

New office for area to open

Two named to Greenbelt jobs

By CHRIS OLERT

Advance City Hall Bureau

When the mayor yesterday appointed Thomas A. Paulo the Greenbelt's administrator, Paulo was in the Greenbelt — inspecting toppled trees on the Staten Island Developmental Center's property.

Mayor Edward I. Koch also announced that James Rossi, director of High Rock Park Conservation Center, will become the Greenbelt's deputy administrator.

Both have lived literally with and in the Greenbelt. Paulo, of Grasmere, is the author of the City Planning Department's Greenbelt study, and Rossi lives and works at High Rock Park in a house that is part of the 85-acre preserve/environmental center.

“Tom Paulo and Jim Rossi

are excellent choices for the two top positions,” Borough President Ralph J. Lamberti said in a statement. “Their background in planning and preservation make them logical choices.”

The appointees will administer a new High Rock-based Greenbelt office, which will be comparable to those that help the Parks Department operate Central, Prospect, Van Cortlandt and Pelham Bay Parks.

Paulo will get \$40,000 a year, and Rossi will get \$27,500. The Greenbelt office is being funded for \$150,000 in this year's budget from discretionary funds for the Island borough president's office.

Paulo, 31, has been a senior planner in the planning department's Island office since 1981.

Last year, he wrote the de-

partment's guide for preserving the 3,000-acre Greenbelt.

“For me, as a landscape architect, it's one of the most exciting projects I could work on,” Paulo said yesterday after returning from the Greenbelt.

He noted that his appointment has historical significance in that in 1877, Frederick Law Olmsted of Eltingville, a pioneer in landscape architecture and park planning, first recommended preserving the area called the Greenbelt.

“From the city's point of view, it's the largest open space network we will have in the city,” Paulo said. “It's Staten Island's Central Park and I can only see it having very positive effects.”

Paulo said one of his first priorities will be raising money to fund a master plan for the man-

agement of the area.

Paulo earned a master's degree in landscape architecture from Syracuse University's School of Landscape Architecture, and a law degree from New York University.

Rossi, 31, who earned a master's degree in environmental management, said he and Paulo “share the same views concerning parks on Staten Island.”

“I think Tom and I can do an effective job, and we are working for the No 1 city agency — Parks,” Rossi said yesterday at High Rock, which he has headed since 1980.

Rossi earned his master's degree from Montclair State College, and a bachelor's degree from the College of Staten Island. He and his wife, Maria, have a daughter, Annelies.