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# DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

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Building on three years of historic investments in schools, health care, and public safety, the FY 2026 Executive Budget Proposal supports Governor Hochul's vision to fight for New York's families, putting forward proposals that make both immediate and long-lasting impacts in the lives of New Yorkers. From economic development projects to affordability measures, prioritizing mental health to expanding job opportunities, the Executive Budget is the Governor's response to the current challenges facing New Yorkers.

Fueled by strong economic growth and record levels of reserves, the Executive Budget is able to offer groundbreaking initiatives and continuing critical investments while managing the fiscal pressures of unforeseen circumstances.

The Governor believes good public policy is achieved through listening and action and the proposals included in her Executive Budget reflect the priorities of New Yorkers. These historic proposals come alongside no proposed increases to income taxes, while also delivering an enhanced child tax credit, a middle-class tax cut, and an inflation refund all in an effort to put money back in peoples' pockets.

Wherever we find ourselves at the end of the day, we are all New Yorkers. From the youngest and most vulnerable, to community and business leaders, the investments and policy decisions included within Governor's budget reflects many voices and should resonate for all.

The Executive Budget proposal strikes the right balance, between being responsible and investing in the programs and services that New Yorkers care so deeply about. I want to commend the Governor on her dedication to always putting New York families first.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Blake G. Washington". The signature is fluid and cursive.

**BLAKE G. WASHINGTON**  
BUDGET DIRECTOR