

LETTER FROM THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR OPERATIONS



Stephen Goldsmith
Deputy Mayor for Operations

Dear Friends,

New York City's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is the largest municipal water utility in the nation: we deliver one billion gallons of clean, fresh water to more than nine million people every day, and treat 1.3 billion gallons of wastewater to protect public health and keep our environment clean. The digester eggs visible from the Kosciusko Bridge (among other places) are just one of the dozens of innovations over more than 100 years that enable DEP to deliver services on such a monumental scale. Continuing that tradition is essential to the continued growth of New York City; and to improving the service we provide, while at the same time cutting the cost to provide it.

The NYC Green Infrastructure plan is just one example of the ways that DEP is using new ideas to address age-old problems—and get the most benefit out of every public dollar. The plan will improve water quality and create open green spaces, lower energy costs, and improve air quality—all for more than a billion dollars less than New Yorkers would otherwise have to spend.

DEP also has unique assets to develop renewable energy sources that can be tapped through public-private partnerships here in New York City, and in the more than 1.2 million-acre watershed that is home to our water supply. And DEP is improving customer service by investing in better and more efficient technology like wireless meter reading, which reduces overall costs—and minimizes the need for future water rate increases.

This strategic plan represents the future of New York City government. It demonstrates that innovation can—and must—be embedded in the way we do business every day. I look forward to working with DEP to help them achieve their goals by implementing the 100 initiatives in this plan in the coming years. The results will transform our neighborhoods and environment in ways that will benefit us all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Goldsmith". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Stephen Goldsmith
Deputy Mayor of Operations