

F O R E W O R D

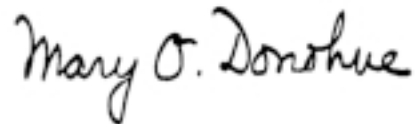
It has been a pleasure to serve as co-chairs of National Audubon Society of New York State's second annual Smart Growth Conference. The speakers at this year's conference inspired us to envision the possibilities of how we can further transform our state's cities, towns and villages into quality communities. We heard from a number of communities in New York state who are already leading the way with smart growth programs, which we can all learn from as well.

New York, under the leadership of Governor Pataki, has made tremendous progress to improve the quality of life for our residents and families. Through conferences like this one and the Quality Communities Task Force process we hope to build on these successes.

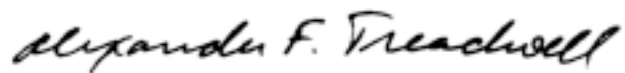
We were thankful to hear from conference participants during the last session of the conference. And through the input from the nine regional public forum sessions held by the Task Force during the months of May and June we are well on our way to bringing together recommendations which will be delivered in a final report to Governor Pataki by Jan. 31, 2001.

This report will lay the foundation for a dynamic partnership between local and state governments and the private sector that fosters economic and community development and protects the environment at the same time.

Once again we would like to thank the diverse sponsors, supporters and cosponsors of this conference and all those who attended. We are pleased to participate in this effort and look forward to working with you all as we implement the Quality Communities Task Force recommendations.



Mary O. Donohue
Lieutenant Governor
2nd Annual Smart Growth Conference Co-Chair



Alexander F. Treadwell
Secretary of State
2nd Annual Smart Growth Conference Co-Chair

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National Audubon Society of New York State is pleased to be able to bring to you the proceedings from our second annual Smart Growth Conference. More than 350 people attended this year's conference to listen to Lieutenant Governor Donohue talk about quality communities in New York state and to hear the ideas of Victor Dover who explored with us the exciting possibilities for our communities.

We would especially like to thank Victor for traveling so far and sharing so many of the visuals from his presentation with us for this publication. As Victor told us, all "visions are visual — you can't do it with words...only when we do that [create the visuals] can we truly have smart growth."

We also heard from speakers from all corners of New York state who shared great examples of smart growth projects from transportation to revitalization to county led initiatives. With the announcement of the Quality Communities grants, the number of smart growth projects occurring around the state will be increasing and we hope to share those success stories with you in upcoming conferences.

The third annual Smart Growth Conference will take place April 23, 2001 and will focus on the Quality Communities Task Force report and how we can move forward with the recommendations. Visit our website at ny.audubon.org to receive updates on the agenda and speakers. We look forward to seeing you all there.

National Audubon Society of New York State would like to thank Lieutenant Governor Mary Donohue and Secretary of State Alexander Treadwell for their leadership and commitment and for their roles as conference co-chairs, as well as all those who sponsored, supported, attended and participated in our conference.

Sincerely,



David J. Miller
Executive Director
National Audubon Society of New York State