



2013 Ulster County Budget Fact Sheet

Safety Net Takeover

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County Executive

I. Overview

County Executive Hein's 2013 Executive Budget proposes a three-year phased takeover of the local share of the Safety Net Program to provide approximately \$11 million in budgetary relief to Ulster County towns and the City of Kingston.

Additionally, the Executive Budget provides immediate budgetary relief to Ulster County towns by providing them the option of having the County re-levy a portion of their 2012 State-mandated Safety Net local share into the 2013 town tax bill.

II. Background

The Safety Net Assistance Program is a State-mandated program that provides assistance to single adults, childless couples and other individuals and families who do not qualify for Family Assistance or other Federally-funded Temporary Assistance programs. New York State Law requires that Safety Net Assistance be funded through a State and a local share. Traditionally, the State and local share has been 50% each.

Since 1946, New York State required towns and cities to fund the local share of the Safety Net Assistance Program, unless the county legislature adopts a resolution directing that all or a part of the cost be charged to the county. Ulster County is the only county in New York State that has not taken over the Safety Net Program.

Beginning January 1, 2011, the State of New York increased the local share of the Safety Net Program from the traditional 50% share to 71% of total program expense. This increase in State-mandated Safety Net costs has caused significant fiscal stress on the towns and the City of Kingston, further highlighting the need for the County to takeover the Safety Net Program.

III. Proposed 2013 Budget Action

The 2013 Executive Budget proposes a three-year County takeover of the local share of the Safety Net Program, beginning in 2013.

Under this plan, the County will assume a third of the cost in 2013, two-thirds of the cost in 2014 and the entire cost in 2015. The following table illustrates the savings for Ulster County towns and the City of Kingston:

PROPOSED 3-YEAR SAFETY NET TAKEOVER				
	2013	2014	2015	3-YR TOTAL
	Town Savings from County Taking 1/3 Expense	Town Savings from County Taking 2/3 of Expense	Town Savings from County Taking Total Expense	Total 3 year Savings of County Takeover
DENNING	\$ 1,446	\$ 3,124	\$ 4,879	\$ 9,450
ESOPUS	\$ 85,361	\$ 184,380	\$ 287,920	\$ 557,661
GARDNER	\$ 10,891	\$ 23,524	\$ 36,734	\$ 71,148
HARDENBURGH	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
HURLEY	\$ 39,603	\$ 85,542	\$ 133,579	\$ 258,723
KINGSTON (town)	\$ 1,534	\$ 3,313	\$ 5,174	\$ 10,021
LLOYD	\$ 51,830	\$ 111,952	\$ 174,820	\$ 338,601
MARBLETOWN	\$ 15,992	\$ 34,543	\$ 53,942	\$ 104,477
MARLBORO	\$ 42,014	\$ 90,750	\$ 141,712	\$ 274,475
NEW PALTZ	\$ 45,381	\$ 98,023	\$ 153,069	\$ 296,473
OLIVE	\$ 17,029	\$ 36,783	\$ 57,439	\$ 111,251
PLATTEKILL	\$ 70,086	\$ 151,385	\$ 236,397	\$ 457,868
ROCHESTER	\$ 56,439	\$ 121,907	\$ 190,366	\$ 368,712
ROSENDALE	\$ 19,866	\$ 42,910	\$ 67,007	\$ 129,783
SAUGERTIES	\$ 127,925	\$ 276,319	\$ 431,489	\$ 835,734
SHANDAKEN	\$ 26,502	\$ 57,244	\$ 89,389	\$ 173,134
SHAWANGUNK	\$ 27,044	\$ 58,415	\$ 91,218	\$ 176,677
ULSTER	\$ 99,187	\$ 214,244	\$ 334,555	\$ 647,985
WAWARSING	\$ 238,996	\$ 516,231	\$ 806,126	\$ 1,561,352
WOODSTOCK	\$ 19,571	\$ 42,273	\$ 66,013	\$ 127,857
SUB-TOTAL TOWNS	\$ 996,695	\$ 2,152,861	\$ 3,361,825	\$ 6,511,382
KINGSTON (CITY)	\$ 675,005	\$ 1,458,011	\$ 2,276,773	\$ 4,409,789
TOTAL	\$ 1,671,700	\$ 3,610,872	\$ 5,638,599	\$ 10,921,171

IV. Fiscal Impact

The estimated impact to the 2013 County Budget from this proposal is \$1.7 million.