecological site analysis reviewing the natural
33 resources of the project site and adjacent lands, utilizing current
34 local and regional data and research conclusions, including identifica-
35 tion and mapping of important ecological areas;

36 (ii) preliminary on-site analysis to identify important ecological
37 areas and other site features relevant to the development consider-
38 ations; and

39 (iii) a concept plan for the project, based on the data specified in
40 clauses (i) and (ii) of this subparagraph that minimizes the area of the
41 project subject to ecological disturbance, protects important ecological
42 areas, promotes clustering such that ecological impact zones are over-
43 lapped as much as possible, takes into account existing open space and
44 ecological impact zones on adjacent properties and identifies areas for
45 development that have appropriate soils and slopes.

46 (2) The agency shall undertake an initial site visit to access natural
47 resources and site features.

48 (3) The agency shall provide for a public comment period and hold a
49 public meeting on public notice, regarding the initial data and concept
50 plan.

51 (4) The agency shall specify to the applicant any additional study of
52 the project site necessary to complete a final ecological site analysis
53 and specify any other information requirements relevant to the develop-
54 ment considerations. The ecological site analysis, as detailed in para-
55 graph b of this subdivision, shall be submitted to the agency for
56 approval.

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1 (5) The applicant shall thereafter prepare the subdivision plan, which
2 shall include parcel boundaries and development envelopes, location of
3 open space and the draft open space management and stewardship plan. All
4 plans shall be based upon the approved ecological site analysis and
5 other site resources relevant to the development considerations. Upon
6 submission of these plans, as accepted by the agency, the application
7 review process governed by subdivisions two, three, four, five and six
8 of this section shall commence. The agency may request additional infor-
9 mation regarding the proposed subdivision plan and the open space
10 management and stewardship plan and may require revisions to the plans
11 before deeming the application complete.

12 (6) No conservation subdivision shall be approved unless (i) the find-
13 ings required by subdivision ten of this section are made, and (ii)
14 ownership, configuration, protection, compatible uses and management of
15 the designated open space is based on the ecological site analysis, and
16 is included in the open space management and stewardship plan and incor-
17 porated in permit conditions.

18 (7) The agency may provide by regulation for a variance from specific
19 conservation development requirements if it determines that such
20 requirements would cause an undue economic hardship and are not required
21 to protect the ecological resources of the project site.

22 (8) The agency shall have a standing to enforce by appropriate civil
23 action any permit condition, deed restriction, covenant, easement or
24 other permanent means of protecting open space.

25 b. The ecological site analysis shall address the following consider-
26 ations:

27 (1) identification of important ecological and sensitive areas of the
28 project site including, but not limited to, habitat, wetlands, flood-
29 plains, natural drainage ways and steep slope areas;

30 (2) the terrestrial and aquatic wildlife inhabiting, breeding on,
31 migrating across, traversing or otherwise using the project site;

32 (3) corridors, including ridgelines and riparian zones, providing
33 means by which wildlife may travel to adjacent or contiguous areas
34 providing habitat, breeding or spawning areas or meeting other needs;

35 (4) vegetative buffers on the shorelines of lakes, ponds, rivers and
36 streams and protection and preservation of vernal pools and riparian
37 areas;

38 (5) large intact forest tracts for protection of wildlife habitat and
39 biodiversity, especially for protection of species native to or other-
40 wise requiring such tracts; for watershed preservation and for miti-
41 gation of climate change, while allowing forestry, agriculture and
42 recreation uses;

43 (6) minimizing the creation of man-made and hardened edges between
44 forested tracts, roads and other open areas and the length of roads and
45 driveways;

46 (7) the size, configuration and proposed uses of the project site to
47 be preserved by permanent legal means, while allowing for recreation,
48 forestry and agriculture uses on dedicated open spaces.

49 c. Designated open space shall be, to the greatest extent possible:

50 (1) located outside the boundaries of all lots, parcels or sites for
51 the development and designed to protect the ecology and open space of
52 the park; and

53 (2) configured applying these design factors:

54 (i) include the important ecological areas of the property, based on
55 the approved ecological site analysis;

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1 (ii) provide connectivity to any neighboring areas of open space,
2 other protected areas, working forests and agriculture;

3 (iii) not be divided by subdivision roads, driveways or other perma-
4 nent man-made fragmenting features;

5 (iv) create one large, contiguous area rather than many small areas.
6 If large areas are not feasible, than a few smaller, important ecologi-
7 cal areas of the site may be protected if connected by corridors
8 comprised of natural landcover with widths of no less than three hundred
9 thirty feet; and

10 (v) minimize edge-to-area ratio of the open space and make it as
11 uniform as possible.

12 d. (1) The minimum open space required in a conservation subdivision
13 is:

14 (i) in low intensity use areas, forty percent of the project site. If
15 the open space design reaches sixty percent, there may be allowed a ten
16 percent density bonus. If it reaches seventy percent, there may be
17 allowed a twenty percent density bonus.

18 (ii) in rural use areas, fifty-five percent of the project site. If
19 the open space design reaches seventy percent, there may be allowed a
20 ten percent density bonus. If it reaches eighty percent, there may be
21 allowed a twenty percent density bonus.

22 (iii) in resource management areas, seventy-five percent of the
23 project site. If the open space design reaches eighty-five percent,
24 there may be allowed a ten percent density bonus. If it reaches ninety
25 percent, there may be allowed a twenty percent density bonus.

26 (2) Utilization of the calculated density bonus is not guaranteed and
27 is subject to agency review. The additional principal buildings may be
28 situated on the project site, or within the same directly contiguous
29 land use area, pursuant to paragraph c of subdivision ten of this
30 section. The additional principal buildings may be allowed for use in
31 the same, but non-contiguous land use area, if within the same town.
32 This density bonus cannot be utilized in any manner except by agency
33 permit and only if all the required findings of subdivision ten of this
34 section are made for the placement of the buildings and other infras-
35 tructure.

