

Fwd: Alert: Turn over your ballot to find the ballot propositions on November 7.

Pete K <pkraay@aol.com>

Thu 10/26/2017 6:17 AM

To: CrumElbow@gmail.com <CrumElbow@gmail.com>;

-----Original Message-----

From: New York State Conservation Council, Inc. <nyscc@nyscc.com>

To: pkraay <pkraay@aol.com>

Sent: Wed, Oct 25, 2017 11:35 am

Subject: Alert: Turn over your ballot to find the ballot propositions on November 7.



*Advocating for Conservation  
and Sportsmen Since 1933*

## **Ballot Propositions Nov. 2017**

**Alert: Turn over your ballot to find the ballot propositions on November 7.**

**When voters go to the polls here in New York State on November 7 - along with the many candidates that will appear on the ballot - there will also be three propositions that will require an up or down vote, two of which will impact or potentially impact the sportsmen and women of New York.**

## **Proposal 1 - Shall there be a convention to revise the Constitution and amend the same?**

The New York State Constitution requires that every 20 years the people decide if a Constitutional Convention should be held to consider amendments to the State Constitution. The purpose of this Ballot Question is to allow the voters of New York State to determine whether a Constitutional Convention will be held according to the procedure provided by the State Constitution.

If a majority voting on this Question votes NO, there will be no Constitutional Convention. If a majority votes YES, three delegates from each state senatorial district will be elected in November 2018, along with 15 at-large delegates who will be elected statewide.

The New York State Conservation Council is encouraging our members to VOTE on November 7. That is our responsibility as citizens of this state and of our respective communities. As for how you vote, the NYSCC has grave concerns regarding convening a Constitutional Convention. Yes, under the law the opportunity to hold a Convention must be offered to the voters of New York every 20 years. It is up to the voters to decide if such Convention be held. The NYSCC believes that a Convention would be fraught with danger; you have to look no further than the last few legislative sessions to see what the possibilities could become. The sporting community has made virtually no progress on many of the issues that we hold dear. The climate in both houses of the legislature has been anything but favorable and a Constitutional Convention could open the door to New York's special-interest groups. With their immense fund-raising capability you can rest assured that they will take control of the election process for convention delegates. If the last Convention is any indication, barely 10 percent of the delegates were civic-minded citizens, over-burdened taxpayers or people with an honest constitutional interest; the rest of the seats were dominated by self-serving politicians and union bosses, hardly a recipe for sound, fair, constitutional reform.

**We strongly advise that you vote NO on  
Proposition 1**

## **Proposal 3 - Authorizing the Use of Forest Preserve Land for Specified Purposes**

The proposed amendment will create a land account with up to 250 acres of forest preserve land eligible for use by towns, villages, and counties that have no viable alternative to using forest preserve land to address specific public health and safety concerns; as a substitute for the land removed from the forest preserve, another 250 acres of land, subject to legislative approval, will be added to the forest preserve. The proposed amendment also will allow bicycle trails and certain public utility lines to be located within the width of highways that traverse the forest preserve while minimizing removal of trees and vegetation. Shall the proposed amendment be approved?

The land bank would be referred to in law as the Health and Safety Land Account. Municipalities would request to use acres in the land bank to address bridge and road hazards, water wells to meet drinking water standards, and stabilizing public utility lines. Before local governments could begin requesting acres in the land bank, the state would purchase acquire 250 new acres to include in the Forest Preserve. The measure would also allow bike paths, sewer lines, and electric, telephone, and broadband lines within the width of highways (49.5 feet or the width of the easement in existence on July 1, 2015) cutting through the Forest Preserve.

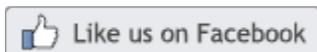
Governments would need to demonstrate that no viable alternatives exist to using state Forest Preserve land for the projects. They would also be required to restore pre-project environmental conditions as much as is practicable.

The proposal will also help reduce project costs without jeopardizing or threatening the environmental concerns of the people of the state.

Our upstate communities continue to wage an uphill battle to improve their economies. This is but one small step to provide them with some relief, while at the same time allowing small infrastructure projects to move forward while continuing to protect the lands that the sporting community holds dear; the very lands we use to hunt, fish and trap and otherwise use to celebrate our great outdoors.

## **We strongly advise that you vote YES on Proposition 3**

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