

## Cuomo asks tax cuts, air plan

By DAN JANISON  
Advance Albany Bureau

ALBANY — Action toward slashing taxes and increased program spending began in earnest today as Gov. Mario M. Cuomo unveiled his \$35 billion state budget proposal.

Based on what has proved to be an improved state economic picture, Cuomo called for major tax reductions, including individual income tax cuts.

"Our middle income taxpayers will realize the benefits of increases in the standard deduction, personal exemption, and household credit," he said this morning in a printed message to lawmakers.

By taking the first annual step toward a budget to be approved by the Legislature before April 1, Cuomo filled in some crucial details of plans he stated Jan. 9 in his mid-term address to lawmakers.

Possible impact for Staten Island is widespread. For one, the administration is touting an effort to improve the environment.

Cuomo asked \$8.4 million to "replace and upgrade" the state's outdated air monitoring equipment, which his aides say would add three such stations on the Island, where two now exist.

Additional staff for the state Department of Environmental Conservation to "develop toxic air standards" is also included in the proposed budget, as well as a state toxic waste cleanup superfund bond issue to go before voters in 1987.

More than \$19 million will be allocated from state bond programs to develop resource recovery facilities, Cuomo said.

On crime, he asked for \$4.8 million to "provide additional transit police, including new undercover teams of police officers" to stem the "stream of violent offenders into the transit system."

Federal funds would be used to support creation of a protection program for witnesses in criminal cases.

"State and local mental health programs will see a major restructuring," Cuomo said. Included is a re-assignment of 500 staffers stemming from a lower inpatient census statewide, and capital improvement totalling more than \$100 million.

"Design of initial phases of a consolidated campus for the College of Staten Island" is mentioned in the public university section of the budget. Across-the-board funding increases are sought for CSI operations as well as for other city university branches.

The Staten Island Developmental Center campus is mentioned in the budget. A large portion of it is being considered for the CSI campus.

Cuomo, in basically the same language he used this time last year, again said funding to keep a court ordered census of 250 clients at SIDC would be better spent on care in smaller, community based facilities.

More money for AIDS research, an increase of \$19 million for ambitious new programs in the state division for youth, and new funding for correctional services also are included.

Cuomo was slated to brief legislators from both houses on his proposals this afternoon. According to the 750-page document released this morning, disbursements from the state's general fund are projected at \$23.6 billion.

Last year, the spending plan enacted by lawmakers was expanded by \$200 million above Cuomo's proposal. There were no cuts or increases in taxes. Any tax cuts enacted this year would take effect in spring 1986.