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**NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF  
ULSTER COUNTY EXECUTIVE MIKE HEIN**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**COUNTY EXECUTIVE MIKE HEIN INTRODUCES PLAN TO GIVE  
LAND TO THE TOWN OF ULSTER FOR A KAYAK PARK/BOAT  
LAUNCH ALONG THE ESOPUS RIVER**

Kingston, NY – Ulster County Executive Mike Hein announced today he has advanced legislation for the Ulster County Legislature to convey a parcel of property to the Town of Ulster for it to use as a kayak park/boat launch along the Esopus River. The conveyance is part of County Executive Hein’s plan to increase outdoor activities for county residents.

The property was acquired by the county in April 2010 as part of the Greater Catskills Flood Remediation Program. Under the program, the county purchased flood-damaged property with state funds, with the condition that the property would be dedicated for open space, recreational, wetlands or flood mitigation purposes.

County Executive Hein is proposing that this property be conveyed to the Town of Ulster at no cost to the town. The town would take ownership of the property and create a kayak park on the site for the use and enjoyment of the general public.

“While the Greater Catskills Flood Remediation Program was of great benefit to local residents whose homes had been devastated by flooding, we are looking for cost-effective ways to use the acquired property that will preserve the land and provide a benefit to our community,” said County Executive Hein. “The proposal for this parcel accomplishes these aims, protecting the integrity of the land and, at the same time, creating an exciting new recreational venue. Kayaking is a rapidly growing outdoor pastime, and the creation of the kayak park will help to further another of my goals, which is to have Ulster County become the healthiest county in New York State. I would like to acknowledge Legislator Maloney’s advocacy on behalf of this project.”

“The Town of Ulster is a great place to live and the new kayak park will be a great addition to our network of Parks and Recreational facilities,” said Ulster Town Supervisor Jim Quigley. I look forward to enjoying a relaxing boat trip up the Esopus River. I want to recognize County Executive Hein and Legislator Maloney for their partnership in this effort. This is a great example of different levels of government working together for the betterment of the taxpayers.”

County Legislator Jim Maloney said, “This is a win-win for the Town of Ulster and Ulster County. The property purchased by the Greater Catskills Flood Remediation Program will be put to the perfect public use for the benefit of all residents.”

Transfer of the property requires the approval of the Ulster County Legislature. County Executive Hein intends to work closely with the Legislature to enable this project to be completed as soon as possible.

The kayak park will mark another step toward making Ulster County's extraordinary natural resources more readily available to local residents and visitors to the area. Earlier this year, County Executive Hein furthered that same objective by announcing that access to the scenic Sojourner Truth/Ulster Landing County Park along the Hudson River in Saugerties would be made free of charge.

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