

KATHY HOCHUL Governor KATHY MOSER Acting Commissioner

November 24, 2025

Stephen Lynch
Assistant Comptroller
Division of State Government Accountability
Office of the State Comptroller
110 State Street
Albany, NY, 12236-001

Dear Stephen Lynch,

The Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) has reviewed the Office of the State Comptroller's (OSC) final report 2025-F-9, which was a follow-up audit conducted to determine the status of the recommendations included in OSC's audit report 2022-S-3 titled "Accessibility for People with Disabilities". The initial audit was conducted to determine if OPRHP has taken adequate steps to ensure State Parks and Historic Sites are accessible and can accommodate persons with disabilities, including State and Federal requirements.

OPRHP is committed to continued improvement of accessibility in our parks and historic sites. We have made substantial progress in implementing the recommendations made in OSC's initial audit, as evidenced by the implementation status of each recommendation noted in the 2025-F-29 report.

We have made additional progress since the conclusion of the follow-up audit, as noted below:

Recommendation 1:

Develop a process to actively incorporate accessibility into the operation and maintenance of parks.

Additional OPRHP progress: As referenced in the 2025-F-9 report, OPRHP planned a training for capital staff to receive training on NYS Unform Code Accessibility requirements effective 2026. Our Code Compliance team provided ADA training to around 100 of our Capital employees on October 1, 2025. Additionally, the Code Compliance team provided ADA training at OPRHP's Statewide Leadership Conference on October 29, 2025, with approximately 300 facility managers in attendance. The training agenda included: NYS Uniform Code and ICC A117.1; indoor accessibility requirements; outdoor accessibility requirements; design guidance and best practice.

Additionally, on November 1, 2025, OPRHP announced 15 grant recipients for its campground and day-use improvement initiative, the Enhanced Visitor Experience (EVE) Program. Six of these grants focus on improved accessibility. The new EVE program empowers campers and day-use visitors to play an active role in improving state parks across New York by making donations during the reservation process.

Recommendation 2

Improve the accuracy of publicly reported information on accessibility – communicated both online and through signage at parks.

Additional OPRHP progress: As noted in the 2025-F-9 report, OPRHP has updated its website to make digital content more accessible. The update is to comply with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines, as required by New York State Information Technology Policy and Federal Law. The website went live October 23, 2025.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Moser

Acting Commissioner

Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation