

-It's your opinion-

City's open spaces must be preserved

The following was sent to Gov. Mario Cuomo:

"The purpose of this letter is to urge you to prevent the destruction of Corson's Brook Woods, and to preserve the Staten Island Greenbelt in its entirety, as recommended by the Department of City Planning's Greenbelt study.

"The Neighborhood Open Space Coalition is made up of 85 organizations and 50 individuals dedicated to fostering community involvement in the planning, design, development, management and maintenance of New York City's open spaces. We wholeheartedly support the efforts of the Protectors of the Pine Oak Woods to preserve the open spaces of Staten Island.

"The establishment of the Greenbelt is not yet complete and already there are plans to chip away at its borders. Consider what Central Park would be today if all well-intentioned development proposals had been accepted. Please do not let the current proposal of Staten Island Development Center to build in the Corson's Brook Woods create a precedent for future attempts to reduce the size of the Staten Island Greenbelt.

"We urge you to act in the spirit of Fredrick Law Olmstead, who had the foresight to establish regional open spaces so that they may enhance the vitality of this great city. More than any other city in the state or the nation, and perhaps the world, New York City desperately needs to preserve the few natural open spaces that still exist. We are confident that you will continue your support for the establishment of this, the largest urban park in the nation.

"You have the power to make the decision to save the Corson's Brook Woods and the Staten Island Greenbelt as it was initially

conceived. For the sake of the future environmental quality of our city, we request that you reject any plans to build new SIDC facilities on land that is part of the proposed Greenbelt."

TOM FOX

Manhattan

(The writer is executive director of the Neighborhood Open Space Coalition.)

Governor invited to see Greenbelt

The following was sent to Gov. Mario Cuomo:

"I am writing to you with regard to saving the Greenbelt in Staten Island. Staten Islanders respect you very much for keeping your promise to stop the PASNY power plant. You are in a position to ensure the protection of our environment and our health and I urge you to do so. I would like also to invite you to take out time from your schedule to come to see the Greenbelt."

ANITA RISKA

Willowbrook

Cuomo should stop Greenbelt building

The following was sent to Gov. Mario Cuomo:

"We on Staten Island, at this time, are trying to preserve and keep our borough from becoming another Brooklyn or Queens — cement, asphalt and an absence of open natural areas.

"To accomplish this, we are trying to put into place the Greenbelt plan. This natural

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area concept will insure our future generations of a place for a two-hour hike, see a flowing brook, observe wildlife, study nature, or just walk in the woods — all this in the City of New York.

"To bring the Greenbelt to reality, we are in need of the cooperation of all our elected officials, including the chief executive of our state.

"I urge you to come to Staten Island and walk the Greenbelt and observe the area of Corson's Brook Woods where the construction of new buildings for the disabled is contemplated. Upon observing this area, I am sure you will see that other acreage is also suitable for these buildings. The addition of these wooded acres will greatly enhance the overall Greenbelt.

"Your actions to halt the PASNY power plant were most commendable and the Staten Island community thanks you. All efforts by you and other elected officials to bring the complete Greenbelt plan to fruition will also be expected, anticipated and above all appreciated."

TED DOERZBACHER

Great Kills

Reconsider move to build homes

The following was sent to Gov. Mario Cuomo:

"With respect to the destruction of a portion of the Corson's Brook Woods, which the state is seeking to do, I urge you to reconsider such a useless move so that this section of the Staten Island Greenbelt will be preserved in its natural state for all time."

RONALD R. NICHOLSON

Westerleigh