36 § 6. Section 809 of the executive law is amended by adding three new
37 subdivisions 16, 17 and 18 to read as follows:

38 16. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to prevent the agency from
39 requiring any jurisdictional project pursuant to section eight hundred
40 ten of this article to be designed in accordance with an ecological site
41 analysis and developed pursuant to an ecological preservation and
42 stewardship plan and to provide for the preservation of a portion of the
43 project site in open space by deed restriction, easement or other legal
44 means.

45 17. In determining whether a conservation subdivision permit is
46 required pursuant to this article, the agency shall not consider any
47 lots lawfully created prior to the effective date of this subdivision.
48 Nothing in this subdivision shall affect the ability of the agency, by
49 permit or by any extension thereof, to determine a period of time by
50 which a permitted subdivision shall be deemed "in existence" as defined
51 in subdivision twenty-five of section eight hundred two of this article.

52 18. Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize the agency
53 to require that any interest in land comprising part of a conservation
54 subdivision be conveyed to a public body or any other legal entity,
55 unless the applicant so proposes and the other legal entity agrees.

ACTION AGENDA ITEM 2

A. 8123--A

6

1 § 7. Subparagraph 3 of paragraph d of subdivision 1 of section 810 of
2 the executive law, as added by chapter 348 of the laws of 1973, is
3 amended to read as follows:

4 (3) All land uses and development and all subdivisions of land involv-
5 ing [~~twenty~~] ten or more residential lots, parcels or sites or residen-
6 tial units, whether designed for permanent, seasonal or transient use.

7 § 8. Subparagraph 3 of paragraph c of subdivision 1 of section 810 of
8 the executive law, as added by chapter 348 of the laws of 1973, is
9 amended to read as follows:

10 (3) All land uses and development and all subdivisions of land involv-
11 ing [~~thirty-five~~] twenty-five or more residential lots, parcels or sites
12 or residential units, whether designed for permanent, seasonal or tran-
13 sient use.

14 § 9. Subparagraph 1 of paragraph b and subparagraph 1 of paragraph c
15 of subdivision 2 of section 810 of the executive law, as added by chap-
16 ter 348 of the laws of 1973, are amended to read as follows:

17 (1) Subdivisions of land (and all land uses and development related
18 thereto) involving [~~ten~~] five or more but less than [~~thirty-five~~] twen-
19 ty-five lots, parcels or sites, other than subdivisions of land involv-
20 ing mobile homes.

21 (1) Subdivisions of land (and all land uses and development related
22 thereto) involving five or more but less than [~~twenty~~] ten lots, parcels
23 or sites, other than subdivisions of land involving mobile homes.

24 § 10. Nothing in this act shall be construed to authorize the Adiron-
25 dack park agency to require that any interest in land comprising part of
26 a conservation subdivision be conveyed to a public body or any other
27 legal entity.

28 § 11. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day
29 after it shall have become a law.

Intro No. 45
Date 2/20/2020
Reviewed by
Co. Attorney [Signature]
Date 2/23/20

RESOLUTION
BROOME COUNTY LEGISLATURE
BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

Permanent No. 2020-70
Date Adopted 2/20/2020
Effective Date 2/21/2020

Sponsored by: County Administration Committee

Seconded by: Hon. Matthew J. Pasquale

RESOLUTION URGING GOVERNOR CUOMO AND THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE TO INCREASE THE COUNTIES' SHARE OF DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES REVENUE TO 25 PERCENT TO PROVIDE A MORE EQUITABLE SHARE FOR COUNTIES OPERATING LOCAL DMV OFFICES

WHEREAS, County Clerks play a historic and important role as public servants, being one of three County officials named in the State Constitution, along with the Sheriff and District Attorney, and

WHEREAS, for over 240 years, the role of the County Clerk as the chief record and filing officer for the County have remained consistent, but their duties have grown much more complex with changes in population, technology, the State's law, policies and regulations, and

WHEREAS, today 51 of the 62 counties, including Broome County, are mandated by the State to operate local Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) offices, and

WHEREAS, under current law, the State of New York retains 87.3 percent of all fees collected from the work performed by the County operated DMVs, and

WHEREAS, while the remaining 12.7 percent is allocated to Counties, the County's share has not been increased since 1999, yet the amount of work required by the local DMV offices has increased in that same time period, and

WHEREAS, the Governor and the State Legislators have repeatedly stated that lowering the property tax burden on local residents is a key priority, and

WHEREAS, increasing the County DMV revenue sharing rate with the State to 25 percent will not result in any increased costs or fees to residents or taxpayers and will provide Counties with revenue to support necessary local government services, and

WHEREAS, it is unfair when a County DMV provides all DMV services for its residents including overhead and staff, yet the State withholds 87.3 percent of the revenue generated from these services, and

WHEREAS, Broome County Clerk Joseph A. Mihalko has been a strong advocate for a more equitable revenue sharing formula, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Broome County Legislature hereby calls on Governor Andrew Cuomo and members of the State Legislature to increase the County DMV revenue share to 25 percent, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature shall forward a copy of this Resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Assembly Speaker Carl E. Heastie, Senator Frederick J. Akshar II, Assemblyman Clifford W. Crouch, Assemblyman Christopher S. Friend, Assemblywoman Donna A. Lupardo, and the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC).

COUNTY OF BROOME) ss.
STATE OF NEW YORK)

I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Broome, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the above is an original resolution of such Legislature duly adopted on the 20th day of February, 2020, by a majority of the members elected to the Legislature of said County at a regular meeting of said Legislature.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that at the time said resolution was adopted said Legislature was comprised of fifteen members.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the corporate seal of said Legislature this 21st day of February, 2020.

Date sent to County Executive: February 21, 2020.

