



**Tompkins County Legislature**

Governor Daniel D. Tompkins Building  
Ithaca, NY 14850

Meeting: 07/18/17 05:30 PM  
Department: Planning and Sustainability Department  
Category: Environmental  
Functional Category:

**SCHEDULED**

**RESOLUTION NO.      DOC ID: 7128**

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1      **Appropriating Funds from Tompkins County Natural Infrastructure**  
2      **Capital Project for the Lounsbery Tract - Six Mile Creek Water**  
3      **Protection Project**

4      WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Legislature established the Natural Infrastructure Capital Project in 2017,  
5 and

6      WHEREAS, the current balance in the Natural Infrastructure Capital Project fund is \$200,000, and

7      WHEREAS, the Natural Infrastructure Capital Project is focused on protection, by acquisition, easement,  
8 restoration, and/or stabilization, of:

- 9      • Upper watershed forests and wetlands;
- 10      • Stream corridors and floodplains;
- 11      • Aquifer recharge areas, and

12      WHEREAS, the objectives of the Natural Infrastructure Capital Project are to:

- 13      • Protect and enhance those natural systems that can help to mitigate the impacts of intensive rainfall events  
14 that are expected to continue to increase as a result of climate change;
- 15      • Help decrease sediment loads in streams and Cayuga Lake;
- 16      • Protect overall water quality in streams, surficial aquifers, and Cayuga Lake, and

17      WHEREAS, the Natural Infrastructure Capital project goal is to reduce risks of flooding and protect public  
18 and private water supplies, and

19      WHEREAS, the Project Selection Criteria and Process, accepted by the Planning, Development, and  
20 Environmental Quality Committee in February 2017, outlined the following evaluation criteria:

- 21      • The cost effectiveness of project in achieving the Natural Infrastructure Capital Project objectives;
- 22      • The ability for the project to leverage additional funding;
- 23      • The project's location within one of the Tompkins County Conservation Plan's Priority Protection areas or  
24 is of sufficient size to make a major contribution to protection of natural infrastructure, and

25      WHEREAS, the project is to provide funding from the Natural Infrastructure Capital Project fund to support  
26 the Six Mile Creek Source Water Protection Project - Lounsbery Tract, and

27      WHEREAS, the Six Mile Creek Source Water Protection Project - Lounsbery Tract,

- 28      • Protects and enhances 3,900 feet of Six Mile Creek stream corridor;
- 29      • Improves overall water quality and reduces flow rates to Six Mile Creek and the City of Ithaca's water  
30 source;
- 31      • Proposes leveraging funding from both the City of Ithaca's Six Mile Creek Watershed Protection Fund as  
32 well as the New York State Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Source Water Protection funding;
- 33      • Is of sufficient size to make a major contribution to protection of natural infrastructure; and

34      WHEREAS, support from the Natural Infrastructure Project fund is an important but modest component of the  
35 total funding needed to implement the Six Mile Creek Source Water Projection Project and acquire a perpetual

1 easement held by the Finger Lakes Land Trust on the Lounsbery Tract, and  
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5

6 WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Planning and Sustainability and the Planning Advisory Board have  
7 recommended that the County Legislature authorize \$15,000 in funding from the Natural Infrastructure Capital Project  
8 to support the Six Mile Creek Source Water Protection Project - Lounsbery Tract, contingent on the awarding of City  
9 of Ithaca and WQIP Source Water Protection Funding, now therefore be it  
10

11 RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Planning, Development, and Environmental Quality Committee, That  
12 a total of \$15,000 in funding from the Natural Infrastructure Capital Project be appropriated for the purpose of  
13 supporting the Six Mile Creek Source Water Protection Project - Lounsbery Tract project,  
14

15 RESOLVED, further, That the Director of Finance be authorized and directed to make an adjustment to the  
16 Planning Department budget from the Natural Infrastructure Capital Project fund,  
17

18 RESOLVED, further, That the County Administrator or his designee be authorized to execute any contracts or  
19 agreements related to this project.

20 **SEQR ACTION:** Unlisted (Short EAF on file with the Clerk of the Legislature)