

NEW YORK
STATE
SENATE
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247



July 10, 2013

Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor
Executive Chamber
New York State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo:

As you know, we represent areas that have sustained a tremendous amount of damage in the past few weeks as a result of catastrophic flooding. On behalf of our constituents, we are extremely grateful for your leadership through this difficult time. You and your commissioners have been accessible, knowledgeable and reactive, and it has been appreciated.

We share your concern regarding the uncertain availability of federal funds to assist in the significant rebuilding effort that will be necessary, and stand at the ready to help in any way we are able.

We write today to respectfully request that you convene a "Flood Summit" in the near future with the appropriate commissioners, state representatives, first responders, local elected officials and any other people you believe could be helpful. The summit would address problems we have experienced in several flooding events in the past several years, discuss best practices, and evaluate how the state and its federal and local partners can best protect the people we serve and continue to fine tune our response in the event of future disasters.

We know that you agree that the ongoing recovery effort for our communities will be long and potentially difficult, and should be a high priority. Gathering the right people to discuss the best and most efficient steps toward this goal would be a significant step forward.

Thank you for your time and attention to our request. We are available at any time to discuss the matter further.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of James L. Seward in black ink.

Senator James L. Seward
51st Senate District

Handwritten signature of Joseph A. Griffo in black ink.

Senator Joseph A. Griffo
47th Senate District

Hugh T. Farley

Senator Hugh T. Farley
49th Senate District

David J. Valesky

Senator David J. Valesky
53rd Senate District