Approved: [Signature]
County Executive

Date 2/21, 2020

[Signature]
Clerk, County Legislature
County of Broome

ACTION AGENDA ITEM 4

From: [O'Donnell, Matthew \(Contractor\) J](#)
To: [Conover, Ronald](#)
Cc: [Allen, Amanda; Historian](#)
Subject: request for input from Warren County about a proposal to restore the historical name of a stream
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 1:21:24 PM
Attachments: [Halfway Brook proposal packet.pdf](#)
[Warren County--Halfway Brook recommendation form.doc](#)

The Honorable Ronald F. Conover, Chairman
Warren County Board of Supervisors

supervisor@town.bolton.ny.us

Issue: request for the Warren County Board of Supervisors's recommendation about a proposal to correct the name of **Halfway Creek** to **Halfway Brook**

Dear Chairman Conover:

The [U.S. Board on Geographic Names](#) (BGN) has received a proposal from a resident of Queensbury to officially correct the name of **Halfway Creek** to **Halfway Brook** on Federal maps. Although there is significant historical and current local use of the name **Halfway Brook**, the name is officially Halfway Creek for Federal use. The proponent wishes to correct this so that Federal maps match local use. The stream begins in Queensbury and flows through Kingsbury and Fort Ann before entering the Champlain Canal.

The BGN is responsible by law for standardizing geographic names for use by the Federal Government. One of the functions of the BGN is to accept and process proposals to name unnamed geographic features or to change existing names. A proposal can be submitted by any interested individual or organization, or local, State, Federal, or Tribal agency. Provided the proposal meets the criteria of the BGN's principles and policies, the BGN staff will accept it for consideration.

Because the BGN places importance on local opinion, the staff asks for input from local governments who are elected to represent its citizens who might have an interest.

We would like to know whether your office supports or opposes the proposal to correct the name from **Halfway Creek** to **Halfway Brook**. We also ask that you share this request with other offices or organizations that might have an interest. The [New York State Committee on Geographic Names](#) asks that you coordinate your review and response with the County Historian (copied on this email). We will be asking for a recommendation from all the

ACTION AGENDA ITEM 4

relevant Town Boards and County Boards, and we apologize for the duplication of emails for Town Supervisors who also serve as County Commissioners.

This proposal is listed on the BGN's Quarterly Review List 438, which is posted at https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/f?p=geonames_web:review_lists. Attached is a pdf of the case summary, the original proposal, and a map showing the location of the stream. To facilitate a response from your office, a recommendation form is also attached.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and we look forward to hearing from you. Meanwhile, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us. We may be contacted by mail at the address below; by telephone at (703) 648-4553 ; or by e-mail at BGNEEXEC@usgs.gov.

Sincerely,

Matt O'Donnell, research assistant
For Jennifer Runyon, research staff
U.S. Board on Geographic Names
U.S. Geological Survey
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
MS 523
Reston VA 20192-0523

cc:

Amanda Allen, Clerk of the Board, allena@warrencountyny.gov
Stan Cianfarano, County Historian, historian@warrencountyny.gov

Matt O'Donnell | Xcellent Technology Solutions, Inc.
Contractor in support of U.S. Board on Geographic Names | Domestic Names Committee
Phone: 703-648-4553
Email: mjodonnell@contractor.usgs.gov
Room 2B101

Approved

Promulgation authorized
Executive Secretary
Domestic Geographic Names

UNITED STATES
BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

CASE BRIEF (Domestic)

Halfway Brook: stream; 31 mi. long; heads in the Town of Queensbury at Wilkie Reservoir at 43°21'08"N, 73°45'21"W, flows SE then generally NE through the Town of Kingsbury and the Town of Fort Ann to enter the Champlain Canal at Fort Ann; named for the stream's location about halfway along a military road between Fort William Henry on Lake George and Fort Edward on the Hudson River; Washington County and Warren County, New York; 43°24'59"N, 73°29'05"W; USGS map – Fort Ann 1:24,000 (mouth); Not: Bloody Brook, Clear River, Forks Creek, Half Way Brook, Half Way Creek, Half Way Run, Halfway Creek, Halfway Run, Half-Way Brook, Half-Way Creek, Half-Way Run, Helf Creek, Seven Mile Creek, Schoone Creek; Scoon Creek, Scoune Creek, Shone Creek.

https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=43.4164596&p_longi=-73.4848346&fid=952035

Proposal: to change a name to recognize longstanding local use

Map: USGS Fort Ann 1:24,000 (mouth)

Proponent: Teri Rogers; Queensbury, NY

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Halfway Creek (FID 952035)

Local Usage: Halfway Brook (local residents)

Published: Bloody Brook (*A History of the Town of Queensbury*, 1874; "The Half-Way Brook in History," in Proceedings of the New York State Historical Association (7th Annual Meeting), 1906); Clear River (*History of Washington Co., New York*, 1878; *History and Biography of Washington County*, 1894; "The Half-Way Brook in History," in Proceedings of the New York State Historical Association (7th Annual Meeting), 1906); Forks Creek (*A History of the Town of Queensbury*, 1874; "The Half-Way Brook in History," in Proceedings of the New York State Historical Association (7th Annual Meeting), 1906); Half Way Brook (*A History of the Town of Queensbury*, 1874; Warren County Atlas, 1876; *History of Washington Co., New York*, 1878; *The Montresor Journals*, 1759 (1881); New York State Historical Association marker, 1905; New York State Education Department marker, 1932); Half Way Creek (USGS Water-Supply and Irrigation Paper No. 129, 1905); Half Way Run (*The Montresor Journals*, 1757 (1881)); Halfway Brook (*Commissary Wilson's Orderly Book*, 1759 (1857); John Adams letter, 1776; "Additional Report of the Committee to Digest the Resolutions of the Committee of the Whole Respecting Canada" 1776; Major General Philip Schuyler letter, 1776; *History of Washington Co., New York*, 1878; New York Department Reports, 1923; Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District and Washington County Soil & Water Conservation District., 2000; Town of Queensbury, 2013, 2018; City of Glens Falls, 2017, 2018); Halfway Creek (USGS 1895, 1897, 1938, 1944, 1946, 1947, 1955, 1966, 1968, 1986, 1989, 2010, 2013, 2016, 2019; AMS 1948, 1950, 1956, 1959, 1964; Washington County Atlas, 1866; New York Department Reports, 1923; New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, 1999); Halfway Run (Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District and Washington County Soil & Water Conservation District., 2000); Half-Way Brook (*A History of the Town of Queensbury*, 1874; *History of Washington Co., New York*, 1878; *The Montresor Journals*, 1759 (1881); *History and Biography of Washington County*, 1894; "The Half-Way Brook in History," in Proceedings of the New York State Historical Association (7th Annual Meeting), 1906); Half-Way Creek (*History of Washington Co., New York*, 1878; *History and Biography of*

