

Agencies hoping state funds will be restored

Island items slashed in budget

By DAN JANISON
Advance Albany Bureau

ALBANY — In what has become a yearly ritual, the governor's budget message, sent to the Legislature this week, proposes an elimination of funding for several Staten Island programs.

As a result, lawmakers from districts around the state, including Staten Island, will be in the position of fighting to restore, and perhaps increase, those appropriations as the budget talks get under way in earnest during the next few weeks.

The budget is supposed to be approved by both houses of the Legislature by March 31. Last year was the first in several years that the budget was finished by the deadline.

But legislative leaders say they are not totally confident that will happen again this year. As a result, borough agencies may have to wait, as in prior years, for monies to be allocated before planning their agendas for the year and paying certain bills.

Senate Finance Committee

Chairman John J. Marchi, R-Staten Island, last night released an outline of Island and citywide program aid that would be eliminated under Gov. Mario M. Cuomo's proposed \$35 billion state budget for 1984-85 as it now stands.

The figures, worked up by staff analysts during the past two days, include the appropriations that were included in the current, 1983-84 budget. Elimination of funding as of today is planned for:

- Staten Island Learning Center, \$65,000.
- Richmondtown Restoration, \$200,000.
- High Rock Park Conservation Center, \$58,000.
- Staten Island Cooperative Continuum, \$250,000.

● Although excluded from the eight-page memorandum, titled "Items of Interest to Sen. Marchi," the executive budget would also wipe out the \$300,000 budgeted last year for the Snug Harbor Cultural Center, Livingston.

The center was included this