

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2 OF 2025
STOP ILLEGAL ENCAMPMENTS

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Executive, according to powers and duties set forth in § 3.02 of the Putnam County Charter, and subject to all applicable constitutional requirements to execute the same, remains focused on protecting residents and county-owned properties, reducing disorder in and around common county-owned and -operated spaces, and generally assuring a high quality of life for every citizen; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Executive, in administrative consultation with the following Departments, retains the right to review from time to time existing County policy as promulgated through the Departments and its effectiveness in maintaining public order: Putnam County Sheriff's Office (PCSO), Department of Social Services, Mental Health and Youth Bureau (DSS), Department of Public Works (DPW), Department of Health (DOH), Information Technology (IT), and Parks and Recreation ("Parks"); and

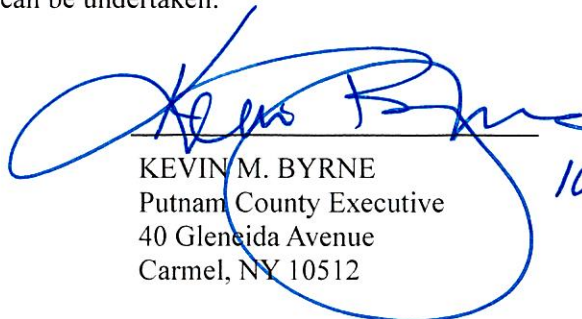
WHEREAS, Putnam County has ownership of a 12-mile section of the Putnam County Trailway, a former rail-line route that serves as a popular bike path and pedestrian walkway, among other parks, sanctuaries, conservation areas, and green spaces; and

WHEREAS, the safety and well-being of the public in these common spaces is of the utmost importance to the County Executive's Office as well as the Executive-level Departments charged with maintaining them, and consistent with the County's designation as a Rule of Law County (c.f. Resolution #151 of 2023); and

NOW, THEREFORE, it is ORDERED that:

1. Effective immediately, the County Executive's Office reiterates the County's existing practice of dismantling illegal campsites/temporary shelters on county properties and easements, and reaffirms its direction to PCSO, DSS, DPW, and Parks to circulate among their respective staffs an immediate removal order for any persons found squatting and/or illegally camping on county-owned property, including the aforementioned Putnam County Trailway, and coordinate with local law enforcement in order to enforce applicable penalties and/or partnering with social services for follow-up case management; and
2. This order further clarifies the County's prohibition on all, non-permitted, campsites on County property, and directs departments to advertise the foregoing in advance to all, including homeless or unhoused populations, within the County's borders; and
3. This order shall include but not be limited to: sleeping, lying, loitering, sheltering, and illegally camping outside designated areas on County-owned property; and
4. The PCSO, in collaboration with DPW and IT, be hereby authorized to upgrade and install security enhancements, including security camera equipment, along the Trailway and adjacent county bike paths; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that this Order shall take effect immediately and remain in place until such time as a Needs Assessment for further public safety measures can be undertaken.


KEVIN M. BYRNE
Putnam County Executive
40 Glencida Avenue
Carmel, NY 10512

10/22/25