ACTION AGENDA ITEM 4

Washington County, 1894); Half-Way Run (“The Half-Way Brook in History,” in Proceedings of the New York State Historical Association (7th Annual Meeting), 1906); Helf Creek (“The Half-Way Brook in History,” in Proceedings of the New York State Historical Association (7th Annual Meeting), 1906); Seven Mile Creek (*A History of the Town of Queensbury*, 1874; “The Half-Way Brook in History,” in Proceedings of the New York State Historical Association (7th Annual Meeting), 1906); Schoone Creek (“The Half-Way Brook in History,” in Proceedings of the New York State Historical Association (7th Annual Meeting), 1906); Scoon Creek (*History of Washington Co., New York*, 1878; *History and Biography of Washington County*, 1894); Scoune Creek (*A History of the Town of Queensbury*, 1874; “The Half-Way Brook in History,” in Proceedings of the New York State Historical Association (7th Annual Meeting), 1906); Shone Creek (*A History of the Town of Queensbury*, 1874; “The Half-Way Brook in History,” in Proceedings of the New York State Historical Association (7th Annual Meeting), 1906)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Halfway Creek, a 31-mile-long tributary of the Champlain Canal in Washington County and Warren County, to Halfway Brook. The proponent is asking that the name be changed to reflect current and longstanding local use.

References to this stream date back to at least the 1750s. The stream acquired its name because it was about halfway along a military road between Fort William Henry on Lake George and Fort Edward on the Hudson River. The crossing at the stream was a strategic point during the French and Indian War and the American Revolutionary War.

As is typical with such old names, there have been many variant names recorded: Bloody Brook, Clear River, Forks Creek, Seven Mile Creek, Schoone Creek; Scoon Creek, Scoune Creek, and Shone Creek. In addition, the name has been represented in many forms throughout history including: Half Way Brook, Half Way Creek, Half Way Run, Halfway Brook, Halfway Creek, Half-Way Brook, Half-Way Creek, Half-Way Run, and Helf Creek.

USGS maps have shown the name Halfway Creek since 1895. Some local documents use both names, Halfway Creek and Halfway Brook, but the predominant local use is Halfway Brook. State sources tend to use the name Halfway Creek, but some also use Halfway Brook. Forms of the name using the generic “Creek” (such as Half-Way Creek) date to at least 1878, although most older sources used versions of both “Creek” and “Brook.” The proponent notes that a letter written by Major General Philip Schuyler to George Washington in 1776 referred to the stream as Halfway Brook. New York State memorial signs and plaques placed along the stream in 1905 and 1932 used the name Half Way Brook, and the use of the generic “Brook” seems to have been fairly consistent in most local and state sources until later in the 1900s.

A paper titled “The Half-Way Brook in History” by James Austin Holden and presented at the Seventh Annual Meeting of the New York State Historical Association outlines the history of the name and the events that occurred at the stream. He wrote that the stream had “the popular name of ‘Half-Way Brook,’ bestowed upon it we know not by whom nor when, but which appearing in contemporary diaries, documents, letters and official despatches [sic] of ‘The Seven Years War,’ has ever since clung to it, and will while its waters run to the sea.” He also reported that “The U. S. Geological Survey, in its map of this section of New York State, published about 1895, has labeled the brook as ‘Half-Way Creek,’ [sic] which, while it may be technically correct, will never be recognized in local usage or by faithful historians.” The proponent speculates that perhaps “the ENGLISH called it ‘creek’ and the AMERICAN COLONISTS called it ‘brook?’ Given this, I believe that the AMERICAN term ‘brook’ should carry through on maps and signage to today.”

Proposed by: Teri Rogers; Queensbury, NY
Submitted by: same

Date: 12/17/19
Date: same

ACTION AGENDA ITEM 4

Prepared by: M. O'Donnell
Case ID: 5221
Reviewed by: J.Runyon

Date: 1/8/20
Quarterly Review List: 438
Date: 1/9/20

DOMESTIC GEOGRAPHIC NAME PROPOSAL SUMMARY

PROPOSE NEW OR CHANGE NAME

Name Proposal ID:

9793

Date Created:

05-DEC-19

Date Submitted:

17-DEC-19

Proposed Name:

Halfway Brook

Action Requested:

Change an existing name

Existing Name:

Halfway Creek

Unnamed Evidence:

-

Locally Used:

Yes

Locally Used Years:

350

Local Conflict:

No

Local Conflict Detail:

-

Additional Details:

We are simply requesting that Halfway Brook be the given name of the creek in Warren County, NY that flows through Glens Falls and Queensbury and was an important geographic feature of the French and Indian War and Revolutionary War. Some years ago, a USGS cartographer mis-wrote the name and called it "Halfway Creek" and we want this corrected to its original, intended name "Halfway Brook."

FEATURE INFORMATION

GNIS Feature ID:

Not listed

Feature class:

STREAM

Descriptive information:

Halfway Brook was an important halfway point between Fort William Henry in Lake George and Fort Edward on the Old Military Road that traversed the region during the French and Indian War. Today, three historic markers denote the significance of this brook as it meanders through Warren County.

Meaning or significance:

Halfway Brook was so named because it was the halfway point between two critical forts, Fort William Henry and Fort Edward, during the French and Indian War. It is a well-known body of water in the Warren County region to this day.

Commemorative:

No

Biographical information:

-

Supporting materials:

Yes

SUPPORTING MATERIALS

Filename	Comments
2015014052d.jpg	-
2015014052d_0001.jpg	-
2015014052d_0002.jpg	-
2014008011-15.jpg	-
2014008011-16.jpg	-

STATES AND COUNTIES

State Name	County Name
New York	Warren

GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES

Obtained From	Describe Other	Lat Deg	Min	Sec	Long Deg	Min	Sec	Decimal Lat	Decimal Long	Details
Other	Halfway Brook starts at Wilkie Reservoir in the Town of Queensbury, flows into Halfway Brook Reservoir, passes through Crandall Park in Glens Falls, then proceeds to Hovey Pond, and from there the brook heads northeast and enters Washington County at Patten's Mills. From there, it heads east/northeast again to Fort Anne, where it empties into the Champlain Canal. It is a very winding brook.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS

Administrative Area Type	Administrative Area Name	Details
OTHER (describe in Details field)	This proposal relates to a brook, body of water - which runs through the following townships: Queensbury and Glens Falls in Warren County, and Kingsbury (Patten's Mills) and Fort Anne in Washington County.	Brook

MAPS AND DOCUMENTS WITH NAME

Source Type	Details	Source Date
Photograph	This historical painting from the collection of the Glens Falls Insurance company depicts Gen. George Washington at the Halfway Brook - at approximately 1783, during his tour of the battlefield sites following the Revolutionary War. (See attachment under #2 - Supporting Materials)	1783

OTHER (VARIANT) NAMES AND THEIR SOURCE

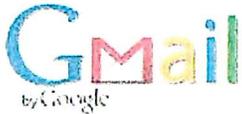
No information entered.

AUTHORITIES

Last Name	First Name	Phone	Email Address	Physical Address	City	State	Zip	Occupation	Years
Cianfarano	Stan	5187616544	historian@warrencountyny.gov	1340 State Route 9	Lake George	New York	12845	Warren County Historian	8

SUBMITTERS AND PREPARERS

Role	Last Name	First Name	Phone	Email Address	Physical Address	City	State	Zip	Company	Title
SUBMITTER	Rogers	Teri	5187430734	execdir@wcnys.org	50 Gurney Lane	Queeensbury	New York	12804	Warren County Historical Society	Executive Director



Exec Director <execdir@warrencountyhistoricalsociety.org>

Halfway Brook sources and maps.. Wayne E. Mattison

1 message

Wayne E. Mattison <ghelaw7@aol.com>

Thu, Dec 5, 2019 at 6:24 PM

To: execdir@wcnys.org

Cc: stancian@aol.com

Teri and Stan,

Below are some of the sources I have on Halfway Brook, if you need more, I have them. I hope this helps you..

Wayne E. Mattison

Veneta McKinney, (Transcribed). *Source; History and Biography of Washington County and the Town of Queensbury NY*, by Gresham Publishing Co, 1894. Warren County New York Genealogy and History. Warren County History and Guide. Historical Notes Upon the Village of Glens Falls and the Town of Queensbury, Warren County, New York. Copyright © Genealogy Trails 2019.

http://genealogytrails.com/ny/warren/history_queensbury.html

"The town occupies a plateau on the great watershed between the Hudson and the Saint Lawrence rivers, while its drainage in the northern and central parts is through Half-way brook into the waters of Lake Champlain, but the Harrissena part is to Lake George, and the remainder is to the Hudson river The more important of the creeks, brooks and runs of the town are: Reed's Meadow creek ; Cold brook, noted for a terrible massacre during the French and Indian war; Meadow run, sometimes called Four Mile run; Rocky brook, on which stood Fort William; Butler brook; Roaring brook ; and the celebrated Half-way brook, on the old military road from Fort Edward to the head of Lake George. On Halfway brook was laid out in 1762 the site of a town village that never got beyond the paper state of its existence."(McKinney)

Town of Queensbury. Historical Markers in the Town of Queensbury. Copyright by Town of Queensbury 2019.

<https://www.queensbury.net/departments/town-historian/historical-markers/>

"#3 – Halfway Brook: Located on Route 9 at Halfway Brook on east side of the road – Halfway Brook was the sight of several fortifications during the French and Indian War. Fort Amherst was located on the south side of the brook. The blockhouse on the north side was the home of Jeffrey Cowper, the town's first white settler. Nearby General George Washington stopped during his inspection of forts following the American Revolution and received a drink of water from Walter Briggs."(Town of Queensbury)

Crisfield Johnson. *1737: History of Washington Co., New York. With Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of Its Prominent Men and Pioneers.* Philadelphia: Everts & Ensign. 1878. Press of J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia. Pp. (**Search: Halfway Brook**, 23-24, 67-68, 306-308, (**photo after page 418**), 421-32.

<https://archive.org/details/historyofwashing00john>

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Gideon Delaplaine Scull, (Edited and Annotated). The Montresor Journals. Collections of the New York Historical Society for the Year 1881. Publication Fund Series. New York: Printed For the Society. MDCCCLXXXII-[1882]. Officers of the Society, 1882. Executive Committee. Pp. **Half-way Brook: 84-85, 88-89, 99-100**, 105; Half-way Run: 22-23, 25-26, 29-30. https://books.google.com/books?id=CQG7pe9b6uEC&vq=Blind+Rock&source=gbs_navlinks_s

James Austin Holden, A. B. *Halfway Brook in History*. New York State Historical Association. https://archive.org/stream/halfwaybrookinhi00hold/halfwaybrookinhi00hold_djvu.txt

"After the defeat of Dieskau in 1755, and the building of Fort William Henry at Lake George and Fort Edward at the " Great Carrying Place," the " Half-Way Brook " became a point of strategic importance, and as a halting place and rendezvous for the passing troops, and the convoys of supplies between the two forts, it was noted throughout the northern colonies, as long as the French and Indian war lasted." "Hardly a mile but what has its story of massacre, surprise, murder, deeds of daring and heroism, or of duty performed under horrible and heartrending circumstances." "...the late Dr. A. W. Holden' in his History of Queensbury, says : " At an early period in the French War, a block house and stockaded enclosure, in which were also several store houses, had been erected at the Half-Way Brook." " The old military road led across the brook about four rods above the present crossing. **A part of the old abut-C. Johnson's History of Washington County (pub. Pliila., 1878) states that the "Half-Way Brook" was also known as "Clear River" — p. 301. The U. S. Geological Survey, in its map of this section of New York State, published about 1895, has labeled the brook as " Half-Vay Creek," which, while it may be technically correct, will never be recognized in local usage or by faithful historians.**" "Six days afterwards," Dr. Holden says, " Captain de Poulharies of the Royal Rousillon regiment, with an escort of two hundred and fifty soldiers, accompanied the survivors of the massacre, upwards of four hundred, with the one piece of cannon, a six pounder, granted by the ninth article of capitulation, as a token of the Marquis de Montcalm's esteem for Lieutenant Co'lonel Monro and his garrison, on account of their honorable defense, to the post at the Half-Way Brook, where they met a like detachment from the garrison at Fort Edward, sent by General Webb to receive them." "From records kept by officers and other documents, we learn that the " Half-Way " ^ was usually designated through this war as the meeting place for white flag parties and exchange of prisoners." "June 8th, 1758, Lord Howe, the pride and idol of the army and his nation, a nobleman by birth and nature, took command of the forces, which for weeks had been gathering at Ford Edward. On June 20th we find him at the " Half-Way Brook " with three thousand men. It is supposed that this body of soldiers camped on what is still known as the " Garrison Grounds," situated on the south bank of the " Half-Way Brook," and about midway between the old Champlin place and DeLong's brickyard."(Holden)

Austin Wells Holden. *A History of the Town of Queensbury, in the State of New York: With Biographical Sketches of Many of Its Distinguished Men, and Some Account of the Aborigines of Northern New York*. Higginson Book Company, 1874. Albany, N.Y., Joel Munsell. 1874. Pp. (**Search: Halfway Brook**), 14-15, 74, 182, 321-324, 371-374, 479-480. https://books.google.com/books?id=B5WxnxS8P9gC&source=gbs_navlinks_s

Commissary Wilson's orderly book, expedition of the British . Amherst, Jeffery Amherst, Baron, 1717-1797. HathiTrust. Digitized by Google. Original from New York Public Library. [Note from J. Watts De Peyster]. Pp. (**Search: Halfway Brook**), 26-28, 31-33, 52-54, 82-84, 209-211. <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=nyp.33433081709226;view=1up;seq=1>

12/6/2019

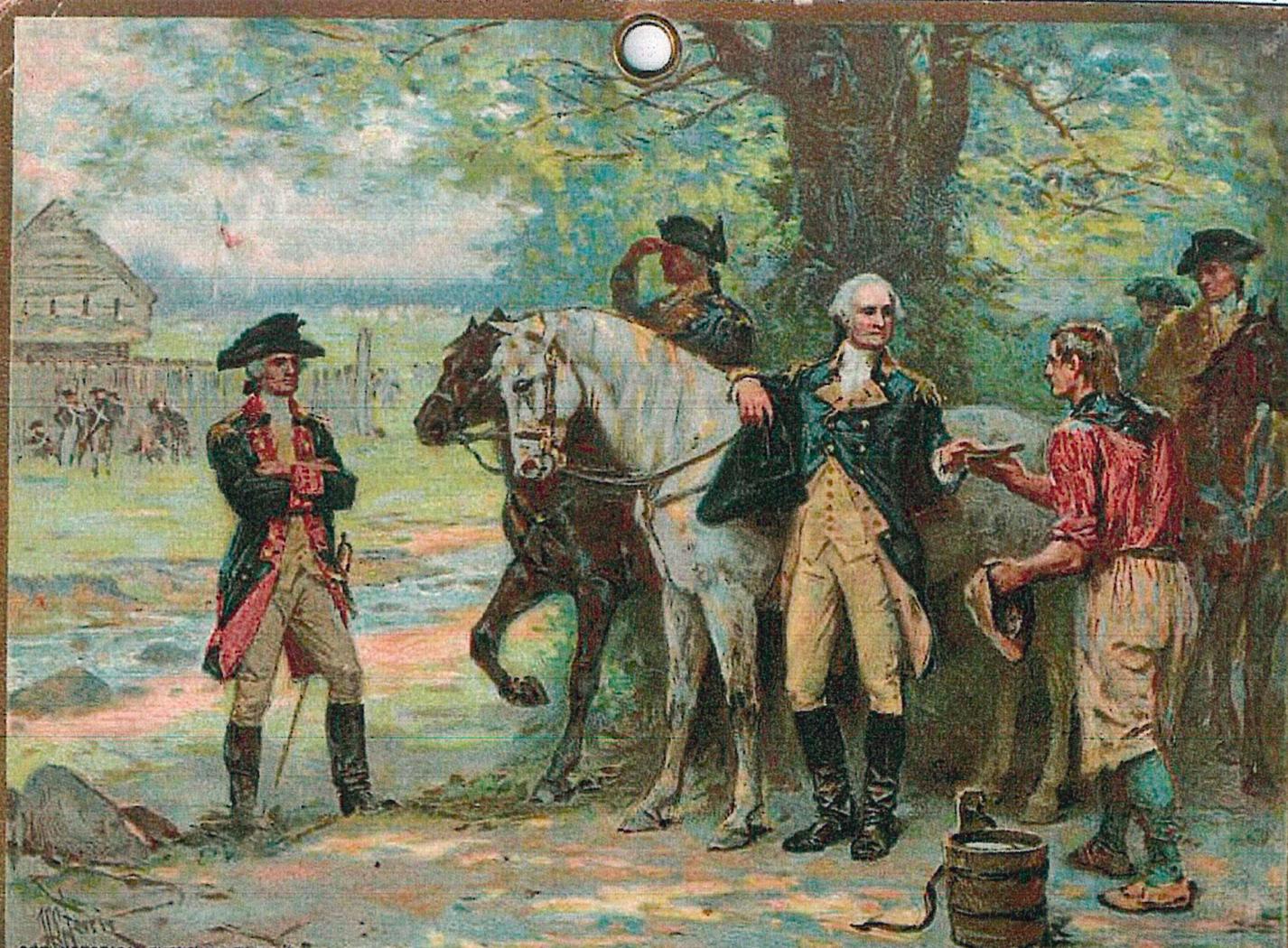
Warren County Historical Society Mail - Halfway Brook sources and maps.. Wayne E. Mattison

[PDF]Topography - Town of Queensbury. www.queensbury.net.
https://www.queensbury.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/topo_relief.pdf

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Halfway Brook to Hudson Pointe Trail Connector Study Prepared for the Town of Queensbury
September 2018.

https://agftc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/FINAL_HHTrail_09.19.18.pdf



SEE HISTORICAL SKETCH ON BACK OF THIS CALENDAR.

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1908

JANUARY							APRIL							JULY							OCTOBER									
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
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26	27	28	29	30	31	26	27	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30	31	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							
FEBRUARY							MAY							AUGUST							NOVEMBER									
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
						1						1	2							1				1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	13	14			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	20	21			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	27	28			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	²⁴ ₃₁	25	26	27	28	29	30	²³ ₃₀	²⁴ ₃₁	25	26	27	28	29	29	30								
MARCH							JUNE							SEPTEMBER							DECEMBER									
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		1	2	3	4	5	6			1	2	3	4	5				1	2	3	4	5		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24	25	26			
29	30	31	28	29	30	27	28	29	30	27	28	29	30	31																

CHAS. L. KETCHUM, Agent, Fort Edward, N. Y.

AMERICAN LITHOGRAPHIC CO. N.Y.

GENERAL WASHINGTON

AT HALF-WAY BROOK

(Glens Falls, New York), 1783

For No. 8 of the GLENS FALLS INSURANCE COMPANY'S series of Local Historical Calendars, this subject is chosen.

In July, 1783, Washington's headquarters were at Newburg, N. Y. The activities of the Revolution had ceased pending peace negotiations. Tiring of inactivity, Washington took a tour of inspection of the northern battlefields and fortifications of Saratoga, Fort Edward, Fort William Henry, (Lake George), Ticonderoga, Crown Point, and intermediate points. Returning to Schenectady he went up the Mohawk Valley to Fort Stanwix and other places.

Irving in his Life of Washington says: "Washington returned to Newburg on the 5th day of August, after a tour of at least seven hundred and fifty miles, performed in nineteen days, and for the most part on horseback."

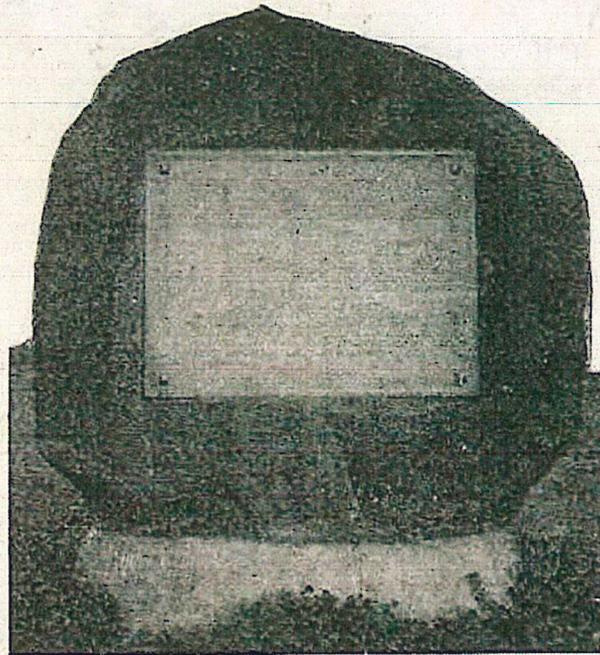
Washington was accompanied by Governor Clinton, General Alexander Hamilton, Colonels Humphreys and Fisk and perhaps others. This party halted at Half-Way Brook, at near the present entrance to Crandall Park, Glens Falls, N. Y., for refreshment, and one Briggs, who was at work in a nearby field, brought pail and cup and supplied water from the brook for their drinking.

The picture on the other side is an excellent lithographic, ten color, reduced size, reproduction of an oil painting by Ferris representing the above incident. The painting is owned by the GLENS FALLS INSURANCE COMPANY.

Half-way Brook is conspicuously notable in the bloody annals of the many years of contest for the possession of the "Great Carry"—the overland break in the then all-water way from New York to Quebec. It was strategic territory, and the holding of these few miles between the then head of Hudson River navigation at Fort Edward and Lake George was fraught with constant peril all through the Indian, French and Indian, French and English wars, and the War of the Revolution. There were several fortifications along these few miles, and Half-Way Brook was the more extensively fortified because of its midway location, and was the



A CORNER IN CRANDALL PARK, Glens Falls, N. Y., Winter



HALF-WAY BROOK HISTORICAL MARKER
Corner Glen Street and Glendale Avenue, Glens Falls, N. Y.
Placed by the New York State Historical Association

scene of many cruel fightings. (See Holden's "Half-Way Brook in History," Volume VI, New York State Historical Association, 1906.)

The New York State Historical Association has placed a large cast bronze tablet on a glacial boulder at the intersection of Glen Street and Glenwood Avenue, Glens Falls, N. Y., as a Half-Way Brook marker as well as for Fort Amherst and the Seven Mile Post. The tablet is inscribed as follows:

HALF-WAY BROOK

So called because midway between Forts Edward and William Henry. From 1755 to 1780 it was the scene of many bloody skirmishes, surprises and ambushes. Here the French and Indians inflicted two horrible massacres, one in the summer of 1756 and the other in July, 1758.

FORT AMHERST

A noted military post, midway between this marker and the brick yard. Its site was known locally as

"The Garrison Grounds." The location was used as a fortified camp, 1757-1758. The fort was built in 1759. It was occupied by the forces of Baron Riedesel in the Burgoyne Campaign of 1777. It was burned in 1780 in the Carleton Raid at the time of the Northern Invasion.

THE SEVEN MILE POST

Was a blockhouse with stockaded enclosure occupying the rise of ground north of the Brook and west of the road from 1755 to Revolutionary times. During that period it was one of the most important halting places in North America.

Previous issues of the Glens Falls Historical Calendars: Death of Jane McCrea, artist unknown; Death of Col. Williams, F. C. Yohn; Surrender of Burgoyne, F. C. Yohn; Surrender of Fort William Hamilton, H. G. Ferris; Embarkation of Abercrombie's Expedition, F. C. Yohn; Battle of Lake George, F. C. Yohn; Rescue of Major Israel Putnam near Glens Falls, H. G. Ferris.

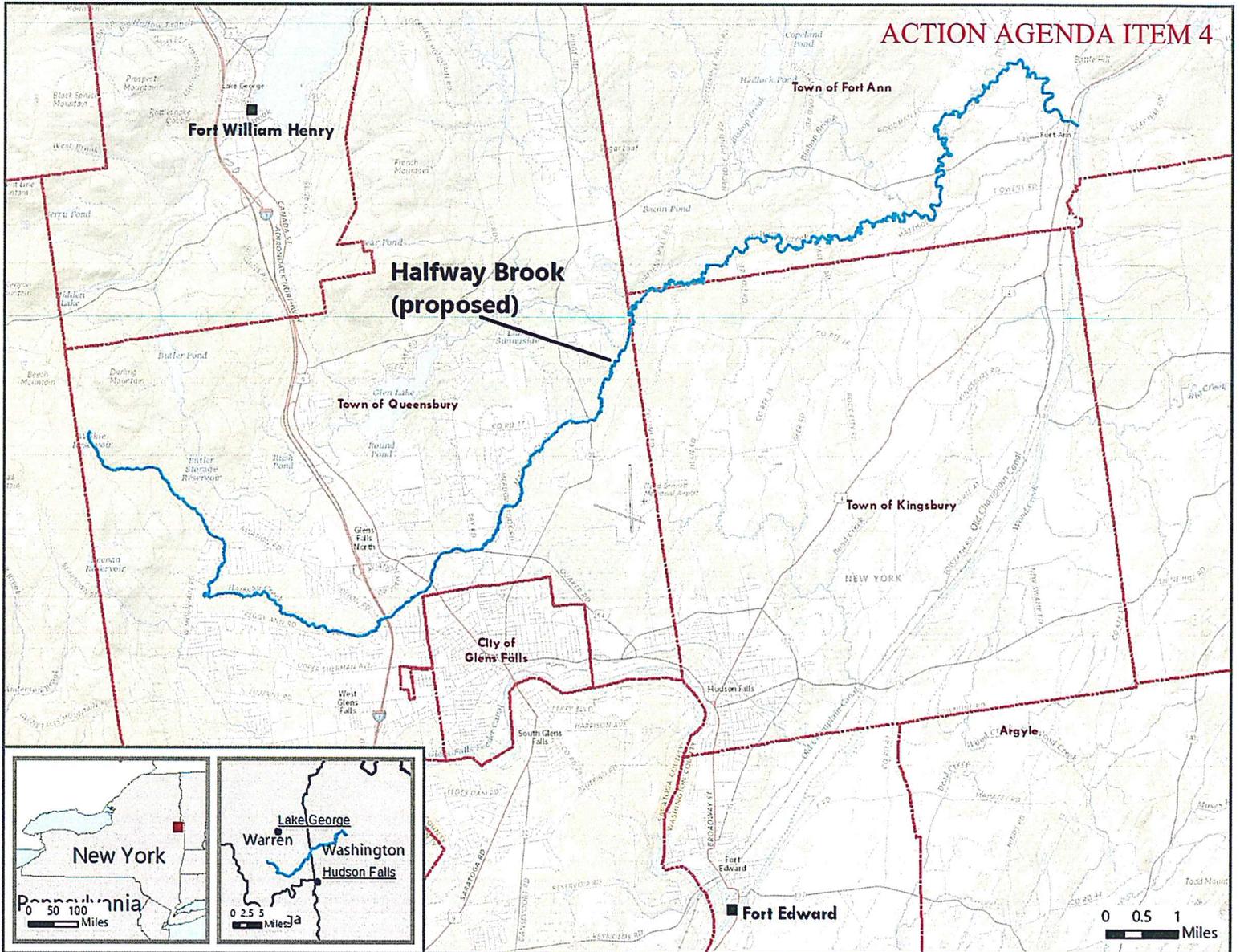
The original paintings are owned by the GLENS FALLS INSURANCE COMPANY and adorn the walls of its home office.



HALF-WAY BROOK, Crandall Park, Glens Falls, N. Y., 1907

2014.8.11

ACTION AGENDA ITEM 4





U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

GEOGRAPHIC NAME PROPOSAL RECOMMENDATION

Proposed name: Halfway Brook

Current name of feature: Halfway Creek

This is to notify the U.S. Board on Geographic Names that the:

Warren County Board of Supervisors
(Name of government entity, organization, or individual)

recommends that the U. S. Board on Geographic Names:

- Approve the Proposed Name**
- Reject the Proposed Name**
- Consider alternative name:** _____

Comments (the following factors contributed to this recommendation; attach supporting documentation if appropriate):

(Name)

(Title)

(Address)

(Telephone)

(City, State, ZIP Code)

(E-mail)

(Signature)

(Date)

Return to: U.S. Board on Geographic Names
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Mailstop 523
Reston VA 20192-0523
Telephone: (703) 648-4552
Fax: (703) 648-4549
E-mail: BGNEXEC@usgs